



Teresa "Bit" Stephens ministers to international students at Metro BCM in Little Rock.

page 7

Information about what's happening in the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

page 10

600 decisions reported

Super Summer impacts youth

Cassie Franklin
Arkansas Baptist News

ARKADELPHIA – The presence of God was evident as more than 2,000 students gathered for worship at Super Summer, one of the largest youth events held in Arkansas – at the end of the week more than 600 students made significant life decisions.

Super Summer is a Christian camp for junior high and high school students sponsored by the Arkansas Baptist State Convention (ABSC) evangelism and church growth team. The Super Summer junior high camp was June 18-21, and the high school camp was June 21-25 at Ouachita Baptist University.

Organizers say Super Summer gives students the opportunity to meet other teenagers from all across the state and the chance to grow in their walks with Christ.

One of the most significant aspects of the camp was "seeing students' lives changed for eternity," said Sean Mills, Super Summer coordinator and ABSC evangelism and church growth team member.

See **SUPER SUMMER** page 6



Super Summer students compete in a game. Photo by Wesley Kluck

Ark. group seeks to end abortions

Caleb Yarbrough
Arkansas Baptist News

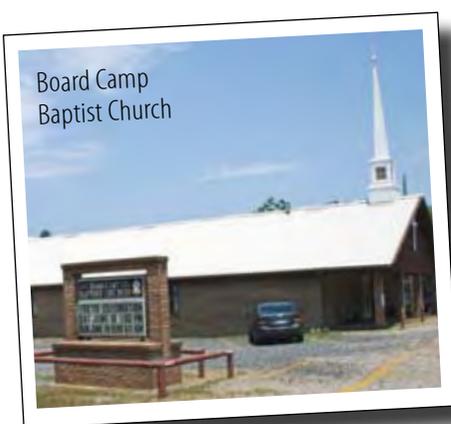
LITTLE ROCK – Halting abortion in Arkansas is the charge of a group of 60 pregnancy care providers that met June 24 at the Arkansas Baptist State Convention (ABSC) building.

"At its core, the goal of the Arkansas Pregnancy Care Center Association (APCCA) is to halt abortion in Arkansas," said Breck Freeman, church and community mission strategist on the ABSC missions ministries team, which hosts the group's quarterly meetings.

The Guttmacher Institute says 54,200 of the 568,945 women of reproductive age in Arkansas became pregnant in 2008. Of that number, "75 percent of the pregnancies resulted in live births and 9 percent in induced abortion."

The APCCA provides assistance

See **ABORTION** page 2



Board Camp Baptist celebrates 150 years

Jenny Redfern
Arkansas Baptist News

MENA – The year was 1861. The War Between the States had not been fought, and Abraham Lincoln was president. It was also the year Board Camp Baptist Church, Mena, was established.

Few churches in Arkansas can say

they have been around since before the American Civil War, but on June 18-19, the church celebrated just that – 150 years of continuous service.

Board Camp Baptist Church and the surrounding community received its name from a large family of 19th century pioneers who stopped to care for their sick on the

bank of the creek. There they built a structure made of oak planks and canvas, called a "board camp."

"I believe that the spirit of caring for hurting people has remained in this area and is particularly evident at Board Camp Baptist Church," said Interim Pastor Ken Vonk.

See **150 YEARS** page 2

Amputation opens doors for Hermitage pastor

Lisa Watson
Arkansas Baptist News

HERMITAGE – Two years ago, Daniel Haigwood, pastor of Hermitage Baptist Church, Hermitage, had what he thought was a simple surgical procedure on his foot to correct a congenital deformity. His doctor assured him his life would return to normal after healing.

Then, he stepped on a coat hanger while cleaning his wife's closet.

It was an accident that changed his life forever.

In November 2010, following a yearlong battle with infection, Haigwood came to a grim con-

clusion. To save his life and defeat the infection ravaging his body, he would need to have his leg amputated just below the knee.

Simple act

When Haigwood first injured his foot, his wife Kelli, a nurse, was concerned about the infection. But she "doctored" it up really well and made plans to go to the doctor the next week.

Two surgeries later, including one to remove diseased bone, Haigwood thought he was finally on the mend. But his ordeal was just beginning.

He finished a round of antibiotics and even went on a mission trip, but he continued to have swelling and a



Daniel and Kelli Haigwood

lesion on his foot.

Kelli Haigwood thought he might have an ulcer around the wound site, but the injury was actually caused by a piece of jagged bone from a pre-

vious surgery. Haigwood, who suffers from peripheral neuropathy, was unable to feel the extent of his injury.

A bone scan revealed possible infection. But, Haigwood said, doctors continued to be optimistic about his recovery.

Unbeknownst to the couple, Haigwood's foot was seriously injured, riddled with fractures, said his wife.

The young pastor's health continued in a gradual decline. By late October, he had relocated with his wife to serve as a pastor in Hermit-

See **HAIGWOOD** page 3

First Baptist Church, Alma, returns to Joplin

Jessica Vanderpool
Arkansas Baptist News

ALMA – It happened almost six years ago. As Hurricane Katrina ravaged the southern coast, Bob Shelton, pastor of First Baptist Church, Alma, was on a “weekend getaway” with his wife. They had the TV tuned to Larry King Live, but when Franklin Graham came on the screen, Shelton’s life changed forever.

“And (Graham) just put a message out. He said, ‘I’m talking to every American pastor. We can make a difference,’” Shelton explained. “And I’m sitting there in a pretty hotel room, going to go walk over to the new Bass Pro shop in Oklahoma City, and I didn’t even get into the store. I grabbed a piece of paper, and I wrote ‘Second Wave Blessing.’ That’s who we’re going to be called.”

The newly formed Second Wave Blessing was in Shreveport, La., within three days, bringing along five trailer loads of supplies. It marked the beginning of First Baptist’s disaster relief work in the United States.

Since then, Shelton, who had previously earned his doctorate in children’s crisis counseling, has become a certified master chaplain, which included Homeland Security training. First Baptist is also trying to get set up to partner with the Arkansas Emergency Management System, and they also hope to eventually have an Arkansas Baptist State Convention Disaster Response recovery unit.

Shelton explained he thinks disaster response “is a way of life.”

“I think this is where we are. It’s going to be one disaster after another,” he said, referring to Matthew 24-25. “We’re there, and I think we’re going to see more, and more and more of it. ... And I think the American church has positioned itself to be not just a player in disaster relief, but we mobilize.”

Their most recent ministry has been in Joplin, where a tornado killed more than 100 people in May. So far, the church has taken about seven trips to Joplin. Shelton explained they are working with Samaritan’s Purse, Operation Blessing and Forest Park Baptist Church, Joplin.

First Baptist began by taking supplies and helping set up for distribution. Shelton said his church has a warehouse full of supplies, like clothing and first-response kits.

He explained that churches will not be al-



Eldon Mushrush and Bethany Crosswhite, volunteers from First Baptist, Alma, assist in disaster relief efforts in Joplin, Mo.

lowed into disaster areas if they just have Bibles to share. However, authorities are more willing to allow churches with disaster response supplies to come.

“Bring your Bibles. You can use them. But ... you just don’t get in that way,” Shelton explained.

Shelton’s training as a certified master chaplain and his doctorate also help the church get behind the scenes.

The second phase of the church’s ministry in Joplin was to do chainsaw work, and one of the most recent groups that went was a group of children, ages 12-16, who worked in a distribution center.

While the goal is to minister to others, Shelton explained that on mission trips like these, the real impact is made on the volunteers.

“They’re absolutely changed forever, which cre-

ates an army. The next disaster, you have more people ready to respond,” he said.

Shelton explained that the ability to play a part in this type of ministry is not limited to larger churches.

“You know, every church can be involved, every church,” he said. “It’s just they need to plan for it.”

Secondly, Shelton explained, “all denominational barriers break at the disaster point. They always do.”

“We don’t care if it’s Church of Christ, Assembly of God – they all work together. Everybody does, and that’s the neatest thing in the world,” he said. “If there’s any satisfaction at all, it’s watching the Church of Christ pastor feeding the Baptist pastor who’s helping the Assembly of God pastor. And it’s just kingdom work personified, to me, in disaster because nobody cares if you’re a Calvinist or (an) Armenian. We all know we’ve got a job to do, and we’ve got to help people.”

As far as First Baptist’s work in Joplin, Shelton said they plan to continue taking teams, even into the fall.

One of the activities they hope to do is to hold day camps for children, but they also hope to work with Joplin area pastors to establish at least one church in the area.

Shelton explained their strategy will continue to change based on the needs of the churches.

“We go to all these churches and say, ‘What can we help you do?’” Shelton said. “So our strategy is not to work our program. Our strategy is to adapt to what those pastors there say, ‘Well, could you help us do this?’”

Contact Jessica Vanderpool at jessica@arkansasbaptist.org.

Highland Hills suffers storm damage

TEXARKANA – Straight line winds from a severe thunderstorm literally “raised the roof,” damaging Highland Hills Baptist Church in Texarkana July 5, said Chip Anthony, who has served as pastor of the church for just over a month.

Anthony said most of the damage was contained to the church’s foyer. Winds knocked down the front door of the church and scattered debris, damaged the roof and brick pillars and shattered a stained glass window.

“Of course, our first concern was to make sure there wasn’t anyone in the building when the storm hit, and there wasn’t thankfully,” said Anthony.

Damage estimates are still pending. For now, Anthony said the church would hold services in the fellowship hall until it’s determined whether the building is structurally safe.

