

BAPTIST BIBLE TRIBUNE

NOVEMBER 2009 | VOL. 60 NO. 3 | \$1.95

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for the scars



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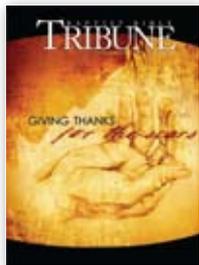
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BAPTIST BIBLE TRIBUTE

VOL. 60 NO. 3

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On the Table

By Keith Bassham



A visit with a hero

When I visit my kids in the Washington, D. C. area, I generally go into amateur historian mode. In that mindset, I am liable to head down any road marked with some sort of indicator of historical significance. It makes for inefficient traveling, but I learned long ago not to exalt “making good time” to the top of the priority list. That leaning led me this past summer to the home of Woodrow Wilson in Staunton, Virginia, and then later to the birthplace and home of Alvin York.

Alvin Cullum York was born in Pall Mall, Tennessee, northeast of Nashville and not far from the Kentucky border. His family was dirt poor, and York grew up hard and fast. He was given to violence and alcohol in quantity, but that changed when he and lifelong friend Rosier Pile were converted to Christ. The two were in their late 20s. Pile went on to become the pastor of the church where they were converted, and York became a Sunday school teacher and song leader.

York was an excellent marksman, helping to feed his family with a muzzle-loader rifle, with more in common with a Daniel Boone or a Jed Clampett than a war hero.

But he was humble, self-reliant, God-fearing, and somewhat typical of the thousands of others who were reluctant to fight unless sufficiently provoked.

When war broke out in 1917, York received a draft notice, and he sought conscientious objector (CO) status. His pacifist belief was sincere, but because his church, the Church of Christ of

Christian Union, was not a recognized church or sect with pacifist beliefs, the status was denied. So at the age of 30, York, with great reservations, reported to Camp Gorgon, Georgia, to receive his basic training.



At camp, his superiors thought it strange that such an excellent marksman should not want to fight. According to York's diary, he did receive documents regarding his CO status while at camp, but he did not sign them. Other accounts indicate that he was convinced of the moral rightness of the war by his commander, G. Edward Buxton. What-

ever happened in camp, York shipped out to the Argonne in Europe with the 82nd Division (the All American division).

In October 1918, York proved himself a hero on the battlefield, and by wars end, he possessed the highest military honors not only from his native country, but European ones as well.

But if all you know of York is what you learned in the movie bearing his name, you miss a good deal. York refused to capitalize on his celebrity status. Instead, he returned to his rural home with a burden to educate the youth of his impoverished area. He began a Bible school and an agricultural school, and lobbied politicians on behalf of literacy and education.

While visiting the York home I learned of a present-day effort to restore and reopen the long abandoned Bible school. Speaking of which, the home and mill York operated are still standing and worth a stop. There is a small Bible study library owned by York, some WWI memorabilia, and mounds of information about his later life. You can visit the cemetery near the place where Alvin York found Christ and see the memorial built to honor him, the gravesites of his friend and pastor, Rosier Pile, and other members of the York family. Some parts of the area are

little changed from York's early years, and the roads I traveled that day in late June provided a memory I will think on this Veteran's Day.

Alvin York's blend of faith, patriotism, courage, humility, giving, and activism gives such a contrast with the characters held out as heroes and memorialized by the culture-makers today.



National Fellowship Meeting news

Months ago, the theme for the BBFI September 2009 meeting was set by the planners for the meeting: “Let God Arise.” The many hours of preparation and plans saturated in prayer were well invested. Now that the fall meeting is history, we must all express our appreciation to Pastor Mike Frazier and the wonderful people of Canton Baptist Temple. They were well organized and greeted each guest with gracious Midwestern hospitality. The theme became a reality as the name of our precious Lord was magnified through the preaching, testimonies, and music. The presence of the Lord was very evident. Elmer Towns and Jonathan Falwell of Lynchburg, Virginia, were our guests, and their challenge left us inspired and encouraged to move forward for the cause of Christ. It was a historic experience to witness Jerry Falwell’s (a graduate of Baptist Bible College) induction into Canton Baptist Temple’s Christian Hall of Fame.

Our business meeting was one of the best attended in years. Every entity of the Fellowship gave a great report. In our National Directors’ meeting, we challenged the directors, along with those state chairmen who attended, to take their responsibilities seriously. Luke 12:48 “For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required.” That challenge included two aspects: (1) To be men of character (1 Corinthians 10:31) and (2) To be men of prayer (Jeremiah 33:3). We had a season of prayer before we proceeded with business.

Several of our mission policies were changed to accommodate prospective missionaries and new opportuni-

ties for our current missionary family. Three couples and one single were approved as career missionaries. One couple and two singles were approved for TEAM missions. One was approved for the chaplaincy. Many states had not reported their commitments for the Projects Offering at the meeting. Once these are received, we expect the goal of \$800,000 to be reached. New trustees were elected in both colleges and one couple was approved with the NCPO. The constitutional revision regarding voting was approved unanimously.

There were some changes on the Executive Committee. Second Vice-President Rob Hoffman resigned from his office to serve in a new position at Baptist Bible College in Springfield, Missouri. Keith Gillming was selected and ratified to complete his term. Third Vice-President Bruce Humbert resigned his position earlier in the fall to accommodate his busy schedule and plans for his church’s new construction. Dave Shaffer was selected and ratified to complete his term. He was serving as our treasurer. Therefore, we replaced him by selecting and ratifying Jim Stady as our new Fellowship treasurer.

It has been 39 years since the church in Canton hosted a BBFI meeting. I hope it won’t be that long again, as we experienced an awesome meeting!

As I stated in my previous article of the *Tribune*, we have entitled this coming year as “The Year of Revival.” Our future meeting locations were selected and voted on with a prayer that these meetings will stir our hearts toward a spirit of revival. Pastor Herb Hubbard and Bible Baptist Church in

Savannah, Georgia, have graciously opened their doors to host the next meeting, February 15-17. With revival in mind, we will use the word “Remember.” We are getting back to what made our Fellowship great with emphasis on church planting and growth.

Our 2010 May meeting in Springfield will emphasize the word “Rededicate.” Our preaching will be directed toward integrity and holiness. Our arrangements will be somewhat different as we will hold our Monday evening service at Cherry Street Baptist Church and our Tuesday evening service at High Street Baptist Church. On Wednesday we will challenge our Springfield churches to join us for a big gathering at BBC’s W. E. Dowell Fieldhouse.

Our 2010 September meeting will be held at Sauk Trail Baptist Temple in Richton Park, Illinois. The word we will emphasize is “Rekindle.” Along with missions, we will be challenged for prayer and preaching.

The last meeting we approved looks to be a historic one. Our Fellowship will conduct their first international meeting overseas. Pastor Armie Jesalva and his associate, Jun Lumagbas, have extended an invitation to our Fellowship as they host the 2011 BBFI February meeting in Cebu City, Philippines. The Philippines has long been one of our Fellowship’s most successful mission fields. We expect hundreds of Filipino pastors and workers, as well as a host of American pastors, staff members, and church members to attend. There should also be many missionaries and national pastors from other countries. Information for travel packages will be given in the future. Make plans to go!



DIGRESSIONS

Digressions incontestably are the sunshine; they are the life, the soul of reading.

-Laurence Sterne

Obama pledges “unwavering” support to gay causes

Using some of his strongest language to date in siding with the homosexual community, President Obama told a gathering of the Human Rights Campaign Saturday that his commitment to their cause was “unwavering” and that his administration, before he leaves office, would end the military’s Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell policy.

“I’m here with a simple message: I’m here with you in that fight” for homosexual causes, Obama, the keynote speaker, told those gathered at an event held by the nation’s largest homosexual activist organization.



“For even as we face extraordinary challenges as a nation, we cannot — and we will not — put aside issues of basic equality.”

Additionally, Obama repeated his stance for overturning the 1996 federal Defense of Marriage Act — which, if reversed, could force every state to recognize “gay marriages” from other states. He also stated his opposition to those who would “enshrine discrimination into our constitution” — a reference to a federal marriage amendment and presumably also state marriage amendments.

The text of Obama’s speech is available online at www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/Remarks-by-the-President-at-Human-Rights-Campaign-Dinner/.

Source: Baptist Press, by Michael Foust, www.bpnews.net

Worldwide Muslim population

1.57 billion

Muslims in the world today

23%

 of total world population

60%

 live in Asia

20%

 live in the Middle East and North Africa

38 million

 live in Europe

2.45 million

 live in U.S.

Source: Pew Research Center via CNS News, www.pewforum.org

Pro-Life Democrat promises to block healthcare bill if Pelosi blocks vote to amend/revoke abortion funding

The leading pro-life Democrat in the House has again renewed his pledge to stop the pro-abortion health care bills if House Speaker Nancy Pelosi won’t allow an amendment to revoke abortion funding. Rep. Bart Stupak of Michigan has repeatedly said as many as 40 pro-life and moderate Democrats could walk.

“There are many of us Democrats in the House who are philosophically, legally, and morally opposed to public funding for abortions,” Stupak told CNS News today.

“If our amendment is not made in order we will try to shut down the rule, preventing the health care bill from coming to the floor for a vote,” Stupak added.

He said he and a large coalition of pro-life Democrats and Republicans want a chance to vote on an amendment to remove the massive abortion subsidies and mandates found in the current bill, HR 3200.

Stupak’s amendment, which he is co-sponsoring with pro-life Republican Rep. Joe Pitts of Pennsylvania, reads: “No funds authorized under this Act (or an amendment by this Act) may be used to pay for any abortion or to cover any part of the costs of any health plan that includes coverage of abortion.”

Source: LifeNews, by Steven Ertelt, www.LifeNews.com

Up to one-third of dinosaur species may not have existed according to National Geographic theory

Many dinosaurs may be facing a new kind of extinction — a controversial theory suggests as many as a third of all known dinosaur species never existed in the first place.

That's because young dinosaurs didn't look like Mini-Me versions of their parents, according to new analyses by paleontologists Mark Goodwin, University of California, Berkeley, and Jack Horner, of Montana State University.

They say that the younger dinosaurs went through dramatic physical changes during adulthood, much like modern birds and some other living animals. This means many fossils of young dinosaurs, including *T. rex* relatives, have been misidentified as unique species, the researchers argue.

Others maintain there is not sufficient fossil evidence to confirm the "new extinction."

Source: National Geographic News, October 9, 2009

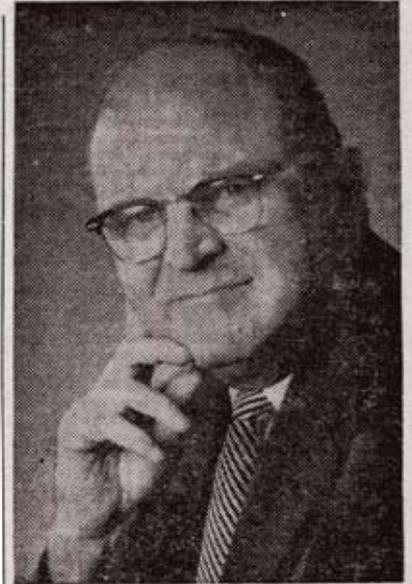
50 Years ago in the Tribune...

Donnelson in Ethiopia On Mission Business

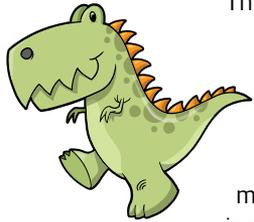
F. S. Donnelson, chairman of the Missions Committee of the Baptist Bible Fellowship, left Springfield by plane on Oct. 15 for Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, where he is now having conferences with officials of the Ethiopian Government and prominent evangelical leaders on the question of an agreement between the government and the Fellowship for admission of the Fellowship's missionaries to Ethiopia.

Dr. Donnelson will visit Paris, Rome, and Athens. He hopes to be able to return by Nov. 23—in time to make a report of his tour to the annual Thanksgiving meeting.

Story appeared in the October 30, 1959 edition of the *Tribune*.



F. S. Donnelson



U.S. birth rate 2% lower in 2008

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)-- Birth rates in the United States fell nearly 2 percent in 2008, marking the first decline since the start of the decade, according to a report by the National Center for Health Statistics.

In a separate study, the Guttmacher Institute (affiliated with Planned Parenthood) surveyed about 950 women between the ages of 18 and 34 whose household incomes were less than \$75,000 and found that more than four in 10 said the economy was affecting their decisions about having children.

