

**BSC annual meeting close**

It's not too late to plan your trip to the Baptist State Convention's annual meeting Nov. 7-8. There are also events like the pastor's conference and other meetings. **Pages 5-7, 9-10, 12-13.**



# BR BIBLICAL RECORDER

OCTOBER 29, 2011 • News Journal of North Carolina Baptists • VOLUME 177 NO. 22 • **BRnow.org**



(stockxchg photo)

N.C. Baptists  
minister  
to prisoners  
**See pages 8-9**

**LOCAL**



**BCH changes lives**

Find out how Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina has changed Kourri's life.

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**NATIONAL**



**Reaching the lost**

A Boston church planting team sees lostness "all around us." The team has ties to North Carolina and is trying to reach the diverse population that surrounds it.

**Page 3**

**WORLD**



**Gardens yield hope**

Donations through the World Hunger Fund help Indians learn farming techniques to keep their people from starving.

**Page 10**



# Baptist Children's Homes changed Kourri's life

By J. BLAKE RAGSDALE | BCH Communications

**K**ourri perches herself on the rail of the small pier. With fishing rod in hand, the teen casts her line across the shimmering lake. The bobber attached to the line makes a soft "plop" as it impacts the water's surface. Her father Steven smiles approvingly as he casts his own line.

The afternoon weather is a bit too warm for the fish to be biting. The bobbers resting atop the tepid lake water barely move. But that doesn't matter to father and daughter. The two chat and laugh making the most of their special time together.

The lake is a familiar sight to Kourri, one that she sees every day. It is the beautiful centerpiece of Broyhill Home in Clyde where the 16-year-old has lived for two years. Kourri's life, and her relationship with her family, has completely changed since coming to Baptist Children's Homes' (BCH) mountain campus.

"I have a better bond with my dad. My bond's getting better with my biological mom," Kourri said.

"My stepmom is practically my real mom. And I love her."

Before Broyhill Home, Kourri's family lost everything due to Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Kourri moved with her father, stepmother and sisters from their home in

Louisiana to North Carolina. But instead of a new start, turmoil developed within the family. The loss from the storm coupled with the lingering shadow of past family trauma took its toll. Kourri spiraled downward.

"It was real bad," Steven remembers. He knew his family needed help.

The family turned to Baptist Children's Homes. "It's just a good place for a child to come into a good, structured, Christian environment and learn. And the parents can learn, too."

At Broyhill Home, things began to change as the Christian houseparents and staff cared for Kourri by showing her God's unfailing love.

"We give these children unconditional love," said houseparent Lou Arnsdorff. "It doesn't matter what they've done."

The teen's heart was stirred by the witness of her houseparents and services at Woodland Baptist Church in

Waynesville, her cottage's home church. And in November 2009, the most important change in Kourri's life occurred.

"Me and my best friend Shawna got saved," Kourri recounts. Her smile widens as she talks about the day. "It was while we were in youth group. We were talking about Revelation and how everybody sins. We need to confess them and ask God for forgiveness."

Continued on page 15



Kourri has spent two years at Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina (BCH). Her life has been transformed. Not only has BCH helped her family but Kourri has come to have a personal relationship with Jesus. (BCH photo)

See you at the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina annual meeting Nov. 7-8 in Greensboro

## VISIT our Booth!

To register for **one of these prizes** visit us at Annual Meeting (booths 70 and 71) and **SIGN UP**

**BR BIBLICAL RECORDER**



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7" color multi-touch display; Wi-Fi capability, multi-touch display supports Kindle (AZW), TXT, PDF, unprotected MOBI, PRC natively, Audible, DOC, DOCX, JPG, GIF, PNG, BMP, non-DRM AAC, MP3, MIDI, OGG, WAV, MP4, VP8 formats



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# Boston church planting team sees lostness ‘all around us’

## Group’s ties to North Carolina spur call to go

By CAROL PIPES | Baptist Press

**B**OSTON – Basketball takes teamwork. As the freshman boys basketball coach at Medford High School, Tanner Turley strives to teach his players the importance of working together rather than relying on one or two standout players to win games.

He has the same goal as pastor of Redemption Hill Church in Medford, Mass., five miles from downtown Boston. Turley, a Nehemiah church planter missionary with the North American Mission Board (NAMB), moved to Medford last year with his wife Marsha to lead a church planting team that includes two other families – Jon and Leigh Chasteen and Josh and Jessica Miller – and US/C2 missionary Abbey Cook.

“It’s been a tremendous blessing to share the load of ministry with others who are likeminded, who have the same biblical vision for the church and who are committed to living out the gospel together in the context of a team environment and community of faith,” Turley said of the team planting model.

The Medford team initially focused on investing in the community.

“We spent a lot of time just practicing hospitality, trying to get to know our neighbors with the intention of both displaying the gospel to them and also sharing the gospel,” Turley said. “About a month after we arrived, we initiated our first community group.”

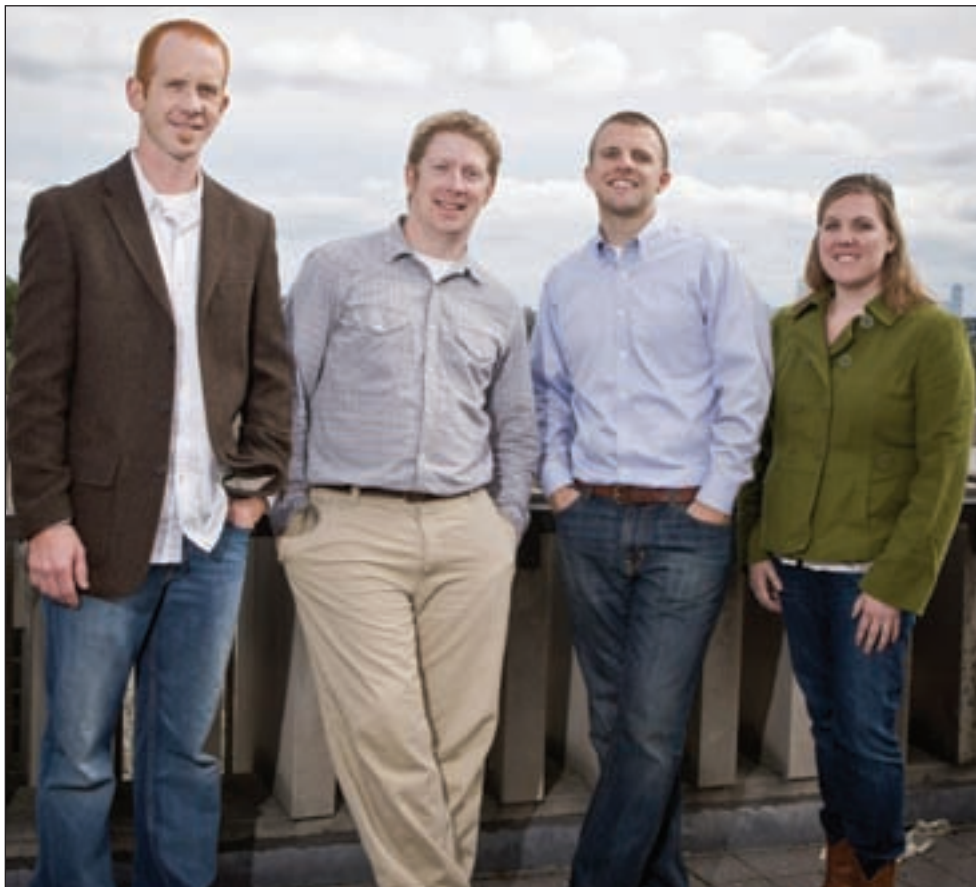
The small group met for prayer, Bible study and to encourage one another in the faith. The team watched as God brought people to them who were looking for a new church, as well as non-believers who visited their community group and heard the gospel for the first time.

“Community groups provide a context where we can build up our core group and seek to make disciples with intentionality,” Turley said.

That first group quickly grew to two community groups and then three. In April they started gathering for Sunday worship services.

So what brings a Kentucky native to Boston to plant a church? Turley credits his time at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and joining a church-planting church – Open Door Baptist Church in Raleigh

“God used that to open my eyes to the need for new churches, not only all around the world but especially here in North America,” Turley said, so he began



From left, Josh Miller, Jon Chasteen, Tanner Turley and Abbey Cook are part of the church-planting team for Redemption Hill Church in Medford, Mass., five miles from downtown Boston. Turley, a NAMB church-planting missionary, has led the team since last year. (BP photo)

**“One of the things we really love about our community is the diversity that’s represented here.”**  
– Tanner Turley

to pray about the possibility of church planting.

“I felt like the Lord put a couple of desires in my heart – to get outside of the Bible Belt and to get to a major city,” Turley said.

After a trip to Boston to watch a Red Sox game – he’s a big fan – Turley began

to ask the question: Why not Boston?

“It was through that trip that God started to stir my heart for this city,” Turley said.

After much prayer, research and several trips to the city, Turley was sure the Lord was leading his family to plant a church in Medford. They packed their bags and moved to Medford in June 2010.

New England in general is one of the most unreached areas of the nation, Turley said, noting that most of the people they meet in New England have no understanding of who God is or who God is in Christ.

“We’re constantly reminded of the lostness that’s all around us,” he said. “One of the things we really love about our community is the diversity that’s

represented here,” Turley noted, referring to the college students who attend Tufts University, the young professionals who commute into the city as well as the residents who’ve lived in Medford all their lives – many of them Irish- and Italian-born.

“We have people from all different backgrounds, ethnicities and socioeconomic backgrounds.

“First and foremost we want to see people come to faith in Christ, believe in Him and worship Him with their lives,” Turley said. “You have to be prepared to engage people no matter their background or worldview.”

Planting a church in this context certainly brings its own challenges, Turley said. “We’re forced to be on our knees, to depend on the Holy Spirit, to have confidence in the Word of God and not in our own wise and persuasive words.”

After a year on the mission field, Turley can’t imagine having accomplished what they’ve accomplished without his church planting team, which includes all Southern Baptists.

“Southern Baptists are a big part of our story,” Turley said. “We’ve learned so much about partnership through prayer and support from churches all over the U.S.”

Open Door Baptist is their main sending church, but they have about 10 churches that provide prayer and financial support. After a summer of engaging the community through service projects and sports events, Turley is excited about what God has planned.

“We cling to Christ’s promise to build His church and are trusting in His ability to grow the church and not our own ability.”

(EDITOR’S NOTE – Carol Pipes is a writer for the North American Mission Board. To view a video about Tanner Turley and other NAMB missionaries, visit [namb.net/missionaryfocus](http://namb.net/missionaryfocus).) **BR**

## 18 Hispanic council members named

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) – Members of a Hispanic Advisory Council have been named to work in conjunction with the Southern Baptist Convention’s (SBC) Executive Committee (EC), North American Mission Board (NAMB) and other SBC entities toward “more fully integrating Hispanic Baptist churches into the total fabric of Southern Baptist life and ministry.”

The 18-member advisory council will be co-chaired by Daniel Sanchez and Bob Sena.