“Our building is broken, but our church certainly isn’t,” said Anthony. “We have resolved to keep on going.”

ABORTION

continued from page one

to pregnant mothers and ways to help them avoid abortion.

“The (APCCA) meetings function as a platform for the different crisis pregnancy centers (from across Arkansas) to inform, encourage and educate each other about pregnancy needs and issues across the state,”

said Freeman. “Information centers receive, in meetings such as these, help to provide them answers to the tough questions that they are asked everyday.”

Since the first of the year, Freeman said 41 people have made professions of faith, and 126 babies have been saved from abortion.

In the meeting’s morning session, directors and volunteers from the various pregnancy centers were

informed on how to address questions concerning abortion.

An afternoon session gave attendees an opportunity to share with the group what God has been doing in their local centers.

“Many spoke of how God had been answering prayers and making a huge impact on Arkansas’ communities,” said Freeman, who added that Vikki Parker, state APCCA director, shared words of encourage-

ment and new challenges for the centers.

During the last session of the day, Freeman led the group in a time of prayer, during which he mentioned each of the centers’ requests and asked God to encourage the centers and their staffs. Freeman prayed that God would continue the great work that He is doing at the centers.

Contact Caleb Yarbrough at caleb@arkansasbaptist.org.

150 YEARS

continued from page one

The church began its celebration June 18, when historian Russell P. Baker read a brief history of the church, highlighting the first 50 years of its existence.

“People were so interested and so attentive to what we had put together for them about the history of the

church and the history of the community,” said Linda Craig, church historian. “You could have heard a pin drop while Russell Baker was speaking.”

Attendees enjoyed music by Jerry and Allen of Little Rock and refreshments. The church also hosted tours of its new Fellowship Hall and Family Life Building.

Afterward, former pastors Heber Shreve and Vernual Ridgeway gave

brief presentations on their times of service at Board Camp Baptist Church. Steve Ellison, now pastor of Harvey’s Chapel Baptist Church in Hot Springs, who was raised, saved and baptized at the Board Camp church, spoke briefly.

“It was just an educational day, as well as an uplifting (day) and a blessing to me,” Craig said.

On the morning of June 19, Bob Williford from the Arkansas Bap-

tist State Convention presented the church with a certificate for 150 years of service. Those present enjoyed the music and a message.

“It means a lot to me to be part of a church who is loving and willing to do service,” Vonk said. “It doesn’t matter to me whether or not they have had 150 years of service, but you can see why they do.”

Contact Jenny Redfern at jenny@arkansasbaptist.org.

NLR church incurs \$15,000 in damage

Copper theft on the rise in Arkansas

Lisa Watson
Arkansas Baptist News

NORTH LITTLE ROCK – Copper thieves recently left behind heavy damage at an Arkansas Baptist church in North Little Rock.

Crystal Valley Baptist Church, North Little Rock, was among several churches and businesses in Central Arkansas that sustained damages to air conditioning units due to thieves searching for copper wiring.

All 10 of Crystal Valley's air conditioning units were stripped of copper and wiring June 29. Police believe the robbery at the North Little Rock church was the work of vandals who had already hit Oak Grove High School, which is near the church.

Crystal Valley Baptist Church Pastor Paul Loyd told the *Arkansas Baptist News* the church had sustained \$15,000 in damages.

Loyd said though the church staff and congregation members were disappointed in the behavior of those responsible, they also wanted to "extend ... mercy and full forgiveness" for the crime.

"It is the conviction of our church that the very gospel we preach is intended to resolve trespasses like that of thievery, in addition to the countless other trespasses like those which we, as



Damaged air conditioner units at Crystal Valley Baptist Church sinners, are ourselves guilty of," he said.

"It's the damage they cause when they do it that concerns property owners and law enforcement," said Lt. Carl Minden, Pulaski County Sheriff's Office public relations officer, in a KATV television report. "A hundred bucks is easy for someone to make off one of these hits, but when you cause \$15,000 worth of damage, you're committing a misdemeanor theft, but you're committing a felony on the damage."

KATV noted the price of copper has recently risen, which could be a reason why the units were targeted. Because of a law that prevents scrap

dealers from purchasing painted copper, the TV station suggested painting the copper.

Jeff Elmore, associate pastor at Second Baptist Church, Jacksonville, and auxiliary police officer and chaplain at the Jacksonville Police Department, said while it is difficult to prevent thieves from targeting this type of robbery, short of locking up the units, there are some deterrents a church or business can employ to make it less likely a thief will choose to vandalize its property.

He said thieves are usually "opportunistic" and are looking for the easiest place to hit, so installing visible video cameras and outdoor lighting can serve as deterrents. In addition, making sure the units are not visible to passersby may also help.

Elmore suggested church members and staff "get to know" members of the local police force.

"Have them come out to your place and walk around," he said, noting most police departments will do extra facility checks at night.

"Minister to them; invest in them," he said. "These are the people that are watching out for you when you aren't around."

In addition to his work as an auxiliary police officer, Elmore provides free consultations for churches that have questions about security issues. For more information, contact him at Second Baptist at 501-985-2502.

Contact Lisa Watson at lisa@arkansasbaptist.org.

HAIGWOOD

continued from page one

age. While preaching one Sunday morning, he took a sudden turn for the worse.

"All of a sudden, I started to pass out. Everything got blurry," said Haigwood. All he could think of was going home to rest. Later, he started to feel better, so he dismissed the episode.

He continued to follow his doctor's orders, but his health continued to suffer. "Twice within three weeks, I almost passed out. I was throwing up all the time," said Haigwood, whose doctors continued to treat him with antibiotics.

Finally, the week before Thanksgiving, Haigwood's doctor decided to admit him to the hospital.

"He had a very high blood count and was very close to sepsis (a whole body inflammatory response that can result in death)," said Kelli Haigwood.

An MRI showed fractures and infection throughout his leg. His doctors suggested amputation as an option.

Though Kelli Haigwood said she had suspected the possibility he might have to have the leg amputated, she was still shocked to hear the words. "But we said we want to do whatever we can for Daniel," she said.

Haigwood's reaction was similar. "I said if that's what we have to do, then we have to," he said, though he didn't want such drastic measures.

Doctors amputated Haigwood's leg Nov. 30.

The day of Haigwood's surgery, Kelli Haigwood said though she was

relieved to have an answer to their battle, she was also "devastated."

"I kept saying, 'God, he is a good man, and I know bad things happen to all of us ... but why couldn't it have been me.'"

God's provision

The couple said God provided for them in many ways, from the "flood" of people from Hermitage Baptist Church, staff members from previous churches and family members, to Christian doctors and even the nurse anesthetist, who was Daniel's long-time friend.

When Haigwood awoke from the surgery, he said the pain was the worst he had ever experienced. And he dealt with it in the only way he knew how to – he prayed for his wife and son, Faron.

"He started praying for me and Faron having to watch him like that," said Kelli Haigwood. "He prayed for God to help us bear what we were having to see."

For her, watching her husband suffer was almost unbearable. "Even being a nurse, I was thinking, in my 35 years, I can now say I know what helplessness feels like, as the love of my life was experiencing pain and there was nothing I could do about it."

Even after Haigwood started receiving pain medicine, he said he continued to pray "for anyone walking in the room, from the nurse with a bad attitude to the person cleaning the floor."

The couple said Daniel's son, Faron, whom he had adopted in 1999, provided a great source of strength.

"Faron and I bonded over Daniel's ordeal," said Kelli Haigwood.

"He was my rock."

"One night I remember laying on the couch, ... and I just felt such desperation," she said. "Then Faron came in and prayed, and it was almost as if his prayers were tangible, like a warm blanket over me," she said. "You could just feel the comfort in the room."

Haigwood was in the hospital for 11 days. And in that time, Kelli Haigwood said, he never stopped being a shepherd to the people he came in contact with. "He cared for everybody, ... and I gained strength from that." And through that strength, Kelli Haigwood said God carried them through.

Two weeks later, Haigwood was back in the pulpit at Hermitage Baptist Church.

At the end of January, Haigwood was fitted for his first prosthesis. He continued to recover and even went on a mission trip the week of March 23. He received his final prosthesis in May.

Enhanced ministry

The couple said they have witnessed God at work through the ordeal.

"Through the whole process, in our weakness, God's strength has been perfect," said Kelli Haigwood.

Haigwood agrees. "All things work together. What I try to see is how God has used us to minister to people. The testimony I have been able to give people who were watching how I was going to handle this has been good."

The couple said the experience helped strengthen their relationship with Hermitage Baptist Church and members of the community.

"In a short time, we needed to



Haigwood (left) ministers with students on a recent mission trip.

build trust, and through this ordeal, it has strengthened the bond we've had with the community and the church," said Haigwood.

Kelli Haigwood said she and her husband thought they would "love on the people" when they moved to Hermitage. But in fact, it had been the opposite.

"We came here with the idea that the church needed us," she said. "And it's not to say they didn't need us. But little did we know, we were going to need them, and they were there for us 100 percent. ... It's been an amazing process."

Contact Lisa Watson at lisa@arkansasbaptist.org.

The reason for the Cooperative Program

It is by coincidence that I have been watching History Channel specials the past few months via Netflix about the birth of our nation, the American Civil War and World War II.

So when the Fourth of July holiday rolled around this year, I was more than ready to thank God for our nation and the way He has seen us through thick and thin over the 235 years of our country's existence. We are not a perfect nation by any stretch of the imagination, but we are a great nation.

