

THE ALABAMA BAPTIST



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Gardendale's FBC erected a 125-foot cross on its new property March 3. The new building, set for completion in May, sits just off Interstate 65.



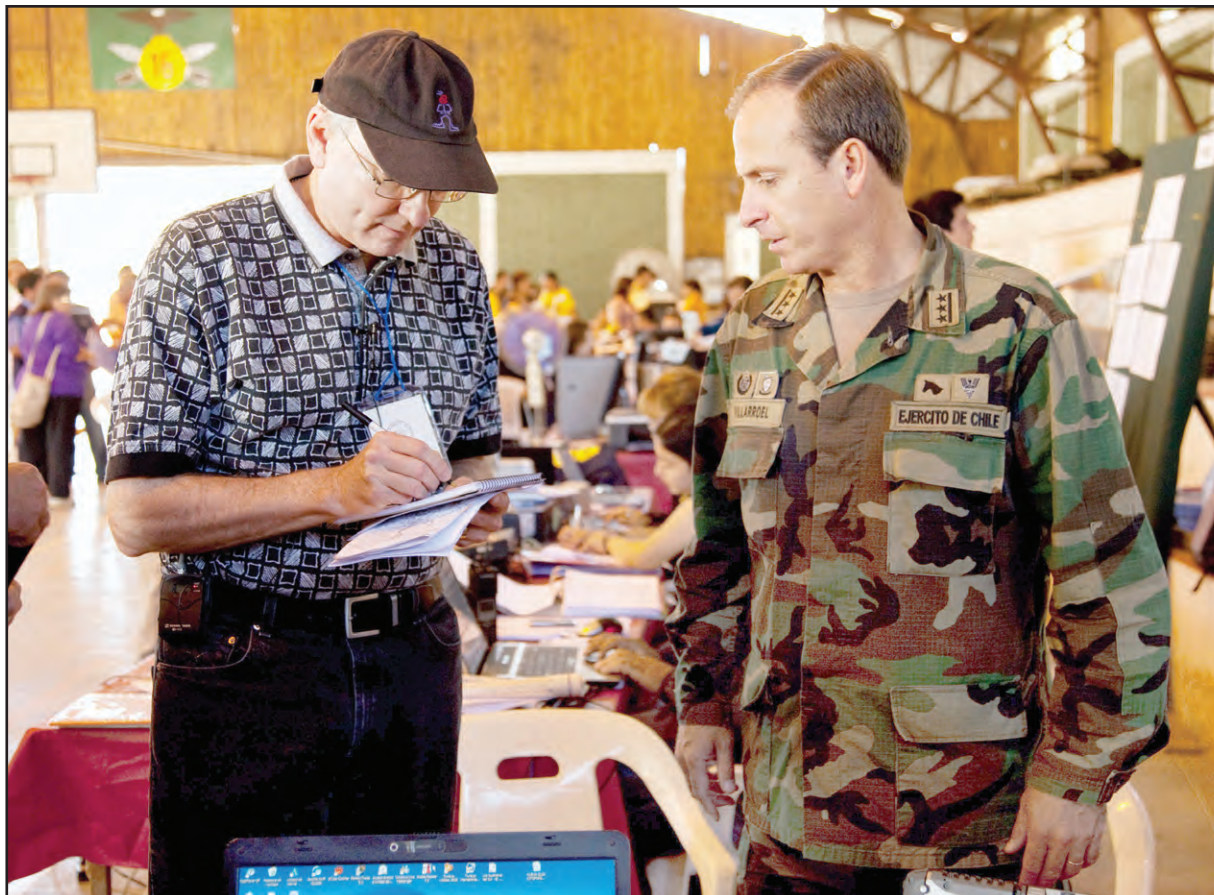
Great Commission Resurgence plan 'would devastate' work in Michigan

◆ Page 5



Highland Avenue Church provides outreach to single parents, children

◆ Page 6



IMB photo

COORDINATING EFFORTS — IMB strategist Charles Clark (left) talks with Col. Edmundo Villarroel about coordinating relief efforts at an information hub set up at a Chilean army post in Maule, Chile.

'We're alive. God is good.'

As quakes continue, Baptists work to aid recovery

By Grace Thornton
The Alabama Baptist

It's been a long time since Phil Brown's Facebook status said something normal.

Or maybe earthquakes are the new normal for Brown, an International Mission Board representative in Chile.

Feb. 28: "Awakened by strong shake at 8:30 a.m. But it's Sunday, and the sun is shining. We're alive. God is good. Thank you to everyone who has and is praying for us down here."

March 4: "OK, that shook the whole building @ 12:35am. Not funny."

March 5: "Watching the ripples in my coffee as another shake passes. Active morning."

March 7: "Feel that one at 3:36?"

March 9: "Big jolt!"

And 160 "replicas," or aftershocks, since the deadly Feb. 27 quake that started it all, it's not getting any better.

March 11: "Strong one, long one. 7.2. Emptied all the buildings around our office. Followed a second, then a third. And I was encouraged by the slow day yesterday."

A 7.2. Then a 6.9. And then a 6.2. All three came that morning during the inauguration of a new Chilean president. It's panic in the streets, Brown said.

And Baptists are hard at it helping victims even as the quakes are still happening.

Southern Baptist disaster relief volunteers are on the ground in Chile, partnering with Chilean Baptists to address critical needs in two areas. The teams, which specialize in mass feeding operations, set up kitchens capable of producing as many as 1,000 meals daily.

And an initial amount of \$150,000 (See 'Alabama,' page 3)

Gunmen kill 6 World Vision workers in Pakistan

Suspected Islamic militants armed with guns and grenades stormed the offices of a Christian relief and development organization in northwest Pakistan on March 10, killing six aid workers and wounding eight others.

The gunmen besieged the offices of international humanitarian organization World Vision near Oghi in Mansehra district of the North-West Frontier Province.

Police and World Vision's regional

spokesman said the Pakistani staff members, including two women, were killed after up to 15 gunmen arrived in pickup trucks and began firing.

"They gathered all of us in one room," World Vision administration officer Mohammad Sajid, who was in the office at the time, told Compass Direct News. "The gunmen, some of whom had their faces covered, also snatched our mobile phones. They dragged people one by one and shift-

Riley, Tyson not going down easy after new ruling

By Sondra Washington
The Alabama Baptist

Judge Robert Vance may have ordered Attorney General Troy King to take control of Gov. Bob Riley's Task Force on Illegal Gambling, but Riley and task force commander John Tyson are not going down without a fight. They have vowed to appeal the ruling.

In the 13-page order issued March 8, Vance, a Jefferson County circuit judge, ordered King to "come in off the sidelines" and assume "direction and control" of the task force's law enforcement and litigation activities. The ruling stemmed from a highly debated 2009 Lowndes County casino raid and subsequent court case, which eventually led to the Alabama Supreme Court's November ruling that listed six characteristics for legal bingo.

AG has 'curious stance'

In his order, Vance said, "The attorney general has — for whatever reason — assumed a curious stance. While complaining of the governor's actions in the (Alabama) Supreme Court and in the media, the attorney general has made no effort to defend the state's interest in these cases. He is under a duty to do so."

Although Vance admitted he cannot dictate what King will do, he instructed King to "advise the court and the parties of his position" by March 22.

Riley called Vance's ruling "judicial activism at its worst."

"The law of Alabama clearly gives the governor the authority to designate certain active and retired district attorneys to appear in cases anywhere in the state, but Judge Vance has invented an additional requirement that the attorney general must give advance approval before they can participate in

(See 'State,' page 14)

ed them to an adjacent room and shot and killed them."

Senior police officer Waqar Ahmed blamed the attack on "the same people who are destroying our schools" — a reference to Taliban militants opposed to coeducation who have blown up hundreds of schools across the northwest in the past three years.

"Now they want to disturb relief work in quake-hit areas (resulting from the earthquake in October 2005)," Ahmed said. (CD)

COMMENT

Alabama Baptists Still Committed to Evangelism

This has been an incredible year for evangelism in Alabama. Baptisms are up, the breakout sessions at the State Evangelism Conference were packed and Across Alabama is off the charts.

I had the wonderful privilege of serving on the writing team for the national God's Plan for Sharing (GPS) effort.

I brought this information back to the evangelism office at Alabama Baptist State Board of Missions (SBOM) and shared that this would be our office agenda for the next 10 years. There were some obvious concerns quickly after hearing about GPS, but Rick Lance, executive director of the SBOM, declared this would be "the decade to make a difference."

Without apology, he said, "This is going to be our strategy." And thus GPS: Across Alabama was born.

Weeks and months were spent leading awareness/training sessions in each of our 12 districts. Districts, associations and churches were urged to form teams of four to coordinate Across Alabama.

What if?

We began to pray and think "what if" we could see the churches order enough material to cover 250,000 residences this first year with 10 years to go. We would then have the platform to reach Alabama by 2020 if that could happen. When the first week of orders came in, our churches ordered material to cover 300,000 residences. That is 50,000 more than we had prayerfully anticipated.

When the deadline to order came and the truck delivered the ordered material to the evangelism



GUEST EDITORIAL

By Sammy Gilbreath
State Director
of Evangelism

office, there was material to cover more than 1 million residences. This will be the greatest combined effort to reach Alabama with the gospel in my lifetime.

This effort is simple, inexpensive and doable by any church. Also everyone in the church, regardless of age, can participate.

There is still time for any church to participate in the prayer walk/drive March 20 and the gospel distribution March 27 or later if they choose. The evangelism office staff will furnish the mapping center material free for any area that a church chooses to cover. All we will need is the zip codes for that area. That can be ordered by sending an e-mail to anelson@alsbom.org.

We also ordered extra material just in case a church adopted this ministry late. The church can place that order as well to the same e-mail and just tell us how many residences it wants to cover.

The door hanger bag and the gospel drop-in total cost are 6 cents per residence. We will bill the church later, so there is no upfront cost. If a church decides to cover 1,000 residences, then it will cost \$60. Any church can do that.

This could prove to be the spark for the greatest harvest we have ever seen in Alabama. The door hanger, in addition to the gospel drop-in, will have an invitation to attend that local church on Easter, April 4. The pastor/church is urged to have an evangelistic service with an invitation for people to invite Jesus Christ to be their Lord and Savior.

There will be weeks of follow-up, making sure we assimilate these new believers into our churches as well as staying in contact with the visitors from that service.

The television spots in March and April will cover the entire state and urge the viewer to attend a Southern Baptist church in their area. Pictures from the television spots will be on the gospel drop-in placed in the door hanger to ensure there is a connection made between the prayer walk/drive, gospel distribution, TV spots and the invitation to attend the Easter service.

It's imperative

This is going to be a great blessing to this state as well as the local church, association and individual believer involved. We can do this, Alabama Baptists, but what is more important is that we must do this.

Thanks for allowing me to serve you as a state missionary and partner with you to reach Alabama with the gospel.

Letters to the Editor

LET'S TAKE A STAND

In Decatur on April 13 we face a new referendum on Sunday sales of alcoholic beverages.

I know that there are a multitude of opinions on this topic. I, for one, am opposed to the sale and use of all alcoholic beverages on any day because I have seen the devastation that alcohol abuse causes in communities, churches and families.

As alcohol sales increase, domestic violence increases and safety on our highways decreases. Lives are destroyed forever.

However, to politicians and restaurant owners alike, this is not a moral issue, nor is it a public safety issue. It is all about increased tax revenues and profit margins.

Since it is about money for them, I am asking for Southern Baptists across the state of Alabama to demonstrate what will happen when church members stay out of the restaurants on

Sunday to protest Sunday liquor sales.

On Palm Sunday — March 28 — I am asking that you eat at home, join together with friends and families or do what we at Southside Baptist will do — have a churchwide fellowship meal following our morning worship service.

Let's take a stand together. Thank you in advance for your support.

Ben Hayes
Pastor, Southside Baptist Church
Decatur, Ala.

WHAT THE SBC NEEDS

Thank you so much for your article titled "What Got You to the Top ..." in the Jan. 28, 2010, edition of *The Alabama Baptist*, specifically the section titled "What's really needed."

Your comments regarding the renewal needed by Southern Baptists being "a renewal in the value of cooperation (and) the importance of communications ... for the good of God's Kingdom" spoke so loud and clear to the

question of "Do we really care about what helps?"

We as Christians and Southern Baptists through prayer, submission and communication need to be mindful about how our service to others is received. It might just be that what we think is helpful is actually of no consequence or, even worse, harmful. To add insult to injury, we might even think or, heaven forbid, say something like "how ungrateful they are" in response to our helpful act not having our intended result.

If we are going to model Christ as servant leaders by serving others, let's make sure what we are doing is considered helpful to them. We often need to be reminded that "serving" is something we are doing for someone else, not for ourselves.

As your quote of pollster George Barna points out, evangelical Christians in America are seen as "people who try to" (See 'Letters,' page 21)



"If ye continue in my word, then ... ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:31-32).

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Hundreds of Christians in Nigeria murdered in overnight massacre

Hundreds of Christians were murdered in an overnight massacre by ethnic Fulani Muslims on March 7 in Nigeria's Plateau state.

Rampaging Fulani herdsman used machetes to kill the mostly ethnic Berom victims, including many women and children, in three farming villages near the city of Jos. About 75 houses also were burned.

State Information Commissioner Gregory Yenlong confirmed that about 500 people were killed in the attacks, which took place mainly in Dogo Nahawa, Zot and Rastat villages.

"We were woken up by gunshots in the middle of the night, and before we knew what was happening, our houses were torched and they started hacking down people," survivor Musa Gyang told media representatives.

The assailants apparently came on foot from a neighboring state; security forces reportedly had been alerted of a possible attack on the villages but did not act beforehand.

Ongoing religious violence

Some 380 Christians were buried in one mass burial space, a local government official who asked to remain anonymous told International Christian Concern. The official said police have arrested 93 people and recovered guns, knives and other weapons from the suspects.

The attack is the latest in several religious clashes in the state in recent months that have claimed lives and property. Plateau state lies in Nigeria's "middle belt" and has dozens of ethnic groups living in near proximity to each other. The Associated Press (AP) reported. Plateau is a predominantly Christian state in a country almost evenly divided between Muslims in the north and Christians in the south. The area has been the site of intense clashes over land, and Jos has been under a military curfew since more than 300

people — mostly Muslims — were killed in religious-based violence in January. Officials speculate the March 7 attack was in reprisal for the January violence, the AP reported.

Bishop Andersen Bok, national coordinator of the Plateau State Elders Christian Fellowship, along with group Secretary General Musa Pam, described the attack as yet another "jihad and provocation on Christians."

'They pounce on Christians'

Soon after the militants besieged Dogo Nahawa, the Christian leaders said, at 1:30 a.m. they contacted the military, which is in charge of security in the state.

"But we were shocked to find out that the soldiers did not react until about 3:30 a.m., after the Muslim attackers had finished their job and left," they stated. "We are tired of these genocides on our Christian brothers and state here that we will not let this go unchallenged."

On March 5, Abel Damina, the national youth president of the Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria, expressed concern over cases of clandestine killings of Christians in remote parts of Plateau state by Islamic extremists and called on the federal government to retrieve sophisticated weapons in their possession.

"Even as I speak to you now, I am receiving reports that some clandestine killings are still going on in the remote areas of Plateau state by the fundamentalists," Damina was quoted as saying. "They pounce on Christians and kill them without anybody knowing much of their identity except that they are Christians."

He added that recently he visited the governor in Jos regarding the crisis and secured photos of Christian victims.

"Young men, Christians, were going to their farm to harvest their produce and the fundamentalists pounced on them," Damina said. "They were called infidels." (BP)

Alabama Baptists prep for adopting zone in Haiti

(continued from page 1)

from Southern Baptist relief funds has also been used to purchase water, first-aid supplies and other materials for distribution. Baptist World Aid, the relief and development arm of Baptist World Alliance (BWA), also sent \$25,000 to aid quake victims.

An estimated 2 million people have been affected by the earthquake and the subsequent tsunami that struck coastal villages. Between 500,000 and 1.5 million houses were destroyed and access to food, water and electricity remain critical needs. About 250 Baptist churches in the nation were also destroyed during the quake, according to BWA.

At some point, Baptists may be asked to respond to a need to build temporary shelters for Chilean quake victims, said Mel Johnson, disaster relief strategist for Alabama Baptists. But for now, plans are still being put in place for long term Southern Baptist efforts there, he said.

Meanwhile Alabama Baptists are continuing to respond to needs in Haiti in the wake of a devastating Jan. 12 quake that killed about 200,000 people and left thousands more homeless.

Churches and individuals took ownership of the Buckets of Hope project, turning in thousands of buckets filled with provisions for Haitian quake victims. And missions teams continue to serve in the nation, doing feeding and medical work.

But efforts will be ramped up even more soon, as Alabama Baptists are looking to

adopt a specific zone of Haiti on which to focus ministry, Johnson said.

He, along with a specialized assessment team, will head to Haiti on March 20 to make connections with local churches in Jacmel, a town about two-and-a-half hours from the capital city, Port-au-Prince.

"Jacmel sustained some damage, not the level of damage that Port-au-Prince experienced, but nevertheless significant damage," Johnson said.

Ministry to refugees in Jacmel

But the main opportunity for ministry will be among the hundreds of people who flocked there as refugees after the quake, he explained. "We are excited about the opportunity we have to have some firm projects develop out of this (assessment trip)."

Many of the Alabama Baptist disaster relief volunteers recently trained and credentialed will be called up to work in Jacmel over the coming months once transportation, supplies and housing are secured there, he explained.

"We are getting things in place on this trip and establishing relationships with local churches that we will be able to work through while we're there," he said.

Meanwhile a strong quake also rocked Turkey on March 9, killing at least 51 people, according to CNN. Local Baptist Global Response-trained disaster relief teams were responding in the nation, but at press time, the Turkish government was not seeking international relief help. (BP contributed)

Haitian judge frees 1 Baptist volunteer

A Haiti judge freed one of two remaining Baptist volunteers March 8 but kept the group's leader in jail pending further investigation.

Judge Bernard Saint-Vil allowed Charisa Coulter to be released, more than five weeks after she and nine others were arrested Jan. 29 for trying to take 33 children out of the earthquake-ravaged country to a makeshift

orphanage in the Dominican Republic. They allegedly did not have the proper paperwork.

Saint-Vil kept the group's leader, Laura Silsby, in jail, Reuters and The Associated Press reported. Both Silsby and Coulter are members of Central Valley Baptist Church, Meridian, Idaho. The other eight members of the group were released Feb. 18 and are back in the United States. (BP)

Hanceville residents vote by narrow margin to keep city dry

By **Brittany N. Howerton**
The Alabama Baptist

Hanceville residents voted March 9 to keep alcohol out of their city, but unless churches step up and meet the city's needs, it won't be very long before alcohol moves in, said Terry Phillips, pastor of First Baptist Church, Hanceville.

With a close vote of 575-547, Phillips said residents are "giving believers a chance, they're giving the Church a chance" and this is the time to step up and make a difference.

Still a fight in the future

The alcohol legislation was presented as a way to help Hanceville's financial situation, Phillips explained.

Since the referendum was voted down this voting cycle, "we've got two years in Hanceville to prove you can support a town without legalizing alcohol," he said. "But if the town is not supported at the end of these two years, that sucker (alcohol) is going legal as sure as I'm sitting here."

Tensions were high as voters anxiously awaited results of the election with the high-

est voter turnout in Hanceville's history, according to *The Cullman Times*.

There were 1,122 ballots cast.

And tensions only rose when city officials announced a 535-534 result favoring a dry city but making the tally too close for a final call.

Officials later discovered they had misinterpreted the electronic printouts and corrected the final totals, keeping the city dry by 28 votes.

At press time, there were still 23 provisional ballots that had yet to be verified and counted by the board of registrars, according to City Clerk Tania Wilcox. These ballots could potentially be disputed based on issues such as the mental condition of an absentee voter or questions about an absentee voter's registered address.

She said although the eligible ballots will be counted, there would not be enough to alter the outcome of the vote.

Outcome is 'great victory'

Joe Godfrey, executive director of Alabama Citizens Action Program, said because of residents' dedication to the cause,

the outcome was a "great victory" for God's people. "If community leaders will organize themselves and put forth the effort, this go-liath — the alcohol industry — can be defeated," he said, adding that while he is "excited" and "encouraged" by the outcome, now is the time for the Christian community to stand together.

Bringing life into downtown

"The alcohol industry never gives up; they never quit," Godfrey said. "And they'll probably be back to Hanceville in a couple of years, so Christians can never let down their guards because Satan never gives up. It's about standing strong, being consistent."

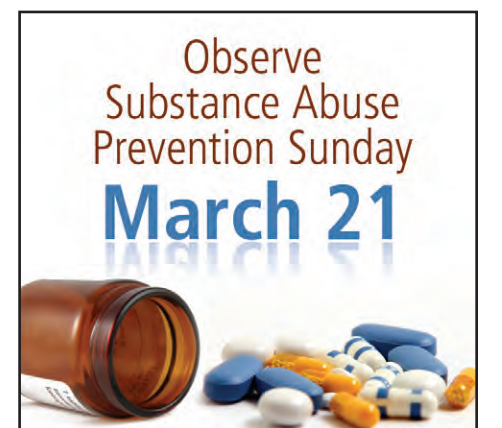
Phillips said he is willing to do what he can to promote the health and financial stability of the city.

"Since this thing did stay dry, we must do everything possible to bring life back into downtown Hanceville because it is dead," Phillips said. "Alcohol is not the answer but bringing businesses and families back into downtown — that is a necessity. I'm willing to do whatever I can to encourage business-

es and business owners to come and support the town.

"I'm tired of bad bleeding over to good," he added. "It's heartbreaking. ... You have to keep standing strong and doing what's right, and I'll keep encouraging my people to do what's right."

"If you do what's right, then at end of day, good things will happen. Hopefully that's what has happened in Hanceville."



Across Alabama's Associations

BESSEMER

► **Canaan Church, Bessemer**, will hold disciple now called Becoming: Finding My Identity in Christ April 9–10. For information call 205-425-4381 or e-mail mgay@canaanbaptist.net. Morgan Bailey is pastor.

BIBB

► **Rehobeth Church, Lawley**, will celebrate homecoming March 21, 10:30 a.m., with guest speaker Ron Jennings. Glorybound will provide special music in the morning and afternoon. Ron Jennings is pastor.

BIRMINGHAM

► **Deerfoot Church, Trussville**, will hold its annual ladies tea April 10, 11 a.m.–1 p.m., with the Bargainomics Lady, Judy Woodward Bates. Lunch will be served. Tickets will be on sale March 21–April 4. Call 205-655-0798, option 2. Roger Willmore is pastor. ► **Fellowship Church, Birmingham**, will host former University of Alabama and NFL football player Jeremiah Castille March 21, 11 a.m. Lunch will follow, and Castille will sign autographs. For information call 205-631-4953. Ron Reed is pastor. ► **Lakeside Church, Birmingham**, will hold a senior adult revival March 21–24 with Jimmy Draper, retired president of LifeWay. Services will be Sunday and Wednesday at 6 p.m. There will be a luncheon service Monday and Tuesday at 11:30 a.m. Draper and his wife, Carol Ann, will hold breakout sessions follow-

ing the Tuesday service. Breck T. Ladd is pastor. ► **Raleigh Avenue Church, Homewood**, will host special guest Squire Parsons March 21, 10:50 a.m. Richard Trader is interim pastor.

BLOUNT

► **Pleasant View Church, Holly Pond**, will hold its third Sunday night singing March 21, 6 p.m., with The Fishermen, of Albertville. For information call 256-796-5986. Randy Burtram is pastor.

CAHABA

► **John W. Nicholson Jr.** is the new pastor of **Siloam Church, Marion**. He comes from First Church, Sulligent. He and his wife, Vanessa, have three children.

CALHOUN

► **Calhoun Association** will host Prayer — God's Gift: Northeast Alabama Great Commission Prayer Conference with Greg Frizzell March 26–27 at First Church, Oxford. Sessions will be Friday, 5:50–9:15 p.m., and Saturday, 7:30 a.m.–noon. Breakout session speakers will be Elaine Helms of the North American Mission Board and Mike Jackson of the State Board of Missions. There will be a light breakfast on Saturday. To RSVP call 256-237-5171 by March 22. Sid Nichols is director of missions for Calhoun Association. Terry Bostick is pastor of First, Oxford.