Sanchez is professor of missions at Southwestern Baptist Theological Semi-

nary, where he also is associate dean of the Roy Fish School of Evangelism and Missions and director of the Scarborough Institute of Church Growth. Sena is a Hispanic evangelist and conference leader and a retired church planting consultant with NAMB.

Sena is a Hispanic evangelist and conference leader and a retired church planting consultant with the North American Mission Board.

The three-year Hispanic ministry initiative is being launched by EC President Frank Page and North American Mission Board President Kevin Ezell in response

to a request from the Hispanic Consortium, an annual gathering of Hispanic leaders serving on SBC entity staffs. The Hispanic Advisory Council’s creation could be followed by additional ethnically oriented advisory groups, Page said.

The Hispanic Advisory Council will use surveys, phone conferences, online communication and personal meetings to gather and communicate information from Hispanic groups such as the presidents of state Hispanic fellowships, the National Hispanic Fellowship of Southern Baptist Churches, Hispanic leaders on state convention staffs, etc. **BR**



# To reach beyond the valley: Crestview gives through Cooperative Program

By MIKE CRESWELL | BSC Communications

**T**his Crestview Baptist Church actually does have a view of crests. The 500-member church's building is on Pisgah Drive that heads southeast from Canton through a valley surrounded by Pisgah National Forest and mountains with names like Rocky Knob, Pressley and Poison Cove Top.

A few peaks over is the more famous Cold Mountain of book and movie fame.

When Dan Page, Crestview's senior pastor, speaks of "reaching the valley," this is the area he means.

For Page, leading a church to reach out locally and supporting missions far and wide through the Cooperative Program is all part of how Crestview members respond to the Great Commission.

"We are focusing on our immediate field, which is our valley," he said.

"Then we're focusing on reaching further afield with

mission trips and mission projects; we're starting right here in our Jerusalem."

But Page says to reach beyond the valley they support the Cooperative Program (CP).

In 2010 the church gave almost 12 percent of its income through the Cooperative Program.

Further, the church led other Haywood Baptist Association churches in having the biggest increase in CP giving over 2009.

"We look around at the needs, particularly on the foreign mission field," Page said, "and we believe the best way to meet those needs is through the Cooperative Program effort of all our sister Baptist churches."

"It's the greatest tool, I

think, in the world for pooling our resources and playing a key role in reaching the nations with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

"I see independent Baptists and other groups who are using self-support and I respect them. But I think that the Cooperative Program is still the most powerful tool we have for doing missions," Page said.

"I fully support it. We're going to stress the Great Commission, reaching the world, and this is the way we can participate in it.

"We have experienced significant growth in baptisms and increased giving because God is blessing.

"The church is growing. We need a new building. Our services are full and our Sunday School is full.

"I did the last baptism two weeks ago in the river and it was a great blessing to our people.

"But we know the Great Commission is to go all the way to the far reaches of the earth. I'm a die-hard, 100 percent, missions-minded pastor and that's the way it's going to be wherever I serve, because I believe in mis-

sions," he said.

"I pray other individuals and churches will be motivated to use their dollars for the mission work of the Cooperative Program in a greater and greater way.

"The needs are urgent, and the time is short for us in this generation to reach our communities with the gospel of Jesus," Page said.

Through their Cooperative Program giving, Crestview supports a wide range of ministries across North Carolina, including:

- starting 125 new churches in 2010,
- the NC Baptist Children's Homes;
- Fruitland Baptist Bible Institute;
- a youth program that reached

more than 7,000 young people this year; evangelism and church growth ministry, prayer ministry, women's ministry, partnership missions and many kinds of pastor and church staff support,

• nearly 10,000 missionaries serving across North America and around the world, plus six Southern Baptist seminaries equipping more than 13,000 students for church leadership and missionary service.

Those schools include Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary at Wake Forest.

Visit [ncbaptist.org](http://ncbaptist.org); find the Cooperative Program link under "Church Planting & Missions Development" section. **BR**



Dan Page, senior pastor of Crestview Baptist Church in Canton, encourages members in his church and association to give through the Cooperative Program. (BSC photo by Mike Creswell)



## Golden Gate marks special anniversary

CENTENNIAL, Colo. (BP) – Trustees of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary (GGBTS) celebrated the 15th anniversary of the Rocky Mountain Campus during the board's Oct. 10-11 meeting in Centennial, Colo.

Trustees expanded the Ph.D. program to include theology as a major field and created The President's Council – a group of seminary advocates with professional competencies to assist GGBTS President Jeff Iorg with strategic decisions.

In celebrating the Rocky Mountain

Campus' anniversary, campus director Steve Veteto told trustees and a crowd of more than 200, "When I look out at you all, I see our graduates as well as current students. Our alumni and students are changing the world for eternity."

Also during their meeting, trustees approved minor adjustments to procedures related to confidentiality and conflict of interest statements for trustees; reviewed reports on seminary operations, including a progress report on the plan for the Northern California Campus master plan; and accepted the seminary's audit. **BR**

## Fruitland Baptist Bible Institute

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## AROUND THE STATE

### Obituaries

**JOHN DOUGALD WILKINSON**, 74, died Oct. 22.

A graduate of Pembroke College and Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Mo., Wilkinson received a doctorate from Luther Rice Seminary. He served in the U.S. Air Force for four years.

Ordained in 1967, Wilkinson led churches in Missouri, South Carolina and North Carolina.

He retired from and was named pastor emeritus of Ballard's Bridge Baptist Church, Tyner, and was interim pastor of many churches in the Chowan Association, most recently Merry Hill Baptist Church, Merry Hill.

He had served as moderator of the Chowan Baptist Association, worked in the chaplain program at Chowan Hospital, and on each Thursday morning led the devotion at Edenton House.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Elta Mae Michel Wilkinson; three daughters, Adrianna Michelle Wilkinson, Kathryn McCormick of Nichols, S.C., and Lori Wilkinson of Stuart, Fla.; two sisters, Martha Wilkinson and Diane Dixon, both of Maxton; three grandchildren; and two great-grandsons.

Memorials to: Lottie Moon Christmas Offering or the Woman's Missionary Union of North Carolina, both in care

of Ballard's Bridge Baptist Church, 3025 Virginia Road, Tyner, NC 27980.

**NASH ANDREW ODOM**, 78, died Oct. 3 at his home in Lumberton.

After attending Lumberton schools, he graduated from Campbell University, Wake Forest University, East Carolina University and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

He served as pastor of West Lumberton Baptist Church, Back Swamp Baptist Church, First Baptist Church of Dublin, First Baptist Church of Proctorville, and First Baptist Church of Lake Park, Fla. He retired from director of missions Petersburg Baptist Association in Petersburg, Va.

He was a member of the General Board of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and the Florida Baptist Historical Committee.

After retirement, he served as interim of churches in Virginia as well as Tar Heel Baptist Church, First Baptist Church of Clarkton, and First Baptist Church of Rockingham.

He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Helen Allen Odom; children, Penny Holland of Burlington, Andrea Lewis of Cary, and Christy Hamm of Ellenton, Fla.; one sister, Nola Horne of Gastonia; and seven grandchildren.

Memorials to: Nash A. and Helen A. Odom Educational Fund at Campbell

University, P.O. Drawer 4050, Buies Creek, NC 27506.

**WILLIAM GUY FORMY DUVAL**, 92, died Sept. 28 at Columbus Regional Healthcare in Whiteville.

He was a graduate of Whiteville High School and Wake Forest Baptist Seminary. He has more than 55 years of Christian service, serving as pastor of New Life Baptist, Happy Home Baptist, Nakina Baptist, Union Valley Baptist, Liberty Baptist, and Myrtle Head Baptist churches.

He is survived by two sons, Robert Formy Duval of Bladenboro, and Arnold Formy Duval of Nakina; two daughters, Nelda Tison of Nakina and Joanne Thompson of Whiteville; three brothers, Lyle Formy Duval and Wynn Formy Duval, both of Whiteville, and Glean Formy Duval of Nakina; five grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren.

Memorials to: Nakina Baptist Church, 7883 Seven Creeks Road, Nakina, NC 28455.

**CLARENCE V. MORRIS SR.**, 77, of Dallas, died Aug. 19.

Morris graduated from Fruitland Bible Institute in 1961. He was a pastor for 48 years leading Salem Baptist Church, Gastonia, as well as Riverside Baptist Church, Cramerton; Macedonia Baptist Church, Gastonia; and North Main Bap-

tist Church, Mount Holly.

He is survived by his wife of 11 years, Margaret Loftin Thomason Rankin Morris; children, Randy Morris; Junior Morris; Teresa Huffstickler; Lynn Calloway; seven grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; twin sister, Doris Bailey of Stanley; brother, Mack Morris of Columbus, Ga.; step-children, Elena Poteat and John Thomason Jr.; and six step-grandchildren.

Memorials to: Greater Gaston Baptist Association Crisis Ministry, 1607 Rankin Lake Rd., Gastonia, NC 28052 or Gaston Hospice, PO Box 3984, Gastonia, NC 28054.

### Staff changes

**MARK MILLER** has been called to First Baptist Church of Clarkton as pastor. Miller previously served Shaws Fork Baptist Church in Aiken, S.C.

First Baptist Church, Gastonia, has called **JOLYNN PROCHASKA** as minister to children. Prochaska was the minister to children for First Baptist, Gastonia, previously and is returning.

**MICHAEL MADARIS** has accepted the call to Highland Baptist Church, New London, as pastor. Madaris previously served Hickory Grove Baptist Church, Green Cove Springs, Fla.

## OPPORTUNITY CORNER

### Portraits for pastors

Pastors and their wives are invited to take advantage of a free portrait opportunity offered through LifeWay Directories and Olan Mills.

Pastors will receive a free 8x10 portrait and a directory of North Carolina Baptist churches mailed directly to their home.

The portrait studio will be located adjacent to the registration area and will be open Monday, 2-9 p.m. and Tuesday, 8 a.m.-9 p.m.

### Multicultural pastors, wives retreat

The east (Oct. 28-29 at Caswell) and west (Nov. 11-12 at Ridgecrest) regions are open for a multicultural pastors and wives retreat.

Based on Jeremiah 33:3, the two-day event consists of a Friday night and Sat-

urday format. Each conference will have a different end time but will be around lunchtime or early afternoon on Saturday. Spots may still be available.

Contact Guillermo Soriano at (800) 395-5102, ext. 5564, or [gsoriano@ncbaptist.org](mailto:gsoriano@ncbaptist.org).

### Pastor, staff prayer retreat at Ridgecrest

Ridgecrest will host Empowered: A 2012 NC Pastor/Staff Prayer Retreat on Jan. 10-11. This is an opportunity for any ministry staff or church prayer leaders. Speakers include John Franklin, Richard Owen Roberts, Chris Schofield, James Walker and Chad Pollard. Registration is \$99 (includes accommodations and two meals). Register through Ridgecrest at (800) 588-7222. Visit [praync.org](http://praync.org).

## Submissions

The *Biblical Recorder* is pleased to publish staff changes, church news and events with a statewide interest. Please send information to [dianna@BRnow.org](mailto:dianna@BRnow.org) or *Biblical Recorder*, P.O. Box 18808, Raleigh, NC 27619-8808.