Celebrating the Fourth of July recently with my family got me to thinking about the history of Southern Baptists and about the Cooperative Program, our denomination's united giving plan.

Just like some citizens of the United States living today have forgotten what has made our nation great, so have some of our Southern Baptist brethren forgotten about things that have made us a great denomination.

When started in 1925, the Cooperative Program was an effort to move the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) away from a "societal" approach to mission giving and to a more "unified" method of



PRESSING ON

Tim Yarbrough

giving. It's easy to forget that before the Cooperative Program, individual SBC entities each made special appeals to churches for funds in order to fulfill their convention assignments.

The approach to funding missions sometimes resulted in severe financial deficits, competition among entities, overlapping pledge campaigns and emergency appeals from various SBC entities. In fact, some entities were forced to take out loans to cover operating costs until pledges or special offerings were received.

After the five-year 75 Million Campaign started in 1919 - which was a first effort to bring SBC missions and ministries together under one giving umbrella - the idea of partnership missions was conceived, and the Cooperative Program was established. From 1925 until today, the effectiveness and success of the Cooperative Program has been dependent on individual church members, their churches, state conventions and SBC entities working together to see the fulfillment of the Great Commission.

Giving by Arkansas Baptists supports a variety of ministries and missions, including evangelism ef-

forts, the children's home, volunteer missions, missions education, new churches, colleges and universities, collegiate ministries, camps and much, much more.

Missionaries at home in North America and abroad are dependent on gifts through the Cooperative Program to keep them on the field doing what God has called them to do. Today, Southern Baptists support nearly 11,000 home and foreign missionaries. In 2009 alone, ministries funded through the Cooperative Program resulted in more than 850,000 new believers being baptized worldwide.

Additionally, the Cooperative Program supports our six Southern Baptist seminaries that train and educate thousands of pastors, missionaries and future church leaders every year.

While space does not allow me to list everything the Cooperative Program accomplishes for the kingdom of God in the Natural State, here are a few notable numbers from 2010 of which all Arkansas Baptists should be proud:

■ 31 new churches in four dif-

ferent languages were started in the state through the cooperative efforts of the state convention, associations and churches.

■ 261 children and youth made professions of faith at the Arkansas Baptist Assembly last year.

■ 335 children received care through the Arkansas Baptist Children's Home, with 42 making professions of faith.

■ 515 people came to Christ through state convention efforts in the Mississippi River Ministry project.

■ 1,716 families were engaged through state convention family ministry events held last year.

As you can see, the gifts your church gives through the Cooperative Program make a huge difference in reaching the world for Jesus Christ.

So the next time someone tries to portray the Cooperative Program as an impersonal, faceless and outdated bureaucratic program, take a few extra minutes to share the kingdom impact it makes here at home in Arkansas, across our continent and abroad.

Tim Yarbrough is editor of the *Arkansas Baptist News*.



Jonesboro pastor reflects on time in Poland

As last year was drawing to a close, I began to seek out where to lead the Central Baptist Church, Jonesboro, singles ministry on mission in 2011. With so many opportunities to serve in the world, the task of narrowing it down was quite a challenge. As I met with our missions pastor, Larry Bailey, he suggested taking the group to Poland. To be honest, Poland had not even crossed my mind. I had always considered it as an area that was well represented in the mission world. Boy, was I ever wrong! Here is a country with 38 million people, with an estimate of only three-tenths of a percent who are actually Christians!

We contacted Chuck and

Vikki Franks, members of Central Church, who are currently serving in Poland. They desperately needed a team to prayer walk the region of Olsztyn to pray over the people living in the area and to blanket the area in prayer as they prepared for an upcoming 'family camp' for families who are suffering from addictions. They also needed a team to serve with a local church to host neighborhood block parties and to make home visits in the area. We formed a team of 10, six of whom had never been on a mission trip outside of the United States.

Our journey began when we arrived in Olsztyn, Poland, June 17. It was amazing to see how the Lord had blessed each team member

GUEST VIEWPOINT

Bobby Cole
membership pastor
Central Baptist, Jonesboro

with a different skill set. As we met the people of the region and were able to hear their hearts, challenges and situations, we realized they face the same struggles we do. They just need to know about the power of our Lord and about the saving grace they, too, can have through a relationship with Jesus Christ.

Prayer walking was new for many in our group. For me, prayer walk-

ing in a new area can be humbling. Prayer walking can be a way to block all outside influences out and to solely focus on our Creator and the beauty that surrounds us. It was an added blessing to be able to serve with Marcin, the local pastor of the Polish Baptist church in Olsztyn, as well as the senior pastor, who is 91 years young and still serving faithfully!

We also visited the concentration camp at Auschwitz, near Krakow, Poland. When we arrived, I could sense the death that had occurred there. As we toured the camp, I wondered what it must have been like to live in this horrible place.

As our guide shared the graphic

See **POLAND** page 9



Volume 110, Number 14 USPS08021
Member of the Association
of State Baptist Papers

Tim Yarbrough, editor
Lisa Watson, associate editor
Jessica Vanderpool, assistant editor/
office manager
Becky Hardwick, business manager
Nelle O'Bryan, advertising representative

www.arkansasbaptist.org

Subscribe to *Arkansas Baptist News*. Individuals send a \$11 check to the address below for a year's subscription. Churches take advantage of special rates: \$7.75 per year (Every Resident Family Plan), \$8.75 per year (Group Plan) by calling 800-838-2272, ext. 5153, or in the Little Rock area, call 376-4791, ext. 5153.

Submit news, features, photos or story ideas by phone, email, fax or regular mail. Call 800-838-2272, ext. 5153, or in the Little Rock area call 376-4791, ext. 5153. Email stories or suggestions to abn@arkansasbaptist.org or fax 501-372-4683. Mail stories or suggestions to the address below. The *Arkansas Baptist News* is not responsible for unsolicited manuscripts, articles or pictures and does not guarantee their use or return. Photos will be returned if accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Send letters to the editor to tim@arkansasbaptist.org or to the fax number above or the mailing address below. We prefer letters typed doublespaced, and they must be 300 words or less. Letters must be signed and marked "for publication."

Letters may be edited for style. A letters policy statement is available on request. Opinions expressed in letters are those of the writer alone, and publication should not be considered an endorsement.

Advertise in the *Arkansas Baptist News* by calling 800-838-2272, ext. 5155, or in the Little Rock area, call 376-4791, ext. 5155.

The *Arkansas Baptist News* (ISSN 1040-6056) is published bi-weekly by the *Arkansas Baptist News Magazine, Inc.*, 10 Remington Drive, Little Rock, AR 72204. Subscription rates are \$7.75 per year (Every

Resident Family Plan), \$8.75 per year (Group Plan), \$11 per year (Individual). *Arkansas Baptist News*, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203; phone 501-376-4791; toll-free 800-838-2272; email: abn@arkansasbaptist.org.

Periodical Postage paid at Little Rock, AR. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Arkansas Baptist News*, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203.

Board of Directors: Erby Burgess, Arkadelphia, president; David McCord, Mena, vice president; Jimmy Albrecht, Monticello; Dan Brawner, Harrisburg; Brett Cooper, Walnut Ridge; Lyndon Finney, Little Rock; Carol Foster, Paragould; Carl Garvin, Omaha; Shaun Hair, Crawfordsville; Kay Hardin, North Little Rock; Ricky Keen, Little Rock; Troy Sharp, Desha; and Jeff Thompson, Fort Smith.

Family Matters

Media blitz

Our society is consumed with media 24/7 through TV, radio, Internet, mobile phones, iPods and more.

How does a family respond to this cultural media blitz?

Option 1: Seclusion – Move to a remote area with no cell service, Internet or electricity?

Option 2: Permission – Allow your family to utilize any media option at will? Option 3: Commission – Guide your family to engage media with biblical wisdom? Let's surf through some channels of Option 3.

Media principles: Make it a habit to delve into Scripture and discover some biblical principles to guide your families' media habits. These passages will help you begin your journey: Genesis 3:6; Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Job 31:1; Psalm 119:9-16; Proverbs 4:23, 17:24, 23:7, 24:32; Daniel; Matthew 5:29, 6:22-23; Luke 11:34; Romans 8:6-8; 1 Corinthians 10:31; 2 Corinthians 4:18; Philippians 4:8; Hebrews 4:13, 12:1-3.

Media guidelines: Develop guidelines that arise out of biblical principles for media use, and explain the reasoning to your children. Communicate, in advance, the consequences for violating the guidelines.

Media dialogue: Dialogue about shows, songs and commercials. Ask what words, lyrics, lifestyles and worldviews are communicated? What does this movie (song, game, site) influence me to think, say, do, be? Where did this movie tell the truth and where did it tell lies about what is right and good? What actions in this story should we try to copy or avoid?

Media research: Critique the content of media you plan to listen to or watch. Search sites that help you discern, such as www.pluggedinonline.org and www.movieguide.org. Read books, such as "Logged On and Tuned Out" by Vicki Courtney and "Family Survival in an X-Rated World" by Adrian Rogers.

Media audit: Determine the total hours that you are tied to media for one day or for one week. What adjustments will you make to control the influence of media in your home?

Media fast: Discover times to totally unplug. Engage in a media fast, where you completely unplug all media for one day. Replace this time with reading, family games or other activities together.

Ben Phillips is team leader of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention family ministry team.



