

WESTERN Recorder

A Kentucky Baptist Convention Publication

**ANNUAL
MEETING
2023**
BOOK OF REPORTS





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WESTERN Recorder

The Western Recorder Magazine is an annual publication of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

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Working together to advance the gospel

BY TODD GRAY



GRAY

Since our earliest days in 1837, Kentucky Baptists have worked together on large initiatives. While the particulars of those priorities have changed over the years the focus remains the same — to advance the gospel in Kentucky and around the world.

This year is no different. Here are seven areas we are giving focused attention to for upcoming year:

1. Calling Out the Called Scholarship:

A total of 129 ministerial students from Kentucky Baptist churches had a portion of their tuition paid through the Calling Out the Called Scholarship. Our goal is to determine if there is the desire and means to help these students receive even more financial assistance as they prepare for a life of Christian ministry.

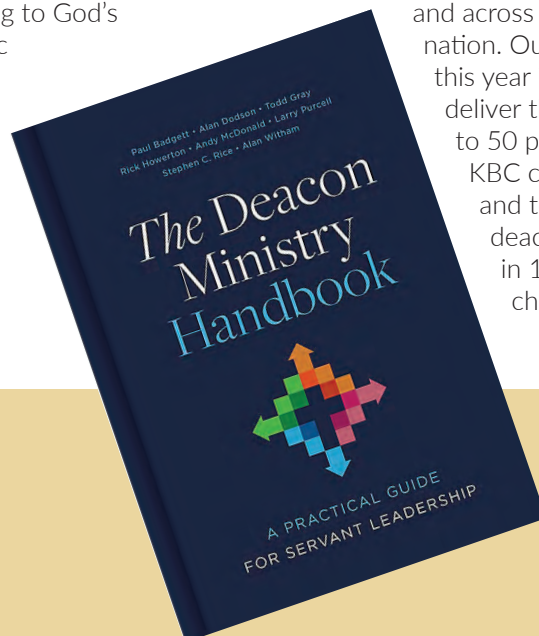
2. Equipping the Called: Kentucky Baptists are answering the call and many of those responding to God's leadership will need basic training for local church ministry. This year we are publishing a preaching training resource and hosting events to help train future pastors for Kentucky Baptist churches.

3. Every Church on Mission:

We know that a healthy church is a sending church. This year's goal is to equip 1,375 individuals representing 400 KBC churches to take their next mission step in the coming year. The gospel is advancing through those who are engaging in mission work in Kentucky and beyond.

4. Church Multiplied: Every Kentucky Baptist Church was a church start at some point. Most of them were planted by other Kentucky Baptist churches. Our goal is to help Kentucky Baptists plant and replant churches in 90 of our 120 counties by the end of 2025. We want to see the gospel advanced as Kentucky Baptist churches plant and replant healthy Kentucky Baptist churches.

5. Equipping Deacon Partners: The Kentucky Baptist Mission Board Staff has produced a Deacon Ministry Handbook that is proving to be a popular and helpful resource to churches in Kentucky and across the nation. Our goal this year is to deliver this book to 50 percent of KBC churches and to train deacons in 150 churches.



6. Every Student, Every Campus:

The college campus remains the greatest mission field in our state with only 5 percent of the more than 200,000 college students in Kentucky attending church. Our churches are reaching students and training them for local church leadership through Baptist Campus Ministry. We are currently on 29 campuses in Kentucky with a goal of starting Baptist Campus Ministry work on 40 Kentucky college campuses by 2025 and 50 by 2030.

7. Anchored: Hope for Lake

Cumberland Crusade: We know that people will not be saved unless they hear the gospel preached. This year Kentucky Baptist churches worked together to carry out the Hope for Lake Cumberland evangelistic crusade. This is just one more way Kentucky Baptists are cooperating to advance the gospel in our state.

One thing has not changed since 1837 when our state convention began: we remain steadfastly committed to advancing the gospel in Kentucky and around the world and cooperating to do it together. Thank you, Kentucky Baptists, for working Together for the Mission — to reach Kentucky and the world for Christ.

TODD GRAY is executive director-treasurer of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He can be reached at todd.gray@kybaptist.org or (502) 489-3369.

◀ **Deacon Ministry Handbook**
A Practical Guide for Servant Leadership



WE EXIST FOR THE

Church

MIDWESTERN SEMINARY exists for the Church by biblically educating God-called men and women to be and make disciples of Jesus Christ. With the recent launch of For the Church Cohorts, students can now live out this vision through enhanced discipleship, focused study, and intentional community. Cohorts feature hands-on ministry experience in one of five areas of focus: Timothy Track, Biblical Counseling, Fusion Masters, Women in Scholarship, and Spurgeon Fellows.

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Preserving convention unity when churches seem unable to agree

BY JAMES CARROLL



CARROLL

Southern Baptists are familiar with tension. Based on the historical record and personal experience, some may argue our association with it is more affection than merely familiarity.

Theoretically speaking, tension is the collision of opposing values, and it manifests in us in two primary ways.

Unfortunately, at times we enjoy fighting. From church business meetings to the Battle for the Bible to culture wars, we've been known to lean into these collisions with resolve, grit and tenacity. This penchant for combat has served us well at times — like during the Conservative Resurgence — but comes at a cost. In peace time, we are tempted to manufacture a hill to charge or an enemy to defeat. Our disagreements are important but not all of them require a war that ends in a division between winners and losers.

In another sense, our willingness to live in sustained tension has allowed us to maintain cooperation across a diverse group of churches for more than 178 years. In contrast to narrower approaches to denominationalism, our system allows for doctrinal variations on secondary and tertiary matters for the sake of a more robust missional endeavor. The convergence of and sometimes conflict between our doctrinal alignment and missional cooperation requires deft, discerning and decisive leadership. In every generation, we must patiently and perseveringly walk together believing the best about one another's motives while protecting the integrity of our

work through clear boundaries. For the Southern Baptist Convention to outlive our generation, we must persist in this latter tension without devolving into the worst forms of the former one.

As has always been the case, our convention faces critical decisions year-after-year to maintain a God-honoring balance of doctrinal fidelity and missional cooperation. Because of the nature and governance structure of our convention, we must act each year to select leaders to direct our work and appoint trustees to oversee our entities through appropriate guardrails. To this end, we make vital, future-shaping decisions every time we gather. While we can't torpedo the whole enterprise in one year, the danger of incremental movements in the wrong direction is ever-present. The natural current from both culture and our human frailty carries us away from godliness so that we always drift away from fidelity and never toward it. Therefore, we must constantly protect against gradual slides in doctrine and mission: individually, congregationally and as a convention.

Sadly, history is replete with examples of people, churches and denominations that have swerved from the faith through subtle doctrinal compromise or outright abandonment while others have drifted to prioritize good but not gospel work. We must protect against the loss of our bearings on both sides to avoid their eventual fading or fizzling. Perhaps it's naïve optimism, but I don't believe we've jettisoned orthodoxy or that the Lord is finished using our convention to continue gathering for Himself a people "from every

nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages." But I'm even more confident that He doesn't need us, and our opportunity could well diminish significantly in the next generation. Our role in the expansion of His Kingdom is not a right we can claim but a privilege we could easily forfeit.

For a variety of reasons, we are in an especially important moment because the decisions are not only more challenging but more significant to the health and future of our convention. Voices from all sides speak with what I'd call "apocalyptic rhetoric" that infuses urgency into every debate and creates enemies out of anyone who disagrees. We have taken our cue from the broader culture where polarization inflames every discussion with a zero-sum-game mentality. We can and we must do better.

Brothers and sisters, may I extend a call and a challenge. Let's work from the bottom up to preserve and continue this collective enterprise by leaning into the tension created by the breadth of our cooperation as a means of evading the fractures that threaten us. Will you join me in these six steps?

- 1. Pursue God.** This effort begins in private Bible study and the prayer closet then extends to meaningful church membership and missional engagement. If we are not individually growing in godliness, then shutting us down would be an act of God's grace.
- 2. Focus on building and strengthening the local church.** The organism God created to guard the gospel and

(See *UNITY*, page 9)

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God continually brings the best people to join our staff

BY JIM DONNELL



DONNELL

The Kentucky Baptist Convention Mission Board staff continues to help churches advance the Great Commission in Kentucky and around the world, and the Lord continually brings the best and brightest people to join our staff to meet that mission. For example, during the past year, two new regional consultants, Jason Lowe and Harold Best, have come on board.

Prior to his KBC service, **Jason Lowe** served for many years as both the associational missions strategist (AMS) for the Pike Association while simultaneously serving as the executive pastor for First Baptist Church of Pikeville, Ky.

Jason's service as an AMS was recognized nationally through his service on the 2017 Southern Baptist Convention Committee on Associations, which developed a list of 16 proficiencies for associational leaders. They also recommended changing the position title of associational leaders from directors of missions (DOM) to associational missions strategists.

Harold Best had been a long-time Kentucky Baptist pastor, most recently serving as the senior pastor of Burlington Baptist Church. He also served as KBC president for the 2021-22 convention year.

Our Executive Office Team accomplished much during this past year. Here are some examples:

Information Technology led by Troy Fulkerson

Researched Teams phone system to replace Mitel. We have chosen

Teligent IP as our vendor and we are in the process of planning the rollout of the new phone system.

Communications led by Lawrence Smith

We held the successful Pregnancy Resource Center Appreciation Banquet in conjunction with the Friends of Life KY Task Force. We continue to work with the task force to chart a new direction for the group.

Accounting Services led by Becky Harris

Online giving options for churches were considerably expanded.

HR & Administration led by Shari Rogers

A major Baptist Building utilization project was completed — relocating one team to a new office suite while expanding space available to the other two ministry teams, plus providing much additional general purpose storage space.

Executive Office Team led by Jim Donnell

Led the Cooperative Program Promotion Task Force to finalize the CP promotion strategy and begin implementation.

Serving Kentucky Baptists is such a joy, and doing so with the quality people the Lord has assembled on the Mission Board staff is just the "icing on the cake." We look forward to what the Lord has in store for us in the coming year as we work "Together for the Mission!"

JIM DONNELL is the associate executive director for convention operations for the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He can be reached at jim.donnell@kybaptist.org or (502) 489-3371.

Unity (continued from pg. 7)

expand His kingdom is the ordinary group of gathered believers under the leadership and care of faithful under-shepherds. To the degree that we mow around, manipulate, use or trample on the local church, we forsake the plan and purpose of God.

3. Invest in meaningful relationships

locally and denominationally, even — and especially with — those who don't see matters as we do. The glue of our cooperation is not found in uniformity, but in forbearance and grace.

4. Walk together with conviction and grace.

We are, for example, convictionally complementarian and credobaptist. While we should do it with great circumspection and sadness, we must separate from those people and churches who move outside these boundaries. And for those who change positions on these or any of our distinctives, initiating the process and leaving well would be a grace to us.

5. Sustain our entities by investing in them

through the accountability and support of our trustee system. These structures have served us well and continue to provide the mechanisms necessary for organizational health moving forward, but only if we employ them properly. The symbiotic relationship requires mutual love, respect, honesty and trust that yields a willingness to engage lovingly in difficult conversations, make tough decisions and receive hard feedback with humility.

6. Renew our zeal for reaching the nations.

For the record, our commitment to the global cause of Christ remains strong, and we must maintain it without ignoring other significant issues. Yet we must, as our convention's founding document states, direct our energies to the one sacred effort; namely, the propagation of the gospel.

JAMES CARROLL is pastor of Parkway Baptist Church in Bardstown and the 2022-23 Kentucky Baptist Convention President. He can be reached at james.carroll@parkwaybaptist.com.

Partnering to prepare your current and future ministers

BY MICHAEL CABELL



CABELL

"I was working as a barber when the Lord called me to ministry," a pastor shared with me during a recent meeting. He knew his need for theological education but was unsure how he would pay for it.

Having just purchased a new car, he could not afford both his monthly payment and school tuition. He humbly asked the salesman if he could return the vehicle for a refund. Not only did the car lot owner buy the car back, but also loaned him a car to drive to school and contributed money toward his tuition.

Attending Bible college would not have been feasible had it not been for

a faithful Christian businessman who came alongside him to support his theological education.

Like that car salesman, the Kentucky Baptist Convention desires to come alongside current and future Kentucky Baptist ministers to help them pursue theological education. One way we desire to serve Kentucky Baptist churches is by investing in the theological education of current and future ministers.

We were pleased to launch the Calling Out the Called Scholarship program this year and award \$107,000 in scholarship funds to 129 Kentucky Baptist ministerial students. These students are residents of Kentucky, members of Kentucky Baptist Convention churches, have a call to

ministry, intend to serve in a SBC ministry context and are pursuing a ministry-based bachelor's or master's degree at one of our in-state SBC-related institutions.

The KBC counts it a joy to assist in preparing your future pastor, worship minister and youth minister for service in your church.

Know of someone called to ministry who is a member of your church? The 2024-2025 scholarship application is open January 1-April 15, 2024, at www.kybaptist.org/scholarship.

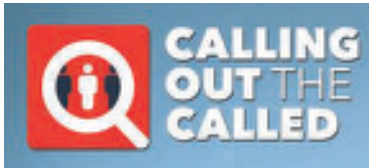
MICHAEL CABELL is assistant to the executive director for convention relations of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He can be reached at michael.cabell@kybaptist.org or (859) 753-8601.



The workers are few

Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When He saw the crowds, He had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then He said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field."

— Matthew 9:35 - 38



Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to the recipients of the 2023 Calling Out the Called Scholarship, awarded by the Kentucky Baptist Convention. This scholarship provided \$107,000 to support the ministerial and theological training of 129 Kentucky Baptist ministerial students. To find out more about this scholarship, please visit kybaptist.org/scholarship.

Name	Church Membership	City	Name	Church Membership	City
Noah Amundson	High Street Baptist	Somerset	Michael Portwood	Kenwood Baptist	Louisville
Pascual Arias-Jiménez	Hurstbourne Baptist	Louisville	Hannah Portwood	Kenwood Baptist	Louisville
Anna Arrastia	Buck Run Baptist	Frankfort	Samuel Posey	Clifton Baptist	Louisville
Adrena Bader	Woodstock Baptist	Somerset	Nevan Puente	Parkland Baptist	Louisville
Nash Baker	Mt. Moriah Baptist	Waddy	Alexandra Pugh	Throne of Grace Community	Louisville
Eddie Barker	West Pineville Baptist	Pineville	Brandon Queen	Fellowship Church Louisville	Louisville
Jeremie Bartels	IBC Loyall	Loyall	David Ray	Riverwoods Church	Bardwell
Joshua Boone	Kenwood Baptist	Louisville	Michael Redmond	FBC Taylorsville	Taylorsville
Ardell Brown	Clifton Baptist	Louisville	Adam Reynolds	Greensburg Baptist	Greensburg
Paxton Cagle	Crestwood Baptist	Crestwood	Jeremy Rice	Calvary Baptist	Bowling Green
Benson Carver	Highview Baptist	Louisville	Owen Richey	Clifton Baptist	Louisville
Maximus Carver	Highview Baptist	Louisville	Ethan Rivera	Lone Oak FBC	Paducah
Ryan Chapman	Faith Baptist	Corbin	Caleb Robb	Highview Baptist	Louisville
Andrew Clark	Sojourn East	Louisville	Kelsie Robb	Highview Baptist	Louisville
Zackary Coker	Clifton Baptist	Louisville	Katie Robb	Highview Baptist	Louisville
Zachary Collier	Campton Baptist	Campton	Jeremiah Rogers	Eastwood Baptist	Bowling Green
Rebekah Coots	FBC Cold Spring	Cold Spring	Robert Rosa	Long Run Baptist	Louisville
Joshua Copley	Safe Harbor Baptist Fellowship	Georgetown	Thomas Shafer	Cornerstone Baptist	Nicholasville
David Cornett	Throne of Grace Community	Louisville	Mason Shelton	FBC Mayfield	Mayfield
Josep Cowan	FBC Mt. Vernon	Mt. Vernon	Danny Sherrill	Smithland First Baptist	Smithland KY
Patrick Cruz	Parkway Baptist	Bardstown	Wes Shipley	Immanuel Baptist	Glasgow
Keenan Darby	FBC Pikeville	Pikeville	Abigail Shofner	Crestwood Baptist	Crestwood
Anthony D'Avello	Parkland Baptist	Louisville	Collin Sissom	FBC Murray	Murray
Randall Todd Davis	New Heights Church	Middlesboro	William Smallwood	West Pineville Baptist	Pineville
Isaac Dodson	FBC Barbourville	Barbourville	Daniel Smith	Forest Baptist	Louisville
William Dooley	Middletown Baptist	Berea	Joe Starks	Forest Park Baptist	Bowling Green
Drew Duncan	Third Avenue Baptist	Louisville	Chelsie Stevenson	Bethlehem Baptist	Mt. Eden
Justin Early	Calvary Baptist	London	Arlen Stolz	Mallard Point Baptist	Georgetown
Timothy Easterday	Clifton Baptist	Louisville	Aubrey Streuber	Ninth and O Baptist	Louisville
Kaci Easterday	Clifton Baptist	Louisville	Blaine Taylor	Vine Street Baptist	Louisville
Darren Edwards	FBC Cold Spring	Cold Spring	Brody Thomas	Immanuel Baptist	Lexington
Jacob Eitel	FBC Barbourville	Barbourville	Isaiah Thomas	Watson Memorial Baptist	Louisville
Catheryn Eitel	FBC Barbourville	Barbourville	Andrew Tucker	West Pineville Baptist	Pineville
Ashley Feather	Calvary Baptist	Danville	William Vittitow	Vision Of Hope At Ralph Ave.	Louisville
Gary Fisher	Beechwood Baptist	Louisville	Kwike Kauga Waim	Third Avenue Baptist	Louisville
Elizabeth Fowler	FBC Barbourville	Barbourville	Charles Webster	New Cross Roads Baptist	Nebo
Abey Frasure	FBC Lawrenceburg	Lawrenceburg	Trevor Wheeler	La Grange Baptist	La Grange
Ernest Fugate	Airport Gardens Baptist	Hazard	Daniel Williams	FBC Mt. Washington	Mt. Washington
Curtis Furey	West Pineville Baptist	Pineville	Jessica Williams	Hunsinger Lane Baptist	Louisville
Allen Gonzalez	Kosmosdale Baptist	Louisville	Paul Williams	Hunsinger Lane Baptist	Louisville
Khera Gray	Antioch Church	Louisville	Kamarr Wilmington-Richee	Edgewood Baptist	Hopkinsville
Jonathan Harralson	Olive Branch Baptist	Hanson	Caroline Wilsey	Kenwood Baptist Church at Victory Memorial	Louisville
Hayden Henry	Pilot Knob Missionary Baptist	Berea			
Matthew Hill	Lynn Camp Baptist	Corbin			
Hayden Holmes	Sojourn Church Jeffersontown	Louisville			
David Hook	Clifton Baptist	Louisville			
Donovan Humbert	Crestwood Baptist	Crestwood			
Lauren Hunt	Union Baptist	Hawesville			
Hayden Jaco	Zion's Cause Baptist	Benton			
Sanghyeon Jeong	First Korean Baptist	Louisville			
Anna Jones	FBC Mayfield	Mayfield			
Natalie Jones	FBC Mayfield	Mayfield			
Joseph Jones	New Hope Baptist	Springfield			
Barron Jones	Waco Baptist	Waco			
Johnson Joseph	Watson Memorial Baptist	Louisville			
Matthew Julian	Hurstbourne Baptist	Louisville			
Jacob Justus	Highview Baptist	Louisville			
Titus Juvinall	Clifton Baptist	Louisville			
Nick Kakaris	Immanuel Baptist	Louisville			
Essossinam Kelem	Severns Valley Baptist	Elizabethtown			
Jacob Koger	Ephesus Baptist	Winchester			
Sebastion Koger	Highland Park Baptist	Heidrick			
Moses Lian	Zion Chin Baptist	Florence			
Charles W. Lynn Sr.	Cow Creek Baptist	Ravenna			
Jacob Marcum	Throne of Grace Community	Louisville			
Bailey Marzan	Ninth & O Baptist	Louisville			
Dennis McCurdy	Bellepoint Baptist	Frankfort			
Landon Miller	Clifton Baptist	Louisville			
Charatie Minnich	Roger's Grove Baptist	Monticello			
William Mullins	New Friendship Baptist	Sadievill			
Julianne Newsom	FBC Fisherville	Fisherville			
Caleb Newsom	FBC Fisherville	Fisherville			
Nao Nohmi	Highview Baptist	Louisville			
Noah Norsworthy	Bethlehem Baptist	Cunningham			
Lawrence Nuzzo	Sojourn Church Jeffersontown	Louisville			
Gary Oaks	Grassy Run Baptist	Williamstown			
Abigail Ogle	Central Baptist	Winchester			
Jonathon Page	Hunsinger Lane Baptist	Louisville			
Christopher Parker	Harmony Baptist Church	Owenton			
Hannah Parker	FBC Murray	Murray			
Mason Parritt	Living Hope Baptist	Bowling Green			
Scott Partin	Swan Pond Baptist	Barbourville			
Luke Patterson	Clifton Baptist	Louisville			
Sarah Patterson	Clifton Baptist	Louisville			
Benjamin Pinkston	Buck Run Baptist	Frankfort			
Brandon Pisacrita	Ninth & O Baptist	Louisville			
Faith Popp	Cedar Grove Baptist	Stamping Ground			

The Public Affairs Committee

BY KYLE NOFFSINGER

On behalf of your entire Public Affairs Committee allow me to say, "Thank you." Thank you, Kentucky Baptists, for allowing each of us to serve you in this capacity. Whether we are physically meeting in our Kentucky State Capitol, or engaging in online meetings, when we come together, we learn about the events both facing and shaping our state. Having served on this committee, and now tasked with chairing it, I have been amazed at so many of events taking place in the Commonwealth.

These are unbelievably complex times, and I am grateful for the elected officials in Frankfort who seek to fight the good fight on behalf of Kentucky Baptists and all Christ-followers throughout our state. What happens in Frankfort matters very much in your local ministry context. Pray for your Kentucky Baptist Convention Public Affairs Committee as we seek to represent you to those who represent us. If you have any questions or wish to learn more about your Public Affairs Committee, please contact me at pastorkyle@southsidebaptist.com.

KYLE NOFFSINGER is the chair of the KBC Public Affairs Committee and pastor of Southside Baptist Church in Princeton.



Let's work Together for the Mission!

The Cooperative Program is the financial fuel as we work Together for the Mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ across Kentucky, the nation and the world. **Every dollar you give to your church goes to power the work of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention** to train pastors, send missionaries, plant new churches and strengthen existing churches.

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**Together
for the
Mission**

2022-2023 Giving Report

TOP 100 COOPERATIVE PROGRAM TOTAL

Church	City	Pastor
1 Immanuel Baptist Church	Lexington	Ron Edmondson
2 Lone Oak First Baptist Church	Paducah	Scott Thomas
3 Porter Memorial Baptist Church	Lexington	Nicholas Sandefur
4 Eastwood Baptist Church	Bowling Green	Jeremy Rogers
5 First Baptist Church Henderson	Henderson	Sam Hinkson
6 Hardin Baptist Church	Hardin	Ricky Cunningham
7 Severns Valley Baptist Church	Elizabethtown	Matt Beasley
8 Versailles Baptist Church	Versailles	Connor Alford
9 First Baptist Church Richmond	Richmond	Travis Farris
10 Pleasant Grove Baptist Church	Owensboro	Jonathan Bonar
11 Immanuel Baptist Church	Corbin	Allen Bonnell
12 First Baptist Church Russell	Russell	Kenneth Gowin
13 Westport Road Baptist Church	Louisville	Chip Pendleton
14 Buck Run Baptist Church	Frankfort	Hershael York
15 Hurstbourne Baptist Church	Louisville	Jeremy Pellum
16 Living Hope Baptist Church	Bowling Green	Jason Pettus
17 Rich Pond Baptist Church	Bowling Green	Steven Hussung
18 Burlington Baptist Church	Burlington	Josh Schmidt
19 Central Baptist Church	Winchester	Scott Ogle
20 Ninth and O Baptist Church	Louisville	Bill Cook
21 Second Baptist Church Greenville	Greenville	Kevin Milburn
22 First Baptist Church Mt. Washington	Mt. Washington	Jason Clark
23 First Baptist Church Owensboro	Owensboro	Paul Strahan
24 Southside Baptist Church	Princeton	Kyle Noffsinger
25 Hillcrest Baptist Church	Hopkinsville	Joe Bufford
26 Mexico Baptist Church	Marion	Timothy Burdon
27 Woodburn Baptist Church	Woodburn	Timothy Harris
28 LaGrange Baptist Church	LaGrange	Cam Potts
29 Yellow Creek Baptist Church	Owensboro	James Wedding
30 First Baptist Church Pikeville	Pikeville	John Lucas
31 First Baptist Church Mayfield	Mayfield	Vacant
32 First Baptist Church Somerset	Somerset	Ryan Coffey
33 First Baptist Church Central City	Central City	Chase Thompson
34 Grace Baptist Church	Somerset	Todd Meadows
35 Campbellsville Baptist Church	Campbellsville	Kenneth Norman
36 Briensburg Baptist Church	Benton	Brad Walker
37 Northside Baptist Church	Almo	Brett Miles
38 Simpsonville Baptist Church	Simpsonville	Steven Boyd
39 Central Baptist Church	Corbin	Joshua Pollitt
40 Second Baptist Church Hopkinsville	Hopkinsville	David Tucker
41 First Baptist Church Shelbyville	Shelbyville	Dan Reid
42 Walnut Grove Baptist Church	Russellville	Calvin Naylor
43 Altona Missionary Baptist Church	Calvert City	Robert Bratcher
44 Rose Hill Baptist Church	Ashland	Matt Shamblin
45 First Baptist Church Paducah	Paducah	Brian Arnold
46 First Baptist Church Barbourville	Barbourville	Joshua Shields
47 First Baptist Church Murray	Murray	William McKay
48 Valley Creek Baptist Church	Elizabethtown	James Kerr
49 Hillvue Heights Church	Bowling Green	Stephen Ayers
50 Elkton Baptist Church	Elkton	Mike Cummings
51 Northside Baptist Church	Elizabethtown	Kevin Roberts
52 Little Flock Baptist Church	Hillview	Nathan Ashbaugh
53 Bellevue Baptist Church	Owensboro	Gregory Fauls
54 Broadway Baptist Church	Lexington	Daniel Ausburn
55 Third Avenue Baptist Church	Louisville	Greg Gilbert
56 Edgewood Baptist Church	Hopkinsville	Brandon Boone
57 First Baptist Church Lawrenceburg	Lawrenceburg	Robert Ehr
58 First Baptist Church Fredonia	Fredonia	Presley Lamm
59 First Baptist Church Fisherville	Fisherville	Jeffrey Breeding
60 Ormsby Heights Baptist Church	Louisville	Chad Fugitt
61 Twelve Oaks Baptist Church	Paducah	Boogie Butler
62 Sand Spring Baptist Church	Lawrenceburg	Michael Hamrick
63 Bethel Baptist Church	Harrodsburg	Stephen Brogli
64 Zion Baptist Church	Henderson	James Spivey
65 First Baptist Church Hodgenville	Hodgenville	Rodney Rogers
66 Beaver Dam Baptist Church	Beaver Dam	John Cashion
67 Dripping Spring Baptist Church	Olmstead	Jeffrey Noffsinger
68 Beacon Hill Baptist Church	Somerset	Vacant
69 Highview Baptist Church	Louisville	Aaron Harvie
70 Buck Creek Baptist Church	Calhoun	Thomas Webb
71 Glasgow Baptist Church	Glasgow	Vacant
72 First Baptist Church Princeton	Princeton	Vacant
73 Parkland Baptist Church	Louisville	Chris Heading
74 Sinking Fork Baptist Church	Hopkinsville	Mike Humphries
75 Calhoun Baptist Church	Calhoun	Richard Sams
76 First Baptist Church Eddyville	Eddyville	Justin Wesson
77 Bethabara Baptist Church	Philpot	Gerald Peeples
78 New Friendship Baptist Church Inc	Auburn	Barry Raley
79 Westside Baptist Church	Murray	Merrick Nunn
80 Marion Baptist Church	Marion	Aaron Brown
81 Cedar Creek Baptist Church	Louisville	Brad Weldy
82 Parkway Baptist Church	Bardstown	James Carroll
83 Graefenburg Baptist Church	Waddy	Philip Meade
84 Crestwood Baptist Church	Crestwood	Barry Jeffries
85 Calvary Baptist Church	Glasgow	Stan Hayek
86 First Baptist Church Madisonville	Madisonville	William Burszynski
87 First Baptist Church Hopkinsville	Hopkinsville	Todd Goulet
88 Bloomfield Baptist Church	Bloomfield	Richard Carwile
89 New Harmony Missionary Baptist Church	Benton	Scott Penick
90 First Baptist Church Clay	Clay	Corey Rash
91 Bellview Baptist Church	Paducah	Bob Whitter
92 Erlanger Baptist Church	Erlanger	B J Donahue
93 First Baptist Church Fitzpatrick	Prestonsburg	Mr. Tommy Reed
94 Lancaster Baptist Church	Lancaster	Matt Cooke
95 Coral Hill Baptist Church	Glasgow	Ray Woodie
96 First Baptist Church Cold Spring	Cold Spring	Ric Frazier
97 Concord Baptist Church	Hopkinsville	David Harrison
98 First Baptist Church Owenton	Owenton	Charles Banks
99 Oakland Avenue Baptist Church	Catlettsburg	Mike Blankenship
100 Main Street Baptist Church	Alexandria	William Edwards