COFFEE

► **Michael Mynatt** is the new pastor of **Hillcrest Church, En-**

terprise. He comes from First Church, Atlanta, where he served as associate pastor of ministry. He also served churches in Missouri and Texas. A



MYNATT

native of Missouri, Mynatt holds a bachelor's degree in religion from William Jewell College in Liberty, Mo., master of religious education from Midwestern Seminary in Kansas City, Mo., and doctor of educational ministries from Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. He and his wife, Leslie, have two children.

NORTH JEFFERSON

► **Matt Butts** is the new youth minister of **Beechwood Church, Mount Olive**. He has served Gardendale's First Church, and NorthPark Church, Trussville, as a student intern. Butts is currently enrolled at New Orleans Seminary. He and his fiancé, Kelli Patterson, plan to be married in June. Jeff Griffis is pastor.

TUSCALOOSA

► The Catching Kids Puppet Ministry of **Northridge Church, Northport**, will present "The Easter Talk" March 28, 6 p.m. For information call 205-758-5599. Brad Smith is pastor.

Alabama updates

People, churches making news across the state

Dauphin Island Church 'rejoices' over 50 years

"Rejoice in the day of small beginnings" was Pastor Chris Schansberg's message to the approximately 140 people gathered for Dauphin Island Baptist Church's 50th anniversary celebration Feb. 28.

"Our society today is full of people who underestimate the importance of small beginnings," Schansberg said, using Zechariah 4:1–10 as his text. But like the popular restaurant chain McDonald's or the nation of Israel, "you always start small."

And the Mobile Baptist Association church is no exception, he noted. The church, which was begun by a few people who saw a need for a Baptist mission on Dauphin Island, held its first service Oct. 18, 1959. Since that time, Dauphin Island Baptist has grown in size and had people from other countries like Germany, India and Japan come through its doors, accept Christ and share their faith with others in their homeland.

One of its most successful ministries is the Resort Ministry Center, which was begun approximately 35 years ago by then-Pastor Floyd Spears. According to Schansberg, more than 1,000 volunteer missionaries from across the country come through the center to do missions work in the region each year.

In the 12 years Schansberg has been at the church, it has begun a college outreach ministry, a senior citizen day program and an (online) podcast ministry, to name a few things.

Thus the anniversary celebration was a time to rejoice. Lonette Berg, executive director of the Alabama Baptist Historical Commission, and Thomas Wright, executive director of missions for Mobile Association, were featured guests that day.

"You'd think [the day] would be about the past and it was ... (but) it really became a focus on moving forward," Schansberg said. "It was a reaffirmation that we could get out there and do whatever."

Seale Church women launch hunger ministry

"I'm 70 years old and have lived a long time, and I've never seen as many families who are out of jobs ... and children who need as much help as we have right now," said Carolyn Corcoran, a member of Seale Baptist Church.

She knew she had to help. They all had to help.

So the 12-member women's ministry of the Russell Baptist Association church organized The Food Bag and registered it as an agency of Feeding the Valley, an organization in Columbus, Ga., dedicated to gathering and distributing food to people in need.

Sponsored by Seale Baptist and Russell Association with help from fund-raisers and special designated donations, The Food Bag delivers food baskets to individuals and families in the community. "The ministry is open to anyone in need, and all they need to do is contact us," Corcoran said. "The response has been enormous. We hoped we'd be feeding five families a month, but we're already up to 15 and believe we'll be able to feed them twice a month."

The Food Bag is even attracting attention from the church's brotherhood group, which is seeking to work alongside the women's group to expand the ministry.

"It's a wonderful opportunity for the community to see us as a loving church (and see) that we are a church that wants to be very involved in our community," Corcoran said.

Sammy Turner is pastor of Seale Baptist.

West Cullman Association hosts training for deacons

More than 150 deacons and their wives gathered at Seventh Street Baptist Church, Cullman, Feb. 26–27 for the West Cullman Baptist Association deacon training conference.

With sessions led by Mississippi pastor John Temple, former pastor of Seventh Street Baptist, the two-day conference not only trained attendees in deacon ministries but also encouraged them to take spiritual-gifts training back to their churches to use in reaching their communities for Christ. It was an opportunity to put the emphasis on everyone having a ministry in the church and laypeople joining deacons in ministries like hospital visitation, grief counseling and evangelism, said Director of Missions Jack Collins.

"We have a sense of revival taking place in West Cullman Baptist Association, and that means equipping key leaders — pastors and pastors' wives, deacons and deacons' wives," he said.

"We're going after our Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria and to the outer parts of the world," Collins added.

He said the timing of the conference was ideal in light of the God's Plan for Sharing: Across Alabama initiative culminating on Easter. "We want to be well prepared to do what God is going to do in our association," Collins said.

Someone You Should Know

RUTH SMITH YARBROUGH

By Kristen Padilla
The Alabama Baptist

First Baptist Church, Montgomery
Montgomery Baptist Association

FAVORITE VERSE: Proverbs 3:5–6
FAVORITE HYMN: "Because He Lives"
HOBBIES: Reading, word puzzles and photography

FAMILY STATUS: Married to Terry for 43 years; three sons, Hugh, Steven and Kevin; and one granddaughter



YARBROUGH

Ruth Smith Yarbrough is the only person to work under five executive directors of the Alabama Baptist State Board of Missions (SBOM): A.H. Reid (1944–1963), George Bagley (1963–1983), A. Earl Potts (1984–1990), Troy Morrison (1991–1999) and Rick Lance (1999–present). Since retiring in 2006, Yarbrough and her husband have helped start two Sunday School classes at their church.

Q: How did you come to Jesus?

A: I grew up in Chilton County with parents who took me to church regularly. I accepted the Lord in first grade at a revival.

Q: How did you first start working with the SBOM?

A: I was going to a business college in Montgomery, and the Baptist convention building was next to my church. I prayed for the Lord's leading, and He led me to talk to them (the SBOM) about part-time work. I worked there part-time while in school, starting in 1963, and went full-time after I graduated. I worked there for three and a half years until my husband and I moved away. We moved back in 1982, and I started back in the church training office. Then I worked in church-minister relations with Dr. Troy Morrison.

When he became executive director, he asked me move to that office with him, and I continued there as a ministry assistant to Dr. Lance. I worked for a total of 28 years. I always felt I was working "as for the Lord" (Col. 3:23) and believed that anything worth doing was worth doing well.

Q: What did you love the most about serving with the SBOM?

A: I felt like the Lord called me to that ministry. I enjoyed getting to know so many wonderful Christians, fellow employees as well as ministers and laypersons from around the state.

GCR plan 'would devastate' work in Michigan

By Bob Terry
The Alabama Baptist

Everyone here is worried about the future of their ministries, their jobs, their living," said Ted Stephens, cooperative missions ministries team leader for the Baptist State Convention of Michigan (BSCM). "It is a major concern, and there are so many unknowns."

Stephens was referring to the potential impact of the report of the Great Commission Resurgence (GCR) Task Force of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC), which recommended the North American Mission Board (NAMB) phase out its support of state conventions, including conventions in new work areas. For the full report from the GCR Task Force and related stories, visit www.thealabamabaptist.org/promo.php.

Nurturing others

The task force report says nurturing state conventions in new work areas will become the responsibility of mature state conventions. Funds freed up by phasing out work with state conventions will be redirected to direct church-planting efforts in the nation's major cities and underserved areas, the report says.

Since Alabama Baptists have a ministry partnership with Southern Baptists in Michigan, convention leaders in the Wolverine State were

asked what kind of support would be needed if the task force report is adopted by messengers to the SBC annual meeting in June and the nature of ministry partnerships changes.

"First of all, it (the task force recommendation) would devastate our convention," said Michael Collins, BSCM director. He explained the convention anticipates \$1,534,223 coming from cooperating churches for the 2010 budget. NAMB anticipates investing \$1,447,732 in Baptist work in Michigan. Additional funds come from LifeWay Christian Resources, GuideStone Financial Resources and other areas.

This amount does not include benefits for each appointed missionary, which are slightly more than \$13,000 per couple annually, according to NAMB.

"Our cooperative agreement specifies we will put up 15 percent of each approved item and NAMB will put up 85 percent," Collins continued. A cooperative agreement is the tool used by NAMB to determine ministries and missionaries state conventions and the national organization will jointly fund.

Collins said even though Michigan is a new work state, the convention forwards 30.5 percent of Cooperative Program (CP) funds to SBC missions causes. The remainder, together with funds from the state missions offering, is used to help meet

the state's 15 percent responsibilities as well as fund those things in which NAMB does not participate. The state convention would immediately lose its evangelism director and all four of its full-time missions staff, Collins said. That includes the leader of work with blacks, the leader of language ministries and the leader of missions ministries, which include church and community ministries, chaplaincy, student work and more.

Eliminating positions

Stephens, who oversees work with Anglos as well as the state's 12 directors of missions (DOM) and whose position also would be eliminated, said an irony of the proposal is that his position as well as the three other missions staff positions to be eliminated are about church planting.

"If NAMB is going to redirect its money and do church planting directly, does that mean they are going to work outside of a state partnership or outside the local association?" he asked. "That would be a new kind of cooperation as I understand the term."

Also impacted by the task force recommendation would be all the DOM positions, which receive 85 percent NAMB funding through the cooperative agreement.

"One or two of our associations might be able to pick up the support of the DOM," Stephens observed. "But there is no way the others could do that. They are just too small."

He added that even the one or two that might be able to support a DOM on their own would likely do so by redirecting funds away from CP missions giving.

NAMB also funds three part-time consultant positions in Michigan — one for senior adult evangelism, one for youth evangelism and a bivocational ministry.

Each of these would be eliminated, Collins said. Twenty-one current church starts now supported through the cooperative agreement at the 85-15 ratio would also be impacted.

"We have a five-year plan through which annual support is reduced until each church start is self-supporting," Stephens explained. If NAMB money were withdrawn, then he said there would be "no way Michigan Baptists



Photo by Bob Terry

OPEN DOORS — Wayne Parker (right), pastor of Merriman Road Baptist Church, Garden City, Mich., stands with his father, Bill, in front of the church. The Parkers have been members since 1957.



Photo by Bob Terry

PEOPLE TO REACH — DOM Mike McCoy (left) of Woodland Association and DOM James Glidewell (right) of South Central and Southwestern associations study population maps of their areas with state convention Executive Director Michael Collins.

NAMB missionary, money reporting error doesn't impact GCR Task Force proposal, Floyd says

The Great Commission Resurgence (GCR) Task Force has been developing its recently released proposal for changes in Southern Baptist life based on information gathered from various work and ministries funded through the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC).

So when on March 5 North American Mission Board (NAMB) officials discovered an error in the missionary and funding data they gave to the GCR Task Force, many wondered if that would, in turn, change the task force's proposal released Feb. 22 (visit www.thealabamabaptist.org/promo.php for the report).

But Ronnie Floyd, task force chairman,

said the discovery did not alter the major concern of the task force.

"[W]e spend two-thirds of the Cooperative Program dollars on one-third of the population and conversely spend only one-third of the Cooperative Program dollars on two-thirds of the population in the United States."

'Pioneer' work funded the most

The incorrect data given to the task force last year indicated that two-thirds of the mission board's missionaries and money goes to the South while one-third goes to states with little Southern Baptist presence.

But in fact, fewer than half of NAMB mis-

sionaries are in the South and more than three-fourths of the \$62 million NAMB disperses goes to the 36 pioneer states and Canada.

NAMB said there are 2,733 missionaries serving in the 36 states outside the "old line" region in the southern U.S. and another 133 serving in Canada totaling 53 percent deployed in North America where there aren't large numbers of Southern Baptists.

NAMB said \$48 million goes to support work "where Southern Baptist church presence is the least." Although referred to as "pioneer" areas for the SBC, these states and Canada contain several of the largest urban and metropolitan areas in North America.

can pick up that much money."

Stephens asked if the task force recommendation was going to result in state conventions, associations and individual ministries competing for support across the nation.

'Part of who we are'

"How we do things as Southern Baptists has been a real part of who we are," he said. "The GCR report seems to be changing that."

"I believe in autonomy but I believe Baptists should work together," he added. Collins noted that in addition to eliminating personnel, the proposal would impact the state evangelism conference and all other evangelism and missions ministry activities that now receive financial support through NAMB.

"If we in Michigan were to ask Alabama as a mature Baptist con-

vention to fund us to the tune of \$1.5 million annually, that would really change the nature of partnership missions, and I am not sure it would change it for the better," he said.

Adding to the concern about mature conventions nurturing new work areas is the number of areas needing help. While no clear definition of mature conventions has been set forth, a map used by the task force in making its presentation showed the area of traditional SBC presence stretching from Virginia across Kentucky to Oklahoma and south. This area includes 16 state conventions, including two each in Texas and Virginia.

There are 27 state or regional conventions (including the Canadian National Baptist Convention), all of which now work through NAMB with cooperative agreements. ■

NAMB attributed the discrepancy to double counting of missionaries in Virginia and Texas, which each have two state conventions.

Richard Harris, NAMB's interim president, said NAMB immediately took action when the error was discovered. "We will leave it to the GCR Task Force members and others to determine the significance of these new numbers; we just wanted to provide this information as soon as we discovered it so the rest of the discussion can include the correct data."

The Alabama Baptist asked NAMB officials if the new numbers should be taken into consideration by the task force, but there was no response at press time. (BP, TAB)

'Willing to help'

Highland Avenue Church provides outreach to single parents, children

By Anna Swindle
Correspondent, The Alabama Baptist

When Steve Patrick became pastor of Highland Avenue Baptist Church, Montgomery, last summer, he quickly became aware of an obvious need in the community: a single parent outreach.

For Patrick, the ministry opportunity is something he could relate to based on personal experience.

"Both of my daughters became single parents, and I saw firsthand the struggles they went through and how hard it was for them to find ministries to help heal those open wounds," Patrick said.

Developing a ministry

So he and members of his Montgomery Baptist Association church are trying to provide an outlet for single parents with a ministry based on James 1:27, which calls Christians to help widows and orphans.

And they're looking to do much more than just meet physical needs and provide child care, though those things are certainly part of the program. The church plans to involve several agencies as well to

give parents access to job-training and child-rearing courses, among others.

Parents interested in the program must go through a screening process as well as an initial interview with either Patrick or another pastor to help determine their specific needs.

Commitment

And there are stipulations for parents' involvement.

"We will have some requirements as far as lifestyle and a commitment to a number of things," said Andy Poole, a Highland Avenue Baptist member who, along with his wife, Sandy, has been instrumental in getting the ministry going.

"We will also be looking at a commitment to a combined Bible study and information program that will go over about a 20- to 21-week period."

On Feb. 19, the church hosted a kickoff banquet for the ministry. It was a success and attracted a sizable crowd, according to church member Jerry Burger.

Patrick said his congregation has been supportive of the ministry



Photo by Philip Hicks

MEETING NEEDS — Steve Patrick, pastor of Highland Avenue Baptist Church, Montgomery, speaks to a group gathered at his church Feb. 19 for the kickoff banquet of a single parent outreach.

from the start, something that has helped it come together quickly and really gain momentum. Several members have signed up to be partners, meaning they donate \$5 per month to the ministry. The church hopes to have 2,000 partners eventually.

And such support is a key ingredient in a successful ministry, Patrick said.

"I believe the most important components to a successful ministry are, one, that there's a need and, two, that there are people willing to help meet that need," he said. "And I think we have that in this case."

Since the ministry is in its beginning stages, it's hard to tell what direction it will ultimately take, but Poole said eventually the

church hopes to expand this ministry to other smaller churches. For now, though, the focus is on meeting the needs of single parents in its community.

"Right now, we'll just do whatever we can do initially," Poole said. "It may be a small number; it may be a large number. Down the road, we're dreaming big dreams and big goals."

7 Baptists with Alabama ties appointed for overseas work

Seven Baptists with Alabama ties were among 61 representatives appointed for overseas work during an International Mission Board (IMB) appointment service March 3 at Bellevue Baptist Church, Cordova, Tenn.

Jeff and Erin Gautney, both graduates of the University of Mobile, are headed to work among the American peoples. Jeff Gautney, a Mobile native and former youth minister at Mobile's Travis Road Baptist Church, will work in evangelism and church planting. He holds a master's degree in missiology from Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary in Cordova, Tenn., and previously served as a journeyman with the IMB.

Erin Gautney, a former public school teacher, will serve in community and home outreach.

The Gautneys have two children — Elijah Jace, 3, and Titus Benjamin, 1.

The five other representatives



J. GAUTNEY



E. GAUTNEY

with Alabama ties cannot be named because they are headed to high-security regions.

But the call to missions is not just for "an elite few such as these sent by the International Mission Board," said Jerry Rankin, IMB president. The Great Commission was given to every church and every believer, he added.

"How grateful we are that we're able to send out these 61 new missionaries," said IMB president Jerry Rankin. "But how many more will it take? How many more until the whole world knows Jesus?" (TAB)



Photo by Doug Rogers

Hildebrand honored for 47th conference

Boots Hildebrand (center in photo) hasn't been to the annual Alabama Association of Baptist Secretaries (AABS) conference all 48 years. But she's really close — she has been there the last 47 of them.

Hildebrand, who retired in 1991 after 30 years as secretary

of Brewster Road Baptist Church, Birmingham, and now attends Crossroads Baptist Church, Warrior, was honored with a cake and plaque presentation during this year's meeting, held Feb. 28–March 3 at Shocco Springs Baptist Conference Center in Talladega.

Nearly 180 secretaries partici-

pated in the meeting. Author and speaker Page Hughes of Westwood Baptist Church, Alabaster, was conference leader, and Westwood Baptist's worship leader, Kevin Derryberry, led music.

New AABS officers were elected during the meeting. Renee Rizzo is the new president. (TAB)

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Church Report for 2009

BAPTISMS, COOPERATIVE PROGRAM RECEIPTS FOR CHURCHES

The following report reflects the Cooperative Program (CP) receipts, designated offerings and baptisms for Alabama's more than 3,200 Baptist churches during 2009.

Churches are listed alphabetically according to association. This report is based on statistics compiled by the Alabama Baptist State Board of Missions (SBOM). Baptism totals are from the Annual Church Profile for the 2008-09 Association Year.

Churches showing a blank response for baptism did not send in a church profile. A blank response for a giving total indicates no gifts were given. CP and designated offering totals are from the SBOM accounting office, January-December 2009.

The SBOM reported total receipts for 2009 — including CP gifts and designated offerings — at more than \$69 million. CP gifts accounted for nearly \$44 million of that total.

For more information, call Bobby DuBois at 1-800-264-1225, Ext. 219, or e-mail him at bdubois@alsbom.org. (TAB)

Alabama Crenshaw	Baptism	CP	Designated
Bethel	0	\$1,766.00	\$0.00
Bethel	0	\$1,377.00	\$0.00
Bradleyton	10	\$200.00	\$380.00
Brantley	0	\$3,959.59	\$6,726.79
Calvary	6	\$60.00	\$0.00
Chapel Hill	0	\$906.82	\$3,606.44
Danielville	14	\$1,158.43	\$14,505.56
Dozier	9	\$540.00	\$2,382.96
Friendship	2	\$3,135.32	\$361.04
Glenwood	0	\$600.00	\$1,000.00
Highland Home	0	\$1,746.59	\$200.00
Jocuin	0	\$2,200.00	\$3,760.00
Luverne First	7	\$9,000.00	\$4,814.39
Magnolia	0	\$0.00	\$3,524.00
Mt. Zion	4	\$13,654.68	\$3,708.50
New Ebenezer	1	\$4,030.61	\$4,400.57
New Harmony	0	\$800.00	\$2,054.00
Oakdale	3	\$0.00	\$300.00
Panola	0	\$160.98	\$117.40
Patsburg	3	\$500.00	\$2,050.00
Pleasant Home	0	\$3,765.19	\$2,034.36
Rock Hill	0	\$1,642.36	\$1,603.16
Rutledge First	4	\$2,668.06	\$998.00
Siloam	1	\$200.00	\$0.00
South Luverne	4	\$20,627.25	\$4,255.00
Spring Hill South	3	\$5,635.29	\$3,015.00
Union	11	\$6,000.00	\$2,107.40
Weed	1	\$0.00	\$485.00
Alabama Crenshaw Totals	83	\$84,568.17	\$68,289.57

Autauga	Baptism	CP	Designated
Autaugaville	5	\$39,108.31	\$28,913.72
Bethel	2	\$1,831.31	\$1,220.87
Bethesda	6	\$3,000.00	\$9,350.55
Bethlehem	3	\$627.00	\$2,409.11
Big Springs	2	\$396.93	\$396.93
Billingsley	5	\$7,420.11	\$2,382.00
Boone's Chapel	12	\$28,383.87	\$5,417.57
Calvary	0	\$4,423.85	\$2,529.00
Camellia	13	\$60,492.30	\$14,479.03
(d) Cornerstone	0	\$49.06	\$147.18
County Line	1	\$3,753.00	\$5,467.00
Crestview	5	\$15,645.11	\$1,384.80
East Memorial	46	\$24,000.00	\$51,538.22
Evergreen	0	\$1,451.85	\$1,283.11
Fresh Rain	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Glynwood	36	\$83,015.52	\$41,059.90
Indian Grave	1	\$27,353.17	\$9,158.08
Jones	1	\$9,900.00	\$1,695.00
Liberty	9	\$6,782.68	\$4,525.41
Marbury	4	\$2,325.64	\$721.00
Milton	0	\$1,595.79	\$100.00
Mount Sinai	7	\$100.00	\$100.00
New Prospect	1	\$806.59	\$583.43
New Vision	16	\$3,901.90	\$11,163.57
Pine Level First	2	\$3,852.33	\$5,035.83
Pleasant Hill	1	\$4,853.60	\$1,411.26
Possey Cross Road First	12	\$4,365.59	\$783.43
Pratt Court	2	\$2,140.61	\$2,309.47
Prattmont	5	\$32,826.28	\$14,482.89
Prattville First	59	\$355,749.63	\$101,638.07
Primera Iglesia Hispana	0	\$208.02	\$617.00
Pueblo De Dios	2	\$278.82	\$139.41
Unity	1	\$5,044.23	\$4,561.82
Wadsworth	3	\$10,717.94	\$2,077.16
White Pond	1	\$14,381.59	\$13,261.89
Autauga Totals	263	\$760,582.63	\$342,343.71

Baldwin	Baptism	CP	Designated
Barnwell	14	\$15,194.73	\$1,707.00
Bay Minette First	23	\$280,024.07	\$53,384.79
Bethel	5	\$18,053.94	\$7,674.17
Bromley	3	\$2,976.00	\$2,407.50
Calvary Bay Minette	3	\$6,041.49	\$609.00
Calvary Foley	0	\$4,450.00	\$9,463.01
Ch. on the Eastern Shore	125	\$7,200.00	\$0.00
Crossroads at Belforest	0	\$0.00	\$0.00

Daphne	Baptism	CP	Designated
Durant Chapel	5	\$22,043.05	\$18,011.26
East Pointe	13	\$47,051.97	\$14,741.31
East Wind Ministries	0	\$931.40	\$50.00
Eastern Shore	19	\$124,705.95	\$49,761.51
Eastwood	0	\$2,870.15	\$1,965.44
Elberta First	0	\$4,490.00	\$2,936.50
Fairhope Avenue	1	\$17,892.27	\$4,266.97
Fairhope First	54	\$199,980.51	\$90,404.39
Faith	5	\$0.00	\$2,558.62
Faith Family Fellowship	17	\$49,612.84	\$13,232.43
FBC Summerdale	8	\$9,497.30	\$5,847.65
Fish River	5	\$14,630.27	\$2,880.00
Foley First	35	\$45,210.07	\$24,881.33
Friendship	3	\$15,558.31	\$10,590.37
Grace	25	\$1,213.12	\$2,974.11
Green Acres	0	\$299.04	\$40.25
Gulf Shores First	24	\$92,747.15	\$37,109.83
Hamilton	1	\$8,883.17	\$4,570.30
(d) Island Fellowship	0	\$0.00	\$220.00
Josephine	0	\$2,912.16	\$2,626.00
Jubilee	37	\$105,821.17	\$23,390.00
Lagoon	1	\$13,869.97	\$6,781.38
Lifeway Community	0	\$3,580.75	\$147.00
Lillian First	6	\$8,575.80	\$4,333.46
Loxley First	8	\$38,788.99	\$7,040.06
Magnolia Springs	5	\$12,012.76	\$5,233.60
Miflin	5	\$3,606.16	\$2,915.00
Montgomery Hill	3	\$1,280.00	\$1,650.00
New Horizon	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Life	7	\$9,594.19	\$2,193.49
New Providence	3	\$1,500.00	\$1,468.00
Orange Beach First	12	\$22,375.74	\$15,578.54
Oyster Bay	5	\$20,546.00	\$4,674.00
Perdido 7	1	\$1,225.00	\$5,050.00
Perdido Beach 5	0	\$423.65	\$788.06
Pine Grove	1	\$9,312.00	\$7,488.05
Pleasant View	15	\$7,375.95	\$3,279.59
Point Clear First	0	\$983.38	\$1,940.70
Robertsdale First	40	\$39,020.85	\$18,920.69
Romar Beach	29	\$0.00	\$1,126.00
(d) Seminole First	0	\$0.00	\$300.00
Shell Banks	0	\$3,000.00	\$3,998.00
Silverhill First	0	\$31,083.23	\$7,735.23
Southside	10	\$21,530.67	\$10,956.21
Spanish Fort First	2	\$22,183.92	\$4,953.25
Spanish Trail	1	\$7,141.00	\$1,435.00
Stapleton	4	\$42,845.31	\$9,071.84
Stockton First	3	\$14,794.35	\$3,518.90
Styx River	0	\$1,416.63	\$150.00
Trinity	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Vernant Park	4	\$16,273.76	\$5,724.28
Whitehouse Fork	17	\$1,500.00	\$1,476.59
Baldwin Totals	619	\$1,464,647.66	\$528,732.96

Barbour	Baptism	CP	Designated
Anderson	0	\$743.69	\$0.00
Bethel	15	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bethlehem	0	\$1,166.92	\$406.00
Calvary	11	\$5,249.84	\$8,130.45
Christian Grove	4	\$500.00	\$1,004.00
Clayton	8	\$20,621.62	\$6,919.35
Clio	2	\$0.00	\$0.00
Corinth	0	\$686.04	\$228.68
Emmanuel	8	\$4,422.44	\$905.07
Eufaula First	22	\$143,906.04	\$33,410.99
Evergreen	9	\$12,605.38	\$445.00
Lake City	2	\$7,375.23	\$5,678.51
Louisville	1	\$14,796.35	\$12,208.79
Mt. Zion	0	\$3,412.93	\$2,913.00
Parkview	10	\$48,207.97	\$12,020.38
Pine Level	10	\$6,887.73	\$291.00
Pleasant Hill	0	\$1,200.00	\$505.00
Pleasant Plains	2	\$3,801.53	\$1,648.65
Prospect	0	\$7,018.50	\$1,130.00
Spring Hill	9	\$1,666.00	\$644.00
Sykes Creek	12	\$0.00	\$120.00
Union	0	\$1,063.53	\$1,025.40
Barbour Totals	125	\$285,331.74	\$89,634.27

Besemer	Baptism	CP	Designated
Bethel	2	\$42,740.00	\$15,468.65
Calvary	17	\$116.82	\$1,271.20
Canaan	30	\$84,141.69	\$31,798.98
Christian Walk	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Church of New Beginnings	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Concord	8	\$24,999.96	\$12,555.80
Concord Highland	3	\$20,309.00	\$7,595.00
Cornerstone	0	\$2,200.00	\$700.00
Cottage Hill	9	\$9,015.00	\$3,560.45
Crossbridge	2	\$10,934.12	\$2,307.00
Crossway	1	\$590.00	\$175.00
Dolomite	0	\$637.50	\$150.00
Eastern Valley	0	\$17,143.95	\$7,501.55
Edgewater	4	\$5,543.99	\$2,997.66
Fairfield Highlands	0	\$48,420.56	\$18,899.53
First Missionary	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Garywood	0	\$980.00	\$1,140.00
Grant St.	0	\$275.00	\$14,848.20
Hopewell First	0	\$600.00	\$0.00
Hueytown	22	\$28,724.14	\$14,348.99
Industrial City	0	\$1,295.70	\$1,844.00
Loveless Park	40	\$68,254.70	\$31,021.45
Maytown	7	\$45,646.64	\$44,574.21
McCalla First	0	\$0.00	\$791.70
Mountain View	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Faith	3	\$3,285.60	\$585.00
New Hope	0	\$537.00	\$905.00
North Highlands	9	\$19,816.62	\$19,683.23
Pine Haven	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Pleasant Ridge	7	\$80,435.00	\$36,274.56
Pleasant Valley	2	\$5,228.02	\$1,307.00
Raimund Heights	9	\$4,249.77	\$2,772.68
River Road	0	\$330.09	\$1,741.14
Rock Mtn Lakes	11	\$11,917.17	\$1,795.00
Seventh Street	1	\$1,200.00	\$3,847.00
Shady Grove	0	\$9,025.88	\$4,939.52
Southcrest	3	\$32,021.47	\$11,287.57
Sylvan Springs First	0	\$7,014.98	\$3,256.94
Tannehill Valley	22	\$46,158.81	\$12,130.69
The Bapt. Ch. at McAdory	9	\$53,127.50	\$17,281.85
The Ch. at Ross Station	19	\$26,690.66	\$0.00
Union	0	\$2,980.81	\$5,327.75
Valley Creek	45	\$35,270.31	\$19,323.07
Vineland Park	0	\$450.00	\$990.00
West Highland	8	\$1,500.03	\$3,292.50
Wilkes	1	\$0.00	\$600.00

World Overcomers Christian	Baptism	CP	Designated
Besemer Totals	294	\$753,808.49	\$360,895.67
Bethel	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Aimwell	0	\$6,240.00	\$2,616.06
Beaver Creek	1	\$1,456.80	\$2,250.00
Bethlehem	0	\$5,258.00	\$8,806.64
Calvary	2	\$6,534.98	\$6,894.07
Catherine	0	\$250.00	\$675.00
County Line	1	\$1,358.71	\$1,483.71
Demopolis First	2	\$69,156.00	\$37,312.19
Dixon's Mills	0	\$1,300.00	\$950.00
Fairhaven	10	\$52,871.42	\$18,895.00
Forest Hill	6	\$7,044.29	\$3,058.85
Friendship	6	\$5,808.79	\$2,243.51
Hoboken	2	\$783.94	\$7,355.50
Hope	5	\$2,239.00	\$1,494.00
Jefferson	0	\$325.00	\$695.00
Lamison	6	\$601.81	\$1,229.26
Linden	5	\$26,727.72	\$25,553.87
Mission Ch. of French Creek	0	\$155.00	\$0.00
Myrtlewood	0	\$7,434.28	\$2,291.88
Nanafalia	0	\$4,435.00	\$1,550.00
Nicholsville	0	\$1,605.83	\$1,921.54
Oak Grove	3	\$2,632.29	\$5,274.51
Old Union	1	\$400.00	\$550.00
Pine Hill	1	\$25,320.00	\$15,936.22
Providence	11	\$13,801.79	\$11,721.15
Rangeline	4	\$9,768.35	\$5,499.00
Sardis	1	\$5,471.00	\$4,477.00
Shiloh	1	\$5,242.02	\$9,855.68
Sunny South	1	\$5,812.33	\$8,880.40
Sweet Water	4	\$20,540.20	\$4,777.42
The Church At Putnam	0	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
Thomaston	7	\$15,257.24	\$11,507.48
Union Grove	1	\$300.00	\$1,400.00
Vineland	2	\$916.93	\$163.00
Wayne	2	\$278.74	\$753.39
Westside	3	\$3,663.05	\$987.00
Yellow Bluff	0	\$302.47	\$1,007.51
Bethel Totals	88	\$311,292.98	\$210,365.84
Bethlehem	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Barbara Locklin	0	\$1,200.00	\$4,557.98
Eastwood	32	\$26,723.20	\$47,393.48
Enon	4	\$2,078.86	\$7,124.17
Eureka	3	\$2,888.00	\$1,584.00
Excel	5	\$44,313.82	\$27,785.36
Fountain	3	\$2,125.83	\$3,391.99
Frisco City First	1	\$15,151.08	\$14,039.47
Goodway First	13	\$11,473.73	\$5,252.05
Little River	4	\$6,105.09	\$10,524.04
Mexia	16	\$26,858.95	\$17,244.72

Eoline	0	\$824.00	\$181.00
Faith	0	\$1,599.00	\$15,783.00
FBC Woodstock	16	\$21,833.63	\$14,180.79
Four Points	4	\$6,864.00	\$9,729.00
Haysop	3	\$4,684.39	\$4,684.40
Johnstown	2	\$4,239.20	\$3,715.50
Lowerytown	2	\$0.00	\$6,560.76
Lucile	1	\$1,782.54	\$297.09
Mt. Carmel	14	\$665.28	\$6,095.92
Mt. Moriah	0	\$677.55	\$850.21
Mt. Zion	0	\$0.00	\$100.00
New Hebron	8	\$1,438.86	\$1,826.64
Old Union	6	\$0.00	\$0.00
Pineview	18	\$6,039.78	\$0.00
Pondville	0	\$1,810.00	\$2,161.00
Randolph	2	\$9,749.74	\$3,256.18
Rehobeth	2	\$1,376.36	\$2,556.97
Schultz Creek	16	\$9,354.07	\$6,545.63
Shady Grove	14	\$4,908.00	\$3,014.88
Shady Grove #2	7	\$397.00	\$0.00
Six Mile	0	\$750.22	\$6,449.83
Smith Hill	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Thomas Mill	5	\$2,251.00	\$2,951.00
West Blocton First	5	\$4,333.29	\$3,734.29
Bibb Totals	220	\$220,990.14	\$157,253.40
Bigbee			
	Baptism	CP	Designated
Beulah	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Christian Valley	4	\$1,500.00	\$2,810.00
Clinton	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cuba	14	\$8,996.42	\$5,888.89
Epes	0	\$0.00	\$500.00
Eutaw	2	\$19,508.87	\$6,310.00
Friendship	0	\$800.00	\$2,425.00
Gainesville	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Lamkin Memorial	1	\$0.00	\$0.00
Livingston First	7	\$35,557.01	\$14,812.79
Old Belmont	0	\$0.00	\$2,292.50
Shorts	0	\$0.00	\$100.00
Siloam	0	\$6,251.77	\$13,044.18
Sumterville	0	\$100.00	\$600.00
Ward	0	\$2,256.66	\$2,795.00
West Greene	0	\$140.00	\$425.00
York	0	\$17,856.19	\$11,068.37
Bigbee Totals	28	\$92,966.92	\$63,071.67
Birmingham			
	Baptism	CP	Designated
Abundant Life		\$0.00	\$0.00
Adamsville		\$9,845.60	\$4,859.67
Agape		\$39.68	\$698.39
Agape Cristiana	5	\$5,083.39	\$2,654.88



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New Prospect	2	\$0.00	\$2,700.00
Old Philadelphia	4	\$0.00	\$0.00
Oneonta Second		\$0.00	\$600.00
Pine Bluff	3	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Pine Grove	8	\$0.00	\$2,400.00
Pleasant Hill #1		\$0.00	\$2,750.00
Pleasant Valley		\$0.00	\$0.00
Pleasant View	7	\$1,548.52	\$20,004.70
Robin Hill	2	\$0.00	\$1,002.67
Roswell Creek	11	\$0.00	\$600.00
Shady Grove #1	2	\$0.00	\$1,065.00
Shady Grove #2		\$0.00	\$1,700.00
Shiloh	9	\$0.00	\$0.00
Shoal Creek		\$0.00	\$0.00
Tafts Gap		\$0.00	\$1,200.00
Twenty Fifth Avenue		\$577.00	\$1,934.50
Union Grove #1		\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Valley Grove		\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Warrior Creek	1	\$0.00	\$2,494.00
Warrior River		\$0.00	\$0.00
Welcome #1		\$0.00	\$277.41
Welcome #2	4	\$0.00	\$500.00
West Side		\$0.00	\$0.00
Whitesville		\$0.00	\$150.00
Blount Totals	79	\$4,525.52	\$62,380.40

Bullock Centennial	Baptism	CP	Designated
Eastside	0	\$2,911.28	\$7,074.28
Indian Creek	0	\$1,145.48	\$1,502.00
Inverness	2	\$3,654.58	\$2,850.00
Liberty	2	\$1,036.00	\$300.00
Loflin	0	\$1,217.13	\$868.00
Macedonia	32	\$22,044.95	\$5,219.00
Midway	0	\$2,809.70	\$8,215.00
Mt. Carmel	3	\$3,611.12	\$2,265.00
Union Springs First	4	\$14,087.52	\$10,281.20
Bullock Centennial Totals	43	\$52,517.76	\$38,574.48

Butler	Baptism	CP	Designated
Antioch East	8	\$29,513.08	\$14,220.60
Antioch West	4	\$1,510.47	\$9,102.96
Bethel	0	\$715.00	\$0.00
Brushy Creek	3	\$3,482.79	\$598.20
Calvary	9	\$1,917.90	\$2,584.00
Central	0	\$792.90	\$872.76
Damascus	2	\$977.00	\$977.00
East Chapman	6	\$1,362.21	\$481.57
East Greenville	2	\$876.63	\$1,055.99
Ebenezer East	0	\$3,178.35	\$3,067.00
Forest Home	3	\$4,787.00	\$5,765.22
Garland	6	\$0.00	\$400.00
Georgiana First	2	\$7,495.10	\$1,167.50
Gravel Hill	1	\$1,643.50	\$3,732.00
Greenville First	5	\$55,821.29	\$16,807.58
Hopewell	2	\$0.00	\$0.00
Liberty	0	\$5,986.88	\$4,057.20
McKenzie	0	\$2,000.00	\$5,930.00
Midway	0	\$400.00	\$3,715.00
Mt. Olive East	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mt. Olive West	11	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mt. Pisgah	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mt. Pleasant	2	\$16,742.44	\$5,388.00
Pleasant Hill	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sardis	1	\$899.41	\$600.00
Shackleville	3	\$2,724.06	\$200.00
Shiloh	0	\$957.00	\$413.00
Southside	19	\$32,000.00	\$12,576.62
Spring Creek	3	\$3,666.22	\$4,596.50
Spring Hill	1	\$1,195.67	\$1,179.56
Welcome	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Butler Totals	93	\$180,644.90	\$99,488.26

Cahaba	Baptism	CP	Designated
Calvary	0	\$202.33	\$809.37
Ephesus	0	\$1,900.00	\$5,366.00
Faith Chapel	0	\$1,974.08	\$2,665.00
Friendship	1	\$500.00	\$1,212.00
Hopewell	1	\$8,717.66	\$4,713.26
Medline	0	\$75.00	\$325.00
Mt. Olive	0	\$0.00	\$400.00
Newbern	0	\$500.00	\$1,500.00
Ocmulgee	1	\$2,300.00	\$1,579.00
Pine Flat	0	\$4,000.00	\$7,101.00
Pine Grove	1	\$5,597.49	\$4,698.93
Pisgah	0	\$6,936.71	\$4,592.00
Second	2	\$616.68	\$0.00
Siloam	2	\$17,199.16	\$4,642.00
Uniontown	5	\$9,930.56	\$4,919.86
Cahaba Totals	13	\$60,449.67	\$44,523.42

Calhoun	Baptism	CP	Designated
Alexandria	1	\$19,090.35	\$5,622.00
Angel Grove	6	\$9,662.55	\$6,819.67
Anniston First	4	\$14,708.10	\$19,250.68
Antioch Bynum		\$2,637.21	\$2,513.16
Antioch Oxford	21	\$33,991.83	\$13,202.73
Asbury	2	\$0.00	\$3,300.00
Bethlehem	6	\$850.95	\$725.00
Big Valley		\$0.00	\$0.00
Blue Mountain	1	\$6,861.96	\$5,325.00
Boiling Springs	1	\$500.00	\$500.00
Bonny Brook	0	\$500.00	\$500.00
Bynum	0	\$6,978.36	\$9,461.89
Calvary	14	\$3,180.00	\$5,588.07
Cedar Springs	0	\$840.18	\$1,293.54
Cheaha	1	\$1,265.25	\$0.00
Chosea Springs	2	\$0.00	\$2,764.00
Coldwater	8	\$8,440.97	\$3,396.57
CrossRoads		\$3,147.08	\$0.00
DeArmanville First	3	\$1,000.00	\$3,049.00
Duke First		\$5,554.44	\$2,625.00
Emmanuel		\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Eulaton First	8	\$11,133.85	\$2,532.05
Fairview Heights Northside	7	\$10,925.00	\$6,454.45
Faith	0	\$2,802.71	\$3,988.05
Friendship		\$0.00	\$0.00
Gladeview	0	\$12,124.28	\$9,068.04
Golden Springs	30	\$180,337.33	\$73,220.97
Grace	31	\$81,734.61	\$45,990.36
Greenbrier Road	8	\$12,664.37	\$5,061.68
Harmony	3	\$7,254.12	\$3,378.79
Hatcher Avenue		\$0.00	\$0.00
Hebron	8	\$350.00	\$1,608.77
Hickory Street		\$0.00	\$743.00
Hill Crest	111	\$90,087.77	\$26,016.98
Holley Cross Roads	3	\$0.00	\$400.00
Holley Springs		\$0.00	\$0.00
Iron City	37	\$54,159.87	\$15,191.05
Jacksonville First	49	\$121,903.93	\$46,279.70
Lakeview	10	\$11,659.91	\$9,517.75
Leatherwood	49	\$25,200.00	\$13,865.00
Lloyds Chapel	0	\$668.46	\$387.55
Mamre	12	\$1,566.01	\$2,176.01
Meadowbrook	22	\$127,235.89	\$36,074.70
Mt. Gilead	8	\$3,263.58	\$1,427.00
Mt. View	17	\$130.44	\$2,153.64
Mt. Zion	101	\$91,009.46	\$20,866.30

Nances Creek	0	\$10,861.82	\$14,024.27
New Haven	8	\$19,186.08	\$15,617.23
New Hopewell	1	\$1,000.00	\$809.00
New Liberty	2	\$3,130.45	\$1,304.36
New Oak Grove	1	\$0.00	\$0.00
Noble Street	1	\$0.00	\$200.00
Northside Piedmont		\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Nueva Santuario	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Oak Bowery	4	\$1,200.00	\$3,785.00
Oak Grove	1	\$3,997.09	\$5,184.69
Oak Hill	5	\$325.00	\$0.00
Oakridge		\$0.00	\$60.00
Ohatchee First		\$3,473.12	\$2,910.24
Oxford First	17	\$88,044.20	\$50,582.23
Parker Memorial	18	\$137,101.50	\$110,758.13
Pelham	7	\$100.00	\$500.00
Philadelphia	7	\$0.00	\$3,192.60
Piedmont First	17	\$67,731.76	\$18,221.01
Pleasant Ridge	2	\$129.56	\$3,575.86
Pleasant Valley	0	\$0.00	\$2,479.00

Spring Hill	8	\$0.00	\$494.35
Union	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Carey Totals	112	\$166,910.46	\$88,059.23
Central	Baptism	CP	Designated
Bethesda	2	\$782.96	\$365.00
Bluff Springs	0	\$0.00	\$1,200.00
Candler Mountain	4	\$0.00	\$2,361.00
Concord	1	\$1,798.58	\$4,240.08
Goodwater	0	\$6,605.10	\$2,821.14
Grimes Chapel	0	\$2,902.28	\$3,387.00
Hollins	13	\$5,533.85	\$3,320.82
Kellyton	2	\$12,085.00	\$12,782.42
Macedonia	0	\$755.84	\$3,632.50
Mt. Moriah	0	\$4,563.97	\$3,420.58
Mt. Olive	0	\$2,831.00	\$2,500.00
New Providence	0	\$0.00	\$4,199.76
Newsite	2	\$3,234.75	\$994.60
Poplar Springs	5	\$0.00	\$0.00
Providence	3	\$9,243.26	\$4,287.08

CHURCHES RANKING IN TOP 25 Ratio of Baptisms 2009

1. Blocton Third, Bibb Assoc. 1 to 1.05
2. Mountainview, Shelby Assoc. 1 to 1.31
3. Laotian Mission, Mobile Assoc. 1 to 1.43
4. Grace, Baldwin Assoc. 1 to 1.72
5. Herren's Grove, Randolph Assoc. 1 to 1.78
6. Romar Beach, Baldwin Assoc. 1 to 1.79
7. Cowboy Church, Marshall Assoc. 1 to 1.99
8. Ironaton, Coosa River Assoc. 1 to 2.00
9. Mount Olive West, Butler Assoc. 1 to 2.09
10. Antioch, North Jefferson Assoc. 1 to 2.11
11. Cowboy Church of DeKalb Co., Marshall Assoc. 1 to 2.13
12. Central Missionary, Etowah Assoc. 1 to 2.48
13. Safe Harbor, Tuscaloosa Assoc. 1 to 2.50
14. Living Faith, Birmingham Assoc. 1 to 2.68
15. Northside, Tuscaloosa Assoc. 1 to 2.80
16. Eureka, Choctaw Assoc. 1 to 2.83
17. The Peoples Church, Sipsey Assoc. 1 to 2.90
18. Belcher Bethel, Barbour Assoc. 1 to 3.00
19. New Hope North, East Cullman Assoc. 1 to 3.16
20. Clay, North Jefferson Assoc. 1 to 3.26
21. East View, Tuskegee Lee Assoc. 1 to 3.33
22. Mount Olive, Coffee Assoc. 1 to 3.34
23. Spring Hill, Fayette Assoc. 1 to 3.42
- Prudes Creek, Pleasant Grove Assoc. 1 to 3.44
24. Schultz Creek, Bibb Assoc. 1 to 3.44
25. Sykes Creek, Barbour Assoc. 1 to 3.50
- Seven Springs, Shelby Assoc. 1 to 3.50
- Profile, Calhoun Assoc. 1 to 3.50
- Long Branch, Conecuh Assoc. 1 to 3.50

Plum Springs	3	\$4,182.22	\$4,220.57
Post Oak Springs	9	\$12,484.71	\$3,452.00
Profile	4	\$0.00	\$500.00
Rabbittown	1	\$2,543.34	\$130.00
Roberts Chapel	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ruhama	0	\$4,206.67	\$1,775.75
Saks First	20	\$52,791.38	\$44,981.63
Southside		\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Sunny Eve		\$0.00	\$0.00
Ten Island		\$0.00	\$0.00
United Fellowship	6	\$13,988.76	\$5,377.90
Valley		\$1,625.84	\$711.54
Wayside	2	\$0.00	\$75.00
Weaver First	17	\$42,631.09	\$8,438.27
Wellington First	6	\$5,143.00	\$19,761.73
West Anniston		\$650.00	\$1,515.00
West Park Heights	6	\$17,497.60	\$6,323.90
West Point	0	\$11,091.00	\$5,839.63
West Side	4	\$12,124.00	\$8,118.32
West Weaver		\$8,779.69	\$7,228.84
Westwood	67	\$30,872.66	\$17,209.39
Whites Gap		\$0.00	\$0.00
Woodland Park	0	\$600.00	\$0.00
Calhoun Totals	820	\$1,522,313.36	\$783,301.24

Carey	Baptism	CP	Designated
Ashland First	7	\$89,588.02	\$25,513.92
Barfield	13	\$4,366.68	\$12,959.10
Bellview	4	\$0.00	\$0.00
Big Springs	2	\$4,563.72	\$2,082.12
Bowden Grove	0	\$1,220.00	\$3,449.00
Clairemont Springs	3	\$2,191.36	\$0.00
Concord	0	\$0.00	\$3,092.22
Corinth	1	\$1,555.78	\$3,889.24
County Line	4	\$4,012.65	\$2,655.00
Cragford	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Delta	7	\$5,199.76	\$5,665.21
Good Hope		\$0.00	\$0.00
Hatchett Creek	0	\$350.00	\$1,075.00
Horn's Memorial		\$0.00	\$0.00
Liberty, Ashland	12	\$2,739.50	\$2,585.05
Lineville	5	\$36,372.37	\$10,532.50
Lystra	4	\$1,200.00	\$586.44
Macedonia	2	\$250.00	\$332.00
Mellow Valley	0	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Millerville	8	\$5,583.95	\$520.00
Mt. Moriah	5	\$0.00	\$221.11
Mt. Olive	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mt. Pisgah	2	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mt. Zion	8	\$2,900.00	\$5,265.00
New Fellowship	2	\$1,200.00	\$1,700.00
New Hope West		\$0.00	\$0.00
Oak Chapel	9	\$240.00	\$1,594.01
Olive Branch	5	\$0.00	\$500.00
Rock Springs	0	\$2,256.67	\$2,047.96
Sardis	1	\$120.00	\$700.00
Shiloh	0	\$0.00	\$600.00

Ray	1	\$3,255.95	\$1,883.00
Rockford	15	\$13,892.55	\$9,768.16
Sardis	4	\$6,081.20	\$21,072.56
Union	0	\$1,024.03	\$1,550.00
Weogufika First	0	\$949.52	\$1,133.00
Weogufika Second	7	\$4,699.44	\$1,550.00
Central Totals	59	\$80,239.28	\$84,218.70

Cherokee	Baptism	CP	Designated
Alexis	3	\$517.36	\$280.00
Bethel	0	\$0.00	\$260.00
Calcedonia	3	\$853.34	\$0.00
Cedar Bluff First	15	\$17,746.46	\$12,219.79
Centre First	29	\$45,000.00	\$23,175.42
Dalley Street	5	\$3,941.11	\$2,831.28
East Centre	9	\$3,351.13	\$858.67
Enon Grove	11	\$2,772.27	\$3,037.28
Fair Haven	0	\$3,544.69	\$1,710.00
Faith, Gaylesville	5	\$25.00	\$1,000.00
Faith, Piedmont	1	\$212.50	\$12.50
Farill	3	\$0.00	\$0.00
Friendship	0	\$2,773.59	\$300.00
Gaylesville First	0	\$47.00	\$542.00
Leesburg	0	\$367.30	\$233.50
Liberty	4	\$200.00	\$731.45
Melrose	0	\$519.32	\$0.00
Moshat	0	\$1,342.74	\$912.00
Nazareth	0	\$300.00	\$850.00
New Bethel	1	\$375.00	\$2,532.50
New Prospect #2	3	\$3,931.99	\$4,247.00
Noah	4	\$0.00	\$3,288.47
Parkers Grove	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Pilgrim Rest	0	\$406.04	\$606.04
Pine Grove	14	\$26,459.66	\$17,813.15
Pisgah	2	\$3,989.00	\$300.00
Pleasant Arbor	9	\$111.85	\$0.00
Providence	3	\$0.00	\$200.00
Rock Run	0	\$1,753.00	\$40.00
Round Mountain	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Salem	0	\$4,210.00	\$3,250.00
Sand Rock	4	\$13,113.89	\$1,250.00
Sand Valley	0	\$0.00	\$200.00
Sandy Creek	11	\$0.00	\$0.00
Servants Heart	0	\$0.00	\$54.47
Shady Grove	1	\$1,676.34	\$3,521.00



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Johnson Crossroads	0	\$1,496.11	\$0.00
Killen First	5	\$39,360.00	\$27,461.76
Lane Springs		\$0.00	
Lee Heights	8	\$15,018.38	\$2,001.15
Leighton	18	\$34,500.00	\$9,096.27
Lexington First	0	\$8,879.57	\$6,022.22
Liberty	14	\$6,705.35	\$5,897.04
Littleville First	30	\$3,370.00	\$2,876.34
Mountain Springs	2	\$1,300.00	\$3,410.00
Mt. Moriah	6	\$10,104.58	\$6,400.24
Mt. Pleasant	13	\$4,233.00	\$11,282.00
Muscle Shoals	4	\$12,723.35	\$10,413.06
New Bethel	30	\$16,570.00	\$640.00
New Hope	6	\$4,099.19	\$1,500.33
New Sockwell	0	\$2,451.99	\$0.00
Nitrate City	3	\$4,368.48	\$1,509.63
North Highland	38	\$1,820.00	\$3,218.72
Parkview	41	\$4,338.27	\$3,890.71
Pride	0	\$405.76	\$365.14
Rogersville First	13	\$49,301.34	\$31,722.71
Sheffield First	2	\$29,381.88	\$11,156.17
Southside		\$200.00	\$0.00
Spring Valley	0	\$6,815.36	\$7,500.19
Springfield	1	\$621.74	\$4,973.99
The Village	0	\$0.00	\$421.97
Three Forks Missionary	2	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tusculumia First	3	\$45,517.67	\$28,234.00
Underwood	50	\$101,705.00	\$1,200.00
Valdosta	3	\$6,757.96	\$4,385.09
Valley Grove	5	\$20,905.00	\$7,430.00
Washington Park		\$600.00	\$5,434.00
Waterloo		\$0.00	\$0.00
Westside	6	\$2,819.44	\$910.00
Whitehead	1	\$6,862.00	\$4,361.87
Woodmont	33	\$105,114.19	\$60,194.89
Woodward Ave	17	\$80,000.96	\$40,647.37
York Terrace	7	\$49,320.54	\$10,811.43
Zion Hill	8	\$300.00	\$2,060.69
Colbert-Lauderdale Totals	653	\$1,353,021.63	\$603,795.12

Columbia	Baptism	CP	Designated
Antioch	7	\$5,950.70	\$1,229.85
Ashford First	17	\$10,083.26	\$14,013.80
Bay Springs	4	\$4,219.89	\$23,647.44
Bethel	26	\$161,155.34	\$48,242.89
Bethlehem	7	\$22,692.12	\$8,371.66
Beulah	0	\$650.00	\$907.50
Bluff Springs	1	\$24,271.11	\$21,616.56
Calvary Cottonwood	3	\$6,122.00	\$3,542.00
Calvary Dothan	68	\$279,459.15	\$93,568.92
Cedar Springs	0	\$6,913.79	\$3,651.82
Center	6	\$275.00	\$75.00
Cloverdale	24	\$53,721.65	\$17,625.54
Columbia First	4	\$16,169.08	\$15,397.75
Cottonwood First	20	\$1,011.09	\$783.00
Cowarts	5	\$0.00	\$803.00
Dothan First	22	\$229,468.60	\$67,213.84
Ebenezer	10	\$26,382.62	\$10,584.10
Enterprise	3	\$5,612.34	\$6,110.73
Faith	2	\$10,449.15	\$4,235.69
Gordon First	0	\$0.00	\$425.00
Grandview	12	\$65,800.18	\$13,742.50
Heritage	3	\$45,307.51	\$20,508.85
Hodgesville	12	\$10,964.35	\$2,397.55
Kinsey	4	\$18,000.00	\$7,669.28
Liberty	3	\$675.15	\$2,169.25
Madrid	3	\$9,947.58	\$3,497.62
Malvern	21	\$34,706.22	\$6,563.50
Memphis	26	\$138,734.57	\$33,674.29
Mt. Ararat	0	\$732.22	\$500.00
Mt. Enon	17	\$10,570.43	\$3,263.50
Mt. Gilead	15	\$231,394.16	\$140,474.84
Mt. Pleasant	7	\$9,750.74	\$8,630.16
Napier	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Providence	0	\$1,756.23	\$2,220.09
Old Webb Road	3	\$2,533.84	\$1,910.00
Pathway	3	\$10,486.41	\$6,149.20
Pilgrim Home	2	\$32,789.88	\$5,829.00
Pilgrim's Rest East	0	\$363.88	\$363.88
Pilgrim's Rest West	0	\$6,138.53	\$2,925.00
Pleasant Grove	0	\$0.00	\$191.00
Pleasant Hill	0	\$9,760.72	\$523.00
Pleasant Plains	4	\$12,027.85	\$3,632.54
Poplar Springs	0	\$2,541.70	\$1,940.31
Rainbow Meadows	19	\$5,351.48	\$1,789.84
Rehobeth	16	\$41,079.71	\$19,611.61
Ridgecrest	53	\$275,553.35	\$133,306.49
Selma	15	\$15,000.00	\$2,055.00
Smyrna	0	\$4,053.47	\$1,170.00
South Lena	0	\$1,426.33	\$859.00
Southside	4	\$99,933.49	\$111,145.79
St. James	8	\$1,094.74	\$0.00
Taylor	3	\$5,823.70	\$888.99
Union Hill	4	\$3,295.36	\$1,961.00
Wayside	4	\$1,428.28	\$2,958.28
Webb	11	\$1,535.63	\$7,409.71
Columbia Totals	501	\$2,014,561.58	\$893,977.16

Conecuh	Baptism	CP	Designated
Arkadelphia	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Belleville	2	\$300.00	\$26,301.25
Bermuda	3	\$200.00	\$1,425.00
Bower Memorial	12	\$11,472.88	\$9,825.75
Brooklyn	3	\$645.00	\$9,310.00
Castleberry	0	\$509.51	\$1,121.41
Cedar Creek	0	\$1,713.49	\$3,119.00
Evergreen	9	\$26,277.27	\$65,884.46
Fairview	2	\$496.36	\$915.00
Holly Grove		\$0.00	\$0.00
Jones Chapel		\$892.33	\$1,269.25
Lenox	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
London	0	\$770.21	\$6,316.62
Long Branch	2	\$250.00	\$250.00
Lyeffion	1	\$2,080.82	\$1,810.04
Midway	0	\$0.00	\$295.00
New Home	2	\$600.00	\$600.00
New Providence		\$440.32	\$649.32
Oak Grove	3	\$997.41	\$1,596.80
Old Town	0	\$0.00	\$137.75
Olive Branch	10	\$3,394.37	\$2,030.00
Repton		\$600.00	\$2,295.00
Sepulga	0	\$1,590.35	\$69,530.35
Skinnerton		\$0.00	\$0.00
Sweet Home	8	\$5,249.40	\$650.00
Conecuh Totals	57	\$58,479.72	\$205,332.00

Coosa River	Baptism	CP	Designated
Alpine	1	\$0.00	\$11,509.20
Berniston	7	\$4,000.08	\$4,652.00
Blue Eye	4	\$669.00	\$669.00
Bon Air	0	\$2,578.64	\$2,888.77
Brecon, First	1	\$2,782.35	\$1,344.35
Browns Chapel		\$2,800.00	\$0.00
Calvary	7	\$8,868.91	\$2,580.59
Cartersville		\$0.00	\$200.00
Central	8	\$7,000.00	\$7,613.55
Chandler Springs	24	\$4,589.57	\$1,529.85

Childersburg First	4	\$20,395.70	\$6,886.74
County Line		\$0.00	\$0.00
Cragdale	6	\$66.00	\$928.12
Dry Valley	8	\$9,346.00	\$7,131.00
Eastaboga	29	\$39,938.37	\$15,992.48
Eastside		\$156.25	\$508.75
Eureka	13	\$550.00	\$0.00
Faith Ch of Deaf	2	\$2,563.96	\$5,492.14
Fayetteville	0	\$6,736.00	\$3,563.00
Five Points	15	\$15,010.00	\$16,574.79
Friendship	0	\$87.25	\$1,496.41
(d) Grace Memorial	0	\$1,332.94	\$666.59
Heppzibah	5	\$46,195.00	\$22,757.62
Hope		\$1,385.07	\$720.75
Immanuel	3	\$1,173.70	\$3,651.44
Ironaton	2	\$2,502.88	\$1,972.66
Lincoln	0	\$17,008.12	\$15,368.00
Marble City	14	\$31,926.29	\$15,964.52
Mignon	8	\$10,596.56	\$10,240.90
Mountain View	4	\$40.00	\$3,410.00
Mt. Ida	0	\$379.20	\$64.00
Mt. Olive	23	\$1,236.16	\$153.01
Mt. Sharon	2	\$300.00	\$2,695.00
Mt. Vernon	0	\$1,800.00	\$2,130.09
Munford	60	\$9,000.00	\$18,168.31
New Hope		\$2,223.26	\$444.64
(d) Northside	0	\$636.00	\$1,212.53
Oak Grove	2	\$240.00	\$0.00
Oak Grove First	1	\$35,674.65	\$24,963.33
Odena	11	\$34,181.00	\$16,473.50
Oldfield		\$0.00	\$1,253.00
Patton Chapel	0	\$2,719.11	\$5,813.04
Plainview		\$859.35	\$859.35
Pleasant Grove	1	\$7,942.11	\$6,652.56
Providence	10	\$356.00	\$2,620.55
Refuge	2	\$2,993.53	\$2,630.50
Ridgeview	1	\$3,992.37	\$998.77
Rocky Mount	1	\$911.00	\$1,900.00
Russell Chapel	18	\$6,420.40	\$1,925.89
Salt Creek	0	\$0.00	\$600.00
Shelvin Rock		\$1,674.11	\$0.00
Shiloh	0	\$1,001.65	\$1,078.27
Southside	7	\$15,259.19	\$3,628.09
Stemley	6	\$600.00	\$3,671.00
Stockdale	29	\$5,633.30	\$4,454.92
Sycamore	12	\$11,000.00	\$9,542.54
Sylacauga First	20	\$68,000.00	\$56,548.26
Sylvan	1	\$2,262.26	\$6,618.13
Talladega Creek	0	\$1,200.00	\$4,486.00
Talladega First	16	\$43,525.13	\$17,194.26
Talladega Springs	0	\$2,392.45	\$1,592.18
Tallasahatchie First	3	\$5,986.67	\$3,504.95
Trinity	1	\$4,945.81	\$2,039.53
Union Springs		\$0.00	\$0.00
Village Street	5	\$0.00	\$0.00
Westside		\$0.00	\$0.00
Westview	1	\$7,249.33	\$1,625.75
Winterboro	0	\$3,571.39	\$2,610.55
Coosa River Totals	398	\$524,554.07	\$376,465.72

DeKalb	Baptism	CP	Designated
Allen Memorial	2	\$2,160.00	\$1,888.00
Antioch	2	\$7,712.10	\$5,095.32
Bethel	1	\$1,893.45	\$2,425.00
Beulah	0	\$2,555.65	\$1,694.18
Broadway	10	\$75,398.44	\$22,561.16
Central	5	\$2,868.00	\$32.40
Chavies	0	\$4,488.51	\$3,175.50
Collinsville	6	\$3,600.00	\$6,841.50
Corinth		\$0.00	\$0.00
Crossville First	16	\$26,572.50	\$8,170.88
Flat Rock	0	\$0.00	\$349.00
Fort Payne First	12	\$90,790.25	\$37,029.19
Friendship	4	\$40.00	\$4,400.00
Fyffe First	1	\$14,397.84	\$8,526.50
Gault Avenue		\$0.00	\$4,601.18
Geraldine First	4	\$30,967.63	\$8,067.23
Gravel Hill	0	\$4,738.02	\$274.43
Guest	0	\$325.00	\$100.00
Harvest Time	1	\$0.00	\$100.00
Highland	0	\$1,513.00	\$125.00
Hopewell	0	\$1,435.00	\$316.50
Kelly's Chapel	0	\$2,918.00	\$2,661.00
Kilpatrick	0	\$1,056.00	\$1,375.00
Lathamville	2	\$240.00	\$1,614.93
Lea's Chapel	2	\$4,337.41	\$2,050.52
Liberty	13	\$9,375.00	\$3,430.58
Liberty Hill	7	\$11,409.87	\$13,473.06
Macedonia #1	5	\$5,618.17	\$4,707.00
Macedonia #2	6	\$0.00	\$3,500.00
Marantha	2	\$8,673.08	\$3,370.35
Minvale	3	\$14,100.00	\$5,720.00
Moon Lake	2	\$17,195.33	\$2,297.08
Mt. Carmel	4	\$5,033.64	\$11,652.22
Mt. Flat	3	\$2,625.78	\$718.00
Mt. Hermon	11	\$4,080.77	\$1,787.19
Mt. Olive	1	\$300.00	\$930.94
Mt. Pleasant	0	\$0.00	\$3,491.07
Mt. Tabor	1	\$1,157.50	\$1,032.00
Mt. Zion	6	\$1,200.00	\$666.00
Nazareth	23	\$59,248.00	\$29,754.51
New Canaan	2	\$0.00	\$2,276.00
New Genesis	3	\$0.00	\$100.00
New Harmony	3	\$2,586.00	\$5,790.00
New Home		\$0.00	\$750.00
New Hope	1	\$283.84	\$347.88
Northside	5	\$1,072.58	\$0.00

Victory		\$0.00	\$0.00
Willis Valley Community	6	\$0.00	\$600.00
DeKalb Totals	237	\$500,234.72	\$279,280.00
East Cullman	Baptism	CP	Designated
Anon	1	\$4,690.50	\$2,064.10
Antioch	1	\$1,200.00	\$4,711.25
Berlin	0	\$3,602.59	\$4,936.03
Bethlehem East	2	\$10,700.00	\$4,100.00
Brooklyn	0	\$0.00	\$200.00
Center Grove	13	\$25,063.83	\$7,903.74
Center Hill	0	\$5,553.21	\$1,752.00
Center Point	10	\$300.00	\$600.00
Concord	3	\$2,939.35	\$1,772.67
Corinth	3	\$1,790.00	\$5,435.00
Daniels Chapel	9	\$1,862.84	\$1,395.90
Duck River	2	\$6,816.89	\$11,695.62
East Hancockville	3	\$595.00	\$0.00
East Side	3	\$16,183.33	\$6,273.58
Edgewood	5	\$166.24	\$864.96
Enon	0	\$7,683.62	\$5,034.10
Etha	8	\$12,856.77	\$0.00
Fairview First	11	\$31,070.00	\$32,010.39
Faith	10	\$47,208.42	\$3,895.00
Flint Creek	5	\$4,680.66	\$5,402.74
Friendship	6	\$3,251.14	\$3,778.76
Hancockville First	3	\$13,693.67	\$6,036.04
Holly Pond First	2	\$14,006.71	\$16,805.29
Hopewell	20	\$4,315.97	\$14,728.00
Immanuel	3	\$755.37	\$2,445.87
Lake Catoma	3	\$8,554.26	\$9,941.08
Lystra	8	\$4,010.06	\$9,380.45
Midway	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mission Grove	6	\$330.00	\$750.00
Mt. Hebron	3	\$1,065.80	\$187.00
Mt. Hermon	5	\$2,400.00	\$750.00
Mt. Zion	12	\$6,262.34	\$8,045.89
New Harmony	0	\$0.00	\$375.00
New Home	1	\$300.00	\$347.00
New Hope #2	16	\$0.00	\$777.00
New Hope North	19	\$0.00	\$608.22
New Jerusalem	5	\$115.00	\$177.00
Northbrook	118	\$35,184.32	\$38,



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Gadsden First	4	\$99,058.56	\$38,741.28
Gallant First	5	\$8,648.00	\$4,608.00
Glencoe First	9	\$65,842.81	\$24,432.65
Goldenrod Avenue	1	\$0.00	\$0.00
Goodyear Heights	15	\$31,533.09	\$8,579.63
Green Valley	6	\$0.00	\$0.00
Greenwood	0	\$100.00	\$400.00
Harvestfield Church	21	\$6,000.00	\$1,573.00
Heath	8	\$1,301.84	\$200.00
Heritage	1	\$0.00	\$0.00
Hokes Bluff First	16	\$54,942.79	\$31,365.62
Hopkins Chapel		\$0.00	\$0.00
Iglesia Bautista Hispana	2	\$297.34	\$25.00
Immanuel	5	\$17,634.33	\$13,122.00
Ivaloe	10	\$10,417.30	\$2,854.45
James Memorial	4	\$38,008.33	\$15,452.99
Jones Chapel		\$0.00	\$0.00
Keener	2	\$5,797.00	\$1,315.00
Kyle Avenue	2	\$2,715.69	\$2,205.00
Kyuka	2	\$2,482.35	\$1,792.00
Lakeview	12	\$8,679.49	\$8,995.10
Lookout Avenue	0	\$882.32	\$1,282.00
Louis Street	0	\$6,237.55	\$2,765.21
Macedonia	0	\$17,889.94	\$11,832.21
Malone		\$7,079.85	\$0.00
Meadowbrook	48	\$167,378.42	\$7,530.00
Midway	0	\$2,160.00	\$180.00
Mountain View	3	\$0.00	\$241.00
Mt Olive	3	\$2,105.00	\$1,855.00
Mt. Carmel	1	\$3,707.88	\$1,337.50
Mt. Pisgah	1	\$80.00	\$3,489.00
New Harmony		\$0.00	\$0.00
New Hope		\$200.00	\$1,750.21
Noble Hill		\$0.00	\$0.00
North Gadsden	9	\$12,988.95	\$5,365.77
North Glencoe	24	\$34,832.81	\$19,149.97
North Highland	5	\$3,599.97	\$1,345.00
Northside	3	\$1,214.96	\$2,682.00
Oak Park		\$0.00	\$0.00
Paden	3	\$24,665.19	\$13,007.23
Pine Grove	0	\$300.00	\$0.00
Pleasant Hill	5	\$0.00	\$120.00
Pleasant Valley		\$0.00	\$0.00
Rainbow City First		\$0.00	\$0.00
Reed Memorial	0	\$0.00	\$3,200.00
Riddles Bend	10	\$3,600.00	\$1,347.12
Riverbend	5	\$10,856.51	\$3,608.25
Rockledge	0	\$2,036.50	\$1,050.00
Sibertown	5	\$6,283.97	\$3,552.82
South Gadsden	0	\$0.00	\$240.00
South Highland	0	\$208.50	\$1,305.00
Southside	45	\$116,733.00	\$49,608.03
Southside First	10	\$10,068.82	\$1,759.00
Stowers Hill	18	\$8,716.58	\$4,546.15
Triune		\$0.00	\$0.00
Twelfth Street	15	\$62,951.41	\$34,271.51
Union #3	24	\$0.00	\$775.00
Walnut Grove	3	\$4,333.85	\$4,643.55
Walnut Park		\$2,274.50	\$2,906.26
Webster's Chapel	1	\$0.00	\$0.00
West End	2	\$1,375.00	\$1,991.00
White Springs	13	\$56,045.28	\$22,080.20
Whorton Bend	10	\$4,120.84	\$1,504.00
Etowah Totals	731	\$1,223,794.71	\$515,068.35

Fayette	Baptism	CP	Designated
Ashcraft Corner	3	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bankston	0	\$0.00	\$50.00
Beaver Creek	1	\$0.00	\$300.00
Belk	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Berry	0	\$6,266.00	\$3,602.00
Bethel	3	\$2,896.68	\$4,275.73
Caines Ridge	2	\$0.00	\$457.00
Chapel Hill	4	\$2,835.56	\$812.52
Concord	0	\$1,520.00	\$540.00
Covin	0	\$3,156.54	\$2,179.55
Fayette First	7	\$63,483.31	\$39,335.20
Grace	7	\$17,147.00	\$2,177.40
Macedonia	1	\$1,516.55	\$6,800.49
Mountain Home	0	\$196.00	\$254.00
New River	0	\$1,999.74	\$275.18
Oak Ridge	0	\$580.13	\$400.00
Philadelphia	0	\$1,275.82	\$1,200.00
Pilgrim Rest	2	\$1,835.20	\$432.66
Pisgah	0	\$294.00	\$100.00
Pleasant Grove	0	\$2,100.00	\$350.00
Pleasant Hill	0	\$3,082.22	\$3,392.68
Rehobeth	0	\$12,977.61	\$8,274.21
Salem	1	\$400.00	\$9,579.14
Sand Springs	4	\$4,221.39	\$4,900.00
Shady Grove	0	\$3,270.00	\$3,500.00
Shepherd	1	\$2,720.75	\$900.00
Southside	29	\$50,677.00	\$16,929.50
Spring Hill	12	\$1,353.48	\$830.90
Union Grove	1	\$671.38	\$622.84
Unity	4	\$6,248.70	\$2,503.58
Fayette Totals	82	\$192,925.06	\$114,974.58

Franklin	Baptism	CP	Designated
Bear Creek No. 1	1	\$3,371.00	\$2,521.00
Belgreen	0	\$6,106.69	\$1,998.89
Bethel	1	\$2,748.17	\$1,014.47
Calvary	23	\$72,468.06	\$13,261.76
Cherry Hill	0	\$682.00	\$8,192.00
Community Center	9	\$3,079.45	\$0.00
Concord	4	\$3,573.92	\$5,123.92
Crooked Oak	0	\$3,915.89	\$245.00
Divine	9	\$325.00	\$0.00
Duncan Creek	2	\$1,277.15	\$318.80
Ebenezer	0	\$464.55	\$3,456.82
Freedom Community Ch.	4	\$1,807.78	\$70.00
Gravel Hill	3	\$3,982.75	\$1,200.00
Hodges Convention	0	\$2,448.00	\$400.00
Iglesia Bautista Nueva Vida	1	\$461.40	\$65.00
Jonesboro	2	\$862.97	\$754.77
Macedonia	1	\$8,505.25	\$635.00
Mountain View	22	\$10,999.92	\$6,471.81
Mt. Hebron	17	\$23,377.00	\$16,553.97
Mt. Zion	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Friendship	1	\$240.00	\$240.00
New Harmony	0	\$177.85	\$482.00
North Russellville	28	\$2,835.74	\$3,900.00
Orange	4	\$3,150.52	\$659.17
Phil Campbell First	3	\$15,248.52	\$8,446.48
Piney Grove Msn.	1	\$1,094.50	\$0.00
Pleasant Hill	1	\$0.00	\$0.00
Primera Iglesia Bautista	3	\$290.00	\$120.00
Red Bay First	13	\$21,613.47	\$12,874.00
Rockwood	6	\$4,202.00	\$0.00
Russellville First	8	\$71,036.76	\$22,846.50
South Side	5	\$10,701.60	\$6,329.11
Spruce Pine	21	\$7,580.74	\$5,665.50
Tharptown	4	\$27,546.93	\$23,034.95
Vina First	10	\$6,341.42	\$3,975.80
Waco	0	\$600.00	\$650.00
West Highland	2	\$1,587.32	\$1,815.68
Franklin Totals	209	\$324,284.32	\$153,321.48

Friendship	Baptism	CP	Designated
Bethel	9	\$1,800.00	\$8,107.40
Blount Springs	4	\$6,787.43	\$2,829.81
Blountsville	7	\$12,557.38	\$4,767.65
Brookville	1	\$0.00	\$0.00
Center Springs	3	\$1,040.00	\$415.00
County Line	1	\$4,060.74	\$3,225.00
Crossroads	16	\$40,383.23	\$6,217.41
Easley	0	\$650.00	\$1,271.00
Fellowship	2	\$582.51	\$722.00
Fowler Springs	5	\$720.00	\$4,250.00
Gethsemane	18	\$7,663.96	\$15,931.92
Hayden First	27	\$28,235.63	\$22,507.99
Hopewell	22	\$16,037.74	\$8,299.44
Lakeview	0	\$817.53	\$645.18
Locust Fork	43	\$31,935.00	\$12,286.19
Mt. Tabor	2	\$1,600.00	\$3,578.64
Mulberry	7	\$400.00	\$700.00
Oneonta First	18	\$59,274.95	\$30,145.20
Park Avenue	4	\$3,137.57	\$3,759.50
Philadelphia	5	\$6,770.29	\$5,338.76
Pleasant Hill	0	\$1,640.20	\$110.00
Pleasant Mt.	25	\$11,548.98	\$3,734.46
Primera Iglesia Bautista	0	\$208.87	\$25.00
Remlap First	12	\$10,100.71	\$5,840.00
Snead	10	\$1,215.39	\$973.80
Straight Mountain	3	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Trinity	14	\$1,870.00	\$163.00
Union Hill	27	\$39,341.14	\$24,904.44
Village Springs	2	\$5,467.19	\$9,347.05
Zola	8	\$668.51	\$200.00
Friendship Totals	295	\$296,514.95	\$187,197.84

Geneva	Baptism	CP	Designated
Adoniram	0	\$50.00	\$75.00
Antioch		\$600.00	\$1,600.00
Bellwood	2	\$2,864.85	\$2,114.00
Bethesda	0	\$537.00	\$0.00
Calvary/Geneva	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Christian Home	2	\$1,055.00	\$910.00
Coffee Springs First	4	\$11,074.83	\$6,252.78
Corinth	0	\$328.24	\$0.00
Devco	0	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
Eden	0	\$1,400.00	\$650.00
El Bethel	2	\$22,506.33	\$21,115.74
Fellowship	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Friendship	3	\$300.00	\$110.00
Geneva First	23	\$26,455.33	\$18,845.88
Hacoda	0	\$1,161.10	\$300.00

TOP 25 CHURCHES

Lottie Moon Gifts 2009

1. Whitesburg, Madison Assoc.

\$211,734.94

2. Lakeview, Tuskegee Lee Assoc.

\$195,426.05

3. Opelika First, Tuskegee Lee Assoc.

\$193,499.16

4. Montgomery First, Montgomery Assoc.

\$186,247.25

5. Shades Mountain, Birmingham Assoc.

\$179,955.00

6. Mount Zion, Madison Assoc.

\$160,956.13

7. Valleydale, Birmingham Assoc.

\$147,014.85

8. Dawson, Birmingham Assoc.

\$128,015.57

9. Hunter Street, Birmingham Assoc.

\$126,578.32

10. Ridgecrest, Columbia Assoc.

\$117,786.84

11. Mount Gilead, Columbia Assoc.

\$101,522.73

12. Central, Morgan Assoc.

\$94,856.97

13. Willowbrook, Madison Assoc.

\$90,430.69

14. Gilliam Springs, Marshall Assoc.

\$84,704.17

15. Decatur First, Morgan Assoc.

\$74,837.91

16. Trussville First, Birmingham Assoc.

\$73,517.90

17. Pell City First, St. Clair Assoc.

\$72,458.01

18. Green Valley, Birmingham Assoc.

\$69,892.10

19. Parker, Calhoun Assoc.

\$68,920.86

20. Southside, Columbia Assoc.

\$65,745.28

21. Prattville First, Autauga Assoc.

\$64,756.97

22. Birmingham First, Birmingham Assoc.

\$62,352.45

23. Fairhope First, Baldwin Assoc.

\$61,131.79

24. Southside, Madison Assoc.

\$60,497.81

25. Calvary, Columbia Assoc.

\$59,959.21

Limestone	Baptism	CP	Designated
Ardmore First	9	\$36,388.73	\$6,513.36
Atlanta First	15	\$147,994.84	\$85,352.92
Belmont	22	\$5,552.10	\$6,393.19
Capshaw	50	\$76,524.34	\$39,991.01
Cherry Grove	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Clements	69	\$5,600.00	\$13,166.00
Community	27	\$1,625.00	\$2,390.00
Concord	2	\$4,457.76	\$1,708.41
East Highland	9	\$6,621.54	\$1,844.26
Ebenezer	12	\$0.00	\$0.00
Elk River	0	\$74.82	\$290.00
Elkton	0	\$2,807.59	\$2,193.43
Elkton Road	9	\$0.00	\$6,466.00
Elkwood	0	\$652.53	\$70.00
Emmanuel	5	\$55,614.72	\$21,265.50
Enon	2	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fairview	6	\$20,616.59	\$24,429.59
Faith	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
First Hispanic Mission	2	\$608.48	\$62.00
First Union	2	\$2,199.97	\$2,748.97
Lindsay Lane	138	\$140,061.00	\$38,820.00
Mays Memorial	8	\$5,110.61	\$3,028.17
Midway	2	\$11,569.69	\$3,895.58
New Bethel	25	\$9,720.00	\$0.00
New Hope	7	\$5,481.66	\$655.00
Oakdale	8	\$7,698.00	\$2,043.00
Piney Grove	10	\$38,828.74	\$25,825.33
Pleasant Grove	6	\$2,381.89	\$5,230.74
Poplar Creek	2	\$5,590.00	\$3,097.93
Round Island	21	\$12,000.00	\$13,395.00
Salem Springs	6	\$27,085.65	\$7,875.35
Sardis Springs	19	\$55,246.04	\$36,871.73
Shanghai	4	\$1,396.22	\$2,227.00
Southside	5	\$0.00	\$2,138.17
Tanner First	7	\$37,259.31	\$13,206.50

The Grove	7	\$7,598.00	\$44,091.00
Truth	8	\$0.00	\$0.00
West Highland	4	\$10,240.39	\$5,707.54
Woolley Springs	17	\$35,980.33	\$18,759.28
Limestone Totals	545	\$280,586.54	\$441,751.96

Lookout Mountain	Baptism	CP	Designated
Demaris	5	\$419.00	\$929.00
Friendship	0	\$200.00	\$500.00
Little River	1	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mill Creek	0	\$0.00	\$650.00
Mt. Bethel	0	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00
Mt. Calvary	0	\$419.00	\$722.72
Mt. Vernon	5	\$2,867.66	\$2,618.00
Mt. Zion	1	\$0.00	\$45.00
New Bethel	1	\$2,210.00	\$10,646.70
Pleasant Valley #1	0	\$3,898.95	\$964.00
Pleasant Valley #2	1	\$1,575.57	\$4,240.00
Shady Grove	1	\$238.57	\$1,864.00
Unity	0	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Victory	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Welcome Hill	3	\$1,108.00	\$1,010.00
Yellow Creek		\$0.00	\$0.00
Lookout Mountain Totals	18	\$14,436.75	\$26,689.42

Hazel Green First	23	\$2,973.06	\$23,960.70
Highlands	0	\$1,207.60	\$5,485.00
Hillsboro Heights	19	\$6,803.50	\$4,700.81
Hillwood	20	\$56,524.74	\$25,141.79
Huntsville (Korean)	6	\$50.00	\$0.00
Huntsville First	30	\$86,892.15	\$148,752.41
Huntsville Park	3	\$33,108.89	\$6,239.01
Hurricane Grove	1	\$0.00	\$1,070.01
Jackson Way	41	\$81,784.21	\$32,370.71
Korean First	0	\$1,100.00	\$600.00
Lakewood	3	\$19,958.58	\$12,113.51
Lao/Thai Mission	2	\$600.00	\$600.00
Legacy @ Gordon	6	\$1,100.00	\$2,108.11
Liberty	9	\$3,260.25	\$3,035.63
Lighthouse	8	\$4,211.09	\$2,741.01
Locust Grove	14	\$3,510.27	\$12,604.77
Mable Hill	12	\$750.00	\$973.00
Madison First	1	\$27,151.22	\$20,000.33
Meadow Drive	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Meridianville First	32	\$54,763.10	\$1,840.61
Monte Sano	1	\$7,577.30	\$7,840.00
Morningside	4	\$15,362.48	\$4,857.78
Mount Zion	42	\$274,522.53	\$225,422.88
Mountain View	4	\$9,975.47	\$2,491.01
Murphy Hill	4	\$2,800.00	\$1,167.61
Neely's Chapel	1	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Birth Missionary	4	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Hope First	8	\$15,000.00	\$6,322.00
New Market	5	\$5,142.59	\$5,232.01
New Salem	6	\$7,591.17	\$5,120.90
Northside	1	\$1,220.19	\$1,122.11
Oak Park	5	\$9,050.00	\$6,381.51
Oakley	7	\$2,423.37	\$8,155.11
Owens Cross Roads	4	\$472.28	\$6,806.44
Patterson Road	1	\$0.00	\$120.00
Pineview	32	\$400.00	\$400.00
Pleasant Springs	8	\$41,601.31	\$14,887.01
Riverfree Church	2	\$1,109.31	\$300.01
Shenwood	4	\$35,019.09	\$13,530.21
Ships	1	\$0.00	\$0.00
Southside	12	\$205,186.22	\$87,702.31
Summit Crossing Comm.	12	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sweetwater Fellowship	11	\$0.00	\$0.00
The Brook 17	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
The Fellowship of Faith	106	\$0.00	\$0.00
The Well Church	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Third	6	\$0.00	\$0.00
Trinity	11	\$14,913.68	\$3,887.81
Union Grove	1	\$13,090.00	\$3,156.71
University	7	\$92,768.52	\$59,658.31
Wald Highway	32	\$30,814.24	\$3,021.31
Wears Chapel	0	\$250.00	\$600.01
Weatherly Heights	5	\$2,662.76	\$13,963.31
West Mastin Lake	5	\$1,500.00	\$0.00
Westlaw	5	\$8,674.00	\$3,386.01
Whitesburg	163	\$291,000.00	\$364,956.11
Willowbrook	244	\$394,921.40	\$139,009.61
Winchester Road	8	\$22,328.00	\$2,392.00
Woodland Hill	2	\$1,719.70	\$5,066.01
Madison Totals	1415	\$2,211,118.72	\$1,434,242.81



Church Report for 2009

Dauphin Island	5	\$8,662.55	\$6,554.20	Valley Park	4	\$314.56	\$2,032.48
Dauphin Way	22	\$284,728.81	\$104,932.47	Vaughn Forest	165	\$250,850.11	\$31,741.41
Dawes First	13	\$16,002.69	\$12,559.93	Victory	7	\$0.00	\$0.00
Dayspring	49	\$17,000.00	\$6,792.00	Westside	22	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ebenezer	35	\$0.00	\$0.00	WWJD Ministries	1	\$0.00	\$0.00
Emmanuel	0	\$10,236.85	\$2,753.47	Yarbrough Street	4	\$1,100.00	\$1,875.00
Faith Baptist of Wilmer		\$1,588.00	\$1,279.00	Montgomery Totals	743	\$1,925,908.94	\$837,006.79
Faith of Grand Bay		\$0.00	\$200.00				
Faith of Mobile	8	\$2,700.00	\$0.00	Morgan	Baptism	CP	Designated
Fellowship	1	\$3,231.00	\$4,406.00	Agape		\$0.00	\$0.00
Forest Hill	4	\$1,878.12	\$319.59	Austinville First	4	\$8,606.86	\$12,582.49
Friendship	19	\$56,173.34	\$62,414.92	Bell Springs		\$0.00	\$0.00
Fulton Road	18	\$8,669.79	\$26,913.70	Bellview	2	\$20,715.00	\$8,599.66
Gateway	21	\$2,307.23	\$3,063.98	Bethlehem		\$2,990.42	\$3,999.47
Georgetown	4	\$300.00	\$1,260.00	Blue Springs	3	\$4,537.00	\$3,124.75
Government Street	23	\$47,343.17	\$37,212.82	Cedar Ridge	2	\$17,465.00	\$7,135.50
Grand Bay First	10	\$24,355.61	\$14,399.97	Central Decatur	88	\$173,644.51	\$129,680.73
Gulfoest	4	\$3,480.87	\$2,917.11	Central Park	9	\$70,282.72	\$19,238.27
Haven Woods	12	\$5,400.00	\$6,351.00	Chapel		\$0.00	\$0.00
Heron Bay	16	\$4,806.57	\$4,581.11	CSBC	21	\$10,040.74	\$25,188.39
Higher Ground	16	\$6,158.09	\$4,376.17	Danville	21	\$10,052.89	\$78,822.17
Highpoint	28	\$5,000.00	\$2,500.00	Decatur	40	\$24,000.00	\$61,793.83
Hollinger's Island	12	\$19,504.26	\$14,722.89	Decatur First	20	\$213,543.76	\$117,932.44
Indian Springs	5	\$1,000.00	\$2,467.91	Deer Springs	6	\$100.00	\$980.00
International	2	\$300.00	\$300.00	East Highland	18	\$109,789.79	\$43,678.33
Irvington First	15	\$3,300.00	\$8,013.90	Falkville	4	\$16,402.47	\$16,913.75
Kushla - Bethany	8	\$1,367.07	\$5,432.60	Fellowship	1	\$1,938.10	\$3,326.81
Lafitte	4	\$22,060.37	\$31,776.74	Fifth Avenue	3	\$6,283.73	\$4,393.14
Lambert Grove	1	\$0.00	\$25.00	Flint	6	\$18,763.68	\$3,113.55
Laotian Mission	7	\$300.00	\$706.00	Forest Hill	14	\$0.00	\$900.00
Lockier Memorial	4	\$6,524.48	\$5,638.84	Gracepoint	9	\$1,200.00	\$1,550.00
Manor	6	\$4,846.67	\$5,996.91	Gum Springs		\$1,100.00	\$1,924.00
Moffett Road	17	\$45,322.00	\$44,413.20	Hartselle First	13	\$55,509.53	\$35,749.63
Myers Memorial	1	\$6,467.20	\$8,166.34	Hopewell		\$650.00	\$2,600.00
Navco	5	\$1,149.00	\$2,807.45	Lebanon	4	\$20,469.00	\$9,230.00
New Generation		\$0.00	\$0.00	Liberty, Hartselle	1	\$0.00	\$630.00
New Generation		\$0.00	\$0.00	Liberty/Lacey's Springs		\$0.00	\$0.00
New Home		\$210.00	\$140.00	LifePoint	2	\$18,747.20	\$9,121.73
New Home Citronelle	3	\$830.00	\$1,585.00	Light of Life		\$0.00	\$0.00
New Hope		\$204.50	\$574.50	Memorial	0	\$6,216.00	\$4,636.00
New Jerusalem		\$0.00	\$0.00	Mt. Carmel	2	\$1,469.80	\$1,246.44
New Liberty Park		\$100.00	\$100.00	Mt. Nebo	0	\$1,219.00	\$4,445.00
New Pilgrim	1	\$0.00	\$0.00	Mt. View	0	\$0.00	\$480.00
North Mobile First	193	\$329,410.87	\$42,774.70	Mt. Zion	3	\$6,432.48	\$6,776.00
Orchard	12	\$15,812.36	\$8,661.14	New Canaan	4	\$28,584.39	\$16,236.98
Parkway		\$0.00	\$0.00	New Center	13	\$15,737.68	\$9,810.50
Pine Springs	7	\$882.40	\$329.97	New Friendship	0	\$1,220.00	\$4,345.00
Providence		\$0.00	\$0.00	New Salem		\$728.61	\$0.00
Riverside	4	\$3,942.34	\$3,228.37	Oak Forest		\$0.00	\$0.00
Sage Avenue	1	\$18,148.73	\$5,036.50	Oak Park	9	\$10,315.86	\$320.00
San Souci		\$0.00	\$0.00	Oak Ridge	4	\$4,256.69	\$1,735.00
Saraland		\$3,961.00	\$5,147.64	Parkview	11	\$87,375.48	\$30,122.27
Satsuma First	39	\$60,000.04	\$14,856.55	Pine Ridge	4	\$7,500.00	\$1,855.00
Semmes First	0	\$14,612.91	\$8,935.53	Pines		\$0.00	\$0.00
Seven Hills	3	\$5,596.40	\$4,688.96	Pleasant Hill	8	\$7,257.22	\$8,947.15
Shadow Lawn	5	\$8,931.51	\$4,600.89	Pleasant Valley		\$0.00	\$600.00
Shalom	0	\$1,610.40	\$1,273.60	Point Mallard Pkwy.	3	\$35,621.00	\$3,722.00
Shiloh		\$46,287.04	\$21,496.62	Resurrection		\$4,158.66	\$1,141.71
Smithtown		\$2,351.21	\$2,420.01	Rock Creek	5	\$3,500.00	\$2,408.12
Snow Road First	19	\$14,083.93	\$13,118.28	Rock Springs		\$0.00	\$0.00
Sonrise	20	\$21,252.51	\$8,426.50	Ryan	16	\$6,032.28	\$10,706.38
South Mobile	6	\$7,831.00	\$5,640.42	Serenity		\$528.00	\$1,200.00
Spice Pond	0	\$1,500.00	\$2,894.20	Shady Grove	5	\$16,719.00	\$28,722.31
Spring Hill	30	\$308,707.07	\$95,923.29	Shiloh	22	\$55,277.14	\$1,731.22
Springhill Avenue	9	\$2,805.44	\$5,040.07	Shoal Creek	9	\$41,567.20	\$100.00
St. Elmo First	12	\$6,643.71	\$7,496.61	Sixteenth Avenue	4	\$11,100.00	\$4,032.75
St. Joseph		\$0.00	\$0.00	Soul Harbor Missionary		\$0.00	\$0.00
The Cornerstone	2	\$463.34	\$1,920.99	South Chapel Hill		\$7,945.18	\$2,468.65
Theodore First	12	\$14,729.70	\$13,701.73	Southside	11	\$49,330.00	\$24,076.36
Tillman's Corner First	85	\$161,380.75	\$53,287.55	Southwest	8	\$15,270.38	\$10,337.00
Travis Road	13	\$15,201.11	\$6,449.97	Stoney Acres		\$568.34	\$60.00
Trinity	0	\$0.00	\$1,190.00	Trinity	43	\$47,960.58	\$21,778.62
Turnerville	8	\$19,793.06	\$13,594.30	Tunsel Road	7	\$2,375.00	\$4,418.00
Turnerville	8	\$18,431.90	\$27,150.95	Unity	6	\$739.00	\$1,040.00
Vietnamese Obedience	6	\$600.00	\$1,010.00	Valhermosa	3	\$1,200.00	\$2,541.02
West Chickasaw		\$0.00	\$0.00	Vestavia Hills		\$3,000.00	\$2,325.00
West Jordan		\$0.00	\$181.03	Walden Chapel	0	\$1,228.81	\$2,001.50
West Mobile	13	\$30,373.77	\$35,076.96	Walnut Grove		\$5,866.23	\$1,298.03
Wilmer First	113	\$58,310.36	\$28,481.22	West Hartselle	19	\$108,608.77	\$34,974.68
Woodridge	84	\$55,008.08	\$39,187.72	West Point		\$540.00	\$0.00
Zion	2	\$3,147.44	\$3,256.24	Westmeade	38	\$142,989.81	\$55,436.31
Mobile Totals	1320	\$2,119,619.45	\$1,145,025.79	Morgan Totals	548	\$1,547,271.99	\$910,283.64

Montgomery	Baptism	CP	Designated	Mud Creek	Baptism	CP	Designated
Bethel	12	\$18,250.16	\$11,408.00	Adger	0	\$1,366.00	\$1,421.00
Bible Missionary	18	\$0.00	\$0.00	Bayview	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bridgeview	1	\$1,588.06	\$585.50	Big Creek	0	\$2,362.00	\$2,553.19
Brookwood	1	\$2,727.00	\$994.00	Birmingham	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Capital Heights	5	\$33,157.20	\$21,011.34	Crossroad	10	\$27,991.65	\$16,277.53
Catoma	4	\$903.79	\$7,964.20	Dogwood Grove	1	\$4,460.74	\$4,165.94
Central Comm. Christian		\$0.00	\$0.00	Johns	0	\$600.00	\$600.00
Chisholm	1	\$9,083.52	\$7,263.50	Labuco	0	\$317.00	\$1,284.00
Cloverdale	1	\$2,612.68	\$13,500.35	Liberty	3	\$1,692.52	\$936.71
Dalraida	20	\$71,170.58	\$36,102.54	McNeil	3	\$1,176.09	\$2,567.43
Eastdale	0	\$21,583.08	\$8,072.66	Mud Creek	1	\$185.00	\$3,415.00
Eastern Hills	36	\$243,998.57	\$74,375.78	New Providence	3	\$2,416.70	\$672.00
Eastern Oaks	0	\$600.00	\$708.00	Oak Grove First	18	\$36,309.12	\$26,671.71
Eastmont	29	\$129,031.46	\$67,144.24	Oak Grove Missionary	0	\$2,085.91	\$1,454.31
Faith and Grace	1	\$125.00	\$25.00	Pine Ridge	8	\$1,291.49	\$581.79
First Southern		\$2,086.62	\$2,709.39	Pleasant Hill	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
(d) Forest Park		\$0.00	\$50.00	Rock Creek	3	\$0.00	\$0.00
Friendship	9	\$10,657.26	\$11,084.00	Smithville	35	\$8,023.66	\$13,970.64
Friendship Missionary		\$0.00	\$0.00	Snowtown	0	\$1,200.00	\$2,280.00
Gateway	19	\$5,136.46	\$308.75	Sparks Gap	1	\$0.00	\$3,712.69
Hayneville	12	\$27,468.10	\$10,035.87	Union Hill	38	\$55,056.08	\$4,192.50
Heritage	28	\$62,500.00	\$22,833.24	West Jefferson	11	\$12,248.00	\$8,647.00
Highland Avenue	4	\$6,931.86	\$8,078.76	Westside	0	\$0.00	\$262.00
Highland Gardens	1	\$2,336.10	\$2,092.00	Williamsburg	0	\$0.00	\$600.00
Hope Community	0	\$667.99	\$188.49	Mud Creek Totals	135	\$158,781.96	\$99,460.35
Hunter Station	1	\$7,426.22	\$2,890.20				
Lakeview	7	\$10,444.43	\$4,125.00	Muscle Shoals	Baptism	CP	Designated
Lapine	65	\$4,490.74	\$550.00	Abbie	0	\$1,221.00	\$200.00
Letohatchee	1	\$4,800.00	\$7,106.60	Berea	15	\$2,500.00	\$9,224.17
Lowndesboro	3	\$4,735.00	\$7,337.00	Bethany	8	\$2,690.24	\$1,461.80
McGehee Road	3	\$37,643.12	\$11,124.34	Calvary	7	\$9,284.68	\$3,222.28
(d) Memorial Heights		\$389.05	\$1,443.66	Chalybeate Springs	2	\$8,598.00	\$3,534.00
Montgomery First	151	\$567,977.09	\$310,492.20	Courtland	1	\$9,799.13	\$10,669.41
Morningview	3	\$104,100.77	\$26,259.93	Donald	1	\$10,380.00	\$3,360.00
Mountain Hill	3	\$6,620.72	\$6,718.10	Enon	1	\$24,770.00	\$7,574.85
Mt. Zion	2	\$3,369.13	\$5,049.83	Faith Midway	6	\$25,518.56	\$11,449.00
Open Acres	8	\$0.00	\$2,225.00	Fish Pond	6	\$549.00	\$250.00
Pike Road	5	\$3,600.00	\$301.67	Flower Hill	2	\$240.00	\$226.00
Pine Level	2	\$1,154.73	\$1,875.73	Friendship	2	\$4,057.89	\$1,635.00
Pinedale	0	\$6,892.24	\$2,360.28	Harmony	14	\$10,551.73	\$2,716.02
Pintilla	2	\$0.00	\$0.00	Hillsboro	0	\$1,650.00	\$2,600.18
Ridgecrest	12	\$71,402.97	\$38,113.46	Moulton	6	\$67,841.54	\$38,869.37
River Bend	0	\$100.00	\$500.00	Mt. Hope	11	\$21,409.08	\$7,033.00
River Region Korean		\$517.09	\$121.38	Mt. View	3	\$9,573.99	\$2,130.00
Sampey Memorial	5	\$6,571.00	\$7,987.00	New Center	20	\$5,433.14	\$1,506.83
Snowdoun	4	\$1,800.00	\$6,562.90	New Hope	2	\$6,081.00	\$0.00
Southlawn	4	\$1,120.00	\$2,707.69	New Zion	3	\$7,908.72	\$3,691.90
St. James		\$0.00	\$0.00	Okolona	9	\$3,141.92	\$755.16
Steep Creek	0	\$4,693.00	\$2,860.00	Old Town Creek	6	\$5,894.19	\$3,040.00
Taylor Road	40	\$126,404.22	\$36,564.94	Owen Chapel	0	\$3,272.60	\$1,700.00
Thorington Road	10	\$23,255.36	\$5,763.70	Pleasant Grove	27	\$48,000.00	\$43,865.91
(d) Trinity		\$589.90	\$2,281.03	Providence	12	\$12,885.07	\$5,749.36
Trinity Memorial	1	\$1,110.00	\$1,500.65	Smyrna	6	\$0.00	\$0.00

Sulphur Springs	0	\$6,188.36	\$4,044.60
Valley Grove	7	\$4,783.00	\$466.00
Wear	0	\$4,651.90	\$1,535.00
Wheeler Grove	2	\$3,542.00	\$400.00
Muscle Shoals Totals	179	\$322,416.74	\$172,909.84

North Jefferson	Baptism	CP	Designated
Antioch	9	\$400.00	\$461.55
Beechwood	8	\$34,185.69	\$10,567.09
Black Creek	8	\$0.00	\$0.00
Brookside First		\$0.00	\$0.00
Calcedonia	4	\$2,203.00	\$1,394.00



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Valley Grande	2	\$32,807.40	\$9,240.36	Oak Grove #2	10	\$0.00	\$0.00
Water Avenue	1	\$0.00	\$900.00	Odenville First	0	\$11,130.00	\$10,768.78
West End	0	\$3,728.16	\$2,608.00	Palestine	0	\$0.00	\$600.00
Westwood	11	\$35,991.60	\$17,040.11	Pell City First	34	\$166,807.86	\$117,739.62
Selma Totals	72	\$381,628.50	\$188,558.84	(d) Pell City Second			\$683.67
Shelby	Baptism	CP	Designated	Pine Forest	3	\$2,907.51	\$1,599.28
Alabaster First	20	\$103,637.96	\$41,100.57	Pinedale First	0	\$300.00	\$300.00
Aldrich First	0	\$3,713.50	\$1,968.30	Piney Grove	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Antioch #2	2	\$2,600.00	\$1,587.09	Pleasant Grove	3	\$0.00	\$0.00
Antioch at Columbiana	5	\$18,163.83	\$6,247.13	Pleasant Valley	0	\$3,437.00	\$575.03
Arkwright	1	\$1,506.50	\$1,900.00	Poplar Springs	0	\$5,216.05	\$1,821.91
Baptist Church at Lay Lake	14	\$5,870.22	\$3,799.06	Prescott	0	\$650.00	\$2,998.55
Bay Springs	1	\$9,996.32	\$3,240.33	Providence	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bethel	19	\$8,640.00	\$5,311.40	Ragland First	3	\$8,237.05	\$683.02
Bethlehem	0	\$6,028.21	\$2,163.82	Red Hill	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Beulah	0	\$14,034.40	\$2,000.00	Reeves Grove	0	\$0.00	\$875.99
Calera	16	\$30,686.07	\$7,757.32	Refuge	0	\$20.00	\$44.00
Calvary	0	\$574.00	\$1,916.00	Riverside	3	\$3,581.35	\$5,086.35
Celebration Church	9	\$1,823.32	\$0.00	Saddon	23	\$3,465.00	\$1,620.22
Chelsea Village	0	\$362.39	\$0.00	Son Rise Missionary	1	\$0.00	\$0.00
Clearwater Community	14	\$22,588.34	\$0.00	Spring Valley	5	\$19,024.68	\$13,946.67
Columbiana First	15	\$74,853.15	\$32,660.73	Springville First	16	\$29,680.08	\$23,415.30
Community	22	\$31,366.93	\$0.00	St. Clair Springs	1	\$1,181.39	\$3,500.29
Concord	17	\$54,527.00	\$3,823.82	Steele	2	\$10,134.96	\$9,415.08
Crosscreek	0	\$0.00	\$300.00	Sulphur Springs	0	\$13,103.63	\$7,345.43
Crossroads	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	Taylor	0	\$100.00	\$234.04
Dogwood Grove	11	\$29,912.06	\$27,662.52	Whites Chapel	2	\$7,126.00	\$1,907.00
Double Oak Community	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	St. Clair Totals	569	\$826,813.88	\$551,841.01
Dunnvant Faith	0	\$0.00	\$1,100.00	Sulphur Springs	Baptism	CP	Designated
Enon	13	\$10,375.18	\$7,693.69	Aiken Grove	0	\$120.00	\$435.00
FBC Helena	12	\$51,439.01	\$28,730.84	Antioch	0	\$0.00	\$240.00
Fournille	2	\$18,687.00	\$7,758.20	Bethel	19	\$56,158.36	\$15,108.50
Grace Montevallo	2	\$1,293.28	\$2,857.35	Calvary	0	\$7,141.70	\$4,284.90
Harpersville First	2	\$9,067.31	\$4,208.33	Cane Creek	2	\$0.00	\$250.00
Hope Church	1	\$784.56	\$0.00	Elvestor	0	\$330.00	\$0.00
Indian Springs First	0	\$4,041.05	\$6,958.16	Empire	0	\$0.00	\$5,961.00
Klein	1	\$986.00	\$100.00	Good Hope	3	\$2,198.00	\$6,471.41
Liberty	41	\$184,086.32	\$38,143.99	Harmony	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Lighthouse Community	18	\$0.00	\$0.00	Kilgore	0	\$1,058.46	\$695.00
Macedonia North	4	\$9,842.00	\$12,173.00	Little Vine	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Macedonia South	0	\$1,704.93	\$0.00	Mt. Brook	2	\$0.00	\$3,750.00
Mayberry	0	\$836.76	\$612.92	Mt. High	0	\$1,670.12	\$1,555.68
Meadow Brook	10	\$42,197.09	\$45,430.65	Mt. Hope	3	\$1,032.57	\$457.00
Meadow View Community	0	\$2,670.00	\$3,984.00	Mt. View	11	\$0.00	\$0.00
Montevallo First	6	\$12,301.07	\$8,659.11	New Bethel	4	\$0.00	\$2,361.00
Mountain Valley	0	\$3,754.89	\$349.00	New Canaan	3	\$0.00	\$600.00
Mountainview	13	\$2,400.00	\$600.00	New Temple	6	\$33,501.42	\$4,670.05
Mt. Signal	0	\$4,332.72	\$1,424.37	(d) New Vision	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mt. Zion	0	\$0.00	\$362.92	Pisgah	3	\$5,100.00	\$1,031.40
New Direction	0	\$1,520.00	\$0.00	Porter	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Life Community	0	\$900.24	\$0.00	Quinton	2	\$0.00	\$50.00
North Shelby	33	\$174,332.39	\$53,168.14	Sulphur Springs	0	\$0.00	\$400.00
Northside	5	\$20,322.91	\$19,135.51	Temple Hill	3	\$4,609.04	\$355.00
Oak Grove	0	\$1,000.00	\$927.15	Union	0	\$2,425.00	\$1,320.00
Oak Mountain	3	\$1,566.32	\$1,889.00	Sulphur Springs Totals	61	\$115,344.67	\$49,995.94
Pelham First	54	\$245,500.10	\$75,491.43	Tallapoosa	Baptism	CP	Designated
Perimeter Pointe	0	\$25.00	\$75.00	Alexander City First	16	\$70,916.63	\$37,587.39
Pleasant Grove	5	\$0.00	\$157.25	Antioch	0	\$532.19	\$266.06
Pleasant Site	0	\$5,510.41	\$5,916.36	Bay Pine	6	\$2,883.43	\$1,519.20
Prospect	0	\$4,124.30	\$3,517.96	Bethany	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Providence	6	\$300.00	\$838.45	Bethel	0	\$1,382.91	\$7,662.05
Riverchase	0	\$0.00	\$16,433.83	Beulah	7	\$5,741.26	\$4,308.14
Riverside	21	\$24,294.97	\$5,084.62	Calvary	0	\$1,000.00	\$200.00
Ryan	0	\$548.85	\$309.00	Calvary Heights	3	\$5,762.90	\$2,317.08
Saddle Lake Community	17	\$1,195.20	\$0.00	Camp Hill	3	\$30,142.70	\$2,228.95
Seven Springs	8	\$688.00	\$172.00	Comer Memorial	1	\$4,049.09	\$2,575.30
Shelby First	0	\$3,295.00	\$4,885.50	Dadeville First	9	\$25,951.11	\$20,894.03
Siluria	1	\$13,693.44	\$6,021.76	Daviston	18	\$1,874.87	\$8,336.56
South Chelsea	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	Eagle Creek	1	\$7,279.75	\$8,903.38
South Shelby	6	\$12,714.01	\$4,953.60	Fellowship c/o Hearn	4	\$0.00	\$0.00
Southside	0	\$435.50	\$1,897.10	Good News	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Southside Mont. c/o Turner	1	\$0.00	\$0.00	Hackneyville	1	\$1,000.00	\$548.00
Sunrise Church	5	\$1,862.00	\$0.00	Hillabee	11	\$27,134.19	\$10,127.90
Underwood	3	\$1,975.00	\$750.00	Horseshoe Bend	0	\$3,675.86	\$2,486.80
University	0	\$234.20	\$75.00	Jacksons Gap	7	\$13,344.00	\$6,866.00
Vincent First	0	\$10,064.38	\$13,889.34	Lake Martin	2	\$24,293.75	\$14,882.80
Westwood	83	\$127,980.89	\$133,523.66	Lebanon	4	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Wilsonville	13	\$43,095.52	\$16,983.00	Mountain Springs	3	\$2,154.51	\$3,254.42
Wilton	5	\$14,381.91	\$4,934.53	Mt. Carmel	0	\$4,042.69	\$1,800.00
Shelby Totals	559	\$1,492,343.91	\$685,613.81	Mt. Zion	18	\$4,402.13	\$4,454.16
Sipsey	Baptism	CP	Designated	New Beginning	4	\$6,703.28	\$4,980.80
Arbor Springs	12	\$4,810.38	\$8,896.80	New Concord	2	\$5,593.53	\$1,249.85
Bethabara Missionary	8	\$293.50	\$2,372.88	New Elkahatchee	2	\$2,359.33	\$505.00
Bevan Chapel	1	\$500.00	\$3,298.67	New Hope	0	\$0.00	\$40.00
Big Hill Missionary	4	\$541.54	\$11,464.64	New Life	0	\$0.00	\$265.50
Cross Roads Missionary	5	\$2,951.00	\$752.00	New Pine Grove	0	\$972.50	\$801.00
Dunn's Creek	0	\$4,629.30	\$7,057.31	New Rocky Mt.	1	\$120.00	\$175.00
Hopewell	0	\$150.00	\$450.00	New Salem	2	\$21,010.86	\$12,217.57
Macedonia Missionary	0	\$0.00	\$1,267.00	Old Providence	2	\$2,464.50	\$6,246.22
Moore's Bridge	0	\$1,810.38	\$2,385.82	Old Union	13	\$1,038.45	\$2,440.00
Mt. Hebron	2	\$1,972.24	\$657.00	Orr Street	9	\$14,479.57	\$6,500.34
New Hope	14	\$8,049.10	\$4,507.55	Perryville	2	\$2,688.94	\$4,814.56
Rock Solid Missionary	18	\$0.00	\$100.00	Pleasant Ridge	26	\$632.92	\$913.17
Spring Hill	1	\$500.00	\$606.16	River Road	1	\$0.00	\$690.00
The Peoples Church	10	\$100.00	\$200.00	Rock Springs	2	\$465.00	\$336.00
Zion Community	14	\$925.00	\$0.00	Rocky Creek	11	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sipsey Totals	89	\$27,232.44	\$44,015.83	Russell Farm	2	\$2,081.00	\$3,520.46
St. Clair	Baptism	CP	Designated	Sandy Creek	0	\$1,491.39	\$2,787.31
Arbor	17	\$3,300.00	\$2,150.00	Sixth Street	10	\$30,737.34	\$26,787.09
Ashville First	9	\$54,254.03	\$42,532.91	Sunny Level	1	\$0.00	\$196.25
Bethany	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	Town Creek	7	\$449.12	\$70.00
Bethel	38	\$74,376.05	\$29,910.63	Wayside	7	\$21,985.15	\$12,149.37
Broken Arrow	1	\$955.50	\$1,077.50	Zion Hill	0	\$2,389.00	\$1,194.31
Calvary	3	\$9,947.09	\$4,332.81	Tallapoosa Totals	211	\$355,225.85	\$232,383.02
Cedar Grove	23	\$28,831.76	\$9,131.59	Tennessee River	Baptism	CP	Designated
Central	3	\$15,863.00	\$25,266.60	Agape	20	\$12,000.00	\$12,205.12
Chandler Mountain	34	\$3,562.65	\$5,484.39	Bethany	2	\$1,017.89	\$490.00
Cook Springs	5	\$4,549.78	\$2,551.00	Bethel	3	\$400.00	\$1,000.00
Cool Springs	2	\$2,283.07	\$2,866.25	Bridgeport First	29	\$19,302.45	\$5,061.54
Coosa Valley	0	\$2,591.25	\$1,400.00	Calvary	11	\$63,083.09	\$500.34
Corinth	5	\$2,490.20	\$3,111.25	Calvary/Stevenson	11	\$1,425.65	\$1,419.81
Cropwell	12	\$85,828.29	\$27,671.60	Center Point	24	\$54,144.32	\$48,273.09
CrossPoint	37	\$12,750.00	\$75,090.37	Central	0	\$3,002.29	\$312.00
Eden Westside	93	\$5,725.00	\$9,026.15	Edgefield	6	\$4,815.00	\$3,338.00
Evening Star	2	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	Emmanuel	0	\$553.46	\$0.00
Fairview #1	11	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	Fairfield	0	\$1,301.33	\$1,320.00
Friendship	5	\$6,468.75	\$8,937.44	Freedom	0	\$400.00	\$312.50
Greensport	0	\$9,021.94	\$5,287.70	Friendship	0	\$360.00	\$325.00
Gum Springs	2	\$0.00	\$200.00	Garth Union	2	\$0.00	\$0.00
Happy Home	8	\$3,909.10	\$3,170.48	Halls Chapel	0	\$380.00	\$1,646.00
Heritage	2	\$5,730.01	\$9,116.26	Harmony	0	\$1,451.80	\$1,000.00
Lister Memorial	14	\$1,747.00	\$1,747.00	Helton Memorial	0	\$407.76	\$834.09
Macedonia #1	7	\$4,167.42	\$5,796.42	Hollywood	2	\$2,197.00	\$1,853.12
Macedonia #2	1	\$923.19	\$539.92	Hopewell	2	\$5,299.11	\$1,992.98
Marketae	0	\$0.00	\$130.76	Larkinsville	3	\$3,899.13	\$1,248.80
McEntyre	1	\$2,196.10	\$1,227.46	Matthew's Memorial	6	\$678.62	\$578.60
Mineral Springs	0	\$1,762.31	\$1,576.79	Mt. Ararat	0	\$50.00	\$385.00
Moody First	15	\$97,070.45	\$26,146.41	Mt. Carmel	6	\$769.06	\$5,812.97
Mt. Moriah	45	\$5,340.00	\$7,159.00	Mt. Nebo	0	\$1,250.00	\$1,304.64
Mt. Olive #1	3	\$500.00	\$965.00	Mt. Pleasant	5	\$0.00	\$400.00
Mt. Pisgah	11	\$25,915.05	\$14,332.19	New Covenant	1	\$650.00	\$0.00
Mt. Pleasant	0	\$5,400.00	\$1,620.00	New Home	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Hope	17	\$51,957.62	\$8,685.83	New Hope	2	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Hope, Argo	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	New Life	3	\$3,671.58	\$5,686.22
New Hopewell	0	\$1,609.71	\$2,350.03	New Prospect	1	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Lebanon	3	\$9,980.00	\$1,755.00	Oak Grove	0	\$100.00	\$700.00
New Prospect	0	\$0.00	\$557.04	Paint Rock	13	\$14,289.40	\$3,485.64
North Valley	35	\$0.00	\$1,281.00	Providence	0	\$2,652.52	\$2,600.00
Oak Grove #1	0	\$2,452.00	\$0.00	Ridgedale	4	\$2,435.84	\$103.00

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World of Religion

Compiled from Wire Services

Attacks in Punjab similar to Orissa, report says

SECUNDERABAD, India — Attacks on Christians in February in Punjab state following protests against banners depicting Jesus drinking and smoking were eerily similar to the anti-Christian violence in Orissa state in 2007 and 2008, according to a fact-finding mission released March 2 by the All India Christian Council.

John Dayal, a member of the fact-finding mission, pointed out that factors such as the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party being part of the ruling coalition, police inaction, coordination of attacks and support of the local merchant community for Hindu nationalist groups in the anti-Christian attacks in Punjab reminded him of mayhem in Orissa's Kandhamal district.

"The strategy of the assailants in Punjab was eerily reminiscent of what was practiced and perfected against churches in Orissa," Dayal said.

Supporters of the Hindu extremist Sangh Parivar organizations burned the 1865-built Church of the Epiphany belonging to the Church of North India (CNI) denomination Feb. 20.

They also tried to destroy a nearby Salvation Army church and attacked its pastor, Gurnam Singh, leaving him seriously injured.

"Even as the larger group of attackers focused on burning the CNI church, a group of men armed with sticks and rods came to the house of the CNI deacon," the report notes.

"The deacon, Victor Gill, and his wife, Parveen, hid themselves under the bed. The assailants damaged the doors, tried to enter the room forcibly and told the couple they would be burnt alive if they did not come out."

Baptists forced to pay fines, taxes in Uzbekistan

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan — Uzbekistan continues to attack the country's registered Baptist Union, local Baptists have said.

One Baptist, Valery Konovalov, has been forced to pay a fine imposed in his absence, after he was forced to appear as a witness in the trial of three leaders of the Baptist Union.

The three have themselves been forced to pay what the same court claimed was unpaid tax and two were removed from their posts.

Uzbek state TV has broadcast a program focusing on the Baptist trial. After the program, parents whose children attended Protestant churches were summoned to schools and warned.

"The children were made to write statements promising that they would stop attending churches," said a Protestant who wished to remain anonymous for fear of state reprisals. "People are afraid to talk to us when they find out we are Christians."

This is part of frequent state-sponsored media attacks on religious believers of all faiths and freedom of religion and belief. ☞



Photo courtesy of FBC Hurtsboro

FBC HURTSBORO HONORS PAT MONK FOR ATTENDANCE

First Baptist Church, Hurtsboro, in Russell Baptist Association recently honored Pat Monk (right) for 55 years of Sunday School attendance. His mother, Gladys LaJambe (left), pinned on his 55-year attendance pin. Randy Doster is pastor.

'We talk about the Great Commission ... those words ... ought to carry some weight'

By Sondra Washington
The Alabama Baptist

Blindness has never stopped Tony Cothren from doing anything. He breezed through college, became the first blind graduate of Dallas Theological Seminary and earned a law degree by age 35.

Still knowing that many other disabled people did not have the same opportunities made him want to find ways to help them have a better life.

Cothren got that chance when he was appointed by Presidents Ronald Reagan and George Bush to serve with the regulatory agency that wrote the guidelines for the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990. This made America more accessible for the disabled. With that work completed, Cothren returned to his legal work and served nearly three years as a circuit judge in the Bessemer Cut-off, a subdivision of Jefferson County. All the while, his yearning to help people with disabilities remained, so he turned his attention to churches.

Feeling hindered

According to Cothren, nearly 1 million Alabamians have disabilities, and many of them feel hindered, overlooked and unwanted by churches, so they never attempt to go to church.

"Some disabled people have said, 'Nobody cares if I become a Christian or not. Nobody cares if I come to church or not,'" said Cothren, a member of Shades Mountain Baptist Church, Vestavia Hills, in Birmingham Baptist Association. "We don't need to see the sick and the disabled as the dregs of society. We, as the Church, ought to start seeing people with all kinds of issues as people that need to be ministered to just like we see the people in Africa, Asia, Europe, South America and the Far East. ... Our missions field is right outside our door."

'Hung up'

He believes churches have missed the point. "We're hung up on the beautiful ones — those with money, those with power, athletes, CEOs of corporations, those with great personalities who can go out there and look good as leaders of the church," Cothren noted. "Disabled people are the undesirables. They are the not-so-pretty people, and it may be hard to reach out to a person with cerebral palsy (for instance). But Jesus said if you reach out to the

Churches must be accessible to disabled for effective outreach

Reaching disabled people is a matter of your church's accessibility — physically, spiritually and attitudinally, according to Tony Cothren.

As founder of John 9 Ministries, Cothren tries to assist the local church in evangelizing and embracing people with disabilities and their caregivers into the local body of Christ.

Make the effort

He said it all comes down to a "little effort."

► Adjust your attitude. "Tell your congregation if they've got some people with disabilities, bring them and we'll find a way to help them and bring them to Christ," Cothren said. "Who is my neighbor? It's the person who's got a need — whether physical or spiritual."

► Give them a warm welcome.

"Welcome them as you (would) welcome the executive of Alabama Power or the governor," he said. "How you greet them shows whether you want them there or not."

► Find a job for them to do.

Some examples may include handing out or gathering bulletins, stuffing envelopes for mailing or serving in a buffet line. Even the smallest responsibilities may make a large difference, Cothren said.

► Remember them when planning church activities.

"It's a culture of caring," he said. "Do you really care? If you don't care, then just go on with your activities and forget what God says to do. If you do care, you'll be concerned about it and find a way to do it." (TAB)

least of these, you will be blessed."

By founding John 9 Ministries, he is trying to change this perspective one church at a time.

"Utopia for me would be that every disabled person hears the gospel ... from people in the local church ... and [has] a chance to respond to the gospel in a positive way," Cothren said. "My utopia is that I see churches so caring about the community around them that they reach out to every facet of that community including people with disabilities, and through reaching their community, they then reach the world for Christ."

Cothren's ministry teaches churches what disabilities are and how to minister to the disabled.

It's something he's done in his church.

"It's not rocket science. It's usually things you are able to do," said Shades Mountain Baptist Pastor Danny Wood of making a church more welcoming to the disabled.

But it goes beyond just getting them into the church building for events or worship, Cothren pointed out. To help disabled people feel more closely linked with the congregation, he said church leaders can find volunteer positions they can handle (see story, this page).

Cothren believes including the disabled in church is manda-

tory and should be purposeful.

"We talk about the Great Commission," he said. "I think those words — being the words of our Lord and Savior — ought to carry some weight. In Luke 14, Jesus said go out and get the crippled, the lame, the blind, and bring them into the banquet. Jesus said you will get your reward in heaven if you will minister to people with disabilities."

Cothren gives presentations to help church leaders meet this need.

'Culture of caring'

"It's not that intimidating to bring people with disabilities into your church," he said. "We could get churches that would get two people to learn sign language and could stand there and sign the sermon. It's not that hard. You've just got to get churches concerned. They don't seem to be concerned."

Cothren added, "It's the attitude of the church. It's the culture of caring. ... Whether your church is accessible to people with disabilities, there may be more you can do to make them feel welcome."

For more information, visit www.john9.org or call 205-979-8818. ☞

Want to see your news in The Alabama Baptist?

E-mail your information to news@thealabamabaptist.org, fax it to 205-870-8957 or call 1-800-803-5201.

"We, as the Church, ought to start seeing people with all kinds of issues as people that need to be ministered to."

Tony Cothren
John 9 Ministries

State awaits response from King on task force, 'bingo'

(continued from page 1)

such cases. That may be what Judge Vance thinks the law should be, but that is not what the law is. Judge Vance has clearly exceeded his authority in legislating from the bench," Riley said in a statement.

He noted that rulings like this, which seek to remove the task force's legal powers, and local officials' and casino owners' attempts to "stymie law enforcement, fly in the face of what the Supreme Court has repeatedly ruled."

Riley expressed frustration with King's "willingness to let some casino bosses ignore the law" and said, "[this] order will make the problem worse, not better. The reason the task force exists is to ensure that Alabama's laws against slot machine gambling are enforced equally in every county. Judge Vance's ruling will allow the attorney general to decide in secret where the law will be enforced and where it will not. ... That's a recipe for disaster."

Tyson said, "Everyone in Alabama who believes in the rule of law should be frightened by Judge Vance's ruling. In an earlier appeal in this same case, the Supreme Court rejected the same argument on which Judge Vance bases his ruling. The Supreme Court has already indicated that the lawyers appointed by the governor have full authority to handle these cases, but Judge Vance apparently thinks his personal view trumps the Supreme Court."

Tyson added that situations like this prove that illegal gambling corrupts the state's governmental system and undermines the rule of law.

"Our system requires that trial judges follow the rulings made by the Supreme Court," he said. "We have a problem right now in Ala-



bama with some trial judges refusing to obey the Supreme Court, and all of these situations arise in gambling cases. It is further proof that illegal gambling corrupts our system of government."

Todd Stacy, Riley's press secretary, said Riley and King met for more than an hour March 10 with no staff in attendance. Neither Riley nor King had commented on the de-

tails of the meeting by press time. The purpose and result of the meeting is unknown.

King has repeatedly expressed disapproval of the task force's actions, even going as far as threatening to take over it. So far, he has not acted upon his warnings.

Eric Johnston, president of Citizens for a Better Alabama, said

King has an obligation to protect the issues of the state. Yet Johnston believes pro-gambling forces will be issued a significant victory if King does take over the task force.

"If you can neutralize the task force and the attorney general does not prosecute, slot machine bingo can continue operating," he said.

Johnston said the remaining ques-

tion is "What do you do if the attorney general is not doing his job?"

"These are crimes that are being committed," Johnston said. "They are violating Alabama statutes. ... These cases are being decided in a court of law. The task force is following the proper way to do it. The attorney general is the one not doing his job."

Country Crossing wants its money back from Houston Co.

It was calm in Dothan when Country Crossing developers paid the Houston County Commission nearly \$1.7 million in stamp fees for the slot machines they call electronic bingo.

But fearing a raid by Gov. Bob Riley's Task Force on Illegal Gambling, developers have kept the doors of the entire entertainment center shut since late January.

Making matters worse for the gambling facility owners, a federal judge recently denied their request for a temporary restraining order to stop the task force's law enforcement efforts against their "illegal gambling machines." Now they want \$1.5 million of the stamp fees refunded, but commission Chairman Mark Culver said he doesn't believe the county has the obligation or authority to give the money back.

"What they are asking for is a

prorated amount of unused bingo stamp revenue," Culver said. "This is a fee that's paid for each machine that they operated. The stamp cost \$1,000 for a year. ... The county's position is that we have already used some of those funds. Secondly it's our position that we don't know or think we have the authority or right to give that money back. We have ... asked the court to determine ... if we should or could give it back. ... We've got to be sure that everything we do is legal."

He said commissioners still support Country Crossing in its efforts to reopen.

"We assured them, as did the attorney general (Troy King) and the sheriff, that what they were doing was legal, and we still take that position," Culver noted, referring to two opinions written by King and "public comments that he (King) made." (TAB)

More 'bingo' bills filed in Legislature

With only 10 days left in the legislative session and no budgets passed yet, some pro-gambling lawmakers continue to push legislation to legalize and expand slot machine gambling labeled electronic bingo in Alabama.

According to Sen. Scott Beason, R-Gardendale, the gambling bill sponsored by Sen. Roger Bedford, D-Russellville, may not be dead as Bedford originally told the media.

"He is telling people he is bringing a substitute after spring break," Beason said. "When you are talking about hundreds and hundreds of millions of dollars, they are not giving up that easily."

Beason believes Alabamians should be given a "true up or down vote" to "abolish gambling," so he introduced Senate Bill (SB) 333 calling for this type of vote. However, he does not believe his bill will make it out of the Tourism and Marketing Committee.

"You would get some closure when you vote to make it illegal," he said. "That's the only way to put this issue to bed. ... What happens when they dream up a new

machine? ... I see the possibility of that happening again if we don't do away with it."

After fighting hard last year for his 44-page Sweet Home Alabama bill only to see it fail, Sen. Quinton Ross, D-Montgomery, is back with another "bingo" bill this year.

Going for statewide

While last year's "bingo" bill proposed widespread gambling at several "points of destination" statewide, SB 515, which Ross filed March 8, proposes a constitutional amendment to "authorize the operation of electronic bingo" statewide and create a gaming commission to regulate and tax gambling operations around the state.

He also wants casino operators to pay up to \$1.5 million in annual license fees and 30 percent in state taxes — a 10 percent increase from his previous bill.

Sen. Priscilla Dunn, D-Bessemer, has also filed gambling legislation this year. One bill (SB 477) seeks to repeal Jefferson County's current bingo amendment and create a new one including "electronic

marking machine" gambling. It is unclear how these machines function, but reports indicate they could include the slot machines currently being labeled electronic bingo in the Bessemer Cut-off area.

Dunn's three other bills would propose constitutional amendments in Fairfield, Midfield and Bessemer, where there has been a proliferation of casinos over the past year.

Several other Jefferson County delegates — Reps. Merika Coleman, D-Birmingham; Earl Hilliard Jr., D-Birmingham; Roderick Scott, D-Fairfield; and Lawrence McAdory, D-Bessemer — sponsored similar bills in the Alabama House.

Although Sen. Paul Sanford, R-Huntsville, said he would draft a bill to place casino licenses up for bid and establish a minimum tax rate of 50 percent, he had not filed his bill by press time.

Sen. Hank Erwin, R-Montevallo, said, "There are rumors of other bills that might be under development, but nothing has been brought forth with the same energy as the previous bill," he said, referring to Bedford's failed bill. (TAB)

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State Missionary Keith Hibbs, ext. 217, khibbs@alsbom.org or Ministry Assistant Cindy Parrish, ext. 230, cparrish@alsbom.org.



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MUSIC NOTES

RockSolid: 2010 All- State Youth Ensemble

July 1-5

The All-State Youth Ensemble is an auditioned group of young people, grades 9-12, from Alabama Baptist churches. Vocalists, a percussionist (trap set), keyboardists, rhythm, lead and bass guitarists, and horn players will be selected from the audition CDs and applications. This group performs a wide variety of secular and contemporary Christian music and will be touring in Alabama July 2-5.

Audition forms and tapes due by **April 14**. Notified by **April 28**.



COST, UPDATES AND OTHER DETAILS:
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For more information, please call 1-800-264-1225: State Missionary Keith Hibbs, ext. 217, khibbs@alsbom.org or Ministry Assistant Susan Corley, ext. 279, scorley@alsbom.org.



REGISTER: Visit www.shocco.org/reser or call 1-800-280-1105.

Registration begins Friday at 2 p.m. with lodging rooms available at 4 p.m. Session 1 begins Friday at 2:45 p.m. Grand prize drawing on Saturday at 3:15 p.m.

For more information, please call 1-800-264-1225: Music Specialist Karen Gosselin, ext. 318, kgosselin@alsbom.org or Ministry Assistant Susan Corley, ext. 279, scorley@alsbom.org.

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**Friday and Saturday,
July 9-10
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SPRING

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State Board of Missions:

www.alsbom.org/springring or contact Ministry Assistant Susan Corley at 1-800-264-1225, ext. 279, scorley@alsbom.org.

Clinician:

Michael Bedford, choirmaster, St. John's Episcopal Church, Tulsa, Okla.

STATE HANDBELL FESTIVAL SCHEDULE AND GUIDELINES:

Music:

- "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing," arr. Cathy Moklebus (Choristers Guild CGB205)
- "Ding, Dong, Merrily on High," arr. Fred Gramann (Choristers Guild CGB508)

**Friday – Saturday, April 16-17, 2010
Shocco Springs**

- "Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore," arr. William Rose (GIA Publications, Inc. G-7036)
- "Easter Joy," John A. Behnke (AGEHR AG35260)
- "Broken for You," Kathleen Wissinger (AGEHR AG35179)
- "Come Into God's Presence With Ringing," Michael Bedford (Choristers Guild CGB183)
- "To God Be the Glory," Linda Lamb (Handbell Magazine; Spring 2010 ed. 005075189.2010-SPR)

For other information, please call 1-800-264-1225: Music Specialist Karen Gosselin, ext. 318, kgosselin@alsbom.org or Ministry Assistant Susan Corley, ext. 279, scorley@alsbom.org.

Change in perspective

UMobile students fight homelessness through Cardboard City event

By Amber Collinsworth
Special to The Alabama Baptist

University of Mobile (UMobile) students Johnny Howard Jr. and Luke Easley worked together in the dark, duct-taping eight cardboard boxes to form a shelter in the middle of a dew-covered field.

Nearby other UMobile students gathered around flame-filled barrels, keeping warm and visiting with one another as the temperatures dipped into the 30s. The lights from a truck illuminated the area as students laughed about their attempts to keep their boxes upright on the damp ground.

For Howard and Easley, who won first place in a contest for the best cardboard home, this event was a rewarding experience which incorporated good times and a great purpose.

"I learned to appreciate (the issue of) homelessness a lot more," Howard said. "People that experi-

ence this in real life ... don't have a place to run to when it gets too cold.

"This started out as just a fun thing to do and not anything serious but turned out to be an experience that has changed my outlook on a lot of different things," he said.

"Pray that God would restore Haiti back to its feet, and make every effort to donate to Haiti relief."

Jamie Merilien
UMobile student from Haiti

The contest was part of UMobile students' efforts to raise funds and bring relief to the nation of Haiti after a massive earthquake took the lives of an estimated 200,000 people.

UMobile's event, known as Cardboard City, took place from 9 p.m. Feb. 19 until 6 a.m. Feb. 20. To raise

awareness about homelessness in Haiti and around the world, approximately 45 students created seven cardboard homes and asked individuals and businesses to sponsor their overnight stay in these homes.

The event raised almost \$500, half of which went to Compassion International's relief efforts in

Haiti and half of which went to 15 Place, a project of Loaves and Fish Community Ministries Inc., which fight homelessness in Mobile.

For one UMobile student, the problem of homelessness locally and around the world hit close to home.

Jamie Merilien, a junior worship leadership major originally from Haiti, told students of the heart-wrenching difficulty of finding out that his hometown had been destroyed and of the agony of having to wait several days to find out that his family and friends in Haiti were still alive.

Merilien spoke to the students

about what they can do to get involved.

"Pray that God would restore Haiti back to its feet, and make every effort to donate to Haiti relief," Merilien said. "Every little bit helps."

As Howard listened, he began to see the spiritual application of the event.

"I think that God put me through this so I would learn to appreciate the things I have and not to worry about the small things that happen in life," he said. "God also showed me that there are many more people in this world that have more problems in their lives."



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Longtime Alabama Baptist pastor Brank dies at 72

Former Alabama Baptist pastor Carlton E. Brank died March 5. He was 71.

A graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., Brank served six Alabama Baptist churches: Louisville Baptist Church in Barbour Association; South Side Baptist Church, Russellville, in Franklin Association; First Baptist Church, Eclectic, in Elmore Association; First Baptist Church, Stevenson, in Tennessee River Association; First Baptist Church, Midfield, in Birmingham Association; and Greensboro Baptist Church in Hale Association. He also served as interim pastor of Oakdale Bap-

tist Church, Ramer, in Alabama Crenshaw Association and pastor of one church in Indiana.

Brank served on the executive committee of the Alabama Baptist State Board of Missions and the Alabama Baptist Retirement Centers board of directors. He also served as chairman of the board of governors for Judson College in Marion. At the time of his death, Brank was a member of Heritage Baptist Church, Montgomery, in Montgomery Association.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Janelle Watkins Brank, and two grandsons and is survived by three children and four grandchildren. (TAB)

Alabama Cooperative Program Gifts

Alabama Baptist Giving
Year to Date through Feb. 28, 2010

FEBRUARY

CP Challenge Budget Goal	\$3,875,000
CP Challenge Budget Gifts	\$3,583,276
Under Goal for Month	\$291,724

YEAR TO DATE

CP Challenge Budget Goal	\$7,750,000
CP Challenge Budget Gifts	\$7,395,545
Under Goal for Year	\$354,455



Want to see
your news in
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E-mail your information to news@thealabamabaptist.org; fax it to 205-870-8957 or call 1-800-803-5201. Church announcements should arrive three weeks prior to the event.

Want to know God?

By Bruce Willis
Director of missions
Carey Baptist Association

Do you really know God? Many people think they do when actually they only know "about" Him.

There is far more to knowing God than merely having an intellectual knowledge of Him.

The first step to knowing God is to admit your need. Your faults, failures, bad habits and human conflicts all indicate that your need is critical. God calls these shortcomings sin. These are proof you are a sinner (Rom. 3:23).

Second acknowledge God's solution. God loves you very much, and He proved it by what He did for you. His solution was to send His Son, Jesus Christ, to live the perfect life and then die the perfect death on the cross for your sins (Rom. 5:8).

Third accept God's provision. God made sufficient provision for all your needs through Jesus Christ. As a sinner, you do not deserve this and there is nothing you can do to earn it. However, Jesus paid the price for you on the cross.

Therefore God offers this great salvation to you as a free gift (Eph. 2:8). Your part is to accept by faith what He has done for you and receive Jesus as your Lord and Savior (John 1:12).

To do so, act on the truth. "If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved" (Rom. 10:9). If you have never done this, then now is the time to come to know God through a personal relationship with Jesus.

A simple faith transaction is all that is necessary. Just direct your confession to the one and only, invisible yet ever present, God. He is eagerly waiting for you.

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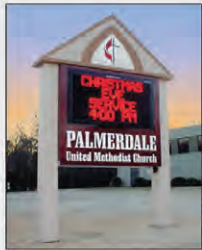
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Fred Kelley Ministries

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The advertising department of *The Alabama Baptist* will feature a special **Vacation Bible School directory** in the May 20 issue. To have your church listed in this directory contact Pam Holt at 205-870-4720, Ext. 113 or pholt@thealabamabaptist.org by May 10.

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'What our church was, is and will be'

Sylacauga's Marble City Church celebrates centennial, looks forward to relocation

By Gary Hardin
Correspondent, The Alabama Baptist

Edward Gantt, a physician, secured a place in Alabama history in 1820, when he discovered one of the world's largest and purest veins of white marble in Sylacauga.

That find so impacted the city's economy that marble operations continue there today. Thus Sylacauga has been nicknamed the Marble City.

One of its churches bears the name as well. Marble City Baptist Church has been serving the Lord for a century now, a fact it celebrated the weekend of Feb. 6-7.

Joey Cochran, the Coosa River Baptist Association church's minister to students, described the anniversary weekend this way: "Just like God was, is and is to come, our centennial is something like that — what our church was, is and will be."

Reunion weekend

A highlight of the weekend was a reunion Feb. 6 of former youth choir members and music ministers. During the 1970s and 1980s, the church's youth choir traveled throughout the country presenting concerts, dramas and puppet shows.

During the morning service Feb. 7, several former pastors spoke and a commendation letter from Rick Lance, executive director of the Alabama Baptist State Board of Missions, was read.

Lonette Berg, executive director of the Alabama Baptist Historical Commission, presented a plaque.

And Brenda McCain, the church's key leader for the anniversary celebration, showed an historical DVD she produced.

The church recognized Margie Epperson as the oldest member and Elsie Stewart as the longest tenured member. Current Pastor Michael Trull brought the message.

Marble City Baptist's average attendance is 260. But that number swelled to almost 400 for the anniversary service.

'Little Baptist church'

One hundred years ago — Feb. 6, 1910 — a group of Baptists met in Gantt's Quarry School to constitute a church.

The 14 charter members selected the name Gantt's Quarry Baptist Church and voted to meet monthly for services.

The "little Baptist church," an affectionate name given to Gantt's Quarry Baptist by the community, made a decision in 1911 to start

fund raising and construct its first house of worship. Five years later, the church dedicated the facility debt free.

In 1927, under the leadership of Pastor W.A. Wiggins, the congregation began holding services every two weeks.

The first pastorium was constructed in 1939. Continued church growth during the 1930s and 1940s led the congregation to construct additional Sunday School rooms in the 1950s.

The church's location near marble quarries proved to be less than desirable though.

As a result, Pastor James Vanderford, who served from 1959 to 1963, guided the congregation to relocate, and it broke ground for a new facility in 1960.

One year later, the church dedicated the building at its current location on Quarry Road.

In 1968, the church changed its name to Marble City Baptist.

Almost 10 years after that, a new family life center was dedicated.

Another building program is in the church's future.

"We are going forward with plans for building a new facility at a new location," said Willodean Minor, a member of Marble City Baptist for more than 50 years.

Recently the church purchased 12 acres of land near U.S. Highway 280.

"I would like to see us pay off our debt on the land, then begin to build and relocate there," Trull said.

Letters

(continued from page 2)

argue others into the kingdom of God rather than love them into God's presence, ... take pride in our moral supremacy (and) insist on our own correctness."

As I know you do, I also pray that we, as followers of Christ,

will renew our values of cooperation and communication by living as servant leaders just as our Lord Jesus so clearly demonstrated.

Conrad E. Brooks
Maylene, Ala.

FRESH WIND OF GOD?

Ted Traylor, pastor of Olive Baptist in Pensacola, Fla., was quoted in a Feb. 22, 2010, Baptist Press article regarding the four key positions waiting to be filled in Southern Baptist life. Traylor is serving as chairman of the North American Mission Board (NAMB) presidential search committee and as a member of the Great Commission Resurgence Task Force,

which has already released a progress report and will bring its final recommendations to the Southern Baptist Convention this June in Orlando, Fla.

Baptist Press quoted Traylor as saying, "It's a key time in the life of the convention — with a new CEO coming in Nashville [at the Executive Committee], a new IMB (International Mission Board) president, a new NAMB president and a new president of the convention [to be elected in Orlando in June]. If we can get the right four men lined up, we hope to catch a fresh wind of God." These remarks should concern every Southern Baptist, especially in light of the

huge recommendations that will be coming from the task force that Pastor Traylor serves on and in consideration of his leadership in finding a new president at NAMB. I know that we need to elect the right men to key positions of leadership, but taken at face value as quoted, it seems as though a fresh wind of God is entirely dependent on these four right men. I pray I am wrong about this quote. Certainly there is the chance that Ted Traylor's comments have been reported and taken out of context. For the sake of a true fresh wind of God, I hope this is the case.

Barry Holcomb
Russellville, Ala.

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PASTOR: Full-time pastor needed at Harmony Grove Baptist Church located in Winfield. Interested candidates may e-mail their resumé to: hgpastor2010@hotmail.com, or mail it to: Pastor Search Committee, P.O. Box 1736, Winfield, AL 35594.

MINISTER OF WORSHIP & EDUCATION: First Baptist Church of Blountville, Tenn., seeks a minister of worship and education. Blountville is the county seat of Kingsport and Bristol. First Baptist currently has both blended and contemporary services with a variety of choirs and ensembles. Education will involve working with teams to coordinate Bible study, VBS, camps and adult education opportunities. Candidate should be team player who is ready to serve as needed. Please submit resumé and any DVD or CDs to: Minister Search Team, First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 587 Blountville, TN 37617 or e-mail: fbcbtn@embarqmail.com. Resumés will be received through April 15.

MINISTER OF WORSHIP/ASSOCIATE PASTOR: Valley Creek Baptist Church in Hueytown is seeking a full-time minister of worship/associate pastor. Candi-

dates should have adequate experience in contemporary and traditional worship leadership, leading choirs/praise teams, musicals and pastoral care. Submit resumés to: kevin@vcchurch.com or mail to: Music Search Committee, 3253 Virginia Drive, Hueytown, AL 35023.

ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR MUSIC & WORSHIP: Moulton Baptist Church is seeking a full-time associate pastor for music and worship. Seminary degree is preferred. Resumés should be sent to: mwakefield@moultonbaptist.org or mailed to: P.O. Box 430, Moulton, AL 35650. Resumés must be received by the close of business on March 19. Moulton is located in northwest Alabama twenty miles west of Decatur.

MINISTER OF MUSIC: First Baptist Church in Hamilton is currently seeking a full-time minister of music. Interested candidates may e-mail their resumé to: broeddie@fbchamilton.org or mail it to: Personnel Committee, c/o First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1536, Hamilton, AL 35570.

BIVOCATIONAL WORSHIP LEADER: Creek Path Baptist Church is seeking a bivocational worship leader who has a heart for worship to coordinate our music program. Please send resumé to: CPBC, P.O. Box 667, Guntersville, AL 35976, or e-mail to: cpbc71@charterinternet.com.

