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SWBTS trustees transition Patterson to president emeritus

Biblical Recorder

outhwestern Baptist Theological Seminary's (SWBTS) board of trustees convened May 22 at 1:30 p.m. on the school's campus in Fort Worth, Texas, to discuss and deliberate controversy that engulfed now SWBTS President Emeritus Paige Patterson. As the meeting extended into the early morning hours of May 23, more than 13 hours later, the trustees decided to move Patterson out of his active role leading the school



into an honorary position as president emeritus with compensation. They also decided to appoint a current dean, Jeffrey Bingham, as the interim president, and offer resolutions of support for Patterson regarding accusations

about sexual abuse reporting practices and the firing of an employee, Nathan Montgomery, who shared an article on social media that was critical of Patterson.

In a statement released May 23, the Board expressed gratefulness "for the contributions Dr. and Mrs. Paige Patterson have made since his presidency began in 2003" and honored "his longstanding dedication and commitment to serving the Southern Baptist Conven-

According to the statement, trustees "determined to move in the direction of new leadership for the benefit of the future mission of the Seminary" with a majority See SWBTS page 5

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RIDE TO

RAISES RECORD \$55K FOR CHILDREN'S **HOMES** By MIKE CRESWELL **BSC Communications**



BSC photos by Mike Creswell

all it a noisy way to raise money, but more than 120 riders on 100 motorcycles rode nearly 500 miles across North Carolina over four days in the Third Annual Ride to Clyde and raised a record \$55,000 for Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina (BCH).

Riders from across North Carolina and some from South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia took part in the Christ-focused trek which began at the N.C. Baptist Assembly, Fort Caswell, on Oak Island, then made stops at Camp Duncan for Girls near Aberdeen; Caraway Conference Center near Asheboro; the main BCH campus at Thomasville; a break stop at Fruitland Baptist College at Hendersonville; an overnight stop at Lake Junaluska before the final stop at Broyhill Home at Clyde, May 12.

The oldest rider was 84 years old and younger riders rode along with their parents. One girl said it was the longest ride on the Harley-Davidson she had ever made and the first time she had ridden through rain.

The riders, including many Baptist ministers and laymen, thundered into the Broyhill campus with a police escort and passed cheering children fascinated with the big bikes.

Sat., May 12 Ride to Clyde riders presented an oversized printout of the \$55,000 check at Broyhill Home at

See Clyde page 11

Hollifield calls N.C. Baptists to prayer, humility

By CHAD AUSTIN | BSC Communications

aptist State Convention of North Carolina (BSC) Executive Director-Treasurer Milton A. Hollifield Jr. challenged North Carolina Baptists to live lives that are marked by humility and free from hypocrisy in an address to the state convention's board of directors on Tuesday, May 22.

"If we claim to be Christ-followers, we should live with behaviors and attitudes that remind people of Christ," Hollifield said, drawing from several passages in the New Testament. His remarks came at Caraway Conference Center near Asheboro as part of his report during a regularly scheduled meeting of the BSC's board of directors.

Hollifield called on North Carolina Baptists to pray for upcoming ministry activities and meetings on both the state and national levels. These include annual summer children's and youth ministry events that begin in June at state convention camps and conference centers, as well as the upcoming Southern Baptist Convention

See Humility page 10

Revival, judgment and the SBC mess

n ominous spirit has fallen on the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC). We have problems that can no longer be ignored or swept under the rug. Gut wrenching honesty is not an optional course to consider. It is the only option.

Pastors, bloggers, lay leaders and

entity heads are publicly expressing profound chagrin over our current condition, all the while calling for deeper levels of prayer, fasting and self-examination.

Both secular and Baptist media have used words like "raucous," "contentious" and "divisive" to describe the coming Dallas convention. Most journalists have extracted those descriptors from the

blogs and social media posts of our Baptist family members. Grave concerns for the health of our denomination and the value of our gospel witness have reached levels I've not seen since the days of the Conservative Resurgence.

SBC Voices blogger and president of the SBC 2017 Pastors' Conference, Dave Miller, wrote, "Things are a mess in the SBC right now, aren't they?"

Calling for genuine revival, Miller lamented the conversations between brothers and sisters in the faith. "The hostility, the crassness, the profane and degrading things that are being said on Twitter, Facebook and other such outlets are shocking," he said. "It is as if people have embraced the works of the flesh and rejected the fruit of the Spirit. The political tactics of some have been shocking during this political season. ... revival is not a magical solution that absolves us of our responsibilities to do right, to seek God and to walk in His ways."

SBC President Steve Gaines recently called us to prayer and fasting in preparation for this year's annual convention. "Pray that during our meetings we will discuss issues in a united, civil, Spiritfilled way," Gaines urged. "Pray that when we leave Dallas, we will do so with a genuine unity of spirit and purpose - to reach lost people throughout the world

with the saving gospel of Jesus Christ."

Albert Mohler Jr., president of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, outlined the gravity of our convention's health in a column titled, "The wrath of God poured out" (see page 3).

"America's largest evangelical denomination has been in the headlines day after

> day," Mohler wrote. "The SBC is in the midst of its own horrifying #MeToo moment.

"Judgment has now come to the house of the Southern Baptist Convention. The terrible swift sword of public humiliation has come with a vengeance. There can be no doubt that this story is not over."

Revival, judgement - both are partners in the movement we often call "spiritual awakening."

My editorial published Aug. 30, 2014, carries the title, "Revival is like judgement day." Those are not my words. They are the words of J. Edwin Orr who was likely the greatest scholar, teacher, student and proponent of spiritual awakening in the past century.

I heard him discuss the subject in his final sermon at Ridgecrest Conference Center in 1987. Orr said when revival comes, conviction exposes everything we have been ashamed to admit. Our pride, greed, lust, fears, motives, secret sin - all that identifies the 'real me' stares us in the face as though the dreaded day of judgment has arrived.

The masks are stripped off. The game of religious charades is over. Pretentious habits that I designed to build religious admiration from my peers are gone. Revival is like judgment day because in the experience of real revival, raw honesty wins and sincere confession flows like a mighty river. Truth is victorious.

Isaiah said he experienced revival and judgment in a single moment. In Isaiah 6 the Old Testament prophet said he "saw the Lord sitting on the throne, high and lifted

He heard seraphim crying out, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; The whole earth is

The experience was so convicting he responded, "Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, The Lord of hosts," (Isaiah 6:3-5, NKJV).

Indeed, judgment day has come to the SBC.

Three entity head positions need to be filled. Two of those vacancies emerged from scenarios we would not have chosen. The presidency of the SBC is up for grabs, having devolved from a priceless moment of unity in June 2016 to an unnecessary state of contention in 2018.

Historically, revival movements like the First Great Awakening, the Welsh Revival and the Fulton Street Revival served to reshape secular culture and politics. Now secular culture and politics seem to be shaping Christian behavior.

Many grieve over the practice of secular political tactics in the SBC election process.

The website SBC Today (not oper-

ated by the Southern Baptist Convention) distributed a "voter guide" that was also published as a full-page ad in Louisiana's Baptist Message.

It represents the worst element of secular politics and an unacceptable tactic in Baptist politics.

Voter guides that many of us distribute during secular elections at least ask candidates for their views and publish the results.

In the case of the Greear/Hemphill voter guide in question, unknown persons selected recent comments from Ken Hemphill and older material from J.D. Greear, using statements that the writer(s) believes represents the best of one candidate and the worst of the other. Some comments reported about Greear

are dishonest or taken out of context.

This is not at all representative of the foundational truths conservatives sought to preserve through the Conservative Resurgence. We battled for truth, not for the propagation of deception. This is not the time to intentionally misrepresent a brother in Christ for political gain.

Many have expressed grief on two levels. First, that someone would abuse the truth in this manner, and second, that people in places of leadership have remained in a state of silent endorsement.

An encouraging note surfaced recently after Alabama pastor Rick Patrick

> posted a sarcastic, unbelievably crude comment on social media, then quickly issued a strong statement of apology. Patrick is one of the prime movers behind the SBC Today website. His sincere humility and grief over his actions took many off guard and elicited sincere statements of forgiveness from opposing voices. He has since resigned from SBC Today.

> > Patrick is to be

commended for his act of repentance. We hope others who have written or spoken evil of their brothers will follow his example.

Let's pray for revival - not the kind that excites our emotions, but one that breaks our will under the judgment of

"I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all" (Ephesians 4:1-6). BR





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> > **B**Rnow.org

K. Allan Blume, Editor/President editor@brnow.org

Seth Brown, Content Editor seth@brnow.org

Dianna L. Cagle, Production Editor dianna@brnow.org

Alison McKinney

Business and Advertising Manager (919) 459-5691 alison@brnow.org

Laura Crowther Editorial Aide

Liz Tablazon

Circulation Manager (919) 459-5693 liz@brnow.org

Carly Conley Graphic Designer Board of Directors: Nate Jones, chair; Tony Honeycutt, vice chair; Angela Brady, secretary; David Clary, treasurer; Kevin Atchlev: Frankie Gordon: Lisa Harris: Gerald Hodges; Todd Houston; Cindy D. Jennings; Dan Meyer; Frank Norwood; Jim Pennington Jr.; Donna Robinson; Donnie Seagle; Meredith Snoddy; Marilyn Thurman; Aaron Wallace; Tammy Weeks; and Keith Whitfield

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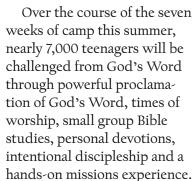
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Pray for God to move at summer Youth Weeks

n the coming days, middle and high school students from all across North Carolina will begin descending on the N.C. Baptist Assembly at Fort Caswell for our annual summer Youth Week

These camps are more than just beach getaway

in the beautiful surroundings of Fort Caswell.