Praying to win the lottery

Sal Bentivenga was an atheist until recently. In a theological discussion with his mother, Gloria, he mocked her faith by praying that God would give her a million dollars. The next day, Gloria bought New York state lottery tickets (from her church's fundraiser) and won a million dollars. Sal is now a believer. You can read about it here: www.christianpost.com/news/atheist-converts-after-mock-prayer-for-mother-to-win-1m-lottery-is-answered-50600/.

I don't want to be too hard on Sal and Gloria – her "faith community" routinely depends on gambling to finance its ministries. Therefore, they would not have had exposure to teaching about the immorality of gambling. I pray that Sal's faith in God might mature to the point that he trusts Christ as his Savior. And I am certain that if I were Gloria, and my atheist child came to believe in God, I would be overjoyed.

What Sal and his mother miss in this discussion is that the money they won came from people who lost money. Perhaps some teenager blowing his allowance on a hand full of tickets will never miss what he lost. But what about an immigrant praying to a saint and who bought a lottery ticket with money he needed for his family. Gloria has his money. Perhaps it was a crack addict whose children needed milk or an elderly person trying to escape poverty through winning the

lottery. Gloria has their money, and because the lottery ticket costs a dollar, she has been enriched by a million losses.

I can't answer whether prayer or the law of statistics produced the winning lottery ticket. But if I were told that some deity would take the resources a hungry, poor family needed and give it to someone else on a whim, I'd be tempted to become an atheist.

What can we learn from the story? First, we cannot expect a lost world to understand either the morality or the theology of our faith. We must respond to them with patience, love

and Scripture.

Secondly, we must be more concerned with conversion than correction. We could correct the mistakes of Gloria and Sal, but more than correction, they need conversion. If converted, correction will follow. But there are many who are correct and yet unconverted.

Don't buy any lottery tickets. Honestly, I am glad Sal and Gloria are not Baptists. Sooner or later, I fear some church in Arkansas is going to be divided because some backslidden brother or sister has won a lottery prize.

Do you have questions about gambling? Larry Page at the Arkansas Faith and Ethics Council can help. Email him at llp@ArFaith.org.

Emil Turner is executive director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.



A PASTOR'S HEART

Emil Turner

How much did you spend on yourself?

In 1991, Randy Alcorn was a church pastor in Boring, Ore. He and others were burdened by the widespread abortion in this country. At an anti-abortion protest, he was arrested and singled out as a leader. In the wake of this action, a severe judgment of several million dollars was placed on him by the court. As Randy said, "I don't have hard feelings, but many lies were told in court. If someone is willing to take the life of a child, expect them to lie as well!"

Unable to pay the outlandish ruling, Randy started a new ministry and lived on a minimal salary. After 10 years, in February 2001, the judgment expired. At that juncture, the ministry's board informed him his salary could be increased. After all, books he had written were popular and had yielded high royalties (up to this point used exclusively for missions).

Randy explained that he and his family had become accustomed to their current lifestyle, were very happy and did not want a change. Soon after, the court extended the judgment for another 10 years. Fortuitously, in February 2011, the judgment was suspended.

Book royalties continue to flow to missions, but despite efforts of the board to improve Randy's well-being, he remains on a meager salary. This servant of God is blessed in many ways and has been a great encouragement to many Christians around the world. His books, among them "The Treasure Principle," "Heaven" and "The Law of Rewards," have influenced many.

Randy likes to say that he doesn't expect God will ever ask him why he lived on so little or gave away so much. He thinks a more likely question might be, "Why did you spend

so much on yourself?" "How much is enough?" is a valid question all of us should consider and act upon accordingly. When we learn of a lost world and the overwhelming needs of others, how can we Americans justify our materialistic lifestyle? Research reveals that people look at money only in a relative way – only from its relationship to what they see and want. Are you comparing your attitude toward money with God's standards or with those of the world in which you live?

David Moore is president of the Arkansas Baptist Foundation.

FINANCIAL TIMES

David Moore
Arkansas Baptist Foundation

On a Ship to Tarshish: God's Will for Your Life

by Jeff Crawford, CrossBooks, 2011

What is God's will for my life? It's a question that every Christian has asked himself or herself at one point or another.

"On A Ship to Tarshish: God's Will for Your Life," the new book by Pastor Jeff Crawford of Grand Avenue Baptist Church in Fort Smith, aims to answer this age-old question with insights from the book of Jonah.

Crawford says we live our lives in one of two ways: we either live out Plan A or Plan B. Crawford explains that Plan A is God's preferred plan for our lives, but through God giving us free will, we are given the choice to live out Plan B – life lived in accordance to our own desires, rather than those of God, just as Jonah chose to flee from God and travel to Tarshish.

Crawford says God's perfect will for our lives, Plan A, works according to "the principle of triangulation." Crawford goes on to explain triangulation is when

three fixed points are used to pinpoint a specific location. He says that, when locating Plan A in our lives, there are three questions, or points, we should use to triangulate our position:

- 1) "What is my fixation?"
- 2) "What is my location?"
- 3) "What is my vocation?"

Throughout "On A Ship to Tarshish: God's Will for Your Life," Crawford shows how these three simple questions can help us triangulate our position in regard to God's will for our lives. Crawford shows we are all Jonahs. While we may attempt life according to our own will, we must always come back to the realization that God's will is greater.

Caleb Yarbrough is a senior at the University of Georgia. He is serving this summer as an intern with the Arkansas Baptist News.

BOOK REVIEW

Caleb Yarbrough
Arkansas Baptist News

SUPER SUMMER

continued from page one

Contemporary Christian band Two Empty Chairs led the students in worship. Jon Randles was the camp speaker.

"The speaker was really up front with us about our faith and being, as he called it, 'dangerous disciples,'" said student Abby Root, a member of First Baptist Church, Arkadelphia. "The speaker and the band combined made for a great worship service, where everyone's focus was on God and building a relationship with Him."

Between the two camps, 90 churches were represented, 2,186 campers were present and 87 students made professions of faith in Christ.

Mills said decisions made during the week were significant.

"God called many students out to serve in missions and in church leadership," Mills said. He added that the Spirit of God "was moving in such profound ways across the camp that several churches were greatly impacted by what God was doing on the campus."

Joey Majors of Fayetteville, a camp counselor, has been involved in Super Summer for the past 11 years, either as a camper or leader.

"This year was great to be a part of because it felt like many of the students were there with a purpose and God really used Jon Randles, Two Empty Chairs and all of the youth workers and staffers to impact these students' lives," said Majors.

"I know, in my own small group,



Students play a game before worship in Jones Performing Arts Center. Photo by Wesley Kluck.

I was able to watch 10 guys from all over the state come together and open up to one another in a way I had not seen prior to this year. They shared things within the first day within our family group time that I feel would have taken years of friendship and accountability to share outside of that setting."

The Super Summer theme was Unshakeable from Acts 2:25. "We wanted to teach students to be unshakeable in their faith," said Mills.

The Unshakeable theme was reinforced when students met in small groups. A staff of college-aged students led the small group Bible studies. The groups were called "schools," and each school was represented by a color.

Students in grades 9-11 from all different churches were separated into the Blue, Green, Red, Yellow and Orange schools. By combining students from different church-

es, campers had the opportunity to meet new people and develop friendships, according to Super Summer planners.

Students who had just completed the 12th grade were assigned to the Camo school, which followed a different curriculum from the other schools. "The Camo school was strictly for high school graduates," and the curriculum and discussion topics were designed to help prepare the students for entering college or full-time employment, Mills said.

While not mandatory, students

and staff wore clothing to match the color of their school, creating unity within the group and enhancing the spirit of the camp, said Mills. School chants could be heard across campus as the groups made their way to recreation.

During recreation, students participated in games and activities, learning the importance of working as a team and getting to know people with whom they might not have otherwise connected, Mills said.

Contact Cassie Franklin at cassie@arkansasbaptist.org.

Campers suit up in team colors for recreation. Photos by Wesley Kluck.



THE R.C. RYAN CENTER FOR BIBLICAL STUDIES HOSTS

KJV 400

Legacy & Impact

A festival celebrating the broad cultural impact of the King James Version in honor of its 400th anniversary

September 15-17, 2011

Plenary lectures: Timothy George, John Woodbridge and Leland Ryken
Interdisciplinary analyses | Shakespearean play | Dramatic readings
Musical program | Art exhibit | Bible exhibits | Film screening

uu.edu/events/kjvlegacy
Jackson, Tennessee



UNION UNIVERSITY

Metro BCM ministers to internationals

Jenny Redfern
Arkansas Baptist News

LITTLE ROCK – It is Monday night at the Metro Baptist Collegiate Ministry (BCM) building in Little Rock, and dozens of international students and English-speaking volunteers are gathered for Conversation Club, a program facilitated by the International Friendship Outreach to assist international students with their English conversational skills.

Metro BCM minister and self-proclaimed hugger Teresa “Bit” Stephens is on the move, circulating through the crowd, greeting old friends and making new ones. Few, if any, pass by without an upbeat hello or warm embrace. Stephens stops several students to ask about the latest developments in their lives – whether it be the health of a family member or the challenge of a new job.

Soon, the dining area is filled with students from all over the world – including China, France, Malawi and several other countries.

The scent of grilled chicken fills the room, prepared specially by a Mediterranean restaurant in Little Rock. Stephens said the Islamic students normally do not eat with them because the meat must be prepared in a certain way, but tonight the BCM ordered the meat so it would be “kosher.”