Seventy-seven percent of the women agreed with the statement, "With the economy the way it is, I can't afford to have a baby right now." Others said they fear the consequences of pregnancy in an unstable job market.

Source: Copyright 2009 Baptist Press, www.bpnews.net.

Churches opening doors and services to social networking tools such as Twitter

As he begins his sermon at Woodlands Church, Pastor Kerry Shook tells parishioners to pull out their cell phones. "OK guys, you can start the twitters," he tells the crowd of about 250.

The nondenominational church recently started a new service encouraging parishioners to tweet their thoughts, reflections, and questions in 140 characters or less via Twitter, the popular microblogging social network.

Using the real-time messaging tool in church is gaining some steam nationwide and in Houston as some pastors look to make church more interactive, draw in new faces and appeal to younger demographics. Some see it as a diversion, but others — especially in contemporary services — are bringing smart phones to the pews and tweeting away.

At Woodlands Church, the tweets are reviewed by church staff and pop up on a screen behind Shook as he preaches.

He ignores them all until he's done speaking, at which point he takes a look

and addresses questions selected by a team backstage.

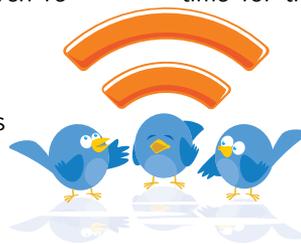
Shook says it's a way to make members feel they're part of the message. To ensure that worshippers still get quiet time for the meditative and contemplative elements of spirituality, the service continues to include communion and prayer.

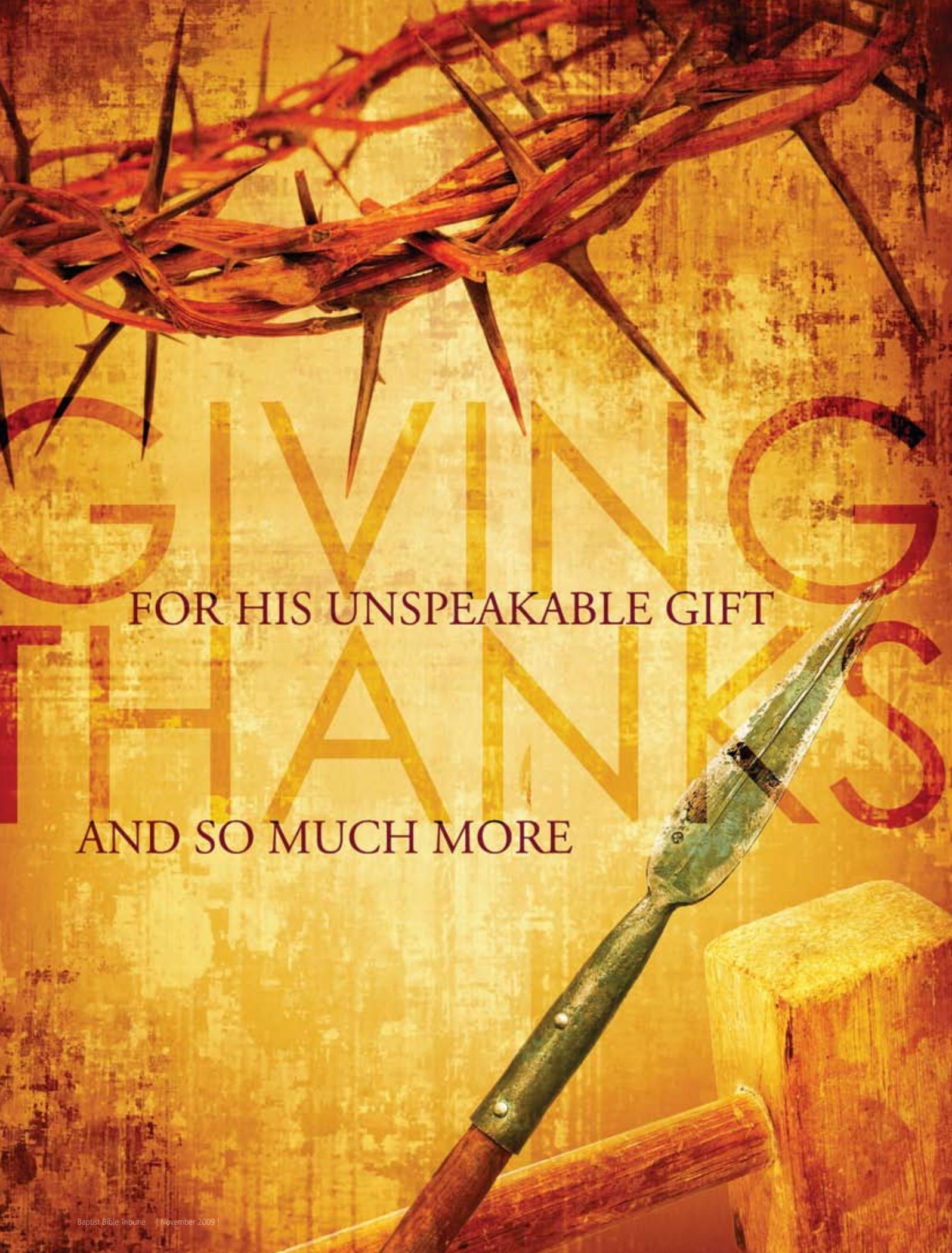
Still, some say the tweeting is distracting, not only for fellow worshippers but for those posting tweets, as well. It's more productive, they say, to focus on the message.

Many in the ministry are embracing technology and social networking as part of outreach and fellowship, but they generally encourage members to tweet — after the service is over.

Community leaders said they haven't seen Twitter gain similar traction among the Houston area's Jews, Muslims, or Hindus.

Source: Houston Chronicle, October 10, 2009.





GIVING
THANKS

FOR HIS UNSPEAKABLE GIFT

AND SO MUCH MORE

Thankful for the scars

BY BARB MILIONI

Thanksgiving is the time of year when we are encouraged to be thankful. We all know the story of the first Thanksgiving when the pilgrims and the Native Americans gathered together to celebrate the bountiful harvest that the Lord had given them. These participants in the first Thanksgiving were truly thankful to the God who had helped them to survive the harsh realities of the New World.

We are encouraged to follow their example and give thanks to the Lord for the bountiful harvest He has produced in our own lives. I am afraid that we have lost sight of what true thankfulness is. We spend a lot of time preparing for our Thanksgiving meal

minimize the appearance of scars. We do not want others to stare at or notice our scars, but they are there as a sign that we have healed. I see a horizontal scar on my stomach every day. I am thankful every day for that scar because it is that healed wound that gave me two of my children, Daniel and Mariah. I am so thankful for my children. They are a constant reminder of the kindness of God in answered prayer. My third child, a precious son, was stillborn. That event broke my heart and I was not sure that the wound would ever heal. I began to pray for another child. Daniel and Mariah were the answers to those prayers. I am thankful for the God who heard my

tained and all that is left to remind me of those difficult days is the scar. The scar was bright red and very painful after the surgery. The scar represented to me the unknowns — would the cancer return? Was it lurking somewhere else that the scans did not see? The scar began to heal and the fears subside each time Mark has a good check-up. The blood tests have been clear. There is no more cancer. The scar has now faded to a soft pink, but it will always be noticeable. I am so thankful for that scar.

Every time that I see it I thank God for His mercy in sparing my husband. Philippians 2:27 perfectly describes my reason for being thankful: “For indeed he was sick almost unto death; but God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow.”

I am so thankful for the scar that gave me more time with my dear husband. There is another set of scars for which I am eternally grateful. Jesus bears on His perfect body the marks of the nails that held Him to the cross. The scars on His hands and feet remind me of the love that was shown when Jesus chose to be the sacrifice for my sins. Jesus loved me enough to bear humiliation, shame, and intense pain on the cross. “He who knew no sin became sin for us.” Praise God for the scar. A scar is “the mark left behind by a healed wound.” People whose injuries result in death never produce a scar. Jesus conquered death, His wounds are healed, and I am thankful for His scars!

I am thankful, impressed with the kindness Jesus has given me, and I acknowledge my gratitude for all that He has done for me.

Thank you, Jesus, for your scars.

Barb Milioni is married to Mark Milioni, pastor of First Baptist Church of Medina, Ohio.

I am so thankful for the scar that gave me more time with my dear husband, but there is another set of scars for which I am eternally grateful.

and a little time really giving thanks.

Webster's defines thankful as, “feeling or expressing gratitude; appreciative.” There is a second meaning of thankful that is more indicative of the real reason for Thanksgiving. Thankful is also defined as being “impressed with a sense of kindness received and ready to acknowledge it; grateful.” It is this definition of thankful I have felt this year. I have been impressed with the sense of kindness that God has given me and I am ready to acknowledge it. God has made me thankful for scars.

“Scars?” you may ask.

Yes, scars. The marks left behind by a healed wound, sore, or burn. Millions of dollars are spent each year on products and procedures designed to

prayer and in His kindness answered them in such a wonderful way. I am thankful for the scars that allowed me to deliver them.

I am also thankful for the long vertical scar that extends across my husband's abdomen. Mark was diagnosed with appendiceal cancer, and the treatment for that particular kind of cancer is surgery to remove a portion of the large intestine. His surgery was scheduled for the Friday following Thanksgiving 2007. I did not know what the outcome of that surgery would be. Would the cancer be contained? Would it have spread? What was the extent of the damage that the cancer had done?

Praise God the cancer was con-

Thankful for all the Lord provides

BY MAXINE (MRS. DAVID A.) CAVIN

Editor's note: This article first appeared in the Baptist Bible Tribune, November 15, 1997. In view of the hard times so many are going through, we thought it an appropriate way to encourage faith and hope.

Dear Lord, it's Thanksgiving Day, and we don't have anything to eat. I know you'll take care of us, because you have promised to do so," was my prayer early in the morning of the most unforgettable Thanksgiving we ever had.

The previous June (1939), my husband, David A. Cavin, had been called to be the pastor of the Bible Baptist Church of El Reno, Oklahoma. In July, we and our two-year-old son, David E., moved to the city and began our ministry. (Our daughter RoJean was born in 1940.) We had been charter members of the Wichita Baptist Tabernacle when it was started by Art Wilson in the 1930s. My husband had been called to preach three years earlier. He worked for the Santa Fe Trail Transportation Company, but his heart was in the Lord's work. When the church issued a call to him in June, we both felt it was God's will. I was a 20-year-old pastor's wife and I was excited to be part of God's great work.

Before we went to candidate, I was told that the parsonage and church were ultra-modern. Soon I learned not to believe everything I was told. The parsonage next door to the church was fine. But the church had no toilets so

the people came to the parsonage to use the restroom. The church building also had a dirt floor. Somehow I failed to see how that was any improvement to the sawdust floor at the Wichita Baptist Tabernacle. My husband had to sprinkle water on the floor before each service to keep the dust down. There were no pews either. We sat on bridge planks. You had to sit still too, because those planks had nasty splinters.

Often, a few of the church kids ate some of the food I had prepared for Sunday, causing us to have some strange food combinations for lunch.

Both the church and parsonage were rented. The properties had not been cared for, either, and the grass was at least two feet tall when we arrived. It may seem strange today, but neither my husband nor I felt these circumstances were unreasonable or intolerable. We both felt it was a tremendous honor just to be called and serve in the Lord's work full time.

Besides the use of our bathroom, our parsonage was used for Sunday school classes too. Our next door neighbors were confirmed atheists and didn't appreciate the loud singing by the boys

and girls on Sunday morning.

Still, we were kind and friendly to our neighbors. We witnessed to them as best we could and they were cordial to us. My routine after services was much different from a normal pastor's wife, I'm sure. The first thing I would do was rush home and clean the bathroom. Then, we had to put the furniture back where it was supposed to be. Often, a few of the church kids ate some of the food I had prepared for Sunday, causing us to have some strange food combinations for lunch. We accepted these inconveniences as a small price for the privilege of serving the Lord.

At the start, the church was small, with only 29 members and still fewer in attendance. Those who came had a wonderful spirit, though, and had great compassion for the new pastor and his wife. We were promised \$10 per week in salary, but money was not even considered in our decision to move. My husband received his check after all the church bills were paid. This meant we often went without any salary whatsoever. He took no outside job either. We did a lot of visiting and soul-winning. The Lord called us to reach people. We knew that the offerings were given by people and we went after people for Him. When we were paid, we were very grateful, but we both felt unworthy to get money for doing the work of the Lord. Somehow, the Lord met our needs and we always had something to eat.

