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Hobby Lobby's Passages exhibit
showcases Bible - Page 6

World Hunger
Oct. 14 is World Hunger
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Baptists help with
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around the world.
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BR BIBLICAL RECORDER

OCTOBER 13, 2012 • News Journal of North Carolina Baptists • VOLUME 178 NO. 21 • **BRnow.org**

Former 'bad kid' leaves N.C. to start church



By K. ALLAN BLUME | BR Editor

Matt Chewning is not your typical Southern Baptist church planter. He did not grow up in a Christian home. He did not grow up in the South. He did not get a seminary degree. And, he has only been a believer for 12 years.

But, with the North American Mission Board's (NAMB) support, Chewning leads Netcast Church, "the fastest growing church plant among Southern Baptists in Greater Boston," according to Curtis Cook, the Boston City Coordinator with NAMB and pastor of Hope Fellowship Church in Cambridge.

Three years ago God gave Matt and Beth Chewning an unlikely

See Planter page 10

Leaders discuss conversion, grace at 9Marks event

By SHAWN HENDRICKS | BR Managing Editor

At a time when Calvinism and the "sinner's prayer" continue to stir debate among Southern Baptists, a crowd of more than 1,300 seminary students and ministry leaders – representing 20 states – gathered at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest to discuss conversion.

For the fourth year, the seminary hosted 9Marks at Southeastern Sept. 28-29. Daniel Akin, Southeastern's president,

said this year's event – one he described as "a conference about the church, for the church" – drew the largest crowd since it first began.

9Marks, started by Mark Dever, is an organization that, according to its website, "exists to equip church leaders with a biblical vision and practical resources for displaying God's glory to the nations through healthy churches." The ministry is based off of Dever's book *Nine Marks of a Healthy Church*.

In addition to Akin and Dever, other

See 9Marks page 5



Mark Dever, right, discusses salvation Sept. 29 during the two-day 9Marks conference at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. Dever was joined by Thabiti Anyabwile on one of the panels during the event. (BR photo by Shawn Hendricks)

Community rallies to fix hurricane-damaged seawall, house

The Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina (BCH) celebrated volunteers' repairs to its beach cottage recently. McNeill Home at Atlantic Beach needed repairs after Hurricane Irene damaged the cottage Aug. 27, 2011.

BCH held a time of thank you Aug. 18 for the volunteers and for those who donated money. Throughout the years, the cottage has provided an opportunity for countless children to experience a beach vacation.

"Many of our residents come into care with some very deep hurts. Because of their past circumstances, the memories they carry with them are often painful," explains Blake Ragsdale, Baptist Children's Homes' Director of Communications. "One of the most important things our houseparents and staff do is giving residents opportunities to create incredible, new memories. The beach cottage plays an important role."

Transportation Impact, a spend-management firm based in Emerald Isle, donated \$10,000 to aid with sea wall repairs. "Understanding what these kids have been through can be both heartbreaking and inspirational," said Travis Burt, co-founder of Transportation Impact.

Churches provided both funding, time and labor. A group of nearly 50 volunteers from Cape Carteret Baptist Church worked inside McNeill Home replacing old ceilings. Volunteers from Green Level Baptist Church in Cary spent a week rebuilding a second level outdoor deck and installing new interior lighting.

"We wanted to help ... because a lot of the kids have never seen the beach," says Lycracia Sutton, a member of Cape Carteret Baptist. "It's amazing to see the joy in their faces when they see the ocean. When you spend time with the children you just fall in love with them."

First Baptist Church in Morehead City collected



Volunteers from Green Level Baptist Church in Cary work on the McNeill Home's deck. (Contributed photo)

money toward the cost of repairing the sea wall.

"It means so much to these boys and girls that there are adults out there who want to do something special for them," Ragsdale said. **BR**

Prayer, economy, missions at forefront of BOD meeting

BR staff, BSC Communications

Spiritual awakening, the 2013 budget and stories of God's work around the state and globe were among the hot topics during a Baptist State Convention of North Carolina (BSC) Board of Directors meeting at Caraway Conference Center in Sophia.

Other issues discussed included the Fruitland Baptist Bible Institute, Hollifield Leadership Center and a scheduling change for the 2015 annual meeting. The board also heard challenges to increase their Cooperative Program (CP) giving by one percent.

Noting the struggling economy and deteriorating moral values in today's nation, Milton Hollifield Jr., BSC executive

director-treasurer, contended the time to pray for a spiritual awakening is now.

Hollifield's challenge comes as this year's annual meeting is only a few weeks away. This year's annual meeting theme is "Awaken," and many N.C. churches are participating this month in BSC's call for 30 days of prayer.

"[The annual meeting] could be a crossroads for us," Hollifield told the board Sept. 25-26. "It's an important time for us to have an experience of spiritual awakening. We want to see God move and do something unique and do something special at the state convention this year."

Financial report

Noting the ongoing economic chal-

lenges, the board approved a proposed Cooperative Program budget – \$33.5 million – that does not include an increase over last year's budget.

But for the eighth year, it will include a one-half percent increase of the allocation that will go to the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC).

This will bring the SBC allocation to 36 percent. Messengers will vote on the budget during the annual meeting. Cooperative Program receipts through August 31 totaled \$19,712,090.39, a decrease compared to where it was this time last year.

The N.C. Missions Offering was reported to be at 601,632.29, about 4 percent lower than this time last year.

The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering was at \$5, 414,722.47, about 2 percent ahead. The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering was at \$9,420,076.3, a 2 percent decrease.

1% challenge

During the meeting, pastors and church leaders were challenged to increase their church's Cooperative Program (CP) giving by one percent.

The "1% Challenge" initially came

from SBC Executive Committee president Frank Page during the 2011 SBC annual meeting in Phoenix, Ariz.

The purpose of the challenge is to help provide more resources for ministry and advance the gospel around the globe.

Stan Welch, chairman of the board's budget committee and pastor of West Asheville Baptist Church challenged pastors and others in the room to consider how their churches could individually make an impact.

"During tough economic times, if we remain the same in our giving percentage, then the actual dollar amount we give to missions is down," said Stan Welch, chairman of the board's budget committee.

"Just imagine if all [of] our 4,300 churches increased their giving by one percent. That would mean an additional \$6 million each year for ministry and missions efforts. This would result in \$3.9 million additional for North Carolina ministries and \$2.1 million for SBC ministries."

"You can count on us at First Baptist Charlotte," Mark Harris, the church's

See Board page 11

UNIVERSITY NEWS



Chowan unveils fine arts center

An official gala marked the grand opening of the new Wayland L. Jenkins, Jr. Fine Arts Center at Chowan University on Sept. 14. Wayland Jenkins, at left, posed with Chowan President Chris White and his wife, Linda, beforehand at a reception at the Camp Presidents Home. More than 200 of Chowan's benefactors and Jenkins' friends and family gathered for the event. The center features a permanent collection of original art and early 19th century furniture. Consisting of almost 90 original works of art and more than seven noteworthy pieces of antique furniture, it is located on the first floor of Thomas Dining Hall. Other furniture and furnishings are prominently displayed throughout the campus and especially in the Camp President's Home. To schedule a tour, contact the curator Twyla Duke at (252) 398-6500 or duket@chowan.edu.

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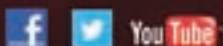
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CHURCH NEWS



Embrace team ministers in New York

Embrace Women's Missions and Ministries led a group of N.C. Baptist women on a mission trip to New York City Sept. 13-16. From left: Ashley Allen, Embrace director; Shirley Sells of Triad Cowboy Church; Melody Merritt of Apex Baptist Church; Wendy Mitchell of LaGrange First Missionary Baptist; Linda Gray of Centerview Baptist Church, Albemarle; Courtney Veasey of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; and Tiffany McGill, First Baptist Dublin. The group of ladies hosted three different women's conferences while in New York. Additionally, they worked closely with women from India, Pakistan, Nepal and Bangladesh as they shared the gospel using henna to tell the story of Creation to Christ.



Hinshaw Street Baptist Church, North Wilkesboro

Family and friends from all over the state gathered Sept. 30 to help Hinshaw Street Baptist Church, North Wilkesboro, celebrate the 10th anniversary of Warren Kerr being the church's pastor emeritus. Kerr led the church from 1959 to 1965. He was also interim pastor from 1990 to 1991.

OPPORTUNITY CORNER

Conference addresses authentic men

Learn how to be an authentic man of God at the Authentic Man Conference Nov. 9-10 in the Cross Point Center at Scotts Hill Baptist Church in Wilmington. The speaker is Dale Forehand of Stained Glass Ministries. Worship will be by the Scotts Hill Praise Band, and the "Game Guys" will bring down-to-earth antics, games and humor. A steak dinner and a breakfast are included in the event

fee. Register by Nov. 5 for \$35; groups of 6 for \$190. Tickets are available at AuthenticManConference.eventbrite.com, or call Scotts Hill Baptist Church: (910) 686-9885. Contact mensministry@scottshill.org.

RA fun day set at Caraway

Camp Caraway in Sophia is the location for RA Day. It will be a time for Royal Ambassador chapters to compete individually and as teams with other RAs from N.C. Nov. 10 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. It will include field day events, mission's fair projects, banner competitions, RA Test competitions and more. Families and observers are also welcome. The event cost is \$10 for all Lads, Lad leaders, Crusaders and Crusader leaders. Register with N.C. Baptist Men at baptistsonmission.org; or call (800) 395-5102, ext. 5599.

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AROUND THE STATE

Obituary

WILLIAM ROGER “BILL” TURNMIRE, 73, of Troy, N.C., died Aug. 28.

A graduate of Fruitland Baptist Bible Institute in Hendersonville, Turnmire was a minister for 42 years serving at Mountain View Baptist Church, Lenoir; Calvary Baptist Church, Mt. Gilead; and Candor Baptist Church, Candor.

He is survived by his wife, Emily Rouse Turnmire; two daughters, Brenda Killian of Monroe, Bridget Franklin of Shelby; one son, David Turnmire of Puerto Rico; three grandchildren; and two sisters, Charlotte T. Powell of Lenoir, and Jean T. Haskin of Lawndale.