“The ultimate goal of Conversation Club is to build relationships and friendships so that we can share Christ with them,” said Stephens. “(Internationals) may wholeheartedly disagree with you theologically, but as long as you are a friend, they will listen and respect you.”

Stephens said developing relationships could be as simple as giving them a ride to Walmart or helping them get their driver’s licenses. It could also mean being present in a time of crisis or transition.



Metro Baptist Collegiate minister Teresa “Bit” Stephens talks with two Conversation Club attendees as they enjoy their meals. Stephens found her heart for international ministry on a trip to China in 2008.



The Metro Baptist Collegiate Ministry team members and international students work together to prepare the meat for the night’s meal at Conversation Club. The chicken was specially ordered from a Mediterranean restaurant so the Islamic students would be able to join the ministry for dinner.

It was about three years ago, during a trip to China, that the Lord put a calling on Stephens’ heart for internationals. She had been to China 10 years earlier, but it was right after her mother had passed away and she had a hard time “engaging and embracing the opportunity.”

“I just hit my knees and prayed, ‘God, I don’t want to miss it this time, and I want to get everything I can out of this,’” she said.

Before her trip, students suggested Stephens read the books “Safely Home” by Randy Alcorn and “Heavenly Man” by Brother Yun. After reading these books, Stephens prayed that God would give her the opportunity to meet one house church member so she could interview him about his experience.

When she arrived in China, Stephens learned that one of her former students was working with missionaries that were training house church leaders. Through a series of circumstances, she was able to gain the trust of these missionaries and meet with them at their home. During her visit, the missionaries received a call from a group of house church leaders who said they would be coming to their home at 3 p.m.

Stephens recounted how the missionary turned to her and said, “Well, you wanted to meet house church members. Looks like this is your opportunity to do so. But you should know they never come to this house, only if someone is killed, or there is great persecution or they have an important question. It is too risky for them.”

At 3 p.m., there was a knock on the door, and seven house church pastors came into the home. When asked the purpose of their visit, the leaders responded, “We were praying this morning, and God told us

to come to your home at three.”

Stephens said she sat there and bawled like a baby.

“I’m from ‘Podunk,’ Arkansas, and God dropped me off in the middle of these people who would probably die for their faith and I got the chance to interview them for an hour,” she said. “I got to hear their stories of how they came to faith, and every one of them said their life’s goal was to die sharing the gospel so that the lost people would hear.”

Stephens said that moment really redirected her heart for international ministry and living out the Great Commission because she realized the end and Jesus’ return is closer than everyone might believe.

As the Conversation Club dinner draws to a close, Stephens helps arrange the students into small groups and hands out papers with a short list of conversation questions, such as, “What is your favorite way to spend the evening?” and “If you could own your own business, what would it be?”

A trained English-speaker leads each group through the list. Each week’s list usually contains one spiritual question, such as, “How would you describe God – a policeman, father, Santa Clause or other?” Questions such as this allow the volunteers to share their faith in Jesus Christ.

“There’s a quote that we use that has become very endearing to my heart that says, ‘We need to build a bridge that will bear the weight of truth,’” Stephens said. “That’s what we are trying to do – build that bridge within a solid relationship so when the time comes to share the truth of the gospel with them, they can listen.”

Contact Jenny Redfern at jenny@arkansasbaptist.org.

Teresa “Bit” Stephens

TERESA “BIT” Stephens, 50, has been working for the Arkansas Baptist Collegiate Ministry (BCM) for more than 20 years.

A native of Dierks, Stephens first came to know Christ as a freshman at the University of Central Arkansas (UCA) in 1980. The Lord then called her into the ministry at a statewide Baptist Student Union convention during the fall semester of her senior year.

Stephens started her work in the Arkansas BCM at Southern Arkansas University Tech in Camden in 1990. Four years later, she returned to her alma mater at UCA to become an associate minister. She then took over as BCM director for 10 years before going to the Metro BCM in June 2010.

Known as just “Bit” to friends and colleagues, Stephens received her nickname from playing softball when she was 11.

Stephens continues to be active in her spare time. She enjoys playing golf and tries to get in nine holes a week during the summer. Stephens is also a runner and completed her second marathon in March.

She said most of all she loves her work and enjoys her students.

“I love partnering with churches and watching them do ministry, seeing church members get plugged in and helping them see the big picture of missions,” she said.

Stephens said her favorite verse is Psalm 37:4, “Take delight in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart.”



Stephens

ABCHomes hosts biannual 'Alumni Day'

Stella Prather
ABCHomes

MONTICELLO - Tom Ripley of Lonoke still remembers pushing his twin bed up close to an open window in the Senior Boys Cottage at the Baptist Home during hot, humid summer evenings in the early 1960s.

"Of course there was no air conditioning back then, so all the boys would hope for a summer breeze at night," recalled Ripley, teasingly adding that "a few of us boys probably snuck out of those windows a time or two."

Ripley was among at least 80 former Baptist Home residents who took part in the biannual Alumni Day June 11 at the Baptist Home for Children in Monticello. Joining the alumni were a host of family members, former and current Home staff and several current residents.

During the event, which drew former residents from as far away as Charlotte, N.C., Seattle and Chicago, participants enjoyed a morning "meet and greet" time on the steps of the Baptist Home Administrative Building. Hugs, old photos, memories and tears abounded.

Throughout the day, participants toured the Home facilities, reminiscing of days gone by. Other participants and their families enjoyed a swim in the Baptist Home pool.



Alumni Day participants look at old Monticello High School yearbook photos.

Recalling his 1940s stay at the Home, then called the Bottom's Baptist Orphanage, Ermit Finch of Chicago told of "good times" living in the former boys dormitory. Finch later moved to Chicago when the Monticello Home headmaster relocated to serve with an Illinois Baptist children's home.

"This has been a great day," said Finch.

"It has been wonderful getting to see old friends," shared Clarence Roberts of Bauxite. He and his two siblings were Home residents in the 1940s.

At least 32 alumni who lived at the Home in the 1960s participated in the event. Many attri-

bute their attendance to Ron Greenwich and his wife, Alana. Ron is a former resident and missionary to Brazil who contacted and urged fellow alumni to attend.

"What a wonderful gift you and Ronnie gave us this weekend," shared former resident Genie Parker Garret. "It was a labor of love. Thank you."

Echoing such sentiments was Sandy Brown, who also thanked the Greenwiches. "Thanks to you and Ronnie for all the hard work. ... Time just wasn't long enough to get to visit with everybody."

Following a noon luncheon, door prizes were awarded to several alumni. The award for the youngest alumni in attendance went to Seth Pearson, who lived at the Home from 2005 to 2007. The oldest two participants were Roberts and Finch, both of whom are 78.

Sue Adams, who lived at the Home for 16 years, received the "Longest Resident" award. Also recognized for their long-term stay at the Home was Jerry Morrow and Olen Williams.

Jesse Jenkins of Monticello was awarded the "Shortest Distance" award, while Roy Bancroft of Seattle received the "Longest Distance" award. The "Most Siblings" award was given to The Parker Family: Nancy Parker Beene, Genie Parker Garret, Lois Parker Douglas and Max Parker.

Milestones

First Baptist Church, Yellville, recognized Dorothy Wickersham June 5 for 50 years of faithful service as a preschool Sunday school teacher. She received accolades, a reception and a gift from the congregation. Rick Pyron, pastor of First Baptist Church, likened her servanthood to that of Paul's helper, Phoebe, from the church at Cenchrea.

Church life

Life Line Baptist Church, Little Rock, will host a vacation Bible school block party at 4:30 p.m. July 31. For more information, call 501-568-5433 or visit www.lifelinebaptist.org.

Life Line Baptist Church, Little Rock, will host a World Changers Rally at 6 p.m. July 17. For more in-

formation, call 501-568-5433 or visit www.lifelinebaptist.org.

Nettleton Baptist Church, Jonesboro, will host the Mount Zion Baptist Association's Gro Thru women's ministry conference Aug. 27. The registration deadline is Aug. 24. For more information, call Tronnia Johnson at 870-972-6360 or Mount Zion Baptist Association at 870-935-5134.

On the move

Brian Williams is serving as pastor of Union Baptist Church, El Dorado.

David McKinney is serving on the staff of Cross Church, Fayetteville, as minister to college students.

To submit church information, email jessica@arkansasbaptist.org.

Obituary

Aaron Dean Nowland, 40, died May 28. A native of Missouri, he was born to Marney and Bessie Nowland in 1971, and he served as a minister and as an Army chaplain. He also

served in Arkansas as pastor of First Baptist Church, Helena. Survivors include his wife, Jo Nowland; three children; and two step-children. Funeral services were held at First Baptist Church in Monett, Mo., June 2.

Carpenter BUS SALES

going the extra mile since 1953



Clearance Sale!
Call for a complete
list of our
Best Priced Buses!



Visit www.carpenterbus.com to
see over 100 New & Used Buses In Stock.
We buy buses and welcome Trade-Ins.

CALL TOLL FREE: 800.370.6180

CHERYL E. TURNER



**Women's Motivational
Speaker
Humorist and Storyteller**

For information
337-457-8872
2569 Richard School Road
Eunice, LA 70535
cherylrutht@aol.com
sparrowsnestministries.com



Go to itickets.com
For ticket information

IN CONCERT GUY PENROD

Central Baptist Church
5200 Fairway Ave NLR
Phone: 501-771-1125

SATURDAY, August 13
7:00 pm

Doors open at 6:00

Ticket prices are
\$12.00 for general admission
Plus processing fee



Central Baptist team members visit a Baptist church in Poland.