Each year, I look forward to hearing the reports of how God moves during summer

youth weeks.

MILTON A. HOLLIFIELD JR.

BSC executive

director-treasurer

Each year, thousands of youth make life-changing decisions for Christ during their week at camp. In 2017 alone, 321 students trusted Christ as Savior, more than 1,200 more rededicated their lives to Him and more than 100 more surrendered to a call to vocational ministry. To God be the glory!

Youth Weeks begin June 11, and I invite you to join me in prayer throughout the summer for God to once again move in a mighty way in the lives of those students who will be attending this year.

This year's theme is "Re-imagine" and will focus on the parables of Jesus.

Jesus often used parables to get His listeners to re-imagine His kingdom and view it from His perspective rather their own. This year's youth weeks will certainly challenge attendees to live their lives with a Kingdom mindset and focus.

Youth weeks' staff and attendees will also celebrate a milestone this summer with the packaging of the 2 millionth meal that will be sent to Jacmel, Haiti, as part of a longstanding missions partnership over the past seven summers.

So as summer approaches, please pray for the youth weeks' staff, leaders, preachers and chaperones who will be working with the youth who are attending. Also, pray for the thousands of students who will be attending youth weeks at Fort Caswell this summer. Ask the Lord to move again this year and that these students would hear His voice and respond to His call on their lives.

"I will delight myself in Your statutes; I will not forget Your word" - Psalm 119:16 (NKJV). BR



The wrath of God poured out

ALBERT MOHLER JR.

Guest Column

Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) and for the larger evangelical movement. It is as if bombs are dropping and God alone knows how many will fall and where they will land.

America's largest evangelical denomination has been in the headlines day after day. The SBC is in the midst of

its own horrifying #MeToo moment.

At one of our seminaries, controversy has centered on a president (now former president) whose sermon illustration from years ago included advice that a battered wife remain in the home and the marriage in hope of the conversion of her abusive husband. Other comments represented the objectification of a teenage girl. The issues only grew more urgent with the sense that the dated statements represented ongoing advice and counsel.

But the issues are far deeper and wider. Sexual misconduct is as old as sin, but the

avalanche of sexual misconduct that has come to light in recent weeks is almost too much to bear. These grievous revelations of sin have occurred in churches, in denominational ministries and even in our seminaries.

We thought this was a Roman Catholic problem. The unbiblical requirement of priestly celibacy and the organized conspiracy of silence within the hierarchy helped to explain the cesspool of child sex abuse that has robbed the Roman Catholic Church of so much of its moral authority. When people said that Evangelicals had a similar crisis coming, it didn't seem plausible - even to me. I have been president of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary for [25] years. I did not see this coming.

I was wrong. The judgment of God has come.

Judgment has now come to the house of the Southern Baptist Convention. The terrible swift sword of public humiliation has come with a vengeance. There can be no doubt that this story is not over.

We cannot blame a requirement of priestly celibacy. We cannot even point to an organized conspiracy of silence within the denominational hierarchy. No, our humiliation comes as a result of an unorganized conspiracy of silence. Sadly, the unorganized nature of our problem may make recovery and correction even more difficult and the silence even more dangerous.

Is the problem theological? Has the Conservative Resurgence in the Southern Baptist Convention come



The last few weeks have been excruciating for the to this? Is this what thousands of Southern Baptists were hoping for when they worked so hard to see this denomination returned to its theological convictions, its seminaries return to teaching the inerrancy of the Holy Scriptures, its ministries solidly established on the gospel of Jesus Christ? Did we win confessional integrity only to sacrifice our moral integrity?

> This is exactly what those who opposed the Conservative Resurgence warned would happen. They claimed that the effort to recover the denomination theologically was just a disguised move to capture the denomination for a new set of power-hungry leaders. I know that was not true. I must insist that this was not true. But, it sure looks like their prophecies had some merit after all.

As I recently said with lament to a longtime leader among the more liberal faction that left the Southern Baptist Convention, each side has become the fulfillment of what

the other side warned.

The liberals who left have kept marching to the Left, in theology and moral teaching. The SBC, solidly conservative theologically, has been revealed to be morally compromised.

Among the issues of hottest theological debate was the role of women in the home and in the church. The SBC has affirmed complementarianism – the belief that the Bible reveals that men and women are equally made in God's image, but that men and women were also created to be complements to each other, men and women bearing distinct and different roles.

This means obeying the Bible's very clear teachings on male leadership in the home and in the church. By the year 2000, complementarian teachings were formally included within the Baptist Faith & Message, the denomination's confession of faith.

Is complementarianism the problem? Is it just camouflage for abusive males and permission for the abuse and mistreatment of women? We can see how that argument would seem plausible to so many looking to conservative evangelicals and wondering if we have gone mad.

But the same Bible that reveals the complementarian pattern of male leadership in the home and the church also reveals God's steadfast and unyielding concern for the abused, the threatened, the suffering and the fearful. There is no excuse whatsoever for abuse of any form, verbal, emotional, physical, spiritual or sexual. The Bible warns so clearly of those who would abuse power and weaponize authority.

Every Christian church and every pastor and every church member must be ready to protect any of God's children threatened by abuse and must hold every abuser fully accountable. The church and any institution or ministry serving the church must be ready to assure safety and support to any woman or child or vulnerable one threatened by abuse.

The church must make every appropriate call to law enforcement and recognize the rightful God-ordained responsibility of civil government to protect, to investigate and to prosecute.

A church, denomination or Christian ministry must look outside of itself when confronted with a pattern of mishandling such responsibilities, or merely of being charged with such a pattern. We cannot vindicate ourselves. That is the advice I have given consistently for

See Wrath page 13

Tennessee evangelist Jerry Drace to be 2nd VP nominee

By DAVID ROACH | Baptist Press

ennessee evangelist and pastor Jerry Drace will be nominated for second vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC), Union University professor Ernest Easley announced May 16.

A vocational evangelist for more than 40 years, Drace has preached in approximately 1,000 Southern Baptist churches and conducted 300 of his signature Hope of the Home conferences in the U.S. and Great Britain. For the past eight years, he has served as bivocational pastor at Friendship (Tenn.) Baptist Church, the west Tennessee congregation his father once pastored and where Drace came to faith in Christ.

Drace is a former president of the Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists.

"Electing a longtime vocational evangelist/bivocational pastor as an officer of our convention will be another step toward getting our focus back on reaching the lost for Christ," said Easley, professor of evangelism at Union.

He added that Drace "has led his church to have a focus on getting the gospel to the world."

The nomination will occur during the SBC's June 12-13 annual meeting in Dallas.

Easley, a former chairman of the SBC Executive Committee, said Drace's nomination is timely, given the "renewed emphasis on evangelism across the Southern Baptist Convention."

In March, the Jerry Drace Evangelistic Association – which Drace founded in 1975 – sponsored the Evangelists' Summit '18 in Jackson, Tenn., according to *SBC LIFE*, the journal of the SBC Executive Committee. At

the summit, 15 evangelists gathered to discuss how they can continue to help pastors amid declining use of vocational evangelists by churches.

Friendship told Baptist Press (BP) it gave 18 percent of its undesignated receipts last year in Great Commission Giving, including 9 percent through the Cooperative Program (CP). Giving data from the SBC's Annual Church Profile and the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board varies slightly from that CP total, but such variance generally stems from a variety of factors such as different fiscal years, the timing of CP gifts sent to the state convention and differing accounting methods.

Great Commission Giving is a category of giving established by SBC action in 2011 that encompasses giving through CP, Southern Baptists' unified program of funding state- and SBC-level ministries, as well as direct gifts to SBC entities, associational giving and giving to state convention ministries.

Friendship baptized approximately a dozen people last year, with an average worship attendance of 85-100,

the church told BP.

Drace, the author of two books, has conducted numerous international crusades and preached at the 1984

SBC Pastors' Conference.

He earned a bachelor of science degree from Union, a master of divinity from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and a doctor of ministry from Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary (now Gateway Seminary of the SBC).

He and his wife Becky have two adult children.

Drace is the second announced nominee for second vice president. Oklahoma pastor Felix Cabrera's nomination was announced in March. Announced presidential nominees are

North Carolina pastor J.D. Greear and former Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary President Ken Hemphill.

Announced first vice presidential nominees are California pastor A.B. Vines and Southern Baptists of Texas Convention staff member Mike Gonzales. **B**



Mac Brunson elected pastor of Alabama church

Baptist Pres

Alleydale Church in Birmingham, Ala., called Mac Brunson as pastor May 20, just three weeks after he resigned the pastorate of First Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Fla.

"This is a God move," Brunson said when Valleydale elected him in a business meeting following his in-view-of-a-call sermon, *The Alabama Baptist* reported. He's slated to preach his first official pastoral sermon at the 1,000-member church July 22, according to the news journal of the Alabama Baptist State Board of Missions. The former pastor of First Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Fla., was elected after a 21-month pastoral search. He and his wife Debbie have three children and 10 grandchildren. **B**?

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SWBTS Continued from page 1

vote. They affirmed a September 2017 offer for the Pattersons to live on campus as theologians-in-residence.