Memorials to: Candor Baptist Church Carpet Fund, P.O. Box 614, Candor, NC 27229, and Gideon's International, P.O. Box 103, Troy, NC 27371.

JACK WARREN BYRD, 87, died Sept. 17 at Vidant Roanoke-Chowan Hospital.

Byrd was a member of Cashie Baptist Church, Windsor, where he served as their pastor for 20 years and is pastor emeritus.

He also served churches in Sparta for 10 years and Wallburg for 10 years. After his retirement from Cashie he served as interim pastor at Center Grove and Colerain.

He is survived by his wife, Juanita Hasty Byrd; daughters, Melanie Delph of Williamston, Gloria Braddy of Windsor; and two grandchildren.

Memorials to: Cashie Baptist Church, 221 S. Queen Street, Windsor, NC 27983.

Staff changes

WAYNE DEFFINGER has been called to Oakhurst Baptist Church, Charlotte, as senior pastor. Deffinger was minister to students and recreation at Main Street Baptist Church, Alexandria, Ky.

Homecoming/anniversary

ANGIER AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH, Durham, will celebrate its 123rd anniversary/homecoming Oct. 21. Worship will begin at 10:30 a.m. with a meal to follow. Robby Phillips, who had previously served as associate pastor, will preach.

Call the church office at (919) 596-6430 for more information.

9-year-old sacrifices presents to help children

By **LAURA MOORE** | BR Editorial Aide

Emma Morgan's ninth birthday was not like any before it. After hearing about a big need for children living in the Mathare slum in Nairobi, Kenya, Emma wanted to do something to help.

With her birthday approaching, the girl decided to ask friends and family from Snyder Memorial Baptist Church in Fayetteville, N.C., and beyond to donate money to Mission of Hope instead of giving her birthday presents.

"I learned ... God can use me," Emma said.

Emma first heard about the financial need of Kenyan children when someone from Snyder Memorial visited her Sunday School class and shared how the church was helping meet that need.

The church has been working in the Mathare slum for the past four years. A team from the congregation has gone each year to aid the Mission of Hope School in Bondeni.

Mission of Hope has two campuses in the Mathare slum with only one cooking facility between them to provide meals. The school has been transporting 500 meals each day from one campus to another.

With a growing population of children to support, the school was in dire need of two new stoves.

Through Snyder Memorial's Vacation Bible School (VBS) this past summer, children raised \$1,000. This covered the expense of one stove but wasn't enough for both.



Emma Morgan, left, asked friends and family to give \$9 for her ninth birthday to buy a stove to help Kenyan children at Mission of Hope, above. One cooking facility was preparing meals for two campuses. The school had to transport 500 meals to the other campus. Now both campuses will have stoves.

After searching for ways to raise money – such as having a yard or bake sale – nothing seemed practical for Emma to manage. Then, she remembered how her grandmother gives her the amount of dollars to match her new age each year for her birthday. She thought, at least she had \$9 to give. But she wanted to do more.

With the help of her parents, she created a Facebook “event” asking for \$9 to go to stoves for Mission of Hope.

As people responded with donations, Emma updated the event with videos of

her progress. Through her efforts, she raised \$660.

“Emma set the example of what giving is all about,” shared Susie Reeder, minister of education and missions, in the church newsletter.

Emma and other children from VBS helped pave the way for Mission of Hope's two new stoves. Snyder also was able to provide the ministry with Internet routers and financial resources to cover Internet for a year.

Emma said her birthday this year, “was very very good.” **BR**

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. All submissions will be subjected to *Biblical Recorder* styles and guidelines and will be edited.

Send to dianna@BRnow.org or *Biblical Recorder*, P.O. Box 1185, Cary, NC 27512. Call (919) 847-2127.

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9Marks

Continued from page 1

speakers at the conference included: Tony Merida, Thabiti Anyabwile, Matt Chandler, and David Platt.

At past 9Marks conferences topics included preaching, biblical theology and the gospel.

Next year's topic will be evangelism, with membership, discipline, discipleship and leadership scheduled for the following years.

This year speakers shared how society is often fascinated by the topic of what it truly looks like to be "born again" – a critical issue they contended Christians can't afford to ignore or get wrong.

Too often Christians rush to judgment on who they think can and can't be "converted," said Dever, pastor of Capitol Hill Baptist Church in Washington, D.C.

"Conversion is not only for those we think [are] most likely to be converted," he said.

"How many people have you and I sinfully not witnessed to in the last month because we think that person wouldn't really have any interest? ... Thank God somebody witnessed to me."

When a person truly understands "God's grace in the gospel," he added, that individual becomes more "fearless."

David Platt, pastor of The Church at



Danny Akin, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, shares during the annual 9Marks event at the seminary. (BR photo by Shawn Hendricks)

Brook Hills in Birmingham, Ala., addressed what he called a growing "pandemic" in today's churches among those who think they are "saved" but have not truly been converted.

"It is imperative that churches get conversion right in the church," said Platt, who shared three different stories of people who had "prayed the prayer," but later realized they had not truly repented and surrendered their lives to Jesus.

"I'm convinced [these stories] are dangerously common ... multitudes of people who have made decisions, raised hands, prayed the prayer, signed the card, been

baptized, sitting and even serving in churches, people who assumed they were Christians ... who are seriously deceived."

True conversion involves visible change, Platt said.

"As a result of conversion, we have radically new wants and entirely new wills," Platt said. "Let's be clear that profession of faith without transformation of life is not biblical conversion."

Platt, who said he became a Christian at 8 years old, quickly added that conversion does not hinge on a "dramatic testimony."

"My testimony [is] not 'when I was 8 years old I was drinking every night and partying hard in the ways of this world and I stopped the next day and been sober ever since,'" he said. "That's not my story."

"But by the grace of God there's a moment where He transformed my mind – my desires and my life and my will from the inside out."

Chandler, lead pastor of The Village Church in Highland Village, Texas, cautioned pastors to be careful when addressing conversion.

Chandler described himself as one who came to know Jesus "in a powerful way" at the age of 18, but he admitted that he still struggled with areas of sin for "a long time."

As a new believer, discussions on what it truly meant to be converted often sent Chandler into a "tailspin," he said.

There's a difference between discussing genuine conviction and "mowing over genuine believers who might have areas that they are struggling," Chandler said.

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"Truth should be handled like a scalpel, never a club," he said.

"Salvation belongs to God, and it is possible for all, that we might just preach and proclaim and with great expectancy believe that He'll save."

Merida, pastor of Imago Dei Church in Raleigh, later added that there are two types of people who are "alienated from God ... the rebellious and the religious."

"Jesus said there are bad people, those who think they are good, and there are people who are alive," said Merida, who shared the story of the prodigal son from Luke 15.

"By grace we can come home through repentance and be restored to Him," he said.

"Christianity is not just a list of rules, when we're calling people to faith. We're not calling them to moralism. ... It's not a philosophy. It's more like an explosion. It's called the new birth."

Ultimately conversion is a gift, said Akin, who shared a litany of about 50 verses from the New Testament to make the case for "total depravity" without God's grace.

"The Bible could not be more clear, regardless of what spiritual theologians say," he said. "We are not mostly dead. We are all dead. We have no hope. ... Apart from Christ Jesus we are spiritually dead."

And Christians must be willing to escape their fears and share Christ's message of hope through not only their actions but also their words, said Anyabwile, pastor at First Baptist Church in Grand Cayman of the Cayman Islands.

"The question is, 'Can we cram our conversation ... full of this gospel message ... the way a freshman over packs for his first year of school?'"

"We are talking too much and saying too little ... if the gospel is not stuck to our lips like Chapstick in winter."

For more information, go to 9marks.org/. **BR**

Kelsey Discovers Hope!

Baptist Children's Homes resident Kelsey was baptized on August 23 after making a decision to follow Jesus. 70% of residents come to BCH unreached for Christ. Baptists are making a difference!



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‘Innovative, family-friendly exhibit’ showcases Bible

By K. ALLAN BLUME | BR Editor

At the recent opening of the Passages Bible exhibition in Charlotte, Steve Green was described as “a man of no compromise who sticks to God’s Word and does everything at a level of excellence.” Green is the president of Hobby Lobby and owner of the world’s largest private collection of rare biblical texts and artifacts.

Passages showcases more than 400 items of great historical and biblical significance from The Green Collection. The full collection contains more than 40,000 items. The exhibit opened in Charlotte in September and continues daily through the end of February 2013.

The 30,000-square-foot Passages Exhibition provides a captivating experience that tells the dramatic story of the most debated, most banned, most read, best-selling book of all time.

The exhibit’s website describes Passages as an, “innovative, interactive, family-friendly exhibit that showcases both the Old and New Testaments – arguably the world’s most significant pieces of literature – through a non-sectarian, scholarly approach that makes the history, scholarship and impact of the Bible on virtually every facet of society accessible to everyone.”



STEVE GREEN

Green began collecting Bible texts and artifacts only three years ago when some friends expressed an interest in collecting Bibles.

“We heard about some people who were interested in starting a Bible museum,” Green said. Some opportunities were given to buy some Bibles at a good price. “We thought we would buy one or two to help out with the cause.”

“We really liked the idea, so we kind of inherited it,” Green said.

As he began buying artifacts, the word spread among dealers, and more opportunities became available. The size of the collection grew rapidly. In less than 3 years the exhibit is in demand around the world with invitations to Moscow, Seoul, Jerusalem and other locations.

Green’s vision grew out of his childhood. “Our family has grown up with a love for the Bible. My grandfather was a minister of the gospel ... my Dad is one of six kids,” he explained. “All of [my Dad’s] siblings went into the ministry or married one in the ministry ... Dad is the only one that didn’t. He went into retail and became very successful.”



“[Our family has] supported the distribution of the Bible around the world, so it was just a natural fit when this opportunity came up, for us to tell the Bible story and help engage people with the Bible.”

From the beginning Green brought Bible scholar Jerry Pattengale on board to oversee the process of acquiring the right artifacts. Pattengale now directs the Green Scholar’s Initiative in conjunction with the exhibition and the collection. He is a widely published author and the assistant provost at Indiana Wesleyan University.

“The Greens have had this long fascination with God’s Word and belief in it,” Pattengale said.

