

Frank Page inaugurated

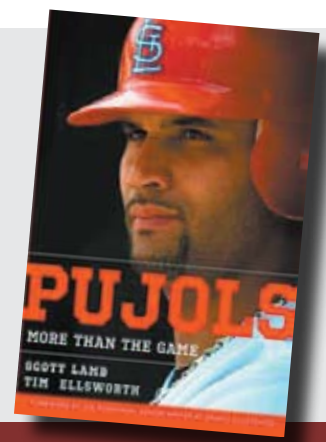
Frank Page inaugurated as SBC Executive Committee president.

page 3

Pujols biography

New biography examines Christian faith of St. Louis Cardinal Albert Pujols.

page 10



Don Jones 'AM of Year'

Tim Yarbrough
Arkansas Baptist News

ARKADELPHIA - "(When) I surrendered to the gospel ministry in 1969, Mary Ann and I knelt by our bed and prayed ... we had no idea of the path God laid out for us."

That was Don Jones' comment after being named Arkansas Associational Missionary of the Year at a banquet held at Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia Feb. 23.



Don Jones

Ouachita sponsors the award annually to highlight the work of associational missionaries across the state. The award is the highlight of the Associational Missionaries Retreat sponsored by the Arkansas Baptist State Convention (ABSC) and held at DeGray Lake State Park.

Prior to making the announcement, Ouachita president Rex Horne thanked associational missionaries from 42 associations in the state for their faithful service.

"Each year we do this, we present the award to one Arkansas Baptist associational missionary, but by selecting one, what we really hope to do is to honor all of you and the work that you do," said Horne. "We understand and appreciate the

See **DON JONES** page 3



Neighborly service

Sharrol Frederick, member at First Baptist Church, Sherwood, works alongside other church members as they help with chores around the community on the first "Me 2 You" work day.

Sportsmen events on the rise

Lisa Watson
Arkansas Baptist News

WHETHER HUNTING for a trophy buck or trolling for a big bass, many Arkansans spend their free time in the great outdoors.

Men (and women) swap stories about "the one that got away" and display their "big buck" on the wall of their home.

You could say outdoor sports are a way of life for many who call the Natural State home.

In the past few years, several Arkansas Baptist churches have found a way to use outdoor recreation as a way to share the love of Christ with others - through wild game dinners and other evangelistic outdoors events.

Though some churches actually serve wild game, others keep it simple, offering fried fish or barbecue. Whatever the menu, the intent is the same - to share Jesus Christ with men (and in some cases women) who would otherwise never come to church.

One of the largest sportsmen events in the area, Huntfest, is sponsored by Little Rock's First Church. Now in its third year, Huntfest was held

See **SPORTSMEN EVENTS** page 6

State execs agree to 50/50 CP allocation

Tim Yarbrough
Arkansas Baptist News

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. - State convention executive directors agreed to affirm a portion of the Great Commission Resurgence (GCR) report requesting a 50/50 division of Cooperative Program (CP) receipts - after consideration for shared ministry funds - between state conventions and the Southern Baptist Executive Committee.

Frank Page, Executive Committee president and chief operating officer, announced the agreement during his Executive Committee report Feb. 22 in Nashville, Tenn.

State convention executive directors agreed to the move at their annual meeting Feb. 14-17 in Williamsburg, said Emil Turner, executive director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention and president of the Fellowship of State Executive Directors for 2011-12.

Turner emphasized that state executive directors felt it important to make a statement to affirm their "strong support" of the Cooperative Program in light of the approval of the GCR report by Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) messengers last June.

"State conventions are already in this thing," said Turner. "Several years ago state executive directors agreed to get more money to the Executive Committee. Since then, we have all been working together to make that a reality."

Turner said the concept of shared ministry funds in state conventions has been around since the establishment of the Cooperative Program in 1925. Shared ministry funds differ from state convention to state convention, but include monies set aside for various state-supported ministries. Shared ministry fund allocations are not counted as part of the 50/50 CP allocation forwarded to the SBC.

"It has strong historic roots," said Turner, referring to the shared min-

istry funds. Turner has led the Arkansas convention to increase the percentage of receipts forwarded to the SBC by two-tenths of a percentage every year for the past five years. Arkansas' budget formulation study committee begins meetings in March to determine funding allocations for the next five years.

Turner presented the fellowship's official statement to Page on Feb. 18, which reads in its entirety: "We affirm the challenge of the Great Commission Resurgence report that each state convention, within their own autonomy, strive to achieve the historic goal of 50/50 division of Cooperative Program receipts with the Southern Baptist Convention after consideration of allocations for shared ministries."

In an email sent to Page on behalf of the fellowship, Turner said, "We appreciate you and believe that you and we, working together, can strengthen the Cooperative Program and the SBC."

See **CP ALLOCATION** page 2

Turner to lead state execs

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. - Emil Turner, executive director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention since January 1996, was elected president of the Fellowship of State Executive Directors for 2011-12 during their annual meeting Feb. 14-17.

As president, Turner will preside at the 2012 meeting of the



Emil Turner

group, which will be held in Phoenix, Ariz. The Fellowship of State Executive Directors is comprised of the state executives of the 42 Baptist state conventions.

Mark Edlund, executive director of the Colorado Baptist General Convention, was voted president-elect at the meeting.

North American Mission Board transfers World Changers, RAs to LifeWay, WMU

ALPHARETTA, Ga. - World Changers and Royal Ambassadors will no longer be the primary responsibility of the North American Mission Board (NAMB) starting in 2012, according to the Southern Baptist domestic missions entity.

These two major announcements affecting the Southern Baptist programs were made by NAMB in the span of less than a week.

A partnership between NAMB and LifeWay Christian Resources was announced Feb. 24 by NAMB president Kevin Ezell and LifeWay president

Thom Rainer. The partnership impacts both World Changers and PowerPlant, NAMB's student mobilization initiatives.

"I am thrilled that NAMB and LifeWay can come together like this to make a good thing even better," said Ezell. "This is the kind of cooperation Southern Baptists expect from their entities."

World Changers has "a rich history at NAMB and the Brotherhood Commission before that," Ezell said. "We've designed this partnership to build on that history. NAMB will stay very closely involved, and we are planning for World Changers to be a key component in our new 'Send North America' strategy to mobilize churches and individuals for evangelistic church planting."

Rainer said the partnership complements the vision held by both entities to engage people at their place of need and share the love of Christ.

"Streamlining our ministry endeavors in this manner will only serve to advance our kingdom effectiveness," Rainer said. "Southern Baptists will see the productivity of both of these great outreach ministries escalate in the days ahead through this partnership."