The Board said "evidence exists that Dr. Patterson has complied with reporting laws regarding assault and abuse." The motion was assumed by many to address a May 22 report by The Washington Post, published as trustees entered their meeting, about Patterson advising a female seminary student in 2003 not to report an alleged rape to law enforcement officials. The instance took place while Patterson was president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary (SEBTS) in Wake Forest, N.C., and involved SEBTS students. He became president of SWBTS later that year.

Board chairman Kevin Ueckert later clarified in an email to Fort Worth's Star-Telegram that the motion actually referenced alleged assaults that took place on and off the SWBTS campus in October 2014 and April 2015. Ueckert said police were involved and met with the female SWBTS student who made the allegations in August 2015.

Trustees found no evidence of misconduct by Montgomery in his employment

Background

Patterson initially came under fire last month when video and audio clips surfaced online that featured him recounting controversial advice he gave to a woman about domestic violence and making comments about a teenage girl's physical attractiveness in a sermon.

Several Southern Baptist leaders

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responded with public statements at the time about domestic violence and the dignity of women, including SBC President Steve Gaines and well-known Bible teacher Beth Moore. An open letter from Southern Baptist women, which objected to Patterson being "allowed to continue in leadership," garnered more than 3,000 signatures online. Patterson later apologized for his remarks, which he described as "obviously hurtful to women in several possible ways."

The Southern Baptist TEXAN reported earlier this year about SWBTS plans for Patterson and his wife, Dorothy, to live on campus in a presidential apartment upon his retirement. The residence is under construction as part of the school's Baptist Heritage Center, where Patterson is expected to remain as scholar-in-residence until physically unable.

Patterson is scheduled to give the keynote sermon and a task force report at next month's annual meeting of the SBC. There is no word yet on whether Patterson plans to withdraw or keep those assignments.

He was a key figure in the SBC's "Conservative Resurgence," a transitional period in the 1980s and '90s that featured widespread debate and institutional turmoil among Southern Baptist entities over theological topics such as divine revelation and gender roles in the church. Many Southern Baptists revere Patterson for his efforts in steering the denomination in a more conservative direction.

Reaction

Patterson said in an email to students

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seen by the Biblical Recorder that he was thankful for their support and encouraged them to focus on studying and

"As for the Pattersons," he added, "we are, of course, hurt. But we did not compromise and we still have our voice to witness. That we will attempt faithfully to do."

J.D. Greear, pastor of The Summit Church in Raleigh-Durham, N.C., and candidate for SBC president, released a statement saying, "Dr. Patterson was very influential in my early ministry, which has made this whole situation heartbreaking for me.

"I am grateful that the trustees at

Southwestern desired to respond with accountability.

"One thing must be clear, however: There can be no ambiguity about the church's responsibility to protect the abused and to be a safe place for the vulnerable. Abuse can never be tolerated, minimized, hidden, or 'handled internally.' Those in leadership who turn a blind eye toward abuse are complicit with it and must be held accountable. I hope that in the days to come, Southern Baptists will make that clear and act accordingly."

(EDITOR'S NOTE – Seth Brown, content editor, and Liz Tablazon, staff writer, contributed to this report.) **B**?

SWBTS interim president 'humbled' to serve

By DAVID ROACH | Baptist Press

istorical theologian Jeffrey Bingham has accepted the interim presidency of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (SWBTS). The position was offered to him May 23 in a 3 a.m. phone call from trustee chairman Kevin Ueckert after trustees named former president Paige Patterson as president emeritus.

Meanwhile, reaction to trustees' decision about Patterson has come from a range of Southern Baptists, including Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) President Steve Gaines and both announced candidates for next month's SBC presidential election in Dallas. Patterson's shift to president emeritus occurred amid controversy surrounding statements he has made about domestic violence and the physical appearance of women.

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Bingham, dean of SWBTS's School of Theology since 2016, said he is "humbled and honored to be asked to serve SWBTS Seminary in the capacity of interim

president," according to a May 23 seminary news release."

Bingham has served in a variety of academic roles at Wheaton College, Dallas Theological Seminary, Criswell College and SWBTS.



Gaines, pastor

of Memphis, Tenn.-area Bellevue Baptist Church, expressed trust in SWBTS's

"The Southern Baptist Convention elects trustees to govern our entities and to provide accountability for our entity heads," Gaines said in written comments to Baptist Press. "Southwestern's trustees have prayerfully analyzed the situation surrounding Dr. Patterson and have made their decisions. ... I pray for SWBTS daily and I believe God will bless the school in the years to come." B?





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High court ruling permits sports betting in all states

By TOM STRODE | Baptist Press

ll 50 states are now free to sponsor gambling on sporting events.

In a 6-3 ruling May 14, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down a 1992 law that prevented state authorization of sports gambling. The decision – which reversed opinions by lower courts – means states may legalize and operate betting on professional and college sports.

It appears gambling on sporting events will soon become a reality beyond Nevada, which was exempted from the original law. The law also enabled Delaware, Montana and Oregon to have limited legal sports gambling.

Five states – Connecticut, Mississippi, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and West Virginia – already had enacted laws in preparation for a Supreme Court decision permitting legalization, according to ESPN. Legislators in another 14 states have introduced bills to authorize sports betting, ESPN reported.

Southern Baptist leaders warned there would be harmful consequences from legalized sports gambling.

"We will soon see an avalanche of

pressure from multinational corporations to legalize sports betting at casinos and racetracks around the country," said Travis Wussow, general counsel and vice president for public policy of the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission.

"State leaders need to be prepared to tell the truth about the economic predation of casino gambling," he told Baptist Press in written comments.

"And pastors and church leaders need to be prepared to pastor their flock through the fallout that the court's decision is sure to produce."

Paul Chitwood, executive directortreasurer of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, said, "Gambling, legally or illegally, has benefited none of Kentucky's families or children but has delivered huge payouts in pain.

"What family or community is stronger or healthier because of gambling? Are there more vexing issues we have to face than sports betting? Of course. But if you're asking me had I rather be bitten by a Black Widow or a Brown Recluse, my answer is neither," he said, according to Kentucky Today.

The National Collegiate Athletic Association and the four major professional

sports leagues – Major League Baseball, National Basketball Association (NBA), National Football League and National Hockey League – were on the losing end of the high court's ruling. They had sued New Jersey in 2012 when the state adopted a constitutional amendment to legalize sports betting despite the federal law.

As they had in past opposition to legalization, some leagues continued to express concern about the integrity of their sports.

NBA Commissioner Adam Silver said in a written statement, "We remain in favor of a federal framework that would provide a uniform approach to sports gambling in states that choose to permit it, but we will remain active in ongoing discussions with state legislatures. Regardless of the particulars of any future sports betting law, the integrity of our game remains our highest priority."

The American Gaming Association (AGA), which represents the U.S. casino industry, has long opposed the 1992 Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act, contending it has resulted in an annual illegal sports betting market of \$150 billion.

AGA President Geoff Freeman described the high court's opinion as "a victory for the millions of Americans who seek to bet on sports in a safe and regulated manner."

In the majority opinion, Associate Justice Samuel Alito said the 1992 law "violates the anticommandeering rule," which bars Congress from giving direct orders to states.

The measure "unequivocally dictates what a state legislature may and may not do," he wrote.

Joining Alito in the majority were Chief Justice John Roberts and Associate Justices Anthony Kennedy, Clarence Thomas, Elena Kagan and Neil Gorsuch. Associate Justice Stephen Breyer joined in most of the majority opinion but also signed onto the dissent with Associate Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Sonia Sotomayor.

A LifeWay Research study released in 2016 reported 49 percent of Americans said sports gambling should not be legalized in the country, while 40 percent thought it should.

Almost two-thirds of those surveyed did not believe it was morally wrong to gamble on sporting events. **B?**

Does your church have the

Bad vantage?

Let's be honest, you need an advantage.

The Biblical Recorder exists to serve you. The news and information we provide your church family support the biblical worldview they receive from the pastor's preaching and Bible study groups. That's an advantage they need.

That's an advantage you need.





Do you have open hands to show and share the love of Jesus Christ with others?

"Open Hands" is the theme of this year's North Carolina Missions Offering (NCMO), the annual offering that supports a variety of ministries that seek to meet physical and spiritual needs in North Carolina and beyond.

Generally received in September of each year, the NCMO supports Baptists on Mission (also known as N.C. Baptist Men), church planting, mission camps, local Baptist associations and missions mobilization projects. The goal for this year's offering is \$2.1 million.

The theme of "Open Hands" is based upon Psalm 145:16 which reads, "You open Your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing" (NKJV).

"This verse is a reminder that God has opened His hands to us so that we may open our hands to others," said Richard Brunson, executive director of Baptists on Mission.

Baptists on Mission is comprised of 18 different ministries, several of which share the love of Christ by meeting the physical needs of individuals.

"Helping meet people's physical needs is a great way to build bridges to the gospel," Brunson said.

Disaster relief is one of the most visible ministries of Baptists on Mission. The 2017 hurricane season was the most expensive in U.S. history. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria all ranked among the top-five costliest storms in U.S. history.

Yet in the aftermath of those events,

N.C. Baptist disaster relief volunteers came alongside hurting individuals in places like Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico to help them put their lives back together and point them to Christ. That's in addition to assisting with the ongoing long-term relief efforts related to Hurricane Matthew, which struck North Carolina in the fall of 2016.

Including the hurricanes, N.C. Baptists respond to a total of 18 different disasters in 2017, totaling more than 29,000 total volunteer service days. Volunteers repaired hundreds of homes and provided more than 500,000 meals to those in need. Through those and other efforts, thousands of seeds have been planted and more than 90 individuals made a firsttime commitment to Jesus Christ through the Baptists on Mission disaster relief ministry.