When Thanksgiving Day came in November of 1939, we were scraping the bottom of the barrel. We had no food in the house except enough to feed our two-year-old son some breakfast. We were both sad because this holiday

...yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread...

had always been so meaningful for our family. In the past, we always had more than enough food and usually enough leftovers to feed an army. As that morning went by, with no breakfast and nothing to cook for dinner, our hearts grew heavy. I reminded my pastor husband how God had supplied food for the children of Israel, the widow of Zarephath and her son, and had fed over 5,000 with only five loaves and two fishes. We knelt and prayed together. Our faith was weak and wavering. We knew the promises of God. Psalm 37:25



says, "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread." Isaiah 40:31 says, "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint." We asked the Lord to teach us to wait on Him.

About eleven o'clock that morning,

my husband teased me. "Honey," he said, "If we are going to eat, you better get something started."

I didn't have anything to fix, but by faith I set dishes out on the table. At noon, the table was bare except for the dishes. Then someone knocked on our front door. As my husband went to open that door, someone else began knocking at our back door.

I answered the back door. There was our neighbor holding a large bowl of mashed potatoes. She said, "I don't know what I was thinking about this morning, but I peeled too many potatoes for just the two of us. I'm wondering — could you use these?"

Boy, could I! I thanked her and as I came back into my kitchen, I met my husband coming in from the front with a large pan of chicken and noodles. The knock on the front door had been one of our members who had to leave for an emergency. The member asked if we could use their dinner.

What a blessing!

From the front to the back of our parsonage, God had provided our favorite food for Thanksgiving dinner. He even used our neighbors who didn't believe He existed to meet our needs. God was so good to us. He made that a Thanksgiving I will never forget.

Soon after that Thanksgiving, God touched the hearts of one of our families to help provide for us. The

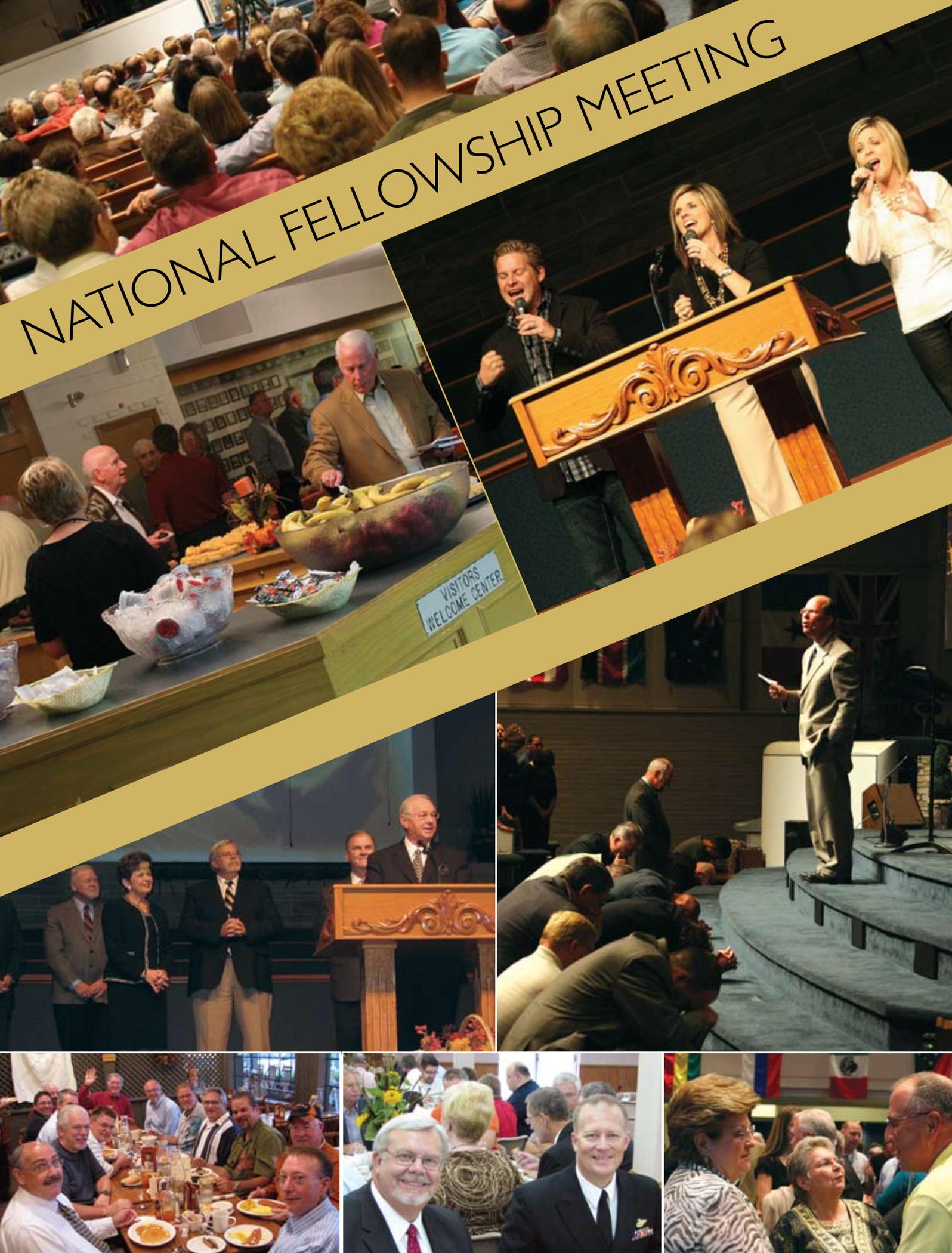
Eason family bought their groceries each Saturday. For some reason, they thought about us and they bought an extra bag of groceries and delivered it to us every Saturday. In those early days, if it wasn't for them, I don't know how we would have survived, not to say God wouldn't have done it some other way. During the 11 years we were in El Reno, we saw hundreds of people saved, including Howard Ingram, and the church grew from 29 to 500 members. Our attendance averaged over 300 per Sunday. God has blessed us over and over and over again and in more ways than I can count for all these years.

I have found that God has and will supply all our needs. Perhaps to us at times, He may seem a little late. Yet, in all these years, from July of 1939 until November of 1997, He has never failed to be there for me when I have had a need. We may not get our desires or wants, but He will supply our needs. Nothing lies outside the reach of prayer, except that which lies outside the will of God. I have learned that when we truly wait upon the Lord, He renews our strength, makes us fly, run and walk without being weary or being faint. Thank you, Lord, for being so good.

Maxine Cavin, and her husband, David A. Cavin, are now with the Lord.

Their ministry together spanned five decades and three churches: • Bible Baptist Church, El Reno, Oklahoma, 1939-1950 • Castleberry Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Texas, 1950-1964 • High Street Baptist Church, Springfield, Missouri, 1964-1986. Mrs. Cavin passed away earlier this year.

NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP MEETING





SEPTEMBER 20 -23 | CANTON BAPTIST TEMPLE | CANTON, OH

BBFI meeting in Canton viewed live by our missionaries worldwide

Through the excellent and efficient work of the Canton Baptist Temple technical crew, this was the first national BBFI meeting to feature live streaming video and audio on the Internet. Neal Wheeler of CBT reports:

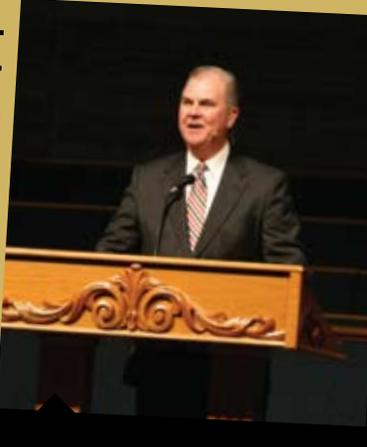
People from 39 states and 20 countries logged and viewed the live webcasts at some point during the week. Foreign participants were in Mongolia, South Korea, Japan, Thailand, Australia, Viet Nam, Malaysia, Dubai, Austria, Germany, France, Spain, UK, Ireland, Poland, Peru, Canada, Mexico, and Costa Rica.

On average, there were 136 viewers per session and, at one time during the Wednesday evening session (Steve Green and Jonathan Falwell), 286 unique IP addresses were recorded.





FROM THE PULPIT

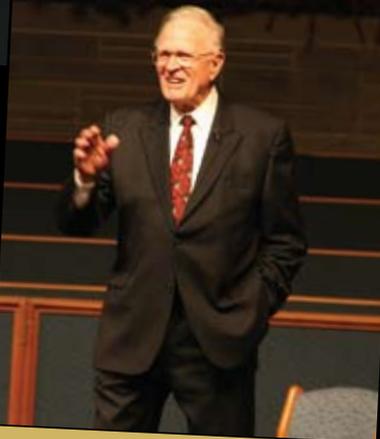


I want to be like Caleb,
I want to be around
where God has been and
where God is working!

- Jack Baskin

The current gospel
of success preaches
a quick fix, not a
permanent change.

- Mark Hodges



Ignor
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We've got to figure out what we can do to change our own hearts, so that we can change our churches, so that we can change our community.

- Jonathan Falwell



You can be as sure of what God says is going to happen tomorrow as you are of what happened yesterday.

- Linzy Slayden

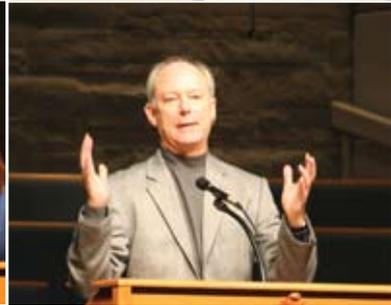
...any speculation that was "trapped" on the way to Jerusalem...He said that men would do the worst...and His father would do His best.

- Tracy Roby

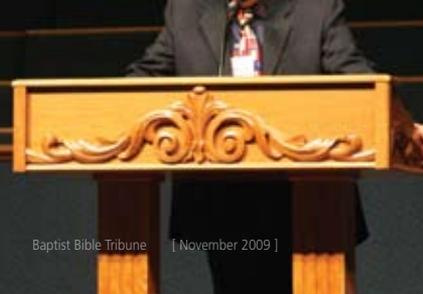


Because there's just never enough for any church to reach its area, giving to missions will always be a sacrifice for churches.

- Lewis McClendon



The next BBFI Meeting will be hosted by Bible Baptist Church and Pastor Herb Hubbard of Savannah, Georgia, February 15 - 17, 2010





A Legacy That Spans Three Generations

A legacy is something of value that survives you and is passed down to your children and grand children. It involves lasting principles, enduring qualities of character that enhance the lives of those that follow in our footsteps. In many cases, it is abstract and unseen, residing in the realm of memory and personal motivation. At other times, it takes the form of institutions, traditions, and ongoing opportunities that offer to reproduce in our offspring the foundations upon which our lives and ministries were built.

Baptist Bible College fulfills both of these definitions. Its history and impact are the stuff of legend, from its conception at the Texas Hotel, to its birth and infancy in the 1950s, to its heyday as the “Largest Bible College in the World” in the 1970s, through its times of struggle, to the hopeful spirit of optimism for its future that is evident on campus today.

There are now three generations of alumni that have benefitted from the legacy of Baptist Bible College and those generations are inseparably linked. The men and women who founded the school and who stirred the passion for missions and ministry in the first generation had shown the fruit of consistent lives and served as living examples of lifelong faithfulness to the young upstarts of the second generation. Now, as the third genera-

tion hits its stride, they glean valuable insights from those who taught their parents to honor God’s Word and give their all in service to the Lord.

The memories of BBC that each generation treasures are strikingly different in some ways and eerily similar in others, but the common thread that runs through them all is a legacy of godly men and women with a passion for serving their Lord investing their lives into the hearts and minds of young people with the call of God upon their lives. Each generation has faced its own challenges, but the embers of their passion for God have been consistently fanned into flame by the local pastors, chapel speakers, teachers, and administrators that they came in contact with on the campus of Baptist Bible College.

In the 50s, students saw and heard from men like John Rawlings and Art Wilson, whose examples as fiery preachers and tireless church planters challenged them to lay everything on the line as pioneers across this great country. In the 70s, students were challenged by men like W.E. Dowell and Parker Dailey, with

the heart of a pastor, to build a strong church and love their people. Today’s BBC students are challenged by young men like Mark Carter and Aaron Cavin, who carry on family traditions of faithful service to the Lord, and who call them to relevant, biblical ministry that can shake a postmodern world.