Under the partnership, World Changers and PowerPlant will build

on LifeWay's existing student mobilization efforts through Centrifuge and MFuge. However, while Centrifuge is geared more as a summer worship and Bible study camp, and MFuge is geared more toward a missions/camp experience, World Changers and PowerPlant have more proactive, "hands-on" mission experiences - offering students opportunities to share the gospel and participate in church planting.

The shift in responsibility for World Changers and PowerPlant from NAMB to LifeWay will not affect the

2011 summer projects.

World Changers is a pre-packaged mission experience for students, originally under the auspices of the former SBC Brotherhood Commission and under NAMB starting in 1997. The PowerPlant program allows students to gain experience in church planting and evangelism.

RAs, Challengers to WMU

NAMB announced March 1 that it would partner with the Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) for day-to-day operations and oversight of Royal Ambassadors (RA) and Challengers missions education organizations.

NAMB will continue to produce materials for the Baptist Men's program.

"While NAMB has the SBC assignment for missions education and will continue to do so, the reality of tighter budgets, fewer staff and a narrowing of focus means we must find new ways of fulfilling the missions education assignment," said Mike Ebert, NAMB's vice president for communications, in a statement to its missions education partners.

"NAMB has had a valued partnership with WMU since its formation and recognizes the tremendous contributions WMU has made to missions education," said Ebert.



Students help repair a home at a World Changers site in Fort Smith. Photo by Whitney Crews

The Royal Ambassador program was created and maintained by WMU from its beginning in 1908 until it transferred to the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission in 1957. The Brotherhood Commission was merged into NAMB in 1997.

Ebert said transferring RAs and Challengers to WMU has "two significant benefits" to the local church.

"Churches will have a coordinated curriculum for GA and RA and for Acteens and Challengers," said Ebert. "Churches will have one central place for ordering materials for children's and youth missions education organizations."

Charity Gardner, interim WMU executive director for the missions support team at the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, said the move would result in closer integration of mission education programs.

"We look forward to continuing our partnership and creating a

closer relationship with Royal Ambassadors and Challengers," said Gardner.

"Through this relationship, we hope that missions education and involvement will increase in Arkansas Baptist State Convention churches."

NAMB will continue to have a team that is charged with missions education, and that team will work with WMU to facilitate a smooth transition, said Ebert. "In addition, missions education will be infused and integrated into significant areas of NAMB's work and strategy," he said.

Supplemental missions education resources for all ages that may be used to complement WMU's efforts will continue to be produced by NAMB, said Ebert, but will no longer be focused on the organizational approaches for children and youth.

Compiled from Baptist Press and other sources.



CP ALLOCATION

Turner said the move is "historic."

"What makes it significant is that it is the first time state execs and the Executive Committee have agreed on the principles of shared ministry items," he said.

The GCR report, approved by messengers to the SBC annual meeting in Orlando in June 2010, included in "Component Three" a request for increased CP and "other Great Commission" giving by churches and state conventions.

Additionally, the GCR report listed "Challenges" for various SBC entities, including those for state conventions, stating the need to "return to the historic ideal of a 50/50 Cooperative Program distribution between the state conventions and the SBC."

A 50/50 distribution of CP funds between states and the SBC has been realized at times by various state conventions, but not maintained. Some state conventions have announced plans to work toward a

return to a 50/50 allocation.

David Hankins, executive director of the Louisiana Baptist Convention and former vice president in charge of CP promotion at the SBC Executive Board, said as a whole, state conventions send a larger percentage of their receipts to the SBC today than they have in previous years.

The average, in 2009, was 38 percent, compared to 37 percent in the 1980s and 1990s, said Hankins, who researched SBC annuals.

"The last 10 years it has inched upward about 1.5 percent in (the) SBC's favor," said Hankins.

We are headed to a 39-40 percent range for (the) SBC, and that's in a time when (the) percentage from churches continues to decline rapidly."

State conventions are free to set their own timeline for realization of the 50/50 CP allocation, emphasized Turner.

Contact Tim Yarbrough at tim@arkansasbaptist.org

continued from page one

Page inaugurated Exec. Comm. president

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) – Frank Page was inaugurated as the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) Executive Committee's sixth president during a ceremony held in Nashville, Tenn., Feb. 21.

Page officially assumed the position Oct. 1 after serving 30 years as a pastor and in various denominational roles, including as SBC president. Several of Page's colleagues spoke and prayed for him.

"Frank has a pastor's heart," said Roger Spradlin, chairman of the Executive Committee. "He served as a pastor for many, many years. He loves pastors. He understands pastors. He has a deep commitment to help pastors in their tasks in the local church." Spradlin is pastor of Valley Baptist Church in Bakersfield, Calif.

Page delivered a statement of his vision for the office, saying he wants to have priorities that would please the Lord.

"I really will be quite happy when tonight is over because I'm not real

comfortable with this kind of attention to be quite honest with you," said Page.

"I would be quite happy if you would forget me and remember our Lord.

"But God has called me to this position, and I am honored to be a part of this. So I speak to you tonight about a simple, biblical vision that I think the Lord brought to my heart," Page said, pointing to Genesis 12, the passage where God promises to make Abraham into a great nation and bless him so that he can be a blessing to others.

Rick Lance, executive director of the Alabama Baptist State Board of Missions, delivered a charge on behalf of Page's colleagues at the 42 Baptist state conventions. He challenged Page to remember that being a follower of Christ is a prerequisite to being a Christian leader.

"You will never catch up to Christ, but you must keep following Him," Lance said. "Continue to be faithful to your calling."



Members of the SBC Executive Committee gather to pray for Frank and Dayle Page following his inauguration as president of the Executive Committee Feb. 21. *Photo by Morris Abernathy*

DON JONES

continued from page one

Rex Horne, OBU president, presents Don Jones, center, a plaque after Jones was named Arkansas Baptist Associational Missionary of the Year. Left is Jones' wife, Mary Ann.



role that you play in the kingdom of God."

About Jones, Horne said, "The man we honor tonight is typical of the qualities found in all of those who have been called to the important tasks of associational leadership."

Jones leads Little River Baptist Association in Nashville, which includes the congregations of 29 churches and two missions in southwest Arkansas. In the past 19 years, Jones has led the association to establish four new churches, and he has also formed the two missions to reach out to Hispanic and Hmong people groups. Additionally, he has led a church planting movement among cowboy churches, helping to form the Arkansas Fellowship of Cowboy Churches, of which he served as president for two years.

"(Of) all the experiences we've had in (these) 40-plus years of ministry, this is one of the highlights,"

said Jones of his work with cowboy churches.