NCMO supports missions on the local level across N.C.

"The generous support provided to the North Carolina Missions Offering makes all of this possible," Brunson said.

In addition to disaster relief, the ministries of Baptists on Mission also help involve individuals and churches in shortterm missions projects through a number of missions partnerships. Two mission camps located in the N.C. communities of Red Springs and Shelby offer local

churches the opportunity to participate in a variety of local missions projects.

In addition, thousands of volunteers participate in short-term missions trips across the country and around the globe through one of Baptists on Mission's many missions partnerships. Locations served in the United States include the Appalachian coalfields, Hawaii, Pennsylvania, the Rocky Mountain states and New England. Globally, volunteers serve in Armenia, Cuba, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Kenya, Romania and South Africa.

The NCMO also provides support to the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina's efforts related to church planting

The convention's team of church planting consultants provides training, coaching and additional support to church planters, equipping them to reach their communities for Christ. By giving to the NCMO, you help plant churches that make disciples of Jesus Christ.

In 2017, the Baptist state convention worked with 101 new churches - 71 new church plants and 30 new affiliate churches. These new churches reported a total of more than 6,700 professions of faith and more than 5,400 in worship

The NCMO also supports missions on the local level across North Carolina. Each year, a portion of the offering is designated for local Baptist associations throughout North Carolina for a variety of missions and ministry efforts.

For more information about the North Carolina Missions Offering, visit ncmissionsoffering.org.

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5 FOCUS AREAS FOR NCMO

North Carolina Missions Offering

NCMissionsOffering.org

Baptists on Mission/N.C. Baptist Men (NCMB)

helps churches involve their members in missions and ministry in Jesus' name. NCBM has 18 different ministries, which include aviation missions, disaster relief, medical missions and more.

Church Planting

The Baptist State Convention of North Carolina works with churches, associations and church-planting networks to facilitate the launch of new churches. The convention's church planting team provides training, coaching and support to church planters.

Mission Camps

Two mission camps located in Red Springs and Shelby help churches get involved in missions. The camps hosts churches and others to coordinate short-term mission projects in the community. Projects include construction,

painting, home repair, yard work, Bible schools and more. The camps are operated by Baptists on Mission.

Associational Projects

A portion of the NCMO's receipts are distributed to the state's 77 Baptist associations from which they came. Associations use these funds in a variety of mission and ministry projects, including evangelistic outreaches aimed toward ministering to the needs of people in their community.

Mobilization Ministry Projects

Men, women and youth are being mobilized to serve on mission teams in North Carolina, the United States, North America and around the world. Baptists on Mission works with mission partners to plan, equip and send volunteer teams to assist these partners located all around the world.

Region 1: Corinth Baptist Church

Elizabeth City Tuesday, Aug. 14, 2018

Region 2: Temple Baptist Church

New Bern Monday, Aug. 13, 2018

Region 3: Beulaville Baptist Church

Beulaville Thursday, Aug. 16, 2018

Region 4: Central Baptist Church

Wendell

Tuesday, Aug. 14, 2018

Region 5: Abbott's Creek Baptist Church

High Point Thursday, Aug. 16, 2018

Region 6: Beverly Hills Baptist Church

Tuesday, Aug. 14, 2018

Region 7: Three Forks Baptist Church

Taylorsville Thursday, Aug. 16, 2018

Region 8: Westport Baptist Church

Denver Monday, Aug. 13, 2018

Region 9: First Baptist Church

Hendersonville Tuesday, Aug. 14, 2018

Region 10: Iotla Baptist Church

Franklin

Monday, Aug. 13, 2018



Coming soon! Free NCMO promo resources

A packet of free resources to promote this year's North Carolina Missions Offering (NCMO) will be mailed to N.C. Baptist churches by the end of June. Resources include a coordinator's guide, a DVD of missions testimonial videos, posters, bulletin inserts, offering envelopes and more.

If your church has ordered NCMO resources in the past, you will receive the same materials in the mail this year. Watch for your packet to arrive sometime by the end of July.

If you need to place a new order or order additional materials,

watch for an email in early July with ordering instructions. New orders may be placed in July and August in preparation for the September NCMO emphasis.

These and other resources are also available for free download from the NCMO website at ncmissionsoffering.org/ resources.





Make plans now to attend missions rallies in August

Mark your calendars and make plans now to attend one of the 10 regional missions rallies scheduled for August all across North Carolina. See the full list of dates and locations for the rallies in the includes men, women and youth. A meal is provided at no charge, events listing above and join us for the rally in your area.

Rallies will highlight the opportunities N.C. Baptists have to be involved in missions across our state, in our nation and around the world. Rallies will include times of worship, prayer and testimonies, with a special focus given to ministries, projects and

partnerships supported by the North Carolina Missions Offering.

The rallies are open to anyone interested in missions, which but reservations are required to ensure an accurate meal count.

For more information, including registration details, visit baptistsonmission.org/rallies.

BaptistsOnMission.org/Rallies



Join us in prayer for NCMO

Prayer undergirds the work of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. The North Carolina Missions Offering (NCMO) and the ministries it supports are no different.

That's why we've designated Sunday, Aug. 26 to Sunday, Sept. 2, as a special week of prayer for this year's NCMO. Since the month of September marks the primary NCMO emphasis in many churches, this week of prayer is designed to focus our hearts on praying for missions in the week leading up to the beginning of the NCMO emphasis.

Please consider how you and your church can pray for the ministries supported through NCMO. Several prayer prompts have been developed for individuals and churches for the week of prayer. To learn more, visit ncmissionsoffering.org/pray.

NCMissionsOffering.org/pray

Humility Continued from page 1

(SBC) annual meeting scheduled for June 12-13 in Dallas, Texas.

Each year thousands of middle and high school students attend one of seven weeklong camps sponsored by the state convention at Fort Caswell. Since 2014, more than 1,400 students have trusted Christ as Savior during youth weeks, which includes more than 300 last year alone, Hollifield said. Many others surrender to a call to vocational ministry at youth weeks. Likewise, both Camp Caraway and Truett Camp share the call to follow Christ with hundreds of children and teens each summer, while encouraging those making salvation decisions to become true disciples of the living Lord.

"Let's pray that God would do another great work this year," Hollifield said.

Hollifield called on N.C. Baptists to pray for the ministry and outreach events being held in conjunction with the SBC annual meeting, as well as this year's SBC presidential election. Both of the announced SBC presidential candidates have North Carolina ties. They are J.D. Greear, pastor of the Summit Church in Raleigh-Durham, and Ken Hemphill, a North Carolina native and current administrator at North Greenville University in Greenville, S.C.

Hollifield also requested prayer for wisdom for search committees seeking to fill leadership vacancies with the International Mission Board (IMB) and the SBC Executive Committee.

During Hollifield's report, Chuck Register, BSC executive leader for Church Planting and Missions Partnerships, introduced Greg Queen, a former IMB missionary who now serves as a church mobilization specialist with the IMB for several southern states, including North Carolina. Queen's role is to help churches embrace and engage in mission partnerships and opportunities. Queen may be reached by email at <code>gqueen@imb.org</code>.

In other business, the board heard several other ministry reports and took action on one financial item.

Financial updates

The board authorized the transfer of \$381,097 in surplus operations funds from 2017 into the state convention's contingency reserve fund.

Additionally, Beverly Volz, director of accounting services, reported that

through the end of April, Cooperative Program giving from N.C. Baptist churches totaled more than \$8.65 million.

Appointees announced

Board President Marc Francis announced the appointment of several individuals to serve on various convention and board committees. Appointments included:

Kelton Hinton of Princeton Baptist Church; Don Goforth of Great Marsh Baptist Church in Saint Paul's; and Gregory Shaver of Hopewell Baptist Church in Monroe to the Articles and Bylaws Special Committee.

Terry Stockman of Meherrin Baptist Church in Murfreesboro and Barbara Bowen of Trinity Baptist Church in Raleigh to the Budget Special Committee.

Lee Davis of Crosslink Community Church in Mebane; Ben Francis of Parkwood Baptist Church in Gastonia; and Josh Hayes of Pleasant Garden Baptist Church in Marion to the Christian Life and Public Affairs Special Committee.

BSC Executive Committee members Lawrence Clapp, Ken Jones and Matt Ledbetter to the Fruitland Baptist Bible College Nominating Committee.

Facilities named

John Butler, executive leader for Business Services, reported that the Business Services Committee approved the renaming of the existing recreation pavilion at Camp Caraway in honor of the late Raiford Troutman, who was instrumental in starting the camp at Caraway. Additionally, the new gymnasium at Camp Caraway will be named in honor of former camp director Charles Harris.

One of Caraway's conference rooms will also be renamed the Higher Education Dining Room in appreciation of gifts made to Caraway's capital fund by the five educational institutions historically affiliated with the state convention.

In addition, the gym floor at Fort Caswell will be named for the Farmer family, who has maintained the floor for the past two decades.

Statement on designated giving

Francis made the following announcement based on work of the Executive Committee in recent months related to designated giving to the convention by

some North Carolina churches.

"During the Executive Committee's March 2018 meeting, the Executive Director-Treasurer made the Committee aware that in 2017 ten churches added a special designation on their Baptist State Convention remittance forms for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. The staff forwarded these designated funds to CBF consistent with accounting practices to forward funds to those organizations/ entities that have previously been in the Baptist State Convention's budget. In 2017, the funds designated to CBF totaled approximately \$36,000. These same 10 churches also gave in excess of \$413,000 to the Cooperative Program and all special offerings supporting Baptist State Convention and Southern Baptist Convention causes.