POLAND

continued from page 4

details of what the innocent people endured, I looked deeply into the photographs along the walls of the actual people who were assigned to the camp. These were more than just random photos of men, women and

children. They were fathers, mothers, aunts, uncles, grandparents, cousins – families that were torn apart – families that were deceived into coming to the camps with no idea of the horror that awaited them. My body literally ached as I tried to grasp the torment and suffering they must have endured. All in all, approximately 1.1 million people died there (1 million were Jews).

This experience gave me a better grasp of the history of the Poles and of the many challenges that they have had to overcome. It helped the team to understand the Polish culture and gain a better understanding of the nation and of how Poles became the people they are today.

I was humbled as I thought of the many blessings that God has bestowed on us as Americans! We often take our freedom for granted, never realizing what life would be like if we were to lose it. I was reminded that God continually has His hand upon our nation, in spite of our sinful rebellion.

As our 10-day journey came to a close, we bade farewell to our new friends and to our brothers and sis-

ters in Christ. I will never forget my time in Poland and the experience at Auschwitz. I would encourage anyone who is sensing a call to missions to prayerfully consider minis-

tering to the people of Poland.

A short-term mission trip is a rewarding and life-changing experience. Take a leap of faith, pray it through and just GO!

Classifieds

PASTOR

Philadelphia Baptist Church of Jonesboro, Ark., is seeking a **senior pastor**. Please send resumes to pastorsearchpbc@gmail.com or mail to Philadelphia Baptist Church, 620 W. Philadelphia Rd., Jonesboro, AR 72401, Attn: Barry Bryant.

Rural church 12 miles west of El Dorado is seeking a **pastor**. A small membership, but very promising situation. Will consider bi-vocational or full-time. Liberty Association. Send resume to Midway Baptist Church, 129 Lynn Fite Road, El Dorado, AR 71730, by Aug. 1.

Cherry Street Baptist Church is currently seeking a **pastor**. CSBC is located in Clarksville, Ark., a city of 9,600 residents in Johnson County, where over 19,000 people reside. We have a loving, Christ-centered congregation and a beautiful sanctuary with a Sunday morning attendance of over 40. Our sanctuary accommodates approximately 250. We also have many classrooms to accommodate growth. The pastor's salary is \$40,000, plus a two-bedroom parsonage located next to CSBC. The University of Ozarks and downtown Clarksville are three blocks from CSBC. Staff includes a part-time secretary, nursery worker and custodian. We are praying for a God-called pastor who is willing to follow the lead of the Holy Spirit in a variety of possible ministries. Send Resumes to P.O. Box 378, Clarksville, AR 72830 or dstandri@suddenlink.net, or call Dennis at 479-754-8299.

Tate Springs Baptist Church, located in Arlington, Texas, is a multi-generational, conservative Southern Baptist Church looking for a **senior pastor** who can operate in a team approach with pastoral staff. Our total Sunday morning attendance is 600-650. Please forward resume to Terry Jeffries, pastor of administration, at terry@tatesprings.com or directly to the pulpit committee at pastorsearch@tatesprings.com.

McClendon Baptist Church of West Monroe, La., is seeking a **pastor**. We desire a man of God who possesses godly character, positive relational skills, solid biblical faith and a passion for preaching God's Word with a heart that loves the Lord and His people. A master's level seminary degree is desirable. Resumes can be sent to McClendon Baptist Church, Attention Pastor Search Committee, 206 Downing Pines Rd., West Monroe, LA 71292 or jrgardner@me.com.

First Baptist Church, Winslow, Ark., is seeking a **bi-vocational pastor**. We will accept resumes until Aug. 10, 2011. Please send to Pastoral Search Committee, First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 200, Winslow, AR 72959.

OTHER STAFF POSITIONS

Traditional, conservative, growing Southern Baptist church in Memphis, Tenn., metropolitan area seeks **minister of youth and recreation**. Send resume by July 31 to Personnel, Covenant Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1165, Collierville, TN 38027-1165.

First Baptist Church in Carlisle is seeking a **part-time or full-time music minister**. Send resume to First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 25, Carlisle, AR 72024.

First Baptist Church of Kearney, Mo., is receiving resumes and recommendations for the **full-time position of associate pastor for youth ministry**. The position will include secondary responsibilities, based on the individual's giftedness. Send information to Dr. Ken Parker, pastor, First Baptist Church, 303 S. Grove Street, Kearney, MO 64060 or kparker@kearneyfbc.com.

Central Baptist Church of Bearden, Knoxville,

Tenn., is seeking a **full-time minister of worship and music**. Qualified candidates should have a minimum of five years experience as a minister of worship and music, a music degree from an accredited college or university, seminary degree preferred, along with other qualifications. Information including our church profile and the job description may be viewed at <http://www.cbcbearden.org> under "Resources," then "Employment." Interested individuals may forward a resume to Search Committee For Minister Of Music And Worship, P.O. Box 51348, Knoxville, TN 37950-1348 or contact by email at musicsearch@cbcbearden.org.

Central Baptist Church in Pine Bluff, Ark., is seeking a **full-time worship pastor**. We are seeking a man that can lead in a variety of worship styles. We are seeking a man that can lead our people to live a life of worship as we seek to reach our community and beyond. Send resumes to P.O. Box 20336, White Hall, AR 71612, or email to cbc-pastor@cablelynx.com.

First Baptist Church of Paris, Ark., is seeking a **full- or part-time youth minister**. Send resumes to "Personnel Committee" at P.O. Box 567, Paris, AR 72855 or to jshearhart@parisfbc.com by Aug. 1. Please indicate on resume the desire for the full- or part-time position.

Bi-vocational youth director needed. Contact River Road Baptist, P.O. Box 161, Redfield, AR 72132. 501-397-2576 or 870-536-4109.

First Baptist Church of Siloam Springs, Ark., is looking for a **full-time children's minister** to lead an exciting and growing children's ministry. Please send resumes and inquiries to Search Committee, 2000 Dawn Hill Road, Siloam Springs, AR 72761, or email to office@fbc-siloam.com.

Marshall Road Baptist Church is interviewing for the position of **bi-vocational youth director**. Call 501-982-4564, ext. 22, or email at sammons2@comcast.net.

First Baptist Church, Forrest City, is seeking a **full-time minister of music**. If interested, send resume to 507 N. Rosser St., Forrest City, AR 72335.

Cullendale First Baptist Church, Camden, Ark., is seeking a **full-time youth/student life minister**. Salary based on experience and education. Current youth program averages 45-55 students weekly. Please send resume and, if possible, audio or video to bwilliams@cullendalefbc.org or 1850 Cash Road, Camden, AR 71701. Applications accepted until June 30, 2011.

First Baptist Church of Fordyce, Ark., is seeking a **full-time position for worship leader/education/senior adults**. If interested, please send resume to 501 North Main Street, Fordyce, AR 71742, Attn: Search Committee.

Growing church with exciting potential seeking **bi-vocational youth pastor**. Please send resume to Immanuel Baptist Church, Attention: Pastor George Spears, 2201 S. Dallas Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901. You can see our web page at www.immanuelbaptistfs.org.

MISCELLANEOUS

YOUTH RETREAT, etc. - Four log homes, 2.5 acres; walking distance to Magic Springs, Hot Springs; approximately 6,000 square feet (total). Call Patsy: 501-262-1142. ERA Rushing McAdams Polychron REALTORS.

DO YOU NEED A CHURCH PIANIST? We have **piano CDs** for churches to sing by. Hymns, Gospel, praise, hundreds of songs! Call for free demo. Worship Service Resources. 1-877-977-6800, www.wsrpianocds.com. Special church pricing.

CHURCH SERVICES DIRECTORY

Accounting

Your Accounting Needs
Barbara Taylor
Certified QuickBooks ProAdvisor
www.youraccountingneeds.com
QuickBooks sales and technical support

Baptistries/Steeple

Construction Sales Co., Inc.
P.O. Box 1049
Magnolia, AR 71753-1049
800-526-9663 FAX: 870-234-6475
Also laminated wood arches, beams and decking

Billboards

Bryant Outdoor Advertising, Inc.
Camden, AR 870-833-0441
www.bryantoutdoorsigns.com
bryantoutdoor@yahoo.com

Church Facility Planner

Sowell Architects
1315 North Street, Suite 100
Conway, AR 72034
501-450-9633 FAX: 501-450-7228
Email: rik@sowellarchitects.com
www.sowellarchitects.com
Master planning, site analysis
and all architectural services

The BDA Design Group, Inc.
210 North State Line Avenue, Suite 201
Texarkana, AR 71854
1-800-469-1193 Fax: 870-773-0163
Email: gsdbda@cableone.net
www.bdadesign.com
Architectural, Planning, Consulting,
Long-Range Planning, Master Plans,
Site-Facilities Evaluations

Clements & Associates/Architecture
507 Main Street
North Little Rock, AR 72114
501-375-3380/501-375-8231 (fax)
www.clementsarchitects.com
Architectural design and Master Planning Services,
Historic Preservation Consultants

Church Furnishings

Covenant Church Furniture
SOLID WOOD CONSTRUCTION
Ozark, MO - 800-248-8055
Email: sales@covenantchurchfurniture.com
www.covenantchurchfurniture.com
Pews, Chairs, Chancel Furniture, Upholstery,
Baptisteries, Stepples, Cupolas, Crosses, Theater/
Auditorium Seating and Custom Wood Products