"I'm a cowboy at heart. I was raised in that heritage, and I've been involved in western heritage ministry before starting the cowboy church. We preached in sale barns and that sort of thing. Like I said, I'm a cowboy at heart."

What has been most gratifying is how cowboy-style churches are reaching people for Jesus Christ who previously did not attend or who were disenchanted with church, said Jones.

"It has been unreal this past year – seeing guys up in their 60s, 70s and even up in their 80s coming to know the Lord. We baptize more adults than we do anyone else," he said. "And it's not just us. We are seeing it in all of our other cowboy churches across the state."

Five years ago, Jones led in the establishment of Cross Point Cowboy Church in Nashville to reach



Officers elected at the Associational Missionary Retreat are: Jeff Thompson, president, center; Larry White, president elect, right; and Glenn Bien, secretary/treasurer.

out to people with a strong western culture. The church has experienced tremendous growth.

"We started out with 29 our first Sunday. The Sunday before last we had 187, (and) we've had as many as 300 in special services – actually 340-something in one of our camp meetings," Jones said. "Some of them have never been in church. Some of them have been in church in the past and, for whatever reason, got burned. But when they come there, they find a sense of welcome and a sense of belonging," he said.

Jones was pastor of First Baptist Church, Mount Ida, when he was called in September 1991 to serve as associational missionary in Little River Baptist Association. He was employed as a fisheries biologist with the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and as vice president of Water Resources Inc. in DeQueen while serving as pastor of churches in Blevins, Wickes, Hat-

field and Bloomberg, Texas.

Jones and his wife, Mary Ann, have two children and four grandchildren.

The Associational Missionaries Retreat included training and brainstorming sessions for associational missionaries and their wives.

Speakers during the retreat included numerous ABSC staff members and associational missionaries, as well as Paul Reams, pastor of Central Baptist Church, Bald Knob, and Bert Ross, founder and president of 5E Coaching.

New officers for 2011-12 were elected at the meeting. They are Jeff Thompson of Concord Baptist Association, Fort Smith, president; Larry White of Faulkner Baptist Association, Conway, president elect; and Glenn Bien of Trinity Baptist Association, Trumann, secretary/treasurer.

Contact Tim Yarbrough at tim@arkansasbaptist.org

'Christ-tempered' speech

The recent free speech ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court has me thinking about how God would have us handle issues of speech in the church.

Southern Baptists – like all people of conviction – are a passionate lot. In my 21 or so years of denominational service, I have observed the following:

- Southern Baptists are passionate about the gospel of Jesus Christ and want to share the good news of salvation with others.

- Southern Baptists support missions financially and many times, sacrificially.

- Southern Baptists are directly involved in missions efforts by going and doing.

- Southern Baptists love and pray for their missionaries.

My journey into full-time vocational ministry took a different path than some. Though I felt an unmistakable call to ministry as a teenager, I went to a secular university after graduating from high school – mainly because the cost of a private Baptist college was out of the question. After graduation, I started work as a journalist at a newspaper and thought all was right with the world.

Then, in 1989, a call came from the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission in Memphis, Tenn. The men's missions organization – which later was merged in 1997 with the Home Mission Board and the Radio-Television Commission to form the North American Mission Board – published curriculum and other materials. They told me they needed a young men's magazine editor.

I'll admit all I really heard at the time was the word "editor." Most journalists, at some point in their

career, want to be an editor, and I was one of them. I interviewed and got the job.

I quickly discovered that being an editor at the Brotherhood Commission was much more than being a journalist and an editor. It was about creating curriculum and programs that would address the needs of Christian men and get

them involved in the mission cause. My dormant call to missions ministry was rekindled.

In my years as a journalist, mission strategist and Southern Baptist, I have also learned:

- Just because you think it, doesn't mean you say it – especially in writing (which includes on Twitter, Facebook, a blog, in a letter, etc.).

- If you feel obligated to speak up, think twice before you say it or put it in writing, and before you do, pray about it.

- And finally, sometimes it's best to keep your mouth shut until you have all the facts. Otherwise, you run the risk of fulfilling a humorous, but true, saying: "It is better to keep your mouth closed and be called a fool than to open it and dispel all doubts." (This quote

is attributed to a number of authors, but many agree it originated from Proverbs 17:28, which reads: "Even a fool who keeps silent is considered wise; when he closes his lips, he is deemed intelligent.")

Now that God has placed me in the role as your state editor, I have

the responsibility of telling the stories about what He is doing among His churches for the glory of His kingdom. Along with that, comes reporting on the activities of individual churches and the state convention.

While by and large the stories the *Arkansas Baptist News* reports

are positive, there are times that Arkansas Baptists disagree. Even at those times, however, we must demonstrate Christ-honoring respect and restraint.

Unfortunately, we live in a day when we seem to have lost the art of peaceful and respectful discourse. Just read reports from Washington each week quoting our nation's political parties. Some of this behavior also has invaded the church.

Scripture, however, gives us a better example to follow:

"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen" - Ephesians 4:29 (NIV).

"But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an

answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect," - 1 Peter 3:15 (NIV).

In Proverbs 6:16-19, God mentions things He hates, and among them are "a false witness who breathes out lies, and one who sows discord among brothers."

I believe God-honoring discourse is the mark of a great community of churches, such as those that make up the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. That's not to say we can't disagree with one another, but we must do it with deference to God's instruction.

As your editor, I ask for your prayers that I might have God's wisdom to make the right editorial decisions in every situation, for the glory of Christ Jesus.

Our Savior deserves no less.



PRESSING ON

Tim Yarbrough

"The loose tongue of the godless spreads destruction; the common sense of the godly preserves them."

-Proverbs 11:9 (The Message)



"How was I to know he was serious when he said he was hired to tame the tongue?"



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Baptists Ask

What does it mean to “walk in the Spirit” (Gal. 5:16)?

Paul’s command to “walk in the Spirit” means to live a life pleasing to God, in Christ, through the power of the Holy Spirit. His command is similar to God’s call to holiness (Lev. 19:2), Moses’ challenge to love God completely (Deut. 6:5) and Micah’s urgency to “Do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with your God” (Mic. 6:8). All these verses stress the importance of a relationship with God, which surpasses any set of rules a believer may wish to follow.

Though most Christians want to follow a set of rules, rules always bring manipulation, frustration and grief. In Galatians, Paul taught that Christians who followed rules had strayed from the joyous gospel of grace. He urged believers to let the Holy Spirit serve as their moral Guide so they would not fulfill the “lust of the flesh.”

Some were concerned that Paul’s view led to the destruction of the Law of God (antinomianism). Paul, however, did not believe the Law was to be destroyed; instead, he believed the law was fulfilled by Christ. Because Jesus fulfilled the Law of God, Christians must be willing to submit to God and let the Holy Spirit guide them.