"Because the national CBF had

changed its hiring policy in February 2018, the Executive Committee voted to direct Convention staff to cease forwarding designated funds from churches to CRE

The Executive Committee also asked the Executive Director-Treasurer to contact each of the churches that made such designations in 2017 and inform them that the Baptist State Convention would no longer receive funds designated for CBF. The Executive Director-Treasurer has reported to the Executive Committee that he has successfully contacted all of the churches in question and received confirmation that the churches would cease sending funds designated to CBF to the Baptist State Convention."

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the board of directors is set for September 24-25 at Caraway. **B?**

COMMUNITY COLLEGES?

ver one million college students live, study and become adults on North Carolina's 185 college campuses each year. Nearly 70 percent of them take classes on community college campuses. And most of those community colleges still have no church or Christian group trying to reach them. It's understandable. It's hard.

University Hills Baptist Church sits across the street from the University of North Carolina in Charlotte (UNCC). It makes sense that University Hills would have a strong collegiate ministry targeting UNCC students like they do.

Student Pastor Bo Riley, however, dared to lift his eyes to another harvest – the harvest awaiting three and a half miles away at the Cato Campus of Central Piedmont Community College.

It's been a difficult task. He started with some of his own students from University Hills, using them as a core group to start a new Bible study, but they all transferred to other colleges. Why? The turnover at community colleges is twice as fast as a residential university.

He started the group with college students who look like the college students University Hills is reaching from UNCC.

But now the group is comprised

mostly of students from minority groups and the age demographic dips all the way down to 15-year-olds. Why? Because community colleges attract higher percentages of minority-group students, and many of them have Early College High Schools that bring high school students to campus.

Community college campuses organize differently, target differently and carry out a different mandate than residential campuses do.

But it's not all a struggle. The administration at the Cato campus has welcomed Bo's ministry with open arms.

They are grateful for a church that seeks to serve their students like University Hills does. Additionally, Bo is sharing the gospel weekly with students who have no one else doing that on their campus.

No one ever said that being a missionary on a college campus would be easy, but the fact that there are a million college students in North Carolina

who don't know Jesus should motivate us – just like it has Bo – to push through the difficulty so that some might be saved.



JONATHAN YARBORO



BE SURE TO CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE

EDITOR'S NOTE – Jonathan Yarboro is team leader and strategist for Collegiate Partnerships with the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. Contact (828) 406-3202, or jyarboro@ncbaptist.org.

FACT CHECK: SBC presidential candidates counter claims

Biblical Recorder

he lead-up to the Southern Baptist Convention's 2018 presidential election has generated much discussion and a fair amount of controversy. As more people have published news and opinions online, in addition to social media commentary, the number of concerns about misinformation and misrepresentation has increased. So, the *Biblical Recorder* asked each of the announced candidates, Ken Hemphill and J.D. Greear, to itemize and respond to any on-record statements or claims they believe to be false or misleading.

Hemphill, former president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and administrator for North Greenville University, said he is not aware of any factual errors in publication. However, he noted that some Southern Baptists have told him personally that by running for SBC president, he was "dividing our convention." Hemphill responded, "I love this family and have always sought to build bridges of cooperation. I believe in our congregational polity and the presence of two or more candidates gives people the opportunity to listen to the various platforms, pray for discernment and vote their convictions."

Greear, pastor of The Summit Church in Raleigh-Durham, N.C., outlined three claims others have made about him that he believes are untrue. What follows has been edited for clarity and length.

CLAIM #1: Referring to a tweet by Greear on May 5, a blog post at *CapstoneReport.com* recently said, "Greear has argued that the Bible teaches the tearing down of all hierarchy," and called the tweet "sloppy theology."

Greear: This is the tweet Capstone Report is referring to: "Thank you, Beth [Moore]! Hoping that we are entering a new era where we in the complementarian world take all the Word of God seriously – not just the parts about distinction of roles but also re: the tearing down of all hierarchy & his gracious distribution of gifts to all his children!"

That statement was part of a larger social media conversation about women in ministry. Following the accusation, which majored on my use of the word "hierarchy," I released a follow-up statement expanding the ideas of the original tweet that included this point:

"The bottom line is that a commitment to biblical complementarianism does not preclude a commitment to development, empowerment and advancement of women in ministry or the unleashing of their gifting in the church. We can do this while respecting the order laid out in 1 Timothy 2-3 and Ephesians 5:22-33."

CLAIM #2: A blog post at *SBCToday.com* called an evangelistic strategy to Muslims that Greear affirms "alarmingly unorthodox" and said it could lead to universalist or pluralist beliefs that all people will be saved.

Greear: When I was a missionary in a predominantly Muslim country, my goal there was to present the gospel as effectively as possible without watering down its truth or removing its scandal at all. As every missionary will attest, this is one of the most challenging theological tasks a Christian will ever undertake. Muslims claim to worship the God of Noah, Abraham and Moses. My job was, and is, to show them their view of this God is altogether different from the God of the Bible, and that salvation is found only in the name of our Lord Jesus (Acts 4:12). There is, after all, only one God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, known only through faith in him.

Thus, if by the question, "Do Muslims and Christians worship the same God?" one means, "Are there multiple ways to God?" or "Do Muslims and Christians believe the same basic things about God?" then the answer is a

See Claims page 12

Clyde Continued from page 1

Clyde. J. Keith Henry, BCH chief operating officer, accepted the check.

Many communities for one mission

Ride to Clyde is not just a ride, but an event, Henry declared as onlookers applauded and cheered. Receiving the check was a high point in the May 12 festivities at Broyhill, which included a barbecue, car show, gospel music, clogging and other events.

This year's total amount raised greatly topped the 2016 total of more than \$19,000 and the 2017 total of \$32,379.

Jerry and Juene Coffey led all other fundraisers in the Ride to Clyde with a whopping \$7,545. The Coffeys joined the ride in 2016 and rode in 2017 Ride to Clyde. Jerry explained, "The Lord gave me and Juene a strong desire for the Ride to Clyde and we worked at it all year."

But they did not work alone.

Jerry explained that their home church, Chase Baptist Church in Forest City, with just over 100 members, took up the cause as well.

A golf tournament and raffle helped raise part of the money and their Baptist Men group prepared and sold dinners one Sunday after the worship service to help raise the winning amount, Jerry said.

This year Jerry rode his Ultra Classic and Juene rode her Street Glide Classic, both Harley-Davidsons.

Other top fundraisers for the 2018 ride were:

• Keith and Jody Austin (\$6,373).

- Elizabeth Baptist Church, Shelby (\$4,500) Pastor Rit Varriale again rode his Ducati motorcycle in this year's Ride to Clyde; he was one of the ride's founders.
- River Community Church, Fayetteville (\$3,700) Pastor Todd Brady rode his Harley Davidson this year.
 - Ben Bonds (\$3,369).
- Freedom Biker Church, Monroe (\$3,326).

More than a ride

Fundraising was just one part of Ride to Clyde; another emphasis was for the men and women riders to learn more about the Baptist Children's Homes they were riding to support. Some of the biggest, burliest and most tattooed riders were seen wiping their eyes as they heard from some of the people the homes minister to.

At Camp Duncan for Girls near Aberdeen, a girl told how she suffered at the hands of her drug-abusing mother and how happy she has been to live at Duncan for the past two years.

Girls walked with the riders out through the 700-acre site to show off the primitive campsites where groups of girls live in all kinds of weather, cook over open fires, work and study in the rugged, Christ-centered program.

At Caraway Conference Center riders heard from women who live in Asheboro in one of the nine shelter homes for developmentally handicapped adults operated by BCH.

The group sang two songs and one woman gave her testimony of how faith

in Jesus Christ had helped her overcome her disabilities.

At the BCH campus at Thomasville, the bikers parked their motorcycles and let delighted children sit on them and even blow the horns, which they did with great enthusiasm.

During a program at Lake Junaluska, Roberta Edwards, now happily married with three children, told how she suffered during her childhood from her abusive mother before moving to the Broyhill Home. There she found faith in Christ to enable her to break the chain of abuse as she now raises her own children. Edwards said she was even able to forgive her mother before she passed away.

This year the 23 facilities of Baptist Children's Homes in the state will minister to around 33,000 children and family members, BCH President Michael C. Blackwell told the riders during an overnight stay May 10 at Caraway Conference Center near Asheboro.

Many of the Ride to Clyde participants expressed amazement at the many BCH ministries they were learning about for the first time.

Riders Robin and Tammy Ferguson of Candler said they were already making plans to take part in the 2019 Ride to Clyde after visiting the Duncan Camp for Girls. "It's amazing what goes on here. It just blows me away — the program and what the kids do, it's just wow," he said. It was the first time he had heard about such a ministry. "It has been a good discovery trip. It opened my eyes to a lot of things."

Only one accident marred the ride. Roger Harris, an experienced rider and member of Wrightsboro Baptist Church, Wilmington, fell on his motorcycle between Asheboro and Caraway Conference Center and was taken by ambulance to a nearby Greensboro hospital for treatment. While his injuries were extensive with broken ribs and a collarbone, he was back at home before the Ride to Clyde was completed.

Rider reports were positive. One rider said when he explained to a man at a gas station what the ride was about, the man spontaneously handed him a \$20 contribution. One team was able to pray for a man recovering from a drug addiction.