2022-2023 Giving Report

TOP 100 COOPERATIVE PROGRAM PER CAPITA

Church	City	Pastor
1 Countryside Baptist Church	Morganfield	Jimmy Terrell
2 Iglesia Bautista Fuente De Agua Viva	Beaver Dam	Verulo Garcia
3 Mexico Baptist Church	Marion	Timothy Burdon
4 Olivet Baptist Church	Paducah	Christopher Prescott
5 Fuente de Vida	Jeffersontown	Francisco Gonzalez
6 Crosspoint Church	Erlanger	William Page
7 The Journey Church	Elizabethtown	Vacant
8 New Beginnings Baptist Church	Pembroke	Jacob Davidson
9 Little Union Baptist Church	Fairfield	Will Sipes
10 First Baptist Church Fisherville	Fisherville	Jeffrey Breeding
11 Elkton Baptist Church	Elkton	Mike Cummings
12 New Palestine Baptist Church	Crofton	Andrew Hawkins
13 First Baptist Church Oak Grove	Oak Grove	Ken Hendrix
14 Eastwood Baptist Church	Bowling Green	Jeremy Rogers
15 Grace Baptist Church	Somerset	Todd Meadows
16 La Grange Baptist Church	La Grange	Cam Potts
17 Northside Baptist Church	Elizabethtown	Kevin Roberts
18 Bethabara Baptist Church	Philpot	Gerald Peeples
19 Throne of Grace Community Church	Louisville	Jay Roy
20 First Baptist Church Fredonia	Fredonia	Presley Lamm
21 Northside Baptist Church	Almo	Brett Miles
22 Central Baptist Church	Winchester	Scott Ogle
23 Good Hope Baptist Church	Campbellsville	Gerald Murphy
24 Mount Zion Baptist Church	Kuttawa	Mike Boyd
25 Gracey West Union Baptist Church	Gracey	John Walsh
26 First Baptist Church Sebree	Sebree	Dylan Zahn
27 Oak Grove Baptist Church	Paducah	Clayton Hall
28 Buck Run Baptist Church	Frankfort	Hershael York
29 Mount Freedom Baptist Church	Wilmore	Nathan Elliott
30 Mount Carmel Baptist Church	Fulton	Rick Major
31 Oak Grove Baptist Church	Tyrner	David Taylor
32 Dycusburg Baptist Church	Dycusburg	Stephen Kirk
33 Versailles Baptist Church	Versailles	Connor Alford
34 Covington Baptist Church	Westport	Dave Abernatha
35 North Benson Baptist Church	Frankfort	Vacant
36 Altona Missionary Baptist Church	Calvert City	Robert Bratcher
37 Rich Pond Baptist Church	Bowling Green	Steven Hussung
38 Grace Point Church	Henderson	Eric Fannin
39 Cedar Creek Baptist Church	Louisville	Brad Weldy
40 Rock Haven Baptist Church	Brandenburg	William Chandler
41 Mount Gilboa Baptist Church	Campbellsville	John Hurtgen
42 Cane Run Baptist Church	Lexington	Jerry Tucker
43 First Baptist Church Clay	Clay	Corey Rash
44 Briensburg Baptist Church	Benton	Brad Walker
45 First Baptist Church Fulton	Fulton	Stephen Cavness
46 Harlan Baptist Church	Harlan	Joshua Haywood
47 Forest Park Baptist Church	Bowling Green	Joe Starks
48 Nada Baptist Church	Stanton	Willie Means
49 Oakland Avenue Baptist Church	Catlettsburg	Mike Blankenship
50 Sinking Fork Baptist Church	Hopkinsville	Mike Humphries
51 Salem Baptist Church	Campbellsville	Michael Goodwin
52 Pleasant Grove Baptist Church	Owensboro	Jonathan Bonar
53 Mercy Hill Baptist Church	Shepherdsville	Nathan Young
54 Vision of Hope at Ralph Avenue	Louisville	William Vittitow
55 Heritage Baptist Church	Winchester	Timothy Christopher
56 Post Oak Baptist Church	Russellville	Nicholas Stamps
57 First Baptist Church Clinton	Clinton	Timothy Perdue
58 Farmdale Baptist Church	Frankfort	Robert Ginter
59 Bethel Baptist Church	Harrodsburg	Stephen Brogli
60 Mount Pleasant Baptist Church	La Center	Chris Cooper
61 Bethany Baptist Church	Louisville	Kenneth Vickery
62 Epoch Fellowship	Owenton	John Ashcraft
63 Macedonia Baptist Church	Jonesville	Charles Hill
64 Immanuel Baptist Church	Lexington	Ron Edmondson
65 First Baptist Church Henderson	Henderson	Sam Hinkson
66 Crestwood Baptist Church	Crestwood	Barry Jeffries
67 West Broadway Baptist Church	Louisville	Timothy Beougher
68 Bainbridge Grove Baptist Church	Cerulean	Ryan Scott
69 Graefenburg Baptist Church	Waddy	Philip Meade
70 Farmdale Baptist Church	Louisville	Will McCartney
71 Mount Gilead Baptist Church	Allensville	Joshua Tharpe
72 Old Salem Baptist Church	Salem	Gary Hardesty
73 Southern Heights Baptist Church	Lexington	Mr Shane Maples
74 First Baptist Church Fairdale	Fairdale	Josh Greene
75 Riverside Baptist Church	Owensboro	Dale Rouse
76 Broadway Baptist Church	Lexington	Daniel Ausburn
77 Lakewood Baptist Church	Louisville	Jeremy Jessen
78 Viney Fork Baptist Church	Waco	Jason Eades
79 Cash Creek Baptist Church	Henderson	Robert Duncan
80 First Baptist Church Lawrenceburg	Lawrenceburg	Robert Ehr
81 New Hope Baptist Church	Springfield	Tobe Yankey
82 First Baptist Church Owenton	Owenton	Charles Banks
83 Cross Point Inc	Leitchfield	Jerry Dunaway
84 Main Street Baptist Church	Alexandria	William Edwards
85 Bethlehem Baptist Church	Benton	Brandon Shropshire
86 Henderson Memorial Baptist Church	Hopkinsville	Ronald Hicks
87 Walnut Grove Baptist Church	Fredonia	Ken Cummins
88 Westport Road Baptist Church	Louisville	Chip Pendleton
89 New Friendship Baptist Church Inc	Auburn	Barry Raley
90 Christ Community Church	Shelbyville	Blake Lawyer
91 Simpsonville Baptist Church	Simpsonville	Steven Boyd
92 Thixton Lane Baptist Church	Louisville	Charles Scantland
93 Woodburn Baptist Church	Woodburn	Timothy Harris
94 Walnut Grove Baptist Church	Russellville	Calvin Naylor
95 White Sulphur Baptist Church	Princeton	Roger Felker
96 Hebron Baptist Church	Hebron	Shawn Dobbins
97 Columbia Baptist Church	Columbia	Randall Johnson
98 Vanzora Baptist Church	Benton	Mike Farmer
99 Unity Baptist Church	Ashland	Heath Bauer
100 Dripping Spring Baptist Church	Olmstead	Jeffrey Noffsinger

YOU'RE MORE THAN A NUMBER.



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Did you know SBC Workspace is for all Southern Baptist churches? Updating your church information - like when someone new is hired - is EASY! Let us show you how or go to ky.sbcworkspace.com.*

Questions? Contact your data manager Lisa Plemmons at lisa.plemmons@kybaptist.org or 502-489-3327.



* Login with your church assigned user id and password.

2023-2024 Cooperative Program Distribution Plan

This report provides a detailed explanation for the distribution of Cooperative Program funds received by the Kentucky Baptist Convention from churches and other entities. It should be noted that the KBC Mission Board historically has not spent all budgeted funds in a given year. Any unspent funds will, by board approval, be transferred to a Board Designated Fund to support future ministries.

Comment from the Business and Finance Committee:

The Business and Finance Committee of the Kentucky Baptist Convention meets on a quarterly basis. During this meeting, full financial statements are presented for disclosure, review and discussion. Explanations are provided and the Business and Finance Committee is given the opportunity to affirm the transparency of financial data.

In addition, a subset of the Business and Finance Committee participates annually in a detailed review of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's audited financial statements.

*CP distribution between SBC and KBC is a board agreed upon 50/50 split. The percentages in this document reflect a shared 10% distribution for Cooperative Program Resourcing. This percentage is used to promote, educate and administer the Cooperative Program. These tasks are the responsibility of the state convention therefore, those funds remain with the KBC.

NOTE: Access to additional financial data available upon request.
Please email request for information to KBC Controller Becky Harris at becky.harris@kybaptist.org.

CP Million Dollar Milestones

The following Million Dollar Milestone awards are presented to Kentucky Baptist churches that surpass a million dollar increment during the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

Lone Oak First Baptist Church, Paducah	\$8,182,385.75
First Baptist Church, Henderson	\$7,241,514.46
Central Baptist Church, Winchester	\$6,014,774.12
Versailles Baptist Church, Versailles	\$4,109,823.90
First Baptist Church, Central City	\$4,071,806.64
Sand Spring Baptist Church, Lawrenceburg	\$3,069,690.86
First Baptist Church, Barbourville	\$3,048,444.22
Southside Baptist Church, Princeton	\$3,036,681.67
Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Owensboro	\$2,093,265.72
Cadiz Baptist Church, Cadiz	\$2,000,832.22
First Baptist Church, Fredonia	\$1,053,963.12
Falmouth Baptist Church, Falmouth	\$1,013,654.75
First Baptist Church, Russell Springs	\$1,008,325.28

Total Cooperative Program Budget 2023-2024 - \$22.4 million

Southern Baptist

Convention Distribution

	Percent Allocation	Dollar Distribution
International Mission Board	22.68%	\$ 5,080,320
North American Mission Board	10.26%	\$ 2,298,240
Baptist Seminaries	9.86%	\$ 2,208,640
Historical Library & Archives	0.11%	\$ 24,640
Ethics and Religious	0.74%	\$ 165,760
Liberty Commission		
SBC Operating Budget	1.35%	\$ 302,400

Total SBC *	45.00%	\$10,080,000
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Kentucky Baptist

Convention Distribution

	Percent Allocation	Dollar Distribution
KBC Christian Education	6.11%	\$ 1,367,520
KBC Agency and Institutions	7.87%	\$ 1,762,992
Mission Board/General	4.48%	\$ 1,003,632
Missions Mobilization Team		
Disaster Relief		
State Missionaries		
Partnership Missions		
Associational Missions		
Evangelism and Church	9.53%	\$2,133,779
Planting Team		
Church Planting		
Evangelism Emphasis		
Campus Ministries		
Church Consulting and	12.36%	\$2,767,923
Revitalization Team		
Regional Consulting		
Sunday School		
Church Financial Benefits		
Women Ministry		
Youth & Children		
Music and Worship		
Executive Office Team	12.99%	\$2,909,178
Communications		
Kentucky Today		
Information Technology		
Accounting Services		
HR/Administration		
General Items	1.67%	\$ 374,976
Total Mission Board/General	41.02%	\$9,189,488

Total KBC *	55.00%	\$12,320,000
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Total CP 2023-24	100.00%	\$22,400,000
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* Started in position
in the past two years

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**SERVE YOU AND
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\$219



CHURCH MULTIPLIED

186th Kentucky Baptist Convention
Annual Meeting

2023 Report of the KBC Committee on Nominations

Consideration of Nominees for KBC Mission Board

FALL REPORT

Booneville (Region 8) 2026 term
Boyce Gregory (L) Manchester

Bracken (Region 5) 2026 term
Michael Ulrich (P) Tollesboro

Central KY Network (Region 6) 2026 term
David Barron (Assist. AMS) Georgetown
Sandra Redman (L) Wilmore

Crittenden (Region 5) 2026 terms
Brady Koettel (P) Gumlick

Daviess/McLean (Region 2) UNX 2025 term
Conner Reed (P) Owensboro

2026 term
Don Benton (L) Livermore

East Lynn (Region 7) 2026 term
Rual Neagle (L) Greensburg

Freedom (Region 7) 2026 term
Jordan Lockridge (P) Monticello

Gasper River (Region 3) 2026 term
Brian Jones (P) Bowling Green

Irvine (Region 8) 2026 term
David Wilson (P) Annville

Laurel River (Region 8) 2026 term
Norman Brock (P) East Bernstadt

Liberty (Region 7) 2026 term
Robert Ward (P) Horse Cave

Little Bethel (Region 2) 2026
Mike Jicka (P) Madisonville

Little River (Region 1) 2026 term
Brad Chalfin (A P) Cadiz

Louisville Regional (Region 4) 2026 term
Dale Holcomb (P) Louisville
Justin Compton (P) Louisville

Lynn (Region 3) 2026 term
Mitch Whidden (P) Sonora

Mercer (Region 6) 2026 term
Andrew Mikels (P) Danville

Monroe (Region 7) 2026 term
Danny Pace (AMS) Gamaliel

Muhlenberg (Region 2) 2026 term
Ron Noffsinger (L) Greenville

Northern Ky (Region 5) 2026 term
Bill Edwards (P) Butler

Ohio River (Region 1) 2026 term
Rex Jones (P) Benton

South Central (Region 3) 2026 term
Franklin Wood (AP) Bowling Green
Jenna Curtis Fields (L) Bowling Green
Dennis Cook (P) Leitchfield

Taylor (Region 7) 2026 term
Myren Howard (P) Campbellsville

Three Forks (Region 8) 2026 term
Ernie Fugate (P) Leburn

Wayne (Region 7) 2026 term
Mark Helton (P) Monticello

West Union (Region 1) 2026 term
Scott Fickes (P) Barlow

Whites Run (Region 5) 2026 term
Jim Smith (L) Carrollton

CONSIDERATION OF NOMINEES AT-LARGE

At-Large (Region 2) 2026 term
Lori Dexter (L) Crofton

At-Large (Region 3) 2026 term
Jennifer Kemp (L) Bowling Green

At-Large (Region 7) 2026 term
Todd Meadows (P) Somerset

Boards of Agencies & Institutions

Clear Creek Baptist Bible College (Trustees)

Terms Ending 2024
Ron Shepherd (South Waynesburg)
Donnie Patrick (Williamsburg)

Term Ending 2026
John Day (Greeneville)

Terms Ending 2027
Bennie Bush (Williamsburg)
Steve Minton (New Tazewell, Tenn.)
Tommy Tapscott (London)
George Hammons (Barbourville)
Jessica Farris (Richmond)
Randy McPheron (Mount Vernon)

Crossings Ministries (Trustees)

Term Ending 2027
Kris Billiter (Louisville)

Kentucky Baptist Foundation (Directors)

Term Ending 2024
GJ Farmer (Scottsville)

Term Ending 2027
Tom Adkisson (Shelbyville)
Cohen Copley (Henderson)
Melinda Correll (Somerset)
Paul Hoffman (Somerset)

Kentucky Ethics League (Trustees)

No names submitted.

Oneida Baptist Institute (Trustees)

Term Ending UNX 2024
David Mills (Monticello)

Term Ending UNX 2026
Steve Young (Oneida)

Terms Ending 2027
Anna Chaffin (Flatwoods)
Kimberly Hudson (Versailles)
Brenda Mullins (Yosemite)
Howard Osborne (Catlettsburg)
CB Scott (McDowell)
RG Wells (Alvaton)

Sunrise Children's Services (Directors)

Terms Ending UNX 2025
Rodney Cude (Smithland)
Stanley Spees (Paducah)

Terms Ending UNX 2026
Connor Alford (Versailles)
Roberta Kiser (Lexington)

Terms Ending 2027
Benita Decker (Frankfort)
Michael Lyons (Lexington)
David Tucker (Hopkinsville)
Martin Yancey (Shelbyville)

Committee on Nominations:

Committee Members:

Shawn Dobbins (Chair), Al Chandler, Chris Moore, Conner Reed, Carol Hatley, Sam Hinkson, Jacob Mudd, Jeff Reynolds, DeWayne Gibson, Mark Williams, Chance McConnell, Steve Horn, Karin Edgington, Shawn Dobbins, B. J. Donahue, Jonathan Jones, Keith Sands, Bill Ellis, Tommy Tapscott, Randy McPheron, Brandon Carrier, Eugene Blackburn, Josh Howell, Kevin Roach.

Ex Officio Members:

Executive Director-Treasurer Todd Gray,
Convention President James Carroll

Shawn Dobbins is chairman of the KBC Committee on Nominations and pastor of Hebron Baptist Church in Hebron.

2023 Report of the KBC Committee on Committees

Committee on the Annual Meeting

2026 David Sargent, Monticello
2026 Ric Frazier, Cold Springs

Committee on Constitution & Bylaws

2026 Jim England, Albany
2026 Frank Barker, Lexington
2026 Jason Moore, Nancy

Committee on Credentials

2026 Rick O'Daniel, Henderson
2026 Richard Carville, Bloomfield
2026 Travis Fox, Lexington

Committee on Nominations

Region 1: 2026 Brian Arnold, Paducah
Region 2: 2026 Jeff Hesley, Sturgis
Region 3: 2026 Shannon McCubbins, Buffalo
Region 4: 2026 Ken Rutledge, Louisville
Region 5: 2026 Amy Wilhelmus, Covington
Region 6: 2026 Dan Russell, Lexington
Region 7: 2026 Clay Herd, Eubank
Region 8: 2026 Josh Smith, Barbourville

Committee on Public Affairs

Region 5: 2026 Chris Parrish, Frankfort
Region 6: 2026 Wayne Spivey, Nicholasville
Region 7: 2026 Andrew McGinnis, Hustonville

Committee on Resolutions

2026 Chris Wells, Mt. Sterling
2026 Josh Pollitt, Corbin

Committee on Committees

Members: Charles Frazier (Chair), David Scott, Bradley Thomas, Dwayne Norman, Andrew Dyer, Cole Caven, Bill Clark, Tommy Floyd

Ex Officio Members: Executive Director-Treasurer, Todd Gray and Convention President, James Carroll

Charles Frazier is chairman of the KBC Committee on Committees and associational missions strategist for the Northern Kentucky Baptist Association.

2023 Report of the KBC Committee on the Annual Meeting

- **Annual Meeting Site 2026:**
First Baptist Church Richmond
- **Preacher for the Annual Sermon 2024:**
Preacher of the Annual Sermon – Stephen Rummage, Pastor, Quail Springs Baptist, Oklahoma. Alternate – Barry Fields – Pastor, Glendale at Cave Mill, Bowling Green
- **Obituaries for 2024:**
Kelvin Edwards, AMS, Lynn Association
Alternate, Stan Lowery, AMS, Nelson Association
- **Committee on Annual Meeting for 2023:**
Committee Members
G. J. Farmer (Chair), John Lucas, Paul Atchison, Derek Holmes, Jonathan Carl, Brandt Lyon
- **Permanent Member:**
Executive Director-Treasurer – Todd Gray
- **Ex Officio Members:**
Convention President – James Carroll
First Vice-President – Bob Ehr
Second Vice-President – Brad Walker
President of the Pastors' Conference – Josh Schmidt
President of Discipleship Network of KY – Tommy Tapscott

G. J. Farmer is chairman of the KBC Committee on the Annual Meeting and pastor of Scottsville Baptist Church in Scottsville.

The background of the entire page is a photograph of the Taj Mahal in Agra, India. In the foreground, several women are walking. One woman in the center-right is wearing a vibrant yellow and red sari with a black geometric pattern and a yellow headscarf. To her left, another woman is seen from the back, wearing a yellow sari and a patterned headscarf. A third woman is partially visible on the far right, also in a colorful sari. The Taj Mahal's white marble structure and domes are visible in the background under a clear sky.

THE WORLD'S GREATEST PROBLEM IS LOSTNESS

Today, over 3,000 people groups have no missionary presence and likely have no gospel access. Together, Southern Baptists must bring the gospel to every nation and all people.

WILL YOU JOIN US?

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INTERNATIONAL
MISSION BOARD

The Committee on Constitution & Bylaws

BY MATT SHAMBLIN

This is the recommended change to the Constitution & Bylaws of the Kentucky Baptist Convention from the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws, page one, Article VI, paragraph one: (This is the second reading).

¶ 1 The doctrinal guideline for this Body and its work shall be the Baptist Faith and Message as adopted and amended by the Southern Baptist Convention, understanding that any cooperating affiliated church has the right to affirm any of the historic Baptist confessions of faith. **We also believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as either male or female, and that these two distinct, complementary sexes together reflect the image and nature of God (Gen. 1:26-27). The attempted rejection of one's biological sex is an attempted rejection of the image of God within that person.**

MATT SHAMBLIN is chairman of the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws and senior pastor of Rose Hill Baptist Church in Ashland.

The Committee on Credentials

BY NICK STAMPS

The Committee on Credentials recommends the following churches for affiliation with the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

1. FOR AFFILIATION

- 1. Ashland Community (La Grange)
- 2. Bethlehem International Baptist (Louisville)
- 3. Clay Street Baptist (Shelbyville)
- 4. Cross Mountain (Manchester)
- 5. Fellowship Baptist (Radcliff)
- 6. Fireside Baptist (Elizabethtown)
- 7. Harvest Baptist (Hazard)
- 8. Jennings Creek Community (Bowling Green)
- 9. Redemption Church (Covington)
- 10. Rush Baptist (Rush)
- 11. The Local Church (Georgetown)

2. FOR WATCHCARE

- 1. Good News Gospel (Glasgow)

3. RECOMMENDATION FOR DISAFFILIATION

As the church is not in agreement with the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message, the Committee on Credentials recommends that the Kentucky Baptist Convention disaffiliate with Fern Creek Baptist Church.

NICK STAMPS is the chairman of the Credentials Committee and pastor of Post Oak Baptist Church in Russellville.

CHURCH

CHURCH MULTIPLIED

CHURCH

KBC Mission Board
RECOMMENDATIONS
to be Considered for
Fiscal Year 2024-25

Annual Meeting – Nov. 14, 2023

First Baptist Church of Somerset

The annual Cooperative Program goals, as well as the percentages for the division of Cooperative Program funds between Kentucky Baptist Convention and Southern Baptist Convention causes, are determined by the Kentucky Baptist Convention in its annual session. Upon recommendation of the Mission Board, the Convention in Bowling Green on November 15, 2022 set the 2023-2024 goals and percentages as shown.

The Mission Board recommends to the Convention in Somerset on November 14, 2023, the following 2024-2025 goal and percentages:



I. COOPERATIVE PROGRAM GOAL	APPROVED 2023-2024 BUDGET	PROJECTED 2024-2025 BUDGET	VARIANCE
A. TOTAL COOPERATIVE PROGRAM GOAL	\$22,400,000	\$22,000,000	(\$400,000)
1. SBC CAUSES	\$11,200,000 50%	\$11,000,000 50.00%	(\$200,000)
2. KBC CAUSES	\$11,200,000 50%	\$11,000,000 50.00%	(\$200,000)
B. OPERATIONAL BUDGET ^(c)	\$22,400,000	\$22,000,000	(\$400,000)
1. SBC CAUSES ^(a)	\$ 10,080,000 45%	\$9,900,000 45%	(\$180,000)
2. KBC CAUSES ^(b)	\$ 10,080,000 45%	\$9,900,000 45%	(\$180,000)
3. COOPERATIVE PROGRAM RESOURCING	\$ 2,240,000 10%	\$2,200,000 10%	(\$ 40,000)
II. OTHER ESTIMATED INCOME	\$1,811,259	***	
A. ELIZA BROADUS OFFERING	\$ 885,000	***	
B. OTHER	\$ 926,259	***	
III. TOTAL KBC BUDGET GOAL	\$14,131,259	***	
TOTAL KBC/SBC BUDGET GOAL	\$24,211,259	***	

^(a) The distribution of these items is voted by the Southern Baptist Convention.

^(b) The distribution of these items is voted by the Mission Board, Kentucky Baptist Convention.

^(c) Any Cooperative Program receipts in excess of the goal will be distributed at the same percentages.

*** To be approved by the Mission Board upon recommendation of the Business and Finance Committee May 6, 2024.



Mission Board Report on Sunrise Covenant Agreement

The Mission Board of the Kentucky Baptist Convention recommends to messengers at the 2023 KBC Annual Meeting the following changes to a covenant agreement with Sunrise Children's Services. Text in bold is to be added. Text with strikethrough is to be removed.

AMENDED AND RESTATED COVENANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN KENTUCKY BAPTIST CONVENTION, ~~INC.~~ AND KENTUCKY BAPTIST HOMES FOR SUNRISE CHILDREN'S SERVICES, INC.

COME, This AMENDED AND RESTATED COVENANT AGREEMENT is entered into as of the __ day of _____, 2023, by and between KENTUCKY BAPTIST CONVENTION, a not-for-profit Kentucky corporation having offices at 13420 Eastpoint Centre Drive, Louisville, Kentucky 40223 ("**KBC**"), and **SUNRISE CHILDREN'S SERVICES, INC.**, a not-for-profit Kentucky corporation, ~~10701 Shelbyville Road, Middletown, Kentucky 40243, Party of the First Part, and KENTUCKY BAPTIST HOMES FOR CHILDREN, a not-for-profit Kentucky corporation of 10801 Shelbyville Road, Middletown, Kentucky 40243, Party of the Second Part. WHEREAS, the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Inc., and formerly known as "Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, Inc."~~ having offices at 300 Hope Street, Mount Washington, Kentucky 40047 ("**Sunrise**").

WHEREAS, KBC and Sunrise have long enjoyed a close relationship and previously entered into a Covenant Agreement dated November 21, 1986 (the "**Original Agreement**").

WHEREAS, Sunrise changed its name from "Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, Inc." to "Sunrise Children's Services, Inc." by amendment to its Articles of Incorporation filed on February 15, 2007.

WHEREAS, KBC and Sunrise desire to continue and further this relationship and to memorialize Sunrise's name change by entering into the following this Amended and Restated Covenant Agreement, fully amending and restating the Original Agreement.