## CHURCH NEWS



### Oakland Baptist Church, Monroe

Oakland Baptist Church, Monroe, burned the note on its mortgage on Aug. 7. One of the church's families donated the money to pay off the note and purchase some kitchen equipment. Church leaders, including deacons and trustees, gathered with representatives of the bank for a photo.

## Resolution of appreciation to host city

Whereas, the 181th annual session of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina is meeting November 7-8, 2011 in Greensboro, North Carolina; and

Whereas, the local citizens involved in welcoming and facilitating our sessions have done so in a very caring and effective manner;

Whereas, the management and staff of the Koury Center, Sheraton Hotel, have gone the extra mile to accommodate this Convention;

Therefore, be it resolved that we, the messengers to the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, meeting at the Koury Center, Sheraton Hotel in Greensboro, November 7-8, 2011, express our appreciation to the people of Greensboro, the management and staff of the Koury Center, Sheraton Hotel and to the Committee on Convention Meetings for outstanding service and kindness rendered to us during this annual meeting.

Visit [ncannualmeeting.org](http://ncannualmeeting.org).

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# Ed Yount grateful for time to serve

By MELISSA LILLEY | BSC Communications

**B**ack when Ed Yount wanted to be a basketball coach he wrote to Dean Smith, head coach for the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill men's basketball team, and asked him for advice. He not only got a letter back, he got some advice that he has never forgotten: teach your young men how to do more than play basketball.

Yount did not grow up to be a coach on the court, but "God still lets me coach. It's just in a different way," he said.

While attending Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Yount began his ministry as a pastor and has pastored ever since. Yount, outgoing president of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina (BSC), has pastored Woodlawn Baptist Church in Conover since 1993.

As a pastor, Yount invests his life into serving other people and to helping them fulfill the purposes God has for their lives. He helps people understand how to apply God's Word to their lives and how to live out the gospel.

Although God has blessed Yount with a fruitful ministry, Yount said his calling into full-time, vocational ministry was a gradual one. Pastoring was far from his mind while working on his physi-

cal education degree at Lenoir-Rhyne University.

Yount began understanding God's call on his life during his senior year. He completed his physical education degree and



ED YOUNT

added a minor in religion. He went on to earn his master of divinity from Southeastern and doctor of ministry from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

When Yount came to Woodlawn 18 years ago – when the church included about 165 people

– he came with a conviction to stay until God called him elsewhere. "I made a commitment to stay there if that was what God wanted me to do. I felt like God had called me to that particular place for a long-term ministry," he said.

Longevity has allowed Yount to walk with his congregation through transitions and challenges, and in doing so, to see God work through them all. "When you are with a church for this long you are able to grow with your people as you go

through the challenges," he said. "Make sure you love your people through the changes. People will follow you if they know you love them and really care."

Longevity has also helped Yount learn how to involve other people in ministry. "As a pastor, you can't do it all. Empower people to use their gifts, and then let them use their gifts," he said.

More than 800 people now attend Woodlawn, the church has transitioned from one Sunday morning service to three, and more staff members have been added. Yount attributes the steady growth throughout the years to faithful devotion to scripture. "The church has been built on God's Word. They study the Word of God," he said.

Childhood friends have come to faith in Jesus Christ, and Yount is now their pastor. Yount said seeing lives transformed is "a testimony to the Word of God and what it can do in the heart of a believer."

Yount has heard many stories and seen firsthand over the past two years how God is working in the hearts of North Carolina Baptists. "Hands down, what I have enjoyed the most about serving as president of the Convention is the people I've gotten to meet and the friends I've made. We have North Carolina Baptists

all over the state who truly love the Lord. I have sensed God's spirit among them."

Before becoming president Yount served two years as BSC vice president. He has also served on the Board of Directors and Executive Committee, chaired the Giving Plans Study Committee, served as a member of the Board of Directors for Fruitland Baptist Bible Institute and as trustee for the International Mission Board.

Yount has also enjoyed preaching and visiting in smaller North Carolina churches, building relationships with next generation leaders, and having an opportunity to help communicate to North Carolina Baptists the vision Convention leaders have for impacting the state and the world with the gospel.

As president and as a pastor, challenges come from all different directions. The thing to remember is to keep seeking God's heart and God's Kingdom, Yount said.

"God has taught me not to look at anything else I see or hear, but to keep my focus right on the Lord. I have to fasten my heart and eyes on the Lord."

(EDITOR'S NOTE – Elections for BSC president will be held Nov. 8 during the Tuesday morning session of the annual meeting in Greensboro. Visit [ncannualmeeting.org](http://ncannualmeeting.org).) **BR**

## Related events before, during BSC

One of the biggest events leading up to the annual meeting of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina is the pastor's conference. "Sustained by His Word," will meet Nov. 6-7 at the Koury Convention Center before the annual meeting, which starts Nov. 7. The event begins Sunday at 6 p.m. Monday begins at 9 a.m. and ends at 3 p.m. with a break for lunch. (See page 7 for more information about this event.)

### Other events

**Welcome Reception** – Monday, Nov. 7, at conclusion of evening session; Guilford G; for first time attendees to the annual meeting, and other messengers/guests who want to meet BSC officers and executive leadership.

**N.C. Baptist Ministers' Wives** – Monday, Nov. 7, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.; contact: Deedee Whray, (910) 991-7184; [whrayswith-Christ@yahoo.com](mailto:whrayswith-Christ@yahoo.com).

**Great Commission Partnerships Missions Breakfast** – Tuesday, Nov. 8, 7 a.m.-8:15 a.m.; Imperial Ballroom; speaker: George Russ, executive director, Metropolitan New York Baptist Association; register by Oct. 31; contact: Emily Comp-

ton, (800) 395-5102, ext. 5536; [ecompton@ncbaptist.org](mailto:ecompton@ncbaptist.org).

**Annuitant's Breakfast** – Tuesday, Nov. 8, 7 a.m.-8:15 a.m.; Grandover Ballroom; no cost; reservations required; contact: Betty Pleasant, (800) 395-5102, ext. 5595, [bpleasant@ncbaptist.org](mailto:bpleasant@ncbaptist.org).

**Gardner-Webb University Alumni and Friends Luncheon** – Tuesday, Nov. 8, 12:15 p.m.; Grandover AB; \$15 per person; reservation by Oct. 31; contact: John Bridges, (704) 406-3008, [jfbbridges@gardner-webb.edu](mailto:jfbbridges@gardner-webb.edu).

**Heavenly Banquet** – Tuesday, Nov. 8, 12 p.m.-1:30 p.m.; Guilford G Room; speaker: Derwin Gray, former linebacker and pastor of the multicultural church, Transformation Church; cost: \$20; reservations required; contact: Kate Durham (800) 395-5102, ext. 5628, [kdurham@ncbaptist.org](mailto:kdurham@ncbaptist.org).

**Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary Alumni Luncheon** – Nov. 7; 12-1:30 p.m.; Koury Convention Center; cost: \$20; speakers: Jonathan Six and Chris Allen; contact (919) 761-2177 or [alumni@sebs.edu](mailto:alumni@sebs.edu).

# 70%

of the boys and girls that come to Baptist Children's Homes possess no faith base whatsoever.

In other words they are unchurched and unreached...they have not heard the "Good News" of Jesus.

In 2010, 74 residents accepted Christ! There is opportunity to share the gospel and offer hope to children who are hurting, who have suffered, and are searching for answers.

**Baptist Children's Homes is a mission field and there is a harvest to be reaped for the glory of God!**



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### Baptist Children's Homes

**Week of Prayer: Nov. 13 - 20, 2011**

Please pray for the Baptist Children's Homes ministry during this special week...

**Sunday.** Pray for NC children and families.

**Monday.** Pray for the hundreds of children and families BCH offers hope to each year.

**Tuesday.** Pray for all the dedicated houseparents, residential care givers, and chiefs who give of themselves to care for children.

**Wednesday.** Pray for our social workers who guide, encourage and challenge our children and families to be all that God intends.

**Thursday.** Pray for those at BCH's nine statewide homes for developmentally disabled adults.

**Friday.** Pray that you will be sensitive to hurting children in your community.

**Saturday.** Pray for BCH president Michael C. Blackwell as he leads the ministry.

**Sunday.** Pray that BCH's residents will come to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

Please participate in the Annual Offering. Invite a speaker to share the ministry. Order the FREE video, bulletins, and other materials. Download multimedia resources at [www.bchfamily.org/offering](http://www.bchfamily.org/offering)



# BSC annual meeting breakout sessions

Tuesday afternoon Nov. 8 during the Baptist State Convention annual meeting, there are 19 breakout sessions planned.

● **Church Renewal by Bob Foy (Tidewater)** – The Church Renewal Journey is a congregational lay-led strategy for awakening sleeping churches, equipping and discipling their members, and commissioning them as church missionaries back into their marketplace and outside the church walls as a relationship evangelist.

● **Conversations that Count: Women's Evangelism by Ashley Allen (Victoria A)** – Do you desire to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with women you encounter on a daily basis, but don't know where to start? This breakout will teach you how to share Jesus Christ with women using the HeartCall material from the North American Mission Board. Focusing on hope, believe, turn, and call, participants will learn about women's evangelism and how to share the gospel.

● **Music and Teenagers by Merrie Johnson (Grandover East)** – Teenagers today base their identity on media, spending over seven and a half hours per day listening and watching. Four hours of that is spent with music alone. How can we help students discern what they are listening to with the message of Jesus Christ? This session will take a hard look at the largest influencer in the lives of students and how we as Christ followers can use music in developing a deeper walk with Christ, as well as an avenue in reaching students.

● **Sunday School in a Transformational Church by Phil Stone (Pebble Beach)** – Sunday School in a Transformational Church is a ministry of transformational small communities that exists to assist the church in accomplishing its God-given mission of making and growing disciples and transforming lives by the power of God. Participants will take away principles for transformational small communities, practical ways to create a disciple-making environment, and a strong emphasis on prayerful dependence.

● **Global Impact in North America by Michael Sowers (Augusta)** – Do you want to know how your church can make a global impact by engaging in the major urban centers of North America? Come hear a panel of church planting catalysts, church planters and pastors engaged in urban centers discuss how to impact lostness in New York, Toronto and Boston.

● **Experience the Voyage ... A Deeper Church-wide Discipleship Curriculum by Landon Horton (Victoria B)** – Do you want to motivate your church members to grow deeper in their relationship

with the Lord and give them the tools they need to make this a lifelong voyage? Come learn about a new curriculum that offers growth opportunities, provides accountability and encouragement, and generates excitement about God's Word! This curriculum is designed to promote individual Bible study while providing weekly church-wide support and accountability. Give your church members the tools they need to experience lifelong transformation. Register to win a free IPAD2. Drawing will be held at the breakout session.

● **The Minister's Juggling Act by Eddie Thompson (Victoria C)** – The demands of ministry can seem overwhelming at times. Pastors and their wives, along with church leaders, often feel like they are in a crazy juggling act – attempting to balance their family, their church, their spiritual walk, and sometimes even their own sanity. Unfortunately, the fallout continues to take a deep toll on our families and our churches. Don't miss this encouraging and challenging breakout session on balancing ministry and family. Remember, much is at stake!