Church Insurance

Michael B Russell, MA, MBA
Member, Cross Church, Springdale
Mike Russell & Associates
P.O. Box 709, Bentonville, AR 72712
877-715-5336, 479-657-6369 fax
www.protectmychurch.org AR Ins. Lic. #185726
Non-profit - Church - Commercial - Employee Benefits

Kitchen Equipment and Supplies

Aimco Equipment Co.
10001 Colonel Glenn Rd.
Little Rock, AR 72204
501-228-0808

Lighting and Sound

American Audio Inc.
P.O. Box 1719
Ruston, LA 71273
318-251-0290 FAX: 318-255-3363
www.americanaudioinc.com
Audio, Lighting & Video Systems, Design-Installation

Curtis Stout Audio/Visual

2400 Cantrell Rd. Ste. 100
Little Rock, AR 72202
Contact: Tracy McMahan, 501.255.1149
Email: tracy.mcmahan@chstoutav.com
Church Audio/Visual and Lighting Systems
Design-Sales-Installation
Ask About Our Free Audio Clinic At Your Church

Kyle Jennings Company

www.kylejenningscompany.com
501-282-2201
P.O. Box 3666
Hot Springs, AR 71914
Email: kyle@kylejenningscompany.com
Church Audio Systems, Led & Intelligent Lighting, Video
Projection Systems, Design-Build-Install

Playgrounds

Heartland Playgrounds
Rusty Peoples - rusty@peopleslandscaping.com
479-769-0580, (toll-free) 866-388-1365
www.heartlandparks.com
Quality park-playground equip, surfacing & shades
Free design consultations

To place your business in the monthly Church Service Directory, contact Nelle at 501-376-4791 ext. 5155 or nelle@arkansasbaptist.org.



ABSC calendar

- **July 18-22:** PraiseWorks – Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia
- **July 18-22:** Arkansas Baptist Assembly Youth Only Week – Siloam Springs
- **July 22-23:** Mission Service Corp Campus Ministers Workshop – Camp Paron
- **July 25:** WEE Workshop I – First Baptist Church, Fayetteville
- **July 25-30:** Arkansas Baptist Assembly Children's Only Week – Siloam Springs
- **July 25-28:** Hispanic Children's Camp – Ouachita Baptist Assembly, Mena
- **July 27-31:** Hispanic Youth Camp – Ouachita Baptist Assembly, Mena
- **July 28:** WEE Workshop II – Immanuel Baptist Church, Little Rock
- **July 29-30:** Wellspring – First Baptist Church, Hot Springs
- **Aug. 1-30:** Arkansas Baptist Children's Home Back to School Offering
- **Aug. 4-6:** Ouachita Baptist University New Students Retreat – Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia
- **Aug. 4:** Arkansas Baptist Foundation Board Meeting – Arkansas Baptist Foundation building, Little Rock
- **Aug. 12-13:** Hispanic Pastors' Retreat – Camp Paron
- **Aug. 16:** Your Church & Money seminar – Crossett and Hampton
- **Aug. 18:** Your Church & Money seminar – Paragould and Wynne
- **Aug. 20:** Disaster Relief Region 4 Training – First Baptist Church, Springdale
- **Oct. 1:** Acts 1:8 One Day Mission Trip – Ouachita Baptist Association (Mena and DeQueen area)

For more information on events, go to www.absc.org, or call 800-838-2272.

Mark your calendar

For parents, grandparents, pastors, church leadership, teachers, chaplains and others interested in learning about **Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder (ADHD) or Autism Spectrum Disorder:**

Sept. 3: Autism Spectrum Disorder conference led by Karan Burnette, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) Partners for Inclusive Communities.

Sept. 10: ADHD conference – medical and behavioral led by two doctors/professors from UAMS.

Conferences are free and space is limited. For more information, contact Chris Copeland at 800-838-2272, ext. 5249, or email ccopeland@absc.org.

Music scholarships awarded

THE ARKANSAS Master'Singers recently awarded the Master'Singers Memorial Scholarship to Canon Hoover and Clint O'Kelly.

Hoover is pursuing a bachelor's degree in music education from the University of Central Arkansas in Conway. He is a member of Central Baptist Church, Conway. O'Kelly recently graduated from Little Rock Christian Academy. He plans to attend John Brown University in Siloam Springs and to pursue a bachelor's degree in worship ministries.

"This year two candidates were equal on every level, so the commit-

tee determined to award two \$2,000 scholarships," said Larry Grayson, Arkansas Baptist State Convention leadership and worship team member and Master'Singers director.

Scholarship recipients are chosen by a number of criteria. The person must be pursuing a full-time call to vocational music/worship ministry, maintain a minimum 2.5 GPA and be involved in local church ministry.

Funds from the scholarship are provided by "love offerings" from

Master'Singers Festival of Song concerts, said Grayson. The Arkansas Master'Singers began offering the scholarship in 2000, determining "it was of great significance to invest in the lives of future worship leaders," said Grayson. "It is exciting that the group sees this need as a priority."

The Arkansas Master'Singers are ministers of music/worship leaders, directors, accompanists, choir leaders, pastors, staff members and staff spouses from Arkansas Baptist churches.



Students 'connect' to BCMs on Web

KNOW A high school junior or senior that will be going to college soon? If so, check out the Transitions Ministry Web site at <http://sbccampusconnect.net>.

This site connects juniors and seniors in high school with the Bap-

tist Collegiate Ministry (BCM) at the college or university they will be attending. Follow the link, and let the Baptist collegiate minister know who is coming to the campus where they serve. This information may also be networked to collegiate

churches in the same area.

The BCM and collegiate ministry team of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, along with other state conventions across the nation, provide Transitions Ministry and SBC Campus Connect.

For more information or for questions, please contact cmt@absc.org.



New stewardship workbook released

THE ARKANSAS Baptist State Convention (ABSC) leadership and worship team recently released a new workbook on stewardship called Hope & Help for Tough Economic Times. The workbook teaches church members life stewardship and financial principles from a biblical viewpoint, according to Denny Wright, Arkansas Baptist State Convention (ABSC) leadership and worship team leader.

Wright leads Stewardship Sunday seminars at churches to outline the principles of the book, highlighting five key areas of lifestyle management: priorities, emotions, faith, abilities and energy. The seminars include a Sunday school session for all adults and students, a "stewardship" sermon during the morning worship service and a Sunday

evening session on wise financial management principles. Attendees receive a notebook with an outline of all three sessions and supplemental resources. More than 50 Arkansas Baptist churches have requested the new workbook.

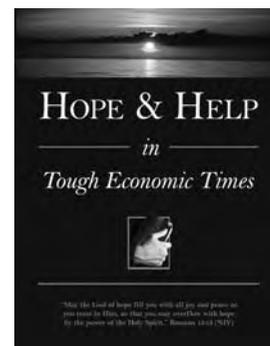
In addition, more than 400 Arkansas Baptist churches have requested another stewardship workbook titled How to Take the Stew Out of Stewardship. The workbook outlines guidelines for family finances and how to get out of debt. William Jaques, a member of the ABSC leadership and worship team, also leads Stewardship Sunday seminars at churches, teaching principles

found in the How to Take the Stew Out of Stewardship workbook.

Both seminars are free for Arkansas Baptist churches.

To schedule a Hope & Help for Tough Economic Times seminar, contact Wright at 800-838-2272, ext. 5114, or email dwright@absc.org. To schedule a How to Take the Stew out of Stewardship seminar, contact Jaques at 800-838-2272, ext. 5160, or email wjaques@absc.org. Go to www.absc.org/stewardship for a

schedule and testimonies. Request a free pastor's information packet from Cindy Smith at csmith@absc.org.



"Your Church & Money seminars" planned

MINISTERS, CHURCH employees, church treasurers, financial secretaries and financial committees are invited to attend one of the free Your Church & Money seminars.

The seminars, led by William Jaques, Arkansas Baptist State Convention (ABSC) leadership and worship team member, include information on the following: the church as employer (payroll reporting requirements, classification of employees, special tax rules for ministers, IRS compliance, ministerial staff compensation); the church as a non-profit organization (prevent-

ing false accusations, proper cash controls, charitable giving law, basics for budgeting); cultivating generosity in your church (importance of stewardship promotion, available resources); and other information.

The 2011 seminar schedule is:

- Aug. 16:** 9 a.m., Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Crossett
- Aug. 16:** 6 p.m., First Baptist Church, Hampton
- Aug. 18:** 9 a.m., East Side Baptist Church, Paragould
- Aug. 18:** 6 p.m., Wynne Baptist Church, Wynne
- Aug. 23:** 9 a.m., First Baptist

Church, Marshall

Aug. 23: 6 p.m., First Baptist Church, Morrilton

Aug. 30: 9 a.m., First Baptist Church, Waldron

Aug. 30: 6 p.m., First Baptist Church, Fayetteville

Sept. 6: 9 a.m., ABSC building, Little Rock

Sept. 6: 6 p.m., Central Baptist Church, White Hall

Preregistration is required. Go to www.absc.org/guidestone, or call 800-838-2272, ext. 5160.

For additional information, email Connie McCall at cmccall@absc.org.

Settle down

The storms of April and May were devastating. On one of those evenings when tornados were popping up everywhere, a break in the dark clouds let the sun shine through for a while. The sun, low in the west, reflected off the dark clouds in the east, and one of the brightest rainbows emerged over the city of Mena. The rainbow served as a vivid reminder of hope.