PREAMBLE

~~Kentucky Baptist Convention~~ KBC is a medium through which the churches in their sovereign capacity work together promoting all denominational enterprises which they deem necessary in carrying out the Great Commission.

PURPOSE

The purpose of ~~Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children~~ Sunrise is to maintain suitable program for the support, education, and training in a Christian manner of dependent and destitute children in Kentucky. The relationship of ~~Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children and the Kentucky Baptist Convention~~ Sunrise and KBC clearly fulfills the denominational and religion's purpose.

~~Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children~~ Sunrise exists for the purpose of providing childcare services for those children and young people committed to its care.

HISTORICAL RELATIONSHIP

The childcare ministry of Kentucky Baptists began in 1869. The first home was called the "Home for the Helpless," subsequently to become the Louisville Baptist Orphans Home and was opened June 30, 1869. The original charter provided "to protect the control of orphan and destitute children of Baptist parents, and of special other destitute and helpless children that the managers may think proper to receive for the purpose of supporting and educating them in an institution to be prepared and provided for that purpose or in a home apart from the institution, whichever was deemed best." The Louisville based Children's Home accepted children from other than the Louisville area, but there was a feeling among Kentucky Baptist Baptists that another home was needed and at the General Association of Baptists in Kentucky in November, 1914, a motion was adopted, "Resolved, that it is the sense of this body that a Children's Home be established, that a committee of nine be appointed with full power to act to establish such a home, and said committee shall constitute a Board of Trustees for said home." On June 23, 1915, the Kentucky Baptist Children's Home was dedicated at Glendale. Kentucky then had two separate childrens homes, which both grew substantially and rendered a very important ministry. The Louisville Baptist Home approved an amended charter to bring it under complete control of the General Association, which General Association at its annual meeting in November, 1947, approved this relationship.

At the November, 1953, meeting of the General Association, a report was presented recommending the Boards of the two homes be merged and the Children's Home constitute the Kentucky Baptist Board of Child Care. This was approved by the General Association.

Since the time of the merger, the Thanksgiving Offering has greatly increased and the program of ministry to children and families has expanded into new areas of ministry. The social services have been greatly expanded and, in all matters possible, ~~Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children~~ Sunrise is attempting to meet the needs of a changing society in keeping with Christian principles and the dream of the founders of childcare in Kentucky.

~~K-B-C:~~ KBC PURPOSE

The primary purpose of the ~~Kentucky Baptist Convention~~ KBC in supporting ~~Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children~~ Sunrise is to advance the Kingdom of God in providing services for those children and young people who need them for whatever reason. Such purpose should at all times be recognizable in the ministry of ~~Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children~~ Sunrise.

DISTINCTIVE BAPTIST CHARACTER

It is the intent of the ~~Kentucky Baptist Convention and of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children~~ that ~~Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children~~ KBC and Sunrise that Sunrise shall maintain its distinctive Baptist character as set forth in its purpose and the support of the ~~Kentucky Baptist Convention~~ KBC is based upon faithful adherence to that purpose.

TRUSTEES

The ~~Kentucky Baptist Convention~~ KBC shall in return for funding as set forth hereinbelow be given by ~~Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children~~ Sunrise the right and responsibility in the selection and orientation of the institution as set forth herein.

Trustees for ~~Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children~~ Sunrise shall be elected in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the ~~Kentucky Baptist Convention~~ KBC and the Articles and Bylaws of ~~Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children~~ Sunrise. A term of office for trustees of ~~Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children~~ Sunrise shall be a period of four (4) years.

The Executive Director of ~~Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children~~ Sunrise may submit to the Committee on Nominations of ~~Kentucky Baptist Convention~~ KBC one name for each trustee vacancy, plus one or more alternate names. The Committee on Nominations may choose from the names submitted, but if it does not choose from said names, it will confer with the Executive Director of ~~Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children~~ Sunrise prior to making such or other nominations. All nominations so submitted shall state the qualifications of the nominees and the reason for said nominations and all nominees shall have given permission for their names to be placed before the Committee on Nominations and subsequent election by the ~~Kentucky Baptist Convention~~ KBC.

As a separate, independent corporation, ~~Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children~~ Sunrise has the authority to set its own service requirements and in so doing shall be solely responsible for their appropriateness and for their correct interpretation and enforcement.

~~Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children~~ Sunrise and the ~~Kentucky Baptist Convention~~ KBC will conduct orientation sessions for trustees as may be deemed advisable so as to clearly establish the relationship of trust that exists between the ~~Kentucky Baptist Convention and Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children~~ KBC and Sunrise, and to establish clearly for the trustees their relationship to and responsibility for ~~Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children~~ Sunrise. The ~~Kentucky Baptist Convention~~ KBC shall assist in carefully explaining their responsibilities as trustees both to the institution and to the ~~Kentucky Baptist Convention~~ KBC.

~~K-B-C:~~ KBC SUPPORT

The ~~Kentucky Baptist Convention~~ KBC recognizes in the furtherance of the purpose of the ~~Kentucky Baptist Convention~~ KBC that financial and other support included but not limited to the following are desirable in the furtherance of the purposes of both the ~~Kentucky Baptist Convention and Kentucky Baptist Homes for~~

Children KBC and Sunrise. This support shall include financial support from the Cooperative Program in accordance with recommendations as made by appropriate committees of the Executive Board of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. The Kentucky Baptist Convention **KBC**. The **KBC** may be a designated receipts channel for the benefit of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children. Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children **Sunrise**. **Sunrise** may be allowed under rules and regulations as set out by the Kentucky Baptist Convention **KBC** to conduct financial campaigns with particular reference to churches in Kentucky. Such campaign opportunities shall be in accordance with the Kentucky Baptist Convention **KBC** rules, regulations, and procedures.

The Kentucky Baptist Convention **KBC** shall acknowledge its support of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children **Sunrise** by encouraging individuals and churches to participate in the Thanksgiving Offering for Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children **Sunrise** and to assist wherever possible by providing means through its churches for dissemination of information concerning the activities of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children **Sunrise**.

RELATIONSHIPS

Relationships between the Kentucky Baptist Convention and Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children **KBC and Sunrise** shall exist as relationships of mutual purposes, mutual interests, mutual concerns, and mutual programs that may be desired. In no relationship shall there be fiscal or other liability implied or expressed unless specifically stated in contracts and/or supportive documentation between the two entities.

The relationship will allow for the trustees of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children **Sunrise** as a body corporate, and/or their agents to pursue with all due diligence operation of the child-care **childcare** institutions under its own Articles and Bylaws without limitations from this Covenant Agreement unless specifically set forth herein; to provide educational opportunities for members of Kentucky Baptist churches and others; to provide counsel to the Kentucky Baptist Convention **KBC** in development of policies.

REPORTING REQUEST

Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children **Sunrise** shall submit to the Kentucky Baptist Convention **KBC** in return for the financial and other support as listed herein from the Kentucky Baptist Convention **KBC** the following:

- 1. An annual audited financial statement which shall be in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for that type organization.
- 2. Certificate or certification of liability insurance by Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children **Sunrise**. Periodic reports to the Kentucky Baptist Convention **KBC** through its Executive Board and annual reports to the Kentucky Baptist Convention **KBC** Annual Meeting.

INDEBTEDNESS INSERTION

In creating any indebtedness, in which the Kentucky Baptist Convention **KBC** has not specifically joined, Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children **Sunrise** agrees that any lending institution must affirmly declare that its reliance for repayment is entirely from the institution incurring the obligation and that the loan is not made upon reliance of the Kentucky Baptist Convention **KBC**, its Executive Board, or any agencies or institutions related to the Kentucky Baptist Convention **KBC** and in the event of default, the lending institution will look solely to the assets of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children **Sunrise** for satisfaction. Both parties recognize that Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children **Sunrise** has absolute authority to deal with others in the conduct of its business and in dealing is solely responsible for its own acts, debts and obligations and will make this clear to others at any time any question thereto arises.

DISSOLUTION

Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children **Sunrise** amended its Charter, Article 10 thereof, April 27, 1982, to provide for dissolution and disbursal of assets which meet the request of the Kentucky Baptist Convention **KBC**.

COVENANT TERM

This Covenant Agreement is designed to clarify and make more permanent the relationship between the Kentucky Baptist Convention and the Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children **KBC and Sunrise**. This relationship is built upon many years of faithful commitment and trust by many individuals and by many millions of dollars contributed by Kentucky Baptists in support of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children **Sunrise** and by the support of many Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children **Sunrise** alumni to the Kentucky Baptist Convention **KBC**. It is designed to reflect the glorious heritage of our past and to provide a clear definition of our mutual purpose and relationship for the future.

Therefore, it is the intention of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and the Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children **KBC and Sunrise** that this shall be a permanent covenant binding each to the other as set out herein. This Covenant Agreement shall not terminate except on notification of one party to the other at a meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention **KBC** in annual session at least four (4) years prior to the date of said termination.

AMMENDMENTS AMENDMENTS

Recognizing that revisions may be necessary or desirable subsequent to the signing of this document, it is agreed between the Parties hereto, that all amendments, revisions, and/or changes be in accordance with the following procedures. Requests for amendments may originate with either the Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children **Sunrise** or the Kentucky Baptist Convention **KBC**, in Convention action, in its Executive Board, or in an appropriate Committee. Proposed amendments shall be ratified by both Parties by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children **Sunrise** trustees present and voting at a regular or duly called meeting and by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the messengers present and voting at a regular or duly called session of the Kentucky Baptist Convention **KBC**. Any amendment so ratified by both Parties shall become effective on the date of the final ratification.

THIS INSTRUMENT AMENDED AND RESTATED COVENANT AGREEMENT has been signed this 8th day of December, 1986-2023 by and between Kentucky Baptist Homes for Sunrise Children's Services Inc. and the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Said Agreement having been approved by the trustees of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Sunrise Children's Services, Inc. on the 23rd day of October, 1986 2023, and by the Kentucky Baptist Convention in annual session on the 11th 14th day of November, 1986 2023 at Severns Valley First Baptist Church, Elizabethtown Somerset, Kentucky.

"KBC" **"Sunrise"**
KENTUCKY BAPTIST CONVENTION KENTUCKY BAPTIST HOMES FOR SUNRISE CHILDREN
BY: _____ BY: _____ A. B. Colvin, President
Eldred M. Taylor, Executive Director'S SERVICES, INC. _____ William W. Marshall

Curtis H. Warf, Chairman, Board of Trustees Executive Secretary-Treasurer COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY)
OF _____) Before me, a notary public, personally appeared the above-named Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, a corporation, by Eldred M. Taylor and Curtis H. Warf, to me personally known, who acknowledged that they be, and that the same is their free act and deed personally, and the free act of deed of said corporation.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed my name at Louisville, Kentucky, this 8th day of December, 1986-

My commission expires June 5, 1988- _____
Notary Public At-Large, Kentucky

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY)
) COUNTY OF _____) Before me, a notary public, personally appeared the above-named Kentucky Baptist Convention, a corporation by A. B. Colvin and William Marshall, to me personally known, who acknowledged that they be, and that the same is their free act and deed personally, and the free act and deed of said corporation.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed my name at Louisville, Kentucky, this 25th day of November, 1986-

My commission expires June 13, 1987- _____
Notary Public (Signed by: Pauline B. Croom) At-Large, Kentucky

BY: _____ BY: _____ BY: _____ BY: _____
NAME: _____ NAME: _____ NAME: _____ NAME: _____
TITLE: _____ TITLE: _____ TITLE: _____ TITLE: _____



**CALLING
OUT THE
CALLED**

| SCHOLARSHIP

The Kentucky Baptist Convention exists to serve ministers and churches as we cooperate for greater ministry. As part of the Calling Out the Called initiative, the KBC is happy to partner with Kentucky Baptist ministerial students to assist with their theological education.

\$107,000

in scholarships were awarded to **129** Kentucky Baptist ministerial students in 2023

Kentucky Baptists are encouraged to apply for the 2024 COTC Scholarship!

Qualifications

- 🔍 Member of a cooperating Kentucky Baptist Convention church
- 🔍 Kentucky resident for more than one year
- 🔍 Have been called to ministry
- 🔍 Undergraduate or master level ministry student at Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary or Boyce College
- 🔍 Student is in good academic standing with the institution

Scholarships for up to \$1,200 per year are available to both full-time and part-time undergraduate and master level ministry students.

For more information and to APPLY:

visit www.kybaptist.org/scholarship

APPLICATION PERIOD: JANUARY 1 - APRIL 15, 2024



2023 Distinguished Leadership Award



Bill Cook, lead pastor of Ninth and O Baptist Church in Louisville since 2001, is the recipient of the 2023 Distinguished Leadership Award in recognition of his faithful support of the Cooperative Program.

Cook has also served as a professor of New Testament Interpretation at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary since 2000. He holds a Master of Divinity from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Philosophy from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Cook has authored six books. The most recent are *Jesus's Final Week: From Triumphal Entry to the Empty Tomb*; and two books co-authored with Dr. Chuck Lawless entitled *Spiritual Warfare in the Storyline of Scripture: A Biblical and Practical Approach* and *Victory Over the Enemy: Defeating the World, the Flesh, and the Devil*. A seventh book will be released early next year; *A Savior is Born: From Heaven's Throne to Bethlehem's Manger*.

Cook has been married to Jaylynn for 41 years. They are proud parents of three grown children and grandparents to seven grandchildren. When not serving in ministry, teaching future kingdom servants or writing, Cook loves spending time with his family and watching UofL sports.

Guardian of Life Award



U.S. Congressman **Hal Rogers**, first elected to represent Kentucky's 5th Congressional District in 1981, is the recipient of the 2023 Guardian of Life Award.

Born in Wayne County, Kentucky, he made history on September 2, 2021, when he became the longest-serving member of Congress from the commonwealth. He has served 22 consecutive terms representing the people of southern and eastern Kentucky. On March 18, 2022, he became Dean of the U.S. House of Representatives, as the longest-serving member in the House.

During that time, Rogers has focused on economic development, job creation, fighting illegal drug use, preserving the natural treasures of Appalachia and advocating for the interests of the region where he was raised.

But Rogers has also been a champion for the unborn. He supported legislation such as restricting interstate transport of minors to get abortions, banning partial-birth abortion except to save mother's life and banning abortion coverage in federal health benefits. He also opposed allowing human embryonic stem cell research. Rogers has a 100 percent rating from the National Right to Life Committee for his pro-life voting record, as well as an "A" from Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America.

Women in Christian Leadership Award



Tanya York is the recipient of the 2023 Women in Christian Leadership award for demonstrating faithfulness and excellence in answering and carrying out God's call on her life to serve others in the name of Christ.

A native of Lexington, York serves in Frankfort where her husband, Hershael, is pastor of Buck Run Baptist Church. Together, they are in their 42nd year of marriage and full-time Christian ministry.

York has taught women's Bible studies for more than 40 years and is a teacher with the Seminary Wives Institute at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. She is a conference speaker, and has traveled extensively on mission trips, but has a special love for Brazil. She was a trustee for the North American Mission Board and is involved in various mission opportunities through Send Relief.

York has a passion to experience a joyful walk with the Lord and to serve Him with nothing held back. She desires to share that passion with other women using the tools of enthusiasm, humor and practicality.

She and her husband have two sons who are married to amazing, godly women and five grandchildren.

Integrity in Journalism



Candyce Clifft, a Louisville television reporter and adjunct professor at Boyce College, is the 2023 recipient of the Integrity Award in Journalism in Kentucky.

Clifft grew up in Bolivar, Tennessee, a small town near Memphis. She started pretending to be a newscaster when she was in elementary school so her childhood friends can attest to her decades of experience in journalism. Clifft earned a bachelor's degree in English and journalism from Tennessee Technological University and has a master's degree in journalism from the University of Missouri.

Clifft joined the WDRB News team as a reporter in 1997. She became co-host of WDRB Mornings in 2003 and still holds that position. She also hosted the Emmy-winning Louisville Life program for 10 years on KET.

Clifft married Kip Eatherly in 1997; they have three children. Clifft and her family are long-time members of Hurstbourne Baptist Church in Louisville where she sings in the choir and volunteers on the media team. In 2022, Clifft joined the faculty of Boyce College as an adjunct professor who teaches Public Speaking and Storytelling, Media Law and Ethics, and Writing for Publication.



GROW WHERE YOU'RE PLANTED

PLAN
YOUR
GROWTH



ON APPRECIATION TO THE HOST CHURCH AND CITY

WHEREAS, The messengers to the 186th session of the Kentucky Baptist Convention are a deliberative assembly who are drawn together for the propagation of the gospel, and

WHEREAS, We acknowledge God's sovereignty and providence in this sacred task, and

WHEREAS, We also acknowledge the kind hospitality of the people of First Baptist Church, Somerset, Kentucky, and

WHEREAS, We also express our gratitude to Mayor Alan Keck and the members of the Somerset City Council, Judge Executive Marshall Todd and the Pulaski County Fiscal Court, as well as the citizens of Somerset, Kentucky, for their gracious welcome, and

WHEREAS, We especially acknowledge the Lord's grace in enabling our Kentucky Baptist Convention president, officers, various committees, musicians, and other platform personnel to conduct the affairs of this convention with dignity and a Christlike spirit.

Therefore, Be it RESOLVED, that the messengers to the Kentucky Baptist Convention meeting in Somerset, Kentucky, November 14, 2023, express our profound gratitude to the Lord and to all those through whom He is working to bring about an annual meeting characterized by prayer, grace, humility, evangelism, worship, encouragement, unity, and purpose.

RESOLUTION ON THE USE OF PREFERRED GENDER PRONOUNS

WHEREAS, Much conversation has arisen in evangelical circles about the acceptability of using an individual's preferred gender pronouns; and

WHEREAS, Many faithful believers have disagreed about the best way to approach this new and visceral topic, often referring to this difficulty as existing under the umbrella of "matters of conscience"; and,

WHEREAS, God, being the ultimate knower and creator of man, has fixed the objective definitions related to sex and sexuality wholly within the realm of His revelation and creation purpose; and,

WHEREAS, Kentucky Baptists have previously spoken clearly on many matters of sex and sexuality attending this very discussion; and,

WHEREAS, In their sinful denial of the existence of objective truth, the philosophies undergirding modern demands for public conformity to preferred pronoun usage view the institution of language as a tool of political power to be wielded in the public square; and,

WHEREAS, Language was created by God for the purpose of describing, pointing toward, and giving praise for whatever is true and beautiful in His creation; and,

WHEREAS, Modern language demands are often used as means of circumventing dialogue in service to coercing speech and cultivating new cultural assumptions that are patently unbiblical and that obfuscate the biblical picture of truth; and,

WHEREAS, This very fact has made undeniably visible the need for gospel clarity on the preferred pronoun issue; and,

WHEREAS, To speak in a way contrary to God's revelation and creation purpose by adopting and uttering "preferred gender pronouns" that refer to anything other than human birth sex and chromosomal make-up in principle is to speak falsely about the imago dei revealed in man and woman; and,

WHEREAS, Article 5 of the Nashville Statement states "WE AFFIRM that the differences between male and female reproductive structures are integral to God's design for self-conception as male or female.

WE DENY that physical anomalies or psychological conditions nullify the God-appointed link between biological sex and self-conception as male or female"; and

WHEREAS, Article 6 of the Nashville Statement states "WE AFFIRM that those born with a physical disorder of sex development are created in the image of God and have dignity and worth equal to all other image-bearers. They are acknowledged by our Lord Jesus in his words about 'eunuchs who were born that way from their mother's womb.' With all others they are welcome as faithful followers of Jesus Christ and should embrace their biological sex insofar as it may be known.

WE DENY that ambiguities related to a person's biological sex render one incapable of living a fruitful life in joyful obedience to Christ"; and,

WHEREAS, Kentucky Baptists' ability to contend for the gospel surrounding the so-called "same-sex marriage" issue was greatly diminished by the culture's prior adoption of incoherent "same-sex marriage" language that rendered our sexual ethic incomprehensible to many; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the messengers to the Kentucky Baptist Convention meeting in Somerset, KY, November 14, 2023, state unequivocally our love for our neighbors participating in the LGBTQ+ movement, praying earnestly for genuine friendships leading to fruitful conversations about the gospel; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we commit ourselves to better understanding and to showing compassion to those who are confused about gender and sexuality; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we deny that the measure of our love toward our neighbors should be evaluated by our willingness to utter any unbiblical and ontologically false language and assumptions; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we hereby warn all Kentucky Baptists of the peril of ceding any linguistic ground to a movement that has demonstrated its intention to use language as a tool to render our message less comprehensible to those we seek to evangelize; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That we encourage all Kentucky Baptists to resist speaking falsely and tacitly donning the assumptions of the LGBTQ+ movement by virtue of adopting “preferred pronouns” that do not refer to a person’s biological makeup and resulting biblically mandated self-conception.

ON KNOWING AND TEACHING THE BAPTIST FAITH AND MESSAGE 2000

WHEREAS, Many Southern Baptists in Kentucky are unfamiliar with the content of the Baptist Faith and Message 2000; and

WHEREAS, It is essential for unity and effective Great Commission work that Kentucky Baptists agree on the gospel and core doctrines of our faith (1 Cor. 15:3-4, Amos 3:3); and

WHEREAS, The Baptist Faith and Message 2000 is the accepted guiding statement of faith for the Southern Baptist Convention; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That we, the messengers of the Kentucky Baptist Convention gathered in Somerset, Kentucky, on November 14, 2023, encourage all Kentucky Baptist pastors to consistently provide instruction to their congregations on the content of the Baptist Faith and Message 2000.

RESOLUTION ON GAMBLING

WHEREAS, The Kentucky Baptist Convention has a long history of opposing gambling in its various forms, such as casinos, lotteries, racing, and other gambling schemes; and

WHEREAS, Gambling violates the principle of neighbor-love, necessitating the financial loss and harm of many for the gain of a few and enjoying entertainment at the expense of others (Exodus 20:17; 22-21 Leviticus 25:17; Deuteronomy 22:1-4; Matthew 22:39; Mark 12:31; Romans 13:8-10; Galatians 5:14; James 2:8); and

WHEREAS, Gambling violates the principle of lordship, tempting individuals to trust chance rather than God, who provides for the needs of

“the righteous and the unrighteous” (Matthew 5:45; 6:24; 1 Corinthians 10:31; 2 Corinthians 9:8-12; Philippians 4:18-19 Colossians 3:17; 1 Timothy 6:17-18) and

WHEREAS, Gambling violates the principle of work, looking to gain something for nothing, hoping for easy money rather than pursuing responsible industry, investment, and labor (Genesis 1:28; Exodus 20:9; Psalm 104:23;128:2; Ecclesiastes 2:24; 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12; 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12); and

WHEREAS, Gambling violates the principle of the civil magistrate, causing governments to prey on their own citizens through state-sponsored gambling rather than protecting them and seeking their good (Proverbs 8:15-16; Amos 5:10-13; Romans 13:4; 1 Timothy 1:1-2; 1 Peter 2:13-15); and

WHEREAS, Gambling violates the principle of contentment, enticing individuals to greed and covetousness in the hope that in winning, others will lose financially (Exodus 20:17; Deuteronomy 5:21; Luke 12:15; Romans 7:7-8; Colossians 3:5; 1 Timothy 6:9-10; Hebrews 13:5); and

WHEREAS, Gambling violates the principle of stewardship, encouraging reckless and careless speculation with resources entrusted by the Lord while disregarding the same Lord who provides for all human needs (Matthew 6:19-34; 1 Timothy 6:17-18; 1 Peter 4:1-11); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the messengers to the Kentucky Baptist Convention meeting in Somerset, Kentucky, November 14, 2023, condemn gambling in all its forms; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we condemn the gambling establishment being proposed for Daviess County, Kentucky and those operating across the commonwealth, and that we encourage and support the Daviess-McLean Baptist Association in combating this evil; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we discourage and condemn the use of online betting apps; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we urge our leaders at all levels of government to end state-sponsored gambling, curtail all forms of destructive gambling, and address its harmful effects through policy and legislation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we encourage our convention leaders, entities, and pastors to continue to educate Kentucky Baptists on the deceptive sin of gambling; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That we urge our fellow Kentucky Baptists and all other followers of Christ not to participate in the sin of gambling.

RESOLUTION ON EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAWS FOR PREBORN CHILDREN.

WHEREAS, from the moment of conception/fertilization, all human beings are created equal, that is, of equal value because all are made by God in His own image (Gen 1:26-27; 5:1; 9:6; Proverbs 22:2; James 3:9), and

WHEREAS, as God’s image-bearers, all humans display His divine worth, power, and attributes, and thus possess objective worth not varying based on incidental characteristics such as ethnicity, age, size, means of conception, mental development, physical development, sex, potential, or contribution to society (Rom 1:19-20; Gen 1:27; 9:6; Matthew 18:6), and

WHEREAS, to murder any image-bearer—both born and preborn—is a sin, violating both natural law as set forth in the Noahic covenant, as well as the sixth commandment, “Thou shall not kill.” (Gen 9:5-6; Exodus 20:13; 21:22-24; Proverbs 6:17), and

WHEREAS, consistent with His character, God’s word treats preborn persons equally as born persons, insomuch as using the same terms to define children whether inside or outside the womb, including requiring equal justice for harm criminally done to either (Exodus 21:22-25; Luke 1:41, 2:16; Acts 7:19; Proverbs 20:10); now, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that we state unequivocally that all preborn children are image-bearers of God; therefore, call upon civil authorities to fulfill their God-given duty to uphold justice by establishing equal protection under the law for all preborn children, and be it further

RESOLVED, that equal protection requires the same legal prohibitions and available sanctions against homicide that exist to protect persons after birth likewise to protect persons before birth, thereby establishing justice for preborn children and serving to deter all persons from willingly aiding, procuring, or performing prenatal homicide; and be it further

RESOLVED, that such equal protection would require a case-by-case determination, take into consideration level of culpability, and would not alter any existing due process including but not limited to presumption of innocence, defense, justification, immunity, and should include protections so mothers would not be

subject to criminal liability if under criminal duress, mistake of fact, or in a life-threatening medical emergency, or for an accidental or natural death, or for an act prior to the effective date of any such law, and be it further

RESOLVED, that we recognize that miscarriages and ectopic pregnancies are not murder by abortion but tragedies during which medical triage is necessary with doctors never ceasing to treat both mother and baby as human beings, and upholding the Hippocratic Oath by exhausting all possible options to save as many human lives as they can, and be it further

RESOLVED, that we, our churches, and our ministries love both our born and preborn neighbors as ourselves by continuing steadfastly in our commitment to pursue pure and undefiled religion towards both mothers and children prayerfully, financially, and practically through prenatal and postnatal care in pregnancy resource centers, counseling, fostering, adoption, and other available means; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that as Kentucky Baptists, we, by the authority of God's Word, will engage, with God's help, in establishing justice for preborn children through equal protection of the law and call upon pastors and leaders to use their God-given gifts of preaching, teaching, and leading to speak with one unified, principled, prophetic voice to abolish abortion.

ON THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THE PASTOR

WHEREAS, The ascended Christ gave the church, among other gifts, the pastor (Ephesians 4:11); and

WHEREAS, The New Testament recognizes the pastor (overseer or elder) as an office of the church (Acts 20:17, Philippians 1:1, James 5:14, 1 Peter 5:1-5); and

WHEREAS, The New Testament details the qualifications for anyone who holds the office of pastor or elder (1 Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:5-9); and

WHEREAS, The New Testament and Article VI on "The Church" in the Baptist Faith and Message 2000 clearly affirm that the office of pastor is limited to men as qualified by Scripture (1 Timothy 2:12); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the messengers to the Kentucky Baptist Convention meeting November 14, 2023, affirm the biblical qualifications of the role of the pastor; and be it

RESOLVED, That we understand the pastoral office is restricted to men as qualified by Scripture; and be it

RESOLVED, That we recognize that Scripture delineates the office of pastor and uses other terms such as elder, overseer, and bishop which should be understood as synonymous with the office of pastor; and be it

RESOLVED, That we encourage all cooperating churches with the Kentucky Baptist Convention to call out men qualified by Scripture to serve local churches as pastor, and be it

RESOLVED, That we acknowledge the office of pastor cannot be separated from its preaching function; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That we desire to honor the authority, inerrancy, clarity, and sufficiency of Scripture in our obedience in how the local church is led.