“So, for the family to be able to research ancient texts, acquire them and put them in the public view was fascinating to them.”

Collectors around the world heard about the Greens’ interests and began calling to offer items for sale.

Now the items are in demand. “Some of our [material] is on display right now at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, as part of the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit,” Pattengale said.

“We had 4,000 to come to a one-day exhibit on the campus of Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va.” The exhibit was at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City in August 2011.

Johnny Hunt, former president of the Southern Baptist Convention and pastor of First Baptist Church in Woodstock, Ga., has included speakers from the Green Collection, including Steve Green, at his annual Barnabas Pastors’ events.

As the collection grew, the first public display was launched in Oklahoma City last year in celebration of the 400th anniversary of the King James Version. A smaller portion of the collection was

exhibited earlier this year at the Vatican in Rome.

“The Green Collection has four legs,” Green said. “The first one is the Biblical collection, then the Scholars Initiative, the Museum of the Bible



JERRY PATTENGALE

..., and the traveling exhibits such as this one in Charlotte and Verbum Domini (Latin for ‘the Word of the Lord’), which was at the Vatican in Lent season this year.”

Green recently announced a permanent home for the collection in Washington, D.C. He purchased prime property just three blocks from the Capitol for \$50 million. He estimates it will take about

5 years to open the unnamed museum of the Bible. It will illustrate to visitors from all over the world how the Bible came to be, the impact the Book has had on the world, and the story that is told in this best-selling book.

Green said, “The museum is about the Book. It is not about a specific faith tradition. The Book goes through the Jewish, Catholic and Protestant traditions, so we’re telling the story of the book – not a specific faith tradition.”

A spokesperson for the Green Collection said, “The Greens have amassed this collection not to lock it away for safe-keeping or tuck into a think tank, but to share it with the world. They don’t consider themselves collectors. Their goal is to make the history, scholarship and impact of the Bible accessible to everyone.

“They want people of all faiths and no faith at all to visit Passages – and ultimately, the Bible museum in D.C.”

The exhibit reaches deep into the past, but brings the strengths of modern, high-tech creativity to visitors of all ages. Green said more than 20 vendors across the country worked to build the displays which include robotic characters, eight hours of selective audio segments on an iPod, and interactive video screens.

School and church groups are welcome. Group discounts are available by calling Passages or visiting their website. The exhibit offers a free speakers series of outstanding Bible teachers every Tuesday night, also.

For more information call (704) 510-2281, email info@passages.com or visit the website at explorepassages.com. **BR**



Alpha International Missions honors N.C. pastors

Finny Mathews celebrated 25 years of ministry Sept. 28 as president of Alpha International Missions (AIM) at a banquet in Raleigh. AIM was founded in 1965 by his father. Born in India, Mathews graduated from Southeastern Seminary in 1996. He leads teams from many N.C. Baptist churches to India throughout the year. At the banquet the ministry honored three N.C. pastors for their involvement: Shannon Scott, senior pastor of Mount Vernon Baptist Church, Raleigh; George Tisserie, missions pastor of Providence Baptist Church, Raleigh; and Bill Bennett, retired pastor and Southeastern Seminary professor of Wilmington. Mathews says, “We are not about doing missions for missions sake ... Every day, at the end of the day, you’ve got to make sure you are one step closer to helping fulfill the Great Commission ... That’s what Alpha International Missions is all about.” Visit aim18.org.



Whether on the field, at right and below, or off the field, at left, Hunter Smith encourages men to model faith for their families. His book, *The Jersey Effect*, covers using sports as a platform to bring glory to God.

Former Colts punter shares about faith, new book and football

Former Indianapolis Colts punter Hunter Smith has experienced the highs and lows of NFL life – from a Super Bowl XLI champion during his long stint with the Colts to a tough release in his final year with the Washington Redskins. Smith has written a wonderful book called *The Jersey Effect: Beyond The World Championship* with partner Darrin Gray of All-Pro Dad, a national fatherhood program. The book helps athletes, parents and coaches gain a proper perspective on sports and life.

The book also takes a look into the hearts and minds of athletes who achieved Super Bowl success and examines the battles they faced. It presents the stories of champions who desired to reflect glory back to God by using the platform God had given them to make a positive difference in the world. I sat down with the very talented Hunter Smith to talk faith, family, football and the Hunter Smith Band.

Q: What inspired the book *The Jersey Effect*?

A: We have gone haywire with the culture of athletics, this idol called athletics. We are trying to reverse this. We have decided that our children's importance is based on their performance on the field. We have gone to great extremes to push them in their sports. To make it more about that than any other God-given purpose or destiny they could have, and through *The Jersey Effect* we are trying to provide a proper perspective on sports. God has more for us than just sports. Our culture says sports is everything, but God says He is everything. We are trying to direct people to a healthy relationship with God.

Q: How do you keep young people focused and grounded and sound with all the distractions in the home today?

A: My advice to parents is you have to model it, but if we are honest with ourselves, most parents ... are not modeling.

We are watching television, listening to sports radio, and other entertainment all the time. We're pushing our kids to be in travel leagues [and] play sports on Sunday



ROMAN GABRIEL
Sports Q & A

mornings. If we want to see our kids value a life [of] serenity, godliness, value and margins, full of resting in God, and following God, we have to model it. Many are not doing a very good job right now.

Q: I covered the Colts Super Bowl teams closely. People often ask me who is the most spiritual football team I have been around. It is easily those Colts teams. Do you find that to be true?

A: That is probably true on a certain level. It's funny. I hear all the time that all of our players and coaches on the Colts Super Bowl teams were Christians.

Actually, truth is it was a couple of handful of players. The great thing, and one of the messages of *The Jersey Effect*, is that a small light in a large dark room will light up the room.

Even though we were just a small group of guys, we were in love with Jesus and walking with him. We wanted to see God glorified through our lives, our career, and our seasons with the Colts. Because of that it cast a big light. God wants us to go and be light in the world!

Q: What about the Colts would few people know?

A: Their commitment, their tenderness with one another. Men tend to keep things close to the vest and keep quiet and private.

One of the key points from our team, coaching staff, and Coach [Tony] Dungy was about living a covenant lifestyle of relationship with one another. We actually loved each other and took care of each other, looked after each other. That's a very rare thing. I never experienced that prior to that team.

Q: *The Jersey Effect* talks about the extreme ups and downs that come with playing professional football. Ups and downs are also true in real life. How do we teach our children about pushing through adversity and learning real success in life?



A: We value at all cost being comfortable. Everybody wants their kids to be the most successful. It's important to remember that God sees success differently. For me [a difficult moment was] being released by the Redskins, and that being the end of my career ... because of dropping a snap on a field goal, losing ... in my final game and being cut. That was the final play of my career, really anticlimactic. In fact that would be tragic in the world's eyes, especially after playing football [my] whole life. It wasn't fun for me. It was tough, but it had great impact on me. I grew more through it. In fact it had more impact on me than any success because I learned through it, grew through it.

Q: You are a diverse guy. You're into music. Do you have the same passion for the Hunter Smith Band as you did for football? Or is it just a hobby?

A: This is not a hobby. It's absolutely a passion. I [have] been writing and playing music for most [of] my life. It's the way I express myself and a great way to reach people. I think that entertainment is of great value in the outreach process. That's what we are. We are not a contemporary Christian band. We are a country rock band. The Hunter Smith Band is called to reach the world and be in the institutions of man, and reach people for Christ. That's what we're doing. Go to hunter-smithband.com or Hunter Smith Band Facebook page.

(EDITOR'S NOTE – Roman Gabriel III is president of Sold Out Ministries. He hosts Sold Out Sports heard Saturday nights 8 p.m. EST on American Family Radio, and is an evangelist and motivational speaker. Contact him at (910) 431-6483 or email soldoutrg3@gmail.com. His website is soldouttv.com. He also is on Facebook at sold out.) **BR**

A little hunger fund money goes a long way

Baptist Press

It doesn't take a lot of money to make a difference for hungry people in North America. For example:

- \$20 provides five children food for a week at the GUM Drop backpack ministry in southern Illinois.
- \$50 will feed 250 homeless people in New York City at soup kitchens and sack lunch distributions.
- \$60 will provide food for a family for two weeks in the coal mining communities of Kentucky.
- \$75 will feed 400 migrant workers, through the "Feeding Those Who Feed Us" hunger ministry in California.
- \$100 will feed 500 meals to the homeless in Las Vegas.

According to statistics collected by the North American Mission Board, hunger is a reality for more than 49 million Americans. That's one of every six Americans and one in every four American children.

Only the Southern Baptist World Hunger Fund uses 100 percent of all contributions to feed hungry people.

World Hunger Sunday

On Oct. 14, Southern Baptists will observe World Hunger Sunday and congregations across the United States will receive offerings for the Southern Baptist World Hunger Fund. Since its inception in 1974, Southern Baptists have given more than \$235 million through the fund. For information on the Southern Baptist World Hunger Fund, visit worldhungerfund.com.

Personnel already are in place, supported by the Cooperative Program, so administrative and promotional costs are covered by other budgets.

