



300 attend revitalization conference

LITTLE ROCK - The Arkansas Baptist State Convention (ABSC) debuted a new statewide initiative Sept. 18 during the Church Growth and Revitalization Conference sponsored by the North American Mission Board (NAMB).

Held at Geyer Springs First Baptist Church, Little Rock, the conference was attended by more than 300 people and is a part of NAMB's Send North America church growth and revitalization efforts targeting five regions and 32 cities across North America.

Johnny Hunt, pastor of First Baptist Church, Woodstock, Ga., was the conference's keynote speaker and teacher.

The ABSC used the event as a launch date for their recently completed statewide Church Revitalization strategy. J.D. "Sonny" Tucker,

See **CONFERENCE** page 2



Johnny Hunt, pastor of First Baptist Church, Woodstock, Ga., teaches during the Send North America Church Growth and Revitalization Conference held at Geyer Springs First Baptist Church, Little Rock, Sept. 18. View a video at arkansasbaptist.org/revitalconf. Photo by Jessica Vanderpool

New look coming to ABN!

STARTING OCT. 16, the *Arkansas Baptist News* (ABN) will have a whole new look.

"We have been exploring ways to improve the quality, look and readability of the ABN for a number of years now," said Tim Yarbrough, editor/executive director. "Since 2011, we have made some incremental changes to the

See **NEW** page 7

ASU reverses decision, allows crosses

JONESBORO - Arkansas State University (ASU) has reversed its decision to ban crosses from being placed on the back of the university's football helmets.

"This is a great victory for the players of Arkansas State University," Hiram Sasser, Liberty Institute litigation director, wrote in a statement released to media.

"According to the letter we received from the university and communications from the Arkansas Attorney General office, the players will be allowed to place the original cross sticker design on their helmets in the original location if they so choose," wrote Sasser.

Liberty Institute is a national nonprofit legal group dedicated to defending religious liberty. On Sept.

15, the organization submitted a letter to Arkansas State demanding that the university "Restore Student Memorial to Fallen Members of the



Photo: foxnews.com

Football Program" within 48 hours.

Arkansas State received national attention when the school's administration and legal council called for crosses placed on the back of the

university's football team's helmets to be removed following complaints from an anonymous Jonesboro attorney and the Wisconsin-based Freedom From Religion Foundation (FFRF), the nation's largest nontheist advocacy group.

The crosses were added to ASU helmets by members of the football team as a way to honor juniors Markel Owens, a former team member, and Barry Weyer, the team's equipment manager, both of whom died. The cross on the helmet included the initials of Owens and Weyer.

Todd Starnes, conservative pundit and host of the Fox News & Commentary radio program, blew

See **CROSSES** page 7

BAPTIST LIFE

Teen achieves dream, ministers through music

Jessica Vanderpool
Arkansas Baptist News

HARRISON - "Ladies and gentlemen."

My heart is racing.

"At this time we ask that you please rise and remove your caps."

I cannot believe what's about to happen.

"Please direct your attention to the field as we honor the United States of America and pay tribute to our



Jordan Whitmer

veterans in active duty and retired men and women of our armed forces."

I get into position.

"The Arizona Diamondbacks and the Chicago Cubs invite you to join in the playing of our National Anthem. Performed by Jordan Whitmer."

The stadium stood still, waiting for me to make the next move.

It's time.

These are the words penned by

high school student Jordan Whitmer in a short story he wrote about his experience playing the national anthem for the Arizona Diamondbacks in 2013.

"I have a dream," writes Whitmer, who attends Eagle Heights Baptist Church in Harrison. "This is a rather large dream. Something that not everybody gets to accomplish in their lifetime. I want to play in the big leagues."



Rick Whitmer

Whitmer goes on to chronicle how that dream came true on July 23, 2013, at Chase Field in Arizona as - for the first time ever - he played the national anthem on his trumpet for a major league baseball team.

Now 16 years old and a junior at Harrison High School, Whitmer has gone on

See **WHITMERS** page 3

Billie Harty Dining Room dedicated at Williams

WALNUT RIDGE – Billie Harty Dining Room – a \$1 million expansion project – was dedicated Sept. 19 on the campus of Williams Baptist College.

The ribbon-cutting represented the official opening of the updated and expanded Williams cafeteria, which was completed in August.

The 2,100-square-foot addition is named for Billie Harty, late wife of N.B. Harty of Dexter, Mo. A gift from N.B. Harty funded a major share of the \$1 million project.

The student dining area was added to the southwest side of the cafeteria, where it adjoins the existing Sulcer Dining Room. The completed facility is now capable of seating 250 people.

“The Billie Harty Dining Room is already providing much needed space for our growing number of

students,” said Tom Jones, Williams president.

“We are so grateful to Mr. Harty and his obedience to the Lord to help support this cafeteria project. Honoring his dear wife’s memory through such a nicely constructed dining hall is a very special thing for us to be able to do.”

“We were also glad to share in this occasion with our board of trustees, who were on campus for our first meeting of the new academic year,” Jones added.

Brackett-Krennerich Architects of Jonesboro designed the expansion, and Clark General Contractors of Walnut Ridge handled construction.

Williams is a four-year, liberal arts college at Walnut Ridge operated by the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.



Visitors mingle during the Sept. 19 dedication of Williams Baptist College’s Billie Harty Dining Room, a recently completed 2,100-square-foot addition to the school’s dining facility. Left, those attending the dedication of the Billie Harty Dining Room Sept. 19 were from left: Hailey Thompson, a Williams student from Pine Bluff; Walter Norvell, associate professor of Christian ministries at Williams; Kathy Bradley, executive assistant for the Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce; Jeff Herron of Brackett-Krennerich Architects; Dennis Owens of the Fresh Ideas design agency; C.L. Clark of Clark General Contractors; Maria Tolbert Chamberlain, an associate of Harty family; Tom Jones, Williams president; John Harty, nephew of N.B. Harty; Sue Lee, daughter of N.B. Harty; James Miller, chairman of Williams’ board of trustees; Tim Scott, director of the Randolph County Chamber of Commerce, and Mike Dixon, a Williams student from Paragould.

CONFERENCE

continued from page one

ABSC executive director, explained during the event the convention’s recent reorganization and its role in the state’s emphasis on church revitalization.

“The only reason you would give up a day to come here is because you have that same desire and that same passion to go for it. It is time in this state, ladies and gentlemen, to go for it,” said Tucker.

“We went around and listened to the folks in the state right after I got here, and we thought it may be time to restructure. I just asked the Executive Board staff and I asked folks around the state, ‘What’s on your heart?’

“It was real clear what’s on your heart. I mean, it was almost unanimous. It was next generation; evangelism, church revitalization and church health; missions and church planting,” said Tucker. “So I said, ‘Let’s restructure based on just exactly what the folks in Arkansas said.’

“I’m telling you, if it were up to most of the folks in this room, your church would be in wide-open revival. But you’ve got some stumps in your church that pull back and they slow you back. You won’t root them out if you don’t pray,” said Tucker.

Terry Bostick, ABSC evangelism and church health team leader, echoed Tucker and added he be-

lieves the ABSC’s reorganization and church revitalization emphasis provide necessary building blocks to seeing revival come to Arkansas.

“We’ve got over 300 churches, out of 1,500 churches in Arkansas, that have signed up to be part of the church revitalization emphasis of Arkansas,” said Bostick. “Bro. Don Moore (former ABSC executive director) ... has already got 1,000 senior adults across this state praying for revival in Arkansas. We are not playing about this.”

Bostick added, “We talked about putting all of our chips on the table, everything we’ve got, to see more churches planted and to see our existing churches have a greater impact in the lost world. Guys, that’s what we are here for; that’s what we exist for.”

Hunt gave a passionate plea to the pastors and leaders in attendance to recognize that the Southern Baptist Convention is in decline – whether they choose to believe it or not.