● **Audio-Visual-Lighting and Your Ministry by Frank B. Yarborough (Auditorium II)** – What is right, and how do you know?

● **Evangelism Crash Course by Marty Dupree (Cedar BC)** – This is a simple tool that gives you ideas on how to 1) Engage a spiritual Conversation 2) Share the basics of a gospel presentation – with a tract or an Evangecube. You can even write your own tract or gospel presentation. 3) Share the Roman Road in an interactive way and cross-culturally or 4) Share your personal testimony.

● **Refuel by Rick Hughes (Grandover West)** – Learn how to move your church from a discipleship program to a church that has an environment for creating a disciple-making culture where lives

are changed by the power of God.

● **Ministry to Those Impacted by Homosexuality by Tim Wilkins (Pinehurst)** – This session will better equip and empower pastors and church leaders to reach out in love and truth to those impacted by homosexuality.

● **Publicity 101 by Kathryn Carson (Sandpiper)** – Publicity 101 will focus on how to use various means of communication to develop a communication plan for your church. The strategies will be practical emphasizing effective marketing through print, email, presentation slides, blogs, social media and various other applications with emphasis on free online resources.

● **Developing Deacons to Become Vibrant Spiritual Leaders by Russ Conley (Turnberry)** – This session will apply the biblical qualifications of a deacon, the four Cs of spiritual leadership, and disciple-making to lead in creating a disciple-making culture within the congregation.

● **How to Become a Church for ALL People by Derwin Gray & Kenneth Tan (Heritage)** – Learn how to become a church that intentionally reaches and disciples all people. You will learn different approaches on how to become a multiethnic church and hear from Derwin Gray, who started a multiethnic church in Charlotte that grew to about 1,500 people in 14 months. You will learn how to deal with the challenges involved in doing multicultural ministries in your church.

● **ALL IN for Volunteer Ministry: Helping Members Find their Perfect Fit by Jeremy Amick (Tanglewood)** – The goal of this session is to present the tool “spirit-led connecting,” which can help church leaders understand the purpose of God in Christian service and assist members in finding their “right fit.” We will explore the ministry question: How can church leaders enlist believers who

will serve with joy and effectiveness in ministry?

● **Church and Family Connections: Making Fruitful Disciples of the Next Generation by Brian Upshaw & Steve Wright (Oak)** – Everyone is concerned about the number of young adults abandoning their faith. This seminar is designed to help church leaders and parents discover practical ways to work together to help children and students own their faith in a way that will teach them to treasure Christ in their hearts for eternity. The session will encourage, equip and inspire you to create a disciple-making culture in your church and home where lives can be changed by the power of God.

● **Web Empowered Church by Eric Vidana (Cedar A)** – This breakout session is for church leaders who see the need for a church website but do not know where to begin. Topics covered will include empowering a web ministry team, identifying your target audience, managing site content, and the technical and financial requirements of a website.

● **2012 Find It Here: Expanding the Kingdom by Chuck Register (Auditorium IV)** – Learn how to mobilize your congregation to be “on mission” with the gospel of Christ. Focusing on front-line Great Commission ministry, this session will showcase new missions tools, developed by the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, designed to help your church reach the nations for Christ.

● **Missions: From Jerusalem to the Ends of the Earth by Richard Brunson & NC Baptist Men staff (Auditorium I)** – This session will cover local missions (such as Operation Inasmuch) as well as state, national and international missions opportunities and needs. If your church is interested in hands-on missions, this break out session will be helpful to you.

Visit [ncannualmeeting.org](http://ncannualmeeting.org).

## Pastor's Conference to focus on powerful Word

By BUDDY OVERMAN | BSC Communications

Hebrews 1:3 promises believers that Jesus Christ is always “sustaining all things by his powerful word,” which is a wonderful reminder of the awesome power of Jesus Christ. So powerful is His word that the physical universe is dependent upon it for survival. Not only does Jesus Christ sustain the universe through His spoken word, He also provides spiritual power to Christians through the Bible, His written word.

At every level of existence believers are sustained by His powerful word, and that profound truth is the theme of this year's North Carolina Baptist Pastor's Conference.

The two-day conference will be held Nov. 6-7 at the Koury Convention Center in Greensboro in conjunction with the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina's Annual Meeting.

As in years past, great Bible expositors from within North Carolina and across the United States will speak at this year's event.

Bobby Blanton, conference president and pastor of Lake Norman Baptist Church in Huntersville, said the theme has been the driving force behind all his preparations for the conference.

“I have confidence that the messages preached by the outstanding servants of God in this year's conference will reflect the Holy Spirit's desire to make application to the pastors attending in whatever their particular circumstance,” Blanton said.

“I'm hopeful that they will be challenged in areas needing addressing, while at the same time encouraged and sustained in



# Behind bars

## N.C. Baptists minister to prisoners

By DIANNA L. CAGLE | BR Assistant Managing Editor

Substituting another meal for meat-loaf doesn't sound like a big deal to many people.

But on a September Tuesday at Johnston Correctional Institution in Smithfield North Carolina Baptists bought and prepared an alternative to the inmates' least favorite meal.

"The food was piled up on their plates," said Kelton Hinton, associational missionary for Johnston Baptist Association. "Many said 'thank you.' Some said 'God bless you.' I felt satisfied that they knew who we were and they appreciated their gesture."

Feeding 650 inmates and staff took some planning, Hinton said.

Dade Sherman, former chaplain at the facility and member of Smithfield First Baptist Church, made the event happen. Smithfield First provided funds for the project. Clyde's Chapel Baptist cooked the chicken, beans and potatoes. Woman's Missionary Union groups in various churches supplied the desserts. Eight volunteers – from Smithfield First, Clyde's Chapel, Micro First Baptist Church, Pisgah Baptist and Princeton Baptist – went into the prison to serve.

Sherman has helped spearhead several community-wide events over the years, including a law enforcement appreciation banquet in April and feeding faculty and staff at area schools. Hinton said volunteers have previously fed breakfasts or supper to prison staff.

With the severe cuts to the Department of Correction budget earlier this year, North Carolina lost 26 full-time chaplain positions from its medium and minimum security prisons. Sherman was one of those chaplains. He had served as a chaplain for 11 years. Some legislators justified the cuts by saying volunteers could provide these services to inmates.

An act passed in 2000 puts government in charge of ensuring prisoners are able to practice their religion freely. Because of the budget cuts, state officials fear lawsuits are certain.

But Johnston association is not the only group of N.C. Baptists working in prisons. Churches across the state have prison ministries. From providing Bible leaders to training people to join the workforce upon their release, N.C. Baptists are finding ways to minister to prisoners.

### Prison retreat

Each year the Woman's Missionary Union of North Carolina (WMU-NC) hosts a prison retreat at Camp Mundo Vista for



Men from Clyde's Chapel Baptist Church in Wendell prepare chicken to take to the Johnston Correctional Institution in Smithfield. Volunteers recently took in a meal to feed 650 inmates and staff at the facility. (Contributed photo)

female prisoners in North Carolina. The funds are provided by the Heck Jones Offering. Even though the budget for North Carolina has been cut, the state still provided transportation for the inmates and staff to come on the retreat.

Because these prisons are minimum security, the inmates have more freedom to work off site as well as to get special permission to go to this retreat. They are accompanied by correction officers.

This year's retreat brought 50 inmates and 10 prison staff. They represented all five minimum security women's prisons. The retreat attracted 42 WMU-NC volunteers from across the state.

Deborah Lockey, youth and senior adult minister at First Baptist Church in Morehead City, provided the music, and Mary Ellen Bowman, a member at First Baptist Church in Wilmington and leader of Christian Women's Job Corps, was the main speaker.

Bowman gave the ladies an overview of the Bible, explaining where the Old Testament and New Testament are and pointed out the index in the front that would direct them to certain pages.

"The things I do to myself ... who do I blame?" Bowman said. "I realize how broken I am. Broken and spilled out – that's the only place you can even be healed."

Bowman talked about chaos in her home life.

"I didn't realize I was going down, down, down," she said. "I didn't realize I walked with my head down. I was a mess."

"The first year you knew it has to be God," said Gwen Minter, who works at Raleigh Correctional Center for Women. "They came with love. It's like a revival."

Minter said each prison has various ways to pick the women who participate, but they all have to be infraction free.

Joan Ascue, who has volunteered for 10 years, works with a former inmate to do seminars, usually at WMU-NC events. A member of Island Creek Baptist Church in Henderson, Ascue said when she was asked to volunteer, she thought, "What could I do?"

She's been coming ever since. This year she had six women in her cabin. One gets out in 40 days and another in December 2012. The ladies are already talking about supporting one another through their final days in the prison and during their transition.

"I've met some of the most wonderful women," she said.

Joyce Rogers called Camp Mundo Vista "holy ground," for the volunteers, the prisoners and the prison staff.

A member at First Baptist Church in Asheboro, Rogers lives nearby and she and her Sunday School class have adopted the camp as a service project. Several members of her class volunteered to help with the retreat, including giving manicures to some of the ladies.

"I have often said I've been on mission trips all over the world but this is the best mission trip I've ever been on," Rogers said.

"We find they're just like us. Everybody has a story."

Rogers hopes the inmates feel the love that God has for them through this service opportunity. She prays they come away knowing God's love and that they are important to a caring, heavenly Father.

### Hard job

Hinton said prison chaplains have a hard

## North Carolina Baptists

On a rainy, misty Wednesday morning, Oct. 12, a new mobile medical dental unit pulled into the parking lot of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina (BSC). The excitement among those anticipating its arrival overshadowed the gloomy weather. Stepping out of the driver's seat was Karyn Guse of Lifeline Mobile of Columbus, Ohio. Karyn was warmly greeted by Joanne Honeycutt, coordinator of the mobile medical/dental ministry; Richard Brunson, executive director of North Carolina Baptist Men (NCBM); and mobile medical/dental unit drivers.

It was 22 years ago that the first medical/dental bus pulled into the parking lot at 205 Convention Drive. During this 22 years of service, thousands of needy North Carolinians have received free medical and dental care. Most importantly, these individuals received spiritual care

as well. The 1989 Bluebird dental equipment was researching them.

Lifeline Mobile of Columbus, Ohio, is a NCBM ministry that customizes vehicles, mobile medical/dental units.

The new mobile medical/dental unit will be housed at





Volunteers give manicures to inmates at Camp Mundo Vista. Women from five minimum security facilities across the state took part in the annual retreat that is held by the Woman’s Missionary Union of North Carolina. Visit photo gallery at *BRnow.org*. (BR photo by Dianna L. Cagle)

# Pastor’s Conference to focus on powerful Word

Continued from page 7

areas of difficulty that they may be wrestling with in ministry.”