The network of resources, fellowship, encouragement, and accountability that being an alumnus of BBC provides has allowed each generation to have a major impact on their world. In the area of missions alone, Baptist Bible College has produced some of the most fruitful missionaries of our times. And the legacy continues in second and third generation missionaries doing great work all over the globe.

Yes, a legacy is something of value. It is something that endures. It has the ability to enhance the lives and the fruitfulness of those who benefit from it. As such, it is worth preserving. It is worth investing our lives, our resources, and our children in, so that if the Lord tarries, future generations will have the same opportunity to benefit from it that past generations have enjoyed.



A Family Leaving A Godly Legacy

as told by Marty Hughes

Gene Hughes was saved as a young teen at Central Baptist Church in Center, Texas. He surrendered to preach and left for Baptist Bible College in the fall of 1955. Jackie Martin Hughes was saved during her senior year of high school after the first week of a month-long tent revival at Southland Baptist Church in Paducah, Kentucky, and went to BBC in 1956.

They met and were married in August 1958, three months after Gene graduated. They stayed in Springfield and Jackie graduated in 1959. They took the pastorate of a small church in Nacogdoches,

Texas, where their son, Marty, was born in November of that year. Hughes pastored there for three years. He then went to work for Leland Kennedy at Wick Road Baptist Church in Taylor, Michigan, as his youth director. In 1965, Gene became the pastor of Racine Baptist Temple in Racine, Wisconsin, (one of only five BBF works there at the time) and pastored in Racine for 11 years. During their time in Racine, their daughter, Michelle, was born. In 1974, Gene started Racine Baptist School, one of the first ACE schools in the state of Wisconsin, and two years later, Marty graduated from there at the age of 16. He was a student at BBC three months before his 17th birthday, earning him the nickname "Baby Huey."

Besides being a pastor, Gene also served in a Christian school ministry at Twin Cities Baptist Church, Mishawaka, Indiana, and as associate pastor at Lakeland Street Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Texas. He served as the state chairman of the Kansas BBF for two terms and has been the national director from Kansas for the last ten years. Gene and Jackie will

retire in a few weeks, after 51 years of faithful ministry, from Colonial Heights Baptist Church, Wichita, Kansas, where he has pastored for more than 20 years. They plan to move to Grove and become active in the ministry of Independent Baptist Church, where Marty pastors.

While at BBC, Marty met his wife, Shelley Slabaugh Hughes. She was a business major and worked in the BBFI Mission Office. They were married in 1982, two years after Marty's graduation from BBC. They spent 10 years in youth ministry before taking a pastorate in Louisburg,

Kansas, in 1988. After five years, God led them to Oklahoma where they have enjoyed fruitful ministries at First Bible Baptist Church of Oklahoma City and Independent Baptist Church in Grove. They also served four years on the staff of Kingspark Bible Baptist Church in Oklahoma City after merging First Bible Baptist into Kingspark.

Their two children, Chelsea and Bobby, have both attended BBC. Chelsea graduated in May of 2009 and the next day boarded a plane to spend six weeks in the Philippines and 10 weeks in China. She earned a business degree from BBC and a Culinary Arts degree from Platt College in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. She was a three-time All-American basketball player at BBC, so she has put both her cooking skills and her basketball experience

to good use on the mission field. She is still undecided as to what her future holds, but God has laid a burden on her heart for the people of China and she is excited to see what God has in store for her. Bobby, a junior at BBC, is majoring in business and also plays basketball for the Patriots. He has been involved in the Hughes' ministry in Grove throughout his high school years and has been to the Philippines three times to minister with his dad and grandfather. He wants to be a doctor eventually but feels like he can get a solid foundation at BBC for whatever God has for him in the future.

Gene and Jackie's daughter and son-in-law, Mike (class of '89) and Michelle (class of '88) Flippo, live in Fayetteville, Arkansas, along with their two daughters, Ryann (15) and Reagan (12). Michelle works for Tyson Foods and Mike is a professional photographer, whose pictures have appeared in the *Tribune* and

in several BBC athletic department publications. They have been active in church ministry throughout their lives, both vocationally and as laymen.

They served as youth pastors in Kansas, college directors in Texas, and led a young-married class in California. Ryann is in the band at Fayetteville High School and performs ballet. Reagan takes after her cousin Chelsea and hopes to one day be a Lady Patriot basketball player. She served as the water girl for the team in 2008-2009.

In three generations, eleven members of the Hughes family have attended BBC and are actively serving the Lord.



From left: Mike Flippo, Ryann Flippo, Shelley Hughes, Gene Hughes, Chelsea Hughes, Reagan Flippo, Marty Hughes, Bobby Hughes, Jackie Hughes, and Michelle Flippo.

The School Of Influence On Our Lives

as told by Carrie Liles

The Kenneth D. Liles family story would not be complete without mentioning his parents, Ralph and Ruth Liles. In the fall of 1950, when Baptist Bible College opened its doors at High Street Baptist Church, Springfield, Missouri, Ralph Liles was in that first class. Ruth audited many classes. Dad Liles had answered God's call to ministry under Lester Singleton, Ramseur Baptist Church, Paris, Texas. He graduated in 1953 in the first class that went all the way through BBC.

After ministries in Bowling Green, Kentucky, and Lewisville, Texas, around 1960, all four of their children, Linda Burgess Capella (attended in '61), Kenneth Liles ('64 and '80), Kay Liles Beall ('72), and Paulette Liles Walker ('77) and Dalton Walker ('80) went to BBC. All are attending church or serving in full-time ministries.

Grandpa and Grandma Grape, as the great-grandkids call them,

worked in full-time ministry until they retired in 2000 with grandpa at 80 years of age. They now faithfully attend West Division St. Baptist Church, pastored by Charlie Bell ('87).

One of the children, Kenneth D. Liles, surrendered to be a missionary to Pakistan while still a teenager. The rest is a part of his story.

Ken married Carylon Morgan ('67 and '86) in 1964 and did an internship under Lon Stewart ('56) in Chicago, Illinois. They were approved as missionaries to Pakistan in September 1966. After trying to enter the country from the United States, they attempted to enter Pakistan via Iran. After dozens of trips to the Pakistani embassy, they were refused, so they remained in Iran. Little did they know they would be there for more than a decade and that God, through the language and knowl-



Ken and Carrie Liles

edge they gained in Iran, was preparing the Liles for "such a time as this" in the 21st century.

In 1979, with the war, the doors closed and God again changed their direction. Carrie has been affectionately called a gypsy – because she decided God knew better than she and goes with Ken wherever God leads.

Upon leaving Iran, BBC invited Ken to teach in the missions department until the war ended and there was stability. Thus, they have never been able to return. During his 13-year tenure at BBC, Ken developed 32 hours of mission courses and Carrie developed 12 for the ladies. Ken also chaired the department before moving on to Topeka, Kansas, to pastor South Knollwood Baptist Church. They were reinstated as RAN workers in 2000.

Ken and Carrie continued raising their six children here in the United States. All six went to BBC. David ('87) and Tonya Liles

Jonathan Liles and family



Rebecca Liles Day and family



Michelle Liles Garrison and family



David Liles and family



Daniel Liles and family



Ruth Anne Liles Doss and family



BBC Alumni Association News

Williams ('91) are missionaries in Lima, Peru; Daniel attended from 1985-86 and is in music ministry in Plano, Texas; Mychelle Liles Garrison ('93) and Brian Garrison ('94) are team missionaries in Lima Peru; Jonathan ('95) and his wife, Rebecca Hillenberg Liles, ('99), are missionaries to Rome, Italy; Rebecca Liles Day ('98) and Eric Day ('98) work with Berean Baptist Church, Pastor David Mills ('00, '02, '07), Mesquite Texas; and Ruth Anne Liles Doss ('01) and her husband, Steve ('01 and '04), are youth ministers at Antioch Bible Baptist Church, Gladstone, Missouri, pastored by Bob Baier ('79). As of this writing, there are 20 grandchildren 13 years and under.

"We are so thankful for what the college taught us through the discipline of classes and homework. They helped instill character into our lives. In this article, there are 22 former students of BBC connected to our family, including four pastors and five mates of our children. This does not include all of the other relatives who also attended or graduated. That is a lot of influence.

And now...we are praying for the fourth generation of Liles to live their lives to honor the Lord and prepare to serve Him if He calls. We are thankful for BBC, and highly recommend it as a viable Bible college to train future missionaries and pastors for tomorrow," says Carrie.

Alumni Project – The two common rooms in the men's dorms and the room that has been known as the Florida room in the women's dorm are in major disrepair. They have endured over a decade of use and need to be renovated and updated. The Alumni Association is raising money to re-carpet, repaint, and furnish these three rooms. The goal is to raise \$15,000 by December 1 and to recruit workers from around the Springfield area to actually do the renovation in early January. The Alumni Association vice-president in charge of the 2009 Alumni Project is Pastor Mark Carter of Capitol City Baptist Church in Des Moines, Iowa. Carter said, "Our first-class students ought to have first-class facilities." He will be coordinating the effort to raise the money in a timely manner so that the work can be done over the Christmas break. Your contribution to the project will go a long way toward enhancing student life on campus at BBC. If you would like to contribute to this worthy project, please contact Mark Carter at 515-289-1419.

Christmas Bonuses – One of the efforts that the Alumni Association has traditionally made at this time of year is to raise money to provide Christmas bonuses for the BBC faculty. These faithful men and women are the ones who keep the legacy alive. Please give generously so that we can be a blessing to the ones who have served so sacrificially through the years teaching and ministering to our students.

BBC Alumni Association President – Tim Wertz
 Editor of Alumni Insert – Marty Hughes
 VP in Charge of Alumni Project – Mark Carter
 Alumni Bios – Tammy Gamble

Join the Alumni Association and get your 2009 membership card today!

By becoming a member of the BBC Alumni Association, you partner with other alumni to enhance student life at BBC. The cost to become an Alumni member is \$25 annually. This money is used to enhance student life by providing scholarships, supporting student government, funding student and alumni events, and paying for Alumni campus projects.

- \$ _____ 2009 Alumni Membership (Alumni Card)
- \$ _____ 2009 Alumni Project
- \$ _____ Christmas Bonuses
- \$ _____ Alumni Operations
- \$ _____ Alumni Scholarship Fund

- \$ _____ Total



Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ E-mail _____
 Graduation Year or Last Year Attended _____

Make checks payable to: BBC Alumni Association
 628 E. Kearney
 Springfield, MO 65803

Email: timwertz@seminolebaptist.org

NEWLY APPROVED

Career missionaries



Jeanette Gillespie — Peru

Sending Church: First Baptist Church, New Castle, DE
Sending Pastor: Ron Sears
Contact Info: 302-328-4000, jeanette.gillespie@bbfmissions.org



Jonathan and Kimberly Williams — Mexico

Sending Church: First Independent Baptist Church, Austin, TX
Sending Pastor: Mike Marcellus
Children: Isabelle, Brendan, Olivia, Jackson
Contact Info: 512-280-5888, jonathan.williams@bbfmissions.org

Two families have been approved as missionaries to Restricted Access Nations (RAN). One family completed their internship at their sending church and the other through TEAM missions. Both may be contacted through the Mission Office.

TEAM missionaries



Pam Campbell — India

Assisting: David and Buliammayi Mallipudi
Sending Church: Southside Baptist Church, Knoxville, TN
Sending Pastor: Clarence Gresham
Contact Info: 865-573-1881, pam.campbell@bbfmissions.org



Jamie Newell — Nicaragua

Assisting: Brian and Rachael Weed
Sending Church: Lee's Summit Baptist Temple, Lee's Summit, MO
Sending Pastor: Fred Allen
Contact Info: 816-246-5537, jamie.newell@bbfmissions.org

A family will be going to a Restricted Access Nation (RAN) field as TEAM missionaries to assist a veteran RAN missionary. They may be contacted through the Mission Office.

Chaplain

**Army National Guard
Richard (RT) and Karen Stringer**
Sending Church: Indianapolis Baptist Tabernacle, Indianapolis, IN
Sending Pastor: Harvey Stringer
Contact Info: richard_stringer@conseco.com

SE Asia Miss

When tropical storm Ketsana struck the Philippines late last month, it dumped one month's worth of rain in Manila and outlying provinces in a matter of hours. The rainfall was the heaviest in the capital since 1967. But that was just the beginning. Other storms and typhoons followed, bringing more flooding and mudslides.