“I don’t know about you, but I am going to make another bold statement. I am tired of being an affiliated, generous supporter of a dying denomination. And it is guys like us that can turn it around. And I believe we can,” Hunt exclaimed.

“My church is not a dying church, but my denomination is a dying denomination. And some of you guys don’t like it, some of you state guys don’t like it, but it’s true. You better wake up and



Johnny Hunt, pastor of First Baptist Church, Woodstock, Ga., teaches during the Send North America Church Growth and Revitalization Conference Sept. 18 at Geyer Springs FBC, Little Rock.

smell the coffee,” he said.

Chris Emery, NAMB’s team leader of church revitalization, said NAMB started its church revitalization emphasis two years ago with conferences playing an important role in its strategy.

“The conferences tend to lean toward an emphasis on leadership. ... Because (many churches) are plateaued or declining, if you can address the leadership issue you can begin to see some progress. We also realized we had to deal with those churches on the verge of closing, and making sure they understand there are options,” said Emery.

“That’s the legacy component – legacy church planting – where the church is near death. At least look at it – if there is an opportunity to pass the baton and allow somebody

new to come in and start something new there, versus just having to sell the property.

“(We ask), ‘What do you want your legacy to be?’” said Emery. “I really don’t think churches really want their legacy to be that they held on to the bitter end and closed the doors.

“It needs to be, ‘You know what, these people were faithful, they served, they have been at this church, they impacted their community, but then they saw an opportunity at a time when things have changed and realized there was an opportunity for them to pass the baton and to allow somebody to build on what they started,’” he said.

For more information on ABSC’s Church Revitalization strategy, visit revitalizearkansas.com.

WHITMERS

continued from page one

to achieve this dream several times over, playing this year for the Kansas City Royals, the Cleveland Indians, the Texas Rangers and the Houston Astros.

His musical journey started at age 4, as he learned to play piano. He also sang in children's choir and grew to love music. He eventually transitioned from piano to trumpet, playing at his first minor league game at age 11.

But his hopes go far beyond playing in the big leagues. He also seeks to use his music to glorify God, and one way he does this is through a music ministry he shares with his father, Rick Whitmer, who also attends Eagle Heights. Rick Whitmer is senior director of mobilization at Ron Hutchcraft Ministries in Harrison.

The father/son pair combines their musical skills – Jordan Whitmer on trumpet and his father on piano – as they play at local churches. They call their duo “Trumpiano.”

Rick Whitmer has a Bachelor of Music in piano performance and said he has played piano his whole life. He and his wife, Lisa, have three children: Jordan, Blake and Jenna.

“As my oldest son began to get better and better on the trumpet, it didn't take long to figure out that we could play together,” he said.

They began playing on occasion for the evening church offertory and morning church service when Jordan Whitmer was about 11 years old.

“Eventually, opportunities started to come for us to share our music at other churches in our area – and a music ministry was born!” Rick Whitmer said.

Vickie Green, church administrator at Eagle Heights, noted the duo “have a positive attitude and a desire to use their talent.”

“They seem to enjoy playing and using their gift/talent in this way,” she said.

“Playing with my dad is really fun right now,” said Jordan Whitmer. “Putting my trumpet talent and his piano gift together to form a team is such a fun experience!”

They have played at First Baptist Church, Yellville; Shiloh Baptist Church, Harrison, and First Baptist Church, Green Forest, among others.

“My favorite aspect from the Trumpiano ministry is just being able to be used by God to lead in worship,” said Jordan Whitmer. “I love the deep moving moments that our music can bring.”

Rick Whitmer said one of his favorite aspects of the Trumpiano ministry is his and his son's ability to encourage people.

“So often, adults are discouraged about the state of today's young peo-



MOHLER HONORARY 'TRAVELER' – Al Mohler, president of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., taught Sunday school and brought a message during Levy Baptist Church, North Little Rock's annual Baptist History Sunday service Sept. 14. Following the service, Levy Baptist's pastor, Steven Tiner, presented Mohler with a certificate signed by himself and Arkansas Secretary of State Mark Martin naming Mohler an official Arkansas Traveler. Photo by Caleb Yarbrough

ple,” Rick Whitmer said. “We love to be able to share with them that there are teenagers that have a passionate heart for God, who want to make a difference for Him. We love to hear the response when people

He commented on what it means to him to be able to minister with his son.

“I am passionate about raising kids with a heart for God,” he said. “Sharing music together is a powerful way to use our gifts to impact other people with the hope of Jesus.”

But their ministry has not been without its challenges. In 2013, Jordan Whitmer experienced a setback. He began experiencing pain when playing his trumpet, which prevented him from performing for a time.

“We prayed, and released all of this to God – and He gave back Jordan his talent at an entirely new level of impact,” Rick Whitmer said. “We know we serve a big God, who is faithful to those whose hearts are fully devoted to Him.”

Through the years, Jordan Whitmer has not only played in church and at both major and minor league games, including an Arkansas Travelers game, but also he has played at school performances, on TV and at other events. In addition to playing trumpet, he sings in his school choir. Jordan Whitmer is a leader in nonmusical ways as well. Along with starting a school Bible study, he has helped lead See You at the Pole prayer gatherings since third grade. Recently, he spoke at the local Kiwanis International service club.

He desires to continue using his music for God's glory.

“I hope to continue developing my trumpet and vocal talents in high school, during college and throughout the rest of my life,” he explained, “not necessarily as a career, but as a tool that I can use to help do whatever God wants me to do in helping Him further the kingdom. In the meantime, I want to keep touching lives with this neat Trumpiano ministry that I share with my dad.”

For more information on the Trumpiano ministry, visit trumpiano.com.

Contact Jessica Vanderpool at jessica@arkansasabaptist.org.



Jordan Whitmer, a 16-year-old trumpeter who attends Eagle Heights Baptist Church, Harrison, has performed during multiple major and minor league baseball games, church services and special events across the country. Rick Whitmer (bottom right) is Jordan's father.

find out that Jordan started a Bible study in his public school and that he is willing to stand strong for Jesus despite all the cultural pressure to do otherwise.”

“Plus,” he added. “We just enjoy music.”

ABN Digest

Stories of interest to Arkansas Baptists

Floyd urges all Baptists to share gospel Oct. 14

SPRINGDALE – Ronnie Floyd, Southern Baptist Convention president and Arkansas pastor, is urging all Southern Baptists to join collegiates during Engage24 in sharing the gospel with someone Oct. 14. “As we look back at history, we know that God often sparks awakening fires among college students,” Floyd wrote on his blog. “Just imagine what it would be like if several thousand of our churches determined they would lead the way in participating in sharing the gospel on Oct. 14.” For more information on Engage24, visit engage24.org.

Calif. Baptists expel 'Third Way' church

FRESNO, Calif. (BP) – The California Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) has voted to withdraw fellowship from a church whose pastor says he believes homosexual acts are not always sinful. The California convention's executive board voted unanimously to take the action Sept. 11 to withdraw fellowship from New Heart Community Church in La Mirada, Calif., for holding beliefs contrary to the Baptist Faith and Message. The SBC Executive Committee voted unanimously to withdraw fellowship from the church as well at its Sept. 23 meeting in Nashville.

Mo. legislature OKs 72-hour abortion ban

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (BP) – It took until the final hours of the veto session late on Sept. 10, but the Missouri legislature has overridden Gov. Jay Nixon's vetoes and joined two other states with the nation's longest waiting periods before an abortion: 72 hours. In what pro-life leaders are calling a major victory, women must now wait three days after an initial consultation with a doctor when seeking an abortion. Missouri's previous waiting period was 24 hours. “We thank the Lord for our elected officials who voted with conviction” during the legislature's special session, said John Yeats, executive director of the Missouri Baptist Convention. Republican Senator David Sate, the bill's sponsor, is a member of First Baptist Church, Cassville, Mo.