This year’s line-up of speakers includes:

- Logan Carson, distinguished professor of Christian theology (Ret.), The College at Southeastern, Wake Forest
- Greg Mathis, senior pastor, Mud Creek Baptist Church, Hendersonville
- Lee Pigg, senior pastor, Hopewell Baptist Church, Monroe
- Clayton King, founder and president, Crossroads Worldwide, Shelby
- Larry Wynn, vice president of evangelism, North American Mission Board, Alpharetta, Ga.
- John Bisagno, pastor emeritus, First Baptist Church, Houston, Texas
- David Dykes, senior pastor, Green Acres Baptist Church, Tyler, Texas

In addition to the various messages from God’s Word, the conference will feature a question and answer session that Blanton designed with younger pastors in mind.

“This is an opportunity to give our younger leaders some practical insights in ministry from two experienced pastors who have been there and done that,” he said.

Bisagno and Wynn, who have more than 68 years of combined experience in full-time pastoral ministry, will field questions from the audience during the session.

More than anything, Blanton prays the conference is a blessing and encouragement to all who attend, regardless of age or experience.

“The pastors who attend this conference often find themselves wrestling with a variety of emotions and issues that make them hungry to hear a sustaining word,” he said.

“I know that personally, whatever my particular situation at the time, God has used this conference through the years to teach me and to strengthen my relationship with Him. I pray that we will be challenged to desire more of God’s Word and to know Him more through His Word.”

The conference begins at 6 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 6, and ends at 3 p.m. Monday, Nov. 7. For more information on the conference visit *ncannualmeeting.org*; click on Information and Pastor’s Conference. **BR**

## Ideas for getting ministry started

- Request a guided tour of local jails/prisons
- Contact the chaplain or program coordinator to discern needs
- Provide paperback New Testaments in English and Spanish for inmates
- Donate quality reading material for libraries
- Tutor in English and reading
- Share your prison ministry experience with your church and association
- Ask your church or association to put your local jail ministry as a line item in its budget

job. They have to help all the inmates with their religions, no matter their personal beliefs.

“In the absence of the chaplains, the program personnel have stepped up to the plate as far as coordination of speakers

and groups coming in so the inmates are still being served, but it’s being handled by folks who are more in the educational arm,” he said. “I don’t know how long that will last. They’re doing two jobs instead of one.”

Chaplains supervise when Muslims meet as well as Wiccans. They have to find the materials for services.

“The chaplains have to serve everyone,” Hinton said, no matter their personal beliefs.

Hinton said the prison is a “unique environment.” Before this recent visit, Hinton said it never struck him that prisoners would get excited about trees.

“It just caught me,” he said of his encounter with an inmate who had recently transferred.

The inmate was so excited because from his cell window he could see trees.

“It just gave me a little glimpse of what it feels like ... not to have your freedom.” **BR**

## West Men receive new medical/dental unit

decision to purchase a new mobile unit began in 2010 when Bluebird Bus began having mechanical, electrical and dent problems. Honeycutt and the dental bus drivers began visiting other mobile units and organizations that build

Mobile, a family owned business, was chosen to manufacture a new mobile unit after consideration of several companies that convert buses, trucks and RV’s into bloodmobiles, emergency medical units and bookmobiles. Brunson and his wife visited the manufacturing facility in Ohio in May 2010. The new unit will replace the 1989 Bluebird bus. The Lifeline unit will be the BSC along with the 2001 Bluebird Bus. The 1989 unit is

going to be moved to Truett Baptist Association near Murphy. It will be set up as a stationary clinic, and used by the association to serve several of the most western N.C. counties. The cost of the Lifeline Mobile unit was \$400,000.

Another \$50,000 will be spent on medical/dental equipment and supplies to furnish the unit. The purchase of this unit was made possible by donations from individuals and dentists and grants.

The new Lifeline Mobile unit will be on display at the Annual Session of the Baptist State Convention at the Koury Center in Greensboro on November 7 and 8.

The medical/dental ministry is supported by the North Carolina Missions Offering. **BR**



# Gardens *yield* HOPE



A woman in India picks tomatoes in a field prepared and cultivated through FAITH (Food Always In The Home) garden techniques. This test plot places the FAITH gardens technique next to the traditional farming methods so villagers can see the huge difference in yield. (BP photo)

## Church renewal helps equip members for missions

By **BUDDY OVERMAN** | BSC Communications

**A**lthough it has seen some changes throughout the years, Church Renewal Journey is not a new ministry initiative. “For years Church Renewal was a one-time revival event. But now it’s called a journey,” said Bob Foy, Baptist State Convention of North Carolina (BSC) senior consultant for church renewal.

What began more than 40 years ago as just a one-day event is now a five-part strategy designed to sustain revival by equipping and commissioning lay people to serve God outside the church walls. With an emphasis on spiritual awakening and relational evangelism, the Church Renewal Journey teaches lay people how to use their unique spiritual gifts to be witnesses for Jesus Christ at home, work, school or anywhere God calls them.

“Too many people think the pastor is the only one called to ministry. Church Renewal Journey helps lay people understand that God has called every one of us,” Foy said.

The ministry has made an impact on churches and individuals across North Carolina and the United States, including Foy. “Church renewal changed my life in 1974. I was an electrician at the time and did not understand that serving was a spiritual gift,” he said.

It was a lesson he never forgot. Foy continued to work as the owner of his electrical business for another 31 years, during which time he focused on using his gifts to be a witness for Jesus Christ.

Foy gave up his electrical business six years ago to work full-time with the BSC, allowing him to do what he loves most: testifying to the power of the Holy Spirit, as experienced through the Church Renewal Journey, with others. Foy will share about the Church Renewal Journey during his break out session Nov. 8 at the BSC’s annual meeting in Greensboro. There 19 sessions being offered Tuesday afternoon. Foy’s session will help pastors and lay leaders learn about Church Renewal Journey and how their churches can participate.

Foy really wants people to understand that the outreach is entirely lay led.

For more information on Church Renewal contact Bob Foy at (800) 395-5102, ext. 5569, or [bfoy@ncbaptist.org](mailto:bfoy@ncbaptist.org). For more information on the annual meeting visit [ncannualmeeting.org](http://ncannualmeeting.org). See pages 6-7, 12-13. **BR**

## World Hunger Fund helps Indian village

By **SUSIE BANKS** | Baptist Press

**T**he young mother rushes out to Saachi Sarkar\* as she walks up the jungle path to the village. The mother is all smiles as the two embrace.

“It’s working,” the mother says, excitedly pulling the older woman to the vegetable garden. “See? We did everything just like you taught – and now there’s enough here to feed us and even some left over to sell.”

The pair walks the rows of flourishing tomatoes and beans, stopping to pluck off a dead leaf. It’s only been a few months since Sarkar taught the FAITH (Food Always In The Home) gardens workshop sponsored by the Southern Baptist World Hunger Fund, but it’s already taking root in this impoverished community in India. The goal of the program is to bring about transformation by teaching villagers to not only grow food for themselves but to also sell the excess in the market.

As Sarkar asks about organic fertilizer, she snuggles the young mother’s baby and notices a marked improvement in his health from her last visit. The sores on his body are gone; his hair is losing the orange-tint of malnutrition and he is energetic.

This in itself is a big sign that the nutrition lessons and growing their own

healthy vegetables are taking hold. In India, UNICEF estimates more than 147 million children under age 5 suffer from malnourishment. Sarkar estimates every child in this village suffers, as well as the adults who gather around her.

“Are you eating your dark green, leafy vegetables?” Sarkar asks. In India, most mothers are anemic because they do not get enough iron.

A woman in the crowd answers, “Yes, we are doing exactly as you said.”

“We even meet to pray now,” the woman continues, quickly glancing to the tree line not more than 400 feet away, where bands of terrorists live and roam. “Since we started doing that every day, there is much peace in our village.”

Sarkar nods her head in understanding. This area is known for terrorist activity. Even though she can’t see the men with guns and bombs, she knows they are watching. Not many outsiders venture this far into the jungle. The terrorist group allows her entry because she has something useful to teach – farming and nutrition.

“Hunger is a result of poverty and poverty is the main reason there are terrorists in this area. They join ‘the cause’ so their stomachs will be filled,” Sarkar explains. “With this program, we can change the fate of communities –

physically, economically and spiritually. “FAITH gardens are a great tool God has given us so we may enter unreached areas like this,” Sarkar says, explaining that as a result of sharing Christ’s love through caring for physical needs, more than 50 prayer cells have started.

Sarkar’s team estimates they will reach more than 29,000 adults and children through 14 FAITH garden workshops this year. The World Hunger Fund, channeled through Southern Baptist humanitarian workers, helps with the \$443 cost of supplies and starter seeds for each training session.

For just 21 cents per person, hunger and malnutrition are tackled at a grassroots level, with one Indian teaching another to grow their own nutritious food and sustainable crops. Sarkar’s goals are for malnutrition to be a thing of the past and for families to earn enough money from their vegetable gardens to send their children to school – putting an end to the poverty/terrorism cycle in this part of the jungle.

\*Name changed.

(EDITOR’S NOTE – *Susie Banks is a writer/editor living in Asia. For more stories about the World Hunger Fund at work overseas, go to [asiastories.com](http://asiastories.com). To promote or donate to the Southern Baptist World Hunger Fund, visit [worldhungerfund.com](http://worldhungerfund.com).) **BR***



## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

### Pastor

**Senior Pastor.** Turner Memorial Baptist Church is searching for a full time pastor. TMBC is located in the fast growing southern area of Wake County just outside of Garner, NC. We are seeking candidates with strong leadership skills who shares our vision for growth by proclaiming God's Word and evangelizing the lost in our community and around the world. TMBC uses a blended style of worship and has a heart for missions. With an average attendance of 233 in worship and 192 in small groups, our mission is "Pointing People to Christ." The ideal candidate will have a minimum education level of seminary degree, along with 5+ years of experience, and possess the leadership skills to assist in our eventual relocation and building of a new church campus. TMBC is a Southern Baptist congregation connected to the Raleigh Baptist Association, the Baptist State Convention, and the Southern Baptist Convention. Resumes with letters of reference may be sent to [pastorsearch@tmbconline.org](mailto:pastorsearch@tmbconline.org).

**PASTOR.** Azalea Baptist Church (ABC) in Norfolk, VA, is seeking the person God has called to be our next pastor. ABC is affiliated with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and the Baptist General Association of Virginia. We are seeking a proven pastor, with a strong pulpit presence, a Bible teacher and a leader with organizational skills to lead us. ABC is a mission-minded church seeking ways to reach out to our local community. Candidates with an accredited seminary degree preferred. Resumes should be sent to the Pastor Search Committee, 3314 E. Little Creek Road, Norfolk, VA 23518 or to [azaleaeducation@aol.com](mailto:azaleaeducation@aol.com).

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**Pastor** for First Baptist Church Williamsburg, KY. Beautiful, small town located near University of the Cumberlands. Diverse membership with an average Sunday attendance of 140. Missions-minded, dually aligned church actively participating in local missions and supporting missions around the world. Must have a minimum of M.Div degree and pastoral experience. Send resume to First Baptist Church, 230 S. 5th Street, Williamsburg, KY 40769 or email to [fbcwoffice@gmail.com](mailto:fbcwoffice@gmail.com).

