

# PENN JERSEY BAPTIST

**on-line**

August 2009 Volume 1, Issue 2

## Special Points of Interest:

- Ed & Mary Price State Missions Offering
- Sunday School Leadership Training
- LifeWay Worship Project Training
- Fan the Flame
- CSI—North
- CSI—South
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- Disaster Relief
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## SPECIAL CALLED EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

A special called Executive Board Meeting will be held September 12 — to consider filling some of the vacancies that have come about as people move and take other jobs. Information has gone out to the Executive Board. If you have not received your info, please let Margo Mylott know by e-mail: [mmylott@brnonline.org](mailto:mmylott@brnonline.org) or phone: 800-451-6599, Ext 10.

### Season of Prayer for State Missions



**“Laborers Together With God”**

1 Corinthians 3:9 (KJV)

### 2009 Ed and Mary Price Offering for State Missions Goal: \$50,000

#### Allocations:

- Special Assistance for Churches \$18,000
- Volunteer/Partnership Ministries \$16,500
- Collegiate Ministries \$ 6,500
- Disaster Relief \$ 3,000
- Strategic Planning Resources \$ 4,000
- Missions Promotion \$ 2,000

Ed and Mary Price Offering for State Missions

Goal: \$50,000

# John Cope named to GCR task force

By Staff



NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--Four members have been added to the Great Commission task force appointed June 24 by Southern Baptist Convention President Johnny Hunt during the SBC annual meeting in Louisville, Ky.

"After announcing the names of the GCR task force, I received feedback about the need for greater representation," Hunt said July 8 in a statement to Baptist Press. "I have added an African American who is a church planter, a Hispanic, an additional woman who also is familiar with the western region of the U.S. and a representative of the Northeast region.

"I want Southern Baptists to know I heard their concerns and have responded," Hunt said.

Added to the task force were:

Larry Grays, senior pastor of Midtown Bridge Church in Atlanta. "This young, inner-city, African American church planter is being used by the Lord greatly," Hunt said. "I know him really well and have heard wonderful things about his life and leadership from other people as well."

Ruben Hernandez, associate Spanish pastor at the Dallas-area Prestonwood Baptist Church in Plano. "This Hispanic evangelical leader served in full-time evangelism until he joined the staff of Prestonwood and is now preaching their Spanish service, serving the people of Prestonwood," Hunt said.

Kathy Ferguson, a women's ministry speaker whose late husband Rick was a pastor in Denver before his accidental death seven years ago. In August, she will marry Ed Litton, pastor of First Baptist in North Mobile, Ala., who lost his wife in an accident two years ago.

John Cope, senior pastor of Keystone Community Fellowship in North Wales, Pa., near Philadelphia. "Pastor Cope planted his church eight years ago this fall, is now touching 1,100 people weekly and also has started five additional churches in these almost eight years," Hunt said. "With 25 percent of the American population living in the Northeast, we wanted a pastor-leader from that region."

The task force will be chaired by Ronnie W. Floyd, senior pastor of First Baptist Church in Springdale, Ark., and The Church at Pinnacle Hills in Rogers, Ark. The vote authorizing the task force charges them with studying how Southern Baptists can work "more faithfully and effectively together in serving Christ through the Great Commission."

Besides Floyd and Hunt, the committee members appointed in Louisville were:

Jim Richards, executive director of the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention;  
Frank Page, pastor of First Baptist Church in Taylors, S.C.;  
David Dockery, president of Union University in Jackson, Tenn.;  
Simon Tsoi, trustee of the International Mission Board and retired pastor;  
Donna Gaines, pastor's wife at Bellevue Baptist Church near Memphis, Tenn.;  
Al Gilbert, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, N.C.;  
J.D. Greear, lead pastor of The Summit Church in Raleigh-Durham, N.C.;  
Tom Biles, executive director of the Tampa Bay Baptist Association.;  
Daniel L. Akin, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary;  
R. Albert Mohler Jr., president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary;  
John Drummond, a layman at St. Andrew Baptist Church in Panama City, Fla.;  
Harry Lewis, senior strategist for partnership missions and mobilization at the North American Mission Board;  
Michael Orr, pastor of First Baptist Church in Chipley, Fla.;  
Roger Spradlin, pastor of Valley Baptist Church in Bakersfield, Calif.;  
J. Robert White, executive director of the Georgia Baptist Convention;  
Ken Whitten, pastor of the Tampa-area Idlewild Baptist Church in Lutz; and  
Ted Traylor, pastor of Olive Baptist Church in Pensacola, Fla.