For more ABN Digest, go to www.arkansasbaptist.org/abn-digest

Religious expression flagged on the field

The P.O. (politically correct) police have struck again – this time in Jonesboro with their target being the Arkansas State University football team.

Someone complained, requesting that crosses on Red Wolves football helmets – intended to commemorate the death of people close to the program – be removed. The symbol of the cross was said to be offensive and inappropriate for a state-funded university.

I understand through media reports that the individual lodging the complaint asked not to be identified.

The person told at least one reporter, “After all, I have to live in this town.”

In 2014, Americans find themselves living in a society that is attempting to stamp out every vestige of religion – mostly Christianity – from the public square. History often repeats itself. I have read about the same type of thing happening in Nazi Germany in the 1930s and 1940s. Communist China does this type of thing often.



PRESSING ON

Tim Yarbrough
Phil. 3:14

They remove crosses regularly from Christian churches, and – by the way – shut them down too.

I’m sure you’ve heard about the incident at Arkansas State, but did you hear that Washington Redskins quarterback Robert Griffin III – a Baylor University graduate – was asked to remove or turn inside out a T-shirt he wore to a postgame NFL news conference? The offensive T-shirt read, “Know Jesus, Know

Peace.” With numerous domestic violence and drug abuse allegations lodged against NFL players the past few weeks, it seems to me the NFL could use a little more Jesus and less politically correct behavior as well.

We are becoming a self-policing society – one that believes the lies of the devil telling everyone we must become a truly secular nation – aggressively seeking to stamp out any form of religious expression.

Those reading this column may very well see the day when crosses are removed from our churches and pastors are arrested for preaching against society’s “popular” sins such

as homosexuality, adultery and recreational uses of drugs – as well as a host of other things. After all, these things are offensive to sinners and secular humanists.

The P.O. police are watching, and they don’t believe the Bible you and I read, nor in a God who offers redemption for their wretched souls.

I believe that short of a massive course reversal – such as revival and a spiritual awakening sweeping our land – they won’t stop until their beliefs are forced on all of us.

May God have mercy on us, and the adversaries of Jesus Christ in our present age!

Tim Yarbrough is editor/executive director of the Arkansas Baptist News.

Cartoon by Gary Thomas

The “Problem” of Religious Symbolism in College Football.



Alcohol: a bad influence on Arkansas

Recently, I visited a man in jail. He was arrested after a physical altercation with four other men. The primary cause of the incident was alcohol and a firearm, which is often a deadly combination.

Fortunately, no one was seriously injured, and yet, he has lost his freedom, at least temporarily, because alcohol influenced his decision to act illegally.

One statement he made during our visit continues ringing in my ears: “If I had been in my right mind, I never would have done what I did.” In a single moment under a bad influence, his life was changed, and not for the better.



VIEWPOINT

Kim Reeder
Barton Chapel
Baptist Church
Tyronza

As a student of missions and culture, I have observed a common theme consistent in every society. Every culture, whether refined or uncivilized, has its own form of substances to which people turn to escape from their present reality.

Whether it is a crude homemade brew that could strip paint from a wall or an exquisite beverage for the most selective palate, they all accomplish the same thing – suspending one’s ability to make rational judgments.

Scripture is filled with admonitions to abstain from intoxicating beverages, yet it seems that in our rejection of absolute truth, we have ignored these warnings and even

embraced the alternatives. Alcohol is a leading influence in crimes ranging from public drunkenness to domestic abuse to vehicular homicide.

Most of the arguments I hear in favor of legalizing alcohol often promote the financial benefits associated with bringing it into a community.

The financial argument is a favorite among alcohol proponents. “It will bring in big businesses,” “It will generate more tax revenue,” or, “It will stimulate the local economy,” are a few of the common premises.

At first glance, these arguments seem rational. Financially, legalizing and promoting alcohol in the state no doubt will generate tax revenue and increase spending. Liquor stores know this, and they often participate in campaigns to keep neighboring counties “dry” so they will not lose business.

What the “financial benefits” supporters fail to acknowledge are the negative fiscal consequences. A prime example is my friend who is incarcerated as I write.

For the next 90 days at least, maybe more than a year, pending his trial outcome, the taxpayers will foot the bill for his housing, food, clothing, medical care and legal defense.

Now imagine the thousands of cases that are tied up in the court system all across the state primarily due to some involvement with alcohol. Seems like a heavier price tag than proponents want to admit.

And I haven’t even mentioned lost productivity as a result of alcohol abuse or automobile insurance rate hikes that come as a result of a higher frequency of drunk driving. Then there are also costs related to

See **ALCOHOL** page 5



Volume 113, Number 20 USPS08021
Member of the Association
of State Baptist Publications
and Arkansas Press Association

Tim Yarbrough, editor/executive director
Jessica Vanderpool, assistant editor
Caleb Yarbrough, staff writer
Jeanie Weber, administrative assistant
Becky Hardwick, business manager
Steven McPherson, advertising director

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, to our fax number or mailing address. We prefer letters typed double-spaced, 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.

Arkansas Baptist News (ISSN 1040-6056) is published bi-weekly except the last issue of the year (25 issues) by the *Arkansas Baptist News* magazine, Inc., 10 Remington Drive, Little Rock, AR 72204. Subscrip-

tion 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: Lyndon Finney, Little Rock, president; Jeff Thompson, Fort Smith, vice president; Mary Kisor, Pottsville, secretary; Bob Beach, Little Rock; James Bryant, Harrison; Jennifer Bryant, New Edinburg; Stephanie Copes, Crossett; Carl A. Garvin, Omaha; David McCord, Searcy; Ricky Rogers, Arkadelphia; Troy Sharp, Desha; Chris Sims, Batesville; Will Staggs, North Little Rock; Mike Vinson, Corning; Juel Zeiser, Hot Springs.

Baptists Ask

Why do some Baptists only use the King James Bible translation?

For many Baptists, especially those 60 years old or older, the King James Version (KJV) is the only Bible they have ever used. It was the Bible they read in Sunday school, heard from the pulpit and memorized as a child. The KJV possesses a melodic sound, and it reminds them of their early, foundational Christian years. Like gospel hymns, it is their spiritual “comfort food,” and they do not wish it to change. I can appreciate this bond to the KJV, as it was also my first translation.



Gore

Some pastors still preach from the KJV because it creates a uniform translation for the entire church. However, this uniformity can easily come from a different translation. If the pastor likes another version, church members can comply by bringing it with them. Smart phones and tablets give individuals access to hundreds of translations at the touch of an application.

There are some Christians who insist on using the KJV because they believe it is better than any other translation available. This is simply not the case. Many manuscript discoveries since 1611 have helped modern translations become more accurate than the KJV. These translations display the differences of available manuscripts by placing them in footnotes below the text.

While it is true that the KJV is a very literal translation, the archaic English makes it terribly difficult for most people to read. Few Christians under 30 use it. There are some excellent translations available that state the Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek accurately and clearly. These include the NIV, NASB, HCSB, ESV and NLT. These translations should be available for every Christian to read and to study.

But do remember: The best translation for Christians to use is the one that they will actually read.

Ken Gore is chairman of the department of Christian studies at Williams Baptist College. “Baptists Ask” is reader-driven. Questions about religion, biblical interpretation and theology are always welcome. To submit a question, email it to tim@arkansasbaptist.org.

Relational rest

Life is tiring. Have you noticed? We hit the ground running and eventually forget what it means to stop, to rest.

I am convicted each time I see how seriously Scripture handles the Sabbath. This day of rest was instituted long before the Law came into being. In fact, rest existed before sin corrupted the world and laid the burdens of exhaustion upon our backs. Rest is critical, and we must allow God to teach us how to rest.

God has been opening my mind to aspects of rest I have never before considered. Recently, He showed me that rest is relational.

When I think of rest, I think of curling up with a good book and no distractions. You see, I am an introvert. I love being with people, but social interaction typically drains my energy. I need to recharge after I spend time with people. How in the world can rest be relational?

