



God, guns and keeping Christians safe

PISTOLS IN THE PEWS *make some feel more secure, but others leery*

BY BOBBY ROSS JR. | THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE

At many Churches of Christ across the nation, Christians bring more than their swords — as some refer to their Bibles — to Sunday worship.

An untold number also carry concealed handguns into the assembly, church leaders told *The Christian Chronicle*.

As mass shootings make all-too-frequent headlines in America, some see pistol-packing church members — and even preachers — as protection, the *Chronicle* found in interviews with dozens of ministers, elders and deacons in 15 states.

"I do not believe that Jesus — or even the old law — taught members to cower in the face of danger," said Chris Gallagher, minister for the Gadsden Church of Christ in Alabama. "It was Jesus who told his apostles to take a sword in Luke 22."

"A gunman coming into our services to cause harm to men, women and children through his evil desires should be stopped," added Gallagher, noting that he usually locks his own Ruger .380 pistol in his office when he preaches. "Shall we let the evil of one man injure and harm a collection of God's people?"

Four months ago, a gunman opened fire at a Wednesday night Bible study at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, S.C., and killed nine people before fleeing unharmed. Dylann Storm Roof, 21,

See **GUNS**, Page 10

SAFETY ADVICE: Brent Sandlin, president and CEO of First Security Systems in Hurst, Texas, offers tips for leaders to improve church security and make congregations less susceptible to crime. www.christianchronicle.org



Gallagher

PHOTO PROVIDED BY ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY POLICE

Abilene, Texas, police SWAT team members prepare for a drill on the campus of Abilene Christian University earlier this year.

Universities review crisis plans after Oregon rampage

BY BOBBY ROSS JR. | THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE

When a student gunman killed nine people and wounded nine others at Umpqua Community College in rural Roseburg, Ore., the news struck close to home for Steve Eckman — even though he lives more than 1,600 miles away.

"At York College, we know all of our students by name and by personality," said Eckman, who serves as president of York, a 400-student Christian college in Nebraska. "It would be unthinkable to have

someone we know and love lost in such a senseless manner."

As unthinkable as it might be, the Oct. 1 shooting rampage in Oregon served to remind colleges and universities associated with Churches of Christ of the need to be prepared for an "active shooter" situation and other potential threats on campus, officials told *The Christian Chronicle*.



Chaudoin

"By nature, university campuses are open and inviting to the community. With that comes risks," said Kim Chaudoin, spokeswoman for 4,700-student Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tenn. "No university is immune from something happening, but we can work to prepare our communities and train them to know what to do when emergencies happen."

In recent years, colleges across the U.S. have implemented measures to identify potentially violent students

See **CAMPUS SECURITY**, Page 12

DR. KENT BRANTLY

FREED-HARDEMAN UNIVERSITY
2015 BENEFIT DINNER

FOR *His* GLORY



The call to serve our neighbors will be the focus when thousands of people come together Friday, Dec. 4, for the 51st Annual Freed-Hardeman University Benefit Dinner in Henderson. Typically the largest one-night fundraiser in the state of Tennessee, the dinner provides vital funds for student scholarships. This year's speaker is medical missionary and Ebola survivor Dr. Kent Brantly.

Brantly will discuss Christians' call to service, particularly in light of the experiences he and his wife, Amber, faced when he contracted Ebola. To be part of this event or receive more information, visit fhu.edu/benefitdinner, email FHU Vice President for University Advancement Dave Clouse (dclouse@fhu.edu) or call 731-989-6019.

Those who have generously supported the FHU Benefit Dinner during the past 51 years have helped **Freed-Hardeman University students develop their gifts for His glory.**



FREED-HARDEMAN
UNIVERSITY

HENDERSON | MEMPHIS | DICKSON
WWW.FHU.EDU | 1-800-FHU-FHU-1

Loving a language and the lost

SEARCY, Ark.

Où il me mène ...” That’s French for “Where he leads me.”

I didn’t know where God was leading me in the mid-1960s as I began ninth grade — and had to choose a foreign language.

Inside Story



Lynda Sheehan

In junior high I studied Spanish and then French, taught weekly by itinerant teachers — forlorn souls who pushed their carts through the halls with no

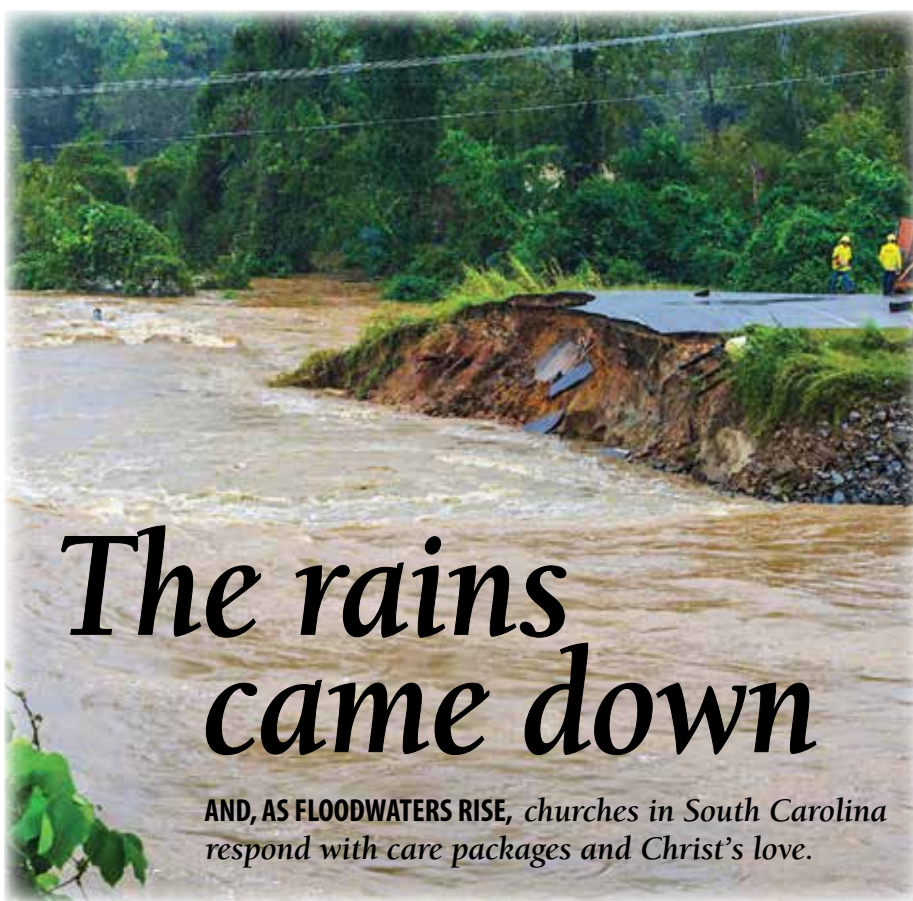
classroom of their own. My Spanish teacher named me *Linda Belita* which I didn’t like too much. In French I was *Camille*, soft and appealing.

The choice was clear. French.

I could not have imagined that this simple choice would lead to mission work thousands of miles from my native Oklahoma — and a lifetime of connections with those who seek to spread the Gospel to *le monde francophone* (the French-speaking world), 609 million strong and growing.

So my heart was *rempli de joie*, filled with joy, as I greeted longtime friends and made new ones at the French World Mission Workshop, sponsored by the College and Westside Churches of Christ near my alma mater, Harding University. More than 125 believers, coming together from seven countries on three continents,

See **FRENCH**, Page 4



The rains came down

AND, AS FLOODWATERS RISE, churches in South Carolina respond with care packages and Christ’s love.

JORGE INTRIAGO, U.S. AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Record rainfall in South Carolina washed out roads and breached levees, including this one at the Columbia Riverfront Canal. The National Guard is assisting emergency managers.

BY KATIE JONES | THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE

Churches of Christ are responding to a thousand-year flood in South Carolina with thousands of meals — delivered by hundreds of helping hands.

“No one ever imagined having this much rain, so people have been really devastated,” said Mike Hollis, preaching minister for the Palmetto Church of Christ in the state’s capital, Columbia.

“I took food to an apartment complex, and a lady receiving it was in tears, thanking us for it,” Hollis said. “Most of that apartment had been underwater.”

Five days of downpour, fueled by Hurricane Joaquin in the Atlantic, brought more than a foot of water upon the city. Across the state, storms claimed at least 19 lives.

Hollis and fellow church members delivered 600-plus meals to victims during their first day of relief work — and hundreds more in the days that followed.

See **FLOODS**, Page 8



WWW.DISASTERASSISTANCECOC.COM

Church members help remove floodwater from a home in Columbia, S.C. — and leave drinking water behind.

Missionary killed, child taken in Haiti

CHRISTIANS MOURN Roberta Edwards, who dedicated her life to serving children, and pray for the 4-year-old boy abducted by her killers.

BY ERIK TRYGGESTAD | THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE

“She took care of us until her last breath.”

That’s how Widlord Thomas described his adopted mother, Roberta Edwards, who was shot to death Oct. 10 by gunmen who then abducted one of the children she served in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.



Edwards

Edwards, 55, was the founder and director of SonLight Children’s Home, where she was a mother to 20 children. She was making a trip for gasoline when a vehicle pulled in front of her and forced her to stop. Gunmen emerged and fired.

They seized Jonathan, a 4-year-old, as two other children in Edwards’ vehicle fled and found Thomas, who grew up under Edwards’ care and now serves as an assistant director of the ministry. Haitian authorities are investigating and have no motive, said members of Edwards’ supporting congregation, the Estes Church of Christ in Henderson, Tenn. At press time, Jonathan was still missing. The Estes church is sending counselors to the children’s home.

Edwards moved from North Carolina to Haiti in 1995 with her husband, a native Haitian. Five years later, their marriage ended and her husband left. By then, she already was caring for several orphaned and abandoned children.

“So I decided to stay and do whatever needed to be done,” she told *The Christian Chronicle* in 2010.

SEE AN EXPANDED STORY, updates and an address for memorial gifts at www.christianchronicle.org.

FRENCH: 'I felt connected to people whose lives had a grand purpose'

FROM PAGE 3

enjoyed sweet fellowship, meals and updates. Together they represented hundreds of years of missions experience.

The work has never been simple, given the mindset that dates back to the French Revolution. Among other things, it was a revolution against the power of the Catholic church, said Doyle Kee, who has served in Geneva, Switzerland, for 45 years alongside his wife, Barbara.

As a result, French speakers can be distrustful of — even antagonistic toward — any kind of Christian influence, Doyle Kee said.

Nonetheless, many dedicated Christians are determined to be lights in the darkness — and to be there when God opens doors.

A MOON LANDING AND FRENCH BREAD

I owe so much to the high school teachers who introduced me to this beautiful language. I was guided for two years by Madame Kozak, who truly *loved* anything and everything French, and for two more by Monsieur Marcotte, a master teacher (and head wrestling coach).

I took my first trip to France at age 15 with the Marcottes, brave sponsors shepherding 19 students for 45 days as we traveled by train and lodged in hostels and tiny hotels. On the deck of a hostel near Toulouse, we watched Neil Armstrong walk on the moon while enjoying French bread with jam and *café au lait* for breakfast.

When I enrolled at Harding and



LYNDA SHEEHAN

Christians representing seven countries on three continents gathered in Searcy, Ark., for the French World Mission Workshop.

had to pick a major, again my choice was clear — French. On the campus of this Christian college, I gained a polished talent and spiritual direction.

I participated in two summer campaigns led by my mentors, Winfred and Dottie Wright, to bless churches in Belgium, France and Switzerland. We traveled in Volkswagen vans and stayed in campgrounds. We stuffed mailboxes with thousands of invitations for gospel meetings and Bible correspondence courses. We sang French hymns and devotional songs in town squares, invited people on the street to study the Bible and worshiped alongside French-speaking Christians.

I later spent almost a year in Lyon, France, working with college friends Arlin and Judy Hendrix in their mission effort, launched in 1975. Arlin lost Judy to cancer, and 26 years

ago he married Pamela, a former missionary in Geneva, Switzerland.

INSPIRING AND RE-INSPIRING

It was wonderful to see Arlin and Pamela at the workshop, as well as the Kees. I also saw unfamiliar faces — workers from French-speaking regions of Canada and Africa. I met George and Joyce Akpabli and Arnold Dzah, Christians from English-speaking Ghana who learned French to reach souls in Benin and Senegal.

Barry Baggott, a longtime worker in French Africa, shared historical perspective on the French work. God, working through dedicated Christians and their converts, has grown Churches of Christ in the French-speaking world from nearly none in 1947 to 742 in 2015, Baggott reported.

For the college students who attended, the workshop awakened

new possibilities to serve God.

One attendee, Annella Beattie, who had participated in a mission trip to Paris, said, "I felt connected to people whose lives have a grand purpose and are passionate about getting God's Word out. I now feel like God is making his move on me."

For others of us, the time together reawakened our desire to spread the Gospel. More workers are needed. Funds are needed. Encouragement is needed. Even stateside missionaries (of which I am one) can help, as can anyone who has a heart to touch French-speaking people for God.

Where is God leading you in serving? Are you making the most of every opportunity? Watch for doors he will open for you.

Je vais suivre. I will follow.

CONTACT lynda.sheehan@christianchronicle.org



Our mission: Inform, inspire, unite

A subsidiary of Oklahoma Christian University

www.christianchronicle.org

Phone: (405) 425-5070; Fax (405) 425-5076

Mail: P.O. Box 11000, Oklahoma City, OK 73136-1100
Delivery: 2501 E. Memorial Road, Edmond, OK 73013



facebook.com/ChristianChronicle

twitter.com/CofNews



President and CEO: Lynn A McMillon
lynn.mcmillon@christianchronicle.org

Editor: Erik Tryggstad
erik@christianchronicle.org

Chief Correspondent: Bobby Ross Jr.
bobby.ross@christianchronicle.org

Advertising Manager: Tonya Patton
tonya.patton@christianchronicle.org

Reviews Editor: Kimberly Mauck
kim.mauck@christianchronicle.org

Administrative Assistant: Lynda Sheehan
lynda.sheehan@christianchronicle.org

Administrative Assistant: Joy McMillon
joy.mcmillon@christianchronicle.org

Editorial Assistant: Laura Akins
Editor Emeritus: Bailey McBride

bailey.mcbride@christianchronicle.org

TO SUBSCRIBE: See www.christianchronicle.org, email joy.mcmillon@christianchronicle.org or call (405) 425-5070.

LETTERS: letters@christianchronicle.org
The Christian Chronicle® encourages feedback that

promotes thoughtful and respectful discussion. Letters and comments should be 150 words or less and may be edited for length and clarity. Comments to the print or online editions are considered to be letters to the editor and may be published. Please include name, city and state of residence, as well as home congregation.

The Christian Chronicle® is not a teaching or doctrinal publication but a newspaper with news and opinion content in sections clearly labeled. Signed columns and reviews reflect the opinions of the authors.

Advertising contains commercial messages from those who purchase the advertising space. News coverage, opinion columns, reviews, letters to the editor and advertising do not necessarily represent the views of or constitute endorsement by the editors, the staff, the Board of Trustees of *The Christian Chronicle* or Oklahoma Christian University. *The Christian Chronicle*® is published monthly and is

served by a national Board of Trustees that is charged with the responsibility for policy and governance. All trustees, editors and staff are active members of Churches of Christ.



Commitment to
Transparency
Recognized by
Intelligent
Philanthropy



TRUSTEES:

Deon Fair, chairman

Abel Alvarez • Ed Biggers • Sylvia Branch
Dwain Chaffin • John deSteiguer • Lovatrice Farrow
Emily Lemley • James Moore • Robert Oglesby Sr.
Mike O'Neal • Barry Packer • Kevin Ramsey
Harold Redd • Harry Risinger
Milton Sewell • Gary Tabor

SPOTLIGHT

Garrett dies at 96

DENTON, Texas — Leroy Garrett, publisher, lecturer and author among Churches of Christ for 70 years, died Sept. 29. He was 96.

A memorial service was conducted Oct. 3 at the Singing Oaks Church of Christ in Denton.

Garrett was the author of books including "The Stone-Campbell Movement: The Story of the American Restoration Movement" and "What Must the Churches of Christ Do to be Saved?"

Garrett's autobiography, "A Lover's Quarrel: My Pilgrimage of Freedom in Churches of Christ," was reviewed in *The Christian Chronicle* in 2004.

He was a professor of philosophy at MacMurray College in Illinois, Bethany College in West Virginia, Texas Woman's University and Bishop College in Dallas. In retirement he was an adjunct professor at Richland College in Dallas, Dallas Christian College and the University of Dallas.



Garrett

CHRIS SHIELDS

Homelessness in Michigan: 'Shack-a-Thon' raises money, awareness

Students Daniel Kemp, Jacob Garrison and Troy Wilkinson at Rochester College in Michigan build a makeshift shelter from scraps of plywood. The Detroit-area Christian college's 48-hour "Shack-a-Thon" event raised money to help the homeless. Thirty students slept in the shacks as they worked to raise awareness of the 3,000 homeless people in Oakland County, Mich., where Rochester College is located.

ARIZONA

PHOENIX — A group of 13 from an Oklahoma church, joined by a dozen students from Bear Valley Bible Institute in Denver, worked with the Salt River Church of Christ to conduct a recent mission campaign.

The campaign served the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, where missionaries Josh and Divine Austin planted the Salt River church three years ago.

"We knocked doors, conducted Bible studies and visitation and (did) service projects," said Robert Prater, minister for the Crosstown Church of Christ in Tulsa, Okla. Prater taught a nightly seminar on marriage and family. Attendance averaged about 50.

MISSISSIPPI

PONTOTOC — Thirteen people were

baptized and one restored during the recent ninth annual "Back to the Bible" campaign organized by the Cox Boulevard Church of Christ in Sheffield, Ala.

Nearly 100 Christians from five states knocked 6,600 doors in the campaign hosted by the Highway 15 Church of Christ in Pontotoc, organizers said.

TENNESSEE

CENTERVILLE — Two dozen area congregations celebrated a day of "Endeavor" through a recent joint gathering for worship.

About 850 members of Churches of Christ assembled in the Hickman High School auditorium on a Sunday afternoon.

"The day was themed 'Endeavor' and carried a tone of peace and

hope for a broken world," said Bryan McAlister, minister for the Centerville Church of Christ. The theme Scripture was Ephesians 4:3: "Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

TEXAS

SNYDER — The East Side Church of Christ decided to take hospitality and outreach seriously this fall, minister Jeff Dunn said.

During October, the congregation focused on showing random acts of kindness to its community. Leaders dubbed the effort "RAKtober." Next, through an initiative called "T-500," the church plans to provide free Thanksgiving meals to 500 families.

"God has called this body to love unconditionally and to spread the hope of Jesus throughout this town,"

Dunn said. "We are excited and hopeful about the amazing things he is doing here in West Texas."