More than two million Filipinos were immediately affected and bodies are still being discovered in the aftermath. In one instance, seven bodies tied together by a rope were found buried in mud. Missionaries I have spoken with agree that they have never seen anything like this in the more than 50 years the Baptist Bible Fellowship has been active in the islands. Greg Lyons, BBFI missionary in Manila, gives this sample report:

As I circulated through the church, last Sunday, visiting with families and young people before the worship service began, my heart was blessed. Story after story was shared with me about how God sustained their lives during the recent flood. LuAnn and I spent time praying for these families during



hit with storms and typhoons

ionaries need our help for relief efforts

by the Tribune

the storm. Many had lost most of their belongings in the flood.

Our conversation was filled with stories of how they made it to church this weekend. Some rode military trucks through flooded areas till they could catch public transportation. Others paid local boatmen exorbitant fares for a ride. Still others shared how they walked through water up to their thighs. But they were there, at church, smiling, singing, giving praise to an almighty God who met their need in the storm.

Not much complaining or whining over the tragedy. In fact, the Filipino people are some of the most resilient people on earth! Filipinos withstand tragedy with a smile!

As the worship service began, the songs were all about living through the storms of life. In fact, our sermon topic on the weekend that the storm hit was "Turning Tragedy into Triumph!" This series was planned back in August and this specific message topic was scheduled at that time. Well, I guess God scheduled the topic to work with the coming storm He would allow.

As the people sang the words,

*You are my Rock, in You I stand,
safe in your arms that surround me.
You are my Rock, in You I trust,
safe from the storms that surround me!*

I wept. The Holy Spirit met with us. The people present had lived these words only days before. Often I feel unworthy to stand beside such incredible people of God, but this weekend was special. There were lots of hugs, always a word of gratefulness to God who protected whole families during the flood.

In our Floodway church, Pastor Julius told me how he had a record attendance during the storm! To my surprise, I asked how that happened. Pastor Julius told me about all the people who crowded in the church to escape the flood. So he decided to hold a worship service! They had 600 people in their small facility. No seating, just standing — elevator style! Some were saved, but because of the circumstance, there was no place to deal with them individually.

On October 3, during the Saturday service in Floodway, many people were still living in the church as evacuees. So Pastor Julius had all the people push their belongings over to one side of the

room and held their regularly scheduled Saturday night service. Twenty-one were saved during the service! One man, Miguel Lazo, age 51, accepted Christ that evening. The next day, Sunday morning, Miguel walked across the street, had a heart attack, and went home to be with the Lord. Miguel found Christ in the midst of the storm...just in time.

Many areas of Metro Manila are still flooded. The waters are expected to stay in some of the worst areas for several weeks. There is much to be done!

Foreign governments and private organizations have begun relief efforts, but as Greg and our other missionaries in the Philippines say, more help is needed. Your missionaries will welcome extra support in the coming months to aid them in finding food, shelter, and clothing for those they minister among. Churches are encouraged to send extra. For accounting purposes, the BBFI Mission Office asks that when sending relief funds to your missionaries, designate all offerings and be sure the extra support is clearly designated for relief purposes.

Images from the image collection of the International Rice Research Institute (www.irri.org)



ON DEFENSE FOR MICHIGAN, ON OFFENSE FOR CHRIST

By Mike Randall

Jordan Reilly has always loved football. This 20-year-old, 5' 11", 195-pound safety for the University of Michigan grew up running, blocking, tackling, and catching passes with his older brother, Adam, and the other kids in his neighborhood. In his high school career, Jordan won all-state recognition as a standout defensive and running back. In his senior year, he led his league in tackles as a safety. Now, he uses his status as a collegiate athlete to advance the cause of Christ and win people to the Lord.

Jordan grew up attending Beacon Baptist Church of Taylor, Michigan, where his father, John Reilly, has served for 28 years and was recently named co-pastor. The focus of the Reilly home has been Christ, school, and wholesome activities, such as athletics. Jordan accepted Christ at an early age and has been involved in the ministries of the church all his life. Reflecting the family focus, Jordan is also a good student, completing high school with a 3.5 grade point average and an ACT score of 28.

When Jordan graduated from high school, despite his achievements (nine varsity letters in academics, football, and baseball), he was not offered an athletic scholarship. In the providence of God, he learned of walk-on opportunities at U of M, where Jordan impressed the coaches at a tryout. His commitment to football and faith in Christ was tested during the camp's grueling physical and mental regimen. His prayers and efforts were rewarded. He made the team as a freshman and dressed for all the home games. In 2008, he made the traveling team, played in nine games, was awarded a scholarship and became a letterman. In the current season, look



The John Reilly family



for Jordan's jersey, number 21, on defense and special teams.

On campus, Jordan has quietly sought opportunities to share his faith. He is a political science major. He enjoys lively discussion and uses this means to talk about God, the Bible, and Christ. He is active in the campus Athletes in Action group, attending Bible studies, being part of the student leadership team, and sharing Christ. Over the past year, he has brought many of his fellow students to church and has seen several accept Christ.

In February, he joined a group of other collegiate athletes in a mission outreach to the Dominican Republic. His father, John, said, "Jordan's mission trip last February is evidence of his sensitivity to unreached peoples. Before he left to come home, he was so touched by a young person's need, he gave him his own shoes. From childhood, he has always been interested in missions and missionaries." Jordan also uses academic assignments to advance his faith, such as the research paper he wrote to advocate teaching creationism in the public schools.

Beacon Baptist's senior pastor, Herb Gilbert, said, "We love Jordan Reilly. Jordan is faithful to the Lord and our church. He has brought many guests from the university to our services, including a seven-foot tall basketball player. Jordan is not selfish. He never wants the spotlight. He has

a quiet, committed leadership that reveals itself on the playing field, the classroom, the residence hall, or at church. I believe God is using him right now and will continue to do so in the future."

Jordan Reilly is not the only athlete in the family. His older brother, Adam, also excelled in football, leading his Kennedy High School Eagles to the state playoffs as quarterback in 2004. He earned 15 varsity letters in academics, football, baseball, and basketball. Adam was awarded a football scholarship to play at Taylor University and completed his freshman year at the Indiana school before surrendering to preach the gospel. He is now a senior pastoral major at Baptist Bible College in Springfield, Missouri, and has consistently been one of Jordan's most vocal supporters along with the rest of the family, including mom and dad, sister, Jennie (16), and brothers Matthew (12), and Adam (23).

Of himself, Jordan says, "I'm not a football player. First, I'm a Christian who has been given the opportunity to play football. My life verse is Galatians 2:20, 'I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.'"



Charles Lyons, Pastor
Armitage Baptist Church
Chicago, Illinois

Success as a city saint

The fishy smell of the sea. The sailor's curse. The creak of rigging.

We disembark. Wending our way through milling crowds, mounds of fish, bales of goods, and stepping over nondescript slime, we follow Lechaion Road from this port on the Gulf of Corinth south into the city proper. We see looming on the city's southern edge the most conspicuous landmark in Corinth. Soaring 1,886 feet is the acropolis crowned by the Temple of Aphrodite, the goddess of love and beauty, where 1,000 female prostitutes serve worshippers. Undoubtedly, this contributes to Corinth's reputation for immorality. Strabo, the geographer, ascribed the prosperity of the city to this very feature. Aristophanes used the apparently mainstream term "corinthianize" meaning to practice immorality.

The road spews us and hoards of humanity into the Agora, the largest in the Roman Empire. The smells of the docks behind us, new scents make the nose tingle. Shops, commercial booths, restaurants, and taverns surround the rectangular space. The latter are equipped with pits connected by underground channels fed by water from the fountain of Peirene (the city's major source of water) allowing them to cool wine for patrons.

The swirling colors. Cooking food. Fresh dung. Hawkers' cries. The grunt and sigh of trade. The leer, the sneer, the smile. A kaleidoscope of humanity. We bump and shuffle through the throngs.

Surrounding this marketplace square, the city proper covers an area of more than two square miles. A conservative estimate allows for at least

300,000 inhabitants. The city is less than 100 years old in the first century, having been destroyed under the Roman general Lucius Mummius in 146 B.C. When Julius Caesar rebuilt Corinth, the Roman character of the city was in evidence though a majority of the residents are Greek. We know a good number of Jews reside here because of the presence of a Synagogue. The population is mobile, made up of sailors, business people, government officials, people traveling in and out of the city with goods and materials. The social mobility and the huge trade along with religious prostitution serve as a force for corruption.

The city is a major junction between east and west by sea and north and south by land. Commerce, industry, and agriculture along with a large pottery industry and a bronze metalworks mean there is money to be made.

The Lerna-Asclepeum complex, a healing center in the northwest sector of the city, is dedicated to Asclepius, the god of healing. The complex contains the fountain of Lerna, a sanctuary dedicated to Asclepius, bathing, exercise, and dining facilities, and quarters for patients. It's a giant elaborate spa built around religious ritual practices.

It is a city of international reputation, commercial muscle, cultural sophistication, and utter depravity. This is Paul's Corinth. This is the metropolis he targets after Athens (Acts 18). How does a single missionary penetrate such a huge, intense concentration of spiritual darkness, corruption, and evil?

Paul is the ultimate urbanite, the quintessential city slicker. He spends his life in the chief cities of the Roman

Empire. He understands the city. He understands its systems of sin, its infrastructures of iniquity. He comprehends the metropolitan matrix of amoral value systems. He has winced at the foul breath of godless power.

This apostolic David fires the gospel from his Holy-Spirit-powered sling nailing the urban Goliath between the eyes.

In 2 Corinthians 10, you gain insight into this successful city saint. In his personal appeal (verse 1), he is affectionate and authoritative. He has not allowed city life or ministry to harden him, to callous his soul, or to beat him into mush. He didn't let the city desensitize him. He had God's heart. He didn't let the city intimidate him. He had God's strength. He didn't let the city corrupt him. He had God's truth. He had a spiritually mature disposition.

He understood the war and its battles (verses 2-4). He comprehended the spiritual nature of the fight and fought accordingly.

He knew what weapons to use for a successful fight. In Holy Spirit power, he skillfully wields the truth of the gospel. He sees the strongholds not as human institutions but as fortresses belonging to the realm of the will and the intellect, which can only be brought down under the force of God's truth (verse 5). And, God's truth is able!

Our entire culture now shudders in the grip of this strong power and mighty evil once contained in urban centers. Paul's success as a city saint, an urban evangelist, points the way to strength and success for all of us trying to live for Jesus and save souls in an evil world.



World Scope

Jon Konnerup | BBFI Mission Director



The Mission Office and the sending church

The BBFI philosophy is, and always has been, that the local church is the sending agency of a missionary. The Mission Office is not the sending agency. It is clearly demonstrated in the Bible in Acts 13 that by God's design, the Great Commission has been given to the local church. The Mission Office recognizes the Biblical authority of the sending church and consequently the sending pastor as the God-called leader of the local church under the headship of Christ. There would be no BBFI missionaries without BBFI-affiliated sending churches and pastors.

What then should be the role of the Mission Office? Our mission statement is simply, "Serving churches and their missionaries as they endeavor to fulfill the Great Commission." Thus the title on our sign — "World Mission Service Center."

The Mission Office provides services to sending and supporting churches. Some of those services include:

- Screening of applicants. This entails reviewing their doctrine, education, internship, and pastoral recommendations, and looking for the best qualified who are called by God.
- Processing funds from over 4,000 churches and for nearly 900 missionaries and projects. Last year the Mission Office processed \$40.3 million.
- Administrating a self-funded medical plan (including emergency medical evacuation from anywhere in the world) to prevent undue burden on the sending or supporting churches.
- Providing support campaigns like the Missionary Projects Offering (MPO). The MPO is a vehicle for your missionaries to raise additional funds

for BBFI-owned homes and foreign-owned church buildings. In the last 20 years, over \$15 million have been raised to fund over 500 churches and 130 homes. In the recent September meeting, \$670,000 of our \$800,000 goal was promised with 16 states and many churches having yet to report. We believe this goal will be achieved.