Fortunately, God is a patient Teacher. He is willing to prove His truths to me, even when I am skeptical.

Several weeks ago, my husband dropped me off at the airport for a weekend work retreat. I was about to spend three days at the beach with 10 other amazing women, but all I could think of was the energy that would be required of me through the weekend. I went into it tired. How long would it take me to recover once

it was all said and done?

I never expected to come away from that trip energized. Those 10 women poured into me even as I poured into them. We respected one another’s needs, helped each other recharge and lived out the beauty of Hebrews 3:13. We pooled our talents and passions, seeing productivity flow even out of our times of fun and relaxation. We rested together in ways we never could have done individually.

For the first time in my life, I saw that even introverts cannot experience the fullness of rest without support and encouragement from fellow believers. Rest really is relational.

Scripture supports this in a profound manner. Consider Psalm 23. This beloved passage wraps me in peace every time I read it. I have always thought of it as a personal

passage, but recently I was confronted with a startling truth: David was a shepherd. He knew sheep. And he knew that sheep do not do well on their own. They rest when they are surrounded by the safety of their flock and the protection of their shepherd.

We are God’s sheep. We need to draw upon the presence of one another, encouraging each other daily that we may truly find rest.

Ann Hibbard is a pastor’s wife and member of First Baptist Church, Almyra. Read her blog at annehibbard.com.



UNCOVERED DISH

Ann Hibbard

Reach out to high school seniors

Across America, a record 3.3 million high school seniors are expected to graduate at the end of this academic school year, according to the National Center for Education. If the current trend continues, more than 66 percent of those graduates will enroll in a college or university. What does this mean? It means a whole lot of parents and legal guardians are stressing about how to pay for college next year – which means this is a wonderful opportunity for your church to deliver a pre-Christmas gift of “comfort and joy” to many.

With that in mind, consider leading your church to host a college financial aid seminar for parents and high school seniors. Invite high school counselors to attend, as well as admissions counselors from nearby colleges and universities. Assure the admissions counselors that they will have ample opportunity to promote their institution, but ask each of the high school counselors and the admissions counselors to cover one or more of the following topics: (1) “What is the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), and how do I complete it?” (2) “Understanding grants, scholarships and loans,” (3) “How and where to find noninstitu-

tional scholarships,” (4) “What is work study?” and (5) “Protocol for seeking audition-based scholarships.”

In addition, ask both the high school counselors and the college or university admissions counselors to suggest other topics. Give each presenter an allotment of time, leaving enough time for plenty of Q-and-A.

Be sure the event is well-planned, promoted and publicized among both parents and students throughout the community. Register each attendee with a registration card. Each card should have a check box option to allow the participants’ information to be shared with participating colleges and universities. In addition, use the cards for a door prize drawing. Serve quality refreshments for all.

Pastors should resist preaching or heavily promoting church programs.

Close the event by thanking each presenter and participant; then, collectively pray for the parents and students. Utilizing the contact information on the collected registration cards, send a note of thanks accompanied by information about your church and a gracious invitation to attend.

Eric Ramsey is a mission strategist, author and president of TCWM in Mountainburg.



ANSWERING HIS CALL

Eric Ramsey

ALCOHOL

continued from page 4

domestic abuse involving women, and children who are often pushed into the foster care system paid for by, yep, tax dollars.

In order to make a true assessment of the financial benefits that alcohol legalization will bring, I challenge those who use the financial argument to really look at not only the income generated, but also the expenditures that are the unintended consequences of its statewide legalization.

Kim Reeder is pastor of Barton Chapel Baptist Church, Tyronza.

Modesty and church dress

Churches do not preach and teach about modesty today. The dress code of Christian men and women in church is very troubling to me.

It hasn’t been but a few years ago that ladies and girls would never wear clothes to church like they do today. I speak mainly of the skirts and dresses being too short; some even wear short shorts. Any clothes that bring sexual attention to the body should not be worn.

Parents, pastors and teachers

need to teach the church what God’s Word instructs us about modesty.

Please read Genesis 2:25 and 3:7, 10; 1 Timothy 2:9-10, and Matthew 5:28.

Raymond Moore
Benton

Follow the
on 
twitter and

as ArkBaptNews

LETTER

Third Baptist celebrates past, looks to future

MALVERN - Third Baptist Church, Malvern, recently celebrated its 100th anniversary.

It was the summer of 1914 when two women, both members of First Baptist Church, Malvern, surveyed the areas of Babcock and Baker Hills in north Malvern with interest in starting a church. The women, who later became charter members of Third Baptist, encouraged First Baptist and Second Baptist Church, Malvern, to organize the new church as its mission. At 2 p.m. Sept. 3, 1914, the pastors and deacons of these two churches formed a council and organized Third Baptist with 18 members.

W. E. Carver became the first pastor of Third Baptist and deacons were chosen and ordained. The new deacons were appointed to a building committee and borrowed money, which was quickly repaid, for a 140-by-150 foot lot. About \$300 was raised to build a church sanctuary, with donations ranging from 25 cents to \$25, and two lumber companies donated materials. The church was constructed suffi-

ciently enough in one day to hold services that evening.

Lots were donated and several additions were made to the original church building.

A two-story education building was constructed in 1952, and construction began on the current sanctuary in 1958. The family life center - the most recent building - was completed in 2012.

Charles H. Ashcraft was the first full-time pastor in 1938. Currently, Tom Strike serves as pastor, Jimmy McCune serves as music minister and Daniel Humbert serves as youth minister.

The church reaches out to the community through its annual Wild Game Feast, fish fries, block parties and out-of-state missions endeavors.

"The Third Baptist Church of today is a congregation filled with excitement to worship our Lord and to serve Him through ministry opportunities within our community, nation and world," said Strike. "Our desire is that every person has an opportunity to hear the good news that



Third Baptist Church, Malvern, celebrated its 100th anniversary Sept. 20-21.

comes through the gospel of Jesus Christ, has a place to grow in their personal relationship with Jesus and has a chance to put their faith into action."

He noted the words of Paul in Philippians 1:6, which read, "Being confident of this very thing, that he who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Jesus Christ."

"The good work of God began at Third Baptist Church in 1914. We look to the future, as we have been given the privilege to participate in the completing of that work until Jesus returns," said Strike.

Third Baptist celebrated its anniversary with a two-day event Sept. 20-21 that doubled as a ministry to the community. It included a Let's Get Reacquainted brunch, a Birth-day Bash, a musical concert and an-

niversary worship service Sunday morning and a potluck meal.

Strike said several pastors who had been licensed to preach at Third Baptist shared about the spiritual influence the church had on their lives.

These men were James Heard, minister of outreach and visitation at Broadway Baptist Church, Lexington, Ky; Bob Bacon, who served churches in Arkansas, Texas, Indiana and New Mexico before retirement; Mike Titsworth, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, Benton, and Neil Franks, pastor of First Baptist Church, Branson, Mo.

"These testimonies, as well as the words shared by others, have challenged the current congregation to continue the ministry of Third that began in 1914," Strike said. "We look forward to a bright future."

GIVE HOPE Become Houseparents.

Baptist Home for Girls in Madill is accepting applications for couples who are actively involved in a Southern Baptist church and are interested in becoming houseparents. *These are full-time positions with training and benefits.*



Please contact
Art Brown or
Bob Marple at
(580) 564-2218.

Oklahoma Baptist
Homes
for CHILDREN

Charitable Giving Tip

THE POWER OF APPRECIATED GIFTS

Most taxpayers who itemize know that a gift of \$10,000 to their church costs them less than that amount. Because of the tax savings, the real cost of the gift might be \$7,000 or \$8,000, depending on their tax bracket. Making that gift with an appreciated asset can be even more powerful, even for non-itemizers, because the capital gains tax is avoided. Our tax laws encourage charitable giving and the "releasing" of appreciated assets to charities where the asset is converted into a useful service. The Foundation even has a way to sell appreciated stocks at no cost.