Center Cross Baptist Church of Asheboro, NC, is seeking a **full time Senior Pastor**. This candidate must be a proven Bible preaching and mission minded leader. Send resume, references and Statement of Faith to: [nauman@triad.rr.com](mailto:nauman@triad.rr.com), Pastor Search Committee.

Mount Pleasant Baptist Church of Hayesville, NC, is currently seeking a **full-time senior pastor**. Send resume to MPBC Search Committee, PO Box 52, Hayesville, NC 28904.

**Senior Pastor.** New Life Baptist Fellowship Church is currently seeking a senior pastor. The church is located in Claremont, N.C., which is approx. 10 miles from Hickory, N.C. The pastor must be an ordained Baptist minister and have experience in the role of senior/lead pastor. New Life is a small church with 70 members and has existed for three years. We are affiliated with the Catawba Valley Baptist Association and the N.C. Baptist State Convention. To apply, submit a letter of interest and resume (include your Statement of Faith and Call to Ministry) to New Life Baptist Fellowship Church, PO Box 127, Claremont, N.C. 28610, ATTN: Allen Haynes. Or you may email resume to [ahaynes@charter.net](mailto:ahaynes@charter.net).

First Baptist Church, Ramseur, NC, is seeking a **full-time pastor**. Affiliated with the Southern Baptists. Send resume to First Baptist Church, PO Box 544, Ramseur, NC 27316. Attn: Pastor Search Committee.

### Church Staff

**Part-Time Youth and Children's director.** Bethel Baptist in Statesville, NC, is seeking a part-time youth and children's director. BBC is affiliated with the BSCNC and SBC. Candidate should be gospel-centered, excited about missions, and eager to help raise up the next generation of church leaders. Send resumes to Bethel Baptist Church, Youth/Children's Search Committee, 1162 East Monbo Road, Statesville, NC 28677; or forward to [pastor.bethelbaptist@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.bethelbaptist@gmail.com).

**Minister of Music/Worship Leader.** Clemmons First Baptist is seeking a dynamic individual of strong faith to direct and inspire weekly traditional and contemporary worship services. Please submit resume to: [mdkinnett@cfbctoday.org](mailto:mdkinnett@cfbctoday.org). Visit our website at [cfbctoday.org](http://cfbctoday.org).

Growing Southern Baptist church seeks full-time **Associate Pastor of Family Discipleship**. Experience and ordination preferred. This ministry will focus on children, youth and young families. Send resumes to: Enon Baptist Church, Attention Pastor Mark Elmore, 6321 Old U.S. 421, East Bend, NC 27018.

Local Southern Baptist church is seeking a permanent **part-time Director of Church Music**. Please mail resume to: Director of Church Music, P.O. Box 2571, Rocky Mount, NC 27802.

Nashville Baptist Church is seeking a **part-time choir director**. Candidate should possess a degree in music or comparable musical experience. Send resumes to: Nashville Baptist Church, Music Search Committee, P.O. Box 637, Nashville, N.C. 27856.

Stallings Memorial Baptist Church seeks **Director of Children and Youth**. Candidate should have experience in developing and leading children/youth ministry in innovative, yet biblically-based perspectives and practices. Must possess passion and skill for guiding children/youth through their faith journey. A college or seminary degree in children/youth ministry or related field. Send resume: Personnel Committee, Stallings Memorial Baptist Church, 817 South Main Street, Salisbury, NC 28144; or email: [Darcell\\_mangan@yahoo.com](mailto:Darcell_mangan@yahoo.com) or [pastor@stallings-baptistchurch.org](mailto:pastor@stallings-baptistchurch.org).

Central Baptist Church Weekday Preschool, Wendell, seeks fulltime **Preschool Assistant Director**. Strong financial and computer skills required. Send resume: [ljones@cbcpreschool.org](mailto:ljones@cbcpreschool.org) or fax 365-6547.

Kenly Missionary Baptist Church is looking for a **part-time Music/Worship Leader** to minister in a church of 230 average worship attendance. We have a blended service with praise team and choir. Please send resume to KMBC, PO Box 237, Kenly, NC 27542.

### Denominational

**Associational Missionary.** South Fork Baptist Association seeking full time associational missionary. Resumes received until November 15, 2011. Send resumes to [sfba@southforkbaptist.net](mailto:sfba@southforkbaptist.net) or mail to Search Team, PO Box 246, Lincolnton, NC 28093.

Resumes for **Associational Missionary** are being accepted through December 31. The successful candidate must be relational and prepared to assist in equipping the 34 churches of the New River Baptist Association in connecting lost people to Christ. Other qualities desired include the ability to communicate technologically, administratively capable, innovative, and motivated to plan and work together to reach a diverse community with the gospel. Candidates may submit their resumes to Search Committee, New River Baptist Association, 2734 Commerce Rd., Jacksonville, NC 28546.

### Miscellaneous

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# 10 revival meeting tips

NEW ORLEANS (BP) – Even though the number of revival meetings in the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) has been declining, a significant amount of churches continue to use revival meetings for evangelism and revitalization.

According to a study conducted by the Georgia Baptist Convention in 2001, 58 percent of the churches in the state conducted a local church revival. In a 2010 survey by LifeWay Research, revival meetings were among the five most often used evangelistic events in Southern Baptist churches.

Let me suggest several practical ways that may help churches benefit from a revival meeting:

● **Purpose.** When church leadership begins to sense that God is leading them to schedule a revival meeting, they need to ask what the purpose of such an event should be. Will it be primarily for evangelism or revitalization of a local congregation? The purpose will dictate a strategy for preparation. If the primary purpose is evangelism, the strategy may differ from that one if the primary purpose is revitalization. Even though a church selects the primary purpose as evangelism, it may experience a spiritual renewal among the membership. In turn, a church with the primary purpose as revitalization may reach people for Christ along the way. A clear purpose will enable church leadership to be more proactive in matching the purpose with a strategy for preparation and resources.

● **Be aware of perceived ineffectiveness.** Churches must be aware of the reasons that have caused some Christian leaders to assert that revival meetings are

“dead.” The first reason for the perceived ineffectiveness is the spiritual condition of many churches. At times, Christian leaders tend to blame methodology but fail to understand that Western Christianity is in need of spiritual awakening. The church must pray for an awakening and cleanse herself from sin and live the life of holiness. The second reason for perceived ineffectiveness of revival meetings is cultural trends. Pastors cannot overlook the fact that during the golden era of revivalism, the entire community gathered around revival meetings. Those meetings might have been the only major local event going in the community and the lost people came to it. The third reason for the perceived ineffectiveness of revival meetings is the proliferation of other evangelistic methodologies. When revival meetings in the SBC experienced their golden era, the revival meeting was the prevalent methodology for evangelism. Today churches employ a diversity of methodologies for evangelism.

● **Personalities.** Once the primary purpose is established, the church leadership should select prayerfully a revival team. I have to confess for the first 10 years as a pastor, I invited my pastor friends to preach revival meetings. However, I came to a conclusion that if I really believed that an evangelist was God’s gift to the church, I should be willing to employ vocational evangelists in churches God allowed me to serve.

Many evangelists have developed

proven themes and formats and they have used them effectively in many churches. The church leadership should be open to what the revival teams may bring to the table in regard to theme and format. One year, I was sharing with an evangelist that the main purpose of the meeting would

be evangelism when I found out that one of the themes he used frequently was an emphasis on the family. Further, a format the evangelist employed was a Saturday through Monday meeting. Previously, the more common formats for me were Sunday through Wednesday or Thursday through Sunday meetings. After prayerful consideration, we agreed to conduct a revival meeting with a theme of “focusing on the fam-

ily” while employing a Saturday through Monday format. God blessed that event with over 40 people giving their lives to Christ.

● **Preparation.** After the church leadership establishes the purpose and secures a spiritually gifted revival team, they are ready to develop a strategy for preparation. Many state conventions publish manuals on revival preparation. The North American Mission Board has an excellent resource: “Revival Preparation Manual: Practical Suggestions for Planning a Revival in Your Church” (available at [NAMBstore.com](http://NAMBstore.com)). Revival manuals provide concrete ways to involve church membership in preparation for and participation in revival meetings. The attempt should be made to involve as many church members as possible in various

tasks associated with revival preparation and the revival meeting itself.

● **Publicity.** One critical aspect of revival preparation is publicity. The most effective publicity is a personal invitation to attend. A business card with information about the event could be printed and distributed to church members to use in inviting their family, friends, co-workers and neighbors. Church literature such as newsletters, worship guides and websites should provide pertinent information about the event. Depending on the budget allocated to publicity, the church could publicize the event via a local newspaper, television, yard signs and billboards. Publicity via Facebook, Twitter, blogs and other viral marketing strategies by the church and church members can generate a buzz in the community and beyond about the event.

● **Personal evangelism.** From my personal experience and observation, personal evangelism is the most productive way of preparation for revival meetings. Even though throughout the year as a pastor I was cultivating relationships with the lost, revival meetings provided an impetus for greater prayer and contacts with those without Christ.

● **Program for children.** One often neglected aspect of revival preparation is what to do with children. In one church I served as pastor, I became concerned about an apparent lack of participation by young couples. When asked, they responded by pointing to the fact that the church did not have anything for children during the revival week. From

Continued on page 13

## Are you ‘All In?’

In just a little more than one week North Carolina Baptists will gather for our (Baptist State) Convention’s 181st annual meeting. This year our theme of “All In” is based on 1 Timothy 2:3-6, which tells us that God wants all people to know Him.

I have been praying for the messengers who are preparing to attend the meeting. I am praying that “All In” will become more than just another meeting theme; I hope it will become the theme of our lives.

Be reminded that Jesus Christ was all in when He died on the cross so our sins could be forgiven. He was all in when He left all of heaven’s glory to humble Himself and come to earth as an infant.

He wants us to reach the whole world with the message of hope; with the message of the gospel. He gave up everything

in order that we could have a redemptive message to share. Are you all in? Are you willing to do whatever God asks of you in order that more people will hear the gospel and have an opportunity to respond?

I pray God will use our time in Greensboro to help us truly examine our hearts, repent of sin, abandon the desires of the flesh and radically commit our lives to pursue His will.

There will be multiple opportunities during four theme interpretations to consider what it means to be “All In” for Jesus Christ.

We will also observe four special times of worship through prayer, as different individuals from North Carolina Baptist

churches guide us in praying.

There will be a special presentation that I hope you will not miss on Monday evening: Find it Here 2012: Expanding the Kingdom. Find it Here is our three-year emphasis on evangelism, discipleship and missions mobilization.

For the past two years North Carolina Baptists have stepped up and responded to the challenge to become more intentional in evangelism and discipleship, and we have seen God work in extraordinary ways in some of our churches.

During this third year of Find it Here our attention turns to missions mobilization. We pray that every North Carolina Baptist and every North

Carolina Baptist church will take another step toward missional living and do more than ever before to impact the spiritual darkness around them and in other places of this world.

You can learn more about Find it Here 2012 by visiting the Find it Here booth in the exhibit hall or attending the Find it Here break out session Tuesday afternoon.