Jesus stressed this submission when He said He is the true vine and His disciples are the branches (John 15:1-8). Only a relationship with Christ will enable believers to live a life worthy of being called a Christian. Christians stumble often because they want to follow their own way. In so doing, they follow the “lust of the flesh.” However, the more believers submit to God and walk with God, the more they will grow and become imitators of God.

Submission and living in Christ by walking in the Spirit is the only way to have a fulfilling and satisfying life-journey with God.

Editor’s note: We invite readers to submit questions regarding theology and Baptist beliefs. Send your questions to Editor, Arkansas Baptist News, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203, or email them to tim@arkansasbaptist.org.

Ken Gore is chair of the Williams Baptist College department of Christian ministries.



Just Jump In!

On August 19, 1979, U.S. swimmer Kim Lineham won the world record in the women’s 1,500 meter freestyle. She held this record until 1987, when another U.S. swimmer Janet Evans surpassed the record. At the time, Kim was the best female distance swimmer in the world. She had a rigorous training regiment that kept her in the pool 7-10 hours every day. After winning the world record, a reporter asked her, “Kim what is the hardest part of your training regiment each day which has brought you victory?” Kim Lineham replied, “Just getting in the water.”

All across the Arkansas Baptist State Convention are churches that stand on the threshold of doing something amazing for the Lord. There is a new ministry to be started, a new strategy to be implemented, new small group classes to begin or some new and creative ways to do ministry. The problem with many of our churches and leaders is not that they do not know what to do or what it takes to reach people

for Christ. The real challenge we face when it comes to doing new ministry or attempting something great for the Lord is simply choosing to begin.

Let me encourage you with a couple things. First, decide to begin something today and make it **extraordinary**. In other words, ask what you and your church can attempt in reaching people for Christ – that if God doesn’t get involved in the process – you would fail! It is time to have a God-sized vision and begin something extraordinary. Second, begin something today with no more **excuses**. It is time to overcome fears, stop listening

to critics and start trusting God to do something great in and through you. Finally, begin something today and be a good **example**. New things reach new people. Let this become the momentum that leads to the start of many more new ministries and strategies. We can Reach Generation Now, but to do so we just need to get in the water!



PRESIDENT’S PERSPECTIVE

Clay Hallmark

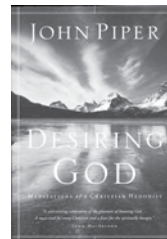
Desiring God

by John Piper, Multnomah, 2011

To be honest, I had tried to read this book a couple times before but never got past the first few pages because I thought it was, well, boring, over my head ... or both. But I was determined to get through it this time. And I was pleasantly surprised. Granted, parts of it were over my head, and some of it was a little boring but a lot of books without pictures come across that way to me. And there is more than enough really good material here to make up for what I thought was lacking in the first couple of chapters.

Piper’s chapters on love, Scripture, prayer, money and missions make this book a “must read.” So many things he writes are so true of me. On prayer, Piper says one of the main reasons we don’t have a good prayer life is not that

we don’t want to, but that we don’t plan to. Excellent point!



In another section, he stopped me in my tracks by asking a question I had never asked myself before. He said, “There are many professing Christians who delight in God’s gifts, but not God. Would you want to go to heaven if God were not there, only His gifts?”

My point is this: don’t put off reading this classic because you are afraid of it. Turn the TV off, sit down with it and listen to what God might be telling you through the words of John Piper. He has updated his illustrations from the first edition 25 years ago and added sections that definitely talk to us about our world in 2011. Give it another

BOOK REVIEW

Larry Remington, pastor
The Compass, Little Rock

shot. You’ll be glad you did.

ABN honors mothers

The Arkansas Baptist News (ABN) is announcing its seventh annual “A Tribute to Godly Mothers” essay contest.

In an effort to honor all mothers, each year the ABN selects a mother of the year based on entries. The issue prior to Mother’s Day announces the winner and includes the winning tribute, which will be chosen based on the quality of motherhood and godliness of the woman being honored, as well as the readability of the essay submitted.

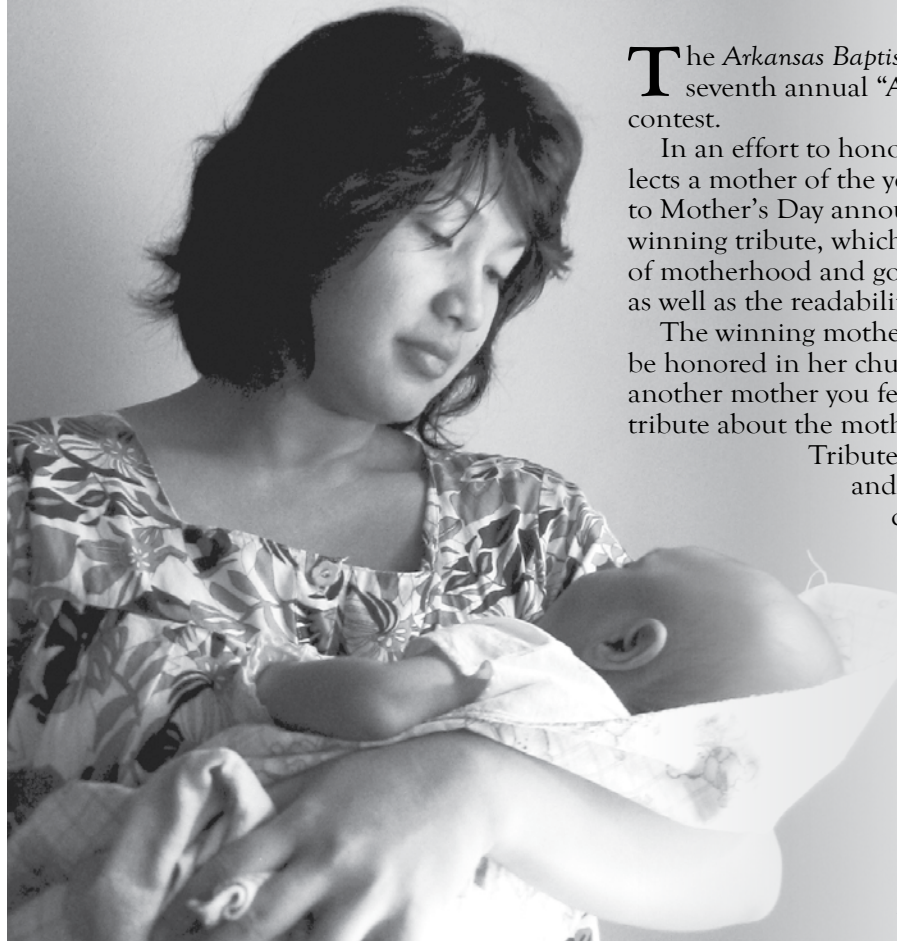
The winning mother will receive a special gift and will be honored in her church May 1. To honor your mother or another mother you feel is deserving, please send the ABN a tribute about the mother you wish to nominate.