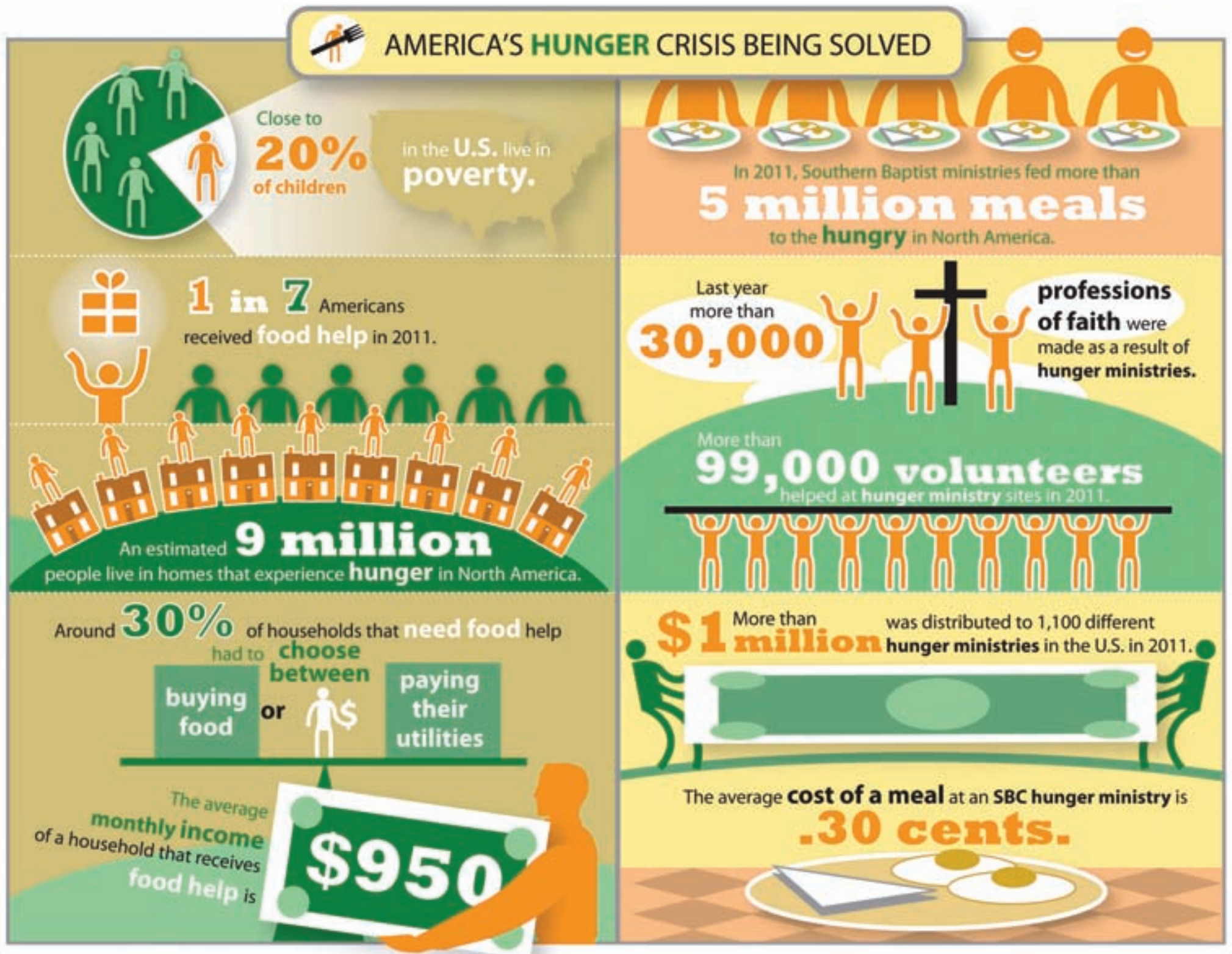
Twenty cents of every dollar given to the hunger fund is sent to the North American Mission Board to support hunger projects in the United States and Canada. Eighty cents of every dollar is sent to the International Mission Board for direct hunger ministry as well as water well drilling, agricultural education and water purification.



The goal is to build relationships with people and eventually lead them to a relationship with Christ. The Good News of salvation through Christ is always foundational.

Whenever possible, the plan of salvation is shared and an opportunity to respond is given. In emergency situations, food aid must be given.

But when possible, hunger ministries are designed to create independence from rather than dependence on food aid. **BR**



They take hope into Delhi's slums

By JANE MIDDLETON | Baptist Press

Poverty is extreme in the slums of Delhi, India – the eighth-largest city in the world – but Southern Baptists are making a life-changing difference for 90 children and their families through the World Hunger Fund.

When Asha* brought her two daughters to the Bread of Life nutrition program, both girls were spindly and their hair was merely small patches on their heads. Each month, the children were weighed and given a health assessment.

Like other children in the program, they were given medication for simple problems such as ear infections, worms or diarrhea. They also were given multivitamins, along with staples such as dried beans and lentils, rice, oil and soap. After a few months, the girls had gained a little weight and were more responsive, and their hair had grown.

More than half of Delhi's 22 million people live in areas with severely inadequate housing, electricity, sanitation and water, according to a government study. Slum dwellers find little reason for hope.

"Poverty is extreme in large areas surrounding the city of Delhi," said Josie Gabdon,* a Baptist Global Response partner who directs the Bread of Life program in Delhi. "Children are starving, and disease is rampant. With a little food and education, we can improve the lives of these innocent children."

Bread of Life is improving the health of 90 children and their families with monthly food supplements, multivitamins and medicine provided in part through the Southern Baptist World Hunger Fund.

National partners identified two slums, each with populations of at least 40,000, to be the focus of the project.

Both slums are lacking in housing, electricity, sanita-



"We continue to pray for these communities, knowing that the Holy Spirit is the only one who can transform their lives," humanitarian worker Josie Gabdon said. "By caring for physical needs, we find people eager to know why we want to help them. The love of Christ compels us."

tion and clean water. Narrow dirt paths wind through a maze of homes cobbled together from sticks, mud and plastic sheeting. As families come to receive food, they are provided with basic health and nutrition lessons as well.

Children are weighed and evaluated so progress can be monitored. Teachers and national partners are trained so they can continue lessons and follow up with children once the program has ended.

"The national partners are working with families in the community in several areas, and this project will assist them to show love and gain greater access to the community," said Francis Horton, who with his wife

Angie directs Baptist Global Response work in South Asia. "Truly we've found a place where people in need are being connected with people who care."

When people struggle with dire poverty and feel no one cares about their plight, they are deeply moved when someone offers to help, Gabdon said.

"We continue to pray for these communities, knowing that the Holy Spirit is the only one who can transform their lives," Gabdon said. "By caring for physical needs, we find people eager to know why we want to help them. The love of Christ compels us."

(EDITOR'S NOTE – With reporting by Mark Kelly of Baptist Global Response.) **BR**

What can we do about world hunger?

Baptist Press

Her face was drawn, sallow and dirty. She was standing quietly in a line outside the local mission with her siblings, hoping for a piece of bread, a cup of soup and maybe something to drink.

Beyond the glazed look in her eyes was a body that had ceased to grow and mature properly; a mind that had lost the ability to learn and think clearly. Where will she find hope that one day her life will be better than what she is experiencing today?

This story is repeated around our nation and the world as people face day after day with a lack of the basic necessities of life – food, clothing and shelter.

While the economic outlook looks discouraging to many of us, it has become a life-and-death issue for others. Human services stretched beyond capacity, continued high unemployment, and rising fuel costs leading to higher food prices are having a significant impact on every-

one trying to help those in need.

According to a report from the Southern Baptist World Hunger Fund:

- 1 billion people in the world do not have enough to eat.

- Every day, nearly 16,000 children die from hunger-related causes. That is one child every five seconds.

- In 2008, nearly 3 million children died before they reached their fifth birthday due directly or indirectly to hunger and malnutrition.

- In the United States, 49 million people struggle with hunger, including 17 million children.

- An estimated 35 percent of poor families in the United States are forced to choose between buying food and paying their rent or mortgage.

- In our nation's cities, one in every four people in a soup kitchen line is a child.

What can we do? First, let's educate

ourselves about the reality of hunger in our communities and offer to help. Local food banks, church food pantries and Baptist mission centers have the infra-

structure and the expertise to address long-term and short-term hunger needs. They often need willing hands to help collect, pack and distribute food boxes.

Second, be a good steward of available resources by sharing with those who have great need.

There are many good, local food ministries that need financial help, including the Southern Baptist World Hunger Fund.

One hundred percent of all contributions to this fund are designated to feed hungry people; administrative costs are covered from other sources, including Southern Baptists' Cooperative Program.

Let's stretch every dollar as we seek to alleviate the pain of hunger.

Working together, we can make a dif-



WANDA LEE
Guest Column

"educate ourselves about the reality of hunger in our communities"

ference in feeding hungry people.

Matthew 25 reminds us that as followers of Christ we must help when it comes to hunger issues.

After hearing His teaching on the parable of the talents, the people asked Jesus, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you or thirsty and give you a drink?" And He answered by saying, "Inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to me" (Matthew 25:37, 40).

[This month] churches are being asked to raise awareness of the hunger needs here at home and around the world. Let's be sure we do our part to minister to the "least of these" as we join the fight against hunger.

(EDITOR'S NOTE – Wanda S. Lee is executive director-treasurer of national Woman's Missionary Union.) **BR**

Planter

Continued from page 1

vision to reach Boston with the gospel. He left the financial security of a successful business to become an intern at 1.21 Church in Winston-Salem. Within a year they moved to the North Shore of Boston to begin the church planting process. Today he is the lead pastor of Netcast in Beverly, Mass., with more than 400 in worship.

Chewning described growing up in New Jersey: “I didn’t have any Christian influence in my life whatsoever. My parents were not believers – my Mom is Jewish, my dad is Catholic. My parents split up when I was four.”

He was recruited to play basketball at East Nazarene College in Quincy, Mass., near Boston. “I had no real reason to go to this school,” he said. “It is a Christian college, and they asked me if I was a Christian. I said, ‘I think I am because my Mom is Jewish.’ I had no concept whatsoever of spirituality or Christianity or Jesus.”

Chewning was quickly labeled the bad kid because, “I had a really bad mouth and a bad New Jersey attitude – totally different than most of these kids, who grew up in Christian homes.”

A fellow player on the team made an impression on Chewning. “He was one of those guys who was not weird, but definitely loved Jesus. I built a friendship with him and asked him one day what it meant to be saved. ... He explained it to me and in that moment ... I stopped and received Jesus. I became a Christian on Sept. 11, 2000,” he said.

There was some immediate transformation in his life. His language changed and his desires shifted. But he struggled with understanding what was wrong with some of his old lifestyle. In the middle of that internal conflict, Chewning admitted, “I wore a mask for a while, trying to pretend I was more spiritual than I actually was, because I was in an environment where if you’re a Christian you’re supposed to look a certain way.

“About four years later ... I began to understand grace and the difference between walking with Christ and living the law.”

After graduation from college he began to climb the corporate ladder – living in Boston for two years and five years in Greensboro, N.C.

Church service

They settled into Daystar Church and began serving in the church’s youth ministry. The ministry grew rapidly from 30 to 500 students in about a year. That opened up unusual opportunities for Chewning to invest in the lives of young people and get a feel for what ministry looked like.