Most riders expressed satisfaction with the ride, as far as the stops and the routes. Ride to Clyde coordinator Brian Davis, associate executive director-treasurer of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, coordinated the ride again. He and BSC staffer John Jones first rode the routes taken this year to find safe and enjoyable ways to get from point to point.

They had to take care of many details known only to motorcyclists, such as providing pucks for motorcycle kickstands to rest on, lest the heavy bikes might fall over from soft soil or even pavement. One Ride to Clyde rider, David Smith originally from Ohio, said he had organized a number of group motorcycle rides over the years and he said the Ride to Clyde was excellent in its planning and preparation.

Visit: ncbaptist.org/RidetoClyde. B?

Gaylon Moss accepts Missouri Baptist disaster relief position

Biblical Recorder

orth Carolina's Baptists on Mission, also known as North Carolina Baptist Men (NCBM), announced May 22 that Gaylon Moss, disaster relief director,

has accepted a similar position with the Missouri Baptist Convention. Moss will make the transition July 1, after serving in his current role for nearly 20

"Gaylon has been a tremendous disaster relief director for North Carolina and he will be greatly missed," Richard Brunson, director of NCBM, said in a press release.

"I told Gaylon that it will be very hard to replace him, but I am so excited that God has led him to this opportunity and Gaylon has been willing to go where God has led him. Gaylon has done so much for us. He is a person of great ability, vision and integrity. I am so thankful and proud of him. My main thought since Gaylon told me that he

would be leaving has been, 'the Lord gives and the Lord takes away, blessed be the name of the Lord' (Job 1:21). Please pray for Gaylon and his family in their move and for us as we seek the Lord's leading in finding the new NC Disaster Relief Director."

> Moss said, "I am very thankful for the opportunity to serve the Lord and others through NCBM/Baptists on Mission as the Disaster Relief Director. The NCBM Disaster Relief volunteers are a terrific team to work with and have some of their best days ahead of them."

The NCBM announcement, which came while the Baptist State Convention of North

Carolina (BSC) Board of Directors was meeting, said a search committee would be established to fill the vacancy.

"He has done a great job for us and we will miss him," said Robert Simons, president of NCBM, who made the announcement to the BSC board.

Moss begins his new work July 1. B?



SBC ends relationship with D.C. convention

(Baptist Press) After nearly a year and a half of discussions concerning a Washington church with lesbian co-pastors, the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) has notified the District of Columbia Baptist Convention (DCBC) that "the formal relationship between the SBC and the DCBC has come to an end," according to a statement by interim Executive Committee (EC) president D. August Boto.

At its Feb. 19-20 meeting in Nashville, the EC adopted a recommendation granting the DCBC 90 days to "secure" the "removal of any churches from its fellowship that have demonstrated a faith or practice affirming, approving or endorsing homosexual behavior." If such churches remained in friendly cooperation with the DCBC after May 20, the EC stated, the DCBC would lose its authorization "to receive and disburse Cooperative Program and other SBC contributions."

At issue was Calvary Baptist Church in Washington, which cooperates with the DCBC and voted in January 2017 to call a legally-married lesbian couple as co-pastors. Calvary voted in 2012 to cease cooperation with the SBC.

George to end 30 years as Beeson dean

(Baptist Press) Timothy George, founding dean of the interdenominational Beeson Divinity School at Samford University, has announced he will step down as dean by the end of the 2018-2019 academic year.

George, 68, who also is professor of divinity at Beeson, said in his May 16 announcement he will remain on the faculty, where he teaches church history and

The divinity school, which describes itself as interdenominational and evangelical, is now marking its 30th year with 200 students. Beeson opened with 31 students in 1988. In its 30 years, it has sent out nearly 1,300 alumni.

George and his wife Denise, author of more than 30 books whose most recent works have focused on the Holocaust and the Civil Rights Movement, have two adult children.

Association starts Bible institute

GAYLON MOSS

On April 23, Brushy Mountain Baptist Association, Wilkesboro, voted to create the Brushy Mountain Bible Institute.

The institute will offer associate and bachelor's degrees along with a special certificate program. Burt Wilbur was appointed as the first president of this new ministry. Wilbur is the director of missions of the Brushy Mountain Baptist Association. Charles Whipple, pastor of Community Baptist Church in North Wilkesboro, was appointed as the academic dean.

Robert Duncan, pastor of Oakwoods Baptist Church of Wilkesboro and The Wilkes Cowboy Church of North Wilkesboro, was appointed as the team leader for the Bible Institute Team that will serve in lieu of a board of trustees. Registration for Brushy Mountain Bible Institute will begin June 1, 2018, and classes will begin August 21. Call (336) 566-2918 or email bibleinstitute@brushy mountain.com. Donations can be given to the Institute at brushymountain.com/ connect/online-giving/. B?

Claims Continued from page 11

definitive no. Islam and Christianity take their followers down two fundamentally different paths, toward two radically different understandings of who God is and what he wants, and ultimately to two different destinations.

CLAIM #3: David Hankins, executive director of the Louisiana Baptist Convention, said on his personal blog that Greear believes state conventions should be either "dismantled" or receive no more than 25 percent of Cooperative Program

Greear: When I read David Hankins' claim, I immediately called him to ask him where he heard or read this, because I've never made such a statement.

Hankins couldn't remember where this came from. Other people have said things

For instance, former SBC president Bryant Wright reached out to let me know that he was the one pushing for 25 percent. But I've never made any recommendations along those lines.

As for the state conventions' usefulness, I've often written about how much good they do. Recently, for instance, I wrote an article praising them for their invaluable work in providing disaster relief and running children's homes. I want to see greater involvement in the state conventions from our younger generation, not less. B?

Trennis Henderson named as WMU correspondent

(Ouachita Baptist University & WMU staff) Trennis Henderson, vice president for communications at Ouachita Baptist University since 2008, has accepted a new ministry role with national Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) as WMU's national correspondent.

His wife, Pam, will be involved in related administrative and production services in the WMU initiative, which begins Aug. 1.

Henderson, who has extensive experience in the field of Christian journalism, previously served as editor of the Kentucky Baptist Western Recorder and the Arkansas Baptist News as well as managing editor of the Missouri Baptist Word & Way.

In their new roles, the Hendersons will travel throughout the nation as he researches, conducts interviews and produces news and feature articles and related content about missions and ministry projects, events and volunteers. Pam Henderson will coordinate logistics for national travel, interviews and production schedules as well as photography and video resources.

Bible ranks low as daily must

(Baptist Press) The Bible tops coffee, social media and sweets as a daily necessity for only 16 percent of the population, according to new research commissioned by the American Bible Society (ABS). The largest segment of Americans, 37 percent, see coffee as a top essential, the 2018 State of the Bible report said. Dessert topped the list for 28 percent, compared to 19 percent who chose social media. More than half of adults, or 58 percent, said they wished they read the Bible more often.

In similar research released by the Pew Research Center, African Americans read the Bible more often than other ethnicities and cite particular comfort in the Exodus account of the Israelites' deliverance from slavery.

More than half of Christian and non-Christian blacks in the U.S., 54 percent, say they read the Bible at least once weekly outside of religious services, Pew said. The percentage falls to 38 percent for Hispanics and 32 percent for whites.

In the ABS State of the Bible report, scripture was considered a daily necessity among a small segment of the population researchers judged as "Bible-centered." Among those approximately nine percent of Americans, 61 percent chose the Bible as more essential than other options. Bible-centered people said the book offers hope and peace. "The Bible provides the wisdom of the ages for today's fears, challenges and struggles," ABS president and CEO Roy Peterson said upon the report's release.

Full stories available online at BRnow.org.

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Hollifield calls next SBC leader to advocate dignity of women

Rihlical Recorder

orth Carolina's leading Baptist wants the next president of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) to demonstrate a commitment to the value and importance of women in churches and Christian organizations.

Milton Hollifield Jr., executive director-treasurer of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, said, "We need a leader who shows that he understands there is equality between brothers and sisters in Christ in the family of God."

He spoke to the Biblical Recorder in a wide-ranging interview May 24 about the upcoming presidential election at this year's SBC annual meeting in Dallas, Texas.

While emphasizing that he believes the Bible reserves the role of pastor for men, Hollifield said females are not second-class citizens.

"Women should know and believe that if God has raised them up, they will be given the opportunity to serve on committees and certain places of leadership," he said. "They shouldn't have to prove, 'I'm good enough for first string."

Hollifield lamented recent news stories about abuse and sexual misconduct, in addition to the way women sometimes encounter "condescending attitudes."

"It's wrong," he said.

There are two announced candidates for SBC president this year: J.D. Greear, pastor of The Summit Church in Raleigh-Durham, and Ken Hemphill, former president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and administrator at North Greenville University in Tigerville,

Hollifield also said SBC leadership should lead the way in increasing the diversity of committees and leadership appointments - along the lines of ethnicity, gender, age and affiliated church size - by reviewing the procedures and expanding the publicity of the nominating process. He suggested new communication strategies and meeting schedules to enable more involvement from lay people with full-time jobs.

"We need to help people understand this is not a sewn up process and decision," Hollifield said.

"... Somehow we've got to come up with a way of convincing Southern Baptists, whether they are in North Carolina or all across the Southern Baptist Convention, that your opinion really does matter. You know people that others serving on a committee do not know, and we really need help finding people who can serve in roles of

When asked whether he thought this was a pivotal

year in the life of the SBC, Hollifield said the candidates, in terms of their character and experience, were the type of high quality leaders that Southern Baptists have come to expect.