Tributes should be no more than 300 words and include the mother’s full name and church home. Also include your phone number and an email address if you have one.

The mother you nominate must be a current member of an Arkansas Baptist church.

All tributes should be received in the ABN office no later than April 21.

Send your “Tribute to a Godly Mother” to Arkansas Baptist News, 10 Remington Dr., Little Rock, AR 72204, or email it to tim@arkansasbaptist.org.



SPORTSMEN EVENTS

Feb. 19 at Barton Coliseum in Little Rock.

About 2,300 people attended the one-day event.

Open to men and boys, Huntfest's admission price covered everything the event had to offer, including a meal and a country music concert.

Games and displays included inflatable jumping gyms and professional demonstrations of how to hold a compound bow, shoot an air rifle and laser skeet shoot using real shotguns. There was even a mechanical bull to ride.

This year's event featured U.S. Army Chaplain Maj. Jeff Struecker, who was portrayed in the film *Black Hawk Down*. Struecker currently serves on the staff of Calvary Baptist Church, Columbus, Ga. Country musician Aaron Tippin performed.

In addition, Huntfest organizers gave away about \$28,000 in door prizes, including an \$8,000 Polaris Ranger, several compound bow packages and hunting trips.

Two boys who live at the Arkansas Baptist Children's Homes (ABCHomes) won a Caribbean cruise and a deer stand.

First Church and Huntfest sponsors provided tickets for several groups, including ABCHomes and Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Central Arkansas, for the children to attend Huntfest at no cost. Nineteen men from Union Rescue Mission's Nehemiah House, a homeless facility for men, were sponsored as well.

Jim Lagrone, First Church pastor, said the event has provided his church with a unique way to share the gospel. "It is an evangelistic event, no doubt ... and an event that highlights relationships between men and boys."

This year, 55 men made professions of faith in Christ, said Lagrone. An additional 300 men made other spiritual decisions.

Teams from churches in regions across the state helped publicize Huntfest and provided spiritual

leadership. "We encouraged the guys who made spiritual decisions [during Huntfest] to make a connection with churches in the area they are from," said Lagrone.

To keep costs low, Marty Sikes, Little Rock's First Church evangelism pastor, said they rely on sponsors. In addition, vendors sponsor many of the games and displays. "In these economic times, we want dads to feel like they can afford to come and bring the boys," said Sikes.

Vendors are not allowed to sell guns or other outdoor equipment. "We want these boys to come and spend time with their dads," said Sikes. "We don't want dad to be trying to buy a four wheeler."

Sikes is no stranger to coordinating sportsmen events. While on staff at Second Baptist Church, Conway, Sikes started *Beast Feast*, a huge sporting evangelism event, held yearly in Conway.

"God called men to be the spiritual leaders of families," said Sikes.

Two boys play a game at Huntfest. Photo by Gary Meek



"You know, if you get the men saved, you usually get the whole family in church."

While some churches offer larger regional events like Huntfest, oth-

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Dr. DeYoung is regularly on the Day of Discovery television program, hosts his own Prophecy Today radio program that airs to over 100 stations, and is the author of the best selling book, "Sound the Trumpet." He is a noted conference speaker throughout the world, Europe, and South America.

HSBC is located at the intersection of Highway 262 West and Weston Road in Hot Springs. For more information, contact the HSBC office at (501) 760-4700 or www.HotSpringsBaptist.org.



For Dean Dancer, pastor of Victory Baptist Church, Watson, a key reason for hosting the event was to give the men of the church the “proper tools and curriculum and the environment to be godly spiritual men for their wives and kids.”

He enlisted former Arkansas Baptist pastor Chuck McAllister, who is host of Adventure Bound Outdoors, a popular cable TV hunting show, to speak at the event.

Though Dancer said he could have sold more tickets by opening up the event to the region, he instead decided to keep the venue small, hosting it at the home of a family that attends Victory Baptist Church.

Dancer challenged the men in his church to buy at least one ticket for an unchurched friend.

“Bring guys that would normally never darken the door of a church,” he said. “You know who they are because you work beside them every day.”

Of the 54 tickets Victory Baptist

men bought for unchurched friends, 36 of those men came to the event. And 13 men made professions of faith in Christ.

Dancer gave God the credit for the event’s success. “I didn’t do anything. I just got to be part of something really, really special.”

He also gave credit to the men of the church who “worked so hard” at the event.

“It was so good for our guys to see God move like He did,” said Dancer. “We are excited that our men are experiencing revival.”

Dancer said the men of the church, including those who recently made professions of faith in Christ, will meet together once a month to study the Bible using a Bible storying method. (A story about this method of Bible study will be included in a future issue of the *Arkansas Baptist News*.)

Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Crossett, took a different angle at their sportsmen event, inviting not only

men, but also the entire family, to attend a wild game dinner held at the church Feb. 24.

The church’s Challengers mission group sponsored the event to reach out to the community, said David Tohlen, Mt. Olive’s associate pastor.

Though tornado warnings cut the festivities short, the church was still able to make contacts with people in the community. “We wanted to let the community know we are here and see what kind of spiritual needs they had,” said Tohlen.

The church plans to host a similar event in the future.

Other Arkansas Baptist churches have outdoor ministry events scheduled in the weeks and months to come.

With the popularity of outdoor events, such as hunting and fishing, in Arkansas, this type of ministry should continue to have an appeal in Arkansas for years to come.

Contact Lisa Watson at lisa@arkansasbaptist.org.