VERMONT

SPRINGFIELD — The Springfield Church of Christ hosts a community dinner on the last Tuesday night of every month.

"We have been doing this for seven years now," minister Jay Huntley said. "It has tremendously increased our rapport with Springfield."

While the primary desire is to feed those who truly need the meal, Huntley said, it's also a chance for members to bring friends they are trying to influence.

The most recent monthly meal drew 95 people, the largest attendance so far. About 20 of those were Springfield church members.

What would Jesus teach?

ADULT BIBLE CLASSES ‘are not reaching the average person,’ and need more practical application, ministers say

BY JOHN R. IRBY | FOR THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE

SEARCY, Ark.

If Jesus came into your adult Bible class, would he be happy? If we asked Jesus what he thought of our adult Bible class, would we want to listen to his assessment?

Steve Griggs asked those questions during the recent Harding University Bible Lectureship.

Griggs, adult education minister for the Central Church of Christ in Dalton, Ga., led a two-day session for about 50 church members — including many ministers — titled “Re-visioning the Adult Bible Class.”

The takeaway: Knowledge is power, but power is wasted if there is little or no application.

“Are we training our people to become like Jesus?” Griggs asked, “or are our traditions determining how our adult Bible classes are being taught?”

While providing information always has been an objective of Bible classes, Griggs said, teachers often do not include enough practical application to make their classes effective.

The objective, he said, should be

a mix of engagement with the Word along with the application of how to live like Jesus in the world.

That balance can’t be achieved, he added, without overcoming some obvious challenges in teaching — training, pedagogy (the method and practice of teaching), design, structure, practice, traditions and logistics. The time frame of classes also may limit effectiveness, as most churches have limited class time spread across 13-week quarters.

Often, the church building itself is designed without consideration for the adult class setting, Griggs said. Instead, building committees focus on classrooms for young children, teens and other target audiences.



Shannon

said Colton Shannon, college and young adult minister for the Great Oaks Church of Christ in Memphis, Tenn., who attended the sessions. “Too many classes are not reaching the average person in how their life can look like how Jesus lived.”



Steve Griggs talks about engaging topics for adult Bible classes, including “Jesus-centered values for Kingdom living,” during his class at the Harding Bible lectureship.

Griggs indicated that adult classes should be Jesus-centered, based on a biblical foundation mixed with modeling the teaching style of Jesus in the world.

Dick Harris, a pulpit minister in New Concord, Ohio, said that the presentations offered fresh, practical ideas.

“In our case,” he said, “resources and time commitment are a problem.”

Griggs’ congregation recently hosted a four-session, dual-focus class that received positive reactions, the minister said. It was built on five R’s: **Remembering** (how Jesus lived and taught); **Revision** (looking at



Harris

the class through a new set of eyes); **Reflect** (asking questions about things like structure); **Remodel** (looking at new approaches); and **Rely** (on the power of Jesus).

Dave Grant, a minister in Escanaba, Mich., said that his congregation “has long talked about an approach to application, but we often fall short in putting it into action. Our problems are structure and traditions — logistically we aren’t geared for it.”



Grant

“As I get older,” he added, “I’m more comfortable with an application approach, but we all have room for improvement.”



PHOTOS BY JOHN R. IRBY

A mix of ministers and church members listen to Steve Griggs’ presentation.

Resources for effective adult Bible classes

Suggested by Steve Griggs, Central Church of Christ, Dalton, Ga. Find additional resources at www.christianchronicle.org.

- **Made to Stick: Why Some Ideas Survive and Others Die** by Chip Heath and Dan Heath.
- **Teaching the Faith, Forming the Faithful: A Biblical Vision for Education in the Church** by Gary A. Parrett and S. Steve Kang.
- **Why Nobody Learns Much of Anything at**

- Church: And How to Fix It and The Dirt on Learning: Groundbreaking Tools to Grow Faith in Your Church** by Thom and Joani Schultz.
- **Teaching As Jesus Taught** by Roy B. Zuck.
- **Nothing Never Happens: Experiential Learning and the Church** by John D. Hendrix.

In the shadow of the Supreme Court, churches urged to reexamine bylaws

BY HAMIL R. HARRIS | FOR THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE

DISTRICT HEIGHTS, Md. — Now, more than ever, Churches of Christ need clearly defined bylaws, said Melvin Otey.

The former U.S. Justice Department attorney recently spoke to a diverse, multiracial crowd of ministers and church leaders from up and down the East Coast. They gathered in the auditorium of the District Heights Church of Christ, about seven miles east of the U.S. Supreme Court. On June 26, the court ruled 5-4 in favor of recognizing same-sex marriage nationwide.

“We are at ground zero,” said Willie Hubbard, minister for the District Heights church, who invited Otey to speak after the landmark decision.

Otey, now an associate professor at Faulkner University’s Jones School of Law, has traveled the country advising churches about updating their bylaws to avoid potential lawsuits. The Montgomery, Ala., university is associated with Churches of Christ.

Bylaws — the rules and regulations that provide a framework for a church’s operation and organization — can be a source of contention in a fellowship that claims “no creed but Christ,” readers told *The Christian Chronicle*.

In response to recent coverage of the Supreme Court’s decision, several church members balked at the idea of relying on man-made statements for legal protection.

“Is Scripture alone not sufficient for our faith and practice?” one reader asked.

Otey stressed that “bylaws don’t control us. But they can help keep the government off of us so we don’t have to spend money fighting in court.”

“Every church needs to pull their bylaws,” he added. Church leaders must examine these policies “with a completely fresh eye in light of the circumstances and update as necessary to deal with the current environment.”

Among the policies churches should reinvestigate are those pertaining

to the use of church-owned facilities, Otey said. Churches need clearly defined rules for permitting their facilities to be used for weddings and what genders are allowed in church bathrooms. In some cases, churches must define “gender.”

Otey stressed the need for churches to tie all policies to the Bible to protect against lawsuits by same-sex couples or transgender individuals.

Adopting such policies presents challenges for churches as they seek and save lost souls.

“We are obligated to love those who are in sin,” said Roger Kondrup, minister for the Salisbury Church of Christ in Maryland. But churches must not function in a way that promotes sin, he added.

The Salisbury church’s bylaws were written in the 1950s to meet state requirements at the time, Kondrup said, and will “absolutely have to be changed” in light of the Supreme Court decision.

Other ministers, including Ed Maxwell of the Suitland Road Church of Christ in Maryland and D. Anthony Goodman of the Capital Church of Christ in Annapolis, Md.,

said they would revisit and revise their bylaws based on what they learned at the meeting.

“The worst thing that we can do is nothing,” said Leonard Wooten, who traveled from Miami, where

he ministers for the Goulds Church of Christ, to attend the meeting.

As they strive to meet the legal requirements of a changing society, churches shouldn’t stray from their mission, Otey said.

“We have to preach what the Bible preaches,” he said. “We can’t be afraid to preach the truth, but we have to be loving and wise in saying what the Bible says.”

SEE ADDITIONAL COVERAGE of the Supreme Court decision and Churches of Christ, plus features on ministering to those struggling with same-sex attraction, at www.christianchronicle.org.



Otey



Hubbard

www.ChurchofChristMusic.com

HARDING UNIVERSITY CONCERT CHOIR

TREMENDOUS BLEND OF BOTH NEW AND OLD SONGS, FEATURING THE GOLDEN SOUNDS OF HARDING. ALL RECORDINGS ARE TRULY MAGNIFICENT IN DEPTH AND TALENT.

1 THE GREATEST COMMANDS

- My Eyes Are Dry
- Father And Friend
- He’s My King
- Won’t It Be Wonderful There?
- Bless His Holy Name
- Grace Greater Than Our Sin
- Breathe On Me, Breath Of God
- Come Christians Join To Sing
- Great Is The Lord
- I Sing Praises To Your Name
- My Tribute (To God Be The Glory)
- We Shall Rise
- In Moments Like These
- The Greatest Commands
- Rejoice In The Lord Always
- Spirit Of The Living God
- How Majestic Is Your Name
- Jesus Is Lord (Interlude)
- He
- Come Into His Presence
- Highest Place
- Yes, I’ll Live In Glory
- Adoration (Worship The Lord)
- And Many More Songs

2 ETERNAL HYMNS OF PRAISE

- Oh, The Depth Of The Riches
- Lead Me To Calvary
- Each Step I Take
- Let Us Break Bread Together
- His Grace Reaches Me
- The Love Of God (Highfield)
- The Love Of God (Lehman)
- Amazing Grace
- Only In Thee
- He’s My King
- Where No One Stands Alone
- Won’t It Be Wonderful There
- Grace Greater Than Our Sin
- Follow Me
- A Wonderful Savior/Precious Lord, Take My Hand
- His Eye Is On The Sparrow
- He Lives
- Peace In The Valley
- Heaven Came Down/Paradise Valley
- God’s Family
- Crown Him With Many Crowns
- God Is The Fountain
- Because He Lives
- And Many More Songs

3 MOST REQUESTED TRADITIONAL HYMNS

- Holy, Holy, Holy
- Precious Memories
- No Tears In Heaven
- Blessed Assurance
- Crossing The Bar
- O Love That Will Not Let Me Go
- Rock Of Ages
- Beyond The Sunset
- Come Ye Disconsolate
- Old Rugged Cross
- Only In Thee
- Safe In The Arms Of Jesus
- The Garden Of Prayer
- In The Sweet By And By
- Never Grow Old
- An Empty Mansion
- Amazing Grace
- It Is Well With My Soul
- Fairest Lord Jesus
- Whispering Hope
- My God And I
- Savior Breathe An Evening Blessing
- And Many More Songs

Fabulous Gift Idea!

RAY WALKER’S SONGBOOK SERIES VOL 1-14

SPECIAL \$8.00 EACH

PLEASE CALL FOR INFO

4 THIS IS MY STORY SONGS BY FANNY J. CROSBY

- Praise Him, Praise Him
- A Wonderful Savior
- To The Work
- Though Your Sins Be As Scarlet
- The Half I Cannot Tell
- The Lord In Zion Reigneth
- Unsearchable Riches
- Blessed Assurance
- Nearer The Cross
- Rescue The Perishing
- Tell Me The Story Of Jesus
- Thou My Everlasting Portion
- Will You Come
- When Jesus Comes
- Pass Me Not
- Hide Me, O My Savior
- Jesus, Keep Me Near The Cross
- Meet Me There (Interlude)
- To God Be The Glory
- Take The World, But Give Me Jesus
- I Shall Know Him
- Hold Thou My Hand
- Savior, More Than Life To Me
- And Many More Songs

5 TEACH ME LORD TO WAIT

- Bind Us Together
- I Love You With The Love Of The Lord
- I Will Call Upon The Lord
- I Want To Know Christ
- God’s Family
- A Common Love
- Morning Has Broken
- This Is The Day
- Humble Yourselves
- I Am Crucified With Christ
- I Love You Lord
- If That Isn’t Love
- There’s Something About That Name
- God Is So Good
- We Are One In The Bond Of Love
- How Excellent Is Thy Name
- We Bow Down
- Unto Thee O Lord
- Glorify Thy Name
- His Name Is Wonderful
- Majesty
- Teach Me Lord To Wait
- As The Deer
- There’s a Sweet, Sweet Spirit
- Jesus Name Above All Names
- He
- Seek Ye First
- Holy Is The Lord
- And Many More Songs

SPECIAL FUNERAL, WORSHIP AND PRAISE CDS ARE INCLUDED IN OUR COLLECTION OF HYMNS

Dallas Christian Sound

COMPACT DISCS – \$13.99 EACH
Quantities of 3 or more – \$10.00 EACH
* Add \$6.00 to your total for postage *

TO ORDER COMPACT DISCS AND RELIGIOUS MATERIALS:

Toll Free: 1.800.654.5918

Fax: 972.385.9430

dallaschristiansound@tx.rr.com

www.ChurchofChristMusic.com

www.dallaschristiansound.co



Ask Us About Our Special
Funeral, Wedding,
&
Children’s Music!

THE HIGHEST QUALITY
ACAPPELLA RELIGIOUS MUSIC
AVAILABLE ANYWHERE

DALLAS CHRISTIAN SOUND – P.O. BOX 796072 – DALLAS, TX 75379

Two books every minister should have!

The Funeral and Wedding Handbook
and
The Great Omission



Available at:
CSS Publishing Co. (419) 227-1818,
Amazon.com or your local book store.
www.robertblairbooks.com

NCSA NATIONAL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

FOUNDED 1975

PRESIDENT

The National Christian School Association (NCSA) is seeking application for its first full-time President. NCSA seeks, as its new President, a deeply committed Christian, a servant leader and an active member in Churches of Christ. The successful candidate will be fully committed to educational excellence and promote the critical importance of keeping Christ at the heart of every aspect of education at preschool through college levels. The next President should be an independent self-starter. Experience as a chief administrator at a Christian school is preferred. An adept public speaker, a proven fundraiser, with current knowledge in educational trends and accreditation is required. While an earned doctorate is preferable, an earned master's degree with extensive experience in Christian school administration will be considered.

The President will be expected to provide Christ-centered leadership in developing programs and achieving NCSA goals. He/She will be the Association's "public face" to Christian colleges, the larger education community and governmental entities. He/She will attend all board meetings, plan the annual NCSA conference and be responsible for executing all Board policies and other duties as assigned by the NCSA Board.

Formed in 1980, the NCSA is an educational association of 98 K-12 schools in 26 states, serving more than 30,000 students. All of the current member schools are affiliated with the Churches of Christ, although recent NCSA Board action has expanded membership possibilities to Christ-centered K-12 schools who are committed to New Testament Christianity. NCSA member schools are not-for-profit and independently-operated in most cases by self-perpetuating boards. NCSA leadership and direction has historically been provided by a part-time President under the oversight of a self-perpetuating Board of Trustees, composed primarily of 14 presidents or administrators of the member schools.

NCSA is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education (DOE), the National Center for Educational Statistics (NCES), the Census Bureau and the Council for American Private Education (CAPE). NCSA is also a founding member of the Coalition of Christian School Accreditors (CCSA). The NCSA's accrediting process is recognized by partnerships with Advanced (a combination of the regional accrediting bodies historically known as the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and the North Central Association) and with individual state departments of education where appropriate.

Qualified candidates are encouraged to submit a full resume to the Chairman of the Search Committee, with possible follow-up information to be requested. The NCSA Board desires to name its new President in February 2016, to be publicly introduced at the annual Association Board meeting in March 2016 and formally take office on June 1, 2016.

The National Christian Schools Association does not unlawfully discriminate in employment opportunities unless allowed by law.

Interested candidates should send their letters of interest, curriculum vitae and a list of at least five professional references (with email addresses and telephone numbers) by December 18, 2015 to:

Dr. Royce Money, Consultant, NCSA Presidential Search Committee,
Hunter Welcome Center
ACU Box 29119
Abilene TX 79699-9119

Or, you may reply by email to: moneyr@acu.edu

FLOODS: 'This is the time for us to be the church'

FROM PAGE 3

Churches of Christ in the area, including the West Columbia, Sunset Boulevard and Long Creek congregations, are partnering with the 250-member Palmetto church.

Nashville, Tenn.-based Churches of Christ Disaster Relief Effort has delivered multiple truckloads of food, hygiene and infant care items, cleaning supplies and new clothing to the Palmetto church and 220-member St. Andrews Road Church of Christ in Columbia. Assisting is Texas-based Disaster Assistance CoC, which helps church members prepare meals and coordinate relief.

Members of the Gateway Disaster Response Team in New Jersey, who helped their community recover after Hurricane Sandy in 2012, traveled to Columbia to help, as did a church group from Lakeview, Texas. They plan to assist homeowners as they clean away storm debris and demuck their houses. As homeowners rebuild, church members will help with carpentry, plumbing, electrical, masonry and painting needs.

"This is not going to be over in a week, two weeks or even a month," Hollis said. "This is something we've never seen before. Even though we didn't have all of the things that come with hurricanes, the effects of it have been just as devastating."

NEW WOES AND HOPE FOR CHARLESTON

Unfortunately, receding floodwaters in Columbia mean more troubles for cities along South Carolina's coast — including Charleston.

"All the water from (Columbia) is flowing down the rivers to us, so we're not done," said David Johnson, senior minister for Harvest Pointe Church of Christ in North Charleston. "I think the recovery in this area is going to take a while because some of the main roads have disappeared."



WWW.DISTASTERASSISTANCECOC.COM
In Columbia, S.C., volunteers unload relief supplies.

The church launched "Operation Restore Hope" in partnership with congregations including the Summerville Church of Christ, about 30 minutes north of Charleston. Workers with Florida-based Churches of Christ Disaster Response Team are assisting.

In addition to food, relief teams provide counseling, temporary housing in hotels and work crews dedicated to cleaning and rebuilding houses. The Disaster Response Team's mobile kitchen distributes hot meals to those without electricity.

Much of the flooding occurred in "non-flood zones" where residents don't have flood insurance, Johnson said. Many families "lost everything they have," he said, "and their regular insurance isn't going to cover it, and they still have a mortgage to pay."

Even those renting homes are struggling to replace their belongings, Johnson said. Church members hope to restore older homes in their community and transform them into affordable housing.

People in the historic, colonial city already have endured a year of woes, the minister said. The April 4 shooting death of an apparently unarmed black man by a police officer in North Charleston sparked racial tension.

Then on June 17 a white gunman opened fire during a Wednesday night Bible study at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, killing nine people.

Add to that mix a devastating natural disaster, Johnson said, and "you're going to have people who have emotional issues from this for a while." The city's tragedies emphasize the need for Christ followers to deliver more than just cleaning supplies and food, he added.

"This is the time for us to be the church, not just talk about it," Johnson said. "If we can go into the communities and show love, then that is the best gospel sermon we'll ever preach."

SEE UPDATES and find links to contribute to relief efforts at www.christianchronicle.org.



HARDING

U N I V E R S I T Y

FACULTY/STAFF POSITIONS AVAILABLE

All candidates must be active members of the church of Christ and committed to Christian education.

BRACKETT LIBRARY. Seeking full-time health sciences librarian. The successful candidate will have a Master of Library Science degree. At least five years experience working in an academic library is preferred. Responsibilities include liaison activities, collection development, research assistance, developing resources and conducting instructional sessions specifically for the College of Pharmacy; College of Nursing; College of Allied Health, which houses the physician assistant program, physical therapy program, communication sciences and disorders; and other future programs in these areas. Liaison departments would include several in the College of Sciences, which includes chemistry, biology, premed and kinesiology programs.

Submit a letter of application and curriculum vitae to Jean Waldrop, library director, at jwaldrop@harding.edu or Box 12267, Searcy, AR 72149.