Compiled by Baptist Press assistant editor Mark Kelly.

# Got Pure Religion?

A Challenge to Show Love to Widows

By Diana Davis

It's right there in James 1:27a: "Pure and undefiled religion before our God and Father is this: to look after...widows in their distress..." Need fresh ideas for ministering to widows in your church?

## Offer friendship.

Proverbs 17:17

*Be a friend.* Seek her out at church. Call when she's absent. Program your number into her phone so she can call in an emergency. Laugh together. Cry together. Listen. Learn from her. Telephone. Text. Share Christian magazines or books. Carpool. Pray faithfully for her.

*Include her* on your guest list when you entertain. Invite her along for a family adventure or holiday celebration. Ask her to help you with a ministry project. A church might form a group for widows and widowers for fellowship, prayer, Bible study, outings, ministry projects or mission trips.

## Show Honor.

1 Timothy 5:3-10

Our deacons sponsor an annual banquet for widows. They provide transportation, serve her meal and pray for her.

A women's class can sponsor a widows' "hats-required tea." Carol at her door for Christmas. Host a Christmas open house or Valentines tea for widows at your home. Teens could prepare a pre-service audio-visual with widows' photos and favorite Scriptures.

## Get Practical.

Deuteronomy 24:19

Some churches assign widows to a deacon and his wife or a church member for regular contact and help with physical, spiritual and social needs. A church may provide a grief recovery class, support group or private assistance with legal or financial needs.

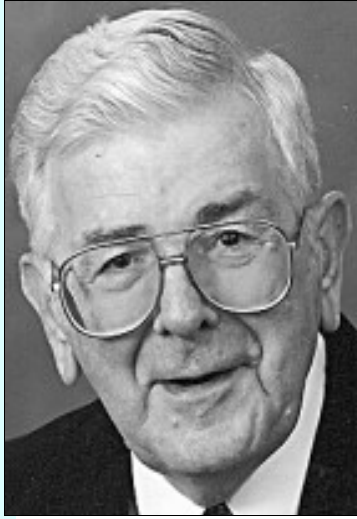
Take her with you to the library or grocery. Offer a ride to the doctor. Teens can help with her lawn or technical needs. A children's class can "adopt" her and send cards, deliver candies and help with small projects.

Our deacons built wheelchair ramps and helped with repairs and emergencies. Another church did an entire room makeover for a widow in need. A youth group planned an annual garage sale for the church's widow assistance fund.

The care and treatment of widows *must* be important to God. It's addressed in more than twenty Scriptures. How will you demonstrate "pure religion" today?

©Diana Davis 2009. Diana is the wife of Indiana Baptists' executive director, and author of *Deacon Wives* (B&H '09) [www.keeponshining.com](http://www.keeponshining.com)

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## Harold Gage Hawn 1923—2009

Dr. Hawn and his wife, Eleanore, worked in our convention for many years bringing worship education to many people. It is because of the dedication of people like Dr. Hawn, Glenn Ridall, and Olin Harris, both of whom passed away earlier this year that we have been able to provide quality programs. Our volunteer leaders give us a depth that we wouldn't have because of their education and experience. Below is Dr. Hawn's obituary from his local paper.

Dr. Harold Gage Hawn January 8, 1923 - June 21, 2009 Dr. Harold Gage Hawn -- Music Professor and Minister of Music Dr. Harold Hawn, 86, of Huntingdon, after a lengthy illness, went to be with his Lord and Saviour from the J.C. Blair Memorial Hospital in Huntingdon, on June 21, 2009. Born January 8, 1923, in Huntingdon, he was the son of the late Chalmers B. and Mary B. Hawn. He was united in marriage to Eleanore Demarest on August 24, 1941 at the bride's home in Huntingdon. Dr. Hawn is survived by his wife, Eleanore, and one daughter, Lyndsey of Palm Bay, Fla. One son, Clifford, and one sister-in-law, Dorothy, of Huntingdon, preceded him in death. He is also survived by one sister, Joyce Parks, of Huntingdon, his sister-in-law, Jeannette Rumberger, of Huntingdon, daughter-in-law, Patricia, and grandson, Edwin, and granddaughter, Laura, of Norfolk, Va., and a number of nieces and nephews. He graduated from Huntingdon High School in 1940, after which he served for four years in the U.S. Air Corps as an aerial gunner instructor. After his military service, he received the B.M. and M.M. Degrees from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y. He served as music instructor at Fredonia State Teachers College in N.Y., before becoming Director of Music at the Griffiss Air Force Base in Rome, N.Y. In January 1942, he volunteered to serve in the U. S. Air Corps. He attained the rank of Sergeant and taught gunnery for 3 1/2 years in Idaho and Texas. In 1953, he joined the faculty at The College of William and Mary in Norfolk, Va. This college later became Old Dominion University, where for 36 years, he taught voice, opera, chorus, television, music education, producing 70 operas and 2000 television programs. He received the D.Mus. Degree from Indiana University, Bloomington, Ind. in 1966. During this time, he also served as Minister of Music, Choirmaster,