The World Mission Service Center of the BBFI also provides additional services for the missionaries including:

- A support system of field representatives made up of BBFI pastors and managed by the Mission Office.
- Emergency and vehicle loans to missionaries in foreign countries as needed and as available.
- Encouragement and assistance while missionaries are on deputation, furlough, and in their countries.
- Mail services — We spend, on average \$9,000 per month to send first-class mail to missionaries around the world.
- A reporting process that is in compliance with USA government regulations. This frees up each sending church from a very complicated system of records and IRS reporting for which they would otherwise be responsible for each missionary they send out.

We want to serve churches and missionaries in the most effective and efficient way possible. We make an effort to never undermine or usurp the authority of the sending church and pastor. The pastors of the BBFI have voted on policies that we are charged to administrate. Admittedly, these policies need to be revisited and revised from time to time. They do, however, represent the collective wisdom of the mission efforts of BBFI pastors and mis-

sionaries. This keeps the bar high for new missionaries. These policies make sure that the pastors and missionaries all have an understanding of expectations which helps minimize problems, ensures missionary success, and keeps attrition numbers lower than other mission organizations.

Missionary candidates are required to agree to the policies before they are ever presented for approval. The policies are also further reviewed in Candidate School. The mission director is charged with the administration of those policies, but the real authority lies with the sending pastor. The most difficult aspect of the work of the Mission Office is when we have to deal with a missionary problem. The best solutions are found when the Mission Office is able to work side-by-side with a sending pastor who takes the lead, upholding the policies by which his missionaries have agreed to abide.

Sometimes, however, when a sending pastor doesn't understand a policy, doesn't agree with, or is unwilling to be involved in resolving a situation, the Mission Office has to step in to represent the other supporting churches of that missionary. Not to do so would be a neglect of its duties.

You can see just how important the role of a sending pastor is in the missionary work of the BBFI, particularly to the Mission Office. As a Fellowship, we must plant more churches in the USA and send out more missionaries. Perhaps God will enable you to join the other 283 sending churches by sending someone from your church as we all endeavor to reach our world for Christ.



NATIONAL CHURCH PLANTING OFFICE

WAYNE GUINN
NCPO DIRECTOR

Green Garden a dream come true

Green Garden Baptist Church dedicated its first building to the Lord September 6, 2009.

This particular building project (which included the purchase of 30 acres) took 13 months and cost the church around \$1.9 million. The faithful saints of this small but growing church had stepped out by faith and promised to give over \$430,000 dollars in the next few years. The whole project has been a constant reminder of the need for God's provision and his continual blessing. The first services in the building were held August 2 with no flooring or ceiling tiles, but there were more than 170 people in attendance. There is quite a bit of buzz going on in the community and many are interested in visiting this new work.

Pastor Jayson Workman invited Pastor Bruce Humbert and his wife, Laurie, of Sauk Trail Baptist Temple to be a part of this special day. Pastor Humbert has a special place in his heart for this new work. Several years ago he led his church to give sacrificially, financially, and also gave several members.

Green Garden Baptist Church was born out of a vision that was cast over 30 years ago. Pastor Don G. Humbert, the founder of Sauk Trail, always said that it would be a great thing if STBT could be duplicated in another location. This vision was realized almost 20 years later when his son, Bruce Humbert, was the senior pastor. While Pastor Humbert was serving on staff, there were nearly 30 people that were driving from the Peotone area that had

been personally led to Christ by either himself or his wife. Of the new church, Humbert says, "This is a dream come true."

ketball, visiting great restaurants and cities with Kaye, and occasionally doing yard work.

Eric is the author of Identity and is also the co-author of Simple Church.



Green Garden church building

Ignite Church Planting Forum at BBC, Springfield, October 26-27. Our featured speaker will be Eric Geiger, co-author of *Simple Church*. Along with challenging the students about church planting, Geiger will conduct a four-hour instructive, round-table presentation of *Simple Church* on Monday afternoon for pastors and staff that attend. Make plans to join us at BBC for this exciting event.

**Baptist Bible College
October 26-27
Texas Fine Arts Auditorium
Monday and Tuesday
8:20 a.m. - 11:20 p.m.
Monday Afternoon
12:00 - 4:00 p.m.**

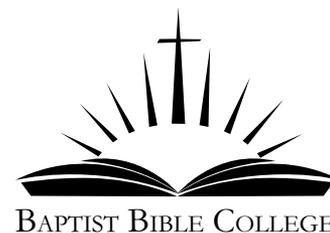
Eric Geiger is originally from New Orleans. He presently lives in Miami, Florida, with his wife, Kaye. He is the executive pastor at Christ Fellowship. Eric received his doctorate from Southern Seminary. He enjoys reading, bas-

Ignite Church Planting Forum at BBC, Boston, November 16-17. Our featured speaker will be Nelson Searcy. He planted a phenomenally-successful church in Manhattan, New York, seven years ago. It has grown to over 1,200 people in weekly attendance and more than 1,400 involved in weekly small groups during its first six years.

**Boston Baptist College
November 16-17
Monday and Tuesday
8:20 a.m. - 11:20 p.m.
Monday Afternoon
12:00 - 4:00 p.m.**

An experienced strategist, coach, and speaker, Nelson Searcy serves as a regular consultant to churches across America. He is the author of dozens of articles and training resources on leadership, evangelism, church planting, and church growth and founder of Church Leader Insights.

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Training Timothy today

I have the God-given fortune to travel around the United States and visit our churches and participate in Fellowship meetings. This has given me the opportunity to meet men and women who are making an eternal impact on others. These ministers are tied together by a common thread; they are graduates of Baptist Bible College.

Recently, I was at the national Fellowship meeting at Canton Baptist Temple in Canton, Ohio. Among the speakers were graduates of BBC. Two of them, Christina Fulmer and Christine Pelletier, testified about the Lord's global work. Both are single missionaries who faithfully serve the Lord in Kenya. Their testimonies

Sunday when I was present, the new youth director, Tim Forgette, a recent graduate of BBC, began his ministry at Southside Baptist Church. This church not only has BBC as part of its past, but its present and future; they currently have six students at BBC preparing for ministry opportunities.

Our graduates represent a larger group of alumni who are impacting others for the Lord through their ministry. Though many graduates do not have a national reputation, they faithfully serve the Lord. They lead individuals to Christ, disciple young believers, and integrate them into the church family and ministry.

As I reflect on my recent experi-

ates who will make a global impact for the Lord in ministry.

What a joy it must have been for the Apostle Paul to observe Timothy, and others he had trained, to step into positions of leadership and impact people for the Lord. While Paul traveled the Roman Empire as the missionary to the gentiles, he had a specific purpose — to prepare young believers like Timothy. He purposefully trained Timothy so that he in turn would guide faithful men and women to impact others (2 Timothy 2:1-2). Paul understood that ministry was not just about the past or the present, but about training future leaders.

My recent travels have been an encouragement. I have seen firsthand how graduates of the college are now impacting others for the Lord. But the story is not just about the past. The story is also about the future. Like Kimberly, there are young men and women who are pursuing their education at BBC. We are engaging these future leaders with a quality, biblical curriculum positioning them for their ministries in this and coming generations.

The mission of Baptist Bible College is fulfilled each time a graduate steps into a leadership role with the intent to impact others for Christ. Not only have I had the privilege to observe and participate with the graduates of BBC as they contribute to global ministry, but I also have the benefit to observe the training of future graduates who will join in ministering around the world. The college has had a glorious past. I also believe the college has a glorious future.

Though many graduates do not have a national reputation, they faithfully serve the Lord. They lead individuals to Christ, disciple young believers, and integrate them into the church family and ministry.

about impacting others for the Lord were inspiring. I was thrilled to be a part of their *alma mater*.

I also just spent a weekend at Southside Baptist Church in Dover, Delaware. The current pastor, Chris Kondracki, and the previous two pastors, Art Bollman and Ron Secrest, are graduates of the college. These men have faithfully served the Lord making an impact on the Dover community and leading the church to support global efforts to reach others around the world with the gospel. On the

ences, I understand that the common thread is not only about the past, but I am encouraged that the Lord will continue to weave the common thread into His fabric of ministry as we move into the future. Kimberly Rollins, a current student of BBC, participated in the 40th anniversary services at Southside Baptist Church. She praised the Lord with song in both services. Kimberly is a student leader and ministers as part of the praise band in the undergraduate chapel services. Kimberly represents a larger group of future gradu-



Meet the trustees

Most of my articles focus on our students. Our college exists to meet the needs of students. So I figure I should help you “see” our students so that if you are a financial part of underwriting this educational ministry, you’re not spending blind. I want you to meet our students in print.

But this month I have another angle. I could tell you about our professional, dedicated, passionate staff. I should tell you about them — soon. I could tell you about our supporting churches growing in numbers steadily. That too is another article.

This month I want you to meet our trustees. Every college has them — they bear the responsibility of keeping a college on mission, functioning as it should, governing all aspects of institutional activity. To understand Boston, you have to understand the Boston Baptist College trustees. They manage the climate in which our students thrive.

Everybody talks about leadership, but I get to see it when I walk into our board room. Bruce Garner is our chairman, and to say, “He gets it,” is to put it mildly. A third generation BBF preacher, Bruce pastors in Huntington Beach, California, primarily because he and his family were blockaded from spending their lives in Cuba. Bruce is one of the best minds and hearts this movement has.

Half of our board members are church planters. That reflects our deliberate, unshakable commitment that ministry education cannot be separated from real, live ministers. Boston is not theoretically about starting churches — it is who we are, from the top down. Students recognize quickly that our college leaders know what it is to strike out on faith. Our board is full

of men whose lives scream out, “It can be done!”

Almost a fourth of our board members are active adjunct professors. They don’t have to make guesses about building a great college for our students — they are living the student experience with them. In not many colleges can a student recognize a trustee by name (and get recognized back!), then share memories from a classroom, or a study trip to Greece, or private chats, or prayer times. It happens all the time in Boston.

Of course, a board has to have experience. Again, in Boston we are loaded. We have three men with missionary experience, an entrepreneur with business experience I can’t even fathom, and 11 of the 17 preachers on our board have done what I call second-level ministry. That is when a pastor follows a great pastor and keeps on building. In an age where there are too many churches in decline, I sit in a room full of men who know how to escalate church life! David Mills followed a legend at Berean in Mesquite, Texas. Tracy Roby worked alongside Jerry Byars in Overland Park and then was called to succeed him. Ken Armstrong planted a strong church just south of Boston. I was at an ordination at that church recently, the church now pastored by one of our trustees, Bill Smith.

I could go further if my one-page article could bear it. But I must add one dominant attribute of our trustee board. These men, in many ways, are studies in contrast — (Gary Favor and Duke Hergatt aren’t exactly twins!) Phil Webber is a National League guy, Terry Kizer is American League, Rob Willis is pretty much baseball converted while Curt Wiedenroth has always

known that the Red Sox are the divine elect; Tim Robertson is a southern gentleman, and then we have a few northeasterners, Mike Ivey finished a dissertation while Dave Brown built a multi-million dollar expansion — are a team. Our trustees in reality are a band of brothers.

In an age where there are too many churches in decline, I sit in a room full of men who know how to escalate church life!

I wish you could see it. I’ve seen the Boston board work through the toughest issues among us, some of which tear at the roots of our Fellowship. I see them disagree regularly, but they aren’t disagreeable. I’ve seen them bear one another on their shoulders. I’ve seen them laugh from the soul at one another, at themselves. Some, like Dan Burrell, can blog during a discussion and still stay ahead of the rest of us! The whole time Todd Witte is trying to keep minutes of conversations that are breaking all speed limits. But these guys all understand what we are trying to do here. We want to get it right, do it well, make a difference, pass on the legacy — together. Best moments have been aplenty. But one above others comes to my mind. One of our board members had just lost on a vote that really mattered to him. In a quiet voice after the vote, he said, “Guys, I obviously didn’t get what I wanted, but I want all you men to know, I’m not going anywhere.”

With leadership like that it’s no wonder to me that we have such great student stories.

LBU enrollment exceeds 1,500

Shreveport, LA

By Neal Weaver

As of September 1, total enrollment at Louisiana Baptist University was 1,553. This is the first time the university's enrollment has topped 1,500. This total does not include the hundreds of students enrolled in the 27 Bible institutes connected to the university's INSTEP missions program. While the university has enjoyed steady growth for over the past 15 years, in recent years that momentum has definitely increased.