CARR COLLEGE OF NURSING. Seeking full-time faculty member for Master of Science in Nursing, family nurse practitioner track for fall 2016. The successful candidate should maintain an active, unencumbered nursing license; be eligible for RN and APRN licensing in the state of Arkansas; have a minimum of a graduate degree in nursing; be currently, nationally certified as a family nurse practitioner; and have work experience in a primary care practice. Teaching experience is preferred. A candidate with a Ph.D., D.N.P. or related doctoral degree is required, and an experienced, qualified applicant currently pursuing a doctoral degree will be considered. Responsibilities include teaching graduate nursing courses, working collaboratively in shared governance with administration and faculty, teaching online courses, and participating in program development and implementation.

Interested individuals should contact Dr. Susan Kehl, dean, at skehl@harding.edu or Box 12265, Searcy, AR 72149, or 501-279-4941.

DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACY PRACTICE. Seeking full-time faculty member. Responsibilities include didactic instruction in pharmacotherapy and related clinical sciences, maintenance of a clinical practice site for the purposes of service and experiential teaching, and active engagement in scholarship. Applicants with internal medicine and internal medicine specialty experience are encouraged to apply. Qualified applicants will possess a Pharm.D. as well as residency/fellowship training. At least two years of academic experience is preferred. Eligibility for pharmacy licensure in Arkansas is required.

Interested individuals should contact Jeanie Smith, Pharm.D., associate professor, at 501-279-5532, jsmith17@harding.edu or Box 12230, Searcy, AR 72149.

FINANCE OFFICE. Seeking full-time tax and accounting manager. Applicants should have a bachelor's degree in accounting with five years of tax experience in the accounting field. Higher education accounting experience preferred; CPA a plus. Responsibilities include preparing and reviewing various tax returns, including trust returns, FBAR returns, Form 5500 for retirement plans, Form 990 and 990-T, state tax returns related to UBIT,

and various 1099 and 1098 forms; overseeing and preparing student 1040NR returns and preparation of Form 1042-S for all international students and payment of any international vendors; participating in research and reporting for ACA and other tax-related subjects. Also responsible for 403(b) financial audit; preparing information for various reports; preparing indirect cost proposal for grant funding annually; and performing general accounting functions including account reconciliations, unclaimed property and daily cash management.

Submit resume to Donna Hutchison, director of accounting, Box 10772, Searcy, AR 72149. For additional information, email dhutchis@harding.edu or call 501-279-4032.

HISTORY AND POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT. Seeking full-time faculty member in the area of political science. The successful candidate will hold a Ph.D. in political science or closely related discipline; ABD candidates are encouraged to apply as well. Responsibilities include teaching courses in international relations, comparative politics and research methods.

Submit a letter of application and curriculum vitae to Dr. Steven Breezeel, search committee chair, at sbreezeel@harding.edu or Box 12247, Searcy, AR 72149.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PROGRAM. Seeking program director. The successful candidate will have a doctoral degree, eight years of clinical experience in the OT field, administrative experience, and three years in a full-time academic appointment at the post-secondary level. Responsibilities include program development and implementation under the guidelines of the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education.

Submit a letter of interest to Dr. Rebecca Weaver, dean of the College of Allied Health, at Box 12287, Searcy, AR 72149.

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM. Seeking half-time faculty member. The successful candidate should possess a minimum of a master's degree in physician assistant studies or similar field. Three years of clinical experience and one year of teaching experience preferred. PA applicants should be NCCPA certified and eligible for licensure as a physician assistant in the state of Arkansas. Applicants with other clinical training should have corresponding professional certification and be eligible for professional licensure in the state of Arkansas. Responsibilities include participating in the teaching of the program's core curriculum; advising and mentoring students; assisting with the hands-on practical training of students in various clinical skills needed in clinical practice; maintaining clinical competency through practice at the program's affiliated clinic site; conducting scholarly activity in the area of expertise; and engaging in service to the college, university and community.

Submit a personal statement of teaching philosophy, three letters of professional reference, a transcript of professional degree training along with any other graduate or professional degrees awarded, and curriculum vitae to Dr. Michael Murphy, chair, at mmurphy1@harding.edu or Box 12231, Searcy, AR 72149.

Experienced Minister Knowledgeable in Scripture

The **Indiana Avenue Church of Christ in Topeka, Kan.**, is seeking an experienced minister who is knowledgeable in the Scriptures and has effective preaching, teaching, leadership and interpersonal skills. We are a diverse 125-member congregation with an established leadership.

Indiana Avenue Church of Christ
Attn: Walter Jackson
3510 Indiana Ave, Topeka, KS 66604
(785) 213-6365
dubjack1949@hotmail.com

Minister

The **Nevada Church of Christ** in Nevada, Missouri, is looking for a motivated, enthusiastic minister to preach and to take the lead on several evangelism activities throughout the community. We are a mainstream acapella congregation that has an average attendance of 50-75 people and is currently run by a men's business meeting held monthly. We desire a candidate with a bachelor degree or experience in full-time ministry.

Some essential functions of the job will include:

- Preaching sermons on Sunday mornings and evenings
- Taking part in Bible class teaching rotation
- Helping plan outreach activities which are targeted towards non-members
- Reaching out to current members and assisting them in spiritual matters
- Becoming involved in the community
- Providing counseling and guidance to members of the congregation as needed

Nevada Church of Christ
PO Box 331
Nevada, MO 64772
(417) 667-2462
Email: Nevadamocofc@att.net

The **Sunnyside Road Church of Christ** located in Decatur, Ill., is seeking a **Full-Time Pulpit Minister.**

Our Sunday morning attendance averages 75-90. We have 2 elders and 3 deacons. We are debt free with excellent facilities for learning and fellowship.

Please visit our website to learn more.
www.sunnysideroadchurch.com

Anyone interested in applying for the position, please submit a resume and two sermons on CD to:

821 North Sunnyside Rd
Decatur, IL 62522

Degrees Designed for Real World Ministry. Degrees Designed for You.



BACHELOR OF ARTS

The B.A. is a 128-hour program designed with an emphasis on preaching and communication of the gospel. Includes Christian service mentoring and mission work each semester.



MASTER OF MINISTRY

The Master of Ministry is a 36-hour program that seeks to enhance the service and leadership of persons who are engaged in ministry.



MASTER OF ARTS

The Master of Arts is a 36-hour program that enables students to read and interpret biblical texts in their original languages. Students will engage in rigorous academic research.



MASTER OF DIVINITY

The MDiv is a 75-hour program that equips students for leadership in a congregation. Students will develop a holistic ministry plan that addresses the needs of a Christian community.



All programs are available anywhere in the world via Distance Learning.

HCU Office of Admissions
www.hcu.edu * 256.766.6610
PO Box HCU, Florence, AL 35630



Remember Arlington?

Join us to celebrate our anniversary and help us to launch our next 75 years—in a newly renovated building—on the weekend of April 30-May 1, 2016.

Arlington Church of Christ; 20 North Irving Street;
Arlington, VA 22201

For information visit <http://arlingtonfamily.org>

GUNS: 'It is not a simple issue'

FROM PAGE 1

was arrested the next day in North Carolina.

Such a scenario likely wouldn't happen at the rural Lake Butler Church of Christ in Florida, minister Trent Wheeler said.

"Walking in with the intent to harm our congregation would be like walking in to harm someone at an NRA (National Rifle Association) rally or gun show," Wheeler said.

Likewise, gun-carrying members of the Katy Church of Christ in Texas likely would use deadly force if necessary, associate minister Chris Hodges said.

"There is a world of difference in being ready to die for your faith than to die at the hands of a crazy man simply because he's crazy," Hodges said. "I believe that God would permit me to protect myself and my family in cases such as that."

On the other hand, Tyler Jarvis, student and family minister for the Oak Ridge Church of Christ in Willow Park, Texas, wrestles with the gun question.

"I think that the church should trust in the protection and mercy of God, even if it means not being able to defend against an attacker or intruder," Jarvis said. "The church ought to be able to extend love and forgiveness to those who wish to harm them, even if it costs them their lives in the process."

"I don't think Christians should seek to be martyrs," he added. "But being able to surrender one's own life without the need to engage in self-preserving violence is about as Christ-like as one can be."

At the Washington Church of Christ in Pennsylvania, about 10 men and women regularly attend services armed, minister David Deagel said.

"They bring their sidearm to church as they would to the super-market or anywhere else legally allowed to do so," Deagel said. "I also understand these individuals to be well trained and very responsible when it comes to firearm safety."

But the church trusts in God, not guns, he said: "The horrific tragedy which occurred in Charleston, S.C., caused us to pray and regret the current state of our society in which such an event would be plotted and consummated. It did not cause us to trust in our weapons and neglect God, our refuge and fortress."

Churches tend to be open, trusting and inviting, which can make them "easy targets," said Brent Sandlin, president and CEO of First Security Systems in Hurst, Texas.

Sandlin, who attends The Hills Church of Christ in North Richland Hills, Texas, advocates creating church security teams comprised of members with backgrounds in the military, law enforcement and related areas.

"You want someone that has an alert personality, someone that has common sense and is not going to overreact," he said.

What you don't want, he said: a bunch of random members waving firearms in a crisis situation.

"In my mind, there definitely needs to be more thought put into it, and you need policies and procedures," Sandlin said.

He gave the example of a person with a knife or gun headed to the front of an auditorium filled with 500 innocent people.

"You cannot have seven people that all of a sudden are raising their guns, and they start shooting," he said. "You've got all sorts of innocent people around, so you can't do that. If you've got somebody coming and they are actively shooting — they have an AK-47, and they're unloading 150 rounds — you may have to do different."

"But if the police come in, who is the enemy? And who is the church member that has very good intentions? The police are going to see that this person has a gun, and they've got an active shooter, and they just may shoot him."

At the Fort Walton Beach Church of Christ in Florida, Samel Brown, an Air Force security forces manager, helped develop crisis procedures. After



Hodges



Sandlin



DAN MCGREGGOR

Abduction makes church secretary more cautious

BY BOBBY ROSS JR. | THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE

Carolyn Kellam, office manager for the Mountain Avenue Church of Christ in Tucson, Ariz., keeps pepper spray handy and pays special attention to strangers.

“During the week, Carolyn has a video feed of the entry door and can buzz people in or choose to go to the door to get a better look,” minister Andrew Hill said.

In 2008, a clean-cut man abducted Kellam from her previous ministry with the Ina Road Church of Christ in Tucson.

“He pulled out a gun and told me to get in my car and get money from an ATM,” Kellam said. “I did, and then he made me get on Interstate 10 heading west. I was terrified but remembered some advice: ‘Talk to him.’ So I did.

“As we were leaving Tucson, I asked him if he would let me go,” she said. “He made me drive a mile off I-10, took my phone and wallet and drove off in my car.”

That experience influences her approach to strangers.

“Not long ago, a man kept banging on the church door and windows,” Kellam said. “I didn’t hesitate to call the police. And I ask for the same repairmen to come to the building when

needed. I have a plumber that is assigned to us.”

Her advice to fellow church secretaries and staffs?

“Police will send out an officer to give advice and show you where you are most vulnerable,” she said. “Always keep doors locked, and make friends with the police. They regularly drive through our parking lot.”



Kellam

the Charleston shooting, talk at the church focused on “how many people in our church are ‘packing,’ and how someone would be sorry to try anything here,” said Daniel Coutinho, minister to students and families.

That talk prompted Brown to ask the elders to remind the congregation of the extensive safety and health measures in place with key people assigned to specific duties.

Members were urged to trust in the Lord and not react on their own to situations that arise.

“The security guys mostly just keep an eye out, serve as greeters and deal peacefully and lovingly with folks who walk in under the influence,” Coutinho said.

Other church leaders said the Charleston shooting — far from making their congregations feel more secure — exposed vulnerabilities.

“We have heard, ‘That could easily happen here,’” said Josh Ketchum, minister for the Seven Oaks Church of Christ in Mayfield, Ky.

Since the Emanuel AME deaths, the Seven Oaks church has trained greeters and parking attendants to serve

as a first line of defense and added a security camera system, he said.

“We believe theologically we have an obligation to protect and defend our church membership, especially children, against a stranger or angry member who was to come in and abduct or begin shooting,” Ketchum said. “I believe the issue would be



Ketchum

the image to visitors and other newcomers if there was to be a strong security presence with open guns or badged officers.”

The Camden Avenue Church of Christ in Parkersburg, W.Va., invited police officers to offer tips on responding to an active shooter.

“We are also looking into things like alarm systems, a public address system through the entire building so that teachers can be notified of emergencies and possibly a camera system that will let us monitor the grounds during services,” said deacon Rob Hoover, a former law enforcement officer.

The Highway 15 Church of Christ in Biloxi, Miss., has implemented an active-shooter reaction plan in recognition of “all the mass shootings that cause us to become more attentive to all those who enter the worship facility,” minister Carlus Page said.

“We remain vigilant, and we have selected brethren who have a tactical background and are armed amidst our assembly,” said Page, who has a law enforcement background. “Unfortunately, we can’t ultimately eliminate the threat, but we can definitely minimize the impact it could possibly have on our beloved.”

Would Jesus pack heat?

“It is not a simple issue,” said Patrick Barber, minister for the East Point Church of Christ in Wichita, Kan. “Would Jesus stand up for the innocent? Certainly. Would he kill someone to protect the innocent? I’m not so sure.”

Of the Charleston shooting, Barber said, “It did cause us to have some discussions, but we chose not to turn the church facility into a bunker or a militarized zone.”

CAMPUS SECURITY: 'Absolutely no way to be 100 percent protected'

FROM PAGE 1

and respond more effectively to mass shootings, as *The Wall Street Journal* recently reported. Many of the changes came in the wake of the 2007 rampage at Virginia Tech that killed 33 people, in the deadliest campus shooting in U.S. history.

"The university believes that protecting our community is a moral obligation, so we place it in the highest echelon of responsibility," said Phil E. Phillips, vice president for administration at Pepperdine University in Malibu, Calif., which has 3,500 undergraduates.

"Our preparedness for an active shooter event includes many facets, and some of this even predates the Virginia Tech incident," Phillips added. "We do a lot, for instance, to attempt to catch violence before it occurs, like the work of our threat assessment team."

In a survey of a dozen Christian institutions, the *Chronicle* found most have developed emergency notification systems — with names such as "Bison Alert" at Lipscomb and "Eagle Alert" at 3,500-student Faulkner University in Montgomery, Ala. — to alert students, faculty and staff of threats via text messages, email and social media.

Like many campuses nationwide, Christian universities such as Faulkner, 2,000-student Lubbock Christian University in Texas and 2,600-student Oklahoma Christian University in Oklahoma City have replaced security offices with full-fledged police departments.

"Our campus crisis management plan has been updated," said David Crouch, spokesman for 6,000-student Harding University in Searcy, Ark., echoing many of his colleagues. "All full-time public safety officers on campus are now armed. Public safety officers now specifically train for active shooter situations."

Among other security enhancements, universities such as Lipscomb and 1,200-student



Ellison



RON HALL, PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY

Firefighters and students participate in an annual emergency training drill conducted by Pepperdine University in Malibu, Calif.

Rochester College in Michigan have installed campus intercom systems.

Some — including Rochester College, 4,500-student Abilene Christian University in Texas and 1,800-student Freed-Hardeman University in Henderson, Tenn. — have increased the presence of security cameras.

At ACU, for example, the campus-wide, closed-circuit television system now relies on more than 600 cameras, "with more still being added each year," Police Chief Jimmy Ellison said.

Along with technology, faculty and staff awareness of student mental health can play a large role in campus security, officials emphasized.

"Being a small school and having smaller class sizes, our teachers get to know each student personally," said Mark Johnson, Rochester College's director of operations. "When a student begins not acting like himself or herself — missing a lot of classes, not taking part in discussions, keeping to themselves, etc. — our faculty take notice and has a way of flagging it in our system."

"We understand that going off to college can be very stressful for some students," Johnson added, "and we see it as our responsibility to keep



PHOTO PROVIDED BY LIPSCOMB UNIVERSITY

A campus officer monitors security cameras at Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tenn.

an eye out for each one of them and to help ensure their success."

In the wake of the Oregon shooting, 400-student Ohio Valley University in Vienna, W.Va., prayed for the victims during chapel assemblies and lowered flags to half-mast.

Along with praying, Christian university officials across the nation said they plan — once again — to review security plans.

At 225-student Crowley's Ridge College in Paragould, Ark., President Ken Hoppe said that review includes

"survival techniques that from news accounts of the Oregon tragedy did not seem to be in place."

"Sadly," said ACU's Ellison, "we seem to be living in a near-constant state of review these days."

"Not a day goes by that ... I don't worry if today is the day that tragedy comes to our campus," he added. "We can train. We can prepare. We can intervene. But there is absolutely no way to be 100 percent protected or immune from these types of tragedies."



PHOTO PROVIDED BY LARRY AND CONNIE ZINCK

A spiritual harvest in Rio: Brazil church thanks God for two new souls

Christians in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, lift their hands as minister Marcos Aurélio leads them in a prayer for two new souls. The newly baptized believers, Flávio and Vanessa, are the spouses of members of the congregation, the 15-year-old Jacarepaguá Church of

Christ, said missionary Larry Zinck. The church has about 120 members and an average Sunday attendance of 140. The Pleasant Valley Church of Christ in Little Rock, Ark., supports the work of Zinck and his wife, Connie.

BAHAMAS

NASSAU — While the Bahamian capital was spared from the devastation of Hurricane Joaquin, the storm “has caused enormous damage to homes and infrastructure in the Bahamas family islands to the south,” said Adam Williamson.

Williamson and his family, natives of Burlington, Wash., live in Nassau and serve the Westridge Church of Christ. The couple launched a Gofundme.com page to raise funds for relief efforts.

The Church of Christ that meets on Long Island in the Bahamas sustained extensive damage to its building, said David Caskey, longtime missionary to the islands. Bahamian Christians are organizing efforts for relief and rebuilding.

“I am so proud of our brethren in the islands,” Caskey said, “and the way they are taking the lead to reach out to those in the southern islands.” To contribute, find links at www.christianchronicle.org.

GUATEMALA

GUATEMALA CITY — A recent mudslide devastated a community in Santa Catarina Pinula, a municipality just south of Guatemala’s capital. The

disaster killed more than 220 people, with about 350 more missing, and buried about 125 homes.

Missionaries, including Hawatthia Jones and Byron and Snezana Benitez, ask for prayers as they assess needs and endeavor to help survivors.

LATVIA

RIGA — Christians from England, India, Russia and the U.S. traveled to this small East European country to teach the Gospel of Luke to children in orphanages.

“Hearts, minds and lives were influenced for Christ,” Victor Barviks, minister for the Riga Church of Christ, said of the recent Camp Hope. “Kingdom seeds were planted.”

Latvian church members coordinated the two camp sessions with assistance from Mark Niehls, an elder of the Chesmont Church of Christ in Pottstown, Pa.

MALAWI

LILONGWE — “Success beyond imagination” is how directors of The Malawi Project describe a recent effort to collect pill bottles for the southern African nation.