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OBITUARIES

Adams, Marshall Murfin "Murf," 70, of Madisonville, died Sept. 2, 2022. He was a member of FBC Madisonville, where he served as deacon, sang in the choir and taught an adult Sunday school class.

Alcock, JoAnne, 88, of Paducah, died Feb. 4, 2023. She was a charter member of Bible BC, which later became Heartland Worship Center. She was a choir member for years and hosted many Bible study potlucks in her home.

Alexander, Pam, 62, of Cadiz, died May 26, 2023. She was a charter member of East Cadiz BC, where she served as church treasurer for 21 years and was also a Sunday school teacher.

Allen, Harry, 72, of Hopkinsville, died Dec. 30, 2022. He was a member of Hillcrest BC and sang in the choir.

Barnes, Conrad, 72, of Rockport, died July 3, 2023. He pastored Pleasant Hill Missionary BC in Greenville for seven years.

Baxter, Jerry, 73, of Kuttawa, died Apr. 12, 2023. He was a member of Zion's Cause BC, where he was a Sunday school teacher.

Bean, Barbara Earned, 90, Paducah, died June 1, 2023. She was a member of Heartland Church (formerly Bible BC), where she was the organist for many years.

Berry, Wayne, 66, of Hickory, died Apr. 30, 2023. He was pastor of Liberty BC, for 26 years. His wife, Dawn, is the ministry assistant at Graves County Ascn.

Beyer, Earlene, 91, of Paducah, died Jan. 30, 2023. She was a member of Schneidman Road BC for 65 years, where she served as the church secretary, a Sunday school teacher and past president of the Woman's Missionary Union.

Birdsong, Wanda Faye Kennedy, 70, of Cadiz, died Jan. 20, 2023. She was a member of Crossroads Fellowship, where she served on several rescue relief church mission trips.

Bolin, Dr. James Duane, 66, of Murray, died Aug. 27, 2022. He was a member of Murray FBC, leading Sunday school classes and Bible studies throughout his life. He served as a trustee for the Western Recorder. He authored various books, including "Kentucky Baptists, 1925-2000: A Story of Cooperation."

Bowers, James O., 85, of Princeton, died June 19, 2023. He was a deacon, trustee and song leader at Second BC.

Boyd, Jr., Rev. James Leon, 97, of Louisville, died Jan. 2, 2023. He was a member of Bethlehem BC.

Brown, Dale, 85, Hawesville, died Aug. 8, 2022. He was the pastor of Roseville BC.

Brown, Marty Ray, 61, of Kevil, died Dec. 6, 2022. He was a youth minister for six years and pastored for 34 years. He pastored New Liberty BC in Brookport, Ill, Oscar BC, Deer Creek BC, Marion, and retired from Newton Creek BC, Kevil, where his membership was at the time of his death.

Bryant, Billy Earl, 91, of Cadiz, died Feb. 28, 2023. He was a member of Liberty Point BC, where he served as a deacon.

Buchanan, June, 88, of Lone Oak, died Nov. 27, 2022. At the time of her death, she was the longest-tenured member (75 years) of Lone Oak FBC, where she taught Sunday school, was a member of WMU and served on many committees.

Burdine, Jackie Dean, 80, of Mt. Vernon, died June 22, 2023. He had been song leader and a deacon of Pine Hill Missionary BC.

Carter, Linda Mae Charlton, 96, of Water Valley, died June 15, 2023. She was a member of Water Valley BC for 61 years.

Carter, William (Bill) A., 91, of Midway, died Apr. 5, 2023. He was a longtime KBC pastor who also served a church in Indiana. His son, William (Monty) A. Carter II, is a former KBC staff member.

Chandler, Elbert Wayne, 84, of LaCenter, died July 31, 2023. He was a member of Bandana BC, where he served as deacon for many years.

Christian, Robert Lewis, 91, of Bandana, died Mar. 6, 2023. He was a member and deacon at Reidland BC, then moved to Ballard, Colo., where he was a member and deacon at Bandana BC.

Cobbs, Robert "Bob" Gray, 78, of Cadiz, died Feb. 17, 2023. He was a charter member of Ponderosa BC and attended Delmont BC.

Cochran, Donald F., 85, of Benton, died Feb. 24, 2023. He was a long-time member of New Zion Missionary BC where he served as Sunday school teacher and deacon.

Crawford, Mary Elizabeth Employ, 80, of Hopkinsville, died Jan. 10, 2023. She was a member of Living Hope BC, where her son, Darrell, is pastor.

Crittenden Jr., John Oliver, 75, died Feb. 20, 2023. During his ministry, he served as senior pastor of four churches and had served on staff at Forest BC and St. Paul BC, both in Louisville.

DeJarnatt, Kathryn Juanita, 92, of Bardwell, died Mar. 18, 2023. She was a member of Shady Grove BC in Daviess County for 74 years.

Dodson, Andrew, 17, of Somerset, died Apr. 03, 2023, three days following a severe brain injury in a varsity football spring game. Andrew was a member of High Street BC. His father, Alan Dodson, is a former KBC staff member.

Donnell, Patsy Wright, 87, of Knoxville, Tenn., died June 22, 2023. She was a member of FBC, Memphis, for more than 50 years. A son, Jim Donnell, is associate executive director for convention operations at the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Doyle, Dorothy Lee, 79, of Ledbetter, died May 25, 2023. She was a member of Lone Oak FBC, where she worked in the office, taught a women's Sunday school class and was active in many mission activities.

Dunning, Dale, 89, of Lyon County, died Jan. 13, 2023. He was a member of Pleasant Hill BC. He and his wife, Juanita, did mission work with Campers on Mission in Florida, Texas, Mexico and Kentucky.

Eckert, Deana, 57, of New Albany, Ind., died Apr. 10, 2023, as a result of the shooting at the Old National Bank in Louisville. Her brother, Scott Hurst, is the associate pastor of Immanuel BC of Boyle County, Danville.

England, H. Ray, 70, of Evansville Ind., died Jan. 9, 2023. He pastored Buena Vista BC in Lancaster, Mt. Vernon BC in Waddy, FBC in Winchester, Second BC in Greenville and was a minister of education at Campbellsville BC. He was a trustee for the International Mission Board and served as an IMB missionary in the Philippines.

Ertner, Mamie Ruth, 92, of Portland, Tenn., died May 5, 2023. Her daughter, Pam Crabtree, is married to Jeff Crabtree, KBC South Central Regional Consultant.

Everett, James Murphy, 77, of Lexington, died Mar. 16, 2023. He was a deacon, choir member and served as chair of the Benevolence Committee of Forks of Elkhorn BC. He previously served as music director at FBC Clinton, FBC Hickman, West Baptist in Hickman and East Frankfort BC.

Farmer, James Glenn, 75, of Crofton, died Aug. 22, 2023. He pastored Pleasant Hill BC in Crofton for the past 19 years.

Gray, Estelle R., 98, of Bedford, Va., died July 6, 2023. She and her late husband, George, were former directors of Crossings. A lakeside motel at Jonathan Creek is named in their honor. For years, they lived in a small house at the entrance of that property. She served multiple terms on the board of Kentucky WMU, and she and her husband were active members at Murray FBC.

Green, James Thomas, 96, of Salem, died Jan. 14, 2023. He was a member of Mexico BC, where was a Sunday school teacher.

Gruber, Margene Heflin (Kingkade), 74, of Mt. Washington, died Apr. 14, 2023. She was a member of FBC and a former member of Bethany BC where she served as a nursery school teacher when her husband pastored that church. Her brother, H.K. Kingkade, is a former KBC staff member.

Harrod, Dr. Allen F., 83, of Commerce Township, Mich., died Jan. 19, 2023. He was a Kentucky Baptist pastor who guided churches in Kentucky and elsewhere for six decades.

Hawes, Brian Corey, 54, of Paducah, died Feb. 27, 2023. He was active in the A.C.T.S. Ministry of Heartland Church.

Hayes, Donald Ray, 85, of Sacramento, died Jan. 3, 2023. He was a member of Sacramento BC, where he served as a deacon.

Henson, Joshua Craig, 16, of Dewitt, died Oct. 30, 2022. He was a sophomore at Knox Central HS and was a member of Dewitt BC, where his father Bobby "Bo" Dewitt is pastor.



For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

- John 3:16

Hodge, Roger Date, 64, of Fairdale, died Dec. 13, 2022. He was the longest-serving pastor of 37 years at Cove BC.

Howard, Orville "Joe," Jr., 73, of Jones Creek, died Nov. 25, 2022. He was a Baptist minister for more than 40 years at various churches in the Harlan County area. He pastored Lenarue Missionary BC for the past 14 years. He ministered in several health-care facilities and in 2018 was recognized as Kentucky Volunteer of the Year, and then named National Volunteer of the Year at a San Diego, Calif., ceremony.

Howle, James William, 86, of Eddyville, died Feb. 21, 2023. He was an active member of Eddyville FBC, where he taught Sunday school and participated in Upward Basketball and other church ministries.

Hyde, J.B., 94, of Cerulean, died June 1, 2023. He was a member for more than 25 years at Hopkinsville FBC.

Johnson, Jean Dotson, 89, of Hickman, died Dec. 4, 2022. She was a longtime member of Hickman FBC where she taught the Ladies Sunday school class and was the pianist and organist for all church activities.

Johnson, Michael D., 72, of Central City, died June 18, 2023. He was a member of Central City FBC. He served as pastor of Powderly BC and Morgantown BC.

Keeling, Ruth, 86, of Paducah, died Jan. 13, 2023. She was a member of Lone Oak FBC, where she was a children's Sunday school teacher for many years.

Lowrance, Faye, 81, of Smithland, died July 12, 2023. She was a member of Potter's House Baptist Worship Center, where she taught Sunday school and sang in the choir.

Lowrance, Fred, 85, of Smithland, died June 21, 2023. He served as pastor of Central Point BC, Friendship BC and Potters House Worship Center. After retiring in 2010, he served as interim pastor of Sugar Creek BC, Ohio Valley BC and Second BC.

Mabrey, Karen McKenzie Goldsberry, 70, of Henderson, died June 26, 2023. She was a member of Finley BC, where her husband, David, was pastor.

Martin, Viril Dean, 90, of Louisville, died Aug. 26, 2023. He was a member of West Broadway BC of Louisville and served as a helicopter pilot during the Vietnam War.

McClure, Roger L., 93, of Louisville, died Aug. 2, 2023. He was a member of West Broadway BC, where he used his woodworking skills extensively. He served as chairman of trustees.

McElroy, Sue, 87, of Lee's Summit, Mo., and formerly of Paducah, died Apr. 11, 2023. She was a member of Paducah FBC, where she taught Sunday school for many years.

Meeks, Dewight, 66, of Princeton, died Jan. 13, 2023. He was a member of Southside BC, who had a long-time ministry to special needs children and adults.

Middleton, Clara Mae, 93, of Kevil, died Jan. 6, 2023. She was a member of Kevil FBC where she formerly served as a Sunday school teacher and pianist.

Miller, Susan Fralick, 63, of Owensboro, died Aug. 17, 2023. She was a member of Bellevue BC where she taught in the children's ministry for many years.

Mills, Shirley Fry, 86, of Owensboro, died July 21, 2023. She was a member of Lewis Lane BC, where she taught Sunday school for more than 30 years, started the church greeter program and served as a greeter.

Mitchell, Bettie L., 69, of Princeton, died Apr. 14, 2023. She was a member of Lebanon BC, where she was a pianist and a Sunday school teacher for many years.

Morgan, Charles, 91, of Hardin, died Aug. 7, 2023. He was a member of Union Ridge BC and served as a deacon for many years.

Newman, Betty Jean, 90, of Henderson, died July 18, 2023. She was a member of Zion BC. Her son, Sam Newman, is pastor of Williamstown BC.

Newman, Earl Wayne, 80, of Ebenezer, died June 27, 2023. He was a member of New Paradise BC in Greenville, where he served as a deacon.

Norfleet, Morris, 92, of Nancy, died Aug. 31, 2023. He was a member of Bethlehem BC where he served faithfully as a deacon and a Sunday school teacher. He touched many lives and saw countless people led to Christ on his many mission trips. In 2006, he received the Missionary of the Year award in Kentucky.

Pack, Oliver James, 2 days old, of Shelbyville, died Dec. 26, 2022. He was the infant son of Jonah and Hollie Pack. Jonah is executive pastor of FBC Richmond and a former KBC staff member.

Parker, Donald Eugene, 95, of Paducah, died June 28, 2023. He was a member of Lone Oak FBC, where he was a deacon emeritus and a Sunday school teacher for many years. He was a past member of the Chapel and the Notes of Joy choirs. For approximately 10 years, he served as director of music and taught Sunday school at Trinity BC, Paducah.

Peavler, Joe L., 87, Paducah, died Feb. 27, 2023. He was a long-time member of Lone Oak FBC, where he served on various committees and was a soundboard technician.

Pierce, J., James Kendrick (JK), 89, of Lexington, died Feb. 3, 2023. He pastored Porter Memorial BC for 25 years before retiring June 1, 1999. A short time later he was called to pastor Highlands BC, Lexington, where he served 23 years before retiring Aug. 29, 2022. He preached the KBC annual sermon in 1997.

Powell, Terry Lee, 74, of Benton, died Nov. 25, 2022. He was a member of New Zion BC, where he served as a deacon as well as church treasurer.

Qualls, Delores Jane Prichard, 90, of Olive Hill, died Dec. 15, 2022. She was an active member of FBC where she served as church trustee and a member of the church choir.

Renfro, James Lee, 72, of Kevil, died May 1, 2023. He was a long-time member of Kevil FBC, where he served as a deacon and went on mission trips to Brazil and Russia.

Reynolds, Shelby, 68, of Mount Vernon, died Apr. 5, 2023. He pastored KBC churches in Pulaski, Rockcastle and Lincoln counties.

Robertson, Lindy Lee, Sr., 94, of Louisville, died Feb. 16, 2023. He was a member of Third Avenue BC in Louisville. His grandchildren include Andrew Dyer, pastor of Corinth BC in London.

Searcy, Beverly Jo Rushing, 75, of Atwood, died Oct. 22, 2022. She was a lifelong member of New Bethel BC in Verona.

Searcy, Dwight E., 74, of Atwood, died Oct. 9, 2022. He was a lifetime member of the New Bethel BC and a member of the Woodman of the World and brother of Tim Searcy, a past president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Seay, Lena Ruth, 92, of Paducah, died Jan. 14, 2023. She was a member for more than 60 years at Bible BC/Heartland Worship Center.

Simmons, Donna Mae, 81, of Greenville, died Dec. 31, 2022. She was a member of Roland Memorial BC, where she sang in the choir.

Skimehorn, Betty Jo, 94, of Central City, died May 29, 2023. She was a member of Central City FBC for more than 66 years.

Smith, James Franklin, 87, of Ravenna, died Mar. 8, 2023. He was retired director of missions of the Enterprise Baptist Ascn. and Boone's Creek Ascn. In 1999, he was named Director of Missions for the Year by the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He pastored Heidelberg BC, Stone Coal BC, Friendship BC and Nada BC.

Smith, Robbye Walker, 93, of Hopkinsville, died Mar. 5, 2023. She was a charter member of Edgewood BC.

Smoot, Jennifer L. (Newman), 76, of Louisville, died Jan. 27, 2023. She was a member of Westport Road BC. Her husband, G. "Tom" Smoot, is a former KBC staff member.

Snodgrass, Sandra, 79, of Drakesboro, died Jan. 11, 2023. She was a member of FBC where she served in many capacities.

Stallings, Randy, Sr., 71, of Owensboro, died Feb. 19, 2023. He was a graduate of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College. He pastored Ramsey BC, Whittle Baptist Mission in Balkan, Pansy BC in Guston, FBC of Lewisport, Sacramento BC and retired from Ridgewood BC in 2022.

Stewart, Larry Winfield, 79, of Crofton, died Apr. 3, 2023. He was a member of Macedonia BC, where he served as a deacon. Larry was a member of Gideon International.

Stubblefield, Doris "Carol," 78 of Paducah, died Mar. 23, 2023. She was a member of Twelve Oaks BC, where was the children's Sunday School director in the 1980s and '90s and taught fourth-grade Bible study. She was in the church choir and taught Vacation Bible School for many years.

Thompson, Billy, 77, of Central City, died Apr. 25, 2023. He pastored more than nine churches and most recently pastored Friendship Missionary BC, Greenville.

Vincent, Jeffrey Todd, 52, of Greenville, died Dec. 30, 2022. He was a member of Second BC, where he served as a deacon and worked in the youth ministry.

Vincent, Robert Lewis, 89, of Louisville, died Dec. 16, 2022. He was a member of FBC Fairdale for more than 60 years.

Wallace, Edith, 78, of West Paducah, died May 28, 2023. She was a member of Lone Oak FBC. She retired from West Union Baptist Ascn. after serving 23 years as secretary.

Walzer, Rev. Bruce, 92, of Middlesboro, died Apr. 15, 2023. He retired as AMS for Bell Baptist Ascn. in 2021 after serving in that role for 31 years.

Warf, Dr. Curtis, 92, of Lexington, died Mar. 4, 2023. He was KBC president in 1983 and served many years with Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children. He was senior pastor of Richmond FBC and after retiring was named pastor emeritus. He filled various interim pastor positions in retirement.

Watson, Eddie, 74, of Eddyville, died Jan. 30, 2023. He was a member of Eddyville FBC, where he served as a deacon.

Wattenbarger, Carson "Seymour," 84, of London, died July 18, 2023. He pastored Hawk Creek BC for three years while attending Clear Creek Baptist Bible College. He then pastored Calvary BC for 17 years, building a 650-seat auditorium and a family life center after purchasing 6.5 acres of land. He pastored Mt. Olivet BC in Tuttle for 16 years. He then served 14 years as director of missions for the Knox Ascn. of Baptists.

Wick, Mae, 95, of Louisville, died Dec. 29, 2022. She was a member of West Broadway BC.



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FBC Somerset's place in Kentucky Baptist history

BY BEN STRATTON



STRATTON

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen," (Matthew 28:19-20).

As the Kentucky Baptist Convention gathers in Somerset for its annual meeting, we are reminded of the rich Baptist history of this area. Kentucky Baptists have an amazing heritage that needs to be rediscovered, and First Baptist Somerset is no exception. This can especially be seen in the legacy of this congregation in fulfilling each part of the Great Commission.

THE NECESSITY OF EVANGELISM

First Baptist Church of Somerset was constituted in 1799 as the Sinking Creek Baptist Church, starting with only 21 people. Yet by 1801, the congregation had grown to 100 members.

What happened in those two years? While the original church records are lost, we know what was going on in Kentucky during that time — the Great Revival of 1800. As Christians prayed and shared the gospel with those around them, the power of God spread across the state like a wildfire. The fruit of this Great Awakening was evident throughout Kentucky, including in Somerset, where First Baptist Church had quadrupled in size.

THE RIGHT PURPOSE OF BAPTISM

Baptism not only identifies believers with Christ and unites people with a local church, but it also testifies that their sins have already been forgiven. Unfortunately, in the early 18th century, Alexander Campbell began to teach that baptism literally washes away a person's sins. Many Kentucky Baptists were swayed by Campbell's arguments, including the founding pastor of First Baptist Somerset, Thomas Hansford.

However, God prepared many men to answer Campbell. One was John M. Sallee, the 12th pastor of First Baptist Somerset. Born in Somerset in 1844, his father, Joel Sallee, served as a deacon and church clerk at First Baptist for over 40 years. The younger Sallee authored the book "Mabel Clement," which was later republished by the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention in 1926. Still readily available on the secondary market, many consider the book to be one of the

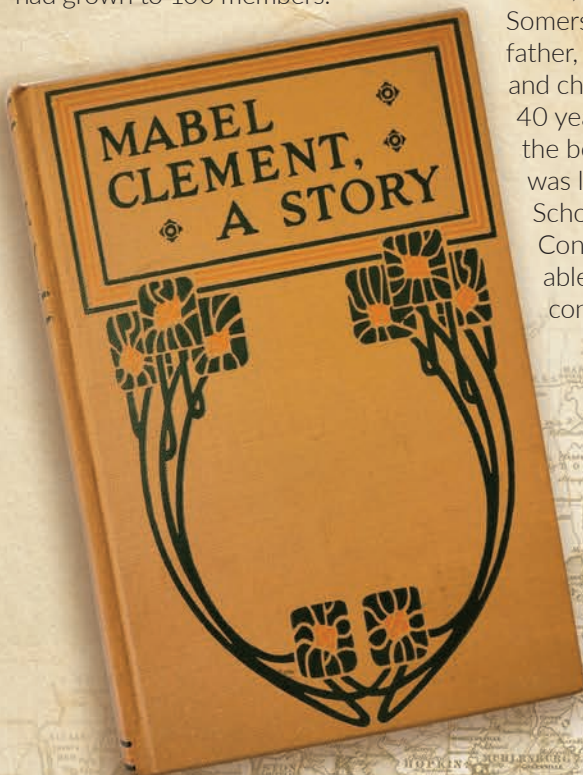
greatest defenses of the scriptural purpose of baptism. Interestingly enough, the life of J.M. Sallee also illustrates the first part of the Great Commission as two of his children became Southern Baptist missionaries to China in the 20th century.

THE IMPORTANCE OF TEACHING DOCTRINE

The longest pastorate in the history of First Baptist Somerset was that of W.E. Hunter, who served from 1912-1939. Shortly after arriving, Hunter led the church to begin hosting an annual Bible Institute and continued this practice throughout his tenure. He learned the idea from his good friend in west Kentucky, H. Boyce Taylor, who used it regularly at First Baptist Murray. The event involved setting aside an entire week for all-day preaching, Bible study and fellowship. This was different from a regular revival or a camp meeting — messages were almost all doctrinal in nature. This sort of preaching had an effect on people and helped ground the church in strong Baptist convictions.

For more Kentucky Baptist history, follow the J.H. Spencer Historical Society on Facebook and Twitter. You can also contact one of our officers — Chris Skipworth, Glen Stewart or Ben Stratton.

BEN STRATTON is pastor of Farmington Baptist Church in Graves County.





CHURCH CONSULTING & REVITALIZATION TEAM

We have six regional consultants strategically located across our state to serve KBC churches and associations. These men are prepared to assist churches in ALL ministry areas including church revitalization, leadership, deacon ministry, conflict mediation, and search team training. When needed, they work closely with CCR Ministry Consultants who are ministry area specialists. Regional consultants are often viewed as the “face” of the KBC because of their field-oriented focus.

We have five ministry consultants who serve KBC churches and associations across the entire state. These men and women are experts in their assigned areas of ministry including ministry transitions, conflict ministry, Sunday school, discipleship, senior adults, minister’s wives, women, children, students, worship, music, church finances, church security, and prayer ministry.

We have five ministry assistants that play a key role in assisting regional and ministry consultants in their work. Team Ministry Assistant Cheryl Frerman also serves as coordinator of the KBC Annual Meeting and liaison to church and associational ministry assistants and the Baptist Ministry Assistants of Kentucky organization.

4 WAYS WE FULFILL OUR MISSION

- Expert Consulting
- Strategic Networking
- Practical Training
- Needed Resources

Feel free to contact me or any member of the CCR Team for assistance.



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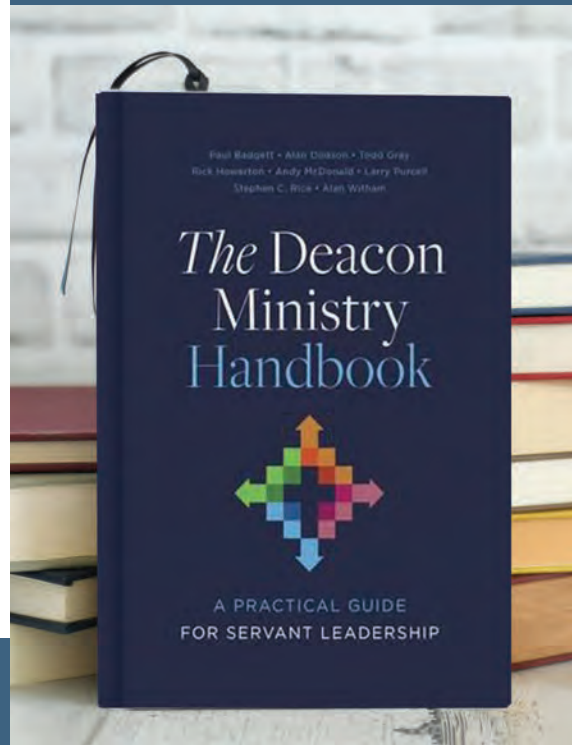
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CHURCH CONSULTING & REVITALIZATION TEAM

2023 Church Revitalization Awards

WEST REGION - LARRY PURCELL

- Joe Bufford, Hillcrest Baptist Church, Hopkinsville, Christian Association.
- Scott Fickes, First Baptist Church, Barlow, West Union Association.

CENTRAL REGION - ALAN WITHAM

- Hershael York & Chris Parrish, Buck Run Baptist Church, Frankfort, Franklin Association.
- Greg Gilbert, Third Avenue Baptist Church, Louisville, Louisville Regional Association.

NORTH CENTRAL REGION - ANDY MCDONALD

- Jason Eades, Viney Fork Baptist Church, Waco, Tates Creek Association.
- Nick Sandefur, Porter Memorial Baptist Church, Lexington, Central KY Association.

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION - JEFF CRABTREE

- Ray Woodie, Coral Hill Baptist Church, Glasgow, Liberty Association.
- Richard Sams, Calhoun Baptist Church, Calhoun, Davies-McLean Association.

EAST REGION - JASON LOWE

- Seth Carter, FBC Paintsville, Paintsville, Enterprise Association.
- Randy Bently, Faith FBC, Elkhorn City, Pike Association.

SOUTH REGION - HAROLD BEST

- Bobby Eaton, Poplar Grove Baptist, Corbin, Knox Association.
- Jordan Burks, Barnesburg Baptist, Somerset, Lake Cumberland Association.

"As they traveled through the towns... the churches were strengthened in the faith and increased in number daily."

- Acts 16:4-5 (HCSB)

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Becoming a lifelong learner BY STEVE RICE



RICE

The word “disciple” comes from the word “mathetes,” which means “learner.” A Christian disciple is a lifelong learner. I define disciple as “a person who has come to Jesus for eternal life and has embarked upon the lifelong process

of becoming like Jesus and following His leadership.”

5 Tips to Becoming a Lifelong Learner

1. Begin with the Bible

No writing can compare to the Bible because it is the very word of God and part of its purpose is to help us become better disciples.

“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for re-proof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work,” (2 Timothy 3:16-17, ESV).

2. Read helpful books.

Leaders are readers. In addition to the Bible, a lifelong learner can benefit by reading helpful books. It’s wise to have a reading goal along with a specific plan. I list the books I plan to read throughout the year. I might even read other books if time allows. Some listen to audio books as an effective substitute for reading.

3. Use technology.

Technology can help lifelong learners mature as disciples. Christian podcasts and online sermons provide teaching from renown leaders. Bible study tools such as Logos allow access to vast libraries and Bible study tools.

4. Get some exercise.

The Christian life is a lot like a marathon. A lifelong learner should strive to run the race of life well and to completion. Exercise provides many benefits such as discipline and clear thinking. It helps you feel better, look better and act better. Exercise even broadens your

gospel prospect pool by bringing you into contact with others in your sport who need Christ.