Currently, students are in 48 states and 40 different countries studying by internet. This year LBU added MOODLE (Modular Object-Oriented Dynamic Learning Environment). With MOODLE, students may also enroll in e-campus classes. E-campus allows students to log on to the internet and view classes while

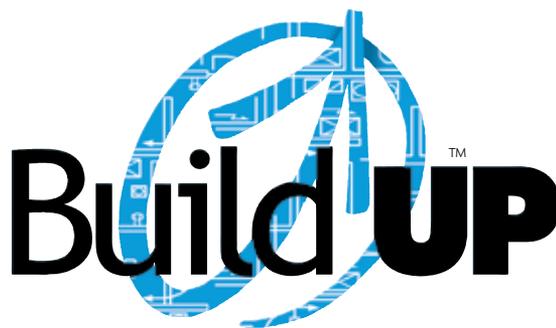
they are in progress. Some nights, for example, LBU will have students in Europe and South America watching classes in real time. They can also email questions to the instructor while the classes are in progress.

The on-campus program is also doing well. This semester LBU is offering 17 on-campus classes. While the margin is smaller, it still produces a positive cash flow. This is mainly accomplished because teachers are paid by the class rather than using salaried personnel. Many of the teachers are adjunct staff who teach three hours a week. The university can employ several adjunct staff for what one full-time employee costs. This also allows LBU to hire highly-qualified people in the community that the university could not hire on a full-time basis.

This flexibility has provided the

cash flow to invest in other programs to improve the quality of the university. One major investment has been in the upgrading of curriculum. Over the past decade, LBU has been able to invest in the development and printing of new curriculum that meets or exceeds the quality of many larger accredited institutions.

INSTEP (International Student Training Education Program) continues to grow. INSTEP is now partnering with missionaries in 27 schools, in 17 nations, on six continents. INSTEP allows foreign nationals to receive a Bible education that they could not afford at any other institution. The goal of INSTEP is that over the next few years 1,000 national pastors can be trained. If the program is to continue to grow and reach its full potential it will require increased support of both churches and individuals.



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Cherry Street BC celebrates 50 years of ministry

Springfield, MO

Cherry Street Baptist Church and Pastor Dennis Jennings celebrated the congregation's 50th anniversary September 5-6. Special guests for the event were former pastors and their wives — Kenneth and Norma Gillming, Harold and Greta Brown, and Ken and Shirley Gillming. On Saturday afternoon, the church had a cookout and service in which both Kenneth and Ken gave their testimonies and a charge to the church. Also, several members who grew up attending the church gave testimony. On Sunday, the congregation met for Sunday school to hear Brown preach, and then Keith Gillming of Lighthouse Baptist Church in St. Louis was the keynote speaker. Richard and Bev Boland ministered by

leading the choir in praise and worship.

The Gillmings were honored when the church's Family Center was re-named "The Gillming Center," and portraits of Kenneth and Norma, and Ken and Shirley were prominently displayed. Also, Lloyd and Velma Stearns, charter members of the church, were honored by their six children with a bench inscribed with their names. The bench is installed in the church's garden area.

A small congregation began meeting in the home of Lloyd and Velma Stearns in February 1959. In August of that year, Kenneth Gillming, who was a professor at Baptist Bible College at the time, assumed the pastorate of the congregation. Growth came, and by 1960 the church had purchased property on

the corner of Belview and Cherry, and a two-story structure was erected.

"On Easter Sunday, 1961, Cherry Street Baptist Church became a reality," said Norma Gillming in a *Tribune* article printed August 8, 1961. Since then, the church has undergone many physical changes, with several building programs, and a move to their current location on Oak Grove Avenue which took place September 12, 1993.

Jennings became pastor of the church in 2008. He has served as an associate mission director of the Baptist Bible Fellowship Mission Office, as chief of operations at Baptist Bible College, as pastor of Park Street Baptist Church in St. Petersburg, Florida, and in music and youth ministries in Florida and Texas. He is completing his 30th year of full-time ministry this year. Kenneth Gillming and his wife, Norma, are still active members of Cherry Street. Harold Brown pastors Oak Hill Baptist Church in Somerset, Kentucky. Ken Gillming is the academic dean at Boston Baptist College.



From left: Shirley and Ken Gillming, Dennis and Jana Jennings, Kenneth and Norma Gillming, and Greta and Harold Brown



Lloyd and Velma Stearns

Jeff McCaskill ordained

Winfield, KS

Millington St. Baptist Church called for the ordination of their pastor, Jeffrey S. McCaskill, on Friday, September 25. In the photo, from left to right, are the pastors and missionary who formed the council to examine the new pastor: Jim Van Dyke, Clyde McCaskill, K. B. Mur-

ray, Becky McCaskill (the pastor's wife), John Clapp, Jeff McCaskill, DeWayne Prosser, Dan McCaskill (Jeff's father who is a missionary in Scotland), Gene Hughes, George Wright, and Steve Day. The states of New York, Oklahoma, and Kansas were represented.



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Winter Haven team helps with church in Belize

Winter Haven, FL

This summer, 16 people from Winter Haven Baptist Church, pastored by Mark Hodges, served the Lord for ten days in the jungle of Belize. The group, which included church members spanning from the college and career ministry to the senior adult ministry, helped BBFI missionaries Dan and Vicki Weaver erect a steel-frame roof for a new open-air auditorium in the Valley of Peace. They encountered many obstacles including power outages, heat, the lack of manpower to lift the welded trusses, and long work days. However, Jonathan Perry, mission intern at the Winter Haven church states, "By God's grace, the

electricity seemed to stay on for as long as needed, the shade was sufficient, and a crane was supplied that was able to lift

the trusses. We rejoice to know that we accomplished something that will reap eternal dividends."



Jerry Falwell inducted into Christian Hall of Fame

Canton, OH

By Elmer Towns

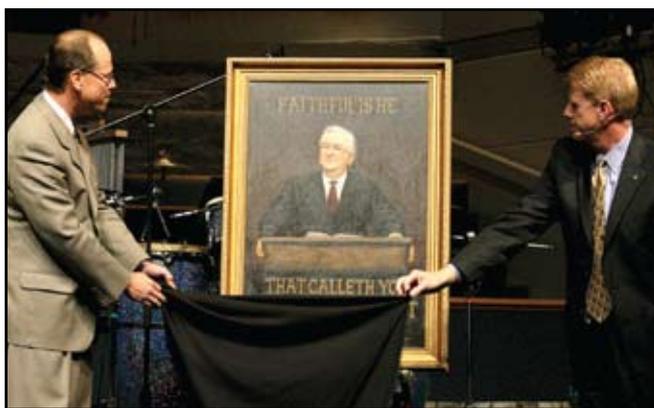
Jerry Falwell Sr. was enshrined in the Christian Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio, on Wednesday evening, September 23, 2009. At the annual meeting of the pastors of the Baptist Bible Fellowship, Pastor Mike Frazier of Canton Baptist Temple presented the large portrait of Falwell to Jonathan Falwell, son of Jerry Falwell, and pastor of Thomas Road Baptist Church.

The portrait will hang in the halls of Canton Baptist Temple among a total of 124 enshrines. For many years Canton Baptist Temple was one of the ten largest churches in America.

Frazier said, "Jerry Falwell Sr. is honored for having been one of the great heroes of the faith in the last century and this century until his death May 15, 2007."

The pastors rose to applaud in appreciation for the great contribution Jerry Falwell made to the Fellowship. Falwell graduated from Baptist

Bible College, Springfield, Missouri, in 1956 and planted Thomas Road Baptist Church in Lynchburg, Virginia, that same year. The church grew to become one of the largest in America with one of the largest Sunday morning telecasts released throughout the United States and the world.



Mike Frazier (left) and Jonathan Falwell (right) unveil the painting

Falwell is also known for beginning Moral Majority, a conservative Christian organization that was influential in electing Ronald Reagan President of the United States in 1980.

Frazier said, "Jerry Falwell has done more for God than any other pastor

in our Fellowship and perhaps has done more for God than any other man in our generation."

Jonathan Falwell spoke in appreciation of his father, noting the great contribution of great lessons he learned while serving as his assistant at Thomas Road Baptist Church. He went on to preach that evening on the topic of "The Significance of Your Call," applying it to local pastors and church leaders.

Because the Football Hall of Fame for the National Football League is located in Canton, Harold Henniger, then pastor of Canton Baptist Temple in 1966, began to realize there should be some hall of fame in the United States to recognize the influence of the great heroes of the

faith throughout the centuries. The Hall includes such enshrines as the Apostle Paul, Martin Luther (Lutheran), John Wesley (Methodist), and Charles Finney (Presbyterian), which is a broad-based representation of history-makers and those who influence the world today.

Kenyan church celebrates 30th anniversary

Nanyuki, Kenya

Mt. Kenya Baptist Church, started by BBFI missionaries Jerry and Sherry Daniels and pastored by Onesimus Kibera, celebrated its 30th anniversary August 9 and 16. On both occasions, there were over 600 people in attendance with many rededicating their lives and four men accepting Christ as Savior. Special guests included choirs from other Mt. Kenya Baptist Fellowship churches, Kenyan pastors and evangelists, BBFI missionaries to Uganda Russ and Sylvia Daniels, BBFI missionaries to Tanzania Vernon and Mary Smith, and Pastor Charles Madaus from Bible Baptist Temple of Stonewood, West Virginia. Russ Daniels is the Daniels' son who was part of the founding of the church. Pastor Madaus was a major missionary partner in the Mt. Kenya ministries for over 10 years before being called to pastor his sending church in West Virginia.

The celebration services lasted four hours each Sunday morning. Pastor and Mrs. Kibera and the Daniels were presented with commemorative gifts from Uganda as well as a large trophy inscribed, "Congratulations Mt. Kenya



Baptist Church for 30 years of running the race for Jesus Christ. 1979-2009." "This was a celebration of a church and a ministry that has indeed stood the test of time," says Vernon Smith.

Mt. Kenya Baptist Church was founded in 1979. Onesimus Kibera, the current pastor, came to the church as a teenager in 1984 and joined the youth department led by Russ Daniels. Of Kibera, Smith states, "Having grown up under the preaching and teaching of Jerry Daniels, Rev. Kibera is a solid Bible teacher, leader, and pastor."

Over the past 30 years, Mt. Kenya Baptist Church has planted churches, trained pastors in the Bible institute, trained young people in the Mt. Kenya Baptist Primary School, and cared for orphans in a sponsored orphanage. Their fellowship of churches has now surpassed 50 independent congregations, and Smith reports that at any given Bible institute modular, 70-80 men are in attendance for continued Bible training, instruction in ministry strategies, and evangelism. Jerry Daniels, an acting missionary/pastor of the church, continues to lead the Bible institute, helping plant churches and develop vision and strategy for future church planting. Sherry continues to work and administer Mt. Kenya Baptist Primary School, which is known for its high standard of education and good reputation.

Guest choir for Mt Kenya's 30th anniversary service



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Grace Road Church launches with 165 attending

Rochester, NY

Grace Road Church, a new church plant pastored by Kevin Maloney, launched on September 20 with 165 people in attendance. In their service, several people received Christ and two adults were baptized. Also, three new ministries were launched: an outreach to the urban poor, a ministry to runners, and an outreach to bowlers.

Grace Road had been meeting as a core group since January to pray and prepare for going public. For the launch service, they rented a concert hall and canvassed the neighborhood in the youngest and most liberal part of the city. More than 80 percent of those in attendance on September 20 were under the age of 30. Many attendees heard about the new church through friends in the core group and through door hangers. The church also made a large effort to employ online social networking tools like Facebook to connect people to the church.

The Baptist Bible Fellowship has played an integral role in the planting of this church. Kevin Maloney, the lead pastor of the church, is a 2001 Baptist Bible College graduate and Caleb Kelley, the



administrative pastor, also is a former BBC student. Their sending church is Victory Baptist Church in nearby Henrietta, New York, pastored by Joe Burress. Victory Baptist sent 13 families to be part of the new congregation. Temple Baptist Church and Pastor Duke Hergatt is also a supporting church.

“Grace Road Church is committed to preaching the Word of God to a group of people who have, for the most part, rejected Christianity. The young urban professionals in cities in the Northeast are predominantly secular and liberal. However, when they are shown love and shown how relevant the Bible is, many of these people become more interested

in Christianity,” says Maloney.

For more information on Grace Road Church, visit their website at www.GraceRoadChurch.org.