Church members, including *Christian Chronicle* readers, sent thou-

sands of pill bottles to the ministry.

“This massive outpouring of support gives us the opportunity to offer prescription containers to every one of the 700 government-run medical facilities in the nation,” said Byron Bhagwandin, the Malawi Project’s president. The nonprofit seeks funds to help ship the containers to Malawi. See malawiproject.org.

ZAMBIA

LUSAKA — A car crash near the town of Mazabuka in this southern African nation claimed the life of longtime church leader Rabson Mhango. An elder of the Chilenje Church of Christ in Lusaka, he was a proponent of African-led evangelistic efforts and coordinated the Africans Claiming Africa for Christ conference in Lusaka in 2012.



Mhango

“He was truly a wonderful godly man who has been a faithful servant of the Lord,” said Beth Reese, former missionary in Zimbabwe and South Africa. “He was greatly respected, not just in Lusaka, but throughout Zambia and Africa.”

SPOTLIGHT

Long-distance faith

OLOMOUC, Czech Republic — David Kopecky and Sylvie Volinova are in a committed relationship — with Jesus.

The young couple makes a six-hour round trip by train to worship with a Church of Christ in this Central European nation, served by a mission team that formed at the University of Arkansas.

Kopecky was baptized about a year ago and shared his faith with Volinova after they met as university students in the Czech capital, Prague.

Volinova “shared with him her lifelong feelings and convictions that there must be someone like God,” missionaries Joshua and Sarah Beall reported in a recent newsletter.

Volinova studied the Bible with Christians and recently was baptized.



WWW.TEAMOLOMOUC.COM

Sylvie after baptism.

Phase I

Phase II

The Solar Event Phase II has spread through Ethiopia, South Sudan, Kenya and Nigeria.

The sounds of Africa are more beautiful these days. With 2000 solar-powered players, God's Word will be heard in never-before-reached places. Villagers without electricity or who can't read can listen to the entire Bible, all 40 Sunset courses, WBS lessons and gospel singing to learn about God day or night. The results? Baptisms and growing churches. Thank you for your gifts in 2015 which will let the Son shine on thousands in Africa.

Sunset International Bible Institute • 800.658.9553 • www.sibi.cc



SUNSET
Means The World.

‘Growing up, I only heard my grandmother’s story,’ says Eleni Melirrytos. ‘Now I see it.’

A refugee’s granddaughter on Europe’s crisis

ATHENS, Greece

This was one of the longest, hottest summers I can remember in Greece. Even as it ended, when it usually becomes rainy and cool here, temperatures stayed in the 90s.

But if you are homeless, walking the streets, it’s better to be hot than wet and cold.

It must be that the Lord was protecting the refugees.

Views



Eleni Melirrytos

On a Sunday afternoon in downtown Athens, I saw a group of Middle Easterners walking the empty streets. (Most Athenians abandon the city during the summer months for their home villages and islands.)

“Oh, it is quiet,” one of the refugees told a reporter, almost happily. “No gunfire. No noise.”

I am the granddaughter of a refugee from Asia Minor. My paternal grandmother, also named Eleni, fled Izmir, Turkey, at age 7 following the death of her family during the 1920 genocide by the Ottoman Empire. A ship took her and her aunt to the city of Thessaloniki. There she met my grandfather. Eventually they moved to Athens.

She was the strongest, most deter-



Refugees stream from a ferry into a port in Athens. Fleeing the Middle East, they travel through Greece to Austria and Germany.

mined person I’ve known — and the best cook and housekeeper on the planet. But she forever carried the pain of the sudden separation from her parents, her house, her land and all that she knew.

Now I see a new generation of refugees. They arrive on boats and stay in small camps on the west side of Athens, headed to Austria, Germany, Switzerland and other

sCountries that offer them asylum. As they wait, they sleep at the port on the cement and in the squares, some holding newborn babies.

Growing up, I only heard my grandmother’s story. Now I see it.

The Bible is full of references to the aliens living among us. In Greek they are called *prosfugas* — the one who has to leave.

God has a special interest in protecting them, maybe because the very first man and woman had to leave their home in Eden, maybe because his only son voluntarily left heaven and came here because there was no other way to save us. He was chased from his birthplace and lived as a refugee in Egypt.

Members of our congregation, the Omonia Church of Christ, are doing what we can to help. Weekly, we deliver bags of relief supplies to the refugees.

The massive wave of people on our shores, in our ports, adds to the tragedy of our country’s financial and ethical crisis. Even before this wave of refugees, our young professionals,

nearly 50 percent of them unemployed, were leaving Greece. We had friends over for dinner recently, and I counted 14 people. Five were due to leave in the coming week for other European nations.

One of them was our daughter.

This is the prime time for all of us to practice first century disciplines, to share what we have, to share God’s love, to be hospitable.

Our hands are small. And our recourses are smaller than the tragedies that afflict this world. Yet we yearn to take care of the wounded, though others consider them our enemy. God fuels our passion to reach out and share what we have, to share who we are, whose we are.

We are all refugees. We left our home in haste, and one day we will return.

ELENI MELIRRYTOS and her husband, Alexander, serve the Omonia Church of Christ in Athens, Greece. The Hillsboro Church of Christ in Nashville, Tenn., supports their work. See additional stories on Europe’s refugees and find links to contribute to relief efforts at www.christianchronicle.org.



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY ALEXANDER MELIRRYTOS

Eleni Melirrytos, right, speaks with Middle Eastern refugees at a port in Athens, Greece, after distributing relief supplies on behalf of the Omonia Church of Christ.



**CARETAKERS
NEEDED**

to live on-site at **Copper Basin Bible Camp** in the cool pines of Prescott, Arizona. Seeking mature couples/families for property oversight and facilities management. Compensation is residence and utilities.

Apply to:
Board@CopperBasinBibleCamp.org

Full-Time Pulpit Minister

The Van Church of Christ in Van, Texas, is accepting applications for a full-time pulpit minister. The Van church has 150 members, four elders and two deacons.

The Ideal candidate will be a family man with at least two years of post-secondary education in Biblical Studies (degree preferred), five years of preaching experience, a proven record of church growth, motivated by a love for God and people of all ages and backgrounds and with a wife involved in his ministry and church activities.

Compensation is negotiable and based on experience, education and qualifications and includes a comfortable onsite minister's house.

Please submit cover letter, resume, three recent sermon samples (at least one video), personal and professional references and salary requirements to:

Minister Search Committee
Van Church of Christ
P.O. Box 889
Van, TX 75790
or e-mail to:
office@vancoc.org

Bilingual Evangelist

Evangelist needed for a small church in South Texas. Must be married, bilingual (Spanish) and able to work in a predominately Hispanic community. Must be effective in outreach and one-on-one Bible studies. Salary is \$40,000 per year; 3-bedroom parsonage and paid utilities included.

Craig Cooper
(956) 495-9876
franklin.cooper@sbcglobal.net



ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
acu.edu

College of Arts and Sciences

Dr. Gregory Straughn, Dean • ACU Box 29210, Abilene, Texas 79699-9210

The **Department of Art and Design** invites applications for a nine-month, tenure-track position as assistant or associate professor beginning Fall 2016 to serve as program director and teach in its CIDA-accredited interior design program. Candidates are expected to have a terminal degree in interior design or architecture. Proficiency in computer design technology and demonstrated potential for teaching and scholarly endeavors is expected. Applicants must have strong communication skills and interest in the development of students. Preference will be given to applicants who have professional design experience, involvement in professional organizations, and who are NCIDQ credentialed. A portfolio of student and/or professional work may be requested. Information about the department is available at acu.edu/art and blogs.acu.edu/artanddesign.

The **Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry** invites applications for a position in organic chemistry beginning in Fall 2016. The successful candidate will demonstrate a commitment to excellence in teaching and in research appropriate for an undergraduate department. An M.S. in organic chemistry is required, with a Ph.D. and post-doctoral experience preferred. All positions are subject to funding. Searches begin immediately and continue until the position is filled or closed. Information about the department is available at acu.edu/chemistry.

The **Department of Engineering and Physics** invites applications for a talented engineer to fill a tenure-track faculty position offering excellent opportunities to contribute to and substantially shape ACU's dynamic engineering program. Applicants should have especially strong skills in teaching, scholarship and mentoring students. Ideal candidates will have a Ph.D. in mechanical, electrical or another engineering discipline, demonstrated potential to teach effectively in our program's curriculum, and experience in research and scholarship activities appropriate to the discipline. Experience in leading or contributing to the senior design experience will further distinguish a candidate. Candidates having a B.S. and M.S. degree and a license or certification in an engineering discipline and significant experience in industry or consulting also will be considered. Previous involvement with ABET accreditation would be helpful. Expected start date is Fall 2016. The engineering program started in Fall 2012 and has about 115 students. Fourteen thousand square feet of class and lab space has opened recently in a renovated historic building on campus and additional construction and renovation plans will dedicate a total of 40,000 square feet to the department. The engineering program is strongly connected to the physics program, which has a rich heritage of research and scholarship spanning more than 40 years. The new hire will assist the engineering program in developing a similar heritage of research and scholarship appropriate to the discipline, in a Christ-centered, service-oriented environment. Applicants must convincingly demonstrate how they can mentor ACU engineering and physics students toward leadership roles in industry or academia. Candidates should also demonstrate how they can be flexible, adaptable, and resourceful in supporting this fast-growing program. Information about the department is available at acu.edu/engineering.

The **Department of Mathematics** invites applications for a tenure-track position in mathematics beginning in Fall 2016. An earned doctorate (or completion prior to August 2016) in mathematics or a closely related field is required. The successful candidate is expected to be or to have the potential to be an effective teacher and mentor in an undergraduate environment with a desire to pursue professional development and/or research activities. Applicants are sought with a background in pure or applied mathematics. The teaching load is typically 12 hours and includes service courses and introductory and advanced majors' courses. Information about the department is available at acu.edu/math.

See acu.edu/academics/provost/positions.html for complete descriptions of these positions. In a letter to the appropriate dean or chair, applicants should address their qualifications for the position. They should include in the application a statement of how faith informs their teaching; a discussion of their spiritual journey; a curriculum vita; transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate work; and names, addresses and phone numbers of five references. Review of applicants will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Nominations of and applications from qualified women and minorities are especially encouraged.

ACU is affiliated with the fellowship of the Churches of Christ. All applicants must be professing Christians and be active, faithful members of a congregation of the Churches of Christ and deeply committed to service in Christian higher education. The mission of ACU is to educate students for Christian service and leadership throughout the world. ACU does not unlawfully discriminate in employment opportunities.

ROTORUA, New Zealand

Stuart Penhall prowled the conference hall floor in a rage.

"We remember when others would refuse to debate us due to our knowledge and conviction," said the elder of the Gosford Church of Christ in Australia. "We remember when our buildings were full and almost every day brought news of more conversions.

"Now we see a church declining numerically, spiritually, even morally," he preached during a Sunday morning service at Men's Challenge, an annual gathering of church leaders from the lands "down under" — Australia and New Zealand — and the islands of the South Pacific. "Now we see doubt and uncertainty, loss of distinctiveness and even direction."

In 1975, Australia's young Churches of Christ were about 2,500 members strong and growing, Penhall said. Now the aging flock has closer to 2,350 souls. Converts and children of converts have fallen away.

In New Zealand, where church members estimate their number between 700 and 1,000

souls, the situation seems equally dire.

"We have effectively lost all the natural growth, which should have occurred as a result of births," he told *The Christian Chronicle*. "We have lost whole generations."

Rather than bemoan the statistics and wait for death, Penhall urged the men to "rage, rage against the dying of the light," quoting

Dylan Thomas' "Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night." The poem is believed to be an ode Thomas wrote to his dying father.

The church near the end of the first century also mourned, Penhall said. Beset by persecution from without and "anti-christs, dividers and the worship of idols" from within, Christians found comfort in the words of 3 John, a letter written to encourage a man of faith named Gaius.

Despite the trials, Gaius walked in "faithfulness to the truth," the apostle wrote.

Though the early Christians likely feared their movement was dying, "we know that they were wrong," Penhall preached, "and that God had even greater things in store for his church in the centuries to come."

CONTINUED

Boiling faith

in lands down under

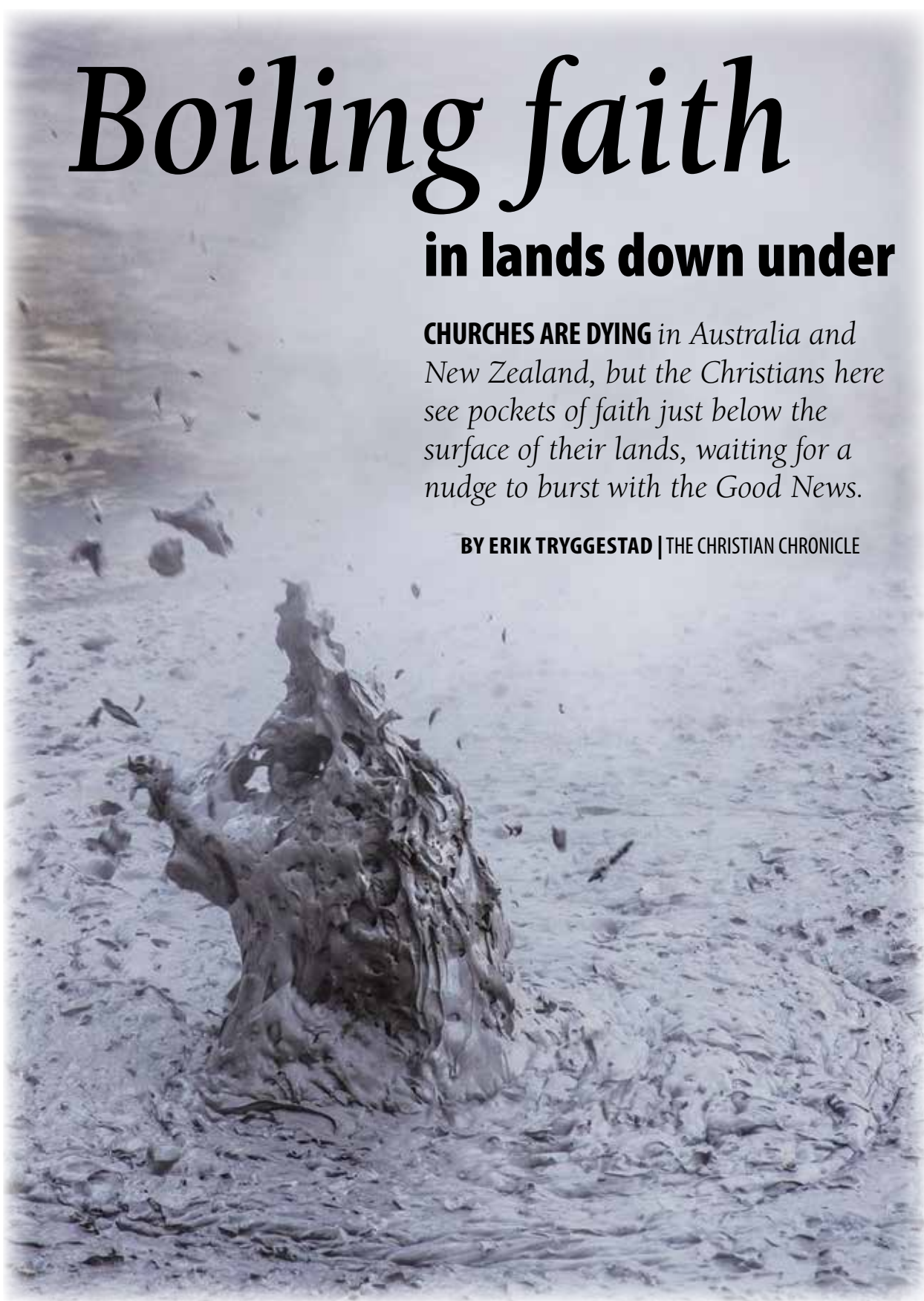
CHURCHES ARE DYING in Australia and New Zealand, but the Christians here see pockets of faith just below the surface of their lands, waiting for a nudge to burst with the Good News.

BY ERIK TRYGGESTAD | THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE



PHOTOS BY ERIK TRYGGESTAD

Stuart Penhall preaches at Men's Challenge.



A pocket of super-heated air bursts through a mud pit at the Waiotapu Scenic Reserve, south of Rotorua, New Zealand.

Boiling faith

CONTINUED
ADULT CHURCHES NEEDED

Penhall's defiant stance seemed appropriate for a Christian conference held near Hell's Gate.

That's the name of one of many hot springs in Rotorua, a small city on New Zealand's north island.

The earth's crust is thin here compared to other above-ground lands. Super-heated water boils up from mud pits and pools across the city — even from cracks in the pavement. The scent of sulfur hangs in the air.

Gathered at a hillside camp-site, Christians sang "Soldiers of Christ, Arise" and "Be Strong and Courageous" during a leadership forum before the Men's Challenge.

Andrew Gearhart, a minister for the Otumoetai Church of Christ in Tauranga, New Zealand, taught about Joshua, a man of vision who led the children of Israel into the Promised Land after the death of Moses.

"Vision is the process of seeing God, seeing ourselves, seeing the world and seeing our part," Gearhart said. "Vision must always begin with God, be given by God and fueled by God."

About 60 men participated in the challenge, which focused on "Stories of Covenant Keepers" from the Bible, including Mordecai, Naomi, Priscilla and Aquila.

Speakers came from Australia and New Zealand, including Penhall, Geoff Fairest of Rotorua and David Steel of Tauranga.

"The theme of looking at people who struggled to keep the covenant in their various ways is a reflection on us and who we are," said Steel, who co-organized the

event with Fairest.

Decades after the missionaries who planted churches here

returned home, many congregations struggle to survive.

"We are trying to discover what makes the adult New Zealand church no longer the offspring of the American church," Steel said.

Several congregations have failed to make the transition, he added, and have ceased to exist.

Still, there are congregations here with multiple generations working together, Steel said.

There are new congregations, including the Discover Church in Auckland, that bring in new believers and focus on disciple-making movements.

Steel teaches a class at South Pacific Bible College, a school in Tauranga associated with Churches of Christ, about the Gospel's history in the South Pacific. The students relate what they learn of their movement's past to today's challenges.

In the classroom "I hear optimism," Steel said. In students' lives he sees the Gospel lived out.

Like the country's bubbling mud pits, there's fire and fervor just below the surface here, waiting to burst forth, said Chris Miller, an evangelist for the Otumoetai congregation who works with Churches of Christ throughout the region.

Such was the case with Miller, who sold a profitable food stand at age 21 and decided to travel the



Steel



Grant Stanton, who ministers for a small congregation in Christchurch, New Zealand, takes the Lord's Supper during the Men's Challenge.