and Soloist for four churches in Norfolk, Va. After his retirement in 1989, he and his wife, Eleanore, joined the Mission Service Corps Volunteers for the Southern Baptist Church and were assigned to the Baptist Convention of Pennsylvania/South Jersey as Music Missionaries. For 15 years they assisted churches throughout the convention by teaching music workshops, conferences, clinics and establishing new choirs, conducting the Male Chorale and the Conemaugh Valley Association Chorus. He also taught choruses and voice classes at the Baptist Conference Centers at Ridgecrest, N.C. and Glorietta, N.M. He was an Honorary Life member of the National Opera Association (serving 22 years as Treasurer) and Southern Baptist Conference. Also Lt. Governor for the National Association of Teachers of Singing, Phi Mu Alpha, M.E.N.C. and National Opera for Youth (7 years as Treasurer). Publications include: "Choir Singing for the Layman" (1990); Video Tape and Textbook "I've Always Wanted to Sing"(1997); published by the Church Street Press (Lifeway), Nashville, Tenn. Dr. Hawn has donated his extensive music library to Juniata College, The Baptist Convention of Pennsylvania/South Jersey and Emmanuel Baptist Church of Tyrone. Dr. Hawn was an active elder and Minister of Music at the Emmanuel Baptist Church in Tyrone, where he enjoyed serving the Lord. He was an avid baseball player and enjoyed hunting, cooking and singing in the Choral Union at Juniata College. There will be no viewing of the body. Internment and graveside service at the pleasure of the family will be held at the Centre County Memorial Park in State College, Pennsylvania, with Pastor Jack Wiley, Emmanuel Baptist Church, Tyrone, officiating. Memorial contributions may be made in his name to Emmanuel Baptist Church, 9 West 10th Street, Tyrone, PA 16686.

## Two BCPSJ Pastors Elected as Officers of the National African American Fellowship

National African American Fellowship LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)—The National African American Fellowship presented a new award during its annual meeting and banquet June 22 to recognize individuals who “really deliver” in facilitating relationships between the denomination and African American pastors.

The fellowship also elected officers and heard reports from Southern Baptists' mission boards and LifeWay Christian Resources at First Gethsemane Baptist Church where over 300 met June 22 prior to the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting at the Kentucky Exposition Center.

Ken Weathersby, senior director of evangelism at the North American Mission Board, was presented the “Best Friend of Pastors” award by NAAF President Michael Pigg.

“We have made great strides as a group mainly because of what God had done through him,” Pigg said of Weathersby, before announcing him as the award recipient.

Visibly moved by a standing ovation, Weathersby told the fellowship, “The reason I am what I am today is because of the investment of many men in this room.” Later he told Baptist Press, “I appreciate the leaders recognizing my desire to be a servant, to assist churches.”

Pigg, pastor of Philadelphia Baptist Church in Lithonia, Ga., in explaining the rationale behind the award, said many relationships are forged as a result of the fellowship's effort to assist pastors in Kingdom work.

“Our objective as an organization is to facilitate the process of African American pastors engaging in God's work through the Southern Baptist Convention,” Pigg told Baptist Press. “Our executive council determined we needed to recognize when people really deliver, and Ken Weathersby delivers—every time, time after time.”

North American Mission Board President Geoff Hammond talked about the GPS initiative—“God's Plan for Sharing”—for reaching North America.

African Americans are baptizing more people and planting more churches than Anglos, Hammond said, later clarifying his projections were based on a percentage basis of the population.

“There are a lot of people still to reach,” Hammond said. “I believe God has

positioned us to share our faith every single day.... We can't expect people to go to church if we don't evangelize them.”