We will have many break out conferences that will address various topics, as well as a host of exhibitors offering great ministry resources. A complete listing of these sessions and exhibitors is available at [ncannualmeeting.org](http://ncannualmeeting.org).

Much more information about the annual meeting can be found at this website. Take some time to visit the site and make your plans. I hope to see you in Greensboro. **BR**



JAKE ROUDKOVSKI  
Guest Column



MILTON A. HOLLIFIELD JR.  
BSC executive  
director-treasurer



# Baptists work best together

In over 40 years of ministry I have enjoyed the privilege of ministering in small churches, large churches and every size in between. There are advantages and disadvantages in churches of every size. But there is value in each, also. It is my conviction that God has a purpose for every local body of Christ.

It does not take a genius to discover common characteristics in Baptist churches. On the spiritual side we can identify the truths of one Lord, one Spirit, one Father, one Word and all else that God promises every gathering of believers. But on the human side, the common denominator frequently is ego, self focus, and the desires of selfish flesh.

One destructive expression of that flesh comes in the form of corporate self-sufficiency. It is easy to convince ourselves that we do not need other churches. We have a great church; we are wonderful people; we love each other; we can do the work of the kingdom without the help of others. At least that is what we say to justify our independent, isolated activities.

Paul begins Romans 14 with a discussion on God's principles of conscience. He talks about the exercise of conscience by respecting both the value and the

practices of fellow believers. He gives a few examples. Some Christians have convictions about diet and some about Sabbath observance.

After six verses on these matters of conscience, he reminds us that we are connected to each other. We do not live independently of other believers. "For not one of us lives for himself, and not one dies for himself; for if we live, we live for the Lord, or if we die, we die for the Lord; therefore whether we live or die, we are the Lord's" (Rom. 14:7-8, NASB).

In other words, the Kingdom is not about us and it's not about our personal preferences. The church is about followers of Jesus Christ who live for the Lord. We need each other. We need to keep the focus on God together.

If we are committed to God's Kingdom work, we can't afford to work in an environment of isolation. Too much is at stake!

The uniqueness of Southern Baptists is our willingness to work together. We pool our resources to do missions with greater strength. We cooperate with

other churches because we believe no single church can do God's will alone. We partner in our labors because God is glorified when His people serve Him together.

It is a pitiful thing to see a church fellowship minimize the value of connecting with and working with other churches. The arrogance of that view will ultimately lead to the implosion of that local body. Pride goes before a fall.

One way to deny the dangerous path of self sufficiency is participation in the "big picture." Attending the annual meeting in Greensboro is a great place to start. I highly value the annual meeting of North Carolina Baptists each November. It is a time to connect in fellowship, to hear what God is doing in our sister churches, to understand the vision of cooperation and to decisively commit ourselves to specific cooperative ministry and mission projects.

The wise writer of Ecclesiastes said it this way, "A cord of three strands is not quickly torn apart" (Ecc. 4:12b, KJV). There is great strength in numbers. We can do so much more together!



K. ALLAN BLUME  
Editor

The book of Acts tells us how the early church began and grew. They worked "together," a word used 34 times in Acts.

- Jesus gathered His disciples **together** to tell them to wait for the promise of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:4).

- As 120 believers gathered **together**, Peter explained to them the prophetic meaning of the crucifixion (Acts 1:15).

- On the day of Pentecost they all gathered **together** in one place (Acts 2:1).

- Those who had believed were **together** and had all things in common (Acts 2:44).

- Daily they continued with one mind, taking their meals **together** with gladness and sincerity (Acts 2:46).

You get the picture. They understood the power of working **together**. A spirit of independent isolation would quench the Spirit and destroy their mission.

My prayer for N.C. Baptists is that we will discover the awesome power of God's purpose as we partner **together** to fulfill His assignment for us. Reserve time in your schedule to attend the Pastors' Conference and the N.C. Baptist Convention, November 6-8 in Greensboro. I believe you will find fresh inspiration and renewed challenge to serve our Father as we work **together** for His glory. **BR**

## 10 revival meeting tips

Continued from page 12

that day forward, in addition to a typical childcare, we provided a specialized program for children during revival services. When young couples knew that their children were taken care of spiritually, they were more inclined to participate and to invite their lost friends and family members to attend.

- **Possible meals.** Another response the young couples gave me for their lack of participation was that they did not have time to prepare a meal and get to the worship service after work. As a result, we began to provide catered meals during week nights. We offered tickets for a nominal price with a major portion of the

meal subsidized by our church budget. Church members were more predisposed to invite people to their church when their invitation was accompanied by an invitation to a nice meal before the service during a busy week.

- **Post-event follow-up.** In preparation for revival meetings, post-event follow-up should not be overlooked. Billy Graham once commented that the most difficult part of his crusades was not what happened before the crusade but what happened after it was conducted. The same is true of local church revival meetings. As soon as the revival meeting concludes, names of those who made spiritual commitments can be distributed among deacons and/or Bible study group

members for further follow-up.

- **Prayer.** The most significant aspect of revival meetings must be prayer. The genuine revival can be brought only by God. Only God can save individuals through His Holy Spirit. As the church leadership and membership engages in prayer, they acknowledge their dependence on God. From establishing the primary purpose of the revival meeting to seeking right individuals for the revival team, from publicity to personal evangelism, from taking care of spiritual needs of children to post-event follow-up, the church leadership and membership must prioritize prayer. Church leaders should set aside personal time to pray for genuine revival as well as provide oppor-

tunities for church members to pray for God's movement in their church.

In identifying causes of perceived ineffectiveness of revival meetings, church leaders become more equipped to address challenges. By employing simple ways such as prayer, purpose, publicity and preparation, churches place themselves in the position for God to bring a harvest of souls. Let God grant us more souls for His glory as we employ revival meetings in our churches!

(EDITOR'S NOTE – Jake Roudkovski is assistant professor of evangelism at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. This column is a summary of an article published in the book, Mobilizing a Great Commission Church for Harvest.) **BR**

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**November 6****BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE****November 13**

## Accept the Call

**Focal Passage: Exodus 3:1-6, 10-15; 4:10-12**

One of my heroes is Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu, later known as Mother Teresa, founder of The Missionaries of Charity. At her death in 1997 her mission had 610 missions operating in 123 countries. What we know best of Mother Teresa was her work among the poorest in Calcutta, India. She began this work with no money and no buildings, but forged ahead by starting an open-air school for slum children. Soon she would have 13 volunteers, and at her death, there would be 4,000 agents of mercy, mostly women, continuing her work. According to biographers, this little Albanian woman received her calling at age 12. She knew she was to be a missionary to spread the love of Christ. At 18 she joined the Sisters of Loreto, and in a few years would find herself in India. On Sept. 10, 1946, she received what she described as her “call within the call.” She had been teaching at a school in Calcutta, but the suffering and poverty she witnessed outside the convent walls compelled her to find a way to help them.

When she petitioned her superiors, she was granted permission to devote her full efforts to helping “the least of these.” According to one writer, Mother Teresa’s story was one more of persistence. She began with nothing but faith and her call, which sustained her through periods of doubt, loneliness, and the temptation to return to the safe haven known as the convent.

Today’s lesson focuses on Moses and his call from the Lord as he encountered Him through the burning bush experience at the “mountain of God.” Moses’ credentials were unimpressive. He was a fugitive, and had spent what we call the “prime years” as a shepherd. Probably few people other than his immediate family viewed Moses as a leader. Nonetheless, God called Moses. Further, this was not an insignificant calling. God had enormous plans – plans for Moses to be the leader who would deliver the Hebrews out of Egypt. Moses would accept God’s call that day: hesitant, insecure, but willing.



**WAYNE PROCTOR**  
Pastor, Eure  
Baptist Church

**Focal Passage: Exodus 32:7-20, 25-26**

I follow professional football probably more than I should. One benefit, however, is observing leaders in action. It is not always about talent, but about how one composes oneself and performs in difficult situations. An example might be Kurt Warner. He spent years as a journeyman quarterback, never giving up and most importantly, standing up for Jesus whether his team won or lost. God would bless Warner with a Super Bowl victory and MVP accolades. Recently I’ve been watching Tony Romo, quarterback of the Dallas Cowboys. He’s

botched his share of plays, but I’ve never heard him blame someone else. I have heard him take personal responsibility for these failures because he recognizes he is one of their key leaders.

At this point in Moses’ life, he was granted a unique opportunity. God was giving him the portion of the Law that would be known as the 10 Command-

ments. At this moment life was “better than good” for Moses. He was with God. Meanwhile, at the base of the mountain, the people were turning to idolatry. Worst, his trusted brother Aaron was complicit. In an instant glory had turned to disaster. It would be Moses’ obligation to leave the presence of God to solve the problem below. What we find striking, however, is not so much what would later happen on the ground, but what was happening between God and Moses. Moses was angry, and God was angrier, so angry that He wanted to “destroy” the idolaters. One zap and Moses would have an easier path to lead all compliant followers to not only obey the law, but to complete the pilgrimage to their physical destination. Moses, however, stood up for the people even in the face of God’s wrath. He petitioned God to spare the Hebrews.

Because Moses stood up for his people, God “changed His mind.” To Moses’ credit, just because he wanted mercy for his people, he did not compromise his faith. The calf was destroyed, the people would pay penance, and Moses would steadfastly stand for God.

**November 6****EXPLORE THE BIBLE****November 13**

## Can You Be Counted On?

**Focus Passage: Romans 13:1-14**

In Romans 13, Paul continues to lay out the practical implications of surrendering our lives to Christ as living-sacrifices (12:1). One way we show our love for, and obedience to, Christ is by living in submission to the civil authority He has ordained and placed over us, namely the government. This doesn’t mean that we must blindly follow the government, even if doing so would cause us to sin. If forced to choose between obeying God or government, we must obey God. Paul makes clear, however, that government is a good gift from a gracious God and is necessary for maintaining civil peace and order because of the corruption of the human heart.

Therefore, the civil government serves both a protective function and a teaching function. It protects in that it maintains civil peace and order by holding people accountable for their actions. It teaches in that it reminds people that our actions have consequences, and that ultimately, we are accountable to God, not government, for those actions. This is why Paul says, “whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and

those who resist will incur judgment” (13:2, ESV). Whether it is paying taxes, or submitting to government in some other way, the Christian shows his submission to God’s authority by also obeying the civil authority God has ordained.

Believers should also demonstrate their surrender to God by the way we live toward others. Paul reminded the Romans in 7:4 that they had died to the law. They were, then, not simply to avoid adultery, murder, theft and covetousness with regard to their neighbors. They were instead to show unconditional love to their neighbors, as God had shown unconditional love to them. One commentator said, “As believers, we do not live under the Law; we live under grace. Our motive for obeying God and helping others is the love of Christ in our hearts.” That is a strong motive indeed!

In light of Christ’s promised return, we should be watchful and faithful, starving our flesh and living for Christ’s glory in every aspect of our lives.