A few days after the Men's Challenge, at a hot spring in Tauranga, New Zealand, Andrew Gearhart, left, leads a prayer after baptizing a young man named Jakob.

globe with his business partner, Andy Taylor. Neither grew up in the faith, but as they hitchhiked across Canada and the U.S., "I ran into people who started putting into our hearts spiritual seeds."

At first he fought them and even bought a Bible "to prove to these people that they were wrong," he said. Instead, he was convicted by what he read and became a "secret disciple."

Finally, on a Sunday night in Ventura, Calif., he decided to go to church and found only one that was meeting — a Church of Christ.

"We never remembered the sermon," Miller said, "but one thing we did remember that night was the love in this congregation for us." The next night, after studying the Bible with church members until 11:15 p.m., Miller and Taylor were baptized.

"Yes, New Zealand is not an easy field," Miller acknowledged, but through prayer and patience, "like the mud pools, people come to the

surface. We just have to keep our eyes open and challenge people — and it is amazing what happens."

1,000 DISCIPLES IN 10 YEARS?

Decades after Miller's baptism, the Otumoetai congregation is raging against the dying of light.

The church set a goal of making 1,000 disciples in the next 10 years in New Zealand, which would more than double the current size of the fellowship.

"It's impossible for Otumoetai to do alone," said David Nelson, another of the church's ministers. He hopes the goal will serve as a clarion call for churches that are shrinking and increasingly isolated to unite in common cause.

Such cooperation is vital for survival, said Penhall, who equated the region's Churches of Christ with "rowboats in a sea of sin."

"We've pulled some people into the boat with us," he said, "and we can see other boats, but we just watch them sink.

"That is not godly."

To thrive, "we have got to move past this fierce cultural independence that both the New Zealanders and the Australians share" that a believer's relationship is with God alone, he said. "Your relationship with God is in the church."

Rather than slowly die out, Otumoetai "has set a goal that is, in all honesty, ridiculous," said Johnathon Atchley, a native of Perth, Australia, who teaches at South Pacific Bible College.

It was equally ridiculous for Elijah to set fire to a sacrificial altar drenched in water, and for Gideon to vanquish an army 120,000 strong with 300 men, he said, citing the Old Testament stories.

"Even if we never achieve the goal, the fact that we tried is all

that matters," Atchley said. "My prayer, therefore, would be that we keep trying even when it seems hopeless."

'WE WILL NOT SURRENDER'

In the end, Dylan Thomas "had an impotent rage," Penhall said as he concluded his sermon.

The poet's father died a few years after the poem was published, and Thomas himself died a year later at age 39.

They had no dominion over death, Penhall said.

But God does. "Will we rage, brethren?" he asked. "Will we go to our dying congregations and say to them, 'We will not give up?'"

"We will not surrender. We will not give in. We will not go gentle into that good night.

"We will rage!"



See more stories from Churches of Christ in Asia and the South Pacific at www.christianchronicle.org.

Learning to love my expected journey

TAURANGA, New Zealand

Jaz Hayward blessed me with a well-deserved, much-needed smack in the face.

It happened during Wednesday night Bible study in the apartment of Steve and Gill Raine. It was the final night of my two-week reporting trip in the South Pacific, and I wasn't in the best of moods.

Don't get me wrong. It was an amazing, exhausting experience.

I visited missionaries on the gorgeous islands of Vanuatu. In Auckland, I watched Christians practice friendship evangelism through a bizarre sport called netball (think basketball without dribbling). And I met dedicated believers from New Zealand, Australia, Fiji and Tonga at a Men's Challenge camp.

But fog in Rotorua grounded my flight and kept me from the last leg of my journey to Samoa, where I planned to attend church on Sunday before hopping on another plane to American Samoa, where I would have attended church the next day — on Sunday (think International Date Line).

Stuck in New Zealand, I was treated royally by the Raines, who housed me two nights longer than they had planned. I visited the South Pacific Bible College, where they serve.

Steve Raine even drove me to Matamata (yes, New Zealand towns have awesome names) so I could tour Hobbiton, the set used for the "Lord of the Rings" films and, more recently, "The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey." (That's me next to Samwise Gamgee's house.)

Still, on this final night of the trip I felt the twinge of regret for what might have been but wasn't.

To be honest, I was sulking. The Wednesday small group, all members of the Otumoetai Church of Christ,



Christians gather for Wednesday night Bible study in Tauranga.

was concluding a video series on Christian apologetics. In the video, the scientists and scholars who had spoken throughout the series shared their personal stories of conversion. Afterward, we talked about how we can use our own stories to engage the lost and point them to Christ.

I've always found my own story to be lacking in drama, I told the group. I grew up in the church with great, godly parents. When I was 14 I was baptized. My salvation was an

assumption — an expected journey, hardly worth sharing.

That's when Jaz Hayward told me, quite politely, to stick a cork in it.

"Your story is what I want for my son," she said. Her boy, 4-year-old Ezekiel, was

right there, playing with the other children in the group.

Jaz's journey is unlike mine. She remembers when she was 5, watching her mom drag massive bags of marijuana through their home. It was the family business.

Her mom later gave it up and sought after God, but fell away by the time Jaz was 16. They were homeless for a while.

By age 23 Jaz was an alcoholic. Abused as a child, she buried her pain with drugs and sex. She married a guy she met

in a club and got pregnant. They later split up.

She had lost her home and was living in her drug dealer's house when she felt a stirring. At the office where she worked, her only place of refuge, she cried out, "God, if you're there, if you even care, if you can even hear this, I need help. I need a way out."

Then she opened a newspaper and found a one-bedroom apartment for rent in the country. Her landlord: Jon Merrick, an elder of the Otumoetai church.

She entered rehab and started studying the Bible. "I just really felt at peace ... like I had found home," she said. On April 18, 2010, she was baptized.

And now, here she was, this

5-year-old babe in Christ setting me straight, telling me that my story was a triumph.

"Somebody has worked their butt off," she said.

"In your lineage, somebody has

been through the hard stuff. I pray to dear God that my son has a rich heritage like you one day, and his son, and his son's son."

That was the smack I so desperately needed. I praise God for the events — expected and unexpected — that led me to cross paths with Jaz Hayward. I pray that Ezekiel grows up strong in the faith and that his mother's story is a source of inspiration for generations to come.

I look at my own history with a renewed sense of God's blessing. I think of my father, who spent countless hours at our dining room table, Bible open, as he prepared to teach.

I think of my mother, now in heaven, who made sure we never missed a Sunday service, that we always had our memory verses memorized.

Thank you for believing in me, Mom and Dad. And most of all, thank you for believing.

CONTACT erik@christianchronicle.org

Road Notes



Erik Trygggestad

For children of missionaries, adjusting to life at 'home' isn't easy. Nancy Hartman helps them make the transition Ministering to a world of hidden immigrants

BY LYNN McMILLON | THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE

Nancy Hartman's mission to a land down under has become a ministry for children — and parents — the world over.

She and her husband, Kent, served for nearly 18 years as missionaries to Campbelltown, a suburb of Sydney, Australia. Along with three other couples, they planted and nurtured a Church of Christ. They also raised three children in a culture that — despite a common language — was different from their own.

When the Hartmans returned to the U.S., their children struggled to adapt. Not quite American and not quite Australian, they occupy a demographic called Third Culture Kids, or TCKs. They soon learned that other families — those who had lived overseas for work or military service; those with parents from two different cultures — had similar experiences. Nancy Hartman saw these challenges as God's call to a new mission.

For the past 12 years, she has studied and trained to help TCKs searching for a sense of place, connection and identity. She is a co-organizer of Global Reunion, an annual camp for TCKs and their families on the campus of Oklahoma Christian University in Oklahoma City. This year's 10th reunion included a record-breaking 135 participants representing 39 countries.

The Hartmans are missionaries-in-residence at Oklahoma Christian, where they serve new generations of mission-minded students. In 2006 they helped launch InterMission, a ministry that helps equip, encourage, prepare, and appreciate those engaged in various stages of mission work.



LYNN McMILLON

Nancy Hartman visits with a group of Third Culture Kids on campus in Oklahoma.

What is a Third Culture Kid?

In the 1950s, sociologist Ruth Useem identified Third Culture Kids as children of people working outside their passport country. These children grow up with the influence of their parents' home culture but also absorb and identify with the culture where they are living.

Their experience, perspective and way of thinking is unique. Their tools for navigating life come not so much from their parents' home culture or from their environmental culture, but from a combination of cultures.

What's interesting is that TCKs worldwide find commonality, whether they grow up in Australia

with American parents or grow up in Africa with Japanese parents. They share a third culture experience, even if it's not the same culture.

What challenges do TCKs face when they return to their parents' home culture?

"Return" is not always the right term. Often, the children have never lived in their parents' home country. Here are some of the common issues:

- **Divided loyalty.** TCKs often feel divided between the country they lived in and loved and the country on their passport. Often there is the feeling that, if they acknowledge that they like things where they are, they're being

disloyal to the country they left.

- **Hidden immigrants.** To most people, TCKs look and sound like other American kids. In actuality, they think in a different language. Sometimes they have difficulty deciphering what is right and wrong, funny or not funny. They make cultural mistakes and have no idea they are doing so.

- **Unresolved grief.** When a child leaves a country where he or she has lived for a significant number of years, there's grief. When family and supporters greet them with "welcome home" parties and tell the kids, "I bet you are glad to be home," it's difficult for TCKs.

What is at risk if we do nothing to support and serve TCKs?

TCKs who do not develop skills for entry into their home culture are at high risk for depression and, in rare cases, post-traumatic stress disorder. They often find the wrong people as mentors and learn inappropriate cultural behaviors.

They can make cultural mistakes unknowingly, thus becoming ostracized. Then they begin keeping their cultural experience to themselves in fear of making other cultural mistakes. Their struggle with grief and identity is often mistaken for rebellion and anger, which also causes rejection.

How should this affect the way churches care for missionaries?

Churches that send and support missionaries need to be aware of these challenges, especially as the families return from the field.

Sometimes we do a better job preparing missionaries for culture shock as they go into the field than preparing them for reentry — which often can be just as challenging, or even more so.

Churches need to raise their awareness of this phase of missionary care and be sure that their missionaries are given the tools for a successful cross-cultural transition.

What benefits do TCKs bring to ministry?

They know what it is like to be the outsider. They naturally reach out to others who feel that they don't fit in.

TCKs possess strength and experience that can bless churches and communities. Giving them tools to successfully make the cross-cultural transitions in their lives pays great dividends to all the lives they touch.

SEE WWW.OC.EDU/TCK for more information on Nancy Hartman's work with Third Culture Kids. Find an expanded interview with links to additional resources at www.christianchronicle.org.

Without getting too technical, we're looking for the best engineering faculty to join our team.

We've developed the specs to add three full-time, tenure-track faculty members to Lipscomb University's Raymond B. Jones College of Engineering in August 2016—in civil and environmental, electrical and computer, and mechanical engineering.

Key responsibilities will include teaching, advising and undergraduate research. We're especially interested in qualified candidates who can contribute to the diversity and excellence of the academic community.

- An earned doctorate in engineering is highly desirable.
- Extensive professional experience as well as a B.S. and M.S. in the appropriate engineering area will be considered.
- Candidate should ideally be a P.E. or have the ability to become registered.

To learn more about specific qualifications and to apply, visit www.lipscomb.edu/hr/faculty or contact Justin Myrick, college dean, at justin.myrick@lipscomb.edu. Application reviews will begin on Dec. 15, 2015, and will continue until filled.



Residential Counselor Job Opening

Couples needed for live-in positions as residential counselors, providing front-line treatment and care for up to eight adolescent males, ages 13-18. Good interpersonal, team and conflict resolution skills are required. Must be willing to undergo extensive training in behavior management techniques in a therapeutic environment. Must be able to adapt to a two-weeks-on-one-week-off schedule. Residential counselors are part of an interdisciplinary team consisting of case managers, credentialed counselors and support staff.

Come be a part of this ministry! We offer competitive pay and excellent full-time benefits including medical, dental, life insurance, disability, retirement and paid time-off. To apply, call **Dana Lawson, 486-2274 x225**, or visit us online at www.tennesseechildrenshome.org.

Full-Time Preacher/Evangelist Winnipeg, Manitoba

Our congregation is seeking a full-time preacher and evangelist for a flexible start date of July 2016. The successful candidate will primarily serve the congregation through sound Biblical preaching and teaching. For a full job posting go to www.winnipegchurch.ca/jobposting. Please send your expression of interest, resume (references upon request) and portfolio of video recordings or online link of recent sermons and salary expectations to:

Minister Search Central Church of Christ
170 St Mary's Rd
Winnipeg MB R2H 1H9
ministersearch@winnipegchurch.ca

You may contact us with any questions you have by email to: ministersearch@winnipegchurch.ca or by phone (204) 471-2123.

Looking for an Evangelist

Small congregation of 25 in Houghton, La., is looking for an evangelist to help spread the Gospel to the surrounding areas. Free housing. Contact:

Ken Nichols
(318) 212-4252
knichols@wkhs.com
www.ewcoc.org

Youth and Family Minister -- McPherson, Kansas

The Church of Christ in McPherson, Kan., is in search of a youth and family minister.

Our ideal candidate will be married, preferably with children. He will be passionate about helping families mature in their walk with Christ and have the ability to communicate effectively with all age groups. He will be fully committed to sound biblical teaching and his education and experience will have prepared him to pursue this passion. Duties will include teaching regular Bible classes, organizing service opportunities, planning youth activities and equipping parents to teach their children about God and the church. Salary will be based upon qualifications.

Please send a cover letter and resume to:
ministersearch@mcphersoncoc.org

Children and Youth Minister

The **Brenham Church of Christ in Brenham, Texas**, is seeking a leader for our Children's and Youth Ministry. We are a congregation of 200 members looking for a gifted individual to join our ministry team.

For more information please contact:
Dr. Doug Hall, Minister/Shepherd
bcoc.churchsecretary@gmail.com
979-836-3271 office
979-530-2955 wireless



President and Development Director

The President oversees the total operations of the school, with a particular focus on school advancement and fundraising.
The Development Director coordinates and directs church, alumni and donor relations.

Further information and job descriptions are available at www.columbiachristian.com. Interested applicants may submit resumes to the President Search Committee or Development Director Search Committee at ccs@columbiachristian.com. Additional questions or inquiries may be directed to **Kevin Reed at (503) 252-8577**.

Columbia Christian Schools, a fully-accredited PreK-12 academy in Portland, Ore.

Pulpit Minister

We are looking for a pulpit minister who is enthusiastic and evangelistic. Must have a deep understanding of God's Word and be able to present in a way that will enrich a Christian's faith and reach non-believers in our community. We are a loving, close knit, small congregation that grows during the winter months. If you are interested, please send DVD's, resumes and online links to lessons you have preached.

Gold Canyon Church of Christ
c/o Dennis Huot
4070 S Ruellia Ln
Gold Canyon, AZ 85118
hdennis72@gmail.com



STEDDON SIKES

Clayton Museum of Ancient History opens at York College

Legion Six Vitrix, living historians from Los Angeles, participates in the grand opening of the Clayton Museum of Ancient History at York College in Nebraska. The historians displayed clothing, weaponry and accessories authentic to Roman soldiers. Among the 400 guests for the opening were John Clayton, the Christian apologist for whom the museum is named, and C. Foster Stanback, who provided funding.

CAMPUS MINISTRY

BLUE HENS FOR CHRIST

NEWARK, Del. — Blue Hens for Christ, the campus ministry of the University of Delaware, is building a daily prayer team of 23,028 people. “We believe to effectively reach the campus here, we need one person praying for every student and academic faculty here,” minister Rusty Jordan said. To join the prayer team, see www.PrayforUD.com.

CAMPUS FOR CHRIST

JONESBORO, Ark. — The Campus for Christ organization, formerly known as the National Campus Ministries Seminar, is launching an effort to plant campus ministries. Chris Buxton will lead the effort while continuing to direct the Wollife campus ministry at Arkansas State University. Campus for Christ wants to do



Buxton

more than just host a conference each year, Buxton said. “We want to ask students from existing strong campus ministries to form teams among those students who are graduating within a semester or so of each other,” he said. “With our assistance, they would relocate to a campus that’s in need of a campus ministry. In some cases, there will be partner churches already in place to assist the work.”

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

CHILDPPLACE INC.

JEFFERSONVILLE, Ind. — Childplace Inc. has a 50-year history of serving children and families in southern Indiana, including operating a 22-acre residential campus in Jeffersonville. Now the child-care agency, associated with Churches of Christ, is taking over operations at the facility formerly known as KingsField Children’s Home in Sellersburg, Ind., Childplace CEO Nathan Samuel said.

“The opening of a second residential treatment campus will allow Childplace to expand services and meet the needs of children and adolescents potentially statewide,” Samuel said.

HIGHER EDUCATION

ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

ABILENE, Texas — Rick Lytle, longtime business college dean at Abilene Christian University, has been named director of its new Center for Leadership and Faith Development and CEO of CEO Forum Inc. ACU describes the joint appointments as a collaborative relationship with an organization focused on spiritual development of business leaders around the world. Lytle has been involved with the CEO Forum for a decade. The organization comprises about 225



Lytle

SPOTLIGHT

Faulkner servants

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — More than 450 volunteers from Faulkner University — students, faculty and staff — joined in a recent day of service, blanketing the city of Montgomery. “Words cannot express how grateful I am for the hard work everyone put in to make our day of service a success,” said Leigh Woodring, one of the event’s organizers. The day of service is an annual tradition.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY FAULKNER UNIVERSITY

Faulkner University volunteers donate sweat as they serve in Montgomery, Ala.

Christian CEOs and senior executives who serve companies with at least \$100 million in revenue. “This new center and my role with CEO Forum opens a spectrum of additional opportunities for COBA (College of Business Administration) to partner even more with the world’s best business leaders who also have a heart for Christ,” Lytle said.

FREED-HARDEMAN UNIVERSITY

HENDERSON, Tenn. — About 2,000 junior high and high school students from 175 Churches of Christ in 16 states RUSHed to Freed-Hardeman for an annual youth rally. RUSH — which stands for Reaching Unlimited Spiritual Heights — draws students to the Christian university campus each fall. This year’s theme was “The Summit,” calling attention to important meetings on mountains found throughout Scripture. Keynote speakers presented lessons on Mount Carmel, Mount Sinai and the Mount of Transfiguration.

WHERE WE'VE BEEN

Global Missions Experience

BY KATIE JONES | THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE

Christian students from across the nation experienced the ultimate camping trip infused with worldwide cultures at the Global Missions Experience.

Harding University Tahkodah, or HUT, a campsite in Floral, Ark., was the setting for the four-day experience, formerly known as the World Mission Workshop.

In addition to hearing from missionaries in fields from Alaska to Africa — including Ebola survivor Dr. Kent Brantly — students got a small taste of life in developing nations.

Organized into “families,” each was tasked with preparing a meal. That meant a trip to the GME market, where they haggled with shopkeepers over the price of vegetables and tussled with corrupt police in search of bribes.