5. Consider formal education.

I began my Doctor of Ministry program at the age of 43 and finished at 46. We’re never too old to learn. A person can complete almost any degree online all the way to the doctoral level. High quality, fully accredited, formal education has never been more available. My doctoral studies benefited me more than any earlier study program because I was older and more mature. I had a better understanding and appreciation of the value of education in my forties than earlier in life.

Jesus deserves our best. Those we lead need our best. Let’s be lifelong learners!

STEVE RICE is team leader of Church Consulting & Revitalization at the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He can be reached at steve.rice@kybaptist.org or (502) 489-3434.

Therefore go and make
disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the
name of the Father and
of the Son and of the
Holy Spirit.

— Matthew 28:19



Steve Rice and wife, Laura, hike Grand Teton National Park in Wyoming.

Achieving & maintaining financial integrity in your church

BY DON SPENCER



SPENCER

Your Church Financial Benefits Department helps churches and ministers comply with those rules and adopt best practices in their handling of money.

Much of this is done through individual consultations, emails and phone calls. Each year I spend a day at many of our associations for individual

The ways churches handle financial issues are much different than in regular businesses. Much of that difference is due to the unique rules that apply to ministers and churches.

appointments with folks in that area. Some of these appointments address tax and compensation issues unique to ministers. Many of these appointments involve helping ministers and other church employees maximize their benefits in our denominational retirement plan. Our Church Retirement Plan offers advantages not available in other retirement plans.

In recent months, I've focused on 40 of our larger churches with multiple employees in the GuideStone retirement plan, meeting with their staff for plan updates and then meeting with individuals to review their participation.

I also provide guidance to treasurers and other church financial leaders on ways to achieve and maintain integrity in the way the church handles its finances, and to make sure they are complying with IRS rules.

We stand ready to assist your church in dealing with the unique issues related to compensation, taxes, retirement planning and other financial issues that are unique to churches.

DON SPENCER is the church financial benefits consultant for the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He can be reached at don.spencer@kybaptist.org or (502) 489-3384.



We show we are His disciples by practicing His love

BY DARRYL WILSON



WILSON

To make the choice to serve and care for others before they care for us requires devotion to God. Responding to a question about the greatest commandment, in Mark 12:30-31 (CSB) Jesus said:

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is, Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other command greater than these."

- Mark 12:30-31

Where in life or in the church do we learn to love God like that? Where are we encouraged to love others like Jesus did? The best place I know to practice that kind of love is with a small group of caring believers who open God's word together to hear and obey what He has to say.

When we love the Lord with all our heart, mind, soul and strength, only then can we fully love our neighbor and even ourselves. As we learn to obey Him by loving one another in our groups, others come to see that we are His disciples (John 13:34-35). That happens because our care reflects His love.

When our Bible study groups care for Him and each other, His love spills beyond the walls where we gather. It touches family and friends. It spreads

to school and work. Every act and conversation at play and in the marketplace put His love on display.

So, love God. Love your spouse, one another, your neighbors and your world. Pray together. Meet needs. Listen. Invite them. Care for them into relationship with your Bible study group and your Savior. May everyone be attracted to our God of love.

Watch for Darryl's upcoming book about Bible study groups caring for members and friends.

DARRYL WILSON is the Sunday School and discipleship consultant with the Church Consulting and Revitalization Team at the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He can be reached at darryl.wilson@kybaptist.org or (502) 489-3341.

The path to church health and revitalization

BY ALAN WITHAM



WITHAM

“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches,” (Revelation 2:11). These same words were shared by the Lord to all seven churches in the book of Revelation chapters 2 and

3. They prompt the following prayerful response as we read them today, “Lord, what are you saying to us about our church?”

The journey of church revitalization and greater health starts with prayer. The prayer I am referring to is not just any type of prayer. It is prayer that listens intently to the word of God and His Holy Spirit as He pinpoints strengths to capitalize on, sins to confess and ministries to strengthen. Our Lord is interested in seeing His churches be healthier. Our regional consultants share that same interest and desire of our Lord.

This past year we have sought to come alongside KBC churches and church leaders to encourage greater levels of health and growth in the following ways:

We have sought to encourage deacons in our churches. We know that effective deacon ministries contribute to healthier churches. The Deacon Ministry Handbook, written by current and past Church Consulting and Revitalization Team members, became available in January 2023. We now have video vignettes of the book content available at kybaptist.org/deacon. In addition to providing copies of the book to church leaders, we have had the opportunity to provide a number of training events equipping deacons to live out their servant role more effectively.

We have sought to encourage church health in times of transition. One of our most sought-after trainings assists

laypersons serving on pastor search teams. We have been given the opportunity to equip numerous search team members to conduct their weighty responsibility of calling their next pastor well. Some of our consultants have also served as interim pastors providing effective transitional leadership as churches move toward the calling of their next pastor.

We have sought to provide practical training events that promoted church health. We conducted Revitalize 2023 at Porter Memorial Baptist Church this year. Participants were encouraged and challenged by Mark Clifton, Claude King and Tony Merida. We sought to help churches in growing givers for gospel advancement through our Treasure tour in July. And we helped churches see the importance of good first impressions in our session at EQUIP in August and September.

In January we welcomed Jason Lowe and Harold Best to our Regional Consultant Group. These men listened to what the Holy Spirit was saying to them and left fruitful ministry roles to serve as regional consultants. Jason now

serves as our East Region consultant. Prior to serving in this role, he effectively served as associational missions strategist for the Pike Association and as executive pastor for First Baptist Church Pikeville.

Harold Best serves as our South Region consultant. Prior to this role he effectively served as pastor of Burlington Baptist Church. Harold also served well as our Kentucky Baptist Convention president in 2021-22. Both men already had strong relationships and God’s favor upon their lives and ministries. They are building on those established relationships and trust, and providing effective ministry to churches in their regions.

As you hear and discern what God is saying to your church, share it with us so we can join Together for the Mission and take steps that lead to increasing health as a church.

ALAN WITHAM is leader of the Kentucky Baptist Convention Regional Consultant Group and a regional consultant in the central region. He can be reached at alan.witham@kybaptist.org or (502) 489-3363.





KENTUCKY STUDENT WORSHIP CAMP '24

JULY 15-19, 2024

**Boyce College
of the SBTS**
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

For students who have completed grades 7-12
Open to out-of-state students

kybaptist.org/worshipcamp

Scan to
learn more



WORSHIP LEADER BOOT CAMP

JUNE 20-23, 2024

**Clear Creek
Baptist Bible College**
PINEVILLE, KENTUCKY

For worship leaders and their spouse
(Bivocational, part and full-time)

kybaptist.org/worshipbootcamp

Scan to
learn more



Pray now for your next worship leader

BY JASON STEWART



STEWART

God is not surprised by your church not having a worship leader, pianist or other music leadership. Our God knows our needs before we realize them. I want to urge you to be bold and confident in asking for God to supply your needs in the area of worship leadership. Many churches may not be experiencing this problem because they have capable people already leading. But there is either a need right now or there will be a need in the future for countless churches in Kentucky.

*“Be careful for nothing;
but in everything by prayer
and supplication with thanksgiving
let your requests be
made known unto God.”*

– Philippians 4:6 (KJV)

I want to encourage each church to begin to pray about its next worship leader, accompanist, vocalist or AV tech. If you have an immediate need for this to be filled, make it a matter of weekly prayer with your congregation each time you meet. Let the congregation participate in this supplication of a true need set before the Lord.

If you already have needed positions filled, let me strongly encourage you to begin identifying potential ones that could be trained and coached so your congregation will be ready when a need for leadership arises.

Things the Worship & Music Group of KBC offers for training:

- **Regional Worship Roundtables**
(early spring)
- **KBC Children’s Choir**
(last weekend in April)
- **Worship Leader Bootcamp for Adults**
(in June @ Clear Creek)
- **Student Worship Camp**
(in July @ Boyce College)
- **Men’s & Women’s Chorale**
(retreat in September)
- **2024 KBC Annual Worship Planner**
(downloadable now)
- **Online Worship Leader Training**
(on our website)

Please look within your congregation to help identify those that might have the necessary abilities to become a part of your worship team leadership. Take advantage of any of the services we provide from the KBC.

You can find information on each item listed above on our website: www.kybaptist.org/worship. Thank you for your cooperation and always know that we are working Together for the Mission.

JASON “BUBBA” STEWART

is the worship & music consultant for the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He can be reached at jason.stewart@kybaptist.org or (502) 489-3543.

Reality #1:

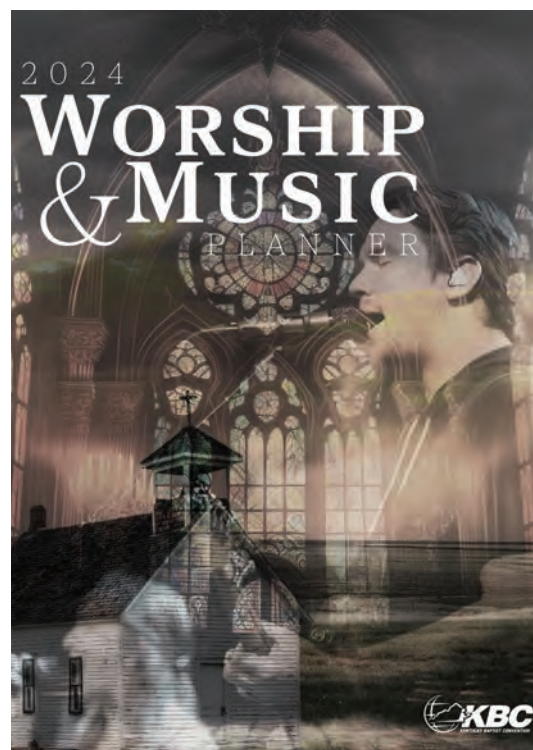
God has provided worship leaders for your church.

Reality #2:

You need to identify them and develop them.

Reality #3:

KBC Worship & Music is here to help you.





Keeping the next generation BY MATT FLANAGAN



FLANAGAN

This past year our team has put considerable energy and attention into equipping churches to reach middle and high school students in their communities. This is both essential and urgent work in the entire church.

However, research shows that nearly two out of every three church-attending high school students will walk away from faithful church involvement during their young adult years. This is a sobering percentage when examining the current students in a church.

What can be done?

There are trends in the spiritual formation of young adults that stay faithful in the local church. There isn't an empirical formula that yields the desired results each time. However, a church that prioritizes the following goals may well see more students stay connected to the church.

- 1. Teach students to study the Bible on their own.** If our teaching ministry has become a spectator event rather than an equipping session, we may be missing our greatest opportunity to develop faithful followers of Christ. Students need helpful resources, instruction, accountability, encouragement and plenty of grace. They need to see adult believers model spending daily time in the word.
- 2. Connect godly adults to students.** Research shows that the more adults (in addition to their family and pastors) invest in a student, the more likely they are to stay in the church. Consider when a student ages out of their ministry. If they are not connected relationally to other adults, they will feel disconnected from the church family.
- 3. Equip students to serve.** Students that serve in the church are more likely to find their place in their young adult years. When we equip and send students to serve alongside other adults, they begin to understand their giftedness and find meaning in their service.
- 4. Arm students with basic apologetics.** A student that is faithfully walking with Christ will be living counter-culturally to the world. Make sure a student can articulate the gospel. Teach them to speak a reasoned defense of the infallibility of scripture and understand the person and work of Christ.

MATT FLANAGAN is the children and student ministry consultant for the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He can be reached at matt.flanagan@kybaptist.org or (502) 489-3386.



Kentucky Baptist Women: Believe, belong, become

BY SARA ROBINSON



ROBINSON

Kentucky Baptist Women exists so that women will believe in Jesus Christ, belong to communities of faithful women and become who they are in Christ! Since the 2022 annual meeting, Kentucky Baptist Women has reached more than 1,500 women through church consultations, KBC-sponsored events and women's ministry opportunities across the state.

Women's retreats and conferences provide an opportunity for ladies to gather for worship, discipleship and fellowship. Regardless of the location, uplifting worship and engaging Bible teachers invite women into a closer walk with Jesus Christ. Many women see these retreats as the highlight of their year, giving them a chance to step away from the everyday hustle into a weekend for rest and to refocus on their faith.

Women across Kentucky are also excited for training and equipping opportunities. At events such as Launch, REACH and EQUIP, women are engaging in breakouts specifically tailored for women in the church.

Similarly, more than 100 Kentucky Baptist women attended the annual Lifeway Women's Leadership Forum in Nashville. At this three-day event, women attended corporate worship with rich teaching and have the chance to choose breakout sessions for further development.

The growth I've seen in women this year has been incredible. Women are learning how they can best serve their local church and walking in obedience to the Lord's guidance. Our churches will be blessed by the efforts of our women investing in the lives of others.

The Radiant Ministry Wives' Retreat was another highlight of the year.



More than 150 ministry wives gathered in Frankfort, Ky., for an unforgettable getaway. Women left feeling refreshed and refocused to serve alongside their husbands in our KBC churches. Radiant 2024 will be held April 26-27 at First Baptist Church in Richmond, Ky. Christine Hoover will be the featured speaker.

The best days for Kentucky Baptist Women are ahead! Women are eager to grow in their faith and excited to serve their local church through evangelism, teaching and training opportunities. Please let us know how we can serve the women of your church or association in the days ahead. We are truly Together for the Mission!

SARA ROBINSON is the women's ministry and transition consultant for the Kentucky Baptist Convention. She can be reached at sara.robinson@kybaptist.org or (502) 489-3382.





Evangelism Team

The Evangelism Team is organized into three groups to help churches engage lostness in their communities, on their campuses, and across the commonwealth. Every believer is called to be a witness in their circles of influence and every church is commissioned to reach their community for Christ. We can help with equipping in evangelism, evangelism strategies and resources, church planting or replanting in Kentucky, multiplying church networking and resources, Baptist Campus Ministries, and engaging your local collegiate campuses.



Rob Patterson

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Hannah Dickerson

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EVANGELISM: The Evangelism Group can help assess and develop Evangelism Ministry Action Plans (E-MAP), assist associations in cooperative evangelistic initiatives, speak at revivals or evangelistic events, and help equip you in personal evangelism.



Ian Carrico

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Carlos De la Barra

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CHURCH PLANTING: The Church Planting Group helps churches plant and replant KBC churches.



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VACANT:



*Church Planting
Group Leader and
Development Associate*



*Church Planting
and Development
Associate*

CAMPUS MINISTRY: The Campus Ministry Group reaches more than 270,000 college students across the state of Kentucky. Thanks to the Cooperative Program, Baptist Campus Ministry is fully engaging eight of the largest universities in Kentucky, with the goal to reach *every student, every campus*. This group can help foster partnerships with local BCMs, engage international students, explore campus ministry opportunities in your region, and involve students in Baptist Campus Ministry events.



Tommy Johnson

Regional Campus Minister Group Leader (Bowling Green)
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Breanne Hoff

Campus Ministry Assistant
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Lifetime Leadership in Evangelism award

Kentucky Baptists celebrate the legacy of God's ministry through Paul Badgett as the 2023 recipient of the Lifetime Leadership in Evangelism award. Brother Paul – sometimes affectionately called “BP” – was the east regional consultant for the Kentucky Baptist Convention for almost nine years. Previously, he served as pastor for three churches in eastern Kentucky over a span of 24 years. Paul led his churches to be strong advocates of the Cooperative Program and highly evangelistic, baptizing more than 900 people.



Paul Badgett led churches to be strong advocates of the Cooperative Program and highly evangelistic, baptizing more than 900 people.

Paul served on various committees at the KBC and was convention president in 2003. He was a member of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee for eight years and worked as a North American Mission Board ambassador.

Paul and his wife, Regina, live in Flatwoods and are members of Rose Hill Baptist in Ashland.

REGIONAL CAMPUS MINISTERS:



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Xavier McFalls

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Top 100 baptizing churches in Kentucky

Baptisms	Church	City
452	Hillvue Heights Church	Bowling Green
102	Concord Baptist Church	Hopkinsville
98	Immanuel Baptist Church	Corbin
94	First Baptist Church Somerset	Somerset
93	Better Life Church	Morehead
92	New Work Fellowship Baptist Church	Hopkinsville
72	Living Hope Baptist Church	Bowling Green
63	GracePointe Baptist Church	Louisville
62	Parkway Baptist Church	Hodgenville
59	Highview Baptist Church	Louisville
58	Trinity Southern Baptist Church	Falmouth
53	Riverwoods Church	Benton
52	Elk Horn Baptist Church	Campbellsville
52	Florence Baptist Church	Florence
50	Chief Cornerstone Baptist Church	Mayfield
49	Lone Oak First Baptist Church	Paducah
48	Heartland Church	Paducah
47	Hardin Baptist Church	Hardin
46	Hickory Grove Baptist Church	Independence
46	Little Flock Baptist Church	Shepherdsville
45	Bellevue Baptist Church	Owensboro
45	Immanuel Baptist Church	Lexington
42	Franklin Community Church	Franklin
41	Hillcrest Baptist Church	Hopkinsville
40	First Baptist Church Richmond	Richmond
39	Faber Baptist Church	Corbin
38	Iglesia Bautista Getsemani	Louisville
37	Living Water Church	Mount Sterling
36	Center Point Church	Lexington
35	Porter Memorial Baptist Church	Lexington
32	Pleasant Grove Baptist Church	Owensboro
31	Buck Creek Baptist Church	Calhoun
31	Severns Valley Baptist Church	Elizabethtown
30	Pleasant Valley Community Church	Owensboro
29	Kenton Baptist Church	Morning View
28	Bellview Baptist Church	Paducah
28	First Baptist Church Cold Spring	Cold Spring
27	Summitview Church	Irvine
27	Yellow Creek Baptist Church	Owensboro
26	First Baptist Church Russell	Russell
26	Junction City First Baptist	Danville
26	Living Hope Baptist Church	Hopkinsville
25	Immanuel Baptist Church	Louisville
25	Steubenville Baptist Church	Monticello
24	Burlington Baptist Church	Burlington
24	Burnett Avenue Missionary Baptist	Louisville
24	River View Baptist Church	Coxs Creek
23	Eastwood Baptist Church	Bowling Green
23	Franklin Crossroads Baptist Church	Cecilia
23	Mill Creek Baptist Church	Bardstown
23	Trace Creek Baptist Church	Mayfield
22	Northside Baptist Church	Almo
22	River of Life Community Baptist Church	Springfield
21	McHenry Baptist Church	McHenry
21	New Salem Baptist Church	London
21	Ninth and O Baptist Church	Louisville
21	Turner Ridge Baptist Church	Falmouth
20	Second Baptist Church Greenville	Greenville
20	The Community Church at Cedar Springs	Brownsville
20	Woodburn Baptist Church	Woodburn
19	Ashland Avenue Baptist Church	Lexington
19	Bellevue Baptist Church	Burlington
19	Fellowship Baptist Church	Harrodsburg

KBC Evangelism Team celebrates the unique evangelistic impact of the top baptizing churches. Using data from the 2022 Annual Church Profile, top baptizing church recognition is based on total baptisms, while top baptizing church by ratio recognition is based on the ratio of worship attendance to baptisms.

South Central Region

Top Baptizing Church - Hillvue Heights Baptist Church

Top Baptizing Church by Ratio - Franklin Community Church

East Region

Top Baptizing Church - Better Life Church

Top Baptizing Church by Ratio - Faith First Baptist Church, Elkhorn

Central Region

Top Baptizing Church - GracePointe Baptist Church

Top Baptizing Church by Ratio - Parkway Baptist Church

North Central Region

Top Baptizing Church - Trinity Southern Baptist Church

Top Baptizing Church by Ratio - Turner Ridge Baptist Church

South Region

Top Baptizing Church - Immanuel Baptist Church

Top Baptizing Church by Ratio - New Heights Baptist Church

West Region

Top Baptizing Church - Concord Baptist Church

Top Baptizing Church by Ratio - Concord Baptist Church

19	Hyattsville Baptist Church	Lancaster
19	Life Community Baptist Church	Owensboro
19	Westside Baptist Church	Murray
19	Zion Baptist Church	Henderson
18	Big Bone Baptist Church	Union
18	Central Grove Baptist Church	Albany
18	Forks of Dix River Baptist Church	Lancaster
18	New Heights Church	Middlesboro
18	New Salem Baptist Church	Nortonville
18	Sugar Creek Baptist Church	Grand Rivers
18	Vanzora Baptist Church	Benton
17	Adairville Baptist Church	Adairville
17	Edgewood Baptist Church	Hopkinsville
17	Ekron Baptist Church	Ekron
17	Macedonia Baptist Church	Greensburg
17	Middleton Baptist Church	Franklin
17	Mount Moriah Baptist Church	Magnolia
17	Olive Branch Baptist Church	Hanson
16	Buck Run Baptist Church	Frankfort
16	Double Springs Baptist Church Inc	Waynesburg
16	First Baptist Church Barbourville	Barbourville
16	First Baptist Church Bowling Green	Bowling Green
16	First Baptist Church Fitzpatrick	Prestonsburg
16	First Baptist Church Louisa	Louisa
16	First Baptist Church Murray	Murray
16	Symsonia Baptist Church	Symsonia
16	Wolf Creek Baptist Church	Williamsburg
15	Aberdeen Baptist Church	Morgantown
15	Campbellsville Baptist Church	Campbellsville
15	First Baptist Church Grayson	Grayson
15	First Baptist Church Mt. Washington	Mt. Washington
15	High Street Baptist Church	Somerset
15	Poplar Spring Baptist Church	Murray
14	Blackjack Baptist Church	Franklin
14	Calvary Baptist Church	Bowling Green
14	Dripping Spring Baptist Church	Olmstead
14	Eubank Baptist Church	Eubank
14	Fellowship Church Louisville	Louisville
14	First Baptist Church Paducah	Paducah
14	First Missionary Bap Church Benton	Benton
14	Gilead Baptist Church	Glendale
14	LaGrange Baptist Church	La Grange
14	Ormsby Heights Baptist Church	Louisville
14	Pilot Oak Baptist Church	Water Valley
14	Providence Baptist Church	Franklin
14	Stony Point Baptist Church	Albany
14	Westport Road Baptist Church	Louisville

...lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest!

– John 4:35

Deadly distractions BY ROB PATTERSON



PATTERSON

As your Evangelism Team travels the state seeking to help churches reach their communities for Christ, it is hard to believe what you see on the roads! Stay alert because the driver swerving past you is likely texting or streaming videos! The Kentucky Office of Highway Safety reports that nearly 80% of crashes involve some form of distraction within three seconds before the event. Distracted driving resulted in 3,500 deaths nationally in 2021, including 120 Kentuckians.

Spiritual distraction can have equally deadly consequences, which is why it remains one of Satan's primary tactics. In John 4:35, Jesus refocuses our attention on the urgency of the gospel. "Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes

and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest!"

Churches often become so focused on activities that they lose sight of why we do them. Jesus urges, "Lift up your eyes." When we lift our eyes to the fields of Kentucky, we see growing lostness as 85% of Kentuckians are unchurched. We also see unprecedented opportunities as many of the least reached people groups globally are now living locally. But Satan does not want your church to join Jesus in the harvest, so he mobilizes demons of distraction, division and delay.

Churches fall into the deception of thinking, "Once we (fill in the blank), then we can focus on evangelism." Jesus clarifies that there is no better time for evangelism! The fields are already white. Souls are in jeopardy of being lost for eternity. So, look up!

The Evangelism Ministry Assessment Profile is a discovery tool which can help your church celebrate where God is moving and identify next steps towards building a culture of evangelism by developing an Evangelism Ministry Action Plan or E-MAP. God is moving in incredible ways, as detailed in other reports. Your church has a unique opportunity to join Him, and the E-MAP can clarify next steps.

Kentucky Baptists reported a rebound in baptisms, and we see God moving in exciting ways. One church baptized more people on Baptism Sunday than the entire previous year. Another church recently baptized 37 people on a single Sunday! May God continue giving fruit for faithful labors.

ROB PATTERSON is the evangelism team leader for the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He may be reached at rob.patterson@kybaptist.org or 502.489.3576.

Block parties, door to door canvassing, revivals, and many other ideas provide avenues towards an effective evangelism strategy.



A man with a beard and short hair, wearing a black t-shirt, is baptizing another man in a body of water. The man being baptized is wearing a grey t-shirt and has his head tilted back. Water is splashing around them. The background shows a calm body of water under a clear sky.

PLANTING AND REPLANTING KENTUCKY BAPTIST CHURCHES



How can our convention of churches help you take a step towards multiplying disciples, leaders, or churches?

CHURCH MULTIPLIED LUNCHEON

Connect with KBC church planters and discover critical church planting needs across Kentucky at the Church Multiplied Luncheon.



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14 | 12:15-1:30 pm | *High Street Baptist Church, Somerset*



Blake Lawyer
Lead Pastor
Christ Community Church,
Shelbyville



Anibal Figueroa
Pastor
Nuevo Amanecer,
Louisville



Nathan Whisnant
Associational Mission Strategist
Daviess-McLean Baptist
Association

CHURCH MULTIPLIED WORKSHOPS

Bring your leadership team to discover next steps to the healthy multiplication of disciples, leaders, and churches. Register at kybaptist.org/churchmultiplied or scan the QR code.



CREATE A CULTURE
OF EVANGELISTIC
DISCIPLE MAKING



PARTNER WITH A
KBC PLANTER



STRENGTHEN YOUR
LEADERSHIP PIPELINE



TAKE STEPS
TOWARDS PLANTING
OR REPLANTING A
CHURCH IN KENTUCKY

MON, JANUARY 22, 2024

10am-1:00pm CST
South Central Baptist Association
Bowling Green, KY

WED, JANUARY 24, 2024

10am-1:00pm EST
Kentucky Baptist Convention
Louisville, KY

TUES, JANUARY 23, 2024

10am-1:00pm CST
Riverwoods Church
Benton, KY

THUR, JANUARY 25, 2024

10am-1:00pm EST
The Baptist Church at Andover
Lexington, KY



KEY NOTE SPEAKER:

Bland Mason
City on a Hill Brookline,
Boston



Lunch will be provided at all workshops

CHURCH MULTIPLIED VISION TOURS

Catch the vision for how your church can pray for critical planting needs, partner with KBC church planters or replanters, network with multiplying churches, and take steps towards planting or replanting a church in KY.



1

TUES
APRIL 16, 2024
Louisville

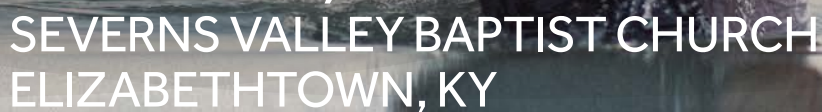
2

TUES
APRIL 23, 2024
Ashland

3

TUES
APRIL 30, 2024
Bowling Green





MULTIPLYING
DISCIPLES
MULTIPLYING
LEADERS
MULTIPLYING
CHURCHES

RESERVE YOUR SPOT SOON FOR TUESDAY'S LUNCH & LEARN WITH REACH SPEAKERS!

A circular portrait of Dr. Mervyn Dymally, a Black man with short grey hair, smiling and wearing a light blue button-down shirt.



Dr. David A. Clark is a professor of psychology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is also a senior research advisor at the Center for the Study of Social Design. He has a Ph.D. in psychology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is currently working on a book about the psychology of aging.



REGISTER TODAY!



KYBAPTIST.ORG/REACH



Multiplying kingdom impact at REACH

BY KENNY RAGER



RAGER

Kentucky Baptists are a people of missions and evangelism who care deeply about reaching Kentucky and the world for Christ. The annual REACH Evangelism and Missions Conference exists to aid Kentucky

Baptists in this endeavor. REACH is designed to inspire and equip Kentucky Baptists to be Together for the Mission — the Great Commission.