"However," he continued, "I'm most concerned about the message this campaign - which has the appearance of a secular political campaign – is sending to the [younger] generation of pastors.

"... I'm afraid they are going to see this, not as just two men running for the president of the Southern Baptist Convention, but as a matter of whether their candidate wins or loses, and if they lose, they may question how much they are valued as future leaders of the Southern Baptist Convention. That makes it a pivotal

Many Southern Baptists are focused on the amount of financial support each candidate's church gives through the Cooperative Program (CP). Hollifield praised both The Summit Church, where Greear is pastor, and First Baptist Church in Hendersonville, N.C., where Hemphill is a member.

"Under the leadership of Steve Scoggins, First Baptist Church in Hendersonville has done well in their support of the Cooperative Program," he said, "and I wish we had more churches like The Summit. ... I thank God for what both of them give.

"They're both great churches."

Asked about the high level of criticism endured by Greear during this year's SBC presidential campaign, Hollifield defended Greear and attempted to correct apparent misunderstandings.

Some Southern Baptists believe Greear's theological positions call into question his evangelistic fervor.

"I think they are misreading where J.D. Greear stands," Hollifield said.

Greear said on social media recently, "For the record,

I believe Jesus died for all people, that every person can and should be called to repent and believe, and that you haven't fully preached the gospel if you haven't called for that response."

Hollifield said Greear had "demonstrated in his own personal lifestyle and in the church he pastors, that he very much believes in the importance of sharing the gospel with all people."

Referring to The Summit's partnership with the state convention, Hollifield said he was grateful for their participation and described them as an example for other churches.

"They work with us in evangelism. They share our ideas about church health and revitalization," he said. "... I consider them to be a model church for how they practice discipleship. Disciple-making is at the heart of our strategy in this state convention. Not only are they doing it in wonderful ways through their church, but they are also willing to help us promote discipleship in other churches."

Hollifield recounted how The Summit's leadership had expressed a commitment to increase their involvement in Southern Baptist life, noting that Greear had served on the state convention's board of directors as a "team player" and had planned to increase The Summit's CP giving years before recent SBC elections.

"They have lived true to a commitment they made,"

According to the state convention's most recent data, The Summit is the highest CP-giving church in North

For more SBC coverage, visit BRnow.org and follow the Biblical Recorder's social media accounts during the annual meeting June 12-13.

(EDITOR'S NOTE - K. Allan Blume, editor, and Seth Brown, content editor, contributed to this report.) BR

Alvin Reid resigns amid personal, spiritual issues

lvin Reid has resigned from the faculty of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary (SEBTS), citing "personal and spiritual issues."

Reid, 59, SEBTS senior professor of evangelism and student ministry, stated on his website May 21, "I have resigned from teaching and public ministry to address personal and spiritual issues in my life. Please pray for me and my family."

Reid, who joined SEBTS's faculty in 1995, resigned on May 18, according to a seminary spokesperson. He also has resigned as pastor of the young professionals ministry at Richland Creek Community Church in Wake Forest. Reid and his wife Michelle have two married children and one grandchild. BR



ALVIN REID

Wrath Continued from page 3

many years. I now must make this judgment a matter of public commitment.

I believe that any public accusation concerning such a pattern requires an independent, third-party investigation. In making this judgment, I make public what I want to be held to do should, God forbid, such a responsibility arise.

I believe that the pattern of God's pleasure and design in the family and in the church is essential to human flourishing. I believe that the Bible is the inerrant and infallible verbally inspired Word of God. I believe that the gospel of Jesus Christ is the great news that any sinner who believes in the Lord Jesus Christ will be saved. I believe that theology rooted unapologetically in Scripture is the only sure foundation for the home, the church and the Christian life. And, I also believe that the fruit of the Spirit "is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law" (Galatians 5:22-23). Where

this fruit is not present and visible, Christ is not present.

The #MeToo moment has come to American evangelicals. This moment has come to some of my friends and brothers in Christ. This moment has come to me, and I am called to deal with it as a Christian, as a minister of the gospel, as a seminary and college president, and as a public leader.

I pray that I will lead rightly. In Romans 1:18 we are told: "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth."

This is just a foretaste of the wrath of God poured out. This moment requires the very best of us. The Southern Baptist Convention is on trial and our public credibility is at stake. May God have mercy on us all.

(EDITOR'S NOTE - R. Albert Mohler Jr. is president of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.)

June 10

BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE

June 17

Why Are We in This Mess?

Focal passage: Genesis 3:1-7, 14-19

e ruined a perfect relationship with God through our sin.

My husband recently purchased a bed for his dog Max, and I have never seen a puppy love a mattress more. Each evening as we drag the bed into his favorite spot, Max barks uncontrollably and runs around in circles. He is so excited about the prospect of relaxing on memory foam he can hardly stand it.

Or at least that's what I thought.

As I made my morning trek to the coffee maker earlier this week, I felt something squishy underneath my feet.

Turning on the lights, I assessed the situation and discovered that our living room was covered in tiny slobbery pieces of foam. Instead of treasuring the good gift from his owner, Max had chewed his mattress into pieces. It was ruined.

As I stood there watching Max wallow in his disaster, I was reminded of the disaster in which we find ourselves today.

You see, God created a beautiful earth – a paradise for His beloved humans to manage and enjoy.

But instead of living in communion

with Him, Adam and Eve chose to sin. They believed the lies of a deceptive serpent over the voice of their Maker and disobeyed God's commands.

This disobedience brought consequences and a curse that plagues the earth even today.

Like Adam and Eve before us, we sin when we do not obey God. And like Adam and Eve, because of our sin, we face consequences – separation from God and the suffering that comes from living in a fallen world.

I'll be able to order a new mattress for Max, but more than likely, he will destroy his next dog bed, too. The chewing problem is not going away. But praise God, this is not true for our sin problem.

Because of God's great and undeserved love, we have hope that eventually the curse will be destroyed. In Genesis 3:15, God declares that He will send someone to defeat the serpent. He says, "he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel." There may be no hope for Max, but there is hope for us!

Why Can't We Fix It?

Focal passages: Deuteronomy 5:32-33, Galatians 3:10-12, 19a, 24-25

e are unable to live up to God's holy standard. Take a stroll through

"The Story of North Carolina" exhibit at the North Carolina Museum of History and you will most likely discover a collage of military portraits. Inside a small alcove there is a wall littered with the faces of nameless soldiers from the past – citizens willing and ready to sacrifice their lives defending their country.

Each of these soldiers was qualified to serve in the Army because they met certain standards. For example, they were healthy enough, strong enough

and of an appropriate age.

Just as the military had standards for those who would join their ranks, God has clear expectations for those who desire to live in relationship with Him and experience His abundant life. In Deuteronomy 5:32, God calls His people to "do just as the Lord your God has commanded you."

His followers are to live in complete obedience. Although I'm certain that behind each somber face in that museum there is a moving story, I am always drawn to one photograph in particular. Hidden in the collage is a lady disguised as a gentleman. It appears as if she meets the military standard, but try as she might, she could never truly qualify as a soldier.

Because of our sin, we will never be able to qualify as living in complete obedience before God. And as Paul explains in Galatians 3:10b, "Everyone who does not continue doing everything written in the book of the law is cursed."

There was no perfect solution for the female military imposter, but for those of us who long to live in communion with God, there is hope. True, we can never perfectly fulfill God's law, but the law was designed to highlight our helplessness and "lead us to Christ" (Galatians 3:24). Jesus Christ obeyed the law perfectly and then took our curse upon Himself. He died in our place, and when we place our faith in His substitutionary work on our behalf, we are restored to a right relationship with God and can begin experiencing the true abundant life He designed.



EXPLORE THE BIBLE

LOGAN SIDES

Local Missions Director,

Calvary Baptist Church,

Winston-Salem

June 17

Crowned

Focal passages: 2 Samuel 3:8-21

June 10

he people of God were not united under David at the beginning of his reign.

In fact, there was war between his followers and followers from the house of Saul (2 Samuel 3:1). Yet, God's purposes would be fulfilled as David eventually becomes king over all Israel (5:1-2).

No one likes for someone to overpromise a service or other commitment. If they say they can make the delivery before the weekend, we will be disappointed if it's not on our doorstep until Monday. For David, the Word of God promised that he would be king over Israel, but this promise was not immediately fulfilled.

There was civil war, there was treachery and there was division. David was patient and faithful to God despite this apparent delay in receiving what he was promised.

Eventually, God gave David an ally from the opposing army and this led to renewed unity among the embattled tribes of Israel.

This ally, named Abner, received honor for how he led his followers to commit to God's purposes with King David. It's

never too late to do the right thing, and Abner realized that in his zeal he was actually running counter to the will of God. Now he could have stood his ground and stubbornly refused to change course, but instead he used his influence to encourage others to follow God's plan (3:17-21).

David was the one who the Lord had chosen to save Israel from its enemies.

Second Samuel 3:18 says, "For the Lord promised David, "By my servant David I will rescue my people Israel from the hand of the Philistines and from the hand of all their enemies." The earlier attempt by Abner to establish another kingdom was an attempt to fight their battles without divine help, using only human might and reasoning.

The surrender to David represented an admission that Israel can only defeat its enemies when it follows God's chosen servant.

The gospel of Jesus Christ says the same thing: victory over our greatest enemy, death, is only secured when we surrender to God's chosen servant.

Celebrated

Focal passages: 2 Samuel 5:9-12; 6:12-19

erusalem is one of the most important cities in the Bible and continues to receive much attention in the world today. After King David is recognized before all Israel, the story

transitions quickly to how he captured Jerusalem and made it his capital. His success is attributed to the fact that "the Lord God Almighty was with him" (2 Samuel 5:10).