David Cornelius, an IMB missions mobilization strategist, reported on IMB's response to NAMB's African American task force. Bottom line: IMB will make a greater effort to add “people of color”—all ethnicities—to its staff, Cornelius said.

He also spoke of the nearly \$9 million shortfall in giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering from the previous year. Of an estimated dozen African Americans “in the pipeline” awaiting appointment as IMB missionaries, Cornelius said none is being held up because of the shortfall because of plans for them to serve in “strategic” positions. Some 50 African Americans currently serve as IMB missionaries, Cornelius added.

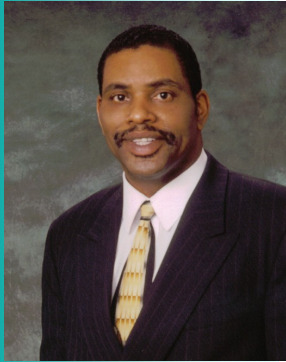
Elgia (Jay) Wells, director of ministry to black churches at LifeWay Christian Resources, reported about research findings related to men and women in the church.

Sixty percent of church leaders are women; 70 percent of members are women, Wells said, referencing statistics cited by the organization Church for Men ([www.churchformen.com](http://www.churchformen.com)).

In order to affirm men, gather them in churches and equip them to effectively serve God, Wells said LifeWay hosted a “Be the Man” conference this spring at LifeWay Ridgecrest Conference Center, with about 460 participants.

“Men are called to lead, protect, serve and mentor,” Wells said.

NAAF officers for 2009-10 were elected as a slate by acclamation: Pigg; James Dixon, El-Bethel Baptist Church, Fort Washington, Md., vice president; Mark Croston, East End Baptist Church, Suffolk, Va., treasurer; Byron Day, Emmanuel Baptist Church, Laurel, Md., secretary; K. Marshall Williams Sr., Nazarene Baptist Church, Philadelphia, Pa., parliamentarian; Robert Wilson, Sandtown Baptist Church, Atlanta, historian; Wayne Chaney Jr., Antioch Baptist Church, Long Beach, Calif., symposium coordinator; Brian King Sr., Ezekiel Baptist Church, Philadelphia, Pa., eastern regional director; Roscoe Belton, Middlebelt Baptist Church, Inkster, Mich., central regional director; and A.B. Vines, New Seasons Baptist Church, Spring Valley, Calif., western regional director.



K. Marshall Williams Sr., Nazarene Baptist Church, Philadelphia, Pa., parliamentarian



Brian King Sr., Ezekiel Baptist Church, Philadelphia, Pa., eastern regional director

# Spanish Ministry of BCPSJ celebrated Training on Evangelism and Church Planting

Pastors Elect Moises Rosario Unanimously the President of the Fellowship of Hispanic Baptist Churches

The Spanish Ministry of BCPSJ jubilantly celebrated the Training on Evangelism and Church Planting for pastors and church leaders, and the election of the President of the Fellowship of the Hispanic Southern Baptist Churches in PA/SJ.

The conference took place at East Shore Baptist Church in Harrisburg, last July 11. Jess Fairbanks, Hispanic People Groups Coordinator of NAMB was in charge of the training.

Dr. John Kovalchuk was recognized by all present for his work as State Language Missionary. He facilitated the election of officers for the Fellowship of Hispanic Pastors in PA/SJ, who elected Moises Rosario as president. Alberto Hernandez was elected Secretary.

Dr. Stan Smith, Missions Team Baptist Convention of Pennsylvania-South Jersey, delivered the Challenge to all the pastors in a remarkable message.

Rony Guerra, Pastor of Iglesia Bautista Hispana Quakertown was the translator from Spanish to English and vice versa for the event.

A large, enthusiastic group filled with joy attended from the following churches with their pastors and leaders noted:

- Iglesia Bautista Hispana Altoona (Coordinator David Pullen);
- Iglesia Bautista Divina Gracia Philadelphia (Pastors Jorge Duran, Virgilio Mejia y Capellana Olga Salazar);
- Iglesia Bautista Hispana Easton (Pastor Jonny Villamar);

- Iglesia Hispana Harrisburg and Iglesia Hispana Gettysburg (Pastor Alberto Hernandez, Church Planter Missionary of NAMB/BCPSJ);
- Mision Bautista Hispana Hatboro (Pastor Rafael Torres);
- Iglesia El Buen Pastor of Lebanon and Iglesia Vida Abundante of Reading (Pastor Edgardo Paz);
- Iglesia Bautista Divina Gracia Philadelphia (Pastores Jorge Durán, Virgilio Mejía y Capellana Olga Salazar);
- Iglesia Bautista Hispana Pittsburgh East, and Iglesia Hispana Monroeville (Moises Rosario);
- Iglesia Bautista Hispana Pittsburgh West (Pastor Luis David Diaz);
- Iglesia Bautista Hispana Quakertown (Pastor Rony Guerra);
- Mision Hispana Upper Darby (Pastor Eduardo Lara).