Jeremiah's letter to the exiles in Babylon, found in Jeremiah 29, was a letter of hope during a dark time. The exiles needed a message of hope. They needed to hear that

God would one day bring them back to Jerusalem and restore them. What they did not want to hear was that it would be 70 years before restoration would occur, but still, they had hope.

Jeremiah encouraged the people to settle down where they were – build houses, plant gardens, marry, have children and invest in their community.

Being in exile was not what they wanted, but they were there for a reason and they needed to make the most of the situation. False prophets and diviners were telling the people

that the exile would be short-lived. Jeremiah told the people not to listen to them; their time in exile would be lengthy (Jer. 29:10).

The promises of hope in Jeremiah 29:11-14 are promises which we all can hold. Jeremiah's message of hope begins with, "I know the plans that I have for you" (Jer. 29:11). The promises Jeremiah list are beautiful

and timeless. "Plans for welfare and not for calamity." Plans for "... a future and a hope." "Call upon Me ... and I will listen to you." "Seek Me ... search for Me ... and I will be found by you." "I will restore ... I will gather ... I will bring you back ..."

When we know there is hope, we can go on even in the midst of dark times.

EXPLORE THE BIBLE JULY 24, 2011

David McCord
pastor
First Baptist Church, Mena
Scripture passage:
Jeremiah 26:1-29:32

Growing up in East Texas, several people in my family held local political office from time to time, including my grandfather, my father and an uncle.

Consequently, our family name was well known and well respected in that small town. Most times, when I went out with my friends, my dad would send me off by saying, "Boy, remember whose son you are." He knew that my activities on a Saturday night could affect the reputation

and livelihood of my family. Since I was a "junior," any time I did something stupid, the word would get back to my dad, usually sooner than

later.

"Remembering whose son I was" carried an expectation for a certain level of behavior. It also provided opportunities I might not have had otherwise. My family

had worked hard for that good name, but succeeding generations would have the responsibility of

BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE JULY 24, 2011

Lynn Riley
Evangelism and Church
Growth Team, ABSC

Scripture passage:
Romans 6:1-23

Check your direction

The day I received Jesus as my Savior is as vivid in my mind today as it was in April 1979. I had been under conviction by the Holy Spirit for a long time. On a Monday evening, during a revival service, the truth of Jesus Christ and my need for forgiveness gripped my heart. Receiving Jesus changed my life eternally.

In Jeremiah 31:31, the Lord promised that He would establish a new covenant with Israel. The covenant God entered into with Moses and the Hebrew people (Ex. 24:1-8) was broken time and again. Forgetting God, idolatry and immorality

was an ever-present problem for Israel. The new covenant would be a covenant written on the heart, a covenant based on a personal relationship, a covenant of forgiveness and a covenant where sins would be remembered no more (Jer. 31:33-34).

God's gift of His only begotten Son is the fulfillment of the promise of a new covenant. The foundation of the new covenant is the cross and resurrection of Jesus. The cross and resurrection are why hearts and lives can be eternally changed. They are the reason we can have a personal, intimate relationship with both God

the Son and God the Father. The cross and resurrection make forgive-

ness of sin possible. Jesus was our substitute, dying in our place for our sin. He then sealed our forgiveness by defeating death caused by sin. The cross and resurrection are why God says your "sin I will remember no more" (Jer. 31:34).

The cross and resurrection are at the heart of the new covenant. The

only way the promises of the new covenant can make a difference in

your life is if you accept, by faith, Jesus as your Savior.

Romans 10:9 says, "If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead,

you shall be saved." Receiving Jesus changes your life eternally.

EXPLORE THE BIBLE JULY 31, 2011

David McCord
pastor
First Baptist Church, Mena
Scripture passages:
Jeremiah 30:1-33:26

When my girls were little, I would ask them how much they loved me.

They would usually throw their arms as wide as they could and say, "I love you this much." Once, however, when I asked the question, one of them said, "Daddy, I love you 12." I'm

not sure what that meant, but to a 3-year-old, 12 was enough.

If someone were to ask you how much you loved your neighbor,

what would you say? And how could you prove that you really did love

them? Paul set the standard for the Galatians when he gave them the same answer Christ gave the Jewish leaders in Matthew 22. Love your neighbor just like you love yourself. How do you prove that love? By serving

them. Without service, our words and our commitments are empty and hollow.

What a great ideal to strive for.

We should look at those around us and find ways to impact their lives for good. That would not be hard, except there are some folks who are either hard to love or refuse to be loved. At this point, all our great ideals break down in the face of reality. Loving the unlovely is next to impossible if we attempt it in our own strength and character.

Paul revealed a fleshly nature that is selfish and contrary to the nature of Christ. Only by living in the power of God's Spirit are we able to produce the fruit of the Spirit. It is interesting that Paul referred to "works" of the flesh, implying forced activity, but "fruit" of the Spirit,

revealing that when we are grafted into a relationship with Christ, the evidence will be there. Paul continued the analogy in chapter 6, referring to sowing in the Spirit in order to reap eternal rewards.

Charles Spurgeon said, "It is one thing to love to preach. It is another thing to love the people you preach to."

Charlie Brown of the comic strip Peanuts said basically the same thing when he noted, "I love mankind. It's people I can't stand." Are you using your freedom in Christ to love others as He loved you? By doing so, you reveal "Christ in you, the hope of glory" (Col. 1:27).

BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE JULY 31, 2011

Lynn Riley
Evangelism and Church
Growth Team, ABSC

Scripture passage:
Galatians 5:13-6:10

Personal service



NEWS DIGEST

CP down slightly from last year's pace

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) - Year-to-date contributions to Southern Baptist national and international missions and ministries received by the SBC Executive Committee are .36 percent below the same time frame last year, announced the SBC Executive Committee.

The total includes receipts from state conventions and fellowships, churches and individuals for distribution, according to the 2010-11 SBC Cooperative Program Allocation Budget.

As of June 30, gifts received by the Executive Committee for distribution through the Cooperative Program (CP) Allocation Budget totaled \$144,994,409.71, or \$526,010.70 behind the \$145,520,420.41 received at the end of June 2010.

Designated giving of \$168,099,359.68 for the same year-to-date period is 2.82 percent, or \$4,873,054.62, below gifts of \$172,972,414.30 received at this point last year.

Monthly CP allocation receipts for SBC work totaled \$14,680,005.27, while designated gifts received last month amounted to \$20,810,030.20.

Month-to-month swings reflect a number of factors, including the timing of receipts from state conventions. The end-of-month total represents money received by close of business on the last business day of each month.

Calif. gay history bill may become law

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (BP) - In a move that could impact the rest of the nation, California is close to becoming the first state to mandate the teaching of gay history in public schools after the state legislature passed such a bill July 5, sending it to the governor.

Gov. Jerry Brown, a Democrat, has not said whether

he would sign it, but he sides with homosexual groups on most issues and supports "gay marriage." Supporters tried to pass a similar bill in 2006 but stripped the language in the face of opposition from then-Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger.

The bill passed the Assembly, 49-25, nearly three months after it passed the state Senate, 23-14. Both are controlled by Democrats.

Pro-lifers' streak of state wins continues

WASHINGTON (BP) - The New Hampshire legislature has overcome the veto of a parental notification bill, delivering what its advocates consider a victory for unborn babies, pregnant minors and parents.

It is but the latest of pro-life wins on the state level.

The New Hampshire House of Representatives voted 266 to 102 and the Senate 17 to 7 for the override, providing the super majority needed to prevail over Democratic Gov. John Lynch's veto.

The new law requires an abortion doctor to notify in writing at least one parent of an under-age girl 48 hours before doing an abortion. Republicans control both chambers.

A National Right to Life Committee (NRLC) spokeswoman said the legislature's June 22 action "righted a terrible wrong."

Lynch cited the lack of an exception for rape and incest among the reasons for his veto. NRLC said Lynch's stated reasons for the veto form a "litany of excuses" that support exceptions that would aid abusers of minor girls.

There are now 30 states with effective, parental involvement laws that are being enforced, according to NRLC.

Subscriber services

The *Arkansas Baptist News* offers subscription plans at three rates for the printed edition and three rates for the *ABN Now*, the digital edition:

■ The **Every Resident Family Plan** offers churches a premium rate when they send the *ABN* to all their resident households. Resident families are calculated to be at least one-fourth of the church's Sunday school enrollment. Churches who send only to members who request a subscription do not qualify for this lower rate of \$7.75 per year (print) and \$4 (digital) for each subscription.

■ The **Group Plan** allows church members to receive a discount when 10 or more individuals send their subscriptions together through their local church. Subscribers pay

\$8.75 per year (print) and \$5 (digital).

■ **Individual subscriptions** may be purchased at the rate of \$11 per year (print) and \$6 (digital).

Changes of address by individuals may be made with the address label above.

When inquiring about a subscription by mail, please include the address label. Individuals also may call the *ABN* at 501-376-4791, ext. 5153, or toll-free in state at 800-838-2272. Be prepared to provide code line information printed on the mailing label.

Individual subscriptions for both editions may be purchased at www.arkansasbaptist.org. Please call the *ABN* office to discuss church plans.



Board Camp

Mena church celebrates 150 years of continuous ministry.

PAGE 1

Joplin ministry

First Baptist Church, Alma, ministers in Joplin, Mo., after tornado.

PAGE 2

Super Summer reaches Arkansas Baptist students

PAGE 1



Photo by Wesley Kluck

Find us on [facebook](#) and [twitter](#) as ArkBaptNews