Matt Chewning leads a NetCast service in Beverly, Mass. Chewning credits N.C. Baptists, along with the North American Mission Board, with encouraging church planting. (NetCast photo)

He said, “I was making really good money, and I thought that is what I would do forever. ... God began to stir my heart for ministry and more specifically, church planting.”

One night he was wrestling with a feeling that the Lord was calling him into full-time ministry. “It freaked me out to be honest, because there was no money [in ministry], and I felt like money was very important at that time,” he said.

“I went to bed that night and I had a dream that I was literally planting a church in the Boston area. I didn’t think much of it. Then the next night I had the same dream. We were actually starting a church in Boston Commons, which is in the heart of the city. I had the same dream from different angles for five days straight.

“On the fifth day I asked my wife, ‘Honey, if God was going to call us to plant a church, where would He call us?’ She rolled her eyes and kinda huffed and said, ‘He’d probably call us to the Boston area again.’”

Startled, he told her about his dreams.

He shared the idea with four pastors in the church, admitting that he and his wife were young and not ready to do this. The church leaders worked with them and about a year later they gave the Chewnings their blessings to redirect their lives into church planting.

On the move

“I quit my job in 2009 and became a full-time intern at 1.21 Church in Winston-Salem. My goal was to study church planting, pray through some of the specifics and raise money,” he said. They moved to Boston in September 2010.

They went with the intentions of meeting and loving their neighbors. Chewning said, “We had the mind set of ‘we’re not necessarily trying to plant a church – we’re trying to plant the gospel.’ The greater Boston area is about 98 percent lost.”

Jesus was the primary message of every conversation with their neighbors. “Within 30 days we had what we called the ‘vision night’ on Oct. 10, 2010.” That

night they shared with their friends and neighbors why they moved to Boston. They were surprised when 30 people showed up. A month later they had a similar event and 40 people came.

Since their home was too small, they explored venue options and settled at the YMCA. They launched the church Jan. 23, 2011, with 120 people.

“It blew our minds,” he said. “A lot of college students were coming, and we were shocked with that, because [experts] say that college students don’t care about church.”

They tried to get the people plugged into community groups and worked to sharpen up the service. “I had never preached two weeks in a row, so I didn’t know what that meant. I’m trying to learn what it looks like to pastor a church and be a communicator of the gospel, at the same time, planting a church.”

He said the church has baptized more than 20 people the first year, and about 20 are awaiting baptism now.

They outgrew the YMCA facility, so a middle school became the church’s home. Again they grew from 120 to about 225 people by February of this year. By the first week in September more than 400 people attended the service.

“We didn’t expect this to happen so fast,” Chewning said. “We’re only 18 months old.”

Not about numbers

Are numbers the true gauge of success? Not according to Netcast Church.

“We really try to gauge our effectiveness – not by numbers – but by the presence of the Holy Spirit in what we do,” Chewning said. “Our goal is to not be able to explain everything that happens in our church through systems, programs and organizational charts. We really want to do those things well, but we want to look at what we are doing as a church and ask, ‘has the Holy Spirit fallen on us? Has the Holy Spirit done things that we can’t explain?’”

Chewning said he has great appreciation for North Carolina Baptists and NAMB, which provides monthly support

through the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. “I want to share the victory of how God has used different N.C. Baptists to significantly impact a little local church like Netcast Church in New England,” Chewning said.

“NAMB has been incredible to us in their encouragement, support and love – not just for me, but my entire family and the church – this has been huge,” he added. “In New England you feel a sense of isolation because there are not a lot of churches. [But] Micah Millican (director of church planter relations for NAMB) calls to check on us. Jeff Christopherson (vice president for NAMB work in Canada and New England) comes to talk with us. This reminds us ... there are people who are behind us. These little things are huge in the life of a church planter.”

Michael Sowers, who leads the office of Great Commission Partnerships with Baptist State Convention of North Carolina (BSC), strongly affirms the work in Boston.

He said, “The BSC partnership with Boston is laser focused on helping connect N.C. Baptist churches with planters like Matt Chewning. God is blessing Matt with a platform to share the gospel in an area that is practically unreached. N.C. Baptist churches who partner with Boston planters help accelerate the fruit that is being seen already and further cultivate gospel communities in Boston.”

NAMB’s city coordinator for Boston, Curtis Cook, added, “N.C. has been a huge and tremendous partner with the work in Boston – really engaged, helpful, motivated, significant follow through. We just can’t say enough about what a great partner N.C. has been and the difference it is making in Boston with multiple church plants.”

According to Cook the greatest need in the N.C. partnership is for churches to commit to a partnership for two to five years.

“We need churches who say, ‘we want to walk with you, we want to know you, pray specifically for you ... share in your victories and challenges, bring mission teams, support you financially.’”

“The most fruitful partnerships we have seen are those that share a mutual, ongoing commitment, and walk with a church plant for several years. ... Those are the churches that help these church plants get on a solid foundation.”

To find out about the church, visit netcastchurch.org; for information about N.C. Baptist’s partnership with Boston, visit ncbaptist.org/boston.

(EDITOR’S NOTE – If your church is interested in partnering with a Great Commission church plant, contact Mike Sowers at msowers@ncbaptist.org.) **BR**

Board

Continued from page 2

pastor and BSC president, told the board. “We don’t want to ask you to do anything we won’t do.”

Fruitland Baptist Bible Institute

At the request of Fruitland Baptist Bible Institute’s board, the BSC Board of Directors voted down a motion made from the floor earlier this year. The motion requested that the convention wave the debt owed by Fruitland for the expansion of the school’s chapel.

“We appreciate the motion and the sentiment behind that, but as president of Fruitland, I want to tell you we take the obligation for this debt very seriously,” said Fruitland’s president David Horton.

“We believe it’s a matter of integrity that we repay the debt that we owe.”

Though Horton acknowledged the school has encountered its share of economic challenges, he said he wants the school to remain in good standing with the convention. “I also want to be totally honest and say, ‘We do need your help,’” he said. “We need your help as churches and pastors and board members in order to repay this debt in the middle of those difficult times.”

Instead of eliminating the debt, the board approved a proposal from Fruitland’s board of directors to help promote a special 18-month “One in a Million” fundraising campaign to pay off the debt.

The concept behind the campaign is if 1,000 donors pledged \$1,000 then \$1 million dollars would be raised for Fruitland.

The campaign will kick off in January 2013, and churches will be encouraged to take up a special offering next October.

During the report, Horton also announced that this fall the school is launching online classes and has satellite campuses across the state, including His-

panic classes in Wilmington, Statesville, Winston-Salem and Sylva. He also noted the school is taking steps to explore accreditation.

Hollifield Leadership Center

The board approved a recommendation from the Business Services Committee to cease full-time operations at the Hollifield Leadership Center as of Dec. 31 if it has not sold by then.

As a result, three full-time employees and one part-time worker – most of whom have already lined up future employment possibilities – will lose their positions at the end of the year.

The board did vote to continue employing one person full-time to help maintain the property until it is sold. At the first of next year, if the property has not sold, additional needs will be taken care of on a contract basis and the center will open only on weekends.

The asking price for the property is currently \$2.7 million, reported Jimmy Adams, chairman of the Business Services Committee.

“We hope to have something to report to the executive committee soon,” Adams said. “We are hopeful for a good amount that can be used to further the business and ministry of North Carolina Baptists.”

2015 annual meeting

The board approved a motion to change the dates of the 2015 annual meeting from Nov. 9-10 to Nov. 2-3.

This will allow the meeting to be held in the Koury Convention Center. According to convention bylaws, the annual meeting should begin the Monday after the second Sunday in November, but the center is unavailable for those days.

One director mentioned that the new dates could interfere with voting and those who work at the polls that year.

Michael Barrett, president of the Board of Directors and pastor of Pleasant Garden Baptist Church, encouraged those with similar concerns to consider early voting and other scheduling adjustments for that day.

Great Commission Partnerships

Michael Sowers, senior consultant for BSC’s Office of Great Commission Partnerships, shared what God is doing throughout N.C. Baptists in New York, Boston and Toronto.

He mentioned Warlicks Baptist Church in Connelly Springs sent 41 people this summer to help a church planter in New York with an outreach event. Through their help, 31 people received Christ as their Savior.

“That’s what God is doing in New York,” Sowers said, noting he could share similar stories about work in Boston and Toronto. “God is calling and raising up in North Carolina ... churches, just like yours, to go to places like New York City [and] partner with our church planters there to make a difference with the gospel. Everyone in this world deserves at least [one] chance to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ.”

Sowers encouraged pastors to participate in vision tours scheduled for next year.

Trips are scheduled for New York, April 18-19, Aug. 22-23; Boston, April 23-24, Sept. 17-18; and Toronto, May 13-15, Nov. 4-6. Contact Sowers at (800) 395-5102, ext. 5654, or at msowers@ncbaptist.org; visit ncbaptist.org/gcp.

North Carolina Baptist Men

N.C. Baptist Men volunteers have provided 780 meals in recovery efforts for those impacted by Hurricane Isaac in August.

Throughout 2012, volunteers have

responded to 12 disaster relief efforts. Through Transform 122, sponsored by N.C. Baptist Men and the convention’s collegiate ministry, students have served in New York, South Africa, Kenya and Cuba.

Students served at the Shelby and Red Springs mission camps in N.C. About 1,600 people also served during 14 weeks of Deep Impact youth camps.

Baptist Children’s Homes

This fall, the Baptist Children’s Home (BCH) will collect their annual Thanksgiving offering, with the theme “Sharing Hope.” Their goal is \$1,450,000.

President Michael Blackwell asked N.C. Baptists to continue praying for and supporting the offering.

BCH also coordinates the N.C. Baptist Aging Ministry, which is launching a new outreach to N.C. pastors age 65 and older. Call (877) 506-2226.

Cookbooks for warriors

Larry Jones, senior consultant for the convention’s military/chaplaincy ministry, made a request for 400 Baptist church cookbooks.

The books will be provided for the Wounded Warriors Project and families who have moved into a new facility – and other facilities – at Fort Bragg.

“I need 400 cookbooks between now and Christmas,” Jones said, noting that some church members may have a box of old church cookbooks that they’d like to donate.