**RANDY MANN**  
Minister of education  
and evangelism, Wake  
Cross Roads Baptist  
Church, Raleigh

## Do You Show Respect to Others?

**Focus Passage: Romans 14:1-12**

Have you ever seen a particular issue differently than another Christian? Obviously, yes! How, then, are we to handle these situations

when they arise? This passage indicates we should show love and respect for other believers in these situations. But why? This week’s lesson presents four reasons: our acceptance by God; Christ’s death for us; our family relationship; and our accountability to God. I want to note two others here.

One is the unity issue. Christ died for us and the Holy Spirit indwells us, making us one in Christ. Therefore, the unity of the Spirit should be clearly evident among believers.

This does not mean that we will always agree on everything.

The believers in Philippi certainly did not, which prompted Paul to write, “let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ ... standing firm in one spirit, with one mind, striving side

by side for the faith of the gospel” (Phil. 1:27). He also admonished the Ephesian believers to walk “with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace” (Eph. 4:2-3).

The unity issue sets the stage for the second issue, evangelism.

As we demonstrate love for, and unity with, our brothers and sisters in Christ, we set the stage for more effective evangelism. As we share a message about a God who loves us and has reconciled us to Himself and one another, that message should not only be heard from us but also seen in us. Jesus said that our love for one another corroborates our claim that we are His (John 13:35).

Unfortunately, Christians today are better known for throwing rocks at each other and “shooting our own wounded” than for our love for each other.

This passage is not calling us to overlook obvious sin or to “agree to disagree” about some clear scriptural teaching. It is calling for us to love and humbly respect one another, reminding each other that our ultimate accountability is to God, our loving Father and righteous Judge.





Kourri has met her Savior Jesus at Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina (BCH). Her stay at BCH has been supported by North Carolina Baptists through the annual offering in November. Resources to promote the offering are available at [bchfamily.org/offering](http://bchfamily.org/offering). (BCH photo)

## Baptist Children's Homes changed Kourri's life

Continued from page 2

Since that day, houseparent Alicia Wilkerson has seen Kourri blossom. "She's changed immensely – her attitude and desires. She's one of the most loving children I've ever come across. Kourri will put anybody before herself."

"The Lord means everything," Kourri said. "He's what keeps me going every day. And knowing He's by my side makes me happy."

That happiness radiates from Kourri wherever she goes and to whomever she comes across.

"She loves the Lord, and she shares that with everybody," Arnsdorff said. "She wants them to know what a difference the Lord has made in her life."

Through Baptist Children's Homes, Kourri's relationship with her family has

been healed. The teen continues to live at Broyhill Home because Steven believes it is the very best place for his daughter.

"If I wasn't here at Broyhill, or without any of these people in my life, I wouldn't be the same person," Kourri says. "I just wouldn't be me. This is a new Kourri."

Kourri's life is changed because of the prayers and support of North Carolina Baptists. Seventy percent of the residents who come into Baptist Children's Homes' care are unchurched and unaware of Christ's life-

changing love. Participating in this year's Annual Offering helps BCH share God's love with boys and girls like Kourri. Visit [bchfamily.org/offering](http://bchfamily.org/offering) to view Kourri's video. Call (800) 476-3669, ext. 1209, to order free offering promotional materials for your church. **BR**

**"The Lord means everything."  
– Kourri**

### The Week of Prayer – Nov. 13-20

Set aside a week to pray for Baptist Children's Homes and use this guide as you pray. BCH covets your prayers. As you pray, remember you are a part of "helping hurting children ... healing broken families."

- **Sunday.** Pray for all children and families in North Carolina.
- **Monday.** Pray for all the hundreds of children and families to whom we offer hope each year.
- **Tuesday.** Pray for all the dedicated houseparents, residential care givers, and chiefs who give of themselves around the clock to care for our boys and girls.
- **Wednesday.** Pray for our social workers who guide, encourage and challenge our children and families to be all that God intends.
- **Thursday.** Pray for those who live at BCH's nine statewide homes for developmentally disabled adults.
- **Friday.** Pray that you will be sensitive to hurting children in your community.
- **Saturday.** Pray for BCH president Michael C. Blackwell as he leads the institution boldly into the future.
- **Sunday.** Pray BCH's residents will come to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

## Economy forces LifeWay trustees to weigh Glorieta's future

RIDGECREST (BP) – Trustees of LifeWay Christian Resources heard reports of health and progress from divisional vice presidents during their semiannual meeting on Sept. 12-13 at LifeWay Ridgecrest Conference Center in North Carolina. A recommendation on the future of operations at Glorieta Conference Center in New Mexico highlighted reports of new initiatives underway to strengthen the organization during a climate of challenging economic uncertainties.

### Finance & business services

Jerry Rhyne, vice president of the finance and business services division and LifeWay's chief financial officer, said that a bleak economic outlook continues to impact business practices as LifeWay approaches 2012.

Rhyne brought a proposal to trustees – which was passed after open discussion – to reduce operations at Glorieta Conference Center, effective Nov. 1, 2011, to a facility offering only summer events for student groups.

Significant changes in church practices, continued rising fuel and utility costs, Glorieta's remote location, an aging infrastructure, a volatile economy, and changes in state convention structures have combined to make financial viability increasingly difficult at Glorieta, Rhyne said.

"As a matter of fiscal stewardship, LifeWay must control costs and manage resources in order to provide biblical solutions for life to individuals and churches in the most effective way," Rhyne said. Rhyne asked trustees to approve a new strategy for Glorieta which would include Glorieta becoming a summer-only facility for student groups, effective Nov. 1, 2011. In 2012, Centrifuge Camps and Collegiate Week will continue as usual. Additionally, trustees approved pursuing viable options for the disposition of the property including, but not limited to, sales to or alliances with SBC entities, state conventions and other ministries. Rhyne pointed out that LifeWay bylaws require trustee approval before any sale of all or part of campus property.

As a summer-only facility, Glorieta will reduce its staff from 23 to seven employees.

During summer operations, the regular summer workforce will continue to be aided by summer staffers and volunteers. The LifeWay Christian Store on location will also cease operation, effective Nov. 1, 2011.

For a complete statement on the Glorieta action, visit [GlorietaConferenceCenter.org/Statement](http://GlorietaConferenceCenter.org/Statement).

Above and beyond the economic environment, Rhyne reported that LifeWay also faces challenges in areas related to employee medical insurance, budgeted salary increases, consumer credit and debit card costs, cyber insurance, the increasing cost of meeting customer expectations, and changes in church practices.

Rhyne reported that LifeWay will wrap up 2011 slightly below budgeted expectations and has a budget for 2012 of almost \$498 million.

### LifeWay Christian Stores

Mark Scott, vice president of the retail division, shared with trustees his optimism for LifeWay Christian Stores during a volatile economy.

"Going through a storm is always difficult," Scott said. "But we are successfully navigating through the storm and we are very excited about the opportunities for LifeWay Christian Stores."

Despite challenging times in the retail market area, "marketplace opportunities continue to open up for us," Scott reported, noting that LifeWay already is positioned as a market leader in multichannel options for consumers and churches.

"We know that digital channels are growing," he said. "But we also know our customers are very engaged in brick-and-mortar stores. We are well-positioned to engage in the multichannel options."

Scott said the retail division is experiencing solid results in operations and seeing ministry expansion on multiple fronts in addition to deploying innovative practices to engage new audiences.

### Honoring Adrian Rogers' legacy

The life and legacy of Southern Baptists' "Prince of Preachers" was honored by trustees of LifeWay Christian Resources on the first night of their semiannual meeting.

On what would have been Adrian Rogers' 80th birthday, Sept. 12, trustees presented a resolution to his widow Joyce Rogers and her son Steve, who serves as president of the Adrian Rogers Pastor Training Institute.

Thom S. Rainer, president and CEO of LifeWay, called Rogers "one of the giants of Southern Baptist life." He told trustees that adopting a resolution of appreciation recognizing the life and continuing ministry impact of Adrian Rogers – "will be one of the highlights of your service as trustees." Rainer said Rogers' "homegoing" left a large void.

(EDITOR'S NOTE – For full coverage of the LifeWay meeting, visit [BRnow.org](http://BRnow.org).) **BR**



## Poll: Pastors say Mormons not Christians

By DAVID ROACH | Baptist Press

**M**ost pastors feel strongly that Mormons are not Christians, according to a survey by LifeWay Research. The survey polled 1,000 American Protestant pastors and asked them to respond to the statement: “I personally consider Mormons (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints) to be Christians.”

Three-quarters (75 percent) disagree with the statement, including 60 percent who strongly disagree and 15 percent who somewhat disagree. Just 11 percent somewhat agree, 6 percent strongly agree and 9 percent do not know.

“Though pastors believe overwhelmingly that Mormonism is not Christianity, their opinions should not be (viewed as) personal scorn for Mormons,” said Ed Stetzer, vice president of research and ministry development at LifeWay Christian Resources. “A person can respect a religious group and even appreciate their commitment to traditional moral values without equating their beliefs with Christian orthodoxy.”

Mormonism has come into the public eye in recent years with the rise of prominent adherents like Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney, U.S. Senate majority leader Harry Reid and conserva-

tive talk show host Glenn Beck. According to a 2009 study by the Pew Research Center, Mormons comprise 1.7 percent of the U.S. adult population and 58 percent of Utah’s population – the state founded by early Mormon leaders. In comparison, evangelical Protestants and Roman Catholics each make up about a quarter of the U.S. population (26 percent and 24 percent respectively).

Seventy-six percent of the U.S. Mormon population is concentrated in the West, with 35 percent in Utah, 13 percent in California and 7 percent in Idaho.

In the Pew study’s measure of intensity of religious belief and practice, Mormons ranked higher than evangelical Protestants, Catholics and mainline Protestants. A full 83 percent of Mormons say religion is very important in their lives, compared with 56 percent of the general population. Three-quarters of Mormons (76 percent) attend church at least once a week, compared with 39 percent of the general population. Pastors’ self-identification as either mainline or evangelical was a predictor of their opinions regarding Mormons. While two-thirds (67 percent) of evangelicals strongly disagree that Mormons are Christians, just 48 percent of mainline pastors feel the same.

Mainline pastors are more likely than their evangelical counterparts both to

strongly agree that Mormons are Christians (9 percent to 3 percent) and to somewhat agree (16 percent to 9 percent).

Pastors 65 and older are the least likely age bracket to strongly disagree that Mormons are Christians, with 48 percent holding that opinion. Pastors whose highest education level is not beyond a bachelor’s degree are more likely to be unsure about Mormons than pastors who hold a graduate degree.

“It is inevitable that pastors will be approached with questions from their parishioners regarding the Mormon belief system,” Stetzer said. “All ministers would do well to learn about Mormonism and have an answer ready.”

The phone survey, conducted Oct. 7-14, 2010, sampled randomly selected Protestant churches. Each interview

Among American Protestant pastors

**“I personally consider Mormons (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints) to be Christians.”**



was conducted with the senior pastor, minister or priest of the church called and responses were weighted to reflect the geographic distribution of Protestant churches. The completed sample of 1,000 phone interviews provides a 95 percent confidence that the sampling error does not exceed +3.2 percent. Margins of error are higher in subgroups.

(EDITOR’S NOTE – David Roach is a pastor and writer in Shelbyville, Ky.) **BR**

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