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|--|---|
| <p>• May 31, 2011 First Baptist Church, Fayetteville
Lunch served 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
11:10 - 11:30 a.m. Presentation
12:10-12:30 p.m. Repeat presentation</p> | <p>• June 2, 2011 Baptist building, Little Rock
Lunch served 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
11:10 - 11:30 a.m. Presentation
12:10-12:30 p.m. Repeat presentation</p> |
| <p>• May 31, 2011 East Side Baptist Church, Mountain Home
Evening meal 5:30 - 6:45 p.m.
6:45-7:15 p.m. Presentation</p> | <p>• June 2, 2011 Baptist Building, Little Rock
Evening meal 5:30 - 6:45 p.m.
6:45-7:15 p.m. Presentation</p> |
| <p>• June 1, 2011 Central Baptist Church, Jonesboro
Lunch served 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
11:10 - 11:30 a.m. Presentation
12:10-12:30 p.m. Repeat presentation</p> | <p>• June 3, 2011 Southwest Baptist Association office, Texarkana
Lunch served 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
11:10 - 11:30 a.m. Presentation
12:10-12:30 p.m. Repeat presentation</p> |

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Church hosts 'Heaven's Gates & Hells Flames'

NETTLETON BAPTIST Church, Jonesboro, recently held "Heaven's Gates & Hells Flames," a drama of Reality Outreach Ministries, which is based in Niagra Falls, N.Y., and Ontario, Canada. The drama was coordinated by Mark and Becky Green of Oklahoma City, Okla., and performed by members of Net-

tleton Baptist Church.

Over the course of six performances, 3,394 people attended, 234 made professions of faith in Christ and 123 rededicated their lives to Christ.

"It was just a very, very, very good experience," said Stan Ballard, pastor of Nettleton Baptist Church.



Tim Tyler, Kavin Davis, Paula Jenkins, Raymond Baker and Jeanette Thomas, all members of Nettleton Baptist Church, Jonesboro, perform in the church's production of "Heaven's Gates & Hells Flames." Photo by Zac Tyler

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

Church life

The Greene County Baptist Association will host its second annual "Igniting the Passion" associational evangelism rally, beginning at 6:30 p.m. for children and youth and 6:45 for adults, March 14 at East Side Baptist Church, Paragould.

First Baptist Church, Hot Springs, will hold the Secret Keeper Girl Live Pajama Party Tour at 6 p.m., May 7. The show is two-and-a-half hours long and features upbeat worship times, fun decorations, confetti cannons, mother-daughter showdowns, discussion about meaningful friendships, a Truth or Bare fashion show and a look into God's Word about peer pressure and internal beauty.

Twin Lakes Baptist Church, Mountain Home, will host The Deep South Quartet Convention Concert Weekend at 6 p.m., April 8,

and 5 p.m., April 9. A live video cast will be available at www.dsqc.org.

On the move

Dalton Jones is serving as part-time minister of music at Spradling Baptist Church, Fort Smith.

Adam Hughes is serving as senior pastor of West Baptist Church, Batesville.

Billy K. Williams has resigned from the staff of Central Baptist Church, Pine Bluff, as minister of music, to serve at Clarke-Venable Baptist Church, Decatur, Miss.

Milestones

First Baptist Church, Ash Flat, recently relocated to new church facilities located at Highway 62 at Crooked Oaks Road. The buildings, valued at \$1.8 million, were donated to the church by Pioneer Freewill Baptist Church, Ash Flat.

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Arkansas Baptist Boys Ranch, located on almost 400 beautiful acres near Harrison, is seeking a **Ranch Foreman**. This individual will supervise horseback riding, create a livestock program and oversee the use and maintenance of farm equipment. Contact Bill at (870) 741-5784 or bvondermehden@abchomes.org.

ABCHomes is seeking a **relief housemother** for the **Judsonia Emergency Shelter**. This part-time position provides salary, medical and life insurance and paid leave. Contact Sean at (501) 455-8554 or sculpepper@abchomes.org.

ABCHomes is an agency of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention and is compliant with Section 504 of the Rehab Act of 1973.



Krystal Borggren (left), a former International Mission Board journeyman, shares about her experience in Mali, with Kevin Pennington, a member of Ironton Baptist Church, Little Rock, at Mission Fest, a one-day mission awareness event sponsored by Pulaski Baptist Association Feb. 20.

Classifieds

PASTOR

South Main Baptist, Crossett, Ark., is seeking a **full-time pastor**. Send resume to South Main Baptist, Attn: Pastor Search Committee, P.O. Box 430, Crossett, AR 71635. Resume deadline: April 30, 2011.

Formosa Baptist Church, located in North Central Arkansas, is now accepting resumes for **pastor**. Send resumes to Formosa Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1530, Clinton, AR 72031.

Third Baptist Church of Malvern, Ark., is accepting resumes for **pastor**. Please send resume to Third Baptist Church, Attn: Pastor Search Committee, 817 W. Young St., Malvern, AR 72104.

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 more than 19,000 people reside. We have a loving, Christ-centered congregation and a beautiful sanctuary with a Sunday morning attendance of more than 40. Our sanctuary will accommodate approx. 250. We also have many classrooms to accommodate growth. The pastor's salary is \$40,000, plus a two-bedroom parsonage, which is located next to CSBC. The University of Ozarks and downtown Clarksville are three blocks from CSBC. Staff includes a part-time sec., 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.

OTHER STAFF POSITIONS

FULL-TIME WORSHIP PASTOR – Calvary Baptist Church, Neosho, Mo., is seeking a full-time worship pastor. Calvary is a mission-minded, contemporary, blended church, focusing on God's kingdom work. Please email resume to calvaryof-neosho@yahoo.com, or send resume to Calvary Baptist Church, 2650 Oakridge Extension, Neosho, MO 64850.

Second Baptist Church, Monticello, Ark., is seeking a **bi-vocational minister of worship and praise**. Send resumes to 1032 Old Warren Road, Monticello, AR 71655, or email brojimmyalbrecht@yahoo.com. Resumes will be accepted until March 31, 2011.

Traditional, conservative, growing Southern Baptist church in Memphis, Tenn., metropolitan area seeks **minister of youth and recreation**. Send resume by April 15 to Personnel, Covenant Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1165, Collierville, TN

38027-1165.

Coronado Baptist Church in Hot Springs Village is taking resumes for **part-time minister of music**. Contact the office at 501-922-3218 from 1-5 p.m., or email to coronadobap@sbcglobal.net.

East Side Baptist Church is looking for a **full-time assistant youth minister**. This position will primarily be working with the junior high department of the church by assisting the youth minister in various capacities. Experience in youth ministry and/or degree preferred. Please send resumes to East Side Baptist Church, 718 East 9th Street, Mountain Home, AR 72653.

Minister of music part-time position: 10-15 hours a week. Duties: Selecting hymns and choruses and directing choir for worship services and other special events. Send resumes to Crow Mountain Baptist Church at 1138 Crow Mountain Rd., Russellville, AR 72802 or cmbcoffice@centurytel.net, or call 479-967-6352. Resumes will be accepted until March 28, 2011.

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

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.

Associational missionary needed. Submit resumes to Mt. Zion Association, P.O. Box 2515, Jonesboro, AR 72402 or email mtzionbm@suddenlinkmail.com. Deadline March 15.