“This Encounter will be remembered as a significant event in the early history of the movement of Hispanic churches in PASJ”, said Moises Rosario, Church Planting Missionary of North American Mission Board and Baptist Convention of PA and South Jersey, who organized the event.

Also he said: “The success of this activity was not only for the numbers of pastors and leaders reunited but also for the enormous number of missions of respective cities and towns of Pennsylvania represented, which is a clear sign of how the Lord Jesus Christ has extended his

**For more pictures and info go to:**  
[www.iglesiabautistahispana.org](http://www.iglesiabautistahispana.org)

## Why Attend the SBC Annual Meeting?

By Fanny Grote

Most people think only masochistic people attend the convention, after all, nearly every session has time allotted for business. And it's serious business. Only messengers are allowed to speak, there are time limits on the amount of time you speak, you can be called out of order, and there's always that pernicious 'point of order'. Microphones are numbered and you appear on the 'big screens'. But, for me that's the price you pay for autonomy. Decisions have to be made to run a convention. That's only one part of the convention, and it isn't just the convention. First you have the pre-convention.

WMU holds its annual meeting before convention. This year it was held at St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville. And there's business there, too, but mostly it's a time that WMU introduces the theme of the year, shows off new products, introduces missionaries and has some of the best worship time you will find. Fellowship also plays a big part as many of the people in WMU have been in a missions organization since they were tots so they already have a great interest in common. A missions fair preceded the meeting and was held during some of the breaks. It was a time to see what is being done around the country and many of the displays were from Kentucky, the host state. You could fill a notebook with good ideas while walking around. Disaster Relief prepared a meal for those wishing to purchase it and many did. I ran into our WMU State President, Alva Manao. She was visiting with



another of the state presidents. All of the state presidents are the vice-presidents for WMU.

**Alva Manao, BCPSJ WMU President and wife of Roger Manao, pastor of Bible Church International, lunches with friends. Back row: Delores Thomas and Kathy Hillman (outgoing recording secretary). Front row: Dolores Bland, Alva Manao, Carol Vandeventer.**

Another group that meets during this time is the African American Fellowship. I didn't make it to that meeting this year. (Logistics weren't as easy as last year.) There is an article on that group on page 5. K. Marshall Williams, pastor of Nazarene Baptist Church, Philadelphia and past president of BCPSJ, was elected parliamentarian and Brian King, pastor of Ezekiel Baptist Church, Philadelphia was elected eastern regional director.

During this pre-convention time there is also a pastor's conference with some big name pastors speaking. One stand-out speaker this year was Mike Huckabee. Evangelists and some of the ethnic groups also have meetings.

The Annual Meeting starts Tuesday and ends Wednesday night. Besides and between the business are some great speakers and awesome music. There's still a choir! There is also praise music. And there are friends that sometimes you only see once a year at the convention.

And there are mealtimes hosted by various entities and groups. A friend gave me a ticket to the minister's wives luncheon, the Western Recorder who publishes our print Penn Jersey had dinner for their clients and Diane Davis was also their guest. It was fun getting to know her and meet with others who work on papers. Southern Seminary celebrated their 150th anniversary and dedicated their new visitor center during the convention. I attended that luncheon where I got to say hi to Tina Choi and her husband and renew an acquaintance with Jaye Martin, Director of Women's Leadership at Southern Seminary, and talk about what they offer for laypeople in women's ministry. They have some great programs—you can see them at [www.sbts.edu/women](http://www.sbts.edu/women). She introduced us to HeartCall several years ago when she was working for NAMB in evangelism. Derby Pie® was the dessert of choice at most of the gatherings.



Les and Helen Bollinger, pastor and wife of Beaver Baptist Church, Beaver, PA were sitting close to me at the first session.

There is also the weird and fun things that you discover in a new city. Next year, I hope you're in one of the pictures!