“We want to put cookbooks in places that wounded warriors and their families can be reminded that churches across North Carolina believe in them and love them and want them to hear about the Lord that we serve.”

Contact Jones at (919) 467-5100, ext. 5670, or at ljones@ncbaptist.org. **BR**



Mars Hill College’s emphasis on service is one of the characteristics considered by the *Washington Monthly* rankings. Here, students gather cabbage Aug. 25 at Fields of Hope in Mars Hill, which provides food to people in the area. (Contributed photo)

Dan Lunsford, Mars Hill’s president, said he believes the rankings are very valuable in helping students choose a college. “Students who choose a small liberal arts college like Mars Hill are looking for an educational experience that includes not just academic excellence, but an emphasis on personal attention, ethics and service as well,” he said. **BR**

Washington Monthly recognizes Mars Hill

Mars Hill College has ranked 17th among the top 100 baccalaureate colleges in the nation on rankings released Aug. 27 in *Washington Monthly* magazine.

This is the third year that *Washington Monthly* has published rankings. Mars Hill’s 2012 ranking is up three places from last year, when it ranked 21st in the baccalaureate category. For 2011, the first year of the rankings, Mars Hill ranked 17th. It originally published its rankings as an alternative to the prestigious *U.S. News & World Report* rankings, and says that its rankings are based on better measures of student success.

According to washingtonmonthly.com, its rankings are based on three broad categories: social mobility (recruiting and graduating low-income students), research (producing cutting-edge scholarship and PhDs), and service (encouraging students to give something back

to their country). Within those categories, each college receives points based on individual characteristics. Out of a possible 100 points, Mars Hill received a 69.

Washington Monthly not only gives an overall ranking for all three categories, it ranks each school on individual characteristics within the categories. Mars Hill received its best rankings on community service participation and hours served, coming in 15th in the nation among baccalaureate colleges. Mars Hill also ranked well on the number of bachelor’s recipients who go on to receive doctorates, relative to school size. On that measure, Mars Hill ranked 20th. The college ranked 27th for a combined measure of the number of staff supporting community service, relative to the total number of staff; the number of academic courses that incorporate service, relative to school size; and whether the institution provides scholarships for community service.

Baptist Children's Homes committed to sharing hope

North Carolina Baptists participate in supporting many different ministries that impact lives with the gospel in our state, nation and throughout the world. One unique ministry we are very blessed to support is the Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina (BCH). This ministry is making a remarkable difference in the lives of children who are hurting and desperately need someone to extend kindness and compassion.

Since 1885, the Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina has remained committed to caring for children in need. The mission of BCH has always been, and continues to be, "helping hurting children ... healing broken families." BCH seeks to help restore relationships between children and their families, and to help these families that are experiencing a time of crisis begin to experience peace and hope for the future.

BCH not only meets a child's physical needs, but also seeks to meet a child's spiritual needs.

Are you aware that 70 percent of Baptist Children's Homes' residents are

unchurched and unreached with the gospel of Jesus Christ? Children who come to live at BCH are surrounded by staff members and houseparents who want them to know the love of Jesus Christ.

The children have opportunities to attend Bible studies and to learn about the grace and forgiveness of our Savior.



MILTON A. HOLLIFIELD JR.
BSC executive
director-treasurer

Throughout the years BCH has expanded its outreach through additional residential facilities, ministry to children with developmental disabilities, ministry to teenage mothers, and programs to help young adults transition to independent living.

Each year, North Carolina Baptist churches across the state give to a Thanksgiving Offering to help support the ministry of Baptist Children's Homes. The theme for this year's offering is "Sharing Hope," based on Romans 8:24. The offering goal is \$1,450,000.

By giving to this annual offering you will make an eternal investment in the lives of countless children. You will help children like Travis, who found hope when he came to BCH's residential wilderness camping ministry known as

"Children who come to live at BCH are surrounded by staff members and houseparents who want them to know ... Jesus"

Cameron Boys Camp. Travis went to live with his aunt and uncle as a young child because his mother was a drug addict and his father was often drunk.

Travis was emotionally broken and unresponsive to the help his aunt and uncle wanted to give him. After some time at Cameron Boys Camp, Travis' life began to change. "When my relationship with

Christ strengthened, that's when things really started getting better," Travis shared. Travis now enjoys a much better relationship with his aunt and uncle, and his attitude and outlook on life are completely changed.

Travis' story is featured in the promotional materials for this year's offering. You can watch a video about Travis by visiting bchfamily.org. At this website you can also download free promotional materials such as photos, posters and bulletin inserts. I encourage your church to support this offering, and in doing so, offer hope to hundreds of children.

"For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?" Romans 8:24 BR

Ideas to show appreciation for pastor

Baptist Press

National Clergy Appreciation Day is Oct. 14 while it is celebrated the entire month of October. It is a special time of recognition for pastors or other church leaders.

Diana Davis (keeponshining.com) is an author, speaker and wife of the North American Mission Board's vice president for the Midwest region, Steve Davis. Davis shared these ideas with Baptist Press in 2011.

- Text "bombing." If your pastor has unlimited text messaging on his phone, ask all church members and attenders to text an appreciation message to the pastor on a specific day.
- Bound book of personal quotes. Use a form to ask every church member and attender to write a one-sentence quotation about the pastor. Combine them into a book and have it bound at the local print shop. Or ask avid scrapbookers in the church to create a beautiful book. Make a separate, unique book for each ministry staff member.
- Tie wardrobe. If your pastor wears a tie, ask groups in the church to purchase a nice tie and have everyone in that group sign the back with fabric pens. Choirs, deacons, committees, organizations and

all ages of Sunday School classes can participate.

- "My Pastor" Video. Interview children to ask what they like best about the pastor, then create a short video.
- Everybody brings gifts. Carefully select two items your pastor really likes, i.e. golf balls, popcorn, fishing lure, sunflower seeds. Ask every church member to bring one of the items on Sunday, then have a processional where everyone brings their small encouragement gift to put in a huge basket. Provide extras for guests and members who forget.
- Facebook flood. If your pastor uses Facebook, distribute an announcement to church members asking them to post a Facebook message of appreciation on his page. For example, snap his photo and post, "this is what a great pastor looks like!"
- "Love our Pastor" T-shirt. A children's class can write their name with fabric ink on a T-shirt, then invite the pastor to their classroom for the presentation.
- Lawn signs. Attach election-style signs to wood stakes in the church lawn proclaiming "We love our pastor" during Pastor Appreciation Week. On Sunday, youth can use them to picket as people arrive. **BR**

Biblical Recorder proposes revised legal documents

Messengers at the Baptist State Convention (BSC) of North Carolina's annual meeting this November will have an opportunity to approve proposed amendments to the *Biblical Recorder's* governing documents.

The purpose of the revisions to the *Recorder's* documents was to update and make them more consistent with the BSC's articles and bylaws, which also have been updated in recent years. The *Recorder's* Board of Directors autho-

rized Editor Allan Blume to work with the BSC's legal counsel to prepare the amended documents.

The *Recorder's* Board of Directors unanimously approved the documents during their March 26 meeting. The convention's Board of Directors affirmed the proposed documents in their May 25, 2012 meeting.

These documents are available to read on the *Recorder's* website at brnow.org under the Resources tab. **BR**

Worship WARS

Take a look at this excerpt from an U.S. newspaper objecting to the new trends in church music:

There are several reasons for opposing it. One, it's too new. Two, it's often worldly, even blasphemous. The new Christian music is not as pleasant as the more established style. Because there are so many songs, you can't learn them all. It puts too much emphasis on instrumental music rather than Godly lyrics. This new music creates disturbances making people act indecently and disorderly. The preceding generation got along without it. It's a money making scene and some of these new music upstarts are lewd and loose. Does this sound like some of the comments you hear when churches begin singing newer songs in worship?

This was written by a pastor in 1723 attacking Isaac Watts, the writer of great hymns like *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*, *Joy to the World*, and *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*.

You see, "worship wars" are nothing new to our decade. As long as we have had organized church and people with personal preferences, there has been

conflict. As James 4:1 says, What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle with you?

Worship should be one of the most unifying activities of the church, yet in many situations, it has become one to cause great division. There is no place Satan would rather divide the church than in its worship. From early church history, wars have been raging over music in the church. So much of this goes to our self-centered attitudes. When people get their eyes off their own desires and seek God's heart for worship, the wars subside. We must help our churches understand the heart of worship and to get beyond selfishness.



Kenny Lamm

- Kenny Lamm

EDITOR'S NOTE — Kenny Lamm is a consultant with Congregational Services. For more information you can reach him at (800) 395-5102, ext. 5638, or klamm@ncbaptist.org. Visit his blog at www.RenewingWorshipNC.org.

engaging NC Baptists in worship

renewing worship



Our responsibility to vote

Matthew's gospel records a very important conversation between Jesus and some Pharisees. They began with a question. "Tell us, therefore, what do You think? Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, 'Why do you test Me, you hypocrites? Show Me the tax money.' So they brought Him a denarius. And He said to them, 'Whose image and inscription is this?' They said to Him, 'Caesar's.' And He said to them, 'Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's'" (Matthew 22:17-21, NKJ).

The Pharisees wanted to trap Jesus with words. They were looking for a crack in his theology. It was their perception that Jesus respected the law of the land but did not seem to have a high view of secular government. How could He, if He was a holy man of God and the Roman government was so ungodly?

They put him on the spot with a question. Is it right to pay your taxes to an evil government? In other words, "We are godly people and we cannot support an ungodly government, so should we really be paying taxes?"

It is easy to assume we know what

Jesus would do. Instead of honestly and humbly listening to Him, we tend to inject our opinion into His world and make Jesus say what we want Him to say. That's what the Pharisees tried to do.

In godly wisdom He asked to see one of the government's coins. Jesus raised this question, "Whose image, seal or logo do you see on the coin?" They gave the obvious answer, "Caesar's."

His response to the Pharisees has been quoted and discussed by His followers since that day. "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." If it belongs to the government, respect what fits in their world and respond accordingly. If

it belongs to God, acknowledge that He owns everything and respond accordingly.