For more than a half-century, various campuses associated with Churches of Christ have hosted the workshop. This year’s theme was “Relentless,” focusing on God’s never-ending pursuit of his lost creation.

HUT, a 1,350-acre site north of Harding’s campus in Searcy, Ark., serves as a missionary boot camp of sorts, where trainers prepare prospective missionaries for cross-cultural ministry.

The campsite “is something that everybody needs to see,” said Sarah Bell, a student at Oklahoma Christian University in Oklahoma City. In addition to serving as



DAVID LOPEZ

Philip Kingsley negotiates for his family’s meal in the Global Missions Experience market.

an out-of-classroom learning experience, the weekend helped her to “see how important God’s mission is and spend more time intensively learning about what that looks like and how to be a part of it.”

Bell said she grew spiritually by fellowshiping with people who want to be intentional in God’s mission — wherever they are. She also benefited from the speakers, who have served in countries including Mozambique, Singapore and Peru.

“The thing I enjoyed most was hearing from missionaries who have been involved with a particular work for a long period, to the point where they get to see God working through a long timeline,” she said. “So often, when we get involved in short-term missions we don’t get to see that effect.”

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? A gospel meeting? A lectureship? What did you like? What could have been better? Email erik@christianchronicle.org or share your experiences at www.christianchronicle.org.



PHILIP KINGSLEY

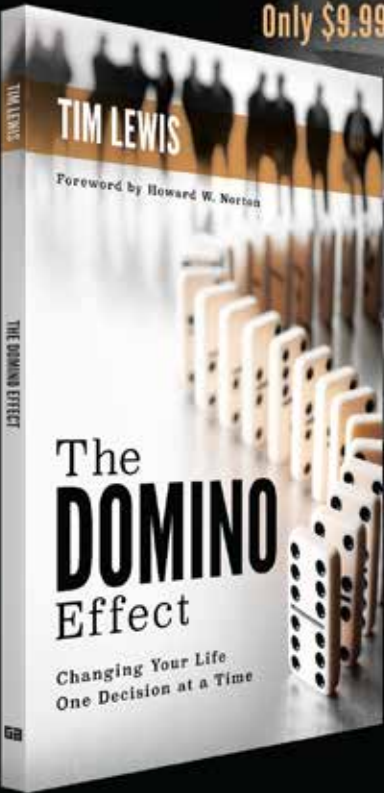
Students shovel up dinner during the Global Missions Experience. As part of the four-day event, participants are organized into families, given money and must struggle to find food in a simulated market and prepare it — using whatever means they can find.



PHILIP KINGSLEY

During the weekend, students get a lesson in global income disparity. Divided into groups according to the percentage of the world that lives in poverty, a few enjoy fine dining at a table on the campsite while others eat servings of humble beans and rice.







**One good decision
will lead to the next**

**GOSPEL
ADVOCATE**
A TRUSTED NAME SINCE 1991

1-800-251-8446
WWW.GOSPELADVOCATE.COM

If you base every decision on the Word of God, then one good decision will lead to the next; it's a domino effect. If you are really writing your life story one day and one decision at a time, then you have the power to determine how your story ends. But everything hinges on tipping the first

The 38-year-old
AMEN Ministry
connects Christians
in the United States
Military with local churches
of Christ both overseas and in the U.S.

Please send name, email, and other contact
info to:

AMEN Ministry
amen@amenministry.info
135 Larchmont Drive
Hendersonville, NC 28791
828-891-4480



**THE CHILDREN'S HOME FOUNDATION
& TEXAS BOYS RANCH FOUNDATION**

Lubbock, Texas

Planned Giving Officer

- Seeking a Planned Giving Officer to work with both foundations
- Planned giving experience required
- Please send cover letter with resumé to:

Vic Hines at vic@chfinc.org
or
PO Box 2449, Lubbock, TX 79408

Divorced Christian: God May Want You Remarried!

A must read for all with failed marriages and their families

THE TRUTH ABOUT DIVORCE AND REMARRIAGE

*A Politically Incorrect
View of Marriage, Divorce,
and Remarriage
in Today's Church*

Weldon Langfield

"This is the best book ever written on the issue... You closed all loopholes."
--Charles Hodge, author, *On the Banks of
Orion Creek*

"You have done a really good job of placing before the reader a wide, well-documented... mass of material."
--James Woodroof, former minister, College Church of Christ, Searcy Arkansas, author, *The Divorce Dilemma*

"A preacher told me I could not marry again. The contents of *The Truth About Divorce and Remarriage*, checked by the Bible, convinced me that he was mistaken."
--Name Withheld

Available at Amazon.com, 21st Century Christian, R & D, Harding University, Mars Hill, Ohio Valley, Christian Family, A & D, Dehoff, ACU, and Morrow Book Services Bookstores • 159 Pages • Hardbound • \$19.95

Weldon Langfield Publications 7850 White Lane, E212 Bakersfield, CA 93309

Georgia AGAPE *Announcing:* Job Opening! **Executive Director**

Georgia AGAPE in Atlanta is looking for an Executive Director (ED). Operating for over 45 years now, AGAPE is a faith-based, licensed child-placing agency associated with the Churches of Christ providing foster care, adoption, maternity care and professional counseling services. The ED is responsible for planning, management and performance of all areas of the agency's activities, including staffing, services, public relations, financial management and fund-raising. The ED must work productively with the Board of Directors. Included in the preferred responsibilities is preaching and teaching classes at Churches of Christ in Georgia to promote the agency.

Qualifications: an individual with 8+ years of supervisory/management experience in social service organizations, excellent interpersonal and communication skills, Bachelor's Degree in a social science field (Master's Degree preferred) and one who possess a strong work ethic.

Send inquiries to Allen Read, Chair of the Board of Directors, who is leading the search committee: Allen@m3as.com.

A victory more precious than gold

CHRISTIAN COACH, students help Special Olympics volleyball team take top prize on a world stage.

BY ANTHONY RHOADS | FOR THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE

MONTGOMERY, Ala.
Tori Bartels knows what a win feels like. Last year her Lady Eagles volleyball squad finished 24-12, and a late-season surge carried them into the semifinals of the league tournament. But a recent victory for the Faulkner University coach felt extra special.

“I saw 3,000 fans chanting ‘USA! USA!’” said Bartels, whose Team Alabama took the gold medal in its division at the 2015 Special Olympics World Games in Los Angeles. “I don’t think there can be any better coaching experience than that.”

Even more ecstatic were her players, who danced around the court of UCLA’s Edwin W. Pauley Pavilion and hugged each other after the come-from-behind win over a team from the African nation of Botswana.

Team Alabama “played with one heart,” Bartels said. “They knew they weren’t just playing for the USA, but for everybody who couldn’t get on the court with them.” The victory was more precious than gold, she said, because “they were able to accomplish something they were told they could never accomplish.”

‘I JUST FELT I COULDN’T SAY NO’
Bartels, a member of the Landmark Church of Christ in Montgomery, is in her 11th season with Faulkner. The 3,500-student university is associated with Churches of Christ. In August 2014, the coach and some of her players volunteered during the university’s Eunice



Team Alabama launches match point against a squad from Botswana in the finals of the Special Olympics World Games.

Kennedy Shriver Day. Shriver, the sister of former President John F. Kennedy, launched a humanitarian effort in the 1960s that became the Special Olympics — now the world’s largest sports organization for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. At Faulkner, representatives of Alabama Special Olympics were impressed with Bartels’ involvement and offered her the chance to coach a “unified team,” which pairs six Special Olympians with partners who compete alongside them in an alternating pattern on the court. Unified teams from Alabama and New Jersey, plus a traditional team from Michigan, represented the U.S. in the World Games, which brought more than 7,000 Special Olympians representing 177 nations to California. Though it would interfere with her duties to Faulkner’s team, Bartels



Tori Bartels yells encouragement to her team of Special Olympians and partners from Faulkner University. The students created special bonds with the Olympians, she said.

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY TORI BARTELS



The members of Team Alabama, including six Special Olympians and six students from Faulkner University, receive gold medals for their victory in the World Games.

GOLD: Special Olympics ‘gave me more than I was able to give’

FROM PAGE 25
said, “I just felt I couldn’t say no.”
What’s more, all of her players said, “How can we tell you not to do this?”

LOVING, OPEN, HUMBLE PEOPLE
Faulkner did more than support its volleyball coach. The university provided the six partner players for Team Alabama — students Jonathan Goodrum, Douglas Hamilton and Carter Moles and football players Javonte Drinkard, Jalen Ragland and Xavier Tricher.

Moles, the team captain, became close friends with his athlete, Will Horner. He called the experience “the most rewarding thing I’ve ever done.”

“I felt bad a lot of times because ... they gave me more than I was able to give them,” Moles said. “I saw men enjoying literally every second of life even though the world would say they have nothing to be happy about. I saw them work hard to do the best they can in everything they do.”

“The traits they lived out and the genuine love they showed everybody in their life was inspirational.

“If everybody could see life like Special Olympic athletes do, the world would be such a better place.”

Bartels said it was uplifting to watch the Faulkner students “pour themselves into someone who is

intellectually challenged,” adding that the experience will help shape the students into compassionate leaders.

The Special Olympians “taught us more about loving and being open, humble people than (I have learned) in the 36 years I have been alive,” she said.

LIVING OUT THEIR PRAYERS
Before every match, Team Alabama prayed.

“It was noticed and set us apart,” Bartels said. “It was not about our glory, but (God’s) glory.”

The team lived out its prayers, showing “spirit in supporting the weakest,” she said. “That experience will live forever.”

Two Faulkner volleyball players, Madison Wichterman and Sarah Dubberly, served as assistant coaches. Wichterman previously served as a partner on a unified team in her native Florida.

In high school, Wichterman helped students with intellectual disabilities get involved in campus life and activities. The school now presents an award in her name to students who promote the inclusion and acceptance of students with special needs.

Wichterman said she enjoyed the coaching experience — and watching fans stop the team for photos and autographs.

“It was so special and inspiring to see our guys being celebrated for



Victorious, members of Team Alabama leave the volleyball court as their fans cheer.

their accomplishments rather than looked down upon because of their disabilities,” Wichterman said.

It was equally humbling “to know that you are providing each athlete the ability to defy stereotypes and prove to the world how much they have to offer.”

‘PAID IN JOY, LOVE AND HOPE’

Bartels plans to stay involved with Special Olympics and will oversee the organization’s state volleyball tournament in December.

Her advice for those considering getting involved: “Do it!”

“Serving others is an amazing thing,” she said, “but serving with the Special Olympics is even better because you

are paid in joy, love and hope.”

After her team won gold in Los Angeles, the Special Olympics USA delegation chose Bartels to represent her country in the closing ceremonies as the coach who best exemplified the spirit of the games.

The experience was “very surreal,” she said, but stressed that the victory was a team effort.

“I couldn’t have done it without my assistants,” she said. “It wouldn’t have been a team without them and the 12 guys. They had to play.

“They’re the ones who did all the hard work. They are the ones who inspired 3,000 people to get on their feet and chant, ‘USA!’

“It’s not about me.”



Wichterman

NEWSMAKERS

AWARDED: Stephanie Martin, first place in poetry writing, and **Alikay Wood**, first place in fiction writing and first place in nonfiction writing at the Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers student writing contest. Martin and Wood are recent graduates of Abilene Christian University in Texas.

NAMED: **Craig A. Fitzgerald**, 2016 Lawyer of the Year by Best Lawyers, a peer review guide to the legal profession worldwide. Fitzgerald is an alumnus of Oklahoma Christian University in Oklahoma



City. Nina Morel, dean of Lipscomb University's College of Professional Studies in Nashville, Tenn. **Troy McKnight**, executive director of Lakewood Village Senior Living Community in Fort Worth, Texas.



Randy Richey, executive director of the Christian Care Senior Living Community in Mesquite, Texas. **Deby Samuels**, senior vice president for university communication and marketing at Lipscomb University.

HONORED: **Cathleen Shultz**, former dean of the Carr College of Nursing, at Harding University in Searcy, Ark., who recently retired. Shultz joined the faculty in 1976. In 1977 she was named chairperson of the department of nursing. In 1980 she became the founding dean of the nursing college.



NEW MINISTERS: **Luke Norsworthy**, preaching minister for the Westover Hills Church of Christ in Austin, Texas. **Wes Rasbury**, youth minister for the Greenville Oaks Church of Christ in Dallas. **Corey Trevathan**, preaching minister for Riverside Church of Christ in Coppell, Texas.

Milestones *Showcasing the moments of your life and the lives of loved ones.*

Birthdays

Audrey Foster Jackson McKim, 94

Audrey Jackson McKim's life of faithfulness and service highlights a 94-year old humble woman of God. She is a true survivor who knows sacrifice and love, having lost her mom at 9, two of her six children, and three husbands. God gave her, through her marriages, five birth children to rear along with two other children when called upon. She is known as a servant who never complains and is always putting others before herself. She encourages and teaches others through her kind and loving spirit.



She wants all to be part of the Church of Christ. Earlier on, she was a Bible teacher instructing and loving the youth with stories of Jesus. Sounds like a God thing!

90th: Flowayne Drew, Edmond, Okla. (formerly from Vancouver, Wash. and College Station, Texas). **90th: John R. "Pete" Lee**, Indianapolis.

Anniversaries

Walter and Loreta Stockdale, 60 years

Walter and Loreta Stockdale will celebrate 60 years together on Dec. 2, 2015. They married in 1955 in Dallas at the Skillman Avenue Church of Christ chapel. Both are lifelong residents of Dallas County. Their life together began as Forest Avenue High School sweet-hearts in Dallas. Both worshipped

at the Skillman Church of Christ for more than 50 years. Walter and Loreta are currently members at Saturn Road Church of Christ in Garland, Texas, where they reside. Walter serves as a deacon on the benevolence committee. He has owned his own lath, stucco and plaster business since 1964.



Loreta is retired from Dallas Christian School. They have three children: Leigh Anne Hill-Stockdale (Jimmy) of Garland, Texas, Mark Stockdale (Barb) of Abilene, Texas, and Leslie Ellis (Byron) of The Woodlands, Texas. They have five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Bill and Pat Wallis, 66 years

Bill and Pat Wallis celebrated 66 years of marriage on Oct. 7. Their church home is the Prestoncrest Church of Christ in Dallas where they work with FriendSpeak (helping foreign students with English) and the chaplaincy in two hospitals. They have two sons, Mark (wife Susan) in Denver and Terry (wife Donna) in Lewisville, Texas; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.



Memorials

Barbara Ann Brown Deal 1934-2015

Barbara Ann Brown Deal was born in Coleman County, Texas, to Aubrey M. and Eva Lou Brown on Dec. 21, 1934. She went to be with her Lord on Oct. 4, 2015. Barbara's parents and brothers, James Curtis Brown and Jerry Paul Brown, preceded her in death. Barbara graduated from high school in Jennings, La., and completed a bachelor's degree at Abilene Christian College in 1956. While in college, she met and married Lloyd A. Deal on Oct. 22, 1954. They enjoyed more than 60 years of wedded life. In 1964, the College Church of Christ in Searcy, Ark., invited Barbara and Lloyd to join a stateside mission work in Iowa. They lived in Des Moines from 1964 until 1988. While in Iowa they were blessed with two sons, Ronald L. and Roger B. Deal. With the move in 1988 to Edmond, Okla., came an emphasis on mission work in East Africa. Over the years, Barbara made 15 mission trips to Kenya and Uganda. She was active in teaching ladies classes, in her Empty Nester's Bible class, and on the missions committee at the Memorial Road Church of Christ. She enjoyed traveling and sports of all kinds. She treasured being with her 14 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren whenever she could. Please consider gifts to the Conner's Song ministry in conjunction with Touch a Life Foundation (touchalifekids.org), which sponsors art center projects for trafficked children around the world and in so doing honors Barbara's grandson, Conner Deal, who preceded her in death.



Entries should be submitted to milestones@christianchronicle.org or call (405) 425-5070. Rates and guidelines are available upon request (credit card preferred).

Milestones

Showcasing the moments of your life and the lives of loved ones.

Walter Louis Gilfilen 1935-2015

Walter Louis Gilfilen, 79, of Marietta, Ga., died Friday, May 22, 2015, at home with family following a multi-year battle with cancer. Born Aug. 9, 1935, the son of Louis and Dessie (Galloway) Gilfilen, he grew up in Bellingham, Wash. Walt and his wife, Benny Ann, reared their family in Brevard County, Fla., before coming in 2011 to live with son David and his wife Elaine in Marietta, Ga.



Walt and Benny Ann met at Harding College in Searcy, Ark. After graduating with a master's degree in business administration, Walt was dean of students at Magic Valley Christian College in Albion, Idaho, from 1958 to 1960 and president of Michigan Christian College in Rochester, Mich., from 1978 to 1980. He retired from Brevard Community College in Cocoa, Fla., holding several positions including director of development and associate vice president. While with BCC in Cocoa, he was able to bring in several grants to assist in vocational training and education development for the school. He also coordinated the acquisition of a historical 1924 movie theater in downtown Cocoa, raising funds for its refurbishment and staff and putting it back in shape to be a resource for the community. The theater is still active and growing today.

Walt has been active in Churches of Christ throughout his life, including serving as a deacon, then as an elder, and also as a preacher, teacher and song leader as needed by local congregations throughout the years.

Walt enjoyed photography

throughout his life and in the 1970s took up painting landscapes. Michigan Christian named him their first Artist of the Year in 1982. Many in the family have received artwork from him, including a special painting for each of his grandchildren. He also enjoyed woodworking and made chairs and doll beds for many of his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Walt leaves his wife of 58 years, Benny Ann (Ponder) Gilfilen; sons David Mark Gilfilen and Tim Gilfilen; daughter Janice Delia Rocco; brother James Gilfilen; sister Sharon Cox; seven grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and many close friends.

Roy F. Osborne 1922-2015

Roy F. Osborne, Jr. was born to Roy Franklin and Nonie Osborne on Dec. 28, 1922, in Nashville, Tenn. Roy began preaching the week of his 17th birthday in 1939. He was married to Nova Dene Potts from 1947 until her death in 1981, and together they raised four children.

Roy attended David Lipscomb College, Abilene Christian College and the University of Denver, receiving his degree from the University of California at Berkeley where he did both undergraduate and post-graduate studies in clinical psychology. He served in the Army Air Corps in World War II and in the Air Force during the Korean conflict.

Roy served as the regular pulpit minister for congregations in central Florida; Denver; San Leandro and San Francisco, Calif.; and finally, San Antonio, where he retired in 1991 after 21 years as the senior minister for The Sunset Ridge Church of Christ.

During his time in San Francisco, he also taught at San Quentin Prison for



six years and served on Gov. Ronald Reagan's committee on drug abuse and rehabilitation. Roy served on the development boards for the Baxter Institute in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, the Austin Graduate School of Theology in Texas and Pepperdine University in California. He was the recipient of the Distinguished Christian Service Award from Pepperdine in 1992.