If you want assistance in knowing how to use a charitable lead trust to accomplish your goals, contact the Foundation or visit their website.

ARKANSAS BAPTIST
FOUNDATION
Proven Trust • Life-Changing Legacies

10117 Kanis Road • Little Rock, AR 72205
501.376.0732 • 800.798.0969
info@abf.org • www.abf.org

Advertise in the *Arkansas Baptist News*:
steve@arkansasbaptist.org

WorshipWorks offers
simultaneous
worship arts camps
for children and
students

W
WORSHIP
WORKS

Mark Your Calendar!

PRAISEWORKS

Monday, July 13 - Friday, July 17

Students who have completed 7th - 12th grades
(or 6th grade if church includes these students in youth ministry)

JOYWORKS

Tuesday, July 14 - Friday, July 17

Students who have completed 4th - 6th grades

Registration
for both
camps begins
March 1



For more information, visit joyworksarkansas.com and praiseworksarkansas.com or call 501-376-4791, ext. 5121
A ministry of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention Evangelism and Church Health Team and the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering

CROSSES

continued from page one

the whistle on ASU Sept. 15 in his foxnews.com column.

“The war on religious liberty has come to Jonesboro, Arkansas. The time has come for the leaders of Arkansas State University to choose a side. Will they stand with the U.S. Constitution or Wisconsin atheists? ... I hope they choose wisely,” wrote Starnes.

Following ASU’s decision to allow their football team to place the memorial crosses back on their helmets Starnes quoted a letter Lucinda McDaniel, ASU’s

legal counsel, wrote to Sasser.

“At no time was it ever our intention to limit the free speech of our student-athletes,” McDaniel wrote. “The university strongly believes in the rights of our students to freely express their beliefs.”

“How sad, though, that we live in a nation where it is against the law for a university football coach to design a memorial that includes a religious icon,” Starnes wrote in an updated column Sept. 18.

“The correct solution is for Arkansas State University to get out of the way and let players place the stickers on the helmets if they choose,” Starnes reported Sasser as saying.

NEW

continued from page one

overall design of the newspaper, but what we’ll introduce in our second October edition is an entirely new design.”

Yarbrough said the quality of the newsprint – the paper the newspaper is printed on – will increase dramatically with the introduction of the new design, in addition to other changes, including a minimum of 16 pages being printed each issue.

“Our plans are to introduce a higher quality paper and an all-color newspaper,” said Yarbrough. “Additionally, we are changing the

number of columns on a newspaper page to accommodate our readers requests for a greater number of shorter stories.”

Currently, four columns is the standard for the newspaper, said Yarbrough, adding that with the redesigned newspaper, there will be other column widths depending on the content. The change in the columns will accommodate stories to be published on a slightly shorter vertical page, said Yarbrough.

“We are really excited about offering readers an all-color newspaper printed on a higher quality newsprint,” said Yarbrough. “The change will also accommodate the needs of our advertisers.”

READY TO ADVANCE YOUR CAREER WITH A QUALITY ONLINE DEGREE?

Earn your online bachelor's degree from a university committed to a love of God and a love of learning. Ouachita Online blends **ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND ONLINE FLEXIBILITY** with majors in Business and Christian Studies.

YOU KNOW US. YOU TRUST US. OUACHITA ONLINE

Accredited by the Higher Learning Commission

Our Graduates.
TRUETT SEMINARY

Truett graduates pastor large and small congregations. They spearhead international missions organizations and local ministries. They minister to children, adults, and seniors. They feed the hungry, house the homeless, and care for the sick. They lead nonprofits, write books, and build discipleship programs. Truett graduates respond in mighty ways to Christ’s command to proclaim the gospel.

Fall Preview Nov. 6-7, 2014

AURELIA PRATT MDIV '12
TEACHING PASTOR, GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

BAYLOR TRUETT SEMINARY
Living the Great Commission.

MDiv | DMin | MTS | MACM baylor.edu/truett

ccmforever presents
The Music, The Memories, & The Life-Changing Message

Twila Paris

Steve Green

MISSION: Pre-Born
Saving More Lives and Souls!

OCTOBER 19, 2014 CONCERT 6:00PM
DOORS OPEN 5:30PM

HOT SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH
144 WESTON ROAD, HOT SPRINGS, AR 71913

ADULT GA TICKET - \$20
CHILD GA TICKET - \$10 (UNDER 3)
ARTIST MEET & GREET ONLY - \$26*

*100% of the M&G ticket is a donation to Mission: PreBorn which will save the life of a baby from abortion.
ORDER TICKETS ONLINE AT CCMFOREVER.COM OR CALL 800-965-9324

WorshipWorks set for 2015

THE ARKANSAS Baptist State Convention (ABSC) will be offering WorshipWorks – simultaneous worship arts camps for children and students – this July on the campus of Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia.

PraiseWorks and JoyWorks, both previously held at separate times each summer, will now take place the same week in July under the umbrella title “WorshipWorks.”

PraiseWorks, a camp for older students, will be held Monday, July 13, through Friday, July 17.

JoyWorks, a camp for younger students, will be held Tuesday, July 14, through Friday, July 17.

Larry Grayson, ABSC evangelism and church health team member, noted that it was draining on families, churches and staff when the camps took place at two separate

times during the summer.

“We are trying to make the camps family-friendly, church calendar-friendly and staff-friendly by running them simultaneously,” Grayson said.

He said he hopes that holding the camps on the same week will encourage more participation in JoyWorks, which has not seen as much growth as PraiseWorks in the last several years.

He noted that the only times the camps will overlap will be during meals and at the grand finale concert at Jones Performing Arts Center on the Ouachita campus.

Registration for both camps will begin March 1. For more information, visit joyworksarkansas.com and praiseworksarkansas.com.

WorshipWorks is a ministry of the ABSC evangelism and church health team and the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering.



AUTISM WORKSHOP – An Autism Spectrum Disorder Workshop was held Sept. 13 by the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. The event provided an opportunity for participants to learn more about autism and how to effectively minister to individuals with autism. Karan Burnette, Arkansas Autism Partnership director of Partners for Inclusive Communities at the University of Arkansas, led the workshop. Burnette has more than 34 years of experience working with individuals with autism.



MASTER'SINGERS – More than 200 Master'Singers gathered for the Annual Master'Singers Retreat Sept. 18-19 at Park Hill Baptist Church, North Little Rock. The retreat kicks off the Arkansas Master'Singers' 2014-2015 ministry opportunities.

Church life

Liberty Baptist Association is sponsoring a leadership conference for pastors and all church staff from 2 to 4:30 p.m. Oct. 13 at First Baptist Church in El Dorado. Fred Luter will share insights from his ministry as pastor of Franklin Avenue Baptist Church in New Orleans and from his tenure as past two-term president of the Southern Baptist Convention. Luter will then bring a message at 7 p.m. to the public at the El Dorado Municipal Auditorium at the A Night of Hope event.

La Union Femenil Misionera (UFM) – the Hispanic branch of Arkansas Woman's Missionary Union

– held its annual retreat Sept. 12-13 at Spring Lake Assembly in Lonsdale. Fifty-three women, representing Hispanic churches from across the state, attended the event. This year's theme was Wake Up the Little Girl Inside of You, based on Matthew 18:3. Ines Velasquez McBryde, of North Little Rock, served as guest speaker. In addition to the retreat, a training meeting was held for UFM leadership Sept. 19-20 at the Baptist building in Little Rock.

First Baptist Church, Clinton, youth and leaders recently returned from New Orleans after spending a week with other church teens from Arkansas and Louisiana in an outreach to eight low income neighborhoods. During the week, 257 children were reached, and 17 salvations were recorded. In addition, one stu-

dent from First Baptist was called to the ministry.