REACH '23 was held at Severns Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethtown. The lineup included renowned speakers from around the country and Kentucky. In addition, the conference also featured practical breakout sessions. The breakout sessions were designed to offer next steps for a church to be on mission. We were blessed to have several Kentucky Baptist voices represented during the breakouts, reminding us that some of the best leaders are here in Kentucky.

REACH '24 will also be exciting! The theme "Church Multiplied" will encourage churches to multiply disciples, leaders and new evangelistic outreaches for the kingdom of God. The conference will again be held at Severns Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethtown on March 11 and 12. You can view details of the conference by going to www.kybaptist.org/reach. We encourage you to save the date.

Would you like to help us with the conference by serving as a REACH Catalyst? Catalysts consist of pastors, church leaders and lay leaders who help promote, pray and serve at the conference. If interested, please email me.



Thank you, Kentucky Baptists, for your generous Cooperative Program support. Because of your giving to the CP, the state can offer high-caliber conferences like REACH at an affordable cost. I hope to see you at REACH '24 on March 11 and 12!

KENNY RAGER is the church evangelism strategist at the Kentucky Baptist Convention. You can reach him at kenny.rager@kybaptist.org or (502) 489-3576.



Three perspectives on multi-language ministry

BY CARLOS DE LA BARRA



DE LA BARRA

Last year I brought awareness to, and gave my fellow Baptists an excitement about, multi-language churches in Kentucky. This year I am giving three leaders the opportunity to share their enthusiasm. They all serve, in some capacity, in multi-language ministry.

Pastor Ernesto Font: I have served the New Jerusalem Baptist Church in Louisville for 10 years. I am also the coordinator of the Hispanic Baptist Bible Institute. For me, working with the Hispanic community in Kentucky has been my greatest fulfillment in ministry. For 18 years, I have served this community in various areas of the state with different Spanish-speaking cultures.

This work has made me grow and mature ministerially. It is the greatest satisfaction in my life."

Pastor Jesus Amaya: "I have been the pastor of the Hispanic ministry of Bellevue Baptist Church in Owensboro for the last 18 years. It has been a blessing for me to be part of a church that loves missions and that every Sunday has five services in four different languages, with people from different parts of the world, different cultures and different languages. Today, we have people in Kentucky from all over the world who need to know Jesus as their Savior. If you and your church are willing, God can use you to cross cultural and language barriers to reach those He is sending to our state. Our KBC is eager to support these types of ministries. If God has done it in Bellevue, he can do it in your church too!"

Nelson Baptist Association AMS Stan Lowery: "It has been my privilege and joy to be connected to Hispanic Ministry for almost 30 years. I have seen the work of the Hispanic ministry from the view of a sister church to the migrant ministry, as a member and president of the board of one of the corporations, as an AMS, as a member of the Hispanic Council and as a trustee and secretary of the board of the Hispanic Baptist Bible Institute. It is amazing to see what God has done, not only in Kentucky, but also in lives of individuals from around the world! Those observing this ministry obviously see that God has richly blessed it. God is at work bringing the world to us, and we must make every effort to reach them with the gospel. As I reflect on the movement of God, I realize that the excitement I experienced was multiplied across Kentucky. Throughout the years – and even now – it is amazing to think of how God has moved. He brought about many salvations, established churches, trained leaders and increased the number of disciples across our state, nation and world. We have also seen how He strengthened existing churches and associations as they witnessed the work of God in their midst. As they obediently responded to the work of God, they saw Him do miraculous things. It is exciting to have been, and to still be, a small part of the Hispanic ministry in Kentucky."



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CARLOS DE LA BARRA is the multi language evangelism associate at the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He can be reached at carlos.delabarra@kybaptist.org.

ANCHORED advanced by the cooperative work of unsung heroes

BY IAN CARRICO



CARRICO

Unsung heroes. This past year our Lord assembled significant unsung heroes to advance His gospel in the Lake Cumberland region. They committed themselves wholeheartedly and advanced the cause cooperatively, at the expense of being recognized or known. This evangelistic partnership was **Anchored: Hope for Lake Cumberland.**

Anchored originated from a vision developed by local pastors and church leaders who had a burden to do something that would bring gospel impact to their region by reaching the lost with the gospel. In God's providence, the KBC Annual Meeting was scheduled in the city they envisioned reaching, thus reaching Somerset through this evangelistic effort became a state-wide effort of Kentucky Baptists. At every turn, as the vision unfolded, local partners were wholeheartedly committed. Personally, I have been encouraged and inspired by every meeting, every training and in every conversation. If there could be a picture collage to communicate the cooperative efforts that Kentucky Baptists exhibit, surely it would include faces of the unsung heroes that made Anchored possible. You know who you are. But what's even greater, Jesus knows who you are.

This article does not do justice to the huge thank you that I wish to convey to the local and regional partners who led the efforts of Anchored so that many could hear the gospel. Even more, may each one of the unsung heroes be reminded that there are a host of individuals that crossed from death to life because of these cooperative efforts, and the "thank you" they will express will resound throughout all of eternity as they worship King Jesus alone! Praise God for His gospel that is powerful to save — and thank you KBC churches, pastors and leaders that committed to the success of **Anchored: Hope for Lake Cumberland**

IAN CARRICO is a church evangelism associate with the Evangelism Team at the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He can be reached at ian.carrico@kybaptist.org or (270) 562-1196.



What's your next step in building an evangelistic culture?

The Evangelism Ministry Assessment Profile provides a discovery process to help:

- Assess your church's current evangelistic activity in comparison to what a culture of evangelism could look like
- Celebrate where God is moving
- Discover your next steps to becoming an evangelistic church

Start mapping your journey to becoming an evangelistic church.

Visit kybaptist.org/e-map for more information or contact our Evangelism Team directly at (502) 489-3576 or evangelism@kybaptist.org.





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SPEAKER

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RAGE Ministries



BAND

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'Every Student, Every Campus'

BY TOMMY JOHNSON



JOHNSON

We want every college student in Kentucky to have the opportunity to respond to the gospel. This is the driving force behind the KBC Mission Board priority Every Student, Every Campus.

About 263,000 students were enrolled in over 100 Kentucky colleges and universities in 2022-23. Approximately one in three of these attend community college campuses. Every Student, Every Campus seeks to engage every college student in Kentucky with the gospel by starting Baptist Campus Ministry (BCM) on campuses.

How Many Campuses Have BCMs?

Currently, KBC Regional Campus Ministers (RCMs) serve at eight state universities in the commonwealth. In 2018, under the direction of Dr. Carlos De la Barra, KYBCM developed an initiative to start new BCMs on campuses which do not have one. When that emphasis began, some form of Baptist Campus Ministry work existed on 18 campuses. At the start of the 2023 academic year, 31 campuses have a BCM. The goal of Every Student, Every Campus is to have a BCM on 40 campuses by 2025 and 50 campuses by 2030.

How Can We Start a New BCM?

Starting a new BCM begins with a church having a burden to reach a campus in its area. We need churches to adopt college campuses around them as their mission field. That church then finds a point person known as a Campus Missionary Leader (CML). CMLs start and coordinate a BCM ministry, work under the sponsorship and supervision of a KBC church or association and work in partnership with the KBC.

TOMMY JOHNSON is regional campus minister group leader of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He can be reached at tommy.johnson@kybaptist.org or (270) 781-3185.

YOUR CHURCH CAN HELP REACH A COLLEGE CAMPUS NEAR YOU!

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EVERY

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That every college student in KY may hear the gospel...

KYBCM Goal:

BCM work on

40 campuses by 2025

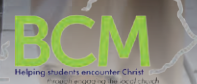
50 campuses by 2030

EVERY

CAMPUS.



campusministry@kybaptist.org | 502-489-3345





The world is waiting...

The Missions Mobilization Team helps churches by encouraging and equipping for missions, providing opportunities for ministry, and developing Great Commission partnerships locally and globally.



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kybaptist.org/mobilization



Code Adam BY ERIC ALLEN



ALLEN

Several years ago, when my children were young, I took my oldest daughter with me to do some shopping at a large clothing store. We made our way to the men's department where I began my search for a new sport coat.

I was looking at my options and trying on some of the sport coats when I realized my daughter was nowhere in sight. I began walking around and frantically looking. My heart began to race, and I asked the clerk for help in finding her. He joined me looking for my daughter as I began to call her name. She didn't answer and we didn't see her, so the clerk initiated a "Code Adam".

Code Adam is a powerful search tool put in place by businesses who have trained their employees to take specific steps when a child is missing or lost. This safety protocol helps those involved in a missing child situation to

respond quickly and effectively. Some employees stood guard at exit doors while others joined us in looking for my daughter in the store.

After what seemed like hours, we found her! She was playing inside a rack of clothes and didn't hear us calling or know we were looking for her. She was lost and didn't realize it. We were working hard and doing everything we could to find her before it was too late.

A very similar scenario is played out every day in Kentucky in which most of the population is lost and doesn't know it. They're not lost physically, but many indications suggest they are spiritually lost. The most recent Lostness Indicators report released this year by the KBC's Missions Mobilization Team shows that only 14.6% of Kentuckians attend any church. Furthermore, the number of those with no religious affiliation or adherence to non-Christian churches has increased. Also in

the report is additional information about church attendance, membership, adherence and population for each of Kentucky's 120 counties.

Businesses have strategic plans like "Code Adam" in place to rescue lost children like my daughter. What plan does your church have in place to address spiritual lostness in our state, nation and world? If you don't have one, please call upon KBC staff who are ready to assist your church in developing and implementing a strategy that impacts lostness.

*Your copy of Lostness Indicators is available during the 2023 KBC Annual Meeting at the Missions Mobilization Team booth in the exhibits area. Or download a copy at kybaptist.org/lostnessindicators.

ERIC ALLEN is the team leader of the Kentucky Baptist Convention Mission Mobilization Team. He can be reached at eric.allen@kybaptist.org or (502) 489-3402.

Missions Mobilization SEND Awards

The SEND Award is given to the top 10 sending churches in the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Award recipients are determined by comparing each church's Annual Church Profile missions participation ratio to their average worship attendance for the previous year. Missions project participation may include local community ministry, short-term missions, church planting efforts, disaster relief work or vocational ministry. These churches equipped their members and sent them out to demonstrate the gospel in their workplaces, neighborhoods and schools in our state and around the world.

Rank	Church	City	Pastor
1	Trinity	Hopkinsville	Ethan Watson
2	Barnetts Creek	Hartford	Jonathan McCree
3	Louisville Baptist Deaf Church	Louisville	
4	Booneville First	Booneville	Brandon Davis
5	Salem	Irvine	Jerry Smith
6	Hardinsburg	Hardinsburg	Todd Brown
7	Immanuel	Somerset	Ronald Shepherd
8	Fairdale First	Fairdale	Josh Greene
9	Princeton First	Princeton	
10	Mount Roberts	Campbellsville	Michael Woodrum

A surprising impact BY DOUG WILLIAMS



WILLIAMS

As Shane and Dixie reflected and shared with the vision team of Kentucky Baptist church leaders about the spiritual and emotional toil they had experienced in recent years, tears streamed

down their faces. Last year a vision team from Kentucky went to Salt Lake City, Utah, to meet with church planters to hear their vision, see their communities and hear how their churches in Kentucky might partner for gospel impact out west. Shane and Dixie grew up as sixth generation Mormons who were very active in their Latter Day Saints (LDS) faith.

Over the years, doubts about the validity of the LDS faith grew in their hearts until, through the providence of God, they met NAMB missionary Travis Kerns, who shared the gospel of Jesus with them. Both came to faith in Jesus and left the LDS church. Shane and Dixie are now part of a church plant in Salt

Lake City and began a ministry called Journey of Grace, which is designed to help Latter Day Saints know the truth about Jesus and the Bible (journeyofgrace.com).

As they shared with our Kentucky Baptist vision team last year around that restaurant table, the emotions were still raw as they were recently completing a video series that helps individuals leave the LDS church and follow Jesus. The spiritual warfare they were experiencing was real, but what sustained them during that time of struggle may surprise you.

As the tears flowed and our Kentucky Baptist vision team listened with undivided attention, Shane and Dixie reached under the table to pull out a stack of cards. "Have you heard of Lancaster Baptist Church in Kentucky?" they asked our team. "If not for them and these cards of encouragement we receive every month, we aren't sure where we would be," they explained with tearful thankfulness.

What Shane's and Dixie's story reaffirms for me is the absolute necessity of encouragers in the work of the Great Commission. Churches play a vital role in the spread of the gospel and the making of disciples as they intentionally find tangible ways to pray for and encourage pastors, missionaries and church planters who are on the frontlines of gospel labor. Your Sunday school class, small group, kids' or youth group or WMU group can be a lifeline for gospel partners in ways that will sustain them and move the gospel forward as they serve faithfully because of your prayers and encouragement. Let us help your church think through ways that you can encourage our gospel servants both locally and globally. Connect with us at partnership@kybaptist.org as we work Together for the Mission.

DOUG WILLIAMS is a missions strategist with the Missions Mobilization Team at the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He can be reached at doug.williams@kybaptist.org or (502) 489-3420.

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On mission with God BY JOB JUAREZ



JUAREZ

I recently had the opportunity to change roles as servant of our KBC churches. For the last nine years, God allowed me to join Him and His church in planting new works across the commonwealth. Then, on June 1, by His grace, I joined the Missions Mobilization Team.

I am thankful for the opportunity in my new role to join Kentucky Baptist churches as they make disciples wherever they go, as they go.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

– Matthew 28:19

As I reflect on who we are as convention churches, three thoughts come to mind:

1. I am grateful because Kentucky Baptists know the world is a broken place in need of hope, right here and right now. We understand that mobilizing to reach those around us with Jesus' hope simply can't wait. We are the vanguard. We do everything we can to show everyone around us what a life with Jesus can be.

2. I am grateful for Kentucky Baptists as we know God has already gifted the church with what we need to carry out His mission. No matter how large or how small, our churches go out into their communities with Jesus' good news.

Whether as bank tellers, schoolteachers, landscapers, business owners or moms and dads, Kentucky Baptists

know workplaces, neighborhoods, families and spheres of influence have been divinely ordained for His glory.

3. Kentucky Baptists know they can make an impact for the kingdom. We constantly ask ourselves, "What is broken in my community and how can I make it better?" We pay attention, we listen well. And then we pray for guidance on how to meet needs while making Jesus known. We live with gospel urgency.

Please feel free to contact me. I would love to hear about all the ways you and your church are making disciples wherever you go as you go — and how we are working Together for the Mission!

JOB JUAREZ is a missions strategist with the Missions Mobilization Team at the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He can be reached at job.juarez@kybaptist.org.



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Take your next step to reach Kentucky for Christ

BY TERESA PARRETT



PARRETT

Jesus calls every church to be on mission. This past year you were introduced to KBC's Every Church on Mission initiative, asking every church to take a next step in missions. You may have even attended one of the workshops and learned about the four key areas: identify, equip, send and care. While this initiative is by no means just about Kentucky missions, as your in-state Missions Mobilization Coordinator, I would love to help you take a next step right here in Kentucky.

- Identify resources, gifts and talents God has given your church that could be used in sharing the gospel. Whatever they may be, or whatever the age, gender, size or make-up of your team, we can almost always find a place for you to serve in Kentucky.
- Equip your children, youth and even adults to be on mission by starting close to home. They can learn to serve others, work together and even serve multiple cultures right here in Kentucky.
- Send your church members to one of the many Kentucky short-term mission opportunities (kybaptist.org/

go). Partner with a local church, association or one of the 122 Kentucky Mission Service Corps Missionaries (kybaptist.org/msc). Could God possibly be calling you to be a KY-MS C Missionary and serve long-term in Kentucky? We would love to walk with you through this process.

- Care for a KY-MS C Missionary by praying for them through the interSEED prayer calendar (kybaptist.org/interseed) or by "adopting" a KY-MS C Missionary through the KBC Adopt-a-Missionary initiative (kybaptist.org/adopt). By doing so, you pray, send an encouragement card or email, send a birthday or holiday care package, assist with the missionary's work and/or meet a need they may have. Members who cannot physically "go" can participate in this way.

What will your next step be? Let us know how we can help as we work Together for the Mission.

TERESA PARRETT is missions mobilization coordinator with the Kentucky Baptist Convention Missions Mobilization Team. She can be reached at teresa.parrett@kybaptist.org or (606) 875-3079.



WOULD YOU COMMIT TO CARE FOR AND SUPPORT A KENTUCKY MISSIONARY?

- ☒ Pray for the missionary.
- ☒ Communicate with and encourage the missionary by telephone, letter, email or card.
- ☒ Send a birthday or holiday care package.
- ☒ Visit the missionary's ministry and assist with the work.
- ☒ Invite the missionary to share in your church or small group.
- ☒ Meet a need the missionary may have.

Contact missions@kybaptist.org to get connected!!



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ron.crow@kybaptist.org



Crazy people following Jesus BY RON CROW



CROW

I enjoy listening to the Casting Crowns song “Crazy People.” The lyrics seem to describe the many volunteers of Kentucky Baptist Disaster Relief. I am not saying we are crazy people, but then again, maybe we really are.

Homeowners are often surprised and overwhelmed — but always grateful — for the hard work and dedication of these “crazy people.” Why would anyone leave the comfort of their own home to work in strange places, sleep on uncomfortable cots and work hard every day to help people they have never met? This is often a mystery to those we help. It seems foolish. It seems a little bit crazy. But honestly, it is the hardest work you will ever love.

The Bible tells us: “For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.” (1 Corinthians 1:18). Our volunteers are often asked what we charge for our services — whether cutting up trees, cleaning out flooded homes, tarping a roof, providing a shower or serving a meal. We like to answer, “It’s already been paid for.” This response opens the door for gospel conversations.

Disaster relief is:

- The Great Commission making disciples.
- The Cooperative Program in action.
- The church stepping out of the pew and into the field.

It is “crazy people, trusting Jesus; following Him wherever He leads us. Kingdom seekers, walk by faith believers; here’s the church, here’s the steeple, here’s to all God’s crazy people.”

Whenever and wherever God sends, these crazy people are always ready to say “yes” when He calls and where He sends. Thank you, KYDR volunteers, for your faithful service and for taking the message of the cross to those who are perishing. And thank you to Kentucky Baptists who faithfully

support KYDR through the Cooperative Program. We are truly Together for the Mission.

RON CROW is the director of Kentucky Baptist Disaster Relief at the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He can be reached at ron.crow@kybaptist.org or (502) 489-3401.



TOP 100 Missions Participating Churches

RANK	CHURCH	CITY	PASTOR	RANK	CHURCH	CITY	PASTOR
1	Trinity	Hopkinsville	Ethan Watson	58	Pleasant View	Williamsburg	
2	Barnetts Creek	Hartford	Jonathan McCree	59	Wallonia	Cadiz	Jeff Boone
3	Louisville Baptist Deaf Church	Louisville		60	Oak Grove	Dunnville	Dwight Coffman
4	Booneville First	Booneville	Brandon Davis	61	Jackson Grove	Bowling Green	Josh Jordan
5	Salem	Irvine	Jerry Smith	62	Owenton First	Owenton	Charles Banks
6	Hardinsburg	Hardinsburg	Todd Brown	63	Mount Zion	Monticello	Bill Meece
7	Immanuel	Somerset	Ronald Shepherd	64	Morganfield First	Morganfield	Cole Caven
8	Fairdale First	Fairdale	Josh Greene	65	Trinity	Franklin	J. T. Curtis
9	Princeton First	Princeton		66	Mount Olivet	Willisburg	Joseph Lumbrich
10	Mount Roberts	Campbellsville	Michael Woodrum	67	Salem	Shelbyville	C Wesley
11	Southern Heights	Lexington		68	Highland Heights First	Highland Heights	Stephen Turner
12	New Palestine	Crofton	Andrew Hawkins	69	Central City First	Central City	Chase Thompson
13	Calvary	Somerset	Jamey Epperson	70	Weaver	London	Ronnie Owens
14	Newton Creek	Kevil	Jared Hayes	71	Versailles	Versailles	Connor Alford
15	Dawson Springs First	Dawson Springs	Mick Jicka	72	River View	Coxs Creek	Chad Morrow
16	Christ Community	Shelbyville	Blake Lawyer	73	Ponderosa	Cadiz	Norman Cotton
17	Providence Second	Providence	Nick Duvall	74	Oak Grove	Cadiz	Nicholas Clark
18	Bethel	Harrodsburg	Stephen Brogli	75	Madisonville First	Madisonville	
19	Mount Vernon Missionary	Jamestown	Randy Smith	76	Grace Point	Henderson	Eric Fannin
20	New Salem	Greensburg		77	Greensburg	Greensburg	
21	Caldwell Blue Spring	Princeton	Ronald Sivells	78	Berean	Elizabethtown	Randy Logsdon
22	Shelbyville First	Shelbyville	Dan Reid	79	Minerva	Maysville	Paul Gray
23	Cadentown	Lexington	Leon Slatter	80	Smiths Grove	Smiths Grove	James Mathias
24	Immanuel	Elizabethtown	Chris Workman	81	Summit	Ashland	Kevin Meenach
25	Hopkinsville First	Hopkinsville	Todd Goulet	82	Whitley City First	Whitley City	Jeffrey Bullens
26	Eaton Memorial	Owensboro	Anthony Shouse	83	Pleasant Green	Cynthiana	Robert Stanley
27	Providence	London	Trent Pool	84	Kings	Mt. Washington	Derrick Ousley
28	Robinson Creek	Campbellsville	James Collison	85	East Frankfort	Frankfort	Kyle McDanell
29	East Barbourville	Barbourville	Joshua Smith	86	Middleburg	Middleburg	Larry Harris
30	Bulan Community	Bulan	James Hamblin	87	Highland	Princeton	Phillip Whitaker
31	Paris First	Paris	Kyle Sullivan	88	Sebree First	Sebree	Dylan Zahn
32	White Mills	White Mills	Bruce Underhill	89	Ottawa	Brodhead	John McPheron
33	Greasy Creek	Greensburg		90	Community Church	Brownsville	Charles McCutchen
34	Barnetts Lick	Morgantown		91	Maceo	Maceo	Tim Moss
35	Willow	Brooksville	Dennis Jackson	92	Barren River	Bowling Green	Sam Ward
36	Highland	Shelbyville	Christopher Platt	93	Bowling Green First	Bowling Green	Jeff Reynolds
37	Waco	Waco	David Johnson	94	Lowell Avenue	Campbellsville	David Griesemer
38	Richmond First	Richmond	Travis Farris	95	Providence	Franklin	J. T. Curtis
39	Ten Mile	Glencoe		96	Yellow Creek	Owensboro	James Wedding
40	Lone Pine	Viper	Travis France	97	Beulah Land	LaGrange	Carl Silcox
41	Union City	Richmond	Jerry Anderson	98	Buck Run	Frankfort	Hershael York
42	Macedonia	Owensboro	Conner Reed	99	Memorial	Frankfort	Mike Colston
43	Airline	Henderson		100	Mount Zion	West Paducah	Jason Medley
44	Slaty Creek	Beaver Dam	Alton Crowe				
45	West Union	Hopkinsville	James Weatherford				
46	Graefenburg	Waddy	Philip Meade				
47	North Fork	Frankfort	Jay Stratton				
48	Fairland	Albany	Robert Bline				
49	Bethlehem	Springfield	Kyle Yankey				
50	Pleasant Grove	Owensboro	Jonathan Bonar				
51	Bethlehem	Louisville	Michael Towler				
52	Tates Creek	Richmond	Rob Taylor				
53	Northside	Barbourville	Russell Jones				
54	Swiss Colony	London	James Brock				
55	Bronston First	Bronston					
56	Conway	Berea	Bobby Turner				
57	Harmony	Paducah	Andrew Shelton				



Right care, right time, right place: Baptist Health

BY JODY PRATHER, MD



PRATHER

At Baptist Health, right care, right time and right place are goals as outpatient facilities are built, prevention and treatment services added and exploration continues for ways to offer care more quickly and efficiently.

Staff add a vital ingredient – right from the heart.

Baptist Health’s “right from the heart” care was at the forefront during the pandemic, when staff valiantly cared for the sick and vaccinated the well. As Kentucky’s largest health system, support was given to community clinics

such as Have a Heart and Hope, which serve the disadvantaged, and to local agencies to tackle social issues such as food insecurity, addiction and physical and sexual abuse.

Baptist Health also helps in smaller ways closer to home – by vaccinating voters in an underserved neighborhood, setting up a food pantry, planting a garden, honoring veterans and praying for the communities served.

Right care

In Kentucky and Indiana – as well as the nation – behavioral health issues, ranging from mental health to substance abuse, loom large as well

as heart health. Baptist Health has responded by bolstering heart care and behavioral health access, investing in robot-assisted surgery and strengthening a support service with its community pharmacies at each hospital and planned Central Pharmacy Services Center in La Grange. For behavioral health patients, inpatient units were (or will be) added in Richmond and La Grange. Access is also available through Baptist Health Medical Group primary care offices.

Right time

Baptist Health recognizes the need for prompt service through its virtual care telehealth options; its own ambulance service to transfer patients from the hospital to rehab or a nursing home; creating a pair of call centers for medical office scheduling and referrals; and even encouraging advance care plans.

Right place

“Right place” speaks to both increasing patient access through a growing number of outpatient healthplexes and centers, but also providing care at home, bringing care to the patient via mobile medicine or outreach efforts, and hiring more primary care physicians. A pair of freestanding centers in Kentuckiana offer Emergency Department and urgent care in a single location, which takes the guesswork – and some of the cost – out of deciding where to go for treatment. At a third location, construction is underway on a 40-bed rehabilitation hospital.

JODY PRATHER, MD, is the chief strategy & marketing officer with Baptist Health. Learn more at [BaptistHealth.com](https://www.baptisthealth.com). Click on “Community Report” under the Connect & Learn tab.



Clear Creek Baptist Bible College:

Highly scholastic and uniquely practical

BY CHARLIE GOODMAN



GOODMAN

At Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, we are celebrating 97 years of ministry in higher education by providing "Education for Christian Service" to those called by God to do ministry. We held our graduation ceremony this past May for the largest graduating class in almost two decades. Our graduates serve in a wide range of ministry areas. In August, we celebrated our largest incoming class in the history of the college and are looking forward to even more exponential growth in the future.

Exciting academic additions have taken place at Clear Creek; we have added a new B.A. in Biblical Counseling, a new B.A. in Pastoral Ministry, a revamped B.A. in Worship Ministry, as well as re-configured our M.A. in Ministry degree.

In other academic news, we have hired Dr. Eric Mitchell as our L.C. Kelly Chair of Biblical Interpretation. Dr. Mitchell has taught in SBC seminaries for the last 22 years. Dr. Mitchell is a prolific writer with numerous publications to his credit. Additionally, we have secured Dr. Gary Wallis, a Ph.D. from Duke University and retired chemist

who grew up in FBC Murray, as our Professor of Science.

Clear Creek is not a Bible college in name only! Regardless of major, every B.A. student will take at least 16 Bible classes, making Clear Creek the clear choice for those who want to study the Bible and be thoroughly equipped to use it as the foundation for their ministerial endeavors. Clear Creek is an educational entity that operates on three guiding principles. We are biblical, practical and missional. And as such, this past academic year, our students were involved in 2,446 opportunities to share the gospel through various ministry activities.

This resulted in 274 professions of faith, 254 baptisms, 95 rededications and 14 surrendered to vocational ministry. Clear Creek Baptist Bible College is, indeed, both highly scholastic and uniquely practical.