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McDaniel celebrates 40 years at Faith Baptist

Brownwood, TX

Pastor J.A. McDaniel and his wife, Sue, celebrated their 40th anniversary at Faith Baptist Church on August 23. The special services included music by The Andersons (the McDaniel's daughter, son-in-law, and grandson), a video presentation, and preaching by George White, longtime friend of the family and pastor of Springtown Baptist Temple, Springtown, Texas. After the services, the church enjoyed a catered barbecue lunch followed by an afternoon service. Faith Baptist presented the McDaniels with a painting and a check. Sue was also honored with a dozen roses.

McDaniel graduated from Baptist Bible College, Springfield, Missouri, in 1967. After graduation, he served as an associate pastor of a church in Abilene until August 1969 when he, Sue, and their daughter, Karen, moved to Brownwood, Texas, to become pastor of the six-year-old Faith Baptist Church. "I figured I'd stay two years," stated McDaniel. "That's usually the length of time a preacher will stay." However, four decades later, the McDaniels continue at Faith Baptist.

In 40 years, the church congregation has gone through several building phases, changed addresses once, and expanded at least twice. Though the church no longer has 600 active members as it did in its heyday and runs fewer than 100, Mc-



From left: Mike Anderson, Karen Anderson, Austin Anderson, Sue McDaniel and Pastor J.A. McDaniel

Daniel says, "Our church is a supportive congregation. We're all like family. This church stands by the old-line, cardinal, fundamental basic doctrines of the Baptist church." Faith Baptist Church supports 25 missionaries.

Their daughter, who attended Baptist Bible College from 1979 to 1982, her husband, Mike, and son, Austin, travel six months out of the year as the gospel music ministry known as The Andersons. "But when we're home," said Karen, "this is home. We have incredible support from this church, always."

Chinese exchange student ministry at Park Crest

Springfield, MO



Chinese guest students, Park Crest host families and the church college class

Park Crest Baptist Church hosted Chinese Missouri State University students for a Welcome Day gathering and meal September 13 at which the church gave the students Chinese/English Bibles. Park Crest has an outreach ministry to Chinese exchange students studying at MSU. Families of the church "adopt" students for friendship and fellowship during their one-year stay in the United States. Sunday morning sermons are also printed in Chinese for the benefit of the students attending.

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GuideStone ready to help churches with new IRS 403(b) plan regulations

By Dixie Beard

December 31, 2009, doesn't just mark the end of the first decade of the 21st century; it also marks the deadline for most churches and other retirement-plan sponsors to adopt a written plan document for most 403(b) retirement plans.

Most churches and other non-profit organizations offer retirement plans known as 403(b)(9) retirement plans — named for the section of the Internal Revenue Code that governs their activities.

The IRS announced new 403(b) regulations in late 2007, to become effective by the end of 2008. The final component, a written plan document, was granted a deadline extension until the end of 2009.

The 403(b) regulations were implemented to protect retirement plan participants and to bring their operation in line with their cousin 401(k) plans, the for-profit sector's most commonly provided retirement plan. The 403(b) regulations govern items like timing of contributions, loan concerns, and exchanges between retirement plans.

Perhaps surprising, the regulations themselves are not onerous, and compliance is simple with the help of a trusted organization like GuideStone Financial Resources.

Since 2006, GuideStone has had the privilege of serving the churches affiliated with BBFI. Many churches have already started retirement plans through the associational plan, and

many more are considering adding this important benefit. If your church hasn't already begun offering a retirement plan for your minister and staff, GuideStone can help your church prepare for the written plan document requirement, but time is of the essence.

GuideStone provides assistance for following the regulations. Generally, churches need to:

- Contact GuideStone to obtain a copy of the plan document. The GuideStone Customer Service Center is available from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. CST Monday-Friday.
- Document policies and procedures that are separate from the basic

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B'Etta Funk

Springfield, MO

(continued)

plan document and adoption agreement (i.e. eligibility, compensation, and contributions).

- Establish a process to ensure timely remittance of contributions by following the due date on your billing statement.
- If GuideStone has not been the sole provider of your 403(b)(9) plan since January 1, 2005, you may have additional responsibilities detailed on our website.

GuideStone provides simple forms to help churches in the BBFI associational plan comply with the policies and procedures and sole provider requirements.

In meetings with pastors and church leaders about the 403(b) regulations, some question if it would be easier to just provide additional income for their ministers to invest on their own. The truth is, the requirements from the IRS are simple to follow, but even if they weren't, the presence of a retirement plan is an important part of the church's commitment to its staff.

Your retirement plan provides your church with a valuable benefit as you seek to recruit and retain talented, energetic staff. GuideStone is ready to help you navigate the regulations so the plan continues to be a strength for your church.

GuideStone stands ready to assist your church or ministry in ensuring compliance with these regulations. Please contact Dixie Beard directly by calling (214) 720-4661 or emailing Dixie.Beard@GuideStone.org. We can help your church establish a retirement plan for your staff, and help ensure your compliance by December 31, 2009.

B-Etta Funk was born August 17, 1922, in Perry, Oklahoma. She graduated to heaven September 25, 2009. She was married to Leslie G. Funk on July 5, 1955, in Mead, Nebraska, on his return from the military in World War II. Les was captured by the Japanese in the Philippines and endured the Bataan Death March and spent 39 months in a Japanese prison camp.



Starting in 1951, B-Etta served as an independent missionary in the Phil-

ippines before she and Les were married. They were approved as Baptist Bible Fellowship missionaries in 1955, and were instrumental in starting a number of churches in the Philippines and in Australia, where they also served.

B-Etta was preceded in death by Les, her parents, and four brothers. She is survived by three sisters-in-law and several nieces and nephews. Funeral services were held September 29 with burial in Greenlawn Memorial Gardens. Memorial contributions may be made to the Baptist Bible Fellowship Philippines fund.

Pauline Marie Clark

San Angelo, TX

Pauline Marie Clark, 84, went home to be with her Lord on July 8, 2009, at an area nursing home. She was born October 17, 1924, to William Arthur and Lula Ida Shreve Turnidge. In 1941, she married Marvin Howard (M.H.) Clark, in Abilene. M.H. retired from his pastoral ministry in 1993. He was one of the founding professors of Baptist Bible College East (Boston Baptist College) where he served for eight years and was



the first to receive an honorary doctorate from the college. Pauline served as a faithful pastor's wife, loving and sacrificial mother and housewife, and a skillful seamstress and genealogist.

She is survived by her husband, M. H. Clark; four children, Martha Simpson and husband George, Mary Hartman, Sharon Watson and husband Reece, and Marvin Clark Jr. and wife Rada; one sister; four sisters-in-law; a brother-in-law; 16 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

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ALASKA

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Life as a Lump

By Charlie Miller

pastor, High Plains Baptist Church, Clovis, New Mexico

After going through a very difficult time in our ministry, my wife, April, recommended, “Take an art class — you’ve always wanted to — maybe it will help you to relax!” She was right. I signed up for a sculpting class, bought my tools, and secured my 25-pound block of cool, gray modeling clay.

I considered making an ashtray — everyone’s first project. I decided that it lacked a certain relevance for this Baptist pastor. A friend recommended replicating Michelangelo’s *David* — but modestly clad with the minimal undergarments “girding his loins.” Not certain on whether to go with boxers or briefs, I remained stumped. Finally, I decided upon a personal hero, John Bunyan.

If Baptists had saints, icons, or relics, the images and figures of John Bunyan would be among our favorites. He stands as a prolific writer and passionate pastor. In addition, he sports quite the massive mane — joining Guy Penrod, and a few others, on a very short list of acceptable Baptists whose locks linger beyond the collar.

As I began to work and shape the pudgy figure of little John, I mused, “So this is how God made Adam?” I shaped his body and skewered him to a clay stump. I glanced at little John and then studied the photo. There still was much work to be done.

It was at this point I recalled hearing about some famous sculptor who said, “In order to sculpt David (for instance) simply remove everything that does not look like David.” I looked at my tools. They were small, but intimidating instruments — wooden knives, scrapers, and a very pointy thing resembling the business end of the compass I used in geometry. I proceeded to scrape, and scrape, and scrape some more. “Remove everything that doesn’t look like John Bunyan...” I muttered. I continued until the blurred image of a man’s face emerged from the miry clay.

Before I knew it, class was over. “What do I do with this?” I asked my instructor.

“I dunno...” he said, “You could leave it here.”

I clutched little John and drew him close. The thought of leaving him exposed and out of my sight was frightening. “What was this?” I thought, “Why do I care so much about this lousy lump of clay?” I realized I had some measure of affection for little John — probably because I created him.

Surprisingly, little John is rather high maintenance. While scraping and squeezing, you must spray him with water. When you are not shaping him, he must be kept sealed in an airtight bag. Too bad for John — he spends his whole life in a bag and is only released to be shredded or sliced. Once I reached a stopping point, it was back into the bag — poor John.

By the time you read this, little John will be gone. As of this writing most of the scraping is done. The large chunks are gone. All that is really left is the refining. The refinement during his last hours is very tender. There will be no cutting, poking, or prodding. In fact, there will be no instruments — only water and the pressure of the creator’s fingers. At this time, little John will be exactly what I intended for him to be — the image that was born in my mind. My fingerprints will be all over him.

Then it’s into the kiln.

Sound a little harsh? I agree. But it’s the only way he can stay in my house forever. It’s the only way he can fulfill his purpose. It’s the only way all the changes can remain permanent. His life, as he knows it now, must end to inherit his place on my mantel. He will never be scraped, sprayed, or bagged again. He can stay with me forever. I already have a place for him.

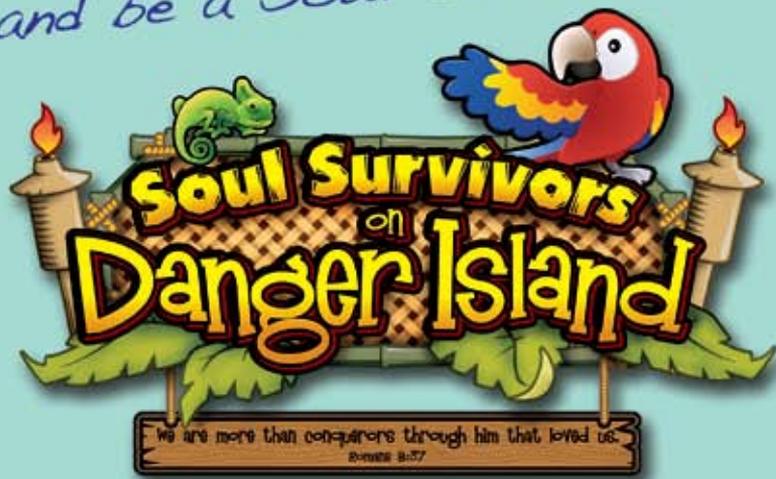
Why are we poked, prodded, and pounded? It hurts — it seems cruel. Our Creator severs us from everything weighing us down and hindering our growth. We have become attached to the very things that threaten our life. The sin, the hurt, the rejection, the fear, the pain, and the anger — all of it must go. It’s not that God desires to change you — as much as He longs to release you from these things that are not “you” at all. Do not merely assent to the fact that God has made you; accept the feeling that God is making you. He’s not done. It’s not over. God knows when to twist, where to touch, how to be tender. His fingerprints are all over you.

Then it’s to the kiln.

The transition from mortal life to eternal life is difficult. I have seen some make this leap — from the finishing table to the Creator’s mantle. This transition refines us and leaves us perfectly in the image God intended for us. Death is only tragic on this side of the fence. Through death God’s changes become irreversible and permanent. Then you are able to shine as a trophy of God’s grace. Not bad for something that started as a lump.



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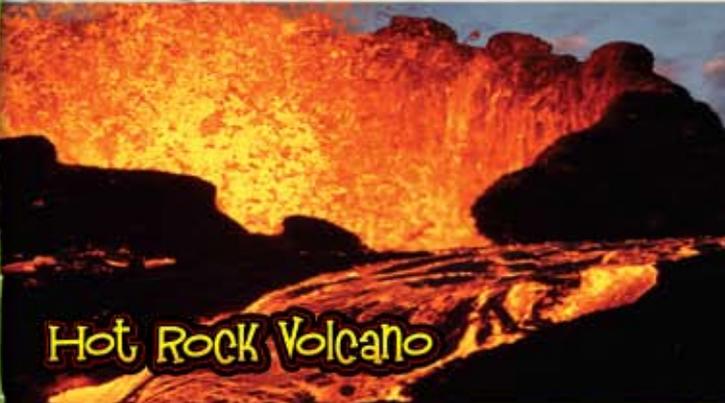
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