First Baptist Church, Pine Bluff, will hold revival services Oct. 5-8. Guest speakers will be Greg Addison, Arkansas Baptist State Convention associate executive director; Dewayne Tanton, associational missionary for Harmony Baptist Association; Johnny Taylor, pastor of Hardin Baptist Church, White Hall; M.L. Faler, interim pastor of Oak Grove Baptist Church, Pine Bluff, and Rudy Davis, retired Arkansas Baptist pastor.

The Redneck Games Fundraiser for **Calvary Counseling Center** in Searcy will be held Oct. 24-25 at the adult softball field in Searcy. The Friday event begins with dinner at 6 p.m. and will be followed by the Mark Trammell Quartet and

Crosspoint concert at 7 p.m. Saturday activities will include a 5K run, a muddball tournament and a “red-neck auction.” For more information, call 501-729-0777.

First Baptist Church, Blytheville, will celebrate its 125th anniversary Oct. 26. Three former pastors will participate in the morning service, and former music minister David Ross, senior pastor of First Baptist Church in Sikeston, Mo., will bring the message. Current Pastor Justin King will share an afternoon message. For more information, call 870-762-2432.

Ordinations

Scotland Baptist Church, Scotland, ordained David Jones as pastor Sept. 21.

Staff Wanted

Arkansas Baptist Children's Homes and Family Ministries

- **Houseparent couple** for the Baptist Home for Children in Monticello. This **full-time** position includes salary, medical insurance, life insurance and paid leave.
- **Activity Director** for the Baptist Home for Children in Monticello. This **full-time** position includes salary, medical insurance, life insurance and paid leave. Experience with horses is preferred.

For information on these opportunities, contact Randy Luper at 870.367.5358 or rluper@abchomes.org.



Mission Connection Event!

All pastors, church staff and church members of SBC churches are invited!
Get info now for near term and long term mission opportunities!

Mission Connection is a one day event for anyone interested in connecting with state, national, and international mission partners. Find out how you can get involved in short-term or long-term opportunities in Arkansas, the USA and world!

The same event is offered at THREE different locations for your convenience!

All locations: Registration is at 9:45am, and you're on the road at 3:20pm.

Thursday, November 13, 2014	FBC Fayetteville
Friday, November 14, 2014	Mt Carmel Baptist, Cabot
Saturday, November 15, 2014	Central Baptist, Magnolia



The event cost is \$10 per person with lunch provided. **PRE-Registration is required online at www.absc.org/uttermost or call Michelle at 1.800.838.2272 x5249.** Download the **schedule and presenter list** online as well. Almost half the folks in Arkansas are unchurched. Billions in the world are unreached. YOUR church can get involved. See you at Missions Connection! Please pass the event info on to folks in your church that may be interested! Thanks.

A ministry of the Cooperative Program and the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering.

ABN announces third annual Christmas card contest

LITTLE ROCK - The Arkansas Baptist News (ABN) is announcing its third annual Christmas card design contest.

"We are excited to invite Arkansas Baptists to once again submit their designs for consideration," said Tim Yarbrough, ABN editor/executive director.

The design should depict a religious Christmas scene and be an



original artistic design and not a photograph. The winning design will be published in the ABN and will be used as its official 2014 Christmas card, which is mailed to Southern Baptist entities.

All entries must be received by Nov. 10 and will be judged by the ABN staff. The person with the winning entry will receive a \$100 gift certificate.

Entries must be submitted electronically in high quality and should

be emailed to jessica@arkansasbaptist.org. If the art is too large for email, it may be submitted via mail on digital media, such as a CD-ROM, to ABN Christmas Card Contest, 10 Remington Drive, Little Rock, AR 72204. Artists must currently be a member of an Arkansas Baptist church and must be an ABN subscriber (or the child of a current subscriber if the artist is under age 18) either through church or individual plans.

For full regulations, visit arkansasbaptist.org/christmas-card-contest.

Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

1. Publication Title: Arkansas Baptist News

2. Publication Number: 8021

3. Filing Date: 10-01-2014

4. Issue Frequency: Bi-Weekly

5. Number of Issues Published Annually: 25

6. Annual Subscription Price: \$11.00

7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®): P.O. Box 552 Little Rock, AR 72203-0552

8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): P.O. Box 552 Little Rock, AR 72203-0552

9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank):

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, Inc., P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203-0552

Editor (Name and complete mailing address): Timothy L. Yarbrough, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203-0552

Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address): Timothy L. Yarbrough, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203-0552

10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.):

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, Inc., P.O. Box 552, Little Rock AR 72203-0552

11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box: None

12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one): Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months

Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)

PS Form 3526, July 2014 (Page 1 of 4 (see instructions page 4)) PSN: 7530-01-000-9931 PRIVACY NOTICE: See our privacy policy on www.usps.com.

13. Publication Title: Arkansas Baptist News

14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: 10-02-2014

15. Extent and Nature of Circulation: Religious publication

Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 18,923

No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 17,600

a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run): 18,923

(1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies): 15,254

(2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies): 1,962

(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®: _____

(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®): _____

c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4)): 17,216

d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)

(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies included on PS Form 3541: 963

(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies included on PS Form 3541: 315

(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail): _____

(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means): 50

e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3) and (4)): 1,328

f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e): 18,544

g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3)): 379

h. Total (Sum of 15f and g): 18,923

i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100): 93%

95%

* If you are claiming electronic copies, go to line 16 on page 3. If you are not claiming electronic copies, skip to line 17 on page 3.

16. Publication of Statement of Ownership: If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed Publication not required.

in the 10-02-2014 issue of this publication.

17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner: Rebecca S. Hardwick, Business Manager

Date: 10-01-2014

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

Classifieds

PASTOR

Kingsland First Baptist is seeking a **full-time pastor**; parsonage provided. Send resumes to P.O. Box 97, Kingsland, AR 71652.

First Baptist, Jonesboro, is seeking a **full-time senior pastor**. A seminary degree and experience is preferred. Please send resumes to Pastor Search Committee, c/o First Baptist Church, 701 S. Main, Jonesboro, AR 72401 or email to jstagg@fbcjonesboro.org.

Rudy Baptist Church, Alma, is looking for a **bi-vocational pastor**. Send resume to dthrift@almasd.net.

Witt's Chapel Baptist Church of Maynard seeking **full-time pastor**. Please send resume including references to Dennis Barber, 486 Thompson Road, Maynard, AR 72444.

Emmanuel Baptist Church of Batesville is seeking a **full-time pastor**. Please send resumes to Search Committee, 1915 Batesville Blvd., Batesville, AR 72501.

Immanuel Baptist Church, Marion, is prayerfully seeking a **bi-vocational pastor**. Call 501-213-6822. Send resume to afamilyunit@yahoo.com.

Wooster First Baptist is seeking a **full-time pastor**. We will accept resumes through Oct. 15. Please send resumes to Pastor Search Committee, P.O. Box 218, Wooster, AR 72181 or email to woosterfb@windstream.net.

First Baptist Church (SBC) of Evening Shade is seeking a **full-time or bi-vocational pastor**.

Please send resume to FBCES Pastor Search Committee, 290 AR 230, Cave City, AR 72521.

New Hope Baptist Church in Jay, Okla., is prayerfully seeking a **full-time pastor**. Please send resumes to newhopebaptistjay@gmail.com.

OTHER STAFF POSITIONS

Life Line Baptist Church, Little Rock, looking for **full-time pastor of worship**. Send resumes to office@lifelinebaptist.org.

New Hope Baptist Church West, Duncan, Okla., is seeking a **full-time children's minister**. Send resumes to Children's Minister Search Committee, c/o New Hope Baptist Church West, P.O. Box 1164, Duncan, OK 73534 or email to newhopew@cablone.net.

New Hope Baptist Church West, Duncan, Okla., is seeking a **full-time minister of music**. Send resumes to Minister of Music Search Committee, c/o New Hope Baptist Church West, P.O. Box 1164, Duncan, OK 73534 or email to newhopew@cablone.net.

FBC, Benton, is seeking an **associate minister of students**. This individual would work with the student pastor to reach students in Saline County and give specific leadership to our middle school ministry. If interested, check out employment opportunities on our website at www.fbc Benton.org.

First Baptist Church, Doniphan, Mo., is seeking an **interim worship leader**. For more information, please call 573-996-2910 or email

monty@fbcdoniphan.org.

FBC, Wake Village, near Texarkana, Texas, seeking **full-time worship pastor** for church growing in young adult membership. Send resumes to sneathery@fbcwakevillage.org. Visit www.fbcwakevillage.org.

Grace Baptist, a growing church of 200 in attendance, in Rogers seeking a **part-time music minister**. For more information and to submit your resume, go to www.gbcr Rogers.com.

FBC, Harrisburg, is seeking a **minister of worship and family ministries**. A job description is available at www.harrisburgfbc.com. If interested, email your resume to kellyjones@harrisburgfbc.com or mail to P.O. Box 88, Harrisburg, AR 72432.

Hindsville 1st Baptist Church in northwest Arkansas is seeking a **bi-vocational paid position for a youth pastor**. Send resume to scottsprmkr@aol.com or P.O. Box 113, Hindsville, AR 72738.

Organists needed at Calvary Baptist Church in Benton. Contact Jerry Williams: 501-658-5593.

First Baptist Church, Batesville, is seeking a **full-time minister of preschool/children**. Send resume to First Baptist Church, Attn: Stacy Reed, P.O. Box 2455, Batesville, AR 72503 or email to stacy@fbc Batesville.org.

First Baptist Church of Hamburg is seeking a **full-time youth minister**. Send resume to First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 352, Hamburg, AR 71646 or email us at fbchbg_office@sbcgloba.net.

Congo Road Baptist Church of Benton is seeking a **part-time youth minister**. Please send resume to Congo Road Baptist Church, Attn: Pastor, P.O. Box 1218, Benton, AR 72018-1218 or email jeff@congoroadbaptistchurch.org.

First Baptist Church of Sheridan is seeking a **full- or part-time praise and worship leader**. The worship leader is required to work with a praise band and choir in leading a blended music service and coordinating with the pastor in planning, scheduling and directing the music program. A music degree is not required, but some experience, especially choral is preferred. Please send your résumé to 1201 S. Rock St., Sheridan, AR 72150 or email Sheridan.Worship.Leader@gmail.com.

MISCELLANEOUS

For sale: **1987 TMCI 47-passenger bus "coach."** \$13,500. For more information, call Michael: 870-240-6648.

Hackett FBC is interested in purchasing **used commercial playground equipment**. Please call Joe at 479-597-6644.

Wanted: **Copyright 1991 Baptist Hymnals**. Color: crimson dark. Contact info: Haw Creek Baptist Church, phone number - 479-637-2978.

To advertise in the ABN contact Steve McPherson at steve@arkansasbaptist.org

OCTOBER 12, 2014

EXPLORE THE BIBLE:

Don't walk away

HEBREWS 6:1-8

I think all of us who are parents are amazed with how quickly our children seem to grow. There are certain events in the lives of our children when we know they are maturing. We all remember that moment when we sent them off for their first day of kindergarten. Before we know it, we are sending them off to high school, then college and, all of a sudden, they are on their own.

Of course, it is the goal to see our children mature into adulthood. In the Book of Hebrews, the writer was encouraging Christians to grow spiritually. There was a concern that some of the Jewish Christians wanted to go back to the old ways of Judaism. For some of the early church leaders it must have felt as if they were always teaching the basics and never going deep into the gospel message.

During my school career, I probably took a Spanish class five times but never made it out of second year

Spanish. I would take the beginning class one year and then skip a year or two so I would have to take the beginning course all over again. If we're not careful, we can spend a lifetime in the church and still be drinking spiritual milk instead of eating spiritual solid food (Heb. 5:13-14).

At the end of this passage, the writer warns Hebrew Christians of the danger of returning to Judaism. Turning back to the Old Covenant would mean rejecting Christ's once-and-for-all death on the cross. That type of rejection would cut one off from God's forgiveness.

Those who have truly trusted Christ as their Savior do not need to worry about losing their salvation. But there is a warning for the person who may be trusting in something other than Christ to save them. That person may have been involved in church activities for quite a while and even lived a "good" life, but if he or she continues to reject Christ, he or she will also be cut off from God's forgiveness.



Bill Bumpas
member
Park Hill Baptist
North Little Rock

BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE:

Connected through prayer

EPHESIANS 6:18-22

In an undisclosed country, a native pastor is imprisoned and tortured for one reason – his faith. An outside source sends coded words to sources, who pass the information along until it reaches a church in a free country. Immediately, the brothers and sisters pray. Nothing happens – which is good – for days, weeks, but the faithful do not give up: They pray continually. Then, one day, a total stranger, an official, releases the pastor because of a technicality.

Coincidence? Not a chance! It was the fervent prayers of a righteous people (James 5:16, NIV).

In Ephesians 6:18-22, Paul, continues to give us those careful instructions.

"And pray in the Spirit ... with all kinds of prayers and requests" (Eph. 6:18).

That means not for my team to win or for me to get a million dollars. I am not in the Spirit if I use "oh Lord," "for heaven's sake" or "OMG" casually. I thought of this

verse one day during the second week of school in my eighth grade class. During one period, most of the students had a similar glitch, but at different times. As the fifth frustrated student brought his computer to my desk, I just let out, "Oh Lord." I felt ashamed because I spoke so casually, but then the Holy Spirit nudged me with, "Here I am – ask Me." It was automatic. I finished the call for help out loud: "Oh, Lord, please give me patience and wisdom to figure this out and help us all get on the right track." I felt calm. I clearly fixed the glitch and moved on.

Just as importantly as everyday things, Paul cautions us not to forget about those with whom we are not always in touch – like the native preacher in the story above.

Also, Paul reminds us to let each other know when prayers are answered, so we may rejoice with each other and will be encouraged to keep on praying for all requests and thanksgivings.



Phyllis Watts
member
Second Baptist
Arkadelphia

OCTOBER 19, 2014

EXPLORE THE BIBLE:

Only Jesus saves

HEBREWS 7:23-28

Jesus is all we need. The Son of God is sufficient for salvation. The Book of Hebrews was written to proclaim the superiority of Christ. Jesus is greater than angels, Moses and the high priests. It was important for the writer to establish Christ's supremacy because some of the Christian Jews were tempted to turn back to Judaism. Others believed salvation depended on Jesus and something else. In other words, Jesus was not enough.

There are those in this day and age who believe that faith in Jesus is not enough for salvation. Some have been deceived into believing that one can be saved by good works.

In this passage, the New Testament author demonstrates that Jesus is greater than anything else and better than any other way. Jesus is the exact kind of High Priest needed to bring us into a right relationship with the Father. The writer focuses on the difference between the high priest of the Old Covenant and the Christ of the New Covenant. Unlike the high priest, Jesus lives forever,

and thus His priesthood is permanent (Heb. 7:24).

Because He lives forever, Jesus completely saves and is always interceding with God on our behalf (Heb. 7:25). Romans 8:34 reminds us that Jesus is doing His interceding from the right hand of God.

The author of Hebrews goes on to state that Christ is set apart because of His uniqueness. Jesus is the sinless Son of God, who has been exalted above all things (Heb. 7:26).

Jesus is also greater than the high priests because, unlike them, He is perfect and doesn't have to offer sacrifices

for Himself. In addition, His sacrifice was once and for all (Heb. 7:27).

Who or what are you placing your hope in for eternal life? Jesus claimed that He is the only way to God (John 14:6). He backed it up by His sacrificial death and victorious resurrection. When it comes to determining your eternal destination, remember that "salvation is found in no one else" but Jesus (Acts 4:12).