On behalf of our campus family, I would like to thank you for your Cooperative Program support! Your CP support helps us keep our tuition costs very affordable for those God calls to ministry training. Your CP gifts are one reason Clear Creek is continually

ranked as one of North America's most affordable accredited Bible Colleges. At Clear Creek, we put students in ministry, not debt. Moreover, the Cooperative Program serves as a lifeline to many who are propagating the gospel across the street and around the world.

I want you to know that we continuously teach our students about the importance of the Cooperative Program and missions in the classroom, so when they leave us to lead churches or perhaps facilitate para-church ministries, they will lead their churches and ministries to do the same. Our students participate yearly in the Annie Armstrong, Lottie Moon and Eliza Broadus mission offerings. We want our students to know we can do much more together than alone.

We are proud to be the only Bible college in covenant partnership with the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Thanks for all you do to help us fulfill the mission God has entrusted to Clear Creek Baptist Bible College

DR. CHARLIE R. GOODMAN is president of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College. He can be reached at president@cbbbc.edu or (606) 337-1530.



CROSSINGS: A record-breaking year for Crossings camps

BY LANCE HOWERTON



HOWERTON

Crossings exists to create experiences to proclaim the gospel, and we are celebrating the 1,160 souls that crossed over from death to life this summer at camp. We also celebrate the 1,537 campers who expressed a call to vocational ministry. God continues to bless Crossings as we seek to serve Him.

The summer of 2023 has also been a year of breaking records. This will be our largest summer, with 21,329 at Cedarmore and Jonathan Creek. There were also 916 at Skycroft Conference Center in Maryland, its largest student camp to date.

This summer was also our first Crossings on Mission camp experience in eastern Tennessee with 279 campers. Churches came from across the south-

east to serve as they built wheelchair ramps, painted, did lawn work and served local ministries. Our total for the summer, including Day Camp, is 23,087.

Crossings continues our partnership with eastern Kentucky, where students gave \$170,255.27 to support God's Appalachian Partnership, the Freda Harris Baptist Center, as well as local churches that hosted Crossings Day Camp.

This past year, we made over \$3 million in capital improvements. At Cedarmore, with the help of a gracious donor, we were able to build the Collings Lakeside Cabin for our summer missionary staff, which will also serve retreat guests.

We also added almost 200 seats in the worship center. At Jonathan Creek, we did a complete remodel of the Gray Motel. This coming year will see the renovation of Lone Oak Lodge and a

remodel of the Lassiter Conference Center at Jonathan Creek.

There will be new partnerships this coming year as Crossings will be coming to the Carson Springs and Linden Valley conference centers, part of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Tennessee has asked Crossings to provide a week of student camp and a week of kids camp at each of these great facilities in partnership with their student and children's ministries.

There is much to be thankful for as God continues to bless our efforts. We look forward to what the future holds as we work Together for the Mission.

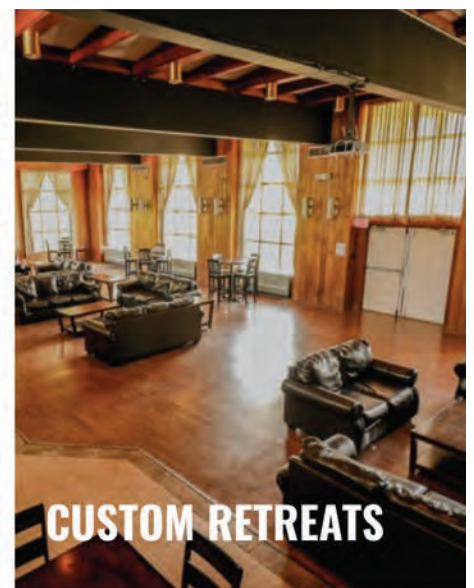
LANCE HOWERTON serves as president of Crossings Ministries in Louisville. He can be reached at lhowerton@gocrossings.org or (502) 491-7000.



KIDS CAMPS



STUDENT CAMPS



CUSTOM RETREATS

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KBF finding ways to advance the kingdom of Christ

BY FRENCH HARMON



HARMON

The Kentucky Baptist Foundation (KBF) exists to serve Kentucky and Southern Baptist-related churches, associations, institutions and agencies, as well as certain other non-profit organizations.

Since it was established in 1945, the KBF has distributed more than \$221 million to Baptist causes in the commonwealth and around the world.

Last year alone we distributed more than \$6 million. Further, our new Short Term Fund generated more than \$1,000,000 for ministries all around our state. In the current academic year, more than \$85,000 in scholarships will be distributed from KBF-managed accounts to students across Kentucky. It is exciting to see how these distributions are impacting lives and ministries each year.

This year we have started to see a market rebound from a very challenging 2022. The Federal Reserve and its Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) chose to aggressively fight inflation in the United States by raising federal funds rates over the last two years. As of this writing, we are seeing data that suggests these rate hikes will likely end. This action is typically good news for equities.

The KBF is committed to finding ways to advance the kingdom of Jesus Christ and "Fund the Great Commission." We were blessed to co-sponsor the KBC Pastor's Conference, distribute \$35,000 to eight Louisville area ministries through the Owens Trust and provide financial support to our agencies and institutions. Last year we invested \$100,000 with KBC Disaster Relief for projects in Kentucky.

I am pleased to introduce four board members to the KBC family. Lowell Ashby and Paul Nunn were reappointed to the KBF board of directors. Ashby is a member of Simpsonville Baptist Church and Nunn is a long-time member of First Baptist Church, Prestonsburg. New to the board is Mike Richey, member of Sand Spring Baptist Church, Lawrenceburg. We are blessed to have Robert Scott, member of Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington, return to our board after a season away.

The KBF has entered into a partnership with the International Mission Board (IMB) with a goal of developing 50 clean water sources for people in Southeast Asia. Through the KBF's Gospel Impact Fund (GIF), resources are being invested to advance the kingdom through providing clean water and sharing the "water of life" that comes from Jesus Christ.

The KBF operations has seen another good year. We have received \$19 million in new funds and more than 50 new accounts were opened. Our kybaptistfoundation.org website

was retooled and has had a positive reception. Our relationship with our outsourced financial investor, PNC Institutional Asset Management, continues to grow. We are exploring new initiatives to expand our service to the KBC family.

This year, one Bible verse in particular has had a great impact the KBF.

"All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." – Romans 8:28 (KJV)

He will work things for the good. Regardless of how the world is trending, Christ is working to build His kingdom!

FRENCH HARMON is president and chief executive officer of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation. He can be reached at (502) 489-3533.



Time to build

BY LARRY GRITTON



GRITTON

If you've visited Oneida Baptist Institute recently, you probably had a similar reaction to many others: "Look at how much OBI has changed!" You also would have noticed at least one area of campus that looked like a construction zone. Here is a recap of the recent projects.

The first of the two old boys' dormitories taken down in 2015 paved the way for construction of Carnahan-Daugherty Hall, our new boys' dormitory and academic building. The dedication ceremony for Carnahan-Daugherty was the same day in July 2017 as the groundbreaking ceremony for a new girls' dormitory and academic facility, Jen-Hsun Huang Hall. As construction began on Huang Hall, plans were already in the works for a new cafeteria which would occupy the site of the old pool building, the old middle school classroom building and the old tutoring lab. As Ecclesiastes says, it was "a time to tear down and a time to build." The summer of 2019 was an exciting time with the attendance of Jen-Hsun Huang and his family to the dedication and ribbon-cutting. No one could have imagined that a global pandemic was on its way and would end our school year early.

In the midst of uncertainty in 2020, God surprised us again with two donors who stepped forward wanting to see a new athletic complex at OBI. A groundbreaking ceremony for the Susan and Bob Walker Athletic Complex took place in May 2021.

In 2021 and again in 2022, OBI was the recipient of grants from the Kentucky Baptist Convention. These funds were used to purchase a generator for

the new cafeteria and to landscape and furnish the courtyard between the boys' and girls' dormitories.

The W.F. "Bud" and Kay Underwood Hall, our new cafeteria, was completed in 2022. We were blessed that Bud and Kay and their family could attend the dedication ceremony at Homecoming last year.

Late in the 2023 season, the tennis team enjoyed lighted courts, a first for OBI. Guests appreciated the new parking lot and sidewalks surrounding the courts.

This summer, the old girls' dormitory, James A. Burns Hall, built in 1960, was demolished. Many alumni and former students expressed their fond memories and their support for OBI moving forward. Plans are underway to utilize the space for a much-needed parking lot.

Final touches on our regulation track and field were completed just in time for our soccer season in August. What a blessing to host other teams and families of those players in a nice, modern facility with plenty of parking and a new field house with concessions and restrooms. It is our hope that all who visit OBI are blessed.

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: ... a time to tear down and a time to build"

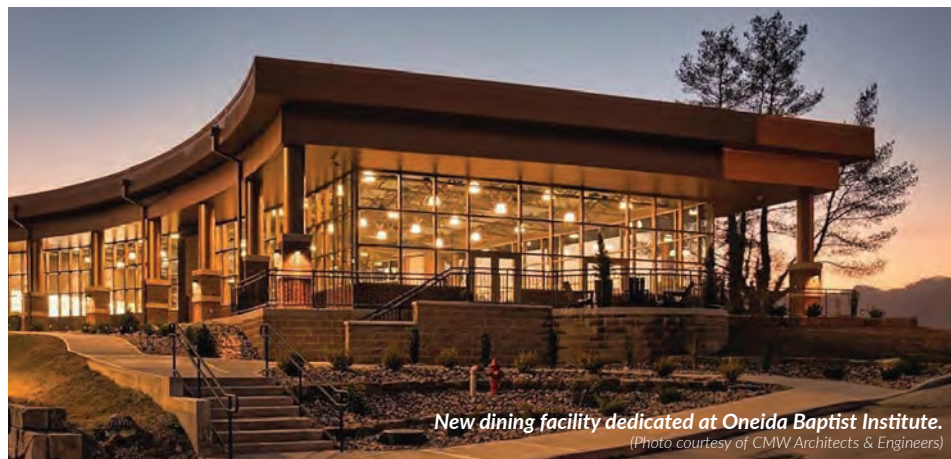
— Ecclesiastes 3:1, 3b

Who is this all for? Every young person God sends our way! OBI has seen double-digit growth in enrollment as more families seek alternatives to public schools. Our top priority is to share Jesus with all who come. We believe that since God supplied the funds and the faith to build, He intends to fill the facilities with the fatherless, the faithless, the faltering and the famished so they may become future disciples of Christ. Pray that the Lord sends us both students and staff. One of our greatest needs this year is workers so we may increase the harvest.

As I celebrate my 10th year as OBI's president, I am humbled by the continued support of Kentucky Baptists. Your faithful giving, your unceasing love and concern for the next generation has kept OBI on course, building the kingdom of God and looking forward to all that God has in store. For the sake of young people and God's kingdom, and with your help, we press on Together for the Mission. It's time to build.

For more information about OBI, visit our website: www.oneidaschool.org

LARRY GRITTON is president of Oneida Baptist Institute in Oneida, Ky.



New dining facility dedicated at Oneida Baptist Institute.
(Photo courtesy of CMW Architects & Engineers)



Sunrise is committed to changing in changing times

BY DALE SUTTLES



SUTTLES

Since 1869, Sunrise has constantly responded and adapted to a changing world to better meet the needs of children and families. Beginning with the end of the Civil War and continuing through two pandemics and

even an unexpected battle with the Commonwealth of Kentucky, Sunrise has endured and ultimately overcome adversity — all the while keeping the health and welfare of Kentucky's children its highest priority.

In 1 Cor. 9a, Paul says, "I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some." At Sunrise, we have done just that. Though we have never waived from our deeply-held religious beliefs, we have changed when necessary when we discovered a better way of meeting the ever-changing needs of Kentucky's young people.

An example of this occurred in our fiscal year 2022 when Sunrise opened its New Start Adolescent Addiction Treatment Center in Bronston, Ky. We did so because we discovered two major issues for today's youth: mental health and substance abuse. With the creation of New Start, our goal is to help combat these conditions that keep our youth from becoming the best version of themselves. Addressing the mental health concerns and drug and alcohol abuse in boys ages 12 to 17 is the first program of its kind in Kentucky.

We chose then, like we have so many times before in our history, to change our programming to change lives. Sunrise is committed to changing in any way possible in order to save the hearts and minds of as many young people as we can.



At Sunrise,
we believe *every
child deserves a
home, and everyone
can do something.*

Learn more by visiting
sunrise.org.



We are grateful for the support and encouragement of our Board of Directors, who are approved by the Kentucky Baptist Convention. They courageously walk beside us as we look for new ways to make a difference in the lives of children and families.

Our current board members are Wesley Fowler (Board Chair); Benita Decker (Board Vice Chair); Billy Lyons (Treasurer); Andrew Weeks (Past Board Chair); Abram Crozier; Cheryl Edmondson; Barry Fields; Teresa Hail; Mercedes Lopez; Michael Lyons; Jon Morgan; Wesley Noss; Chip Pendleton; Nick Sandefur; Matt Shamblin; Dan Summerlin; David Tucker; Milkweed Wotier; Martin Yancey; and Dr. Todd Gray (Ex Officio Member).

We continued to make a difference in fiscal year 2022. We served 1,190 children and adults across Kentucky, responding to the 8,867 children placed in out-of-home care by the

state. We completed 22 adoptions and celebrated our 613th adoption since the start of the program in 2006! And we were proud to report seven rededications, 24 professions of faith and 26 baptisms.

Many of you are aware that in a well-documented court case that spanned more than two decades, Sunrise recently won its right to be a child care provider as a faith-based organization. This is a testament to our commitment to remaining a Christ-centered ministry, even as we look for new ways to meet needs. We thank all our churches who have stuck with us as we have remained faithful to our calling and mission. There is no doubt God is using Sunrise now to solve the foster care crisis that is happening throughout the Commonwealth.

DALE SUTTLES is president of Sunrise Children's Services.

Together, 'We are MissionKY'

BY LIZ ENCINA



ENCINA

Your gifts make a difference in state missions.

Together, as of June 10, 2023, we reached 96.2 percent of this year's goal for the Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions. From associations and special ministries to the missions and ministry efforts of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, your generous gifts continue to support over 100 missions and ministry opportunities across Kentucky.

Through your representative missions giving, you are helping men discover God's design for their lives through HR Ministries in Princeton. You served students through First Priority Tri-County, resulting in more than 2,712 salvations.

You contextualized the gospel for equestrians through the Happy Trails Ministry. You engaged in door-to-door evangelism and built relationships with refugees through Curbside Ministries.

From the nations next door to the local church, your generosity enabled gospel transformation and embodied our theme: We are MissionKY. We thank you in your work as gospel advocates and appreciate your partnership moving forward as we labor toward 2024's goal of \$1.25 million.

Your partnership encourages missions involvement

Over the past year, KentuckyWMU walked alongside 68 churches in restarting missions discipleship in their churches. We also partnered with Kentucky Baptist Collegiate Ministry by sending a missions team to engage with students at the Connect International Students Conference in Cave City. We partnered with KBC Church Consulting & Revitalization to provide a mental health workshop session at the Shepherding Conference in Lexington. We continued our work with KBC Missions Mobilization to promote the Christmas Backpacks and Adopt a Missionary initiatives. We partnered with the IMB as the prayer partner for the North African and Middle Eastern affinity group.

At the KentuckyWMU Annual Meeting, we launched a new prayer experience featuring the NAME prayer app, the InterSEED prayer calendar for KY MSC Missionaries and an interactive prayer wall. We continue to partner with our Kentucky IMB through the Ministries to Missionaries offering which provides Christmas gifts, semester gifts for Mis-

sionary Kids home for college, a love offering for newly appointed missionaries and providing a connection point for Missionary Parents.

You are raising up the next generation of missionaries

We celebrated a full summer of children's missions events beginning with Changers Kids Summer Saturdays in Princeton and Corbin where children and their leaders served those communities — from boxing food at a food pantry to sorting clothes and helping at a thrift store. Changers Kids at Barren River Baptist Church taught children valuable skills. They made bookshelves for Refuge Bowling Green, shared their musical talents at nursing homes and shared God's love with "Popsicles in the Park."

An event called Explore: Seeing the World Through the Eyes of God took place at Fort Boonesborough where children learned how missionaries need practical skills to survive and share the gospel. We launched a new boys' missions campout called RA Expo.

(See Together, page 70)

We are
CHOSEN.

We are
COMMISSIONED.

We are
MissionKY.

KYWMU.ORG/EBO
KentuckyWMU

Together, 'We are MissionKY' *(continued)*

Kentucky Changers celebrated 30 years of ministry and this year provided student summer projects in Somerset and Mayfield who completed over 50 projects. At least 16 students accepted Christ and 24 students and adult chaperones were called to ministry alongside countless rededications. Students prayer walked and engaged in gospel conversations with over 200 lost souls.

We provided both fall and spring adult projects at Boones Creek Baptist Camp in Winchester through Adult Changers. Each project had an estimated 30 participants.

In April, the KentuckyWMU Executive Board Finance Committee awarded 20 scholarships to students called to missions service, KY-MSA Missionary

children, and leaders from the Kentucky Changers Student Ministry Team.

"The command is so plain," says Lottie. "Go."

In Lottie Moon's famous quote, we see KentuckyWMU providing opportunities for others to go and take the hope of Christ to a lost and dying world. Our staff welcomed former IMB Missionary to China, Taryn Slott, as the new missions strategist for students and adults. Taryn is imagining ways to mobilize female students and women for the gospel with Proclaim, a new women's missions conference focusing on missions discipleship and evangelism training for women. Thrive, our new teen girls' retreat, equips young women

in biblical literacy in preparation for encountering world views and mobilizing them for great commission obedience.

In 2024, we will relaunch Collegiate Changers, which will provide college age students a mission opportunity to serve the Logan-Todd Baptist Association in Russellville.

Thank you for your support of KentuckyWMU as we remain faithful to championing the Great Commission and engaging disciples of Jesus to live on mission in Kentucky and throughout the world.

LIZ ENCINIA is the executive director-treasurer of Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union. She can be reached at liz.encinia@kybaptist.org.





ARTICLE I

- 1 This Body shall be called the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

ARTICLE II

- 1 The Body was created by churches, for churches, to help churches reach Kentucky and the world for Christ.

ARTICLE III

- 1 This Body shall meet annually according to adjournment, but in case of emergency the President may call a special session with the advice and consent of the Mission Board, or two-thirds of the members of the Board present and voting may call a special session.

ARTICLE IV

- 1 The Body shall consist of messengers who are members of Baptist churches cooperating with the Convention as follows:
 - (1) One (1) messenger from each church which: (1) Is in friendly cooperation with the Convention and sympathetic with its purposes and work. Churches in cooperation with the Convention are understood by the Convention to be local congregations of scripturally baptized believers in general agreement with any of the historic Baptist confessions of faith (By way of example, churches which act to affirm, approve or endorse homosexual behavior would be deemed not to be in cooperation with the Convention.) And, (2) Has been a bona fide contributor through the Cooperative Program during the fiscal year preceding.
 - (2) One (1) additional messenger from each such church for every two hundred [and] fifty (250) resident members; or for each \$250.00 contributed through the Cooperative Program during the fiscal year preceding.
 - (3) The messengers shall be appointed and certified by the churches to the Convention, but no church may appoint more than ten (10).
 - (4) Ballots shall be issued to each messenger at the time of registration, and only registered messengers present shall be eligible to vote on business matters brought to the Convention.

ARTICLE V

- 1 On the occasion of its annual meeting the Body shall elect by ballot, a president, a first and second vice president, a secretary and one assistant secretary. Their duties shall be such as custom imposes upon such officers. They shall hold office until their successors are duly installed at the closing session of the annual meeting of the Body. No president shall be eligible to succeed himself in office. The President and the Vice Presidents and Secretaries of the Convention shall be the officers of the Mission Board of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.
- 2 Persons to be nominated as officers of the Kentucky Baptist Convention must be consulted and permission secured before their names are placed in nomination.

ARTICLE VI

- 1 The doctrinal guideline for this Body and its work shall be the Baptist Faith and Message as adopted and amended by the Southern Baptist Convention, understanding that any

cooperating affiliated church has the right to affirm any of the historic Baptist confessions of faith.

- 2 This Body has no jurisdiction over the local churches or the District Associations, and shall exercise no authority over them.

ARTICLE VII

- 1 The Mission Board of this body shall consist of members from each cooperating District Association plus eight at-large members from the geographical regions of the state. The Mission Board membership from the associations shall consist of one member from each cooperating District Association with a resident church membership of five thousand or less, and one more member for each additional five thousand resident church members, as reported in the Convention Annual of the preceding year. "Resident church membership" and "resident church members" shall be defined as members of Baptist churches cooperating with the convention as described in Article IV." Each District Association shall nominate two persons for each membership on the Board of whom one shall be elected. Should any District Association fail to exercise this prerogative, then the Committee on Nominations of the Convention shall make the nomination.
- 2 The eight at-large members shall be elected from any cooperating affiliated Baptist church. These members shall be nominated by the Committee on Nominations of the Convention.
- 3 Members of the Mission Board shall be at the time of their nomination, and throughout their term of service if elected, members of cooperating affiliated churches as defined in Article IV of this Constitution. Should at any time a Mission Board member's church membership cease to be in a cooperating affiliated church, the Mission Board member will be considered as having resigned from the Board.
- 4 All members of the Board shall be elected by the Kentucky Baptist Convention for a term of three years, except those who are selected to fill the vacancies. Vacancies result from death, resignation, or moving from the district association. A move within the state of an at-large member does not constitute a need for a change in regional representation. No member shall be eligible for re-election for one year after his term has expired except one who has been elected to fill an unexpired term. Members serving two (2) years and six (6) months shall be considered as serving a full three-year term. Any vacancies on the Mission Board not filled at the annual meeting of the Convention or which occur during the year shall be filled by the Mission Board upon recommendation of the Convention's Committee on Nominations.
- 5 The retiring President of the Convention shall be an at-large member of the Mission Board for one year immediately following his term of office.
- 6 The president of the Woman's Missionary Union shall serve as ex-officio member of the Board.
- 7 Twenty-five percent of the Board's membership shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VIII

- 1 The Mission Board shall have charge of the work of this body between its sessions and shall appoint all officers and agencies that may be required in its work.

- 2 The Mission Board shall not contravene any Convention action.
- 3 The Mission Board shall neither create, accept nor release any institution or agency for the Kentucky Baptist Convention, unless so instructed by the Convention. The existence of an emergency in connection with an institution or agency shall be determined by a majority vote of the Mission Board in session, and the Board shall make recommendation to the Convention with reference to the emergency.
- 4 The Mission Board shall make a report to the annual Convention. At least thirty days prior to this meeting the

Board shall publish through the Convention's official print and electronic media its recommendations except in an emergency that may arise thereafter.

ARTICLE IX

- 1 No person shall be eligible to serve at the same time on more than one Board of Trustees or Directors of any agency or institution in Kentucky fostered and supported by the Kentucky Baptist Convention, except the Mission Board of the Convention, its partnering organizations, and auxiliaries, and shall not be eligible for election or appointment until he has been a member of a Kentucky Baptist church for at least one calendar year prior to nomination or appointment, and shall not be eligible for re-election after serving two full terms until having been out of office at least one full year, except the Kentucky Baptist colleges may have a maximum of eight (8) trustees per college from outside the state; these trustees to be nominated from candidates who are members in good standing of cooperating Baptist churches in their respective states.
- 2 Members of Boards of agencies and institutions shall be considered as having served a full term if they serve at least to a date six (6) months short of the full term. A full term defined differently in an agency or institution constitution or articles of incorporation shall be the prevailing definition. Vacancies on boards which occur between Kentucky Baptist Convention annual sessions may be filled by the Mission Board as the Convention ad interim upon recommendation of candidates by the Committee on Nominations. These actions shall be ratified at the Convention's next annual session.
- 3 With the exception of the Executive Director-Treasurer, employees of the Mission Board or any agency or institution of the Convention shall be ineligible to serve as members of the Mission Board or on a Board of Trustees or Directors of any agency or institution fostered and supported by the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

ARTICLE X

- 1 The President of the Convention and the Executive Director-Treasurer shall be ex-officio members of all committees.

ARTICLE XI

- 1 This Constitution may be altered or amended (except Article VI) by the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present at any annual meeting, one year's notice having been given to the proposed alteration or amendment.

BYLAWS

1. The session of the Convention shall be opened and closed by prayer.
2. Visitors may be granted speaking privileges in debate only with the approval of the Presiding Officer.
3. Messengers shall address the Presiding Officer when speaking in debate or making any communication to the Convention.
4. No messenger shall speak more than twice in any single debate without a two-thirds majority vote of the Convention.
5. Messengers who are called to order shall cease speaking until the Presiding Officer has determined whether the individual messenger is in order. The decision of the Presiding Officer may be appealed by a majority vote.
6. When the president shall desire to be heard in debate, or to be temporarily absent, the Chair can be taken by one of the vice presidents, or in case of the absence of both vice presidents, by some member whom the president may select.
7. In the election of officers by ballot, if only one nomination is made and no other person desires to nominate, the secretary shall cast the ballot of the Convention. If a nominee does not receive a majority of votes cast on the first ballot, subsequent ballots shall carry the names of those who are included in the top fifty percent of the total votes cast in the previous ballot.
8. The results of all balloted votes shall be made known to all messengers and recorded in the proceedings of the Convention. It being understood that these votes refer to election of officers and any other ballot votes.
9. All resolutions, memorials and all motions except motions related to procedures made for the consideration of the annual Convention shall be presented in writing. All resolutions and memorials shall require for passage the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present and voting.
10. No new item of miscellaneous business may be introduced in the last session of the annual Convention without unanimous consent of the Body. No motions to rescind a previous action of the convention may be made in the last session of the annual Convention except by unanimous consent of the Body.
11. The Presiding Officer shall be empowered to rule on a motion when it is duly made and seconded, to determine if the subject matter is of the nature of a resolution. With an explanation for his ruling, he may refer the matter to the Resolutions Committee. However, the Body may overrule the decision of the Chair by a majority vote. The Resolutions Committee is to report to the annual Convention its disposition of all matters referred to the Committee from the floor of the annual Convention.
12. The Committee on the Annual Meeting shall suggest an order of business for the next meeting of the annual Convention. It shall provide periods of time during the annual Convention for the introduction of all matters requiring a vote not scheduled on the agenda, and, when introduced (unless the annual convention then gives its unanimous consent for its immediate consideration) shall fix times for the considerations of the same.
13. Twenty-five percent of the registered messengers at any annual meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business.
14. Any question that is not provided for by the foregoing rules shall be decided according to Robert's Rules of Order (latest edition).
15. The foregoing rules may be altered or amended at any annual meeting by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

- 1 Members of the Convention committees are elected by the Convention in annual meeting upon nomination of the Committee on Committees (which alone is excepted – see below); persons for vacancies on committees may be nominated by the Committee on Committees and elected by the Mission Board at the December and May meetings; and of course, other nominations may be made from the floor. Vacancies occurring after the May Board meeting may be filled as needed by appointment by the president.
 - 2 Members of the Convention committees shall be at the time of their nomination, and throughout their term of service if elected, members of cooperating affiliated churches as defined in Article IV of the Constitution of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Should at any time a committee member's church membership cease to be in a cooperating affiliated church, the committee member will be considered as having resigned from the committee. The membership of Convention committees shall be composed of individuals who are believers in the Lord Jesus Christ and affirm the tenets of the Convention's Constitution & Bylaws, and who offer evidence, by their confession and their conduct, that they are living in accord with their affirmations of the Convention's Constitution and Bylaws and are actively pursuing and continuing in a vital fellowship with the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - 3 New members of said committees shall assume their duties at the close of the annual meeting in which they are elected.
 - 4 It shall be the duty of the incoming president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention to designate annually the chairman of each duly elected committee, with no chairman eligible to succeed himself and no member eligible for a successive term. Committee members who have served one half or more of a term are ineligible to serve a successive term.
 - 5 A member shall serve only one permanent or standing committee.
 - 6 Meetings will be scheduled by the chairman in consultation with the Executive Director-Treasurer.
 - 7 Electronic meetings of committees may be authorized by the chairman, provided that the electronic medium used gives opportunity for simultaneous aural communication among all participating members equivalent to those of meetings held in one room or area.
 - 8 Guidelines for convention committees may be changed by a simple majority vote at any annual meeting.
- ex officio members including the convention's president, vice presidents, and one representative chosen from the elected officers of each of these organizations: Kentucky Baptist Pastors' Conference and Discipleship Network of Kentucky.
- 2 This committee shall recommend the time and place for the annual meetings of the Kentucky Baptist Convention at least three years in advance and make the necessary arrangements incident thereto.
 - 3 Invitations shall be written and made through the chairman or Executive Director-Treasurer; and the selected venue shall provide adequate auditorium, meeting rooms, appropriate technological infrastructure, bookstore and exhibit space; and be close to adequate public lodging and food facilities.
 - 4 This committee shall also formulate the program for the annual meeting of the Convention, shall nominate the preacher and alternate for the annual sermon of the Convention, and shall nominate the persons to prepare special reports for the annual meeting.