A neighboring nation recognizes David by sending supplies and laborers to construct a palace in Jerusalem. This picture of strength and security drives home the truth that God was providing the resources for accomplishing His plans.

God's works through David are on full display, and those

actions reveal His character.

He works in our lives, both in the ups and downs, to bring us closer to Him in our personal relationship with Him. Human beings are designed for the purpose of spiritual relationship with God, so it is no surprise that God intervenes in so many ways to relate to us. Our relationship with God is strengthened further when we worship Him in the ways He prescribes.

David joyfully brings the ark of God to his city because that was the place where people could come near to God's presence (6:12).

The people celebrate God by bringing offerings and making sacrifices before the Lord (6:17). Through their dancing, singing and giving of gifts they express their great thankfulness for God's blessings to them.

After hundreds of years of pursuing the Promised Land and longing for a Messiah, they are finally getting a fore-taste of God's ultimate salvation. The essence of true worship is not found in where you are geographically, the clothes you wear (or don't wear in David's case, 6:20), or the words you say. Worship is about drawing near to God's presence "in the Spirit and in truth" (John 4:23).

Believers can worship God with more joy in their hearts, because they have seen God's love demonstrated even more clearly in the final sacrifice for sins and the promise of an eternal dwelling with God.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Stallings Memorial Baptist Church in Salisbury, NC, is seeking a full-time Pastor. Being a mission minded Southern Baptist church, we are searching for the man that God desires to lead our church into the future with an emphasis on evangelism and missions. Applicants should be SBC ordained with a seminary education from one of the SBC seminaries and affirm the 2000 Baptist Faith & Message. Send résumés to Pastor Search Committee, PO BOX 483, Rockwell, NC 28138, or smbcpastorsearchcommittee@ gmail.com.

White Level Baptist Church, Louisburg, NC, is searching for a **full-time Pastor** for a growing rural church. We would like someone energetic and full of the love of Christ. Someone who is eager to serve the church and serve the community. Someone who is eager to lead the body in reaching the community and discipleship. This is a full-time position that will require office time and/or field time Monday-Friday. Services are Sunday morning and Wednesday night. If interested please email your résumé to wlbcchurchinfo@gmail.com.

New Grace Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC, is prayerfully searching for a Pastor to lead our small and traditional congregation. We are mission minded with a heart for people and a desire to grow and serve our community together. We are seeking a pastor who is gifted in preaching, teaching, pastoral care and discipleship. Please send résumés to: Pastor Search Committee, 12325 Old Creedmoor Rd., Raleigh, NC 27613, or electronically to ngbcpastorsearch@gmail.com.

Submissions

The Biblical Recorder is pleased to publish staff changes, church news and events with a statewide interest. Please send information immediately following an event, or for opportunity corner, send at least two months in advance. Send to dianna@BRnow.org or Biblical Recorder, P.O. Box 1185, Cary, NC 27512. Call (919) 847-2127.

First Baptist Church, Reidsville, a multi-generational church of 175 worshippers, is searching for a **Senior Pastor** with the ability to lead a mission-minded congregation in a growing community. Candidates must have excellent leadership and preaching skills, along with experience in supervising ministry and support staff. Minimum educational requirements are a M.Div., M.A. in Christian ministry or theology with at least 5 years of previous pastorate or ministry experience. Send résumé and statement of Christian journey, including why God may be preparing for a new ministry to: First Baptist Church of Reidsville, 409 S. Main St., Reidsville, NC 27320, or mgcollins@triad.rr.com.

Senior Pastor opening at Lakeview Baptist Church near Monroe, NC. Needs to have a minimum of 5 years ministry experience and a master of divinity from an accredited seminary. We are a theologically conservative congregation that supports the Cooperative Program. Please send résumé by mail to Pastor Search, Lakeview Baptist Church, 4602 Concord Hwy., Monroe, NC 28110, or by email at pastorsearch@ lakeviewfamily.org.

Church Staff

Worship Leader. White Level Baptist Church, Louisburg, NC, is looking for an eager individual with a love and passion for Christ and praising His name through song. Looking to blend traditional hymns and contemporary hits for a diverse worship service. Must be able to hold Wednesday evening rehearsals with choir members, lead and organize music for Sunday morning services, and coordinate with choir and musicians for music specials to be conducted during worship service. Approx. 3 hrs per week will be required onsite each week with exception of special events during Christmas and revival. We are 45 mins from Wake Forest. Please email your résumés to wlbcchurchinfo@gmail.com.

> **ADVERTISE** (919) 459-5691

OPPORTUNITY CORNER

The Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina is sponsoring Hope in Style Aug. 25 at the Greensboro Country Club. Hope in Style is a Triad event that aims to give community children a new beginning. In partnership with Belk, area businesses and friends with a heart to help children, the two-hour style show will introduce attendees to the boys and girls they are helping through sponsorship.

The event empowers Baptist Children's Homes to help N.C. children with



little hope for success. It will feature a silent auction, fashion show, brunch and entertainment from The Hall Sisters.

Tickets are \$30. Visit hopeinstyle.org. Morganton, NC, is seeking a full-time Associate Pastor of Youth. This pastor will primarily serve as a minister to our youth and families and assist the senior pastor in other areas as needed. Please submit résumé, statement of faith and sample teaching clips to mscottw@ charter.net or mail to the church at: Attn: Pastor, 5612 John Watts Rd, Morganton, NC 28655.

Crossroads Baptist Church of Hickory, NC, is seeking a full-time pastor of youth and children. Responsibilities include discipleship, evangelism and administration. Interested candidates may send résumés to chrishuffman7@ gmail.com.

Bethlehem Baptist Church in Knightdale, NC, is seeking a Pastor of Students (FT ordained salaried position). Send résumés to pgfkdl@ gmail.com. View job description at https://ldrv. ms/w/s!AtTeOYWuLhW1nzadJUdMdMaH-TRD.

Easley First Baptist Church is seeking a fulltime Minister/Director to Children and Families. 4 yr degree & experience required; Graduate study preferred. Web www.efbc.org/ jobs. Submit résumés to: childrensministersearch@ efbc.org.

Bethlehem Baptist Church in Knightdale, NC, seeking Director Of Children's Ministry (PT, non-ordained salaried position) 25-28 hours per week. Send résumés to pgfkdl@ gmail.com. View job description at https://ldrv. ms/w/s!AtTeOYWuLhWlnzN_qdlHY-bAMOKi.

Mount Pleasant Baptist Church is seeking a full-time Youth Minister. Seeking minimum of associate's degree with some experience and a desire to learn more. MPBC does a youth outreach on Wednesdays with vans and a bus and works with youth on Sundays also. Seeking someone called to youth ministry. We are an SBC church which affirms the 2000 BF&M. If interested, submit a cover letter, résumé and at least three references to Youth Pastor Search Team, MPBC, 50 Marvin Cabe Lane, Hayesville, NC, 28904; or email information to youthpastorsearch@mountpleasantbc.org.

FBC Dublin, NC, seeks Youth Director to lead 7th-12th grade students. See www.dublinfbc.org for job description/requirements. Mail résumé to: Ben Tyler/Personnel Committee, PO Box 187, Dublin, NC 28332.

Missionary Ridge Baptist Church, located in Millers Creek Baptist Church, a conservative SBC church, near Wilkesboro, NC, is prayerfully seeking God's men for two positions. **Student Pastor** (Grades 7-college and church recreation) and Children's/Discipleship Pastor (Preschool-Grade 6 and adult discipleship). Both are full-time positions focused on leading kids and their families in evangelism, discipleship, and missions. Various pastoral roles of visitation and outreach are also included in the job descriptions. Experience and a college/ seminary degree is preferred, but not required. Send cover letter and résumé to Millers Creek Baptist Church, PO Box 559, Millers Creek, NC 28651, or by email to shannon.critcher@ millerscreekbaptist.org. Résumés will be received through June 30.

> Concord Baptist Church, a vibrant and growing church in Anderson, SC, is seeking an Associate Pastor for Worship and Music. This person must have the calling, gifting, training and heart to lead a large and diverse ministry of worship. We are excited about our future! For a job description and/or to submit a résumé/ profile, please contact *jjames@concordbaptist*. com. Please also visit concordbaptist.com for more information about our congregation.

> Dutch Cove Baptist is seeking a full-time Worship Pastor responsible for providing creative, edifying leadership to our worship and spiritual formation ministries as we fulfill our mission of making disciples who multiply the church in our generation. Our worship ministry includes skilled singers and musicians in our band and choir and a multi-generational worship with modern and traditional elements. The ideal candidate will have excellent musicianship and voice skills and a degree in music or equivalent ministry experience. Visit dutchcovebaptist.org/opportunities for more details about this ministry position. Please email résumés to welcome@ dutchcovebaptist.org.

Miscellaneous

Do you have staff changes at your church or association? Or special news you would like to share (significant church or church staff anniversaries or a mission effort to reach your community)? Let the Biblical Recorder know by calling (919) 847-2127 or email editor@BRnow.org.

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to Southern Baptist churches and ministries.



Dr. O.S. Hawkins, GuideStone President and former First Baptist Dallas Pastor



Celebrating 150 years of ministry

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Dr. Robert Jeffress, Senior Pastor, First Baptist Dallas

O.S. Hawkins will preach in both morning worship services.

First Baptist Dallas is located at 1707 San Jacinto Street, one mile from the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center.