East Side Baptist Church of Fort Smith, Ark., is seeking an enthusiastic, **part-time (20 hrs. per week) preschool director** to oversee a dynamic and thriving preschool ministry. Interested parties should forward a resume to Travis Young at travis@eastsidebc.org.

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"Christian Fellowship Tours Since 1987"

Book examines Christian life of Card's Pujols

Lonnie Wilkey
Baptist and Reflector

JACKSON, Tenn. - The temperature outside may seem contradictory, but the fact remains - baseball season is just around the corner as college and Major League teams begin preparing for a new year.

The beginning of baseball season has always been an exciting time for Tim Ellsworth, director of news and media relations at Union University.

Ellsworth, a lifelong St. Louis Cardinals fan, has covered spring training for Baptist Press Sports in the past.

This year, the beginning of baseball season coincides with the publication of a new book he has co-authored with Scott Lamb of Louisville, Ky., a Union University alumnus.

"Pujols: More than the Game," was released Feb. 1 by Thomas Nelson Publishers in Nashville.

The book examines the Christian life and testimony of Albert Pujols, arguably the best hitter in Major League baseball.

It is no coincidence that Pujols also plays for the Cardinals, Ellsworth's favorite team.

The book, though it does detail the baseball side of Pujols, digs deeper into his Christian walk.

Ellsworth noted that while much has been written about his baseball abilities, little has been written about Pujols' faith and the top priorities in his life.

"I've always had an appreciation for what Albert Pujols has done on the field," Ellsworth said in describing his motivation to write about a player almost certain to enter the Baseball Hall of Fame one day.

"But the more I followed him, the more I became aware of the man behind the persona - a man who is a devoted Christian, a faithful

husband and father and a generous benefactor who uses his status as the best player in baseball to enrich the lives of others."

While Ellsworth and Lamb were unable to talk personally with Pujols for the biography, they researched numerous articles, interviewed between 30-40 people, including the director of Pujols' foundation, which helps a number of charities.

"He has used his position to be a blessing to others through his foundation," Ellsworth observed. "He is a fine example for other athletes and young men to try to emu-

late. We thought his story should be told."

The book is the first full-length biography about Pujols, according to Thomas Nelson Publishers.

In it, Ellsworth and Lamb trace his early life and rise to stardom, his take on the steroid era in baseball, his philanthropic efforts and, above all, the role his Christian faith has played - and continues to play - in his life.

Joe Posnanski, senior writer at *Sports Illustrated*, wrote the foreword for the book, which has also earned pre-release recommendations from former Cardinals second baseman Tommy Herr, *World Magazine* editor-in-chief Marvin Olasky, former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee and Union president David S. Dockery, among others.

"Lamb and Ellsworth have given baseball fans everywhere a truly outstanding baseball book about the greatest player in the game today," Dockery wrote in a pre-release review that described the volume as "an inspirational book about character, commitments, faith and family."

"Pujols: More than the Game" is available at LifeWay Christian Stores and at Amazon.com.

Mark Kahler of Union University contributed to this article.



Author Tim Ellsworth with Pujols book. Photo by Morris Abernathy

New CT scanner saves lives

NEA BAPTIST Memorial Hospital, located in Jonesboro, recently installed the first dual source CT scanner in Arkansas. The Siemens Somatom Definition Flash CT scanner is one of only 43 in the United States and 150 in the world. The new scanner can capture incredibly detailed images of the heart, brain, bones - even the smallest blood vessels.

The CT scanner can span a human body in six seconds, while utilizing the lowest radiation exposures. The increased scan speed provides significant advantages when imaging older patients and children, as well as emergency department and intensive care unit patients. Ill or injured patients no longer have to hold their breath during chest scans. The quick speed also often reduces the need for sedation since it virtually eliminates motion issues.

"Patient safety is the most important thing at our hospital," said Dr. John Phillips, radiologist-in-chief. The scanner uses two separate x-ray beams to minimize radiation exposure and length of exam. "With this technology, we decrease x-ray exposure to sensitive organs, such as eyes, breast(s) or thyroid, by about 40 percent," says Phillips. Selective radiation is done by a simple, yet effective, technique, he explains. "During the tube rotation around the patient, the x-ray tube is switched off when the tube is di-

rectly in front of a sensitive organ. As soon as the tube comes behind the patient, it turns on again and continues collecting data."

With such high definition images, NEA Baptist physicians can identify heart disease, spot cancer or discover other conditions threatening a person's health and quickly plot a course of action.

BAPTIST PROFILE

Deaundra Waddell
Baptist Memorial
Hospital

The new CT scanner allows advanced CT angiography abilities - automatically removing bone and calcified plaque from images so arteries can be seen in greater detail. Blood clots can more easily be detected and lung cancer and lung nodules can be characterized to determine if there is a malignancy. Physicians can diagnose gout in patients with arthritis and identify the composition of kidney stones to determine whether medication or surgery is required for treatment.

NEA Baptist Memorial Hospital, a 100-bed acute care facility, offers a number of inpatient and outpatient services, including an emergency department, surgical services, neurological care, respiratory care, cancer care and pulmonary rehabilitation. NEA Baptist Memorial also offers heart care through its Heart Center and labor and delivery services through the hospital's Women's Center. For more information about NEA Baptist Memorial Hospital, please call 870-972-2000, or visit www.neabaptist.com.

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thy of Christ. Christian unity has its foundation in God's Word, and faith comes from hearing the Word of God. Hearing the Word of God comes from obedience. The result is a life that is unselfish and doesn't seek recognition from others.

A believer found worthy of the gospel of

Christ has no fear of Satan. Salvation is demonstrated, as the believer stands firm in Satan's final destruc-

EXPLORE THE BIBLE MARCH 20, 2011

Bob Williford
missions ministries team
Arkansas Baptist State Convention

Scripture passage:
Phil. 1:27-2:11

I've been blessed the past few years to work closely with many people from across the nation who are in the pit of despair from the death of loved ones. Some would not consider working with the bereaved a blessing, but the friends I've made in the pit are like none other on earth. It's true that grief and pain at times brings out the worst in people, but I've found that it also brings out some of peoples' finest qualities. One of the things I've enjoyed is many of my bereaved friends are transparent about their pain, their faults, their joys and their regrets. They speak their minds freely, and

they desire the same from others.

I must tell you, however, that I'm troubled. I've heard far too many times about friends feeling as if the church has rejected them and offered little comfort. Now you and I know that no one is outright rejected when they enter our doors. It's just that sometimes they come to us with problems that simply are not fixable. Just because someone feels rejected, does that make it true? Are we to be held responsible for things we cannot control?

Relationships today are under stress for a variety of reasons. Grief, divorce, mental illness, addictions,

incarcerations and finances can all contribute to feelings of isolation and weakness. Regardless of the reason for the hurt, it makes a huge difference when someone simply cares about us. There's not always an opportunity for theology, Bible study or sermons, but there is always a gigantic need for tender, com-

passionate love. Hugs, sitting with someone during the service, notes

of encouragement, phone calls and visits are not optional. These small gestures can deeply impact a broken

heart (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12).

The relationships in our churches today are not always perfect, but we are blessed with God's love and a unified purpose. Pray that each one of us will have overwhelm-

ing compassion for the hurting people around us.

Relationships under stress

BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE MARCH 20, 2011

Becky Russell, member
Bayou Meto Baptist, Jacksonville

Scripture passage:
1 Peter 2:11-12; 3:1-12

Hold firmly to the message of Christ

These words challenge every believer to "continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act accordingly to His good purpose" (Phil. 2:12-13).

Believers must work out their salvation, displaying a healthy fear and respect toward God. With-

out this, there will be no humble concern and watchfulness to serve God in obedience to His Word.

By His grace, God grants eternal life to all who are in Christ. Paul writes that a faithful response to

the command of God is necessary, "...as you have always obeyed..." (Phil. 2:12). The Bible does not teach that believers are responsible for their salvation, but we are responsible for obeying the Word of God to work out the results of salvation.

Believers must sometimes accomplish God's will during difficulties. Cooperation should prevail for

God's work to be done. When we are working with details, we should work for unity.

Disciples must understand that to be blameless and innocent does not mean being without sin. When sin is present, every effort for correction must be made. Believers are to remain faithful to God, though some may depart from the faith and produce sorrow among us.

God's people can expect hardship, but rather than complaining, use these moments to be faithful witnesses who are free of argument or complaint; blameless, innocent and above reproach; and display a joyful act of sacrificial service.

The reason we live and sometimes

die is to honor Christ and advance His kingdom. Motivated by these principles, we must not seek great things for personal gain, but seek things that are of Christ. We are to make every effort to be at peace and without spot or blemish when He comes. Therefore, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the Lord's work and knowing that your labor in the Lord is not in vain (1 Cor. 15:58).

May we focus upon the principles of God's Word, which are often in contrast with the world.

Enabled by the Christ who lives within, we can enlarge our ministries by being faithful disciples of Jesus.

Years ago when I was learning to drive, I recall being terrified of crossing the center line or running off the side of the road. My hands had a white-knuckled grip on the steering wheel as I rocked it back and forth with tiny, jerky movements.

As my dad watched me from the passenger seat, he realized I was looking at the pavement directly in front of the vehicle instead of focusing on the road ahead. He encouraged me to lift my eyes further down the road, instead of just a few feet in front of the car. The response was almost immediate as I became

more relaxed and in control of the vehicle.

Difficult times in our lives often-times reduce our capacity for stress to an all-time low.

When things are hard or painful, we can easily and quickly become overwhelmed with the details of daily life. We might prefer to withdraw and just stay home. For some, however, intense emotional pain creates a longing and desire for Heaven. We develop a deep desire to know about the place that promises no sadness, death or tears. (Rev. 21:4)

What begins as a way to cope

can be a path of healing for our distressed and wounded hearts. Spending time thinking about Heaven can

give us a wonderful new perspective on our daily life. When we consider the glorious treasures that God has in store for us, it reminds us that our afflictions on earth are temporary. (1 Peter 4:13)

God doesn't desire us to be in pain. He says enduring trials bring Him glory. There-

fore, we should be overwhelmed with joy, not pain. While this may not be appropriate to say to someone

in pain, it is something that you and I could attempt to put in place in our own lives. I'm not saying it's easy, but I do know that if we listen to our Father and look down the road a bit to where we focus on Heaven,

this ride of life can be more relaxed and joyful.

BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE MARCH 27, 2011

Becky Russell, member
Bayou Meto Baptist, Jacksonville

Scripture passage:
1 Peter 4:1-2, 7-19



NEWS DIGEST

Christian Pakistan leader killed

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) - The only Christian in Pakistan's government was assassinated March 2 after pushing for reform of harsh laws that mandate death for people who leave or "insult" Islam.

Shahbaz Bhatti, Pakistan's minister for minorities, had declared he was prepared to die for his convictions after Salman Taseer, governor of the country's Punjab province, was killed Jan. 5 by a bodyguard who said he was angry that the politician opposed Pakistan's blasphemy laws.

Bhatti was on his way to work in Pakistan's capital, Islamabad, when unidentified gunmen sprayed his car with bullets, according to news reports. A radical Islamic group associated with the Taliban terrorist movement reportedly claimed responsibility for the assassination in a note left at the scene.

Bhatti sought to reform the blasphemy laws, which had been in an international spotlight since a Christian woman, Asia Bibi, had been sentenced to death for "insulting" Islam.

Land: Immigration reform needed soon

WASHINGTON (BP) - The federal government needs to enact immigration reform soon before it becomes even more problematic to resolve, Southern Baptist ethicist Richard Land said recently in the country's capital.

The president of the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission joined other religious leaders who favor comprehensive immigration reform in a symposium at Georgetown University.

"I think the American public in general is well ahead of its elected representatives on the issue

of comprehensive immigration reform," said Land. "They are ready for their elected representatives to behave like statesmen rather than politicians."

The discussion among Land and representatives from Roman Catholic and Jewish organizations came three and a half years since Congress last voted - unsuccessfully - on an immigration reform bill, and the other panelists indicated they believe the effort to approve comprehensive reform may be still in its early stages.

CP: 1.20% below previous 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 1.20 percent below the same time frame last year, according to a news release from Frank Page, Executive Committee president and chief executive officer. The total includes receipts from state conventions and fellowships, churches and individuals for distribution according to the 2010-11 Cooperative Program Allocation Budget.

As of Feb. 28, Cooperative Program gifts received by the Executive Committee totaled \$82,893,069.47, or \$1,003,117.86 behind the \$83,896,187.33 received at the end of February 2010.

Designated giving of \$86,135,687.54 for the same year-to-date period is 5.42 percent, or \$4,939,534.34, below gifts of \$91,075,221.88 received at this point last year.

Monthly CP receipts for SBC work totaled \$17,240,609.30 while designated gifts received last month amounted to \$48,674,050.66.

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AM of the Year

Ouachita Baptist University names Don Jones AM of the Year.

PAGE 1

Mother of the Year

ABN seeks to honor mothers through yearly contest.

PAGE 4



Photos by Gary Meek



Huntfest attendee gives bullriding a shot.

Sports events reach men

PAGE 1