Jesus' response commands personal responsibility in

both the arena of secular government and the arena of God's vast universe. While the Pharisees seemed to be looking for a way to avoid paying taxes, Jesus made it clear that all mankind must accept their responsibility to earthly things which are temporal and heavenly

things related to the eternal.

Pharisees are legalists. They find pleasure in nit-picking. They look at every fine point through the lense of the ego. In the end, it is not about the law, but about what fits their rule book. Frankly, their self-designed rule book always paints them into a corner.

Ultimately, legalism kills. It destroys the spirit of the law and the image of the Law-maker.

Sadly, that spirit of legalism lives through another election cycle in America. I've heard a disturbing number of Christians stating they will not vote in the 2012 national elections, or at least they will avoid voting for the office of president. Most say they cannot support the theology of either presidential candidate.

I can't support their theology either. I can honestly say that I have never fully supported the theology of any president. I doubt I ever will. And, I can say the same about governors, mayors, senators, representatives and judges.

But I will not allow the belief systems of others to excuse me from my responsibility to "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's" I am still eternally accountable to God to act responsibly in the arena of earthly government and in the vast sphere of eternity.

I never had the misconception that we are voting for a religious leader for America, my state or my city. We are electing men and women to serve in the public sectors of local, state and national governments.

Since those sectors are neither a theocracy nor the head of a church, we must vote for the people who have the highest standards, those whose experience seems appropriate for the job, those whose worldview is most compatible with the basic Judeo-Christian worldview, and the ones who have the potential for the strongest moral leadership.

As always, I have been studying the positions of the candidates and weighing the values that are most significant, such as their positions on life, freedom and stewardship. I am asking, "Which candidates do I want making the laws of my nation and community?" Ultimately, what is best for the kingdom of God and the glory of God?

I will fulfill my God-given responsibility and cast my vote. If we do not vote, integrity calls for us to remain quiet until the next election. I believe there is no room for complaint or disagreement if I fail to be responsible in the voting process.

I pray that all believers will take our responsibility seriously. I pray that we will be the salt and light necessary for the hour. The days are dark, and the light is desperately needed. **BR**



K. ALLAN BLUME
Editor

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October 21

BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE

October 28

From Failure to Correction

**Focal Passages: Exodus 15:19-21;
Numbers 12:1-3, 8-13, 15**

When I was young we had a pastor who shared his testimony in so many sermons that many of our church members could recite it with him.

While we are quick to skip reruns in life, certain things need to be repeated frequently.

Just as the Lord told the people of Israel to constantly put the law of God before their children (Deuteronomy 6), He also repeatedly reminded them that He was (and is) “the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt” (ex. Exodus 20:2).

In Exodus 15 we find Moses and Miriam leading the original occasion of praising God for delivering His people by parting the Red Sea.

When we praise God we strengthen the faith of His people by retelling of His sovereign leadership in our lives.

Sadly, we are prone to forget the goodness of God.

When this happens people who were overwhelmed by the awesome power of God begin to divide over their differences instead of unite through the common ground of God’s grace. Miriam, who

had danced with a tambourine and sung in response to Moses’ song of praise to God after the parting of the Red Sea, later joined Aaron to become a chief critic of Moses for marrying an Ethiopian woman.

Not only were they not praising God for His deliverance, but they were also questioning whether there was anything unique about Moses as the prophet of his people.

Although they saw themselves as equal recipients of the voice of God, He corrected their jealous conclusion and struck Miriam with seven days of leprosy.

A critical spirit will rob God of praise, and cause believers to glorify themselves and turn on each other. We can’t keep our eyes on Him and us.

When we accept God’s correction we agree with Him that we have sinned and respond with repentance.

We abandon the search for a spiritual defense attorney, because we know we were wrong.

If we humbly accept God’s discipline we will grow spiritually, despite the pain, and set an example for other believers.



TROY RUST
Senior pastor, Somerset
Baptist Church,
Roxboro

**Focal Passages: John 18:15-18, 25b-27;
21:15-19; Acts 4:13, 18-20**

Imagine that you were mute and knew no form of sign language or handwriting. You could only communicate through demonstration, by showing people what you meant. Many people think they’ve never denied Christ because their words said otherwise, but what have they demonstrated?

Christians sometimes condemn Peter because of his verbal denials of Christ. While Jesus did not take these denials lightly and sent him through a difficult interrogation to reinstate him (John 21:15-19), Peter’s actions ultimately defined his words. He could have said “I love you” to

Jesus in an attempt to gain His approval, but Jesus reminded Peter that love for Him is demonstrated by comparison. He asked him, “Do you love me more than these?” We don’t know whether “these” referred to the other apostles, the fishing equipment, or the other apostles’ love for Jesus, but Peter knew and had to declare his true affection for his Lord. While we

love others, our love for Him should be so overwhelming that it makes our other loves seem like hate by comparison (Luke 14:26).

Peter demonstrated that he loved Jesus through a bold apostleship that caused spectators to marvel at his ability to boldly speak as an uneducated man. He ignored threats against preaching the gospel, helped lead the way in the spread of Christianity, wrote two epistles, and ultimately laid down his life as a martyr. Peter’s life was nothing less than the fulfillment of Jesus’ words concerning the demonstration of his love for Christ: “When you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go.” After prophesying of Peter’s coming death, He simply said, “Follow me.” Have you said the right things, but denied Christ through your actions? We all have at some time. Thankfully, God is gracious and restores repentant followers. We may not die as martyrs but we will not serve Christ faithfully until we die to self and make following Jesus a practice, not just a theory. You may be ashamed of where you’ve been, but you can’t imagine where God could take you! Are you ready to go from failure to action?

October 21

EXPLORE THE BIBLE

October 28

Living in Community

Focal Passage: 1 Peter 4:1-11

Individualism is antithetical to community. Individualism has become one of the distinctives of modern life.

The sovereign autonomous self reigns in popular culture and in the heart of every person.

All around us we see selfish desires driving people to seek escape, comfort and satisfaction in the passions of the flesh.

And if we are honest, we are just as broken on the inside as the people we usually point to on the outside. But for us, it is more comfortable to hide our brokenness by covering it up and acting as if everything is OK, especially around our local church community.

But in 1 Peter 4:8-10 we are able to see into the window of a community of believers that express selfless love for one another earnestly, accepting each other as they are, more importantly, as they are in Christ.

We see a community of believers that are focused on serving one another in-

stead of looking out to satisfy their own needs.

It is in this type of environment that we receive spiritual nurture, but also one in which deep-seated problems will come to the surface and will receive treatment.

In a community marked by gospel love, hospitality and service everyone is free to rest on the grace of God and be open about who they really are. Dietrich Bonhoeffer once said that “the pious fellowship permits no one to be a sinner ... but the fact is, we are sinners.” While others may find their joy in satisfying their own desires and projecting a self-reliant image of themselves to the world, we as a community of Christians must find our joy in Christ. And when we do, we will count it joy to serve others. Moreover, we will feel the freedom to be reliant on the only One to whom belongs glory and dominion forever and ever.



MATT CAPPS
Associate pastor
for adult ministries,
Calvary Baptist Church,
Winston-Salem

Focal Passage: 1 Peter 4:12-19

C.S. Lewis once wrote to a friend his reflections on suffering: “We are not necessarily doubting that God will do what’s best for us, we are wondering how painful the best will turn out to be.”

Perhaps this is why Peter urges the readers of 1 Peter 4:12-19 to faithfully and unreservedly entrust themselves to God while enduring suffering.

In the midst of suffering, trials, and hard times it is very hard to see beyond the pain and anxiety of what lies ahead.

Trusting in God during the darkest period requires a rock solid belief in the gospel, and it requires the indwelling and life giving power of the Holy Spirit.

Peter proclaims that when fiery trials hit, and they will, we are to rejoice.

Living in Faith

What strange words.

We are to rejoice in suffering because in them we share in sufferings of Christ. And if we share in the sufferings of Christ we can rest assured that we will also share with him in his glory.

Moreover, we are told that when suffering strikes the Holy Spirit rests upon us giving us a taste of what is to come. Our hope rests in the finished work of God when the very word ‘suffering’ no longer exists in the human vocabulary.

There will come a day when all things are made new, when God will wipe away every tear, when death shall be no more, when there will be no mourning, nor crying, nor pain.

As we await that day may we entrust our souls to the creator and sing with our brothers and sister the famous words penned by Horatio Spafford:

*When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou has taught me to say,
It is well, it is well, with my soul.*

**“Our hope rests in the
finished work of God ...”**

Rudy Gray named S.C. Baptist paper editor

By BUTCH BLUME | Baptist Press

James Rudy Gray, a pastor, writer and Christian counselor with roots in journalism, has been named the 11th editor and president of the *Baptist Courier*, the official newspaper of the South Carolina Baptist Convention (SCBC).

Gray, 59, was elected unanimously by members of the *Courier's* board of trustees at a Sept. 7

meeting in Greenville, S.C. He will succeed Don Kirkland, 68, who announced in March that he will retire at the end of 2012, capping a 38-year career. Kirkland has served as editor and president since March 1996.

Randy Harling, pastor of First Baptist Church of Simpsonville, S.C., and chairman of the *Courier's* board of trustees, called Gray a "visionary leader." In November 2011, S.C. Baptists adopted a Great Commission Resurgence report that

channels more funds to international missions and church planting and revitalization while significantly decreasing funding to the SCBC's seven in-state institutions, including the *Courier*.

Gray, who has served as pastor of Utica Baptist Church in Seneca since November 1994, said he looks forward to traveling the state as editor and that he welcomes invitations to preach.

(EDITOR'S NOTE – Butch Blume is managing editor of the *Baptist Courier*.) **BR**



RUDY GRAY

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Denominational

Evangelical Non-Profit Seeks **Executive Director**. Baptist Medical Dental Fellowship [BMDF] is a ministry committed to loving God and people through healthcare missions. We are Christian healthcare professionals of all types, medical and dental residents, and students – intentionally focused on sharing the Gospel through: short-term healthcare projects, international partnerships, U.S. church-based free clinics, disaster relief, as well as by encouraging and collaborating with long-term healthcare missionaries on the field. Our ideal Executive Director will have: a passion for missions, an ability to plan and motivate volunteers, and a capacity to oversee a growing 600+ member organization. Knowledge of the healthcare industry, comfort with financial management and fund-raising, and familiarity with our Baptist heritage is a plus. Find BMDF's complete EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PROFILE under the "Leader Profile" link on our homepage at www.bmdf.org. Send resumes to BMDF's Search Committee Chair, Dr. Greg Osborne at greg@osbornedds.com.