Bill Bumpas
member
Park Hill Baptist
North Little Rock

BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE:

Overcome betrayal

GENESIS 37:19-27; 39: 1-2

Life rarely goes our way. That's a lesson I've learned from traveling 61 years on this earth. Learning to live beyond those detours and "setbacks" has taken many of those years. My parents worked very hard to see that I didn't fail, get hurt or become disappointed. I grew up thinking everything was going to be all right. I really didn't expect life to turn out like it has. I expected my pastors to hang around and never leave. I expected my friends to keep their promises. I thought my children would grow up, get married, have children and live next door to me. I expected my husband and me to grow old together, enjoy our retirement years together and, I guess, to just fall in a grave together one day.

That was the big one. After 34 years of marriage, cancer joined our marriage, and Jim went on home with Jesus, leaving me widowed and at a crossroad. I found myself with Joseph in the cistern. I cried; I imagine he cried. I screamed out; I bet Joseph did some screaming. I asked myself over and over, "Why me?"

I'm sure Joseph did the same. And, I questioned God; I expect Joseph, the baby of the family, questioned God also. And just like in Joseph's case, the loved ones in my life probably felt a little guilty, wondering what they could have done differently to have changed the outcome.

But then there's the rest of the story. Joseph was "rescued" and taken to Egypt, and according to the providence of God, he saved his family and nation. He rode the waves of fear, disappointment and separation, being lifted up and sustained by his God whose mercy, grace and will triumphed.

We all get thrown into the cistern – more than once. Each time, instead of fighting it, God wants us to entrust the outcome to Him. When the waves of helplessness rise, we call out His name. We trust that God is in control. My husband used to say, "It's all good!" And it is because we are in the hands and in the will of our loving, merciful, gracious and omnipotent God.



Phyllis Watts
member
Second Baptist
Arkadelphia



A team of Arkansas Baptist women share a meal with international friends in Brooklyn, N.Y. From left: Susan Young, Lisa Alsup, Connie Littlefield, Debbie Moore and international friends Rukaya and Melinee.

Ark. women serve in NY

BROOKLYN, N.Y. – A team of Arkansas Baptist women recently traveled to Brooklyn, N.Y., to serve among internationals.

Debbie Moore, women’s missions and ministry consultant on the Arkansas Baptist State Convention missions team, served as leader for the Sept. 12-16 trip. Other participants were Connie Littlefield, of East Side Baptist Church, Fort Smith; Susan Young, of First Baptist Church, Rogers, and Lisa Alsup, of First Baptist Church, Jenny Lind.

Five teams have traveled to New York since fall 2012 when Arkansas women began a partnership with

like-minded workers in the Brooklyn area of New York. The teams have prayer walked, met women on the streets and engaged them in conversation, assisted with teaching in the Brooklyn Arab American Friendship Center and more. More teams will be involved in the Brooklyn outreach ministry in 2015.

Moore said she “desires to see more and more Arkansas women involved in building relationships and sharing Christ with international women in Arkansas and beyond.”

For more information on serving among internationals, email Moore at dmoore@absc.org.

Family of five saved

VILONIA – A family of five recently accepted Christ during an Arkansas Baptist Builders project in Vilonia.

Arkansas Baptist Builders, a ministry of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention (ABSC), has numerous rebuilding projects in the Vilonia area following the tornado that hit earlier this year.

Jackie James, director of operations for Arkansas Baptist Builders, said the Morales family’s needs were considered “priority one” due to the severity

of the damage to their house. Cecilia and Victor Morales and their daughters Isela, Maria and Jessica needed a roof on their house.

James said his first meeting with the family was just like any other meeting with a family requesting assistance. He had no way of knowing how God would move in the lives of the Morales family members.

He said one of the unique aspects of the situation was the language difference. Because the family speaks Spanish, Francisco Gomez, ABSC evangelism and church health team member and ABSC Hispanic consultant, has served as translator throughout the process.

At a recent meeting with the family, when Gomez and Bob Roberts, volunteer missionary for the ABSC

and coordinator for James and Arkansas Baptist Builders, went to tell the family that their project had been funded, God’s work in the family members’ hearts became apparent.

Gomez said he took some evangelistic tracts with him to the meeting, thinking it would be a good time to share the gospel. Unbeknownst



The Morales family from left: Cecilia, Isela, Victor, Maria and Jessica.

to him, Roberts planned to share his testimony that day.

When they met with the family, Roberts – who is

also a disaster relief blue, white and yellow hat – began to share his testimony about how God had delivered him from drugs and alcohol.

“And they were all just looking at me, and I could see the Spirit working on them,” Roberts said.

Gomez followed up by using the tracts to explain salvation, and the entire family accepted Christ as Savior.

“That’s our whole reason for being there,” said James about the family members’ decisions. “What I tell all of our teams ... (is), ‘You’re here for one purpose. You’re here to share Jesus in this neighborhood, to this family and anyone else you run into. We’re going to build a house, but our primary reason for being here is that – to grow the kingdom.’”



IMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH OF PINE BLUFF IS CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF MINISTRY!

We will celebrate this special event on Sunday, October 5. The celebration service begins at 10:30 a.m and will be followed by lunch in the Fellowship Hall. Former members and friends are encouraged to join us for this celebration.

CAMP SILOAM HOLD FAST

OCTOBER 17-19, 2014

SPEAKER: BRIAN BURGESS

WORSHIP: CLAY HELDER

A POWERFUL YOUTH RETREAT FOR JR. & SR. HIGH

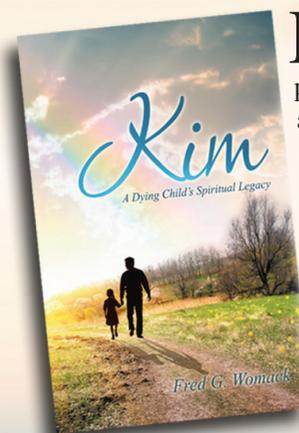
Audio? Video? Lighting? Questions?



870 243 3100
Heyacs.com

Like us and win AKG handheld wireless.
[facebook.com/acsocial](https://www.facebook.com/acsocial) 870 243 3100

Kim: A Dying Child’s Spiritual Legacy



Retired SBC pastor, Fred G. Womack, tells of his six-year-old daughter’s battle with cancer, his personal grief and how God deployed unexpected and astonishing assistance through it all, such as the child’s vision of heaven before her death. The book highlights that nothing short of God’s supernatural comfort could produce solace and hope powerful enough to offset the unrelenting anguish that came in those days. On several occasions, unspeakable emotional pain was completely banished by varied and merciful God-sent events, some intimating the proximity and activities of the deceased in Christ.

Book may be ordered from www.westbowpress.com or Amazon.com or from most local book stores.

Arkansas Baptist News
P.O. Box 552
Little Rock, AR 72203

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



300 attend conf.
Revitalization conference
reaches across Arkansas

PAGE 1

Music dream
Harrison teen ministers
through music

PAGE 1



The *Arkansas Baptist News* is committed to telling the story of God's work among His people in the Natural State. One of the quickest ways to experience the news is through a variety of online resources.

● **Sign up for the ABN Now**

Our digital edition is accessible on computers and mobile devices. It includes audible articles, extra content and more color.

● **Listen to the ABN Podcast**

Visit arkansasbaptist.org/abn-podcast.

● **Access our website**

See our daily updates by visiting arkansasbaptist.org on your computer or mobile device.

● **Facebook/Twitter**

Find us on Facebook and Twitter as ArkBaptNews.

For more information, call 501-376-4791, ext. 5153, or email abn@arkansasbaptist.org.

**We're online...
all the time!**

arkansasbaptist.org

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 arkansasbaptist.org. Please call the *ABN* office to discuss church plans.

Photo by Caleb Yarbrough



Scan QR code with your smartphone app to view *ABN* website.



Victory Car Show

Immanuel Baptist Church, Little Rock, hosted their second annual Victory Car Show Sept. 13.

Find us on **facebook** and **twitter** as ArkBaptNews