Committee on Committees

- 1 The Committee on Committees shall consist of nine (9) members appointed by the president: with three being appointed each year. The nine (9) members include one person from each region.
- 2 This committee shall nominate the members of all permanent committees of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Committee on Constitution and Bylaws

- 1 The Committee on Constitution and Bylaws shall consist of eleven (11) members, with the Executive Director-Treasurer and the convention Parliamentarian being permanent members, and of the other nine, three shall be elected each year.
- 2 This committee shall keep the Constitution and Bylaws under continual study for needed revisions; and shall study any proposed changes brought to the floor of the Convention and make recommendations to the Convention on the merits of such proposals. The committee shall keep the Convention Committees with Guidelines under continual study for needed revision.

Committee on Credentials

- 1 The Committee on Credentials shall consist of ten (10) members, with Secretary of the Kentucky Baptist Convention being a permanent member, and of the other nine, three are to be elected each year.
- 2 This committee shall register messengers and advise the Kentucky Baptist Convention of any problems connected therewith.
- 3 A church desiring affiliation shall have an application (forms available from the office of the Executive Director-Treasurer) on file with the Executive Director-Treasurer by September 15, prior to the annual Convention. The committee shall consider the application and report its findings and recommendations to the Convention for final action.

I. PERMANENT OR STANDING COMMITTEES

Committee on the Annual Meeting

- 1 The Committee on the Annual Meeting shall consist of six (6) elected members, two (2) to be elected each year for a three (3) year term, plus the Executive Director-Treasurer and six (6)

- 4 An association desiring affiliation with the Kentucky Baptist Convention and the privilege of recommending nominees for Mission Board membership shall communicate to the convention's Committee on Credentials such intentions at least six months prior to the convention's annual meeting.
- 5 The Committee on Credentials and the five current convention officers shall review the association's request according to the procedures approved by the messengers in November, 1996. These procedures are available from the Executive Director-Treasurer of the KBC Mission Board; these procedures are designated "Recognition of Associations for Representation on the KBC Mission Board." After the review, the committee's recommendation shall be presented to the convention's annual meeting.
- 6 Upon referral from the Executive Office, the Committee on Credentials shall investigate any allegation of doctrinal conflict arising between the Convention and any affiliated church or association and, if appropriate, report recommendations to the messengers at the Annual Meeting.

Committee on Nominations

- 1 The Committee on Nominations shall consist of twenty-four (24) members, three (3) from each region of the state, eight (8) being elected each year. The associational or regional moves of members on this committee within the state need not terminate the members' service to this committee.
- 2 This committee shall nominate the members of the Mission Board, as set forth in Article VII of the Constitution, and all board members of all institutions and agencies of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, said nominations to be subject to election at annual Convention. The Committee on Nominations may fill vacancies on boards of institutions and agencies occurring between annual sessions of the Convention as set forth in Article IX of the Constitution.
- 3 "Employees" as referenced in Article IX, Constitution of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, are defined as those persons receiving any remuneration from the Kentucky Baptist Convention and/or its agencies and institutions; "employees" is interpreted not to include those persons who receive only honoraria, travel expenses, meals, lodging, and similar occasional reimbursements or payments.

Committee on Public Affairs

- 1 The Committee on Public Affairs shall consist of ten (10) members, with the Executive Director-Treasurer being a permanent member, and of the other nine, three are to be elected each year. The nine (9) members are to include one person from each region.
- 2 This committee shall keep the Kentucky Baptist Convention advised of all matters of particular interest to Baptists taking place at the state, national and international levels, with particular reference to the separation of church and state. The committee may also work in cooperation with the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission, the Kentucky Ethics League, or other appropriate organizations to pursue common interests.

Committee on Resolutions

- 1 The Committee on Resolutions shall consist of six (6) members: two are to be elected each year.
- 2 In order to facilitate thorough consideration and to expedite the Committee's work, all proposed resolutions shall:
 - be submitted to the Committee for review and consideration as early as June 1 but no later than 30 days prior to the next KBC annual meeting;
 - be addressed to the Committee on Resolutions in care of the Executive Office of the Kentucky Baptist Convention at its registered or e-mail address (electronic copies are preferred);
 - be typewritten, titled, and dated;
 - be accompanied by a letter or e-mail from a church qualified to send a messenger to the annual meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention certifying that the person submitting the resolution is in good standing, and;
 - include complete contact information for both the person submitting it, and his or her church.
- 3 No person may submit more than three resolutions per year.
- 4 The Committee on Resolutions shall prepare and submit to each annual meeting of the Convention only such resolutions the Committee recommends for adoption. Such resolutions may be based on proposals received by the Convention, except the Convention may, by a simple majority, consider any other resolution properly submitted to the Committee.
- 5 A list of the titles of all properly submitted proposed resolutions shall be printed and distributed to messengers at the Convention. The list shall include the name and city of each person properly submitting a resolution, and the disposition of each proper submission.

II. SPECIAL REPORTS TO THE CONVENTION

- 1 The Convention, during each annual session, shall receive reports on the following:
 1. Cooperative Program
 2. North American Missions
 3. International Missions
 4. Obituaries and Memorial
 The Committee on the Annual Meeting shall name a person and an alternate to bring each report.
- 2 The teams and departments of the Mission Board shall prepare a report to the Convention and present it during the annual session.

III. FILING REPORTS

- 1 Each report shall be written for inclusion in the Book of Reports to the Convention and then presented to the annual session by the writer. The written report is due in the hands of the Executive Director-Treasurer by September 1 prior to the convention. Assistance is available from the Executive Director-Treasurer and/or agency executives.

The Mission Board, according to ARTICLE VII of the Constitution, "Shall have charge of the work of the Kentucky Baptist Convention between its annual sessions and shall appoint all officers and agencies that may be required in its work."

1. The Mission Board shall consist of members to include appropriate representatives from the associations of the state and one (1) at-large member from each of the eight (8) regions of the state, and these shall be elected by messengers to the Kentucky Baptist Convention in regular session, in accord with its adopted plan.

2. Vacancies on the Mission Board are filled by action of the Kentucky Baptist Convention during its annual session. If, at the close of the annual meeting of the convention, vacancies still exist, the Mission Board, on nominations from the Committee on Nominations of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, may fill interim vacancies from the appropriate associations. A Board member who moves from one association to another within the state during the year remains on the Board until his successor is elected or his term expires.

The Committee on Constitution and Bylaws interprets Article VII to mean that one's service on the Mission Board is measured in total time served whether or not the person has held residence in one or more associations. Members are therefore still limited to a single three-year term plus an unexpired term as now stated in Article VII (Nov. 13, 1986).

3. The president, both vice presidents, and secretaries of the Kentucky Baptist Convention shall serve as members of the Board.

4. The past president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention shall serve a one-year term as an at-large member of the Board.

5. The president of the Woman's Missionary Union shall serve as ex-officio member of the Board.

6. The officers of the Mission Board shall consist of a chairperson, two vice chairpersons, secretary, and assistant secretary. The president and vice presidents of the Convention shall respectively serve as chairperson, first and second vice chairperson of the Mission Board. The secretary and assistant secretary of the Convention shall serve in like manner.

7. Every member of the Board, except its officers, shall be a member of one standing committee, Agencies and Institutions Committee, Business and Finance Committee, Church Consulting and Revitalization Committee, Evangelism Committee, Missions Mobilization Committee,

and Placement Committee. Placement Committee members shall be drawn from the memberships of the other five committees.

The officers of the Board shall be available to serve as consultants or to assist any committee upon assignment by the Board chairperson.

8. The Placement Committee shall prepare nominations as to the committee assignments for presentation at the Board's December meeting. Additional nominations may be made at other Board meetings as needed.

9. Members of the standing committees shall be elected by the Board at its December meeting. Committee replacements for vacancies which occur throughout the year may be voted on at any other meeting of the Board.

10. The Placement Committee, in making nominations for appointment to a standing committee, shall have the authority to increase or decrease the size of a committee up to five (5) members.

11. The Administrative Committee of the Mission Board shall be comprised of twelve (12) Board members—the chairpersons of the six standing committees and six members-at-large. The members-at-large shall be elected by the Board after receiving nominations from the Placement Committee.

12. The chairperson of the Mission Board shall name the chairpersons of all standing committees and the chairperson of the Administrative Committee of the Board in consultation with the Executive Director-Treasurer. The chairperson of the Administrative Committee shall be chosen from the twelve (12) members.

13. The chairperson of the Mission Board shall be an ex-officio member of all committees of the Board. The Executive Director-Treasurer shall be an ex-officio (nonvoting) member of all committees of the Board.

14. The Board year begins with the convening of the first meeting of the Board following the annual meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention in November. The Board shall meet at least three times per year: in December, May and just prior to the annual Convention meeting.

15. Attendance Policy: All members of this Mission Board shall commit themselves to participation in the three Board meetings annually unless providentially hindered, giving notice of such absences to the secretary of the Mission Board, and removing themselves from the Board by resignation when circumstances prevent regular attendance of these meetings. Participation in these meetings is crucial

to the effective working of this Mission Board for the fulfillment of the purposes of the convention body.

A Board member's absence without notice from two of the three Board meetings in a service year shall be verified by the secretary of the Board with the intent to ascertain the Board member's desire and ability to attend future Mission Board meetings for the remainder of the member's term.

16. The Board shall be responsible for advising the Convention on the total program of Kentucky Baptists except on matters assigned by the Convention to specific committees, and for directing the programs specifically assigned to it.

17. The doctrinal guideline for the Mission Board and its work shall be the Baptist Faith and Message as adopted and amended by the Southern Baptist Convention.

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18. The rules contained in the most current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Mission Board in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

19. The Mission Board shall make an annual report to the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Any recommendations to be presented to the Convention by the Mission Board shall be published in Kentucky Today thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting except in an emergency that may arise thereafter.

20. The following statements on size and duties of the six (6) standing committees and the Administrative Committee are a part of the organizational plan of the Board.

21. Electronic meetings of committees may be authorized by the chairman, provided that the electronic medium used gives opportunity for simultaneous aural communication among all participating members equivalent to those of meetings held in one room or area.

22. Changes to the Organization of the Mission Board document may be made by the Mission Board, requiring only a simple majority vote for passage.

AGENCIES & INSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE

The Agencies and Institutions Committee shall be composed of twenty (20) members. The committee shall meet twice a year and, when needed, upon the call of the chairperson through the Executive Director-Treasurer.

The committee shall organize itself by electing a vice chairperson to chair the

committee in the absence of the chairperson and a secretary. The committee shall establish such work groups as may facilitate its work. Normally, work groups will report to the committee. The committee shall make reports and recommendations to the Mission Board. Signed copies of all minutes of the committee shall be filed with the office of the Executive Director-Treasurer as part of the permanent files of the Board.

The committee works with the agency (Kentucky Baptist Foundation), institutions (Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, Kentucky Baptist Assemblies, Sunrise Children's Services and Oneida Baptist Institute), partnering organizations (Baptist Healthcare System and Kentucky Ethics League), and auxiliary (Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union).

1. The committee shall seek to maintain and strengthen proper working relationships between the Mission Board and the individual boards of the agencies and institutions and their interrelationships.
2. The committee shall receive, as often as feasible, an in-depth report of the work of the individual agencies and institutions. The presentation of such reports shall include time for questions and discussion. The committee shall make whatever follow-up it deems appropriate.
3. The committee may make recommendations to the Mission Board concerning the Mission Board's relationship, policies and programs affecting the agencies and institutions.
4. The committee shall assist the agencies and institutions in cultivating the interest and support of the programs of the agencies and institutions.
5. The committee shall cooperate with Southern Baptist Convention agencies and our District Associations in promoting church support of the state agencies and institutions.
6. The committee shall study, as needed, all aspects of the relationships of Kentucky Baptists with the Southern Baptist Convention, its agencies, and other Baptist bodies in areas of work and interest assigned to the Convention's agencies and institutions and may recommend appropriate actions.
7. The committee, by its own initiative or by the initiative of an agency or institution, may be mindful of the current, as well as the long-range financial needs of an agency. At times, the committee may desire to express its concern in such matters through the Mission Board's usual yearly budget planning process. At other times, the committee may wish to receive the information as a matter of prayerful and watchful concern or desire to share the matter with the Mission Board.

8. The committee in conference with presidents of the Kentucky Baptist Institutions of Learning (and educational consultants as needed) shall be responsible for recommending to the Mission Board, an equitable distribution (formula) of Cooperative Program funds among Kentucky Baptist Institutions of Learning in keeping with the educational objectives adopted by the Convention.

9. The chairperson/president of each agency and institution's Board and the chief executive officer of each agency and institution shall be invited to attend the meetings of this committee without voting privileges.

BUSINESS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Business and Finance Committee shall be composed of twenty (20) members. The committee shall meet four times per year and, when needed, upon the call of the chairperson through the Executive Director-Treasurer.

The committee shall organize itself by electing a vice chairperson, to chair the committee in the absence of the chairperson, and a secretary. The committee shall establish such work groups as may be needed to facilitate its work. Normally, work groups will report to the committee. The committee shall make reports and recommendations to the Mission Board. Signed copies of all minutes of the committee shall be filed with the office of the Executive Director-Treasurer as part of the permanent file of the Mission Board. Copies of committee minutes shall also be distributed to the Board's members. The Board shall be asked to accept the minutes.

The committee shall serve as the Board's Finance committee:

1. The committee shall propose broad financial policies to be observed by the Mission Board and the agencies and institutions of the Kentucky Baptist Convention in the conduct of their program.
2. The committee shall review and evaluate the financial practices of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Mission Board, agencies and institutions as reflected in their financial reports and audits. This committee shall recommend specific criteria to be followed by the Mission Board and the agencies and institutions in employing professional auditors. The committee shall follow up directly and specifically any adverse criticisms by public auditors to determine the specific actions being taken by the agencies and institutions. Such incidents must be reported by the committee to the Mission Board with appropriate recommendations.
3. The committee shall monitor the financial practices of the Convention. At any time, the committee deems changes are needed, it shall make recommendations to the

Board. The Board, in turn, may propose necessary actions to the Convention.

4. The committee shall review estimates of future Cooperative Program giving and advise the Mission Board on the feasibility of the goal for the Cooperative Program for the coming two (2) years which the Mission Board shall recommend to the Kentucky Baptist Convention.
5. The committee shall propose to the Mission Board the division of undesignated Cooperative Program funds between (1) Southern Baptist Convention uses and (2) Kentucky Baptist Convention uses which it shall recommend to the Kentucky Baptist Convention.
6. The committee shall review the annual budget as developed by the Executive Director-Treasurer and staff, including allocation requests from the Convention's agencies. In May, the committee shall recommend the next detailed budget to the Mission Board.
7. The committee shall recommend to the Mission Board the sale or purchase of properties.
8. Any expenditure not set forth in the Convention budget, either cash or loan, must be authorized by the Mission Board of the Convention. The Business and Finance Committee has power to recommend only.
9. The Executive Director-Treasurer, with the approval of the Business and Finance Committee, shall employ all the auditors for the Board and other activities and agencies for which the Board pays auditors' fees.

CHURCH CONSULTING and REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE

The Church Consulting and Revitalization Committee shall be composed of twenty (20) members. The committee shall meet twice a year and, when needed, upon the call of the chairperson through the Executive Director-Treasurer.

The committee shall organize itself by electing a vice chairperson, to chair the committee in the absence of the chairperson, and a secretary. The committee shall establish such work groups as may facilitate its work. Normally, work groups will report to the committee. The committee shall make reports and recommendations to the Mission Board. Signed copies of all minutes of the committee shall be filed with the office of the Executive Director-Treasurer as part of the permanent files of the Mission Board.

The committee shall serve as a sounding board, advisor and evaluator to the Church Consulting and Revitalization Team and the departments assigned to it by the Adminis-

trative Committee on recommendation by the Executive Director-Treasurer.

1. The committee shall recommend to the Board any policies, procedures or actions relating to the Church Consulting and Revitalization Team.
2. The committee shall receive, as often as feasible, an in-depth report of the work of the team. The presentation of such reports shall include time for questions and discussion. The committee shall make whatever follow-up it deems appropriate.
3. The committee shall seek to stay current to the needs of ministers, churches and associations relating to the scope of work of the Church Consulting and Revitalization Team. It shall work with the team and make any necessary recommendations to the Board concerning meeting the needs.
4. The committee shall study, as needed, all aspects of the relationships of Kentucky Baptists with the Southern Baptist Convention, its agencies, and other Baptist bodies in areas of work and interest assigned to its departments.

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

The Evangelism Committee shall be composed of twenty (20) members. The committee shall meet twice a year and, when needed, upon the call of the chairperson through the Executive Director-Treasurer.

The committee shall organize itself by electing a vice chairperson, to chair the committee in the absence of the chairperson, and a secretary. The committee shall establish such work groups as may facilitate its work. Normally, work groups will report to the committee. The committee shall make reports and recommendations to the Mission Board. Signed copies of all minutes of the committee shall be filed with the office of the Executive Director-Treasurer as part of the permanent files of the Mission Board.

The committee shall serve as a sounding board, advisor and evaluator to the Evangelism Team and the departments assigned to it by the Administrative Committee on recommendation by the Executive Director-Treasurer.

1. The committee shall recommend to the Board any policies, procedures or actions relating to the Evangelism Team and its departments that need Mission Board action.
2. The committee shall receive, as often as feasible, an in-depth report of the work of the team. The presentation of such reports shall include time for questions and discussion. The committee shall make whatever follow-up it deems appropriate.
3. The committee shall be alert to the needs of evangelism and church planting, including collegiate and cross-cultural evangelism.

It shall work with the team and make any necessary recommendations to the Board concerning meeting the needs.

4. The committee shall study, as needed, all aspects of the relationships of Kentucky Baptists with the Southern Baptist Convention, its agencies, and other Baptist bodies in the areas of work and interest assigned to its departments.
5. The committee may recommend to the Business and Finance Committee the sale or purchase of properties that relate to the work of the team.
6. The committee shall recommend to the Mission Board, with the counsel and knowledge of the Business and Finance Committee, any capital financial resources required for specific use of the team.

MISSIONS MOBILIZATION COMMITTEE

The Missions Mobilization Committee shall be composed of twenty (20) members. The committee shall meet twice a year and, when needed, upon the call of the chairperson through the Executive Director-Treasurer.

The committee shall organize itself by electing a vice chairperson, to chair the committee in the absence of the chairperson, and a secretary. The committee shall establish such work groups as may facilitate its work. Normally, work groups will report to the committee. The committee shall make reports and recommendations to the Mission Board. Signed copies of all minutes of the committee shall be filed with the office of the Executive Director-Treasurer as part of the permanent files of the Mission Board.

The committee shall serve as a sounding board, advisor and evaluator to the Missions Mobilization Team and the departments assigned to it by the Administrative Committee on recommendation by the Executive Director-Treasurer. The Woman's Missionary Union relates through the Missions Mobilization Committee.

1. The committee shall recommend to the Board any policies, procedures or actions relating to the Missions Mobilization Team and its departments (or WMU) that need Mission Board action.
2. The committee shall receive, as often as feasible, an in-depth report of the work of the team. The presentation of such reports shall include time for questions and discussion. The committee shall make whatever follow-up it deems appropriate.
3. The committee shall be alert to the needs of ministers, churches and associations relating to the scope of work of the Missions Mobilization Team. It shall work with the team and make any necessary recommendations to the Board concerning meeting the needs.

4. The committee shall study, as needed, all aspects of the relationships of Kentucky Baptists with the Southern Baptist Convention, its agencies, and other Baptist bodies in areas of work and interest assigned to its departments.
5. The committee may recommend to the Business and Finance Committee the sale or purchase of properties that relate to the work of the team.
6. The committee shall recommend to the Mission Board, with the counsel and knowledge of the Business and Finance Committee, any capital financial resources required for specific use of the team.

PLACEMENT COMMITTEE

The Placement Committee shall consist of fifteen (15) members plus the newly elected chairperson and newly elected vice chairpersons (ex-officio) for a total of eighteen (18) members. The newly elected chairperson and two vice chairpersons, along with the ten (10) returning members, shall appoint the five (5) new members annually. In the making of appointments, due consideration should be given both to remaining years in Mission Board terms of service as well as to maintaining balanced representation from the other six standing committees and geographical regions. The committee shall meet twice a year and, when needed, upon the call of the chairperson through the Executive Director-Treasurer.

The committee shall organize itself by electing a vice chairperson, to chair the committee in the absence of the chairperson, and a secretary. The committee shall establish such work groups as may be needed to facilitate its work. Normally, work groups will report to the committee. The committee shall make reports and recommendations to the Mission Board. Signed copies of all minutes of the committee shall be filed with the office of the Executive Director-Treasurer as part of the permanent files of the Board.

The work of the committee includes:

TO RECOMMEND BOARD MEMBERS FOR COMMITTEE SERVICE

1. The committee shall meet, with the newly named chairperson presiding, between the close of the annual meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and the December meeting of the Mission Board to nominate members for the standing committees and at-large members of the Administrative Committee. The committee, during the year, shall also nominate newly elected Mission Board members for standing committee assignments.
2. The guidelines outlined in the Organizational Plan of the Board shall be carefully followed in making nominations. The

committee is advised of the desirability of retaining some experienced personnel on each committee from year to year and as much geographical representation as practical. No standing committee shall be permitted to lose more than one-half (1/2) its members from year to year.

3. Nominations for Mission Board committee assignments should be made based on ability, familiarity with the type of work to be done, and enthusiasm for the assignment.
4. To assist the committee, the Executive Director-Treasurer shall prepare for its use a list of Mission Board members, showing the names of newly elected individuals as well as the committee assignments and terms of office of the remaining Mission Board members. The Executive Director-Treasurer shall be prepared to provide the committee with other information it may need or request.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

The Administrative Committee of the Mission Board shall be composed of twelve (12) Board members--the chairperson of each of the six (6) standing committees and six (6) at-large. This composition will enable the Administrative Committee to remain abreast of the entire range of Mission Board affairs and hence to function effectively on behalf of the Mission Board.

The committee shall organize itself by electing a vice chairperson, to chair the committee in the absence of the chairperson, and a secretary. The committee shall establish such work groups as may facilitate its work. Normally, work groups report to the committee. The committee shall make reports and recommendations to the Mission Board according to its procedures. Signed copies of all minutes of the committee shall be filed with the office of the Executive Director-Treasurer as part of the permanent files of the Board. Copies of committee minutes shall also be distributed to the Board members. The Board shall be asked to accept the minutes.

1. The Administrative Committee shall have charge of the Board's business affairs between meetings of the full Board. The Administrative Committee's action while serving on behalf of the Mission Board shall be subject to Mission Board's ratification. Prior to ratification of the minutes, the chairperson shall call attention to matters of unusual importance prior to their adoption.
2. This committee shall give guidance to the planning, organizing, and scheduling of the work of the Mission Board. It shall

recommend matters of referral to the various committees of the Board. It shall call special meetings of the full Mission Board when there is need for Mission Board action between regularly scheduled sessions on matters within the jurisdiction of the Mission Board. It shall recommend to the Mission Board actions it should take on behalf of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

3. When questions concerning the responsibilities of the Mission Board committees arise, any differences in view shall be resolved by the Administrative Committee.
4. The Executive Director-Treasurer shall be responsible to the Administrative Committee between meetings of the Mission Board; and the Administrative Committee shall evaluate the work of the Executive Director-Treasurer in relationship to his job description.
5. This committee shall, during the October meeting, review and make recommendations to the November Mission Board concerning compensation of the Executive Director-Treasurer for the ensuing budget year, since this position is not under the Salary Administration Plan.
6. It shall act as personnel committee of the Board; in advising the Executive Director-Treasurer; in recommending to the Mission Board the election of team and department directors; in electing department associates; campus ministers, and missionaries; in approving sabbatical leaves; in administering the Salary Administration Plan, including, when necessary, the evaluation of the staff in relationship to job descriptions; in handling any personnel problems that may be brought to it by the Executive Director-Treasurer or by a staff member. The committee, in such cases, shall have authority to take such action as it may deem wise with action subject to Mission Board ratification, if and as needed.
7. In the event of a vacancy or anticipated vacancy in the office of Executive Director-Treasurer due to notice from the Executive Director-Treasurer of anticipated resignation or retirement, the Administrative Committee shall be responsible for recommending to the Mission Board a time-table for securing a new Executive Director-Treasurer. The Chairperson of the Mission Board shall be responsible, with the approval of a majority of the Administrative Committee, for naming a committee of fifteen (15) persons which shall be responsible for seeking out and nominating a person for this office. This committee of

fifteen (15) shall be composed of a pastor from each of the eight (8) regions and seven (7) other persons, male or female, as shall give representation to various areas and interests of Kentucky Baptist life, be knowledgeable of the working of the Mission Board, and deeply involved in Kentucky Baptist life. This committee of fifteen (15) shall confer with the Administrative Committee to work out details connected with calling a new Executive Director-Treasurer and bring their nomination to the full Mission Board.

8. During any period of vacancy in the office of Executive Director-Treasurer due to death, termination, resignation, retirement, leave of absence, incapacity or any other reason, the Administrative Committee shall appoint an interim Executive Director-Treasurer to serve during the period of vacancy. The appointment of an interim Executive Director-Treasurer shall require an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all members of the Administrative Committee. The removal of an interim Executive Director-Treasurer shall only require a vote of the majority of all members of the Administrative Committee. The appointment or removal of an interim Executive Director-Treasurer shall not require approval of the Mission Board.

Incapacity as used in the above paragraph, whether temporary or permanent, shall be defined as the inability to perform the duties assigned to the Executive Director-Treasurer and shall be determined by the Administrative Committee, with a vote of two-thirds of the Administrative Committee required for a finding of incapacity. The decision of the Administrative Committee shall require ratification by the Mission Board within 30 days, during which time an acting Executive Director-Treasurer may be appointed by the Administrative Committee -- with an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all members of the Administrative Committee. The decision of the Mission Board on the issue of incapacity shall be final. There shall be no right of appeal or any right to pursue legal action to challenge or overturn the decision of the Mission Board on the issue of incapacity. Should the incapacity be temporary, the Administrative Committee may restore authority to the Executive Director-Treasurer as the Administrative Committee sees fit upon a majority vote of all members of the Administrative Committee.

9. This committee shall concern itself with any business of the Mission Board that is not directly the duty of another committee.

9 Critical Questions

SBC Parents Should Be Prepared to Ask

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Making the right choice about college often begins with parents asking the right questions on each campus visit. Boyce College has curated a series of short videos designed to arm Southern Baptist families with the nine critical questions they should be prepared to ask.



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