During his 70 years of preaching, Roy held gospel meetings in almost every state of the union and taught in Central America and Europe. He is the author of the book, "From the Mountain to the Cross," originally published in the series called "Great Preachers of Today." He continued preaching, teaching and publishing essays on biblical themes reaching hundreds of subscribers in 31 states, the District of Columbia and several foreign countries until the time of his death.

Preceding him in death were his parents; his only brother, Don; his oldest son, Mike; and his wife, Dene. Roy is survived by his son, Don Osborne, and his wife, Judy, of New Braunfels, Texas; daughter, Victoria Dene Berman, and her husband, Henry, of Discovery Bay, Calif.; son, Barry Osborne of Pittsburgh; daughter-in-law, Diane Osborne of New Braunfels, Texas; and his companion of more than 20 years, Margaret Preston of San Antonio. In addition to his three children, Roy leaves nine grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Memorial/Honor Gifts

The Christian Chronicle appreciates and acknowledges a generous gift received in memory of Jack Greenwood.

- Oct. 29 Cambodia Christian Ministries Golf Tournament.** Brookhaven Country Club, Farmers Branch, Texas. (214) 351-3731.
- Nov. 6-7 Ladies Day.** Lake Dallas Church of Christ, Denton, Texas. dgoodnight@ldisd.net.
- Nov. 6-8 50th Anniversary, Buckingham Road Church of Christ.** Garland, Texas. (972) 494-0136.
- Nov. 6-8 CenterPeace PeacePrints.** Memphis, Tenn. www.centerpeace.net
- Nov. 6-9 Father/Daughter Retreat.** North Brevard Church of Christ and West Broward Church of Christ. Central Florida Bible Camp. www.cfbiblecamp.org, (352) 357-6316.
- Nov. 7-8 Enrichment Seminar.** Village Church of Christ. Hot Springs, Ark. (501) 922-2827, vcoc@att.net.
- Nov. 8 10 Year Kairos Celebration Dinner.** Torrance, Calif. kairoschurchplanting.org, klambert@kairoschurchplanting.org.
- Nov. 8-15 Pan American Lectureship.** "Living Waters: The Water of Life." Carribean Princess. (318) 377-0182.
- Nov. 12-15 North Carolina State Lectureship.** Southern Hills Church of Christ. Charlotte, N.C. www.ncstatelectureship.com, (704) 726-7957.
- Nov. 13 75th Anniversary Banquet-Martin's West.** Windsor Mill, Md. www.ccocmd.org, (410) 945-2080.
- Nov. 14 Women of Hope Tea Party, Healing Hands International.** Arlington, Texas. (817) 277-6347.
- Nov. 14 OC Think Tank: Oklahoma City Area-Wide Elder's Workshop.** Southwest Church of Christ. www.occginstitute.org.
- Nov. 16 Festival of Trees Gala, Christian Care Senior Living Communities.** Dallas. www.ChristianCareCenters.org, (972) 686-2401.
- Jan. 15-16 Medical Missions Seminar-IHCF.** "The Ripple Effect ... One Act of Compassion." Fort Worth, Texas. www.ihcf.net.
- Jan. 20-23 Sunset Vision Workshop.** "Written in Stone." Lubbock, Texas. www.sibi.cc.

Entries should be submitted to milestones@christianchronicle.org or call (405) 425-5070.
Rates and guidelines are available upon request (credit card preferred).

EDITORIAL

Concerning prophets and Hobbits

‘Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. ... When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.”

Paula Harrington reminds us of these words from the prophet Isaiah as she, like so many of us, mourns for Roberta Edwards. Writing for *The Marshall County Daily*, Harrington, a church member in Kentucky, shares memories of a visit to Haiti, where Edwards loved and served children who were cast aside.

She “loved her Savior too much to leave a mission much greater than herself,” Harrington writes.

Now Edwards is gone, taken from us in an act of pure evil. Her death adds to the noise on our TV screens and Twitter feeds.

‘Where is this protection you speak of, oh God?’

Another shooting on a college campus. Another deranged gunman. A debate over whether or not Christians should

have firearms — during worship!

Where is this protection you speak of, oh God? We smell the smoke, see the flames. We get burned. Why do you allow these things to happen?

We remember when God spoke to Job out of the storm. We did not lay the foundations of the world, our heavenly father tells us. We don’t see the full picture.

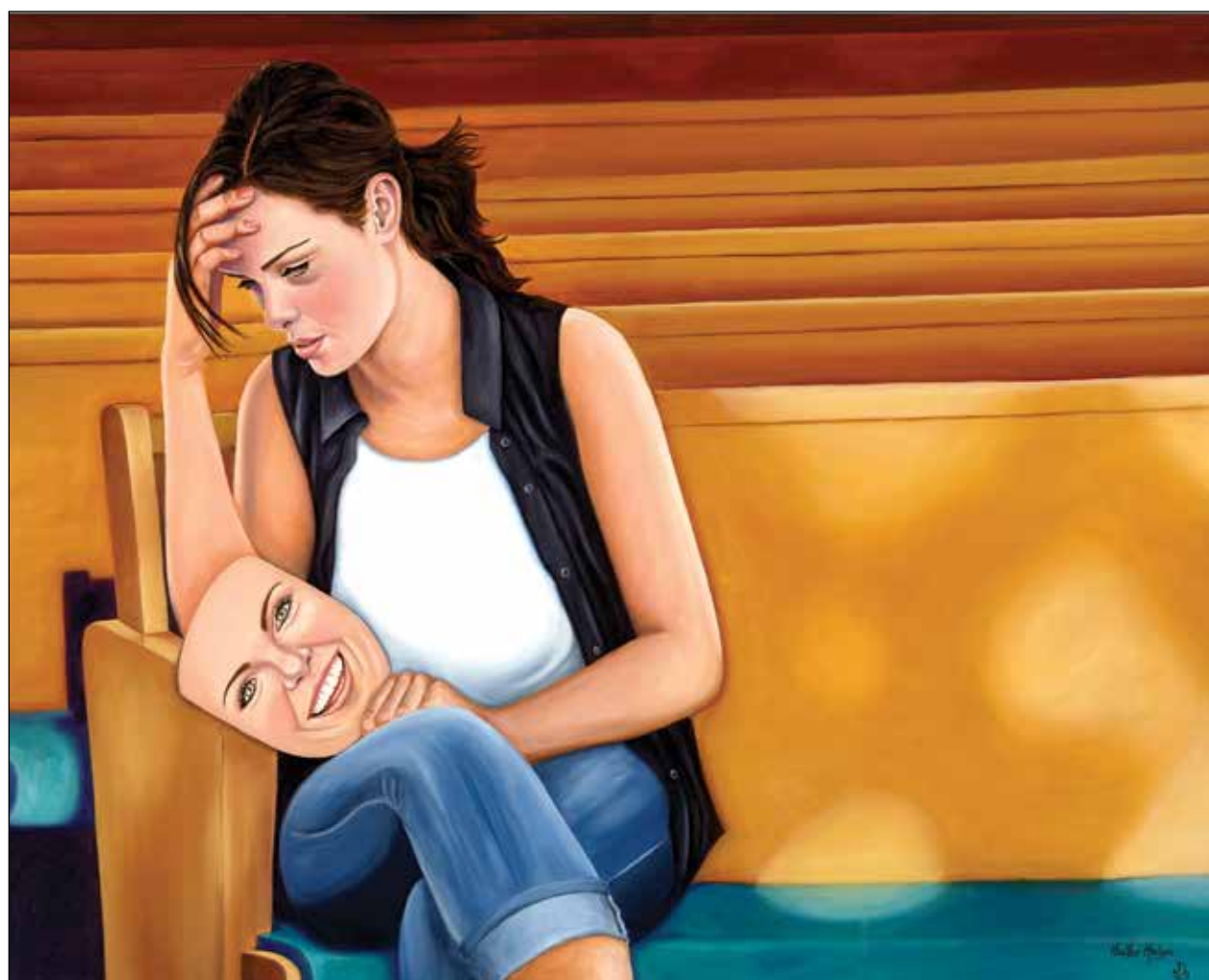
We’re also reminded of a Hobbit named Samwise Gamgee (especially as we discuss New Zealand in our Currents section). In the film version of J.R.R. Tolkien’s *“The Two Towers,”* he talks about *“the great stories ... the ones that really mattered. Full of darkness and danger they were, and sometimes you didn’t want to know the end because how could the end be happy?”*

But darkness passes, and *“when the sun shines it’ll shine out the clearer. Those were the stories that stayed with you, that meant something even if you were too small to understand why.”*

We are in the middle chapters of an epic tale. When a soldier falls in this battle, may we raise up an army to stand in her place.

Pray, love, hope, do not fear.

And watch what God does next.



“Removing the Mask,” a 30-inch by 40-inch oil-on-canvas by Heather Hodges.

The masks we wear

Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

— Isaiah 41:10, English Standard Version

We often feel the need to hide our brokenness, sin, pain and suffering behind a mask of happiness and perfection.

We conceal our true selves out of fear or self-preservation. The masks we wear become so comfortable and familiar. They become part of us and we would feel naked without them.

During those moments when our guard is down and we remove the mask, we feel vulnerable and exposed, but we are also authentic and raw.

Wearing the mask only perpetuates the pain and loneliness. But when we take the mask off, we open our hearts to the presence of God and to healing, restoration and transformation.

In the Word



Heather Hodges

When we summon the courage and remove the mask we feel the presence of God surround and strengthen us.

Peace and love to you. *“Soli Deo gloria.”* To God alone be the glory.

HEATHER HODGES is a mom, wife, artist, inspirational speaker and follower of Christ. She earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Abilene Christian University in Texas and has been in ministry alongside her husband, Wade, for almost 20 years. They worship with the Preston Road Church of Christ in Dallas, where Wade Hodges serves a preaching minister, with their sons

Caleb and Elijah. See her gallery at heatherhodgesart.com.

What to say when you can't find the words

CONFOUNDED BY 'CONDOLENCES' after her brother's death, a Christian writer offers sentiments people of faith can voice 'that express the compassion and genuine concern you really do feel but struggle to convey.'

My brother died in a car crash at the age of 20. I was 21.

On the night of his visitation I stood beside my parents in an awkward spot in the middle of a too-small room as hundreds of people filed through a snaking line to shake our hands and offer their "condolences."

Some people said things I've since forgotten. Some people said things I'll never forget. I wish I could forget. I've taken a Brillo pad to the memories, but alas, they persist.

I remember, "God just needed another angel." *You know that's not how angels work, right?*

I remember, "God does things for a reason." *Are you saying God killed my brother?*

I remember a man who told me he understood exactly what I was going through because his sister had committed suicide the year before. *Wait a minute. How do you think he died?* And I remember someone asking if he was drunk when he hit the tree. *Whaaaaat?*

There are a lot of ways to be stupid in a visitation receiving line. And a lot of ways to be stupid for weeks and months after.

Because so many of us say stupid stuff when our friends and loved ones experience loss, I thought I'd share five go-to things you can say, words that express the compassion and genuine concern you really do feel but struggle to convey:

1. This is not OK.

When a person loses someone they love, the last thing they want to hear is an insincere, unfounded, "It's all gonna be okay." What they want to know is that everyone else sees how totally unfair and terrible this is.

When my brother died, I hated everyone who wasn't hurting — the people driving in cars and going to jobs and watching movies. I wanted the world to stop and recognize

my pain. I wanted every person to acknowledge the loss of this person I loved so much. I wanted to hear people say, "Death is a jerk and a thief, and I hate it." I wanted to hear

people say, "This isn't how it should be." I wanted to hear people say, "God never intended this for his people. Death is not the plan." I wanted friends to gather around me and rage against the enemy.

Yes, it's good to remember the victory Christians experience, the eternal life God's people enjoy. That hope is a

balm to the hurting. But remember, too, the grieving aren't experiencing the fullness of that victory at the moment. The full joy of heaven is for the dead, the sleeping. Not as much the living-here.

2. There are no rules.

When a person you love dies, it's like the world hands you a script. This is how you'll behave at the coroner's. This is how you'll greet people who bring cakes to your house. This is how you pick out a coffin. This is what your dead family member wears in the coffin. This is what you wear to the funeral. This is how long you can be sad.

All of that is junk.

When I talk to people who are grieving, I always say, "There are no rules for you to follow." If you want to wear shorts to the funeral because they're the shorts you wore in your favorite moment with your sister, wear the shorts. If you want to tell a joke in your funeral comments, do it. If you want to cry through the entire service, cry on. If you don't want to cry, don't. If you want to eat cereal from the box for the next 42 days, why not?

The grieving, particularly those primarily affected by the loss, can't bear the pressure of social expectations in those moments. So when they look at you and say, "I was thinking of playing 'Surfin' USA' by the Beach

Boys at the funeral; is that too weird?" respond generously, "If that's what you want, I think it's a great idea."

3. Can I pray?

Everyone tells you they're praying for you when you experience something tragic, and knowing those prayers are happening is an immeasurable blessing. What you hear far less often, however, are the actual prayers. What is it people are asking on my behalf? What words are people speaking to God about the pain I'm feeling? What do they want God to do for me and in me? Those questions are easily answered when we pray for the grieving with the grieving.

Sometimes I have the honor of praying with a grieving family in person, of putting my hands on their slumped shoulders and carrying them to throne of God on lifting words. Sometimes I have to do it over the phone or by text. I've prayed via Facebook and email and even Twitter direct message.

When we hear our friends and loved ones speak to God for us, we're comforted in a way that defies explanation. When we can't muster the courage or energy or hope or simply the presence of mind to seek God in prayer, we find ourselves buoyed and anchored by the words we hear and adopt as our own.

4. It's been two months. I'm coming over. I'm bringing cookies.

Words spoken within the first few weeks of the loss are good but can get lost in the cacophony of well-meaning, well-wishing voices. If you really want to say something they'll hear and appreciate, say it down the road.

Checking in lets the grieving person know she's not forgotten (and neither is the person she loved). Accompanying your words with physical presence and a

listening ear (and maybe something with sugar and butter) makes them all the more filling and helpful.

Also, while "Let me know how I can help" is kind, it puts the burden of "letting you know" on the person least capable of bearing it, basically ensuring you'll never be called upon to do anything. Instead, be pushy with your attention and assistance. Say exactly what you're going to do to help (make sure it's actually helpful), and do it. Don't wait to be asked.

5. Let me tell you a story ...

There is pretty much nothing I'd rather hear than a story about my brother. Because his life is over, because he'll never do another new thing, other people's stories are the closest thing I have to a new experience with him.

When people tell me about conversations they had with him, I hang on their every word. When they tell me about something stupid he did, I'm so glad to remember the full him, not just the polished version from the funeral. When people write me and say, "I met your

brother when I was a kid, and he gave me a piece of gum and I thought he was the coolest," that small, otherwise insignificant moment brings so much joy to my heart.

People think it's disrespectful to talk about people who have died with people who loved them. They think they're stirring up things that should maybe not be stirred. They stop talking when their words make me cry. I wish they wouldn't.

The stirring is a bringing back to life. The tears are joy. And the stories are the best way I know of respecting the person I miss.

JL GERHARDT writes at GodScout.com. She and her husband, Justin, work with the Round Rock Church of Christ just outside Austin, Texas.

Views



JL Gerhardt

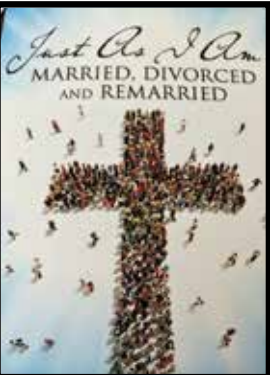
'While "Let me know how I can help" is kind, it puts the burden of "letting you know" on the person least capable of bearing it. ... Instead, be pushy with your attention and assistance.'

Just As I Am:

Married, Divorced and Remarried

This book is written primarily for those who have been married, divorced and remarried and have come to Jesus for salvation. Many of you have suffered enough guilt, rejection and/or suspicion because a previous marriage did not work out and you have started over in a new marriage relationship. This book proves that God accepts us just as we are -- even if we are "married, divorced and remarried."

\$15.49 wdunaway.blogspot.com
(256) 624-6024



Wayne Dunaway

CONSIDER INCLUDING
THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE
IN YOUR WILL OR ESTATE PLAN



The Christian Chronicle

The Heritage Circle is composed of those who bless the *Chronicle* through their will or estate plan.

Help secure the future of *The Christian Chronicle*.

Call Stephen Eck of the Chronicle Planned Giving Office for assistance at (405) 425-5080.



Southwestern Christian College

78th Annual Lectureship

November 22-26, 2015
Terrell, Texas

“Descriptions of and Prescriptions for Spiritual Diseases”



(Studies in 1st & 2nd Corinthians and Related Texts)

Lectures and forums will include prescriptions for spiritual diseases such as same-sex marriage, transgender concerns, unacceptable worship and doctrine, brotherhood division, immigration issues and gun violence.

An unprecedented Open Forum will be conducted by Dr. Jack Evans, Sr., Dr. Eugene Lawton, Dr. W. F. Washington and Dr. R. C. Wells on current spiritual diseases. The Forum will be Tuesday, November 24, at 7:p.m.

For information on registration call:
Dr. James Maxwell, Lectureship Director.
972-524-3341, ext. 144 or 122.



This world is our home, ministers write

This world is not my home, I'm just a-passin' through." The words of that classic hymn summarize the attitudes of many Christians toward heaven and the afterlife. If we can faithfully make it through life in the present, fallen world, we can one day escape it and find a home in some remote realm for eternity.

Two ministers aim to correct this attitude in **"Bringing Heaven to Earth: You Don't Have to Wait for Eternity to Live the Good News."**

Authors Josh Ross, of the Sycamore View Church of Christ in Memphis, Tenn., and Jonathan Stormont, of the Highland Church of Christ in Abilene, Texas, add their voices to a loud-ening chorus led by scholars including N.T. Wright. They call the church to rethink its view of the world to come. Bible scholars call this *eschatology* — a combination of Greek words for "last" and "study." Eschatology is the study of "end things," and Ross and Stormont do not treat it as some esoteric subject only for academics. They want everyone to understand the subject, because, as they write, "what you hope for shapes what you live for." Heaven is crashing into earth, they write. Christians are not called

to passively leave the earth behind but to engage this world and fight against the injustices found in it.