ASSOCIATE PASTOR/MINISTER OF CHILDREN & EDUCATION: Nazareth Baptist Church in Rainsville, Ala., is accepting resumés for a full-time associate pastor/minister of children and education. Mail to: Search Committee, P.O. Box 541, Rainsville, AL 35986.

PART-TIME YOUTH DIRECTOR: Fairhope Avenue Baptist Church (www.fairhopeabc.com) is seeking a part-time youth director. Salary will be based on maturity, experience in related positions and/or professional degrees. With prayerful consideration please mail resumés with references to: Pastor James W. Hill, P.O. Box 1086, Fairhope, AL 36533 or fax 251-928-1328.

PART-TIME YOUTH DIRECTOR: New Hope Baptist Church outside Tuscaloosa, Ala. Send resumé to: New Hope Baptist Church Search Committee, 18920 Homestead Road, Ralph, AL 35480.

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES: First Baptist Church, Piedmont, accepting resumés for the position of part-time director of children's ministries. Resumés e-mailed to: info@piedmontfbc.org, or send to: 105 North Main Street, Piedmont, AL 36272.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS

For March 21

Explore the Bible

By Jeffrey S. Quiett

Associate professor of marriage and family counseling, University of Mobile

AMAZING DELIVERANCE
Exodus 12:1-14

Preparation for Deliverance (1-5)

Nine plagues had been inflicted on Egypt, and still the stubborn Pharaoh refused to let the Israelites leave. One more plague was needed to finally shatter Pharaoh's hard heart and display God's power and glory. The plague would be terrible indeed, so preparation was in order so Israel would not be caught up in the heat of God's wrath. God's instructions for preparation were detailed, suggesting the seriousness of the event. When God works, His actions present both danger and opportunity. There is danger for those who refuse God's direction and opportunity for those who embrace God's purposes. Verse 3 marks the first occurrence of the word "congregation" in the Old Testament. This word would later be used as a technical term to refer to Israel as an organized religious community. The Hebrew word for "lamb" can be translated either "sheep" or "goat." Notice that God made provision for families too small to secure an entire lamb. Whenever God calls us to action, He always makes provision to carry out His call.

God had special instructions concerning the lamb. The lamb was to be "without blemish," signifying God's demand for sacrificial purity. This requirement may be a foreshadowing of the future sacrificial system that was instituted some time after Israel's exit from Egypt. Only a spotless and pure lamb was acceptable in God's eyes. Only Jesus Christ, the spotless Lamb of God, would be acceptable as a sacrifice for the sins of the world.

Participating in God's Deliverance
(6-11)

Israel's preparation for God's deliverance was not a passive event. With further specific instructions, God expected His people to participate in His plan. God did not call His people to idly sit back and watch His power. He called the Israelites to become a part of His redemption. This does not mean that God "needed" the Israelites to complete His design, but it does mean that participation in God's deliverance would bring them closer to Him and

to rely on Him completely. The act of smearing blood on the doorposts was required of the Israelites. Although this practice may seem distasteful, obedience to God's instructions would protect the Israelites from the coming plague. The New Testament interpreted the act of smearing the blood on the doorposts as evidence of faith (Heb. 11:28). In ancient times, the doorway was regarded as the most sacred part of the house. A radical act of obedience was required for Israel to escape God's wrath. The blood protected Israel from death. This reminds us of Jesus, who shed His blood to protect us from the "wages of sin," which is death (Rom. 6:23).

The significance of the "bitter herbs" is not explained in this text, but later they would be used to remind Israel of their bitter experience as slaves. The temptation that we might enjoy God's deliverance without remembering "where we came from" always exists. When Christ delivers us from an existence of separation from God's abundant life, we often forget about others still stuck in bondage. God's salvation comes with a responsibility to reach out to those who still do not know Him.

Deliverance Remembered (12-14)

God concluded His instructions for Israel by detailing what He would do in Egypt to finally bring about His people's freedom. Every firstborn not protected by the blood would be killed. Once again, the passage reminds us of Jesus' sacrifice that brings life to those who give their lives to Him. Although the judgment was harsh and final, God provided protection to those who listened to His call. God still provides protection through Christ today.

Once God's deliverance was completed, Israel was required to continue to remember and celebrate the event through a festival known as Passover. This name comes from the fact that God "passed over" those households that were obedient to His instructions to place blood on the doorposts. Today Jews celebrate Passover in the spring and New Year's (Rosh Hashana) in the fall. Jesus would later in the Gospels see the symbolic nature of this festival in His own death as He celebrated Passover with His disciples before His arrest and death.

Bible Studies for Life

By Mark DeVine

Associate professor of divinity, Beeson Divinity School, Samford University

WHEN MEMBERS INSIST ON THEIR WAY
1 Corinthians 8:1-4, 7-13; 10:31-33

Will the Real Apostle Paul Please
Stand Up? (8:1-4)

The apostle Paul told the church at Galatia that if anyone preached a gospel other than the one he had preached, then "let him be accursed" (Gal. 1:8). Not much flexibility there. But to the church at Rome, Paul sang a very different tune. Trouble had erupted between the carnivores and the herbivores and between the Sabbatarians (those who believe the Sabbath is holier than other days) and the non-Sabbatarians (those who believe all days are alike). To these warring factions, Paul admonished, "One who eats must not look down on one who does not eat; and one who does not eat must not criticize one who does," and "accept one another, just as the Messiah also accepted you" (Rom. 14:3; 15:7). So would the real apostle Paul please stand up? Which was it? The narrow-minded, dogmatic Paul who must have his own way in Galatia or the tolerant, diversity-loving Paul who advised the church at Rome? It's both. To the believers at Corinth, at least on the question of meat sold at market that previously had been laid on an altar to false gods, it was the tolerant Paul. Even though Paul knew the so-called gods to whom the meat in question had been sacrificed were, in fact, not true gods and the meat was good as far as meat goes, he would not knowingly eat it in front of folks who viewed such meat consumption as an idolatrous act.

But why? Paul knew nothing was wrong with the meat. Why be deprived of a perfectly good steak on account of legalisms of fellow believers?

What's Love Got to Do With It?
(8:7-13)

The short answer to the question is that Paul also knew that love is the characteristic mark of Christian behavior, not knowledge as such. Now if a foundational issue is at stake, such as the very gospel of Jesus Christ within the church at Galatia, then tolerance of diversity becomes betrayal of our crucified and risen Savior and Lord. Compromise in this case is

out of the question. But when secondary matters threaten to divide the body of Christ, it is better for those who possess superior knowledge on disputed questions to accommodate others at their own expense than to rip apart the body over a matter of secondary importance. Therefore Paul could say, "If food causes my brother to fall, I will never again eat meat, so that I won't cause my brother to fall."

Being right about fundamental doctrinal issues is worth fighting for and, if necessary, parting ways over. We must not compromise the gospel itself. We cannot equivocate over cardinal doctrines of the faith, such as the confession of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit; of Jesus Christ as the fully human and fully divine sole mediator between God and sinful humanity; and of salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ on the basis of Holy Scripture. But being right about secondary matters is no basis for insisting on one's own way within the church. If we do so, then God's Word says we are "sinning against Christ." Those who pick fights over who is right and who is wrong while insisting on their own way may claim a love for truth, but tolerant, patient, self-sacrificing love displays genuine understanding of the truth and actually is walking in it, according to Paul. Love does not insist on its own way (1 Cor. 13:5).

The Burden of Discernment
(10:31-33)

The message of our passage seems pretty clear and straightforward and parallels ancient Christian wisdom to this effect — in essentials, unity; in nonessentials, liberty; in all things, charity. The problem arises in application when we are confronted with actual cases. On the one hand, those who reflexively defend themselves by an appeal to superior knowledge and then insist upon their own way have not understood the biblical way of love. On the other hand, those who refuse to take a stand on the foundational doctrines of the gospel of Jesus Christ also fail to recognize their loving responsibility to defend the truth of God. We must embrace our happy duty to discern the essential from the nonessential if we are to walk in the way of our Lord.

Christian Crossword

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Across

1. I would thou wert ____ or hot. (Rev. 3:15)

5. ____ us from evil. (Matt. 6:13)

11. ____ my voice. (Ex. 19:5)

12. ____ thou at my right hand. (Ps. 110:1)

13. Behold, ____ is the accepted time. (2 Cor. 6:2)

15. To make a hole.

17. Audiovisual. (abbr.)

18. District Attorney. (abbr.)

19. There is none righteous, ____ not one. (Rom. 3:10)

20. Not A, E or O.

21. A sharp, shrill bark or yelp.

22. In the beginning ____.

23. He hath put a ____ song in my mouth. (Ps. 40:3)

26. Rejoice, and be exceeding ____.

28. The mountain of ____.

31. The ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter.

32. Whom Sarah bare to him, ____.

35. Prefix meaning "in."

36. Purple Heart. (abbr.)

37. Bachelor of Arts. (abbr.)

38. Unto one he gave five ____.

40. ____ that hath an ear.

41. Alabama. (ZIP code abbr.)

42. Not happy.

43. Football defensive lineman. (abbr.)

44. They were not afraid of the king's ____.

47. Belly button.

48. The ____ of all evil.

49. Emergency Medical Service. (abbr.)

50. The ____ of joy for mourning.

Down

1. There is therefore now no ____.

2. Obstetrician. (abbr.)

3. For as many as are ____ by the Spirit.

4. As ____, and behold we live.

6. ____ said to Jacob, Feed me.

7. Lead them unto ____ fountains of waters.

8. And ____ repented the Lord that he had made man.

9. ____ thou not the oppressor.

10. Roseanna's nickname.

14. Jesus ____.

16. None is ____, save one.

24. Adah bare to Esau ____.

25. Have ____ their robes.

27. Doctor of Arts. (abbr.)

29. Unto all and upon all them that ____.

30. That they all may be ____.

31. Delivered it from the ____ of corruption.

33. Whose name in the Hebrew tongue is ____.

34. I will ____ on the name of the Lord.

39. In his hands the print of the ____.

45. Democrat. (abbr.)

46. Hew thee ____ tables of stone.

RESOURCES:

Your Guide to Today's New Music and Literature



Sound Bites By Jeremy Henderson

SHANE & SHANE

Everything Is Different
Inpop Records

The reason Shane & Shane's seventh studio album sounds like it was recorded live is because it was — in a sense. Rather than record each instrument or vocal tracks individually, microphones were set up in the studio for what — for all intents and purposes — was a live performance without an audience.

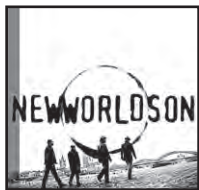


The result is a sound that captures, perhaps better than previous releases, not only the trademark harmonies but the genuine passion the veterans of the Christian college/coffeehouse circuit try to bring to Sunday mornings as joint worship leaders of their Dallas church. Recommended for fans of Bebo Norman, The David Crowder Band and Caedmon's Call.

NEWWORLDSOON

Newworldson
Inpop Records

After two years of GMA acclaim in their native Canada, Inpop innovators Newworldson are back with a self-titled sophomore record that promises to keep it coming. Despite being labeled "Americana" by reviewers prone to recommended-if-you-like clichés, Newworldson strays from the alt-country twang typically associated with acts like Cross Canadian



Ragweed and Band of Heathens.

In reality, their new album continues to blend soul, gospel, blues and even reggae influences into a world savvy sound more readily likened to jam-band inspired rock a la Blues Traveler and even Counting Crows. Recommended.

HEARTS OF SAINTS

Hearts of Saints
Revolution Art

The self-titled re-debut of Hearts of Saints, formerly Special D., is a more than competent take of what the band terms "dance rock." While it's nothing new, it's nothing bad, either. Though heavily layered, the record isn't overproduced, allowing a fuller appreciation of the band's various influences, which combine, at least to this reviewer, as something with a little



more depth and even energy than what most would call pop-rock. "The Secret" sounds like the Newsboys covering a U2 song, much of "Monster" brings Jimmy Eat World to mind, and Craig Felkers' vocals stretch with the same tension that have made Chris Daughtry's so distinguishable. Keep it up.

DAY OF FIRE

Losing All
Razor & Tie

What distinguishes Christian rock bands that only play churches from Christian rock bands on the verge of opening up for Stone Temple Pilots is a mystery.

Whatever the reasons — more tattoos? grittier vocals? songs co-written by Chris Daughtry? songs

about overcoming heroin addiction?

— Day of Fire is one of the latter: A new breed of straight-ahead Christian rock that refuses to be relegated to the kids' table. Channeling the relentless energy of seminal 90s rockers like Foo Fighters and, yes, Stone Temple Pilots,



the Dove Award-winning, Nashville quartet simply and absolutely rip it up on their third studio album "Losing All." Buy it and be proud.

NEWSONG

Give Yourself Away
Sparrow Records

People get ready, NewSong is coming ... out with their first studio album in six years. Marking the return of Russ Lee and featuring the first-rate production work of Christian artist/producer Charlie Peacock, the CCM stalwarts do their trademarked thing throughout 11 fantastic songs: Soul-stirring modern pop anthems and tear-jerking ballads, including "Every Child (Deserves a Home)" — a bonus track for World Vision, the band's longtime partner in ministry. If you're a fan, by all means buy it — you get one free to give away to a friend.



THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA

With Roots Above and Branches Below
Ferret Records

The Old Testament brutality and

massive sound achieved on their first, second and now third album, "With Roots Above and Branches Below," has, in just a few years, earned Dayton, Ohio's The Devil Wears Prada mainstream buzz and secular cred — the likes of which the persecuted mid-90s pioneers of so-called Spirit-filled Hard Core would have never thought possible.



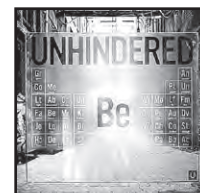
The metal core prodigies have hosted MTV's "Headbangers Ball," mainstage'd Vans' Warped Tour, showed off their tattoos on the covers of not just HM (*Heaven's Metal*) magazine, but *Outburn*, *AMP* and *Alternative Press*, which just named them 2009's Band of the Year. Even *The New York Times* seems to like them, even with lyr-

ics like "my only regret is not writing more for you, Lord." And there's a reason. A loud, haunting, punch-in-the gut-of a reason.

UNHINDERED

Be
EE-Taow Records

On it's 11-song debut for Teen Mania's EE-Taow Records, Unhindered, of Teen Mania's "Acquire the Fire" fame, does exactly what you would expect: Arms-in-the-air corporate worship. They do it well. But there's an edge



to many of the songs on "Be," like the blitzkrieg punkability of "Light This World," that along with an intelligent use of keyboards hints of depth beyond that of youth-conference house bands.

Christian Marketplace Top Ten Best Sellers

Christian Living

1. **Crazy Love**, Francis Chan and Danae Yankoski (David C. Cook)
2. **Fearless**, Max Lucado (Thomas Nelson)
3. **The Five Love Languages**, Gary Chapman (Moody)
4. **Forgotten God**, Francis Chan (David C. Cook)
5. **The Love Dare Day by Day**, Stephen and Alex Kendrick (B&H Publishing)
6. **The Me I Want to Be**, John Ortberg (Zondervan)
7. **The Power of Praying for Your Adult Children**, Stormie Omartian (Harvest House)
8. **Love and Respect**, Emerson Eggerichs (Thomas Nelson)
9. **Dr. Colbert's I Can Do This Diet**, Don Siloam (Siloam)
10. **How to Reach Your Full Potential for God**, Charles Stanley (Thomas Nelson)

Fiction

1. **The Shack**, William P. Young (Windblown Media)
2. **Shades of Blue**, Karen Kingsbury (Zondervan)
3. **Burn**, Ted Dekker and Erin Healy (Thomas Nelson)
4. **The Hidden Flame**, Davis Bunn and Janette Oke (Bethany House)
5. **Redeeming Love**, Francine Rivers (Multnomah)
6. **Silent Governess**, Julie Klassen (Bethany House)
7. **A Lineage of Grace**, Francine Rivers (Tyndale)
8. **Choice**, Suzanne Fisher (Revell)
9. **The Missing**, Beverly Lewis (Bethany House)
10. **Amish Gathering**, Beth Wiseman and Kathleen Fuller (Thomas Nelson)

Book Reviews

By Walter G. Nunn

Finding Inner Peace During Troubled Times

William Moss. *Corsicana, Texas: The Barnabas Agency*, 2009. 64 pp. (Paperback).

The basic thrust of this extremely informative and inspiring book is that genuine inner peace is found in personal meditation guided by the Lord.

The good news found in this tome is that this goal is reached by prayer as one spends time alone with Christ. It is important for readers to understand that this state of mind is found only as we are led by the Holy Spirit.

This reviewer gives this book a B-plus.

Giving an Account: The Life and Ministry of Richard H. Vigneulle

Bruce R. Peters. *Birmingham: Seacoast Publishing*, 2009. 316 pp. (Hardback).

This inspiring, informing and challenging book highlights the moving and inspiring ministry of Dick Vigneulle, the founding pastor of Shades Mountain Independent Church in Hoover.

When approached about being its pastor, Vigneulle, a noted

bank executive, was quite reluctant, insisting, "I'm a banker, not a preacher."

Fortunately God's call prevailed and he retired after leading the church for 25 years.

During his tenure, the church started a Christian school along with a foreign missions organization and a youth evangelism ministry.

The author earned three degrees from Tennessee Temple University in Chattanooga and was a staff member of the Birmingham church from 1976 until 1984.

Readers will benefit from spending time with this tome.

'Messy' music

Tenth Avenue North tunes ask tough questions

By Jeremy Henderson
Correspondent, The Alabama Baptist

Two years ago, the dudes of Tenth Avenue North were sitting in their van at a strip mall in Florida listening to one of their songs. But for the first time ever, the song wasn't playing off a CD.

It was on Z88.3 out of Orlando. They hopped out of the van and started dancing.

"Have you seen that movie 'That Thing You Do!'?" asked 29-year-old lead singer Mike Donehey. "It was kind of like that. ... That was a pretty surreal experience — the first time we heard ourselves on the radio."

The feeling quickly wore off.

The song, "Love Is Here," reached No. 1 on R&R's AC Indicator chart and became Christian hit radio's 12th most played song of 2008.

The band has shared stages with Christian heavyweights Sanctus Real, The David Crowder Band and MercyMe. And thanks to being named New Artist of the Year at the 40th Annual Gospel Music Association Dove Awards last April, it is currently one of the featured acts of Winter Jam, Christian music's largest annual tour.

Its success, however, has been far from meteoric, at least in the grand scheme of things.

Seemingly the newest kids on the worship rock block, Tenth Avenue North got their start as a college ministry praise band "all the way back in the spring of 2000," Donehey said.

"I had a lot of time on my hands [in college], and I had just started leading worship for kids at school," he recalled.

"And somehow or another, I just started encountering God, you know, and I wanted to keep doing it."

Donehey said the band never really "got discovered."

It spent three years as an independent band and kept playing and saying yes, and "it just felt like God opened doors as we went along," he said.

Not a 'clean process'

For those unfamiliar with Christian music, Donehey describes his band's sound as the love child of



Photo courtesy of Provident Label Group

LEARNING TO UNDERSTAND — Tenth Avenue North front man Mike Donehey (third from left) says their music is written out of 'the collision between God's truth and our hearts.'

Sting and James Taylor. For Christian music fans, he boils it down to Jars of Clay mixed with Switchfoot.

Donehey credits Caedmon's Call, former champions of the Christian coffeehouse, with helping him develop into the Christian musician he always wanted to be.

"Caedmon's Call taught me that it's OK to ask questions," Donehey said, noting the purpose of Tenth Avenue North is to not be afraid to ask questions and not only to entertain people but also help them understand some of the truths they sing about.

"We want them to know that our songs are written out of the collision between God's truth and our

hearts and not to expect it to be a really clean process 'cause it's usually messy," he said.

Also messy are the semantics that plague any Christian rockers worth their philosophical salt: Christian band or band of Christians?

'Band of Christians'

"I have to choose one or the other?" Donehey said with a laugh. "People are Christians — little Christs, right? A band as an entity can't be a little Christ. I would say 'Christian' is bad as an adjective. It's a better noun. I would say we're a band of Christians. People are Christians, not music or posters or stores."

He said all this while walking through a LifeWay Christian Store in Virginia, seeing his band's video for the first time splayed across the store's television screens and doing a phone interview about being an up-and-coming Christian band.

Messy semantics indeed.

"Oh man, this is a really surreal experience. I'm going to find my wife. Hey, Kelly, you just missed it ..."

For more information, visit www.tenthavenuenorth.com/home.

Religion In America

Compiled from Wire Services

Baltimore sect members convicted in starvation case

BALTIMORE — A Baltimore jury found three religious sect members guilty of second-degree murder March 2 in the starving death of a 16-month-old boy because he did not say "amen" during a mealtime prayer.

Jurors deliberated less than three hours before convicting Toni Sloan, along with her daughter Trevia Williams and Marcus A. Cobbs, of child abuse resulting in the death of Javon Thompson, according to the *Baltimore Sun*. They will be sentenced May 18 and each faces up to 60 years in prison.

Cobbs, known as "Prince Marcus," was also convicted of accessory after the fact for covering up the death. The accused members represented themselves and remained silent as the verdict was read after a six-day trial. According to media reports, Sloan, the leader of the household sect, claimed God renamed her "Queen Antoinette." Her influence over the toddler's mother, Trinidad-born Ria Ramkissoon, led to the boy's starvation. The 23-year-old mother testified that Sloan said the baby had "a spirit of rebellion" and withholding food as punishment would cure him.

The eight household members of the house watched Thompson waste away and die in either December 2006 or January 2007, according to testimony. His remains were found in April 2008 inside a suitcase hidden in a Pennsylvania shed.

American Family Assoc. head resigns due to health

TUPELO, Miss. — Donald E. Wildmon, the founder and chairman of the Mississippi-based American Family Association (AFA), has resigned after months of failing health, the conservative Christian ministry announced.

"A bite from a mosquito carrying the St. Louis encephalitis virus caused Wildmon's illness," the ministry said in a March 3 statement. "From August to November of last year Wildmon spent 121 days in the hospital and rehab."

Wildmon, 72, also was treated for cancer on his left eye.

The retired United Methodist pastor started the ministry in his dining room in 1977. It operates 180 radio stations and a monthly magazine and now employs 175 people with a \$20 million budget. Wildmon plans to continue working at the Tupelo, Miss.-based ministry but not in a leadership role. The AFA said his son, Tim, 47, who has worked for AFA for almost a quarter century, is expected to lead the ministry.

AFA has been active in boycotting organizations and companies that embrace policies counter to its conservative Christian views.

Christians rally against atheists promoting 'smut'

SAN ANTONIO — The sign on the campus of the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) was bound to get attention: "Trade in holy texts 4 porn."

"Smut for Smut," an annual event sponsored by the Atheist Agenda student group, sparked enough protest and controversy that police were called in to monitor the scene March 1.

"Smut for Smut" began in 2005 when students were offered free pornographic magazines in exchange for Bibles, Torahs, Korans and other sacred texts, according to the San Antonio *Express-News*.

This year, Christians rallied against Atheist Agenda members, which prompted a group of agnostics to plead for peace, according to reports. The university, however, does not condemn the event or the protestors, saying "they have the freedom of speech and assembly," according to UTSA spokesman David Gabler.

Ten religious texts were collected March 1.

Catholic Charities halt benefits to employees' spouses

WASHINGTON — The Archdiocese of Washington's social service branch will stop offering benefits to spouses of new employees in a bid to balance the District of Columbia's new same-sex "marriage" law with Catholic opposition to homosexuality.

Edward Orzechowski, president and CEO of Catholic Charities of Washington, informed the group's 850 employees of the change in a letter March 1, two days before gay "marriage" was scheduled to become legal in the city.

The Washington City Council voted in December to legalize gay "marriage" over the strenuous objections of the archdiocese, which argued that the bill should have had stronger protections for religious groups that oppose homosexuality. In February, Catholic Charities transferred its foster care program, including 43 children, 35 families and seven employees, to another provider, rather than potentially be forced to place children with gay couples.



But we know that when He appears, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. Everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

1 John 3:2a-3