Pastor

Corinth Baptist Church of Salemburg, NC, physical address: 991 Corinth Church Rd., Roseboro, NC 28382; is seeking a **bi-vocational pastor**. Corinth is a small conservative Southern Baptist church, affiliated with the New South River Baptist Association. Send resumes to David Naylor, 4712 Honeycutt Rd., Salemburg, NC 28385. Resumes must be received by Nov. 1, 2012.

Senior Pastor. First Baptist Church of Moncks Corner, SC, is seeking a full-time senior pastor called to serve our congregation and community. Seminary graduate with senior pastoral experience is preferred. Please send resume to Pastor Search Committee, 112 E. Main St., Moncks Corner, SC 29461, or email to FBCMCPSC@gmail.com.

Southside Baptist Church is seeking **full-time Pastor**. Church is Southern Baptist, organized in 1925. Candidate must be college and seminary trained. He must believe in the infallible, inerrant Word of God, love people, and have a desire to see people saved. Church membership is around 300. Please send resumes to: Pastor Selection Committee, Southside Baptist Church, 1726 Southside Road, Lincolnton, NC 28092.

Blackwell Memorial Baptist Church, located in northeastern North Carolina, is seeking a **full-time Pastor** to first and foremost proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ. We seek a person who is a graduate of a seminary or divinity school. We are a mission-minded fellowship that believes in the autonomy of the local church, and ordains men and women deacons. Current membership is 125. Mail references and resume by Nov. 8 to: Pastor Search Committee, Blackwell Memorial Baptist Church, 700 N. Road St., Elizabeth City, NC 27909, or email to blackwellsearch@yahoo.com.

Mt. Zion Baptist Church, St. George, SC, is seeking a **full-time ordained minister** who believes in and is committed to preaching and proclaiming God's Holy Word. We are a rural church comprised of a loving, compassionate congregation. We believe in the power of prayer and pray daily for God's guidance as we conduct this pastor search. Submit resumes with references to Raymond Knight, 1918 St. Mark Bowman Rd., St. George, SC 29477 or carolynwbaker@aol.com.

Church Staff

Minister of Students. First Baptist Church of Laurinburg, North Carolina, seeks a full-time minister of students. This staff person will lead and coordinate the ministry to the students and their families in a 375 member church, ministering directly and working with adult volunteers. A minimum of a four year degree from an accredited school is required with some experience working on a church staff. The position will include salary and benefits with a requirement of re-locating to Laurinburg. Send a letter of interest and resume with references to cfmcdowell@bellsouth.net or to Rev. C. F. McDowell III, Minister of Students Search, First Baptist Church, P. O. Box 883, Laurinburg, NC 28353.

Wallburg Baptist Church is seeking a **part-time Minister of Music** who would coordinate all church music activities. Send resume to Wallburg Baptist Church, PO Box 595, Wallburg, NC 27373.

Children's Minister. Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, Morganton, is seeking a part-time minister to children from birth to 6th grade. This position is part-time and could potentially lead to a full-time staff member. Resumes may be sent to PRBC-PO Box 1159, Morganton, NC 28680, or emailed to drdathomasl@aol.com.

The First Baptist Church of Matthews, North Carolina, is seeking a **full-time minister to children**. The preferable candidate will have a seminary degree, a contagious enthusiasm for children's ministry and the ability to develop, communicate and implement a vision and strategic plan for children's ministry within the overall vision of family ministry at First Baptist Church Matthews. We desire a philosophy of ministry that is God-centered, biblically saturated and culturally relevant. Your cover letter and resume should be sent to Frank Norwood at fnorwood@fbcmatthews.org. Please see our website at www.fbcmatthews.org. Please do not call the church or send your information by snail mail. If you feel the Lord may be leading you toward such a ministry position please send a cover letter and resume as a MS Word document via email.

Hocutt Baptist Church in Clayton, NC, is searching for a **full-time Children's Pastor**. This person will have oversight of all children's ministries. Candidates should have a minimum of 2 years experience and seminary degree. Send resumes to: resumes@hocuttbaptist.com.

Wallburg Baptist Church is seeking a **part-time organist** responsible for playing Sunday morning and evening services. Send resume to Wallburg Baptist Church, PO Box 595, Wallburg NC 27373.

Bethany Baptist Church is seeking a **part-time Minister of Music and Worship** to plan, direct and coordinate worship for both contemporary and traditional services. See website for more details: bethanybaptistws.com. Prior experience is desired. Please send resume to Becky Anderson, Bethany Baptist Church, 600 Old Hollow Road, Winston-Salem, NC 27105.

Miscellaneous

For sale: 50 brand new pew cushions; 15" wide X 12'-3" long; burgundy ribbed velvet w/ buttons. Call Christ Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC (919) 573-5454 or e-mail kim@christbaptist.org.

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- Send a Fax to (919) 847-6939

For more information, call the office at (919) 459-5691.

Cost for Baptist churches and organizations is \$1.20 per word, number and stand-alone initial (\$1.42 for commercial and non-Baptist entities) with a minimum charge of \$35. Classifieds that run in the paper also are carried online.

BSC names children's consultant

BSC Communications

Cheryl Markland began Oct. 1 as childhood ministry consultant for the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina (BSC).

Markland comes to the BSC from First Baptist Church in Matthews, where she served 10 and a half years as minister of children.

Prior to serving in Matthews, Markland served in Charlotte six and a half years at Eastern Hills Baptist Church.

She earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from Pfeiffer University.

Ever since college Markland knew she wanted to serve local churches.

"I always had a connection when it came to working with children. I taught weekday education, substituted and volunteered in children's ministry. It was natural for me to go into children's ministry," she said.

Markland desires for children to grow in their relationship with God and to serve Him.

"I want children to be captivated by who God is, and to know it's not just a Sunday morning part of their life," she said. "God needs to be infused into all of their life. He has a plan for their life."

Markland said she is excited about working with North Carolina Baptist churches and helping churches move forward in their ministry to children, as well as families.

"Parents have come to rely on the lead-

ers in the church as the primary spiritual leaders of their children," she said. "We want to help parents understand that discipling their children should be a natural part of their relationship with their children."

Brian Upshaw, BSC church ministry team leader, said local churches will greatly benefit from Markland's years of experience and dedication to children's ministry.

"Cheryl is no stranger to us. She has already demonstrated her passion for assisting North Carolina Baptists as one of our childhood specialists. She brings a wealth of expertise to assist North Carolina Baptists, as well as a creative mind for innovation in the field of childhood ministry," he said.

Markland plans to spend time seeking input from church leaders and parents about their children's ministry strategies that have proven effective, and ineffective, so that she can come alongside and help encourage and equip them in their ministry. She also wants to help churches work together and learn from one another.

"You have to tailor your ministry to your congregation, but there are basic concepts you can use from other churches to develop resources and reach your congregation," she said.

Markland is from Locust, N.C. She is married to Curtis and they have two children and one granddaughter.

Contact Markland at (800) 395-5102, ext. 5645, or cmarkland@ncbaptist.org. **BR**



CHERYL MARKLAND



Plan now to attend the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina (BSC) annual meeting Nov. 12-13 at Greensboro Coliseum. The next issue of the *Biblical Recorder* will have more details about the annual meeting schedule, events and business items occurring during the annual meeting. Other events that will be happening before and during the annual meeting are:

● **Pastor's Conference** – Nov. 11-12 at Lawndale Baptist Church (see ad at right)

● **North Carolina International Missionary Fellowship** – Nov. 12 from 10:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. at Lindley Park Baptist Church. Contact rlamb12@carolina.rr.com. There is a cost for lunch.

● **Hispanic Conference and Banquet** – Nov. 12, 2 p.m.-6 p.m. at the Greensboro Coliseum Complex Special Events Center, Meeting Room 1. This event is for pastors as well as lay leaders. The focus is small group discipleship, and how small groups can be used to help start new

Plan now to attend annual meeting

churches. Contact Maria Luoni at (800) 395-5102, ext. 5629, or mluoni@ncbaptist.org.

● **GCP Interviews** – The Office of Great Commission Partnerships is hosting live interviews in the exhibit hall throughout the annual meeting. For times and more information, visit ncannualmeeting.org; under "Related Events" choose "Live Interviews."

● **Great Commission Partnerships Missions Breakfast** – Nov. 13, 7 a.m.-8:15 a.m., Greensboro Coliseum, Special Events Center - West Wing B; contact Michael Sowers at (800) 395-5102, ext. 5654, or msowers@ncbaptist.org.

● **Heavenly Banquet** – Nov. 13, noon-1:30 p.m., Greensboro Coliseum Complex, Special Events Center - West Wing B; contact Kate Durham at (800) 395-5102, ext. 5628, or kdurham@ncbaptist.org. Cost: \$10; deadline to register is Nov. 2.

For most events registration is available online at ncannualmeeting.org. **BR**

PREACH THE WORD

TWENTY TWELVE PASTORS' CONFERENCE
NOVEMBER 11 + 12
 LAWDALE BAPTIST CHURCH, GREENSBORO, NC

II TIMOTHY 4:2
 PREACH THE WORD; BE READY IN SEASON AND OUT OF SEASON;
 REPROVE, REBUKE, EXHORT, WITH GREAT PATIENCE AND INSTRUCTION

WWW.NCANNUALMEETING.ORG/PREACH

LEE PIGG PRESIDENT  **SCOTT FAW** VICE PRESIDENT 

SPEAKERS

GREG MATHIS  **BOBBY WELCH**  **JOE BROWN**  **DON BOULDIN** 

MIKE WHITSON  **MAC BRUNSON**  **MARK HARRIS** 

WORSHIP
TIM BLANKENBECKLER & THE HOPEWELL CHOIR 

 **MARK WALKER** & THE LAWDALE CHOIR

BREAD OF LIFE 

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11
 6 PM - 8 PM
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12
 9 AM - 3 PM