They then transition into a discussion of the celebratory nature of Jesus' ministry (what they frequently refer to as a "Jesus Party"), and what this might suggest for the church. This, of course, has implications for how the church sees both outsiders and insiders. The authors draw heavily

In Print



Jonathan Minson

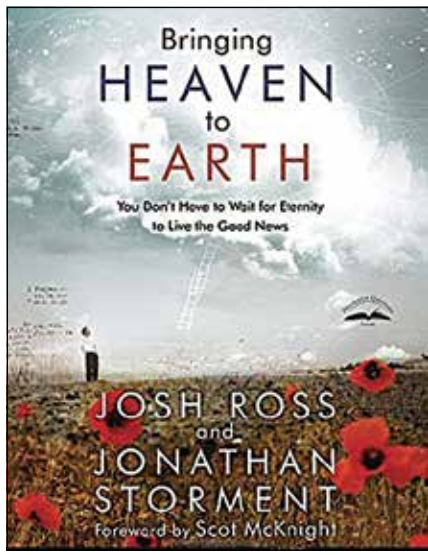
on the parable of the Prodigal Son in support of their view, where the younger brother is the implied outsider and the older brother the insider.

The book closes with brief discussions of Christian hope, overcoming fear created by perfectionism and what Christian ministry should look like when informed by the heaven-is-

for-earth view of the world.

With expert skill, Ross and Stormont share moving personal stories and relevant illustrations that knit the chapters together in a way that breathes life into the message and draws the reader in more deeply. In doing so, they make a compelling plea for the church to take on this world, oppose social evils and strive for more open communities.

Most readers would, by now, recognize that Ross and Stormont are advocating a form of inaugurated



★★★★☆
Josh Ross and Jonathan Stormont. **Bringing Heaven to Earth: You Don't Have to Wait for Eternity to Live the Good News.** Colorado Springs, Colo.: WaterBrook Press, 2015. 215 pages. \$14.99.

eschatology — the belief that the end times were inaugurated in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. Therefore, the Kingdom of God has both "already" and "not yet" aspects.

"Bringing Heaven to Earth" lacks the theological bite of similar works on the subject — no doubt the intentional result of an effort to broaden the book's potential audience.

Yet for a book about inaugurated eschatology, readers might expect more attention to be given to the inaugurating events themselves: the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus.

To be sure, the Cross and resurrection receive mention in the book, but without the rich meaning found, not least, in Paul's epistles. Thus, Christ's death is never cast as an atoning work.

Similarly, concerning the resurrection, the authors write, "It is God's way of saying, 'The parties that Jesus has been throwing and attending are in tune with who I am.'" This may leave readers a bit puzzled. And without presenting a firm theology of the Cross, it may faintly call to mind the 20th century's Social Gospel that likewise attempted to "bring heaven to earth" while unfortunately downplaying the historic Christian doctrines of sin and individual salvation.

Nonetheless, Ross and Stormont have a message that perhaps is overdue in Churches of Christ.

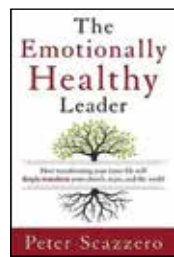
We have long held that the Kingdom has arrived. Are we ready to put this belief into the uncomfortable practice that calls us to be agents of heaven on earth?

JONATHAN MINSON earned a master's in biblical studies from Amridge University in Montgomery, Ala. He lives in Oklahoma City with his wife, Karissa, and children Brooklyn, Warren and Paul. They attend the Penn South Church of Christ.

NEW AND NOTEWORTHY

LEADERSHIP

Peter Scazzero. **The Emotionally Healthy Leader: How Transforming Your Inner Life will Deeply Transform Your Church, Team, and the World.** Nashville, Tenn.: Zondervan, 2015. 315 pages. \$22.99.



Scazzero, founder of a large New York church, begins with his own experience as an emotionally unhealthy leader. He discusses inner and outer transformation. The book includes assessment tools for leaders.

BIOGRAPHY

Karen Swallow Prior. **Fierce Convictions: The Extraordinary Life of Hannah More — Poet, Reformer, Abolitionist.** Nashville, Tenn.: Nelson Books, 2014. 320 pages. \$24.99.



Prior, an English professor, chronicles the life of More, who worked with William Wilberforce in 19th century England to end the slave trade. Also a playwright, poet and social reformer, More founded a school for women and 12 rural schools.

CHRISTIAN LIVING

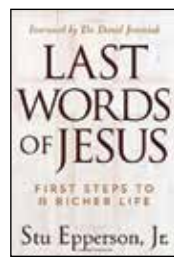
Suzanne Mayernick and Gwen Oatsvall. **One: Impossible Starts Here.** Nashville, Tenn.: B&H Publishing, 2015. 190 pages. \$15.99.



The authors, mothers of a combined 13 adopted and biological children, weave their stories into their message of active compassion and grace-based ministry. They promote their organization, 147 Million Orphans, which works to provide for children in vulnerable areas worldwide.

BIBLE STUDY

Stu Epperson Jr. **Last Words of Jesus: First Steps to a Richer Life.** Brentwood, Tenn.: Worthy Publishing, 2015. 160 pages. \$15.99.



This short study of the seven phrases Jesus said from the Cross is the first book by Epperson, host of radio program "Truth Talk Live." He brings together a compelling mix of theology, poetry, anecdotes and a performer's flair for verbal drama. Each chapter ends with a dozen or so Scriptures and discussion questions.

Websites for Churches

- Easy to maintain
- Very attractive to visitors
- Post audio sermons
- Responsive websites available

Check out these websites:

- bethelchurchofchrist.org
- eastsidechurchofchrist.us
- caledoniachurchofchrist.org
- bluerivercofc.org
- cherrylniglesiadecristo.org

PS Tech Group
682.587.7784 pstechgroup.org

Youth Minister

We are a congregation of 150-200 Christians located in Portales, New Mexico. We are looking for a youth minister with vision who will passionately and humbly seek to guide our teens into becoming what God intended through personal relationships, mentoring, teaching, evangelizing in our community, counseling and above all, prayer. **Third and Kilgore Church of Christ** is a grace-filled family where love and concern for each other abounds.

<http://3kchurch.org>

Deacons, Third and Kilgore Church of Christ
PO Box 450, Portales, NM 88130



**Sharing the Gospel and
Teaching Others to
Share the Gospel**

gospelsharingministries@hotmail.com
817-894-1520

Want To Advertise in *The Chronicle*?

Deadline for the
next two issues:

Nov 10 and Dec 8

Contact Tonya Patton at
tonya.patton@christianchronicle.org



1 - Be Thou My Vision

Words: Irish Folk Hymn
Music: Joyce's Old Irish Folk Music, Arr: Martin Shaw

© 2001 The Paperless Hymnal™

Eleven volumes with over 1350 songs in PowerPoint® format
Project easy-to-read lyrics and music / CCLI license not required
Download free songs and order at: www.PaperlessHymnal.com

For PowerPoint® slides in Spanish: www.himnosenpantalla.com



JUST IMAGINE...

...BECOMING PART OF A CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

Imagine an institution of higher learning that is unique in the way it combines a Christian world view with quality academics.

...BEING MORE THAN A FACE IN THE CROWD

Imagine the pursuit of your higher education where you can truly grow as an individual.

...GETTING INDIVIDUALIZED ATTENTION

Imagine attending one of the nation's top ranked Universities where the faculty and staff care about your education and spiritual growth.

admissions.ovu.edu

1 Campus View Drive | Vienna, WV 26105-8000 | 877.446.8668

U.S. News & World Report ranked
OVU 27th among Tier I schools
in the south region. Tier I denotes
the highest-ranked schools for each
region evaluated by U.S. News.
This is the 5th consecutive year
OVU ranked as a Tier I School.



**OHIO VALLEY
UNIVERSITY**

FOR LEARNING. FOR FAITH. FOR LIFE.

YOU
Can Help Our Kids!



Our Christian school is in dire need of reliable transportation due to our only two vehicles going out of service at the same time. If your church has an inactive bus that you could donate to our children, please call:

314-429-7070, Ext. 3
Ask for Carla Payne, Administrator.
Christian Academy of Greater St. Louis

Youth Minister

Laurel Church of Christ in Laurel, Maryland, is currently seeking a Youth Minister to help grow and build-up the teens and pre-teens who are either members of the church or who regularly attend worship and participate in other activities with this part of the body of Christ.

For additional information, contact Jeff at:
jeffdockendorf@gmail.com
or see the full job description at:
www.christianchronicle.org

Full-Time Preacher

West Valley Church of Christ in Buckeye/Goodyear, Ariz., is accepting resumes, calls, and correspondence related to the filling of a full-time minister position. We are a congregation of between 55-70 in need of a preacher/minister who is able to feed this flock with Gospel preaching. We are looking for someone who is excited to reach out to the community by sharing The Word. We prefer a family man with a stable marriage/family life, with formal Bible training and a solid understanding of God's word, who is willing to stand strong and true to Biblical principles in this sadly changing world.

Please contact: Russ Colville
(623) 386-0969 or russ@r-cats.com
Visit us at: www.wvcochrist.org

The Church of Christ in Millington, Tenn., is looking for a pulpit minister. Millington is located in West Tennessee, 20 miles north of Memphis. We are a diverse congregation dedicated to loving God and loving others. Our outreach ministry has on-going programs to give back to our community. We are looking for a minister whose wife is actively involved with him in his ministry. Check out The Christian Chronicle website for more details.

Send cover letter, resume, and references to:

7320 Raleigh Millington Rd
Millington, TN 38053
MillingtonSearch@gmail.com

Family/Life Minister

The 53rd Avenue Church of Christ in Bradenton, Fla., is interviewing for a Family/Life Minister. Family/Life Ministry is a multipurpose ministry with a general focus on attracting and keeping young families engaged in a Christian life. Our goal is to enrich their lives and provide a path in which children can be prepared and encouraged for a life in Christ. Family/Life Ministry is designed to assimilate families into the body of Christ and to guide them in developing strong Christian children. Interested individuals must forward a letter of interest, picture and resume to:

53rd Avenue Church of Christ
3412 53rd Ave East
Bradenton, FL 34203

by Nov. 20, 2015

PRESIDENT

The Board of Trustees of Lubbock Christian School would like to invite qualified applicants for the position of School President. Please contact Chairman of the board Brian Pitaniello or go to the website at LubbockChristian.org to receive the President packet. The Board wishes to express its continued appreciation to Mr. Peter Dahlstrom, who has diligently served as the head of the school for the last 21 years.

Contact Brian Pitaniello at:
(806) 791.8557
brian@advisorspfg.com
Lubbock Christian School
www.lubbockchristian.org

Evangelism and Involvement Minister - Vienna, W. Va.

The Grand Central Church of Christ in Vienna, W. Va., is searching for an Evangelism and Involvement Minister.

We are a growing church family with a Sunday attendance of 325-350, seven shepherds, 30+ deacons and ministry leaders, two other full-time ministry staff, an exceptionally talented membership and innumerable open doors. Vienna is a part of a metro area (100K) located on the Ohio River with a diverse economy and good schools (including Ohio Valley University, supported by churches of Christ).

This person will work with the church with primary responsibilities in evangelism, ministry coordination and oversight of small groups. As a part of the Grand Central team, you will be expected to be (1) personally involved in helping the lost come to faith in Jesus, (2) discipling others to do the same and (3) planning and coordinating opportunities for members to invite friends and family.

Interested? Go to the church website (www.grandcentralchurch.com) and click on the "Minister Search" logo for more details. Send resumes and inquiries to grandcentralchurch@gmail.com.

Faith in Europe: A small team nurtures a family of believers in Vienna, Austria

VIENNA, Austria.
We like to say God chose Vienna." That was Jake Haskew's response when I asked him why he and his team chose this beautiful, historic city in the heart of Europe. He and his wife, Amanda, meet with a small, vibrant community of believers in their home here each Sunday.

I visited the church at a time of year when many Viennese were away on vacation. Nonetheless, I was impressed by the people I met. They were joyful and interested in the study of 2 Thessalonians conducted by another team member, Will Kooi. A young man, Bobby, led the communion service, using the passage in John 12 where Jesus washes the feet of his disciples and then shares the bread and wine with them. Each took a wafer and a small glass of wine, all partaking at the same time. The service ended with a time for each person to ask for prayers and warm fellowship.

In 2007, the Haskews moved to Vienna — once the easternmost European capital before entering the Soviet world — with three other young couples. They committed to stay for five years, but family circumstances caused two couples to return before three years had passed. A third couple, Josh and Kim Hensal, served for six years before returning to the U.S. two years ago.

When considering locales, the team worked with Missions Resource Network, which had identified Vienna as one of the top five strategic cities in the region for church planting. Phil Jackson, director for European missions, helped prepare the team for the task.

The same year the team moved to Vienna, Eastern European Mission, which once smuggled Bibles under the Iron Curtain, hired Bart Rybinski as its vice president for European operations. The Polish-born Christian

knew the team members from his days serving as singles minister for their home congregation in Oklahoma. Bart and his wife, Tamika, moved to Vienna, and their family is an integral part of the young church.

Will Kooi and his wife, Holly, worked as mission apprentices and now are full-time members of the team, despite some visa challenges they faced and weathered.

The Haskews are an amazing couple. Amanda's salvation is the result of a bus ministry — and an exceptionally caring Christian woman who encouraged and nurtured her.

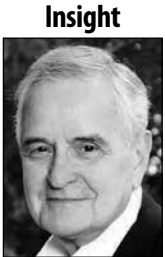
Jake, a former engineering student, works daily with their community, the 22nd district, to encourage spiritual growth and help those in need — including the recent wave of refugees from the Middle East.

The team builds connections with local schools, conducts seminars and teaches English. They also look for opportunities to know and love the people of their community. Even walking their dogs is a chance for ministry. On a typical Sunday, Jake has a Bible study with the children while all the adults share in the children's joyful experience of learning about God.

The average attendance is about 20, but nearly 50 attended a Thanksgiving celebration and nearly 100 gathered at a nearby lake to witness an older Viennese give his life to Christ in baptism.

"We are really excited about the work," Jake said, noting that a Viennese Christian, Florian Krassnig, has committed to intern with the team for a year.

"We know that God is continuing to use us," Jake said, "to further his Kingdom in this city."



Insight

Bailey McBride



WWW.VIENNATEAM.ORG

Church members in Vienna, Austria.

 world english institute
INTERNET BIBLE TEACHERS NEEDED

WEI offers a combination English Grammar and Bible course.
English is the bait we use to go fishing for men and women.
We are currently starting hundreds of new studies each month with students from every country in the world. We could start more, but...

WE DESPERATELY NEED MORE TEACHERS!

The lessons are automatically graded by the website. Teachers reply to their students questions about God and faith. It is quick and easy. Many from all over the world have obeyed the Gospel through WEI.

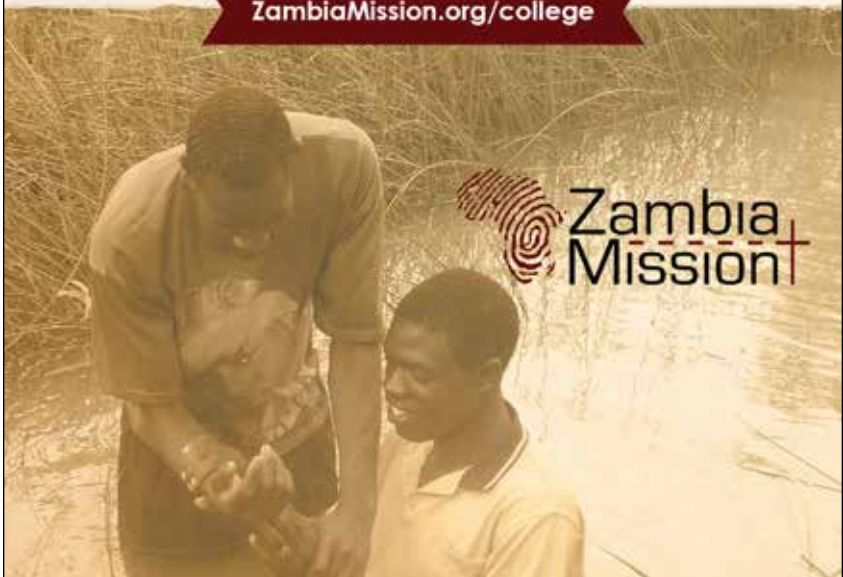
Register to become a teacher at:

<https://www.worldenglishinstitute.org/register/teacher>

He **WANTS** to be a
PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER
& **SELF-SUPPORTING EVANGELIST**

Help **TRAIN** him for only \$150 per month
and **YOU** can be a part of
CHANGING LIVES FOREVER

ZambiaMission.org/college



Job Opening! **Asst. Director of Social Services**

Georgia AGAPE in Atlanta is seeking an experienced social work/ social service professional to serve as our **Assistant Director of Social Services**. AGAPE is a faith-based, licensed child-placing agency associated with the Churches of Christ providing foster care, adoption, maternity care and professional counseling. The work of this position will be multifaceted, providing direct services to children and families through our foster care and adoption programs and having program planning, oversight and supervision responsibilities. Direct services include doing foster care case management, foster and adoptive home studies and foster parent training.

This is a full-time position with a competitive salary and benefits package. The candidate must possess a Master's Degree in a social services field and have at least 4 years of experience in children and family services.

For more information,
call LaQuisha White, Director of Social Services, at 770-452-9995
or email her at
LaQuisha@GeorgiaAgape.org.

Georgia AGAPE
Atlanta, Georgia

34th Annual MEDICAL MISSIONS SEMINAR

Keynote Speakers
Bruce McLarty, D. Min.
Michael Justus, M.D.
David Smith, M.D.
Robert Lawrence, M.D.

"The Ripple Effect"
... one act of compassion"



Fort Worth, Texas

Friday & Saturday
January 15 - 16, 2016

Register online at
www.ihcf.net
or call 501-268-9511

Hosted by:
IHCF
African Christian Hospitals
102 N. Locust
Searcy, Arkansas 72143



The Christian Chronicle

Vol. 72, No. 11 | November 2015 | www.christianchronicle.org

A prayer down under

In New Zealand, men gather to 'rage against the dying of the light' and ask God to help churches grow. **17**



INSIDE

CALENDAR.....28	NATIONAL.....5
CURRENTS.....17	OPINION 29
DIALOGUE.....20	PARTNERS 22
INSIGHT.....34	PEOPLE.....25
INTERNATIONAL 13	REVIEWS 32
MILESTONES.....27	VIEWS 15, 30

OKLAHOMA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

RN TO BSN PROGRAM

ONLINE. ON YOUR SCHEDULE.

A new cohort starts in January. Apply for free today!

www.oc.edu/RN2BSN

BOX 11000

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK

73136-1100

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

OKLAHOMA CITY OK

PERMIT # 276



HONORS SUMMER ACADEMY

JULY 10-15, 2016

- For gifted or talented high school students in 9th-11th grades
- Receive two hours of transferable college credit from two choices:
Sciences, Bible, Engineering, or the Humanities
- Hands-on labs, field trips, or community service enhance every class
- Experience dorm life mentored by current OC Honors students

Classes are filling! Apply today at
WWW.OC.EDU/SUMMERACADEMY



OKLAHOMA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY