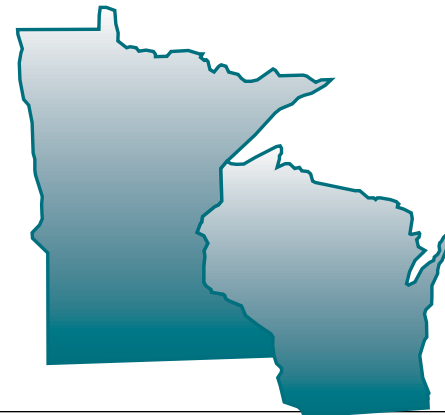


# THE MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN BAPTIST

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## Finishing the race



**MARTYR** Wisconsin native Kathy Gariety was among three Southern Baptist missionaries who were shot and killed by a lone gunman on Dec. 30 at the Baptist Hospital in Jibla, Yemen, where they worked. Above, Gariety, on left, talks about her ministry with Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptists at an Empower meeting in Green Lake, Wis., in 2001. *Stories, photos, pages 1,3-9.*

## Missionary Kathy Gariety slain in Yemen

By David Williams  
Editor

JIBLA, Yemen—Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptists now have a martyr.

Kathy Gariety, a Wisconsin native who had served at the Baptist Hospital in Jibla, Yemen, since 1992, was shot and killed at the hospital on Dec. 30. Two co-workers also were killed. Another employee was seriously injured in the attack by a lone gunman. It was the deadliest attack in the history of Southern Baptist missionary work.

Dead are Kathy Gariety, 53, of Wauwatosa, Wis., purchasing manager; William Koehn, 60, of Arlington, Texas, hospital administrator; and Martha Myers, 57, of Montgomery, Ala., physician. Donald Caswell, 49, of Levelland, Texas, a pharmacist, was injured but is recovering. (See story, page 9.) They were all representatives of the Southern Baptist International Mission Board. Koehn was scheduled to retire in October after 28 years of service.

M-W Baptists first learned the news of the tragedy through television and radio news bulletins. Then e-mails began circulating furiously as new information emerged. Web sites were scoured for any news of what had happened and why.

As the story came together, M-W Baptists learned that 30-year-old Abdul Razzaq al-Kamil had walked into the hospital holding something under his jacket.

Hospital workers, accustomed to seeing parents carry their sick or injured children into the hospital for

treatment, assumed that the object under the man's jacket was a child.

Instead, it was a semiautomatic rifle.

The man found the three victims in an early morning meeting and opened fire. After killing Gariety, Koehn and Myers, he went to another room and wounded Caswell.

### By faith

About an hour before the shooting, the mission workers had gathered for their regular morning chapel service during which

Ken Clezy, an Australian surgeon, read Hebrews 11:4: "By faith, Abel offered God a better sacrifice than Cain did. By faith, he was commended as a righteous man, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith he still speaks, even though he is dead."

"About an hour later, our friends were dead," Clezy said. "we pray that, like Abel, they will still speak."

Yemeni government officials said the gunman was a Muslim fundamentalist who said he shot the Americans "to cleanse his religion and get closer to Allah."

The killer had missed the missionaries' message that cleansing comes through the shed blood of Jesus, not through shedding the blood of others—that God draws us closer to Himself through love and grace, not through hate and vengeance.

Ironically, throughout the man's entire lifetime, employees of the 35-year-old Baptist Hospital had been dedicated to the health and well-being of people of his religion, caring

for more than 40,000 patients a year—without cost for those who could not afford it. They had provided disaster relief during earthquakes and famine. They had taught English and clinical skills to nationals.

While the Yemeni government did not allow the Baptists to evangelize or "proselytize" nor advertise Bible studies, preach on street corners or go door-to-door, the missionaries could show the love of Jesus. And when someone asked them what made the difference in their lives, they could tell them the answer.

### One of "us"

In years past, we had heard of other Southern Baptist missionaries killed in the line of duty. And we grieved over them, as we would an acquaintance or a cousin.

But Kathy Gariety was our sister, our mother, our daughter. We knew her.

We had seen her face, touched her hand, heard her voice. We had listened as she told of the spiritual darkness in the land where she served. We had gathered hospital supplies to ship to her in Yemen. We had put her picture on our church bulletin boards. We had raised record Lottie Moon offerings by reminding people that the money helped missionaries like Kathy. We had prayed for her by name. We had hoped our children would grow up to have the same passion for Jesus and people that drove Kathy Gariety to the other side of the world to touch lives for Christ and made her come back to M-W again and again to tell the story to us.

□ See *Gariety slain ...*, page 6

## Baptist publisher helped popularize 'Amazing Grace'

By Mark Wingfield  
Texas Baptist Standard

FORT WORTH, Texas—A Texas Baptist layman helped put John Newton's "Amazing Grace" on the map, according to a leading Baptist hymnologist.

But the way most Americans sing the popular hymn today isn't exactly the way it was first sung in the 1770s, according to William Reynolds, a professor of church music at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and editor of the 1975 Baptist Hymnal.

"Baptist layman Robert H. Coleman played a major role in the popularizing of 'Amazing Grace' as we know it today," Reynolds said. Coleman, based in Dallas, was a leading publisher of hymnals in the early 20th century.

From 1909 to 1939, Coleman published 33 hymnals, and all of the ones designed for congregational singing included "Amazing Grace," Reynolds noted.

Coleman's influence was broadened beyond hymnal publishing, Reynolds added, because he served as music leader for annual meetings of both the Southern Baptist Convention and the Northern Baptist Convention before and after World War I.

But the version of "Amazing Grace" published and promoted by Coleman bore at least two primary changes from its origin.

First, Coleman attached Newton's hymn text to the tune New Britain, also the practice of his printer, Edwin Excell of Chicago. They followed a practice first documented in 1835, at least 56 years after Newton wrote the hymn.

"Amazing Grace" is set in what musicians call common meter, which means it can be easily sung to a variety of tunes written in the same meter.

From 1789 to 1997, "Amazing Grace" was published in hundreds of hymnals set to at least two dozen tunes, Reynolds explained.

Two of the most popular were Arlington, best known among Baptists as the tune for "Am I A Soldier of the Cross," and Warwick, a tune not used in Baptist hymnals within the last century.

William Walker first attached the tune New Britain to "Amazing Grace" in his "Southern Harmony," published in 1835, Reynolds said. "The tune is anonymous, and

□ See *Baptist hymn ...*, page 10

# BAPTISTS

## Missionaries urge restraint in comments about Islam

By Art Toalston

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—An appeal for a change in tone in Southern Baptists' comments about Islam has been issued by a group of student-missionaries stationed in Muslim-dominated lands.

The appeal was framed as a letter from a group of seminary students, their spouses and several single seminarians, said George Braswell, distinguished professor of missions and world religions at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C. Braswell said he carried the letter back to the United States at the students' request after a Jan. 2-11 training session with the 27 individuals.

The students are enrolled in "two-plus-two" studies, a cooperative venture with the Southern Baptist International Mission Board in which they earn their seminary degrees by studying stateside two years and then serving two years as IMB-related International Service Corps workers overseas.

Braswell, a longtime Southeastern faculty member and former missionary to Iran in the 1970s, circulated the letter to Baptist Press and other media after returning to the States.

The students and spouses, in their

300-word letter, urged Baptists to focus more on Muslims' need for salvation in Jesus Christ than on criticizing the Muslim faith and its founder, Muhammad.

Braswell, in an interview, described the two-plus-two missionaries as including some individuals in their 40s; having children from 1-11 years of age; some having left careers in business and engineering; and, now, working "in the trenches" in various Muslim-dominated regions in the Middle East, Africa and Asia. Their names typically are not publicized by the IMB due to security reasons.

After voicing greetings to Baptists "in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ," the students wrote:

"We wanted to take the time to write to you on an issue that concerns us and our families, and we trust that it concerns you all as well. We are currently living within several Muslim majority communities the world over. Comments by Christians in the West about Islam and Muhammad can and do receive much attention in our cities and communities on local radio, television, and print sources. These types of comments have and can further the already heightened animosity toward Christians, more so toward Evangelicals, and even more so toward Baptists. We are not sure if

you are aware of the ramifications that comments that malign Islam and Muhammad have not only on the message of the Gospel but also upon the lives of our families as we are living in the midst of already tense times. We prayerfully ask you, as brothers and sisters in the Lord Jesus Christ, to focus public comments about Muslims on their need for salvation that is found only by faith in Jesus Christ. We encourage you to make comments and to live your lives in a way that will contribute positively toward the preaching of the Gospel in the lives of over a billion people who hold the religion of Islam and its prophet dearly. We have found it more beneficial with our Muslim friends to concentrate on sharing Christ in love and concentrating on the message of the Gospel, instead of speaking in a degrading manner about their religion or prophet. We encourage you all to reach out to the people of Islam in love and in a fashion that is consistent with the life of our Lord Jesus Christ."

The students' letter did not mention by name any Christian leader who has been quoted in the media in recent months as challenging Islam as a noble or peaceful religion.

Avery Willis, IMB senior vice president for overseas operations, said in a statement to the media, "These

IMB workers wanted to emphasize a focus on bearing witness for Christ as a blessing to Muslims, rather than arguing Islam versus Christianity. I believe what they were trying to say is that their concern is communicating the gospel to lost persons without having to defend what someone in America said about Islam."

Paige Patterson, president of Southeastern Seminary, said in a statement to Baptist Press: "The missionaries who issued the letter are remarkable young people who risk life and family to take Christ to exceedingly difficult places. Their concern is understandable. My last utterance to God before I sleep and first in the morning when I rise is for their safety and usefulness. What the students missed is the obvious. The situation that called forth such a letter, the appalling absence of religious liberty in the Moslem world coupled with the acute fear of the repetition of events such as the murder of our medical personnel in Yemen, accentuate the necessity for people both at home and around the world to be made aware of precisely what the Koran teaches and how many interpret those teachings. How best to couple our message of love with our concerns about religious liberty and Islamic militancy is the tightrope we all must learn to walk."

**"We encourage you all to reach out to the people of Islam in love and in a fashion that is consistent with the life of our Lord Jesus Christ."**

## 'What Now, America?' plan seeks 1 million baptisms

ALPHARETTA, Ga. (BP)—Southern Baptist leaders have announced plans to launch a three-year evangelistic emphasis aimed at baptizing 1 million Americans in 2005.

"What Now, America?" is a joint emphasis of the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board, LifeWay Christian Resources, Woman's Missionary Union, Southern Baptist seminaries, SBC Executive Committee, state conventions and associations. A simultaneous campaign for Canada, "What Now, Canada?" also is under way.

Organizers also have set goals to begin 100,000 intentionally evangelistic Bible study groups and start 2,500 churches in 2005. The emphasis is being launched this year and will culminate with an evangelistic media campaign in 2005.

"There's not a system or a program in place to produce 1 million baptisms," said John Yarbrough, vice president of evangelization at NAMB. "If we could do it, then we wouldn't need God, but with God all things are possible."

To date, the SBC's best years for

baptisms and church plants are 1972 with 445,725 baptisms and 1999's mark of 1,747 new churches, according to NAMB statistics.

Task force members describe the campaign as an effort to equip and mobilize Southern Baptists for an evangelism and church planting movement unprecedented in denominational history.

Robert White, executive director of the Georgia Baptist Convention and chairman of the "What Now, America?" national task force, challenged each Southern Baptist church, association and state convention to set their own goals.

"We want every Southern Baptist to be involved in this exciting challenge to reach our nation for Christ, but this is not a program with assigned goals," White said. "We believe God desires to do something greater than we can even envision."

White said the Georgia convention has set a goal of 50,000 baptisms in 2005, which would eclipse the convention's current annual level of 37,000.

Bill Taylor, director of LifeWay's church resources network partner-

ships, said the SBC goals for baptisms, evangelistic Bible study units and church plants capture much of the heart of Southern Baptists.

"We have always been a denomination that wants to reach the unsaved and unchurched with the gospel of Jesus Christ," Taylor said. "New Bible study groups that facilitate spiritual growth and mutual accountability often reach the lost and unchurched in larger numbers than existing groups. Establishing new Bible study groups is foundational in starting new churches as well as extending the evangelistic reach of existing churches."

The national task force is calling for at least 1 million Southern Baptists this year to commit to pray regularly for personal repentance, personal revival and a national spiritual awakening. The prayer initiative, called "Be ... One in a Million," is based on 2 Chronicles 7:14.

Participants can register for the prayer initiative at [www.namb.net/prayer](http://www.namb.net/prayer). Those who register and have e-mail capabilities will receive weekly prayer requests throughout 2003.

In 2004, Southern Baptists will be challenged to focus on soul-winning training. The emphasis calls for at least 1 million Southern Baptists to undergo evangelism training.

Yarbrough cited the 2001 "U.S. Congregational Life Survey" of 2,000 Southern Baptists as an example of the importance of evangelism training. The survey found that those who had been equipped to witness were twice as likely to share their faith and four times more likely to actually lead someone to accept Christ as Savior.

In the spring of 2005, "What Now, America?" and "What Now, Canada?" media campaigns will be launched through television, radio, newspaper and billboard advertising.

"We don't need a program," Yarbrough said. "We really need to be part of a movement of God. We need to see a movement of God never seen in our generation, a great spiritual awakening that encompasses North America."

Beginning in February, more information will be available online at [www.whatnowamerica.com](http://www.whatnowamerica.com) or by calling (770) 410-6305.

**"What Now, America?" goals:**

- 2003: 1 million people praying for revival.
- 2004: 1 million people trained in soul-winning.
- 2005: 1 million baptisms, 100,000 evangelistic Bible study groups and 2,500 new churches.

## Beth Moore's online study offers women encouragement

NASHVILLE (BP)—They've never met each other, but thousands of women who have joined LifeWay Christian Resources' online Bible study with Beth Moore share a common purpose.

Through laughter, tears, encouragement and sympathy, participants are seeking the strength to believe God's promises for their lives, and they're chatting about it online.

"There are all sorts of people who have the same struggles you do,"

Moore, author and Bible teacher, said during her sixth videotaped session of "Believing God." "These needs are very real."

"Believing God" is an Internet-driven study that combines streaming video/audio, weekly homework, online study guides and community-based discussion forums.

In a merging of faith and technology, about 26,000 women in all 50 states and 52 countries are studying the Bible together on the Web.

Moore challenges women to have faith that "God is who He says He is, and He can do what He says He can do."

About 250 women are posting to the forum daily.

Moore is a best-selling author who speaks to more than 65,000 women a year through live Bible study conferences across the country. More than 3 million copies of her seven Bible studies for women have been sold. LifeWay released her latest Bible study in

December, "Beloved Disciple."

Those who join the 10-week online course for about \$14 have no books or resources to buy, said Bill Seaver, project coordinator for the study sponsored by the Southern Baptist entity.

The Bible study was taped at Moore's home church, First Baptist in Houston, Texas.

For information about the Bible study or to enroll, visit <http://www.lifeway.com/believinggod>.

# MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN

## 'Church' is 'big responsibility, says Hmong pastor

**Editor's note:** This article first appeared in the Dec. 14, 2002, issue of the Rochester (Minn.) Post Bulletin. The use of the word "independent" refers to Hmong Baptist Church constituting as an autonomous church on July 27, 2002.

By Matt Russell

ROCHESTER, Minn.—The Rev. Nhia Yee Her, 41, is carrying a lot of weight on his shoulders this holiday season.

On the surface, Christmas at Hmong Baptist Church in Rochester will be no different than others before—a mixed English and Hmong worship service will be held, Christmas songs will be sung in both languages and children will perform a bilingual Nativity. But underneath it all is some worry about the future of the congregation, which after 13 years in existence became an independent congregation in the Southern Baptist Convention in August.

Since then, membership has dropped 30 percent, from 120 people to 82 people, as jobs have disappeared and families searching for work have moved to places such as St. Paul. That's bad news for Her, who feels increasing congregation donations has become more important since the church gained legal independence.

"We have to do everything on our own and that's a big responsibility," said Her, who acknowledged that the challenge of leading the independent congregation, which continues to worship at its "mother" church, Emmanuel Baptist Church in Rochester, has been greater than expected.

The pressures of administering a maturing congregation—getting non-

profit corporation status and raising money for future church needs, for example—are piling up. But Her, whose parents were village leaders who helped convert many in the highlands of Laos to Christianity in the 1950s, said that he is hopeful despite the recent fall in membership.

"We're strong," he said of his congregation.

### Tragedy and a miracle

It's only in the last 50 years that Hmong people, whose ancestry has been traced to China, have converted to Christianity. Like other Hmong families, Her's family had practiced animism, an ancient belief that stressed animal sacrifice and ancestor worship, before missionaries arrived in their village in the 1950s.

In the aftermath of the Vietnam War, Communist soldiers stormed the Her family farm on a midsummer night in 1978. Six of Her's family members, including his younger brother and his mother, were killed in the raid, and overcome by grief, Her's father died soon after. It was in that midsummer fight that Her's faith was galvanized, as he said a Communist bullet miraculously stopped in mid-air and fell harmlessly to the ground instead of hitting him.

Months after that night, Her left Laos to live in a refugee camp in Thailand. In 1980, he came to the U.S. to live with his older brother and uncle in Kansas City, Mo., where Her attended Western Baptist Bible School.

First Hmong Baptist Church in Kansas City was Her's first congregation, and while he was pastor there the congregation raised enough money to buy its own building, he said.

Having a home of its own is a



**HEAVY LOAD** In the last months, about 30 percent of the members of Hmong Baptist Church in Rochester have moved to other cities to seek work as the job market has tightened. This, coupled with moving from mission to church status, is a heavy load, says Pastor Nhia Yee Her. (Photo by Jodi Oshaughnessy; used by permission)

dream for Hmong Baptist Church in Rochester, where Her, who is married with five children, was ordained pastor in 1994. The church recently started a five-year fundraising campaign for a building of its own.

So far, fundraising has been lackluster, according to Her, who seems to be preparing himself for the possibility the congregation will fall short of its goal.

"We will meet our goal or not," he said.

### Hope for the future

Even with a 30-percent drop in membership, Hmong Baptist Church still has 20 more members now than it did 10 years ago, and Her thinks that

membership losses are leveling.

Congregation donations have actually doubled, to between \$300 and \$400 a week, as membership has fallen. Yet that amount of giving is still below what the church needs to pay basic expenses and to sock away money for a new church building, Her said.

Even with its independent status, Hmong Baptist continues to get financial help from the Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Convention, said Steve Melvin, a convention administrator, who added that a congregation's plans to build a new church doesn't necessarily qualify it for more funding.

A bright spot in the church's fundraising efforts has been selling vegetables at Rochester Farmer's Market. Last year the vegetables church members raised on a half-acre of land in Chester brought in between \$3,000 and \$4,000, and this year, members plan on having a full acre to farm, Her said.

It's on the youngest members of the congregation that Her pins much of his hope for the future.

And with a popular Sunday school, an active youth group that has a professional-looking Web site ([www.hrby.org](http://www.hrby.org)), and a church newsletter, "The Burning Heart," that is assembled by high school students, young people are playing a vital role in church life.

Her's biggest hope, however, appears to be that younger church members now away at college will return to Rochester.

"I hope in the next five years they will come back and help the church," he said.

Reprinted from the Rochester, Minn., Post Bulletin, Dec. 14; used by permission

**"We have to do everything on our own and that's a big responsibility."**

Nhia Yee Her



**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD** Sunday school classes at Cornerstone Community Church in Winona, Minn., prepared 127 shoe boxes of gifts for Operation Christmas Child, a ministry of Franklin Graham's Samaritan's Purse organization. The shoe boxes were filled with age-appropriate items. Each year, Samaritan's Purse distributes boxes to needy children in more than 110 countries. Above: Brittnee Sanders and Amanda Todd.

## Remembering Kathy Gariety



**DARKNESS TO LIGHT** Wisconsin native Kathy Gariety was one of three Southern Baptist missionaries shot and killed at the Baptist Hospital in Jibla, Yemen, on Dec. 30. She addressed the 2001 Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Empower meeting, dressed in the clothes a woman would wear in Yemen. As she ended her report, she lowered her veil and said, "We are praying continuously that the veil will be lifted. Not just the veil that women wear, but the veil of Islam." She warned against believing the stereotype that "all the Arabs are terrorists. They are not," she said. "They are human beings who need Jesus Christ."

# OPINION

## THE MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN BAPTIST

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## At the cross, sacrificial love makes sense

I had just sat down to a cup of coffee when the headline from USA Today made my heart skip a beat, "Suspects hunted in Yemen slayings; 3 Americans killed at mission hospital."

I had to flip the paper over to see the three pictures: Bill Koehn, Martha Myers and Kathy Gariety.

Kathy Gariety! She is one of ours! As tears filled my eyes my initial response was anger; maybe, if I'm honest, even anger tinged with hate. As I continued to read the article, I learned the killer had said he killed them in order to get closer to God. "How could anyone think killing another human being could bring one closer to God?" I thought aloud.

In time, my emotions settled down and my prayers became more focused: "Lord, let the contrast of Kathy's love and the killer's hate be a clear witness to the people of Yemen. Lord, let her sacrificial love draw people to Your sacrificial love."

In the days after the murders I read with interest the response of the people to whom Kathy ministered. Clearly, they saw the difference. Kathy lived and taught the love of Jesus; the people of Yemen knew

she loved them. They could see it in her manner and in her ministry. The love of God continues to shine in the darkness.

Jesus taught His disciples, "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13). Then Jesus proved the depths of His love and did just that. Since that day, the cross has been a vivid reminder of how great God's love is.

The cross reminds us that love conquers hate. Hatred cried out for Jesus to be crucified. Hatred beat Him and nailed Him to a cross. Hatred mocked Him and spit at Him, but love cried out, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." The innocent died for the guilty, and love overcame hate.

Traditionally, February is the month of love. Others might see a heart as the symbol of love, but I will keep my old rugged cross. At the cross, we can probe the depths of God's love. At the cross, we are reminded that even in the darkest of moments God is working His ultimate good. At the cross, we can make sense out of suffering. At the cross, sacrificial love makes sense. At the cross, love wins!

### PERSPECTIVES



Leo Endel

## Why do missionaries risk death?

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—After the Dec. 30 killings of three Southern Baptist medical workers by a Muslim gunman in Yemen, the tributes and condolences poured into the Southern Baptist International Mission Board from around the world.

Hundreds of calls, letters and e-mails came from friends of the victims, churches, Christian and Muslim religious leaders—and regular people—moved by the lives and deaths of physician Martha Myers, hospital administrator William Koehn and purchasing manager Kathleen Gariety. A tiny sampling:

■ "This was not only a loss to the Baptist community but also to the Muslim community," said Muhammad Sahli of the Islamic Center of Virginia, who personally visited IMB leaders to express his sympathy. "We were extremely saddened and angered by what happened in Yemen. ... It is our profound hope that Almighty God will shower the families with His mercy and compassion during their bereavement."

■ "My husband Bob and I were privileged to be (at the Jibla hospital) as volunteers in 1988 and 1989," reflected Nancy Dillard. "We grew to love Martha in a very special way. I remember her with some cold pancakes in her skirt pocket (to eat on the run), because once Martha started working for the day she never stopped. I remember her sleeping on the floor on a mat under the crib of a very sick child. I feel so blessed to have known her and I know she, Bill and Kathleen are in heaven with our Lord Jesus Christ."

■ "As an (emergency medical) worker in the U.S., I see senseless tragedies and death occur on a daily basis," wrote Heather Brewster. "As an MK (missionary kid), I try to ex-

plain to my co-workers what would have called these people to go a country like Yemen and what compelled them to serve a people 'not their own,' far from their own families and the 'safety' of the U.S. This incident has challenged me personally to make my life not just one of transporting people to the ER during times of crisis, but to boldly share with people in their darkest moments the love of Christ. Your loved ones have not given their lives in vain."

■ "I am writing you as a Yemeni living in Saudi Arabia to express condolence on the cruel slayings," e-mailed one heartbroken man. "It hurts a lot when these martyrs come thousands of miles, leave their homes and beloved ones to help my poor relatives and get brutally assassinated. By who? None but one of our people. It hurts badly. As I write you (my) eyes are uncontrollably crying. ... May their souls rest in peace and God give you strength."

### No good reason?

But not everyone was so sympathetic.

"You Christian missionaries are nuts!" said one irate message. "You go to Muslim countries and get kidnapped, shot and killed by people who don't want you (there), and then cry the blues that you are being persecuted! Get out of their countries and this won't happen!"

A somewhat calmer correspondent criticized American missionary presence anywhere abroad.

"The question that immediately comes to mind is 'why?'" he asked. "Not why did the murderer shoot these people, but why were the missionaries there in the first place? ... There is a critical shortage of doctors and nurses in this country, yet three medical

professionals' lives have been forfeited for no good reason."

No good reason? Tell that to the thousands of people whose lives were saved, whose children were delivered and cared for, whose suffering was relieved by these three. Tell it to the thousands who crowded around the gates of the hospital for days after the shootings and cried for the loss of three people who loved them.

### 'Love is the reason'

Why did they go, and ultimately die?

"The answer is love," IMB staff member Mike Edens said at one of the memorial services for the slain trio. "Love is the reason they went. Love is the reason their colleagues are there. Love is the reason Jesus came. And love requires us to go to those who have never heard, those who live in darkness."

It isn't just the world that sees such love as foolishness, however. There's a strong and increasingly vocal faction within our comfortable American churches that says stay at home, serve our own and to hell with the rest—literally.

This is an appropriate moment for such Christians to ask themselves whether they serve the God who revealed Himself in Scripture and in our suffering servant savior, Jesus Christ.

The day of the killings, someone sent Avery Willis, IMB chief of overseas operations, a plea to "bring the missionaries home" once and for all.

"Instead of asking us to bring them home, why not pray that more will go?" Willis responded. "We will not bring them home, but we will send thousands more."

Citing Jesus' example of sacrificial ministry, Willis said, "Only with God's perspective can we see what He sees." So did Martha Myers, Bill Koehn and Kathy Gariety.

Erich Bridges is a senior writer with the Southern Baptist International Mission Board

### FAMILY

## What wives need to know before they are widows

By Jeremy White

Take a casual look at the gender most present in nursing homes, churches or senior citizens' centers. Without a formal study, you would conclude the same as more scientific studies and statistics. Far more women than men are alive after age 65.

Husbands and wives need to acknowledge this reality and plan for it. Because the death of a spouse is an unpleasant topic to consider, many couples do not talk openly about it.

Because women likely will survive their husbands by many years, they should know several important financial details:

■ *The amount and type of your assets.* Many women let their husbands handle the family finances and never have any idea how much they have in savings, IRAs, investments and pension benefits.

■ *The location of important documents.* These include deeds, wills, account statements, savings bonds, lockbox keys, safe combinations, tax returns and insurance policies. You and your spouse should list all bank accounts, insurance policies and account numbers; contact names and phone numbers for each; and location of key documents.

■ *The amount of Social Security benefits available to you upon your spouse's death.* Check with your local Social Security office, a recent Social Security benefits statement or the Social Security Web site at [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov).

■ *Key advisers to consult.* Each woman should have her husband's input before she is widowed on whom she can trust for financial advice, tax advice, legal help, insurance advice and even maintenance and repairs.

■ *Amount of life insurance.*

■ *Final preferences for husband's life support choices, funeral, minister, burial location and organ donation.*

After the death of a spouse, no significant financial decision should be made during the grieving process. I agree with Larry Burkett's recommendation of waiting at least one year before making major decisions of selling property, changing investment approaches, investing insurance proceeds or moving.

Jeremy White is a certified public accountant in Paducah, Ky. He presents financial seminars and workshops at churches and conferences.



# OPINION

## Remembering Kathy

The first time I met Kathy Gariety was in 1986 when she served as a sponsor for several girls from Layton Avenue Baptist Church in Greenfield, Wis., who attended a M-W convention youth camp at Winona State University. It was apparent that this single woman in her 30s who worked at a bookstore in Milwaukee loved the youth from her church and wanted them to know God and to grow in their love for Him.

A responsible and capable leader, Kathy brought a group to camp each year for four or five years. During those camp times I learned that she felt led to invest her life with people in another country. She wanted to live her life as a witness for God by caring for people. Her background with the bookstore had prepared her for a mission career as purchasing agent for a small hospital in Jibla, Yemen, where medical services were very limited.

The last time I saw Kathy was in the spring of 2001 when she spoke at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Rochester, Minn., about her life and service in Jibla. She stayed at our house that night and I remember hearing her tell about some women and children in Jibla whom she obviously loved. She told us that she normally dressed much like the local women and that she walked to most of the places she

needed to go. She was aware of danger to internationals who were not Muslims, but she felt that Jibla was the place for her.

There is tragic irony in the picture of Kathy and her co-workers being killed by a person who seemingly acted out of fear and hatred for those who are different from himself. Kathy and her partners were serving the people of this man's country from the motive of love for God and a desire to help people in need of medical service and other basic needs of life, regardless of their different language, religion and culture. Kathy's life was blessed by God, and she chose the way of service and good will to share the blessing.

As I reflect on Kathy's life and on missionary service, it occurs to me that no one lives in a vacuum and everyone exerts some measure of influence on other people. The world is an open marketplace where every imaginable ideology, worldview and lifestyle (both religious and secular) is on display. Some choose fear, coercion, force and violence as methods to increase their market share. Others choose service, ministry and good will

to show the validity of their worldview. Kathy Gariety chose the latter. She believed that God is the good Creator and Giver of life. She found joy in God and she wanted other people to see and hear the delight of finding joy in a loving and holy God.

The call to follow Christ is a personal and voluntary one. Southern Baptist missionaries go only to places where they feel God wants them to invest their lives. Extra care is certainly given to the safety of missionaries and their families, especially regarding the places where they serve. Christianity is a sharing faith and Christians will continue to give witness to the faith that is in them and to take that witness to different people groups around the world.

The sacrifice of Kathy's life was determined years ago in decisions she made to serve Christ wherever He led her to go. Each day was lived as an offering. She offered up Dec. 30, 2002, like every other day. And she would not have called her ministry a sacrifice. To her it was a matter of obedience to God, which is its own reward.

*Norman Wallace is director of church growth/health for the Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Convention.*

### CHURCH GROWTH



Norman Wallace

## There's help for spiritual gifts discovery

By Bonnie Lee

Here is a dilemma many people face: there are 24 hours in a day; there are more things to do than there is time; there is no way to meet all the needs of others with such limited resources.

But, for the disciple of Jesus Christ, another element enters the equation: the Creator of the universe invites all believers to work alongside Him, not as a duty to perform but as a privilege to be desired.

So how does a Christian determine the best way to serve alongside our Lord? Taking into account the unique person God designed each one to be and discovering one's spiritual gifts gives a believer a clearer understanding of God's purpose for one's life. As believers begin to use their unique, God-given abilities for His glory, they grow as disciples, the fellowship of believers is strengthened and ministry needs are met.

### Useful tool

"Discovering and using your spiritual gift is a significant part of your growth as a Christian," writes Ken Hemphill, author of "Serving God." Hemphill is president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. This small group oriented, eight-week discipleship class focuses on loving God, the Giver of the spiritual gifts, and on serving Him. Participants will find the author's approach very encouraging and compelling. Everyone who takes this class will leave convinced that God has given all Christians a spiritual gift and that they will find fulfillment in exercising their gifts. The author reminds us that people often come to know what their gifts are in the process of

trying out different areas of ministry.

### Motive is key

Hemphill recognizes that people have different motives for discovering their spiritual gifts. For this reason, he spends the first two sessions of the study discussing the purpose of the gifts and the proper motivation for their discovery. Spiritual gifts are never given for personal amusement or self-aggrandizement; instead, they are given for the edification of the body of Christ, for the maturity of all believers and for the furthering of His Kingdom. The motivation must always stem from a desire to fulfill Christ's purpose in our lives.

### A gift list?

Hemphill does not include a spiritual gift list, that is, a specific set of gifts compiled from three of Paul's letters (1 Corinthians 12:7-11, 12:28, Romans 12:6-8 and Ephesians 4:11-12). The reason is that Hemphill thinks such lists are confining. Instead, he believes that the gifts listed in these particular Pauline letters illustrate God at work in the world of the First Century. Since God is still active in the 21st century, Hemphill suggests there are new gifts God is giving to reach the world today. If the focus remains on God's activity today, not on just a few gifts, then every believer should be able to see how he or she has a purpose and fits into God's plan for reaching the world, he says.

### Different method

You might be surprised to learn there is no spiritual gifts inventory in this study either. Instead, participants will find a personal assessment guide.

### DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING

Through a battery of short-answer questions, moving from general to more specific, Hemphill encourages participants prayerfully and thoughtfully to consider who they are.

Hemphill's commitment to considering the entire person, rather than focusing only on the apparent spiritual gift, reminds me of Rick Warren's more holistic approach. When determining our unique purpose, Warren advises believers to consider our entire S.H.A.P.E. (spiritual gifts, heart or passions, abilities, personality, experiences). Hemphill's assessment guide requires examination and time in conversation with God.

There is not a scoring guide to determine the gifts. It has been my experience, however, that through the time I spent in conversation with God, the Holy Spirit showed me quite clearly how He had gifted me to serve.

One of the benefits of using "Serving God" as a small-group study is confirmation and input from other participants. In the end, though, each believer must search his or her own heart, committing time to reflection and prayer. The Holy Spirit honors such commitment and desires a heart that truly seeks to follow God's leading.

Note: The video component of the study is essential to each class session. The "Serving God Leader Kit" may be ordered from LifeWay Christian Resources. It also is one of several discipleship tools that the Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Convention office owns and lends to its churches. Call (507) 282-3636 if interested.

*Bonnie Lee is leader of the Discipleship Training Institute at Northwest Baptist Church in Wauwatosa, Wis. She is a member of the discipleship team of the Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Convention.*

## Consultant's Corner

### Peace in the family

By Larry Faus

"Time out!"

In a recent television comedy sketch, a father shouted those words at his quarreling children, using the usual two handed time-out signal. He then shouted at the children. Then the mother became involved and a full-fledged family melee followed. It may have been just a comedy sketch, but sadly, this happens too often in real life.

How can we change this scenario? First, it may be that a shouted and signaled time-out could be required to get attention. But at that point the shouting needs to stop. Dad and Mom both need to refuse to raise their own voices and in turn need to refuse to listen to raised voices.

One of the most effective classroom teachers I had the opportunity to observe demonstrated this point well. Mrs. Smith had one of the most orderly, yet relaxed classrooms I ever observed. I made it a point to visit after we had to transfer two particularly unruly and argumentative children to her room. One of the two started a disturbance while I observed. She walked over to him and stood completely silent while she looked at him. After several loud and defiant outbursts he stopped and looked up at her. Then in a very low voice, actually lower than her usual classroom voice, she said, "John, I have told you I will not listen to you when you are talking too loud."

John started talking loudly once again. Mrs. Smith again remained silent.

John paused more quickly this time. Mrs. Smith then said, "John, you are still talking too loud and so I am not listening." Then to my amazement, John said in a conversational tone, "Can I tell you what happened?"

"Yes," Mrs. Smith replied. "When you talk right I will listen. Please tell me what you want to say." The other student then burst in with a loud objection. Again, Mrs. Smith remained silent while signaling with her finger to her lips that John was to remain silent. When the interrupting student came to a pause, Mrs. Smith said, "Tom, it will be your turn when John finishes, but if you still talk that loud, I will not listen."

In the next few minutes, both students told their side of the fracas in normal, if sullen, tones. When they had finished, Mrs. Smith told each of them how she expected them to handle the situation.

Over the years, I noticed that she never raised her voice at students. Students were allowed a great deal of freedom in movement and actions as long as they came to attention when needed. She refused to get into an argument. Her only explanations were, "This is the way we do it in Mrs. Smith's room." I would hear her remind students that they could not do certain things in Mrs. Smith's room but I never heard her tell students that they were naughty, dumb, bad or any other derogatory term. She did tell them that certain actions or words were bad or naughty, but she didn't pin the label on them.

I believe that Mrs. Smith's methods can transfer successfully to the home situation. This approach fits in nicely with Paul's admonition in Ephesians 6:2 to not provoke or exasperate your children to wrath.

*Larry Faus and his wife, Glenna, are family ministry consultants for the Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Convention.*

**AFTER 2,000 YEARS,  
PEOPLE AROUND  
THE WORLD STILL NEED**

*Jesus*

**Share Christ's Love  
Through the**



# WORLD

## Gariety slain in deadliest attack in IMB history

Continued from page 1

"We tried hard to get her to stay home," her brother told reporters. "She wouldn't hear of that. What really took her back was the children. She loved the children."

Koehn and Myers were buried in Yemen after a funeral at the hospital.

Gariety's body was brought home to Milwaukee and buried at Holy Cross Cemetery. After the Jan. 6 morning graveside service, friends and family gathered that evening for a memorial service at Gariety's home church, Layton Avenue Baptist Church in Greenfield, Wis. Pastor Keith Chase delivered the sermon.

"Kathy knew that faith in God meant trusting in God no matter what, no matter when, no matter where," he said. Chase served as Layton Avenue's pastor for 15 years until his recent resignation effective Jan. 31. He saw Gariety consider, struggle with and ultimately respond to God's call to missions.

### Journey to Yemen

The second of four children, Gariety grew up a Catholic in Milwaukee. She attended Catholic elementary and high schools.

Her interest in missions dated back to those days, when she discussed the idea with nuns. It was not until after college, however, that she accepted Christ and joined Packard Road Baptist Church in Ann Arbor, Mich. In the meantime she had earned a degree in fine arts from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and launched a career managing college bookstores.

Gariety returned to the Milwaukee area in 1978 to manage Follett's Bookstore and joined Layton Avenue Baptist Church. She attended Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in

Louisville, Ky., from 1980-81 and then explored the possibility of international mission service, but things did not seem to work out at that time.

Meanwhile, she served where she could, teaching youth Sunday school and vacation Bible school at her church and leading conferences for Lakeland Baptist Association in Milwaukee and the Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Convention.

Then, in 1989, her pastor preached on missions and showed the Cooperative Program video, "The Darkness Shall Turn." Her heart was stirred and she contacted the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, predecessor of the International Mission Board. Less than three years later, on Feb. 11, 1992, she was appointed as a missionary to Yemen.

### A martyr

"I see a martyr as someone willing to put their life on the line for something they believe in strongly," said David Moorman, a member of the Layton Avenue church who spoke at Gariety's memorial service. Although the term may sometimes be used too loosely, Moorman said, "In her case, Kathy was quite worthy, and I have no problem in calling her a martyr. She died carrying out her mission."

At her funeral Keith Cogburn, executive director of Lakeland Association, said Gariety was devoted to her God-given ministry "from the crown of her head to the soles of her feet."

Southern Baptist leaders offered their words of tribute in press reports.

Jerry Rankin, IMB president, said the victims had been "well aware of the risks of living and serving in a place like Yemen. Yet their love of the Yemeni people and obedience to a conviction of God's leadership has

### Remembering a martyr

I can't remember a time when Southern Baptists were ever in the limelight more than they were the week of Kathy Gariety's death on Dec. 30. We've certainly been in the news a few times over the years, but often the exposure was due to some misguided, misfired or easily misunderstood statement by a national leader that caught the press' attention.

This time the situation was different, and vastly so. Kathy put our best foot forward, in life and in death. Literally a martyr for her faith and commitment to the human race, she beautifully demonstrated

our denomination's engagement with global ministry. I'm grateful for and awed by her example of Christian mercy, sacrifice and steadfast commitment.

As Claire Alcott said at the memorial service, "I actually saw a person finish the race...and she was sprinting!"

Thanks, Kathy. You served us well racing to the finish line. May your example help perpetuate the highest ideals of missionary service to those in the greatest need.

— Keith Cogburn, director of missions, Lakeland Baptist Association, Milwaukee

been expressed in a willingness to take that risk—and to give of their lives."

"The reality of the fact is that they gave their lives years ago to the people of Yemen," he said. "They knew the risk that was involved, and yet were obedient to God's call."

Jack Graham, president of the Southern Baptist Convention and pastor of Prestonwood Baptist Church in Plano, Texas, called the deaths "shocking" but "not senseless," reminding believers that "the Jesus who is worth living for is worth dying for."

"These missionaries understood the risk to serve in a dangerous place," he said. "It is becoming increasingly dangerous to take the message of Jesus to certain places in the world. It reminds us as Southern Baptists we need to ramp up our prayers and remember the war on evil and terror will not be won ultimately by bullets, but by the testimony of Jesus." He called on all Southern Baptists to "stand ready to continue in world evangelism and the

courageous commitment to fulfill the Great Commission in our lifetime."

"It is always worth the risk to obey God," he said.

Morris Chapman, president and chief executive officer of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, said Christians must "see time in the light of eternity" and "continue faithfully proclaiming the Word of God under difficult situations."

"I pray that the Lord will permit us all to live our lives and discharge our duties in such a manner," he said.

"This is a wakeup call for the church," said James Draper, president of LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention. "Christianity is more than just going to church and going through the motions.... Life and death hang in the balance for all of us. People without Christ need to be saved and we need to be about that business."

Baptist Press and Associated Baptist Press contributed to this report.

### Kathy Gariety Memorial Fund set up

A memorial fund has been established in memory of Kathy Gariety. Gifts may be sent to her home church, Layton Avenue Baptist Church in Greenfield, Wis., with "Kathy Gariety Memorial Fund" written on the checks and on the outside of mail envelopes.

The money will be deposited into a new account created to handle these funds and will be used for expenses related to the return of her body to the United States and her funeral services. Any money received above what is needed for those purposes will be designated by the family "for missions."

Address: Layton Avenue Baptist Church, 9000 W Layton Ave., Greenfield, WI 53228, Attn: Dr. Keith Chase, pastor.  
Phone: (414) 425-1616.  
FAX: (414) 354-0908.  
E-mail: labc@execpc.com

## 19 killed in IMB's history

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Remarkably, only 19 workers with the Southern Baptist International Mission Board have been killed in violent circumstances since 1845.

In addition to Bill Koehn, Martha Myers and Kathy Gariety, others who have been killed, by date, were:

- 1998: **Charles Hood Jr.**, murdered by Colombian robbers.
  - 1995: **Chu Hon and Kei Yi**, murdered in Khabarovsk, Russia.
  - 1991: **Lynda Bethea**, killed by robbers near Kijabe, Kenya.
  - 1990: **Mary Anna Gilbert**, hijacked Chinese plane crash.
  - 1986: **Libby Senter**, murdered in Liberia.
  - 1985: **James Philpot**, shot after car accident in Mexico.
  - 1978: **Archie Dunaway Jr.**, killed by Rhodesian guerrillas.
  - 1973: **Gladys Hopewell**, murdered in Taiwan.
  - 1972: **Mavis Pate**, ambushed by guerrillas near Gaza.
  - 1971: **Paul and Nancy Potter**, murdered in the Dominican Republic.
  - 1951: **William Wallace**, died in a Chinese communist prison.
  - 1942: **Rufas Gray**, died in Japanese camp for war prisoners in the Philippines.
  - 1880: **John Westrup**, murdered by band of Indians and Mexicans while traveling in Mexico.
  - 1861: **Landrum Holmes**, murdered in China attempting to dissuade invaders from attacking a village.
- Additionally, 40 Southern Baptist workers have been killed in accidents during the agency's 157-year history, and 18 deaths—including 12 in China—were reported before 1937 but without a listed cause of death.

## Slain workers remembered for dedication

### Kathleen Gariety, 53

Title: Supply manager  
Hometown: Wauwatosa, Wisc.  
Missionary appointment: February 1992  
Family: Single

Kathleen Gariety's title understated her complex work in keeping the hospital stocked with linens, medicine and equipment. On trips to the States, she often coordinated the shipment of thousands of dollars worth of donated supplies back to Yemen.

"From the crown of her head to the soles of her feet, she was devoted to this ministry and felt that God had called her to be involved in this hospital," said Keith Cogburn, executive director of Lakeland Baptist Association in Wisconsin.

**In her own words:** "There have been some times when you think 'It's not worth it. Let's go home.' But then I'm reminded of the calling and how strong my calling was to come to Yemen. ... I might not know what one little thing it is that I'm here to do, but I'm here and I will continue to stay until God tells me to go home."



### William Koehn, 60

Title: Hospital administrator  
Hometown: Arlington, Texas  
Missionary appointment: October 1974  
Family: Wife Marty; two grown children

William Koehn "gave his life doing what he loved to do, helping people and serving God," his son-in-law, Randal Pearce told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

Koehn had served nearly three decades at the hospital in Jibla.

IMB Vice President Larry Cox said Koehn was "quiet, meek" and "very committed to his work."

Koehn made and sold wooden toys, using the money to buy food for the poor. "Just last week he was giving away basic food—flour, sugar, things like that—to some indigent people."

**In his own words:** "The nice part about making toys is that after you've made them, then you can give them to the various children who really don't have many toys here. ... Sometimes children come in, they're frightened and a toy helps to ease the mission to the hospital."



### Martha Myers, 57

Title: Physician  
Hometown: Montgomery, Ala.  
Missionary appointment: August 1977  
Family: Single

Martha Myers would have stayed in Yemen even if told she would be killed, friends and relatives said.

Myers often drove through the mountains, immunizing children and dispensing salves and eye drops to the poor. She was greeted with shouts of "Dr. Martha" wherever she traveled in Yemen, relatives recalled.

"She loved the country, she loved the people and she loved being a doctor to help take care of them," said Pat Harris, a friend from Montgomery, Ala. "She'd give her last dollar so someone else would have food or medical help."

**In her own words:** "I would say that no prayers are wasted on Yemen or the other countries because the needs are so great. And I would say the fields are white unto harvest and we need to pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out folks to help."



# MISSIONS

## Remembering three servants

KATHY GARIETY

### Purchasing manager 'pointed people to Jesus'

GREENFIELD, Wis. (BP)—Tears welled up, but so did smiles and laughter as hundreds of people gathered Jan. 6 at Layton Avenue Baptist Church in Greenfield, Wis., to remember their beloved missionary friend, Kathy Gariety.

Gariety's body was laid to rest in Milwaukee earlier in the day. Some friends and family struggled with how such a tragedy could happen. Others took comfort in knowing that Gariety was where she wanted to be.

They recalled her tenacity, her stubbornness, her smile, her passion for the people of Yemen and her ability to rally others to give to the needs of so many who lived there.

"She had conviction, she had commitment, she had the fruits of the Spirit in her life," said Keith Chase, Gariety's friend and pastor for 15 years. "Kathy knew that faith in God meant trusting in God no matter what, no matter when, no matter where. Her faith was strong as anyone I'd ever known."

Chase recalled a trip he took with his wife to Yemen, where Gariety served 10 years as the hospital's purchasing manager. He remembers her popularity with the people there—particularly the children.

"As soon as we got past the gate, children swarmed around Kathy," he said. "It took 20 minutes to take a five-minute walk."



**GRAVESIDE** Family and friends offer farewells during graveside services for Kathy Gariety in Milwaukee, Wis., Jan. 6. (BP photo by Bill Bangham)

Clara Alcott also recounted the influence Gariety had on her as a youth director and Sunday school teacher at the church. "She was a consistent presence in my life," Alcott said. "She was a good teacher because she was personable and strong."

"It's very important for women to have a strong Christian woman's presence in their lives and she was. I saw somebody finishing the race, and I saw someone finishing the race sprinting."

Thai Hua, who moved from Vietnam to the United States, recalled how Gariety helped him during a difficult and uncertain time. "She helped me get my first job at a bookstore," Hua said. "A lot of people say things and don't mean it, but when she said something, she meant it."

Doris Moorman, who sang Gariety's favorite song, "To the Ends of the Earth," during the memorial ser-

vice, said the slain worker had touched the lives of the youth with whom she had worked in the Layton Avenue Church's youth group.

The day before the news of the tragedy in Yemen broke, one of Moorman's sons was flipping through a Bible Gariety had given him as a gift. On one page, she had written: "May God's Word have the final say in every decision you make."

"She certainly pointed people to Jesus and radiated His love," Moorman said. "She did what she talked about and risked her life. She trusted the Lord and put her life in His hands. I'm looking forward to the day when we will see her again."

Cory Braatz remembered Gariety's guidance and encouragement as his Sunday school teacher years ago, and also as a friend when he was trying to decide about seminary.

While many were pressuring him to go to seminary, Gariety encouraged Braatz to be a pastor for a couple of years first and then go to seminary if he knew that was what God called him to do fulltime. He followed her advice and later completed seminary. Today, he is pastor of Como Community Church in Lake Geneva, Wis.

"To thank Kathy is not a difficult thing for me," he said, holding back tears. "It's an easy thing. Thank you, Kathy, for giving to the Lord. I'm one life that was changed."

MARTHA MYERS

### 'She was our Baptist version of Mother Teresa'

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (BP)—More than 1,200 people celebrated the life of physician Martha Myers, who devoted her career to Southern Baptist medical work in Yemen, during a Jan. 4 memorial service at Dalraida Baptist Church in Montgomery.

Throughout the celebration, Myers' selfless ways and servant mindset surfaced again and again.

"Martha was a victorious Christian and was obedient until death," said Rick Evans, pastor of Dalraida, Myers' home church.

Speaking to a capacity crowd, Evans said, "She had no life of her own, it was of the Lord Jesus Christ."

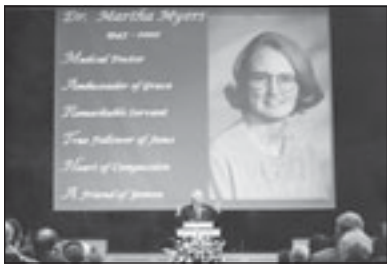
"What a misguided, deprived heart meant for evil, God has meant for good," he said.

Myers, a 57-year-old obstetrician and gynecologist, served as a Southern Baptist medical worker in Yemen for 24 years.

Myers "was always obedient to the call of God," Evans said, "even as a GA (Girls Auxiliary member) and as a medical student."

Jerry Rankin, president of the Southern Baptist International Mission Board, told friends and family members at the service that he witnessed Myers' call to God and selfless service during his visits to Yemen.

"Only those who saw her take a



**PASTOR'S TRIBUTE** Rick Evans, pastor of Dalraida Baptist Church in Montgomery, Ala., speaks about Martha Myers' victorious Christian life at a Jan. 4 memorial service. (Alabama Baptist photo by Erin Webster)

sick Arab child in her arms could understand what a servant is," Rankin said. "Each day she lived there, ... she died to self."

Friend Pat Harris shared how she got to know Myers in 2001. Myers was home for the year due to technical problems preventing her from returning to Yemen.

Myers wished every second she were back in Yemen, but Harris said Myers still allowed God to use her that year in Montgomery.

"She was a wonderful mentor," Harris said. "She was so close to the Lord that she didn't realize how much wisdom she had." During a Jan. 2 memorial service at Dauphin Way Baptist Church in Mobile, church

member Lynette Granade said, "She was our Baptist version of Mother Teresa. That says it all."

"Yemen was where her heart was," said Myers' younger sister, Joanna Kingery, in an interview after the shooting. "She had become Yemeni, and they counted her as one of them. She was committed to them."

So, Kingery and the entire Myers family see it only fitting that she was buried in the country she loved.

"In Alabama, Martha's grave would just be a grave," her father, Ira Myers, said. "In Yemen, her grave is a testimony."

Myers and Koehn were buried Dec. 31 in one of only two Christian cemeteries in the country. The one where they were buried is located at the top of the 22-acre compound where Jibla Baptist Hospital sits.

The Myers' family visited with friends and guests for about three hours after the service. Guests passed a table filled with souvenirs from Yemen and pictures of Myers.

Along with the photos of the countryside, dolls and handmade items, sat a book about forgiveness.

"We are not angry," said Myers' father, a physician. "Our faith in God is what we depend upon, and God is love," he said. "There is no place for hate."

BILL KOEHN

### Administrator 'preached with life, witness, love'

BURLESON, Texas (BP)—For hours Bill Koehn sat at his workbench, carefully fashioning scraps of wood into toys for the children of Yemen.

A Southern Baptist representative and hospital administrator at Jibla Baptist Hospital, Koehn never expected money in exchange for the toys, the toy maker's friends and relatives said at a memorial service in honor of the slain worker in Burleson, Texas, Jan. 2.



**A COLLEAGUE REMEMBERS** Jim Young, a founder of Jibla Baptist Hospital in Yemen and friend of the late Bill Koehn, addresses a memorial service celebrating Koehn's work. (BP photo by Mo Sadjadpour)

In fact, seeing the smiles of the children who received the toys was payment enough for the 28-year veteran worker, they said.

Koehn, who believed that sharing the gospel began with "lifestyle and keeping your word," was among three career personnel killed in Yemen Dec. 30 by a Muslim extremist.

More than 200 people attended the memorial service at Cross Timber Baptist Church in Burleson, Texas. Among them were International Mission Board President Jerry Rankin, Southern Baptist Convention President Jack Graham and approximately 100 current and former IMB workers.

Rankin said at the memorial service that the murders in reality had not accomplished what the gunman intended.

"The gunman did not take their lives, for they had already given them to the people of Yemen years ago."

Rankin also said the gunman could not extinguish the memory of Koehn's "remarkable tenure," especially when he went beyond his duties as a hospital administrator to minister to orphans and other children.

Bill Hart, who served as pastor or "counselor" of the Jibla International Fellowship from 1994 until he was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease and cancer in 1999, said Koehn was "constantly looking for available money to assist widows, orphans and prisoners. He helped thousands."

"Bill had a hope for the people of Yemen, that one day they would be fulfilled. ... Nothing will so endear God to the hearts of the Yemeni people as when they understand the hope in Christ," Rankin said. "Bill preached with his life, witness, compassion and love more than many who stand behind the pulpit ever will."

Koehn family friend Wynona Elder, a retired professor of psychology and counseling at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, characterized Koehn as faithful.

"God does not require success, a long record of accomplishments—no more evident than in Yemen. God requires faithfulness to the task. God will give the increase," Elder said. Koehn patiently labored and displayed the Christian virtue of love as he awaited the increase, she added.

"The call is the most important thing," Peggy Hart, a former nurse and assistant administrator at the Jibla hospital, said. "To have any kind of peace in the day, to sleep at night, you must have the call. Bill had it."

Koehn and his fellow workers treated more than 38,000 inpatients and 4,000 outpatients each year. He had planned to retire and return to the United States in October. Marty Koehn remains in Yemen where she continues to minister to her late husband's colleagues and the people of Jibla.

## IMB hospital transferred to Yemen's Muslim government

By Mark Kelly  
Baptist Press



**SHOOTING SCENE** Jibla Baptist Hospital, situated in the mountains of southwest Yemen, was the site where a lone gunman killed three Southern Baptist representatives Dec. 30. Wisconsin native Kathy Gariety was one of those slain. (BP photo)

### Two Baptist workers escape gunman's attack

JIBLA, Yemen (ABP)—The Dec. 30 attack that killed three Southern Baptist mission workers in Jibla could have claimed even more victims.

Administrator William Koehn, physician Martha Myers and purchasing agent Kathy Gariety were killed by a gunman who interrupted an early morning meeting the three workers were having at Jibla Baptist Hospital.

Al Lindholm, a former hospital worker now based in the capital of Sanaa, was supposed to be in the meeting too.

He likely would have been the killer's fourth victim if not for an automobile accident.

Lindholm was driving from Sanaa for the 8 a.m. meeting. He had a minor accident en route and had to return to Sanaa to get another car, making him two hours late.

"I was less than half an hour away when I received the news by mobile phone," he told

Associated Baptist Press. "These were my friends. And I wouldn't have minded dying with them, if that was my calling."

Also spared was Daniel Cajuiat, an X-ray technician and IMB volunteer, who was confronted by the gunman while standing in a doorway, but the attacker's semi-automatic rifle ran out of ammunition.

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—The Dec. 30 shootings at the Baptist hospital in Jibla, Yemen, disrupted an already complicated process of turning over responsibility for the facility to a nonreligious Yemeni charity, two Southern Baptist missionary leaders explained Jan. 9.

Now Yemen's health minister has named an administrator and a nursing director to get the hospital operating again until details about the facility's future can be worked out.

In September, the Southern Baptist International Mission Board reached an agreement for the People's Charitable Society to assume the costs of running the hospital. In return, the IMB agreed to continue providing personnel to minister at the 45-bed medical center.

The transition, however, had not progressed according to the timetable, which called for a switchover at the end of the year, said IMB President Jerry Rankin.

"The charity is headed by a Yemeni physician who also serves as the country's foreign minister," Rankin explained. "The demands of his government position have greatly increased in recent months as Yemen has had to deal with pressing issues of terrorist cells at home, complications in its relationships with the United States and the confrontation between the United Nations and Iraq."

As the end of the year approached, details of the transfer had not been worked out, and hospital staff members were preparing to temporarily suspend operations until the transfer could be completed, Rankin said.

Then came Dec. 30.

A gunman sneaked a semiautomatic pistol past soldiers guarding the hospital and shot four Southern Baptist workers. Physician Martha Myers, administrator Bill Koehn and purchasing manager Kathy Gariety were killed, and pharmacist Don Caswell was seriously injured. The hospital

was locked down as most of the Southern Baptist workers gathered in the capital, Sanaa, to minister to each other.

The attack created even more uncertainty about the transition of the hospital, said Elias Moussa, administrative associate for IMB work in northern Africa and the Middle East. Southern Baptist workers had affirmed their desire to continue at the hospital and the IMB remained committed to providing staff, but it was unclear who would assume operational responsibility for the facility.

Southern Baptists established the hospital 35 years ago on land owned by the Yemeni government. IMB workers operated the medical center under a contract with Yemen's Ministry of Health that had to be renewed each year.

On Jan. 2, Yemen's health minister, Abdel Nasser Munibari, named an administrator, Abdel Karim Hassen, and a nursing director, Abdel Karim Ali, to get the hospital up and running until details about the facility's future can be worked out. The new administrator and nursing director both have more than 20 years experience working with the Jibla hospital.

"We were extremely pleased when these two were named," Moussa said. "They are completely qualified for the position. They are known and trusted by all the staff at Jibla. They understand the value of the hospital in meeting the healthcare needs of the city and are committed to keeping the hospital open to Southern Baptist workers God is calling to serve there."

The IMB was working toward the transition because Southern Baptists had not been coming forward to fill 35 medical positions at the hospital. As a result, the board had to employ medical workers from other countries at an annual cost of about \$500,000. Finding another group to assume that responsibility would free those resources to expand Southern Baptist ministry efforts in the country.

"For more than two years, the board tried to recruit other Great Commission Christian groups to assume the responsibility, but the few who expressed interest—in spite of reports to the contrary—were unable to demonstrate they could provide the needed operating capital," Rankin said. "When the Peoples Charitable Society, a Yemeni charity whose identity is not religious, expressed interest this

past August, we saw it as an answer to prayer."

Now Yemen's health ministry has stepped in to guarantee that the hospital continues to operate, but no one is certain how the transition eventually will be worked out or what the final role of the charity group will be, Rankin said. Other organizations willing to help would be welcomed, and the IMB has promised to help ensure the hospital's future.

Seven IMB workers had committed to working at the hospital after the transition, Moussa said, but the murders reduced that number to three or four. Sixteen contract workers employed by the IMB also will stay. A few IMB workers either have not yet decided whether to stay or may return to the U.S. at least temporarily.

"Our hearts are with the people of Jibla and we want Southern Baptists to serve there as long as they have that opportunity," Moussa said. "The outpouring of sympathy we saw after the murders showed that the people of Jibla want us to be there. The IMB promised to continue providing medical staff for the hospital as part of the transfer agreement, and we intend to keep that promise."

## Surgeon: Tragedy in Yemen opens doors to share God's love

By Manda Roten  
SBC International Mission Board

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Judy Williams was working in the surgical area at Jibla Baptist Hospital in Yemen when she heard that there had been gunshots.

Fellow physician Martha Myers was dead. Hospital administrator Bill Koehn was dying. Efforts to resuscitate purchasing agent Kathy Gariety failed. Pharmacist Don Caswell needed surgery for bullet wounds in his abdomen.

Williams, a surgeon who has worked at the hospital in Yemen since 1999, recounted what happened Dec. 30 in her typical matter-of-fact manner.

"I was in doctor mode," Williams said. "I didn't think, 'This is my friend, my boss.'"

But there were a few moments when the enormity of it all broke through: "Bill's dead. Kathy's dead.

Martha's dead. Don's been shot."

Now, as she attends Caswell, who is recovering at an undisclosed location, Williams is starting to grieve.

"I'm sad. I cry sometimes," she said. "But then I remember pleasant experiences we had and get a little smile on my face."

Yemeni locals who worked alongside Southern Baptist International Mission Board workers at the hospital counted the victims as their friends too, Williams said.

"They're grieving just as much as we are," she said, "and they are also asking the question 'why?'"

Though Williams doesn't venture to guess why her coworkers died, she can tell her Yemeni friends that she knows her colleagues are in heaven because they had a relationship with God through Jesus.

"We know that God has our best interests at heart, even when we can't see that," she said. "We know that He loves us, even when the evidence we

see doesn't suggest that.

"And to be able to share that, especially with a Muslim people who have a very, very different vision of who God is and what He's like, has been very positive."

Though Williams has been focused on caring for Caswell since the shooting, she experienced a few poignant moments with Yemeni coworkers after the initial commotion settled down.

One man, who was a close friend of Gariety, kept saying, "I'm so, so sorry; I'm so, so sad."

All Williams could tell him was, "I understand."

"Sharing that emotion with him—for him to be sharing that with a female—was very different," Williams said. "It was something I don't think would have happened in most places in Yemen."

Amid the tragedy of the deadly attack, Williams said her colleagues' deaths have opened doors for sharing God's love.

"It's hurt, yes," she said, "but it's opened up so many doors for sharing that weren't there before."

When Williams left Jibla with the Caswell family, she wasn't sure she would ever return, realizing international workers might be prevented from returning to the hospital.

Now, however, Williams is setting her sights in that direction.

"My plan is to stay here as long as Don needs me," she explained. As soon as Caswell "doesn't need medical care so often and when someone in his family can change his dressings," she plans to return to Jibla.

And if she's permitted to return to her work at the hospital, she will.

"Jibla still needs medical care," she said. "That's still a wonderful avenue to be able to share."

"I know a lot of people can't understand that," Williams said. Citing God's leadership in her life, she added, that's "where He's saying 'go' right now."



# MISSIONS

## Thankful to be alive

### Shooting victim recalls deadly attack on Jibla Baptist Hospital

By Mike Creswell  
SBC International Mission Board

JIBLA, Yemen (BP)—Don Caswell saw the armed man walking toward him and knew—just knew—the gunman was coming to kill him.

“I was looking at him and I saw him look at me. And that instant I realized he was coming right toward the pharmacy,” Caswell said in his soft Texas accent.

Caswell, a pharmacist, was shot twice during the Dec. 30 attack at Jibla Baptist Hospital in Yemen, but after emergency surgery and treatment he is recovering.

Now that he can talk about the shootings, he attributes his survival to a miracle of God.

Three other Southern Baptist workers, physician Martha Myers, hospital administrator William Koehn and purchasing manager Kathleen Gariety, were shot dead by the gunman.

For 35 years, Southern Baptists have treated 40,000 patients a year at the 45-bed hospital in Jibla, a small town in southern Yemen located 125 miles south of Sanaa, the nation’s capital.

Ironically, the hospital was about to temporarily suspend operations on Dec. 30 when the attacks happened. Administrators of Southern Baptists’ International Mission Board say they have struggled to keep the hospital going despite mounting costs and a lack of Southern Baptist workers to staff the facility. Plans were under way to turn administration of the hospital over to a Yemeni charity.

Don and Teri Caswell had worked at the hospital for about 18 months of a two-year term with the IMB’s Inter-

national Service Corps. The ISC program connects Baptist volunteers to long-term service in IMB ministries or with IMB missionaries. The Caswells’ term was to end in June.

#### A normal morning

Mrs. Caswell had dropped her husband off around 7:30 a.m. that last Monday in December. She made a quick stop by a grocery before arriving back home to have breakfast with their boys, Ben, 11, and Caleb, 5.

At the hospital, Caswell and a pharmacist from Russia handled a flurry of prescription refills. Around 8 a.m. they heard gunshots.

“It is not unusual in Yemen for people to shoot guns off, but normally not that early in the morning. And it sounded like it was real close,” Caswell recalled.

He walked out the door of the one-room pharmacy and looked down the corridor. He saw a man come out of Bill Koehn’s office.

“I noticed he wasn’t running real fast but he was moving quickly and I noticed a gun in his hand,” Caswell said. “It was a pistol of some kind. I couldn’t tell for sure what kind it was.”

As he made eye contact with the gunman, Caswell moved back into the pharmacy room, thinking he would move behind a work counter. But the gunman entered immediately behind Caswell and stood no more than five feet away.

#### ‘A certain peace’

“At that time I knew he was going to shoot me,” Caswell recounted. “An incredible thing about that was that I wasn’t filled with a lot of fear,” he said. “I had a certain peace about all this.”



“Then a shot came, and I think probably in the back of my mind was, ‘Well, where is he going to shoot and is it going to hurt very much?’”

“He got me right here in the side. It wasn’t just an unbearable pain, but it did hurt pretty bad. I remember that shot and I thought I heard two more quick shots, but I didn’t feel anything else.”

Caswell was hit twice, once in each side, though the second shot apparently entered from the back as he spun around and fell from the impact of the first shot. If there was a third shot, Caswell speculates it missed him completely.

The bullets missed major organs, arteries or other body parts that could have killed him.

Today Caswell marvels that the gunman killed three missionaries with deadly precision, then failed to kill him with two shots. “I know for sure God’s hand was in on it and I didn’t die for a reason. The ultimate reason I know is that God will be glorified,” Caswell said.

#### Talking to God

In the warped perception of time in crisis events, Caswell clearly recalls talking to God in that quick-but-long few seconds between the time he was shot and when help arrived in the form of doctors and nurses.

“This whole time I was just talking to God and it did hurt a little, but ... I didn’t feel like I’m dying, whatever that feels like, you know,” he said. “But still at this time I never was unconscious. I just had this peaceful feeling.”

“Seems to me maybe I was talking to God out loud. Maybe it was just in my mind, but I was asking the Lord if this was the time He was going to take me, if I was going to die there.”

“I remember telling Him that, ‘Lord, if you want to take me it’s fine, but I would really like to stay here and not leave Teri and the boys alone here like this.’”

Doctors rushed Caswell to an operating room, where most supplies had been packed away. But missionary physician Judy Williams had insisted

on leaving out enough instruments for emergency surgery.

#### The phone rings

After getting a phone call telling her that her husband had been “hurt,” Mrs. Caswell tried to call the hospital. When she got no answer, she drove the four or five miles or so to the hospital at breakneck speed, honking the horn to clear people out of the way.

Seeing soldiers around the hospital, she knew something major had happened. Only when she got inside did she understand that her husband had been shot. She was able to speak to Caswell and kiss him just before they wheeled him in for surgery.

Exploratory surgery discovered that the bullets had missed vital organs and that there was no internal bleeding. As soon as he recovered sufficiently, the Caswells went to another country to recuperate.

As they recently walked around town with their boys, visited a park and bought ice cream cones, the pair kept looking at each other. Gratitude shone in their faces for the extended time they now have together. After so much uncertainty, Mrs. Caswell finally can kid her husband about being shot in his “love handles.”

She said with a grin: “We’re just thankful he’s a little overweight.”

#### What’s next?

With their current Yemen assignment almost complete anyway, the Caswells did not yet know for sure what they would do next. They planned to wait to hear what God has for them.

Would they return to Yemen? “Yes, if that’s where God calls us,” Caswell said.

What would they say to Southern Baptists who have supported them? “Keep praying!” Mrs. Caswell said. “We’re OK! And we’re going to do what the Lord wants us to do.”

“We don’t know exactly what that is yet,” she added. “But I know beyond a shadow of a doubt, because He’s that kind of God, that He’s going to use this for His glory. He’s going to use this to build His church. And I believe that with all my heart.”

**GRATEFUL** Don and Teri Caswell are grateful for the extended time they have together after Caswell survived the Dec. 30 attack on Jibla Baptist Hospital in Yemen. (© International Mission Board photos by Mike Creswell)



**WAITING ON GOD** Don Caswell, his wife, Teri, and their sons, Ben, 11, and Caleb, 5, say they are waiting to hear from God about what He wants them to do next, even if it means going back to Yemen.

# MUSIC

## 'Amazing Grace' author encouraged fighters of slavery

**"It's one of the most sterling chapters in Christian history."**  
Kevin Belmonte, author of "Hero to Humanity"

By Greg Garrison  
Religion News Service

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (RNS)—English slave ship captain John Newton turned from his wicked ways and became a pastor and lyricist whose most famous composition, "Amazing Grace," might be the greatest hymn of all time.

William Wilberforce, a British politician who led the drive to abolish slavery, was inspired by Newton's story as a boy and looked to Newton for the spiritual guidance that kept him fighting to free the slaves.

Now officials at Samford University, a Baptist school in Birmingham, have announced plans to publish the complete works of Newton, including letters that highlight the historically remarkable friendship between Newton and Wilberforce.

British scholar Marylynn Rouse, who has researched Newton's writings for many years, will compile the materials for Newton's complete works, including journals, sermon notes, his out-of-print books and letters from Newton to Wilberforce.

The series of Newton works could range from 10 to 14 volumes, with two of them published by 2007, the anniversary of the signing of the 1807 British abolition of the slave trade, according to Samford University President Thomas Cortis.



Rouse has discovered many original Newton manuscripts, which never have been published. She has made especially important discoveries in Newton's influence on Wilberforce, Cortis said.

Kevin Belmonte, author of "Hero to Humanity," a new biography of Wilberforce, credited Rouse for her exhaustive research on the connections between the hymn writer and the evangelical politician.

"She has unearthed this whole rich context of Newton and Wilberforce," Belmonte said. "It was Newton who set Wilberforce on the path to abolishing slavery."

Newton went to sea as a youth and eventually became the captain of a slave ship. After his Christian conversion, he wrote "Amazing Grace" about his recognition of the error of his participation in the slave trade.

Newton served as a pastor in Olney and London for 40 years. "He used to write a hymn a week and used the hymns as a teaching tool," Rouse said.

On Jan. 1, 1773, he preached a sermon on the theme "Amazing Grace," echoing the lyrics of the hymn, indicating that was probably the debut for the hymn, she said.

As a child, Wilberforce knew Newton and later sought out Newton's advice on spiritual matters. Wilberforce had a deep theological discussion about slavery with Newton that convinced him to make abolishing slavery his chief political ambition as a

member of Parliament.

"That pivotal conversation with Newton was the event that brought into focus this desire to be a reformer," Belmonte said.

Wilberforce faced death threats and physical assaults during his quest to abolish slavery. He was challenged to a duel by a slave ship captain.

In 1796, Wilberforce fell four votes short of abolishing the slave trade. He was so discouraged he nearly gave up, Belmonte said.

"He wrote to John Newton, the former slave trader now turned pastor and hymn writer, who reminded him of the difficult obstacles faced by the biblical figures of Daniel, Moses and Joseph," Belmonte said. "Newton told him that even though his life was full of setbacks and disappointments, he had made a difference. He told his friend to stay the course."

Newton lived long enough to see Britain abolish the transport of slaves in 1807. Wilberforce lived just long enough to see slavery abolished altogether in the British colonies in 1833.

Belmonte said Christian theology and evangelical fervor were the driving forces behind the abolition movement.

"It's one of the most sterling chapters in Christian history," Belmonte said. "Wilberforce said the golden rule was the prime directive from Christ Himself, that people should treat others as they would wish to be treated."

## Baptist hymn publisher helped popularize 'Amazing Grace'

Continued from page 1

Walker named it New Britain but left no explanation for doing so."

Baptists were among the first to embrace the new tune for "Amazing Grace," Reynolds reported. "The first four church hymnals to accept the tune New Britain were Baptist collections."

Among those were collections published by Basil Manly Jr., founder of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, and H.N. Lincoln, a singing school teacher and member of First Baptist Church of Dallas.

The second major change in "Amazing Grace" since its origin is the addition of what Baptists today sing as the fourth and final stanza, beginning, "When we've been there 10,000 years."

In 1910, Excell published "Amazing Grace" in a book titled "Devotional Hymns" and included the new stanza for the first time.

"There is no explanation of where he found this stanza," Reynolds said. "By adding it to the first

three of John Newton's stanzas, it implied that Newton should be credited with all four stanzas."

But the anonymous stanza can be found attached earlier to the hymn "Jerusalem, My Happy Home."

Where Excell found it and why he chose it are not known, Reynolds said.

While Baptists were quick to embrace the new stanza, other Christian denominations were not, he explained. Methodist hymnals, for example, did not embrace the stanza until 1989. Regardless, "Amazing Grace" has become one of the most recognized songs on the planet.

It was picked up and performed by folk singers in the late 1930s and '40s, Reynolds said. And then Judy Collins brought it to an even wider audience in the late 1960s.

Collins wrote about her connection with the hymn in her book titled "Singing Lessons." She tells about attending an encounter group where everyone wanted to sing a song to cap an especially meaningful dialogue.

"The only song everyone knew all the words to was 'Amazing Grace,' and I led the singing, as I knew it well," she wrote.

"Later, Mark, my producer, told me he thought we should record it." The song became a hit on her 1970 album "Whales and Nightingales."

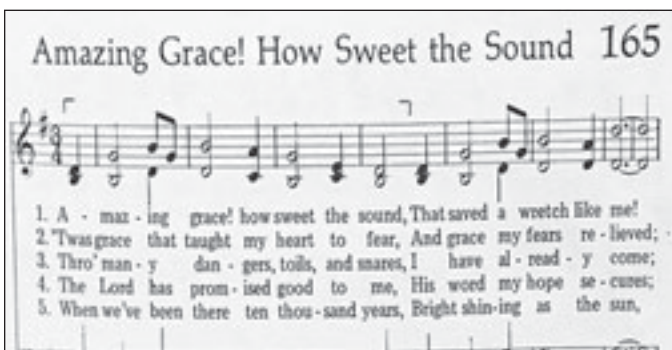
A year later, the tune was recorded by the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards using bagpipes and drums—a recording that also gained international attention.

More recently, the hymn was the

subject of a Bill Moyers PBS special in 1990.

The hymn and the tune New Britain are so well-known today that "Amazing Grace" is "an unofficial national hymn for America," Reynolds suggested.

"An individual can start singing the hymn spontaneously in any gathering of people, and the group will join in and be able to sing two or three stanzas from memory."



# PEOPLE

## COOPERATIVE PROGRAM REPORT — DECEMBER 2002

December Monthly Receipts .....	\$ 45,738.18
One Month's Budget Requirements .....	41,540.75
Over (under) Monthly Requirements .....	4,197.43
Received through December .....	407,672.18
Required through December .....	498,489.00
Over (Under) Budget 2002 .....	(90,816.82)

ASSOCIATION/CHURCH	DEC	YTD
<b>Bay Lakes Association</b>		
Amherst Bible Church .....	0.00	1,904.08
Appleton, Valley .....	7,486.26	30,918.41
Black Creek, Community .....	68.80	1,041.06
Clintonville, First .....	156.40	2,104.35
Green Bay, Believer's Assembly .....	0.00	1,030.92
Calvary .....	180.76	1,870.42
Highland Crest .....	100.00	1,100.00
Victory .....	115.20	1,023.14
DePere, Heart of Worship .....	243.56	2,027.34
Manitowoc, Anchor Fellowship .....	45.00	1,280.49
Neenah, Living Vine .....	1,881.98	7,984.30
Oshkosh, Celebration Fellowship .....	0.00	716.53
Pulaski, Faith .....	545.70	3,215.17
Sheboygan, Mapledale .....	0.00	2,758.00
Tilleda, Bethany .....	173.55	4,363.03
Waupaca, Fellowship .....	0.00	88.50
Wittenberg, Good Shepherd .....	94.00	1,174.00
Bay Lakes Totals .....	11,091.21	64,599.74

ASSOCIATION/CHURCH	DEC	YTD
<b>Central Association</b>		
Adams-Friendship, First .....	15.00	228.00
Ft. Atkinson, Friendship .....	929.26	6,013.26
Janesville, Southside .....	736.41	736.41
La Crosse, Island Park .....	0.00	70.00
New Hope .....	392.77	550.20
Madison, East Madison .....	568.00	10,019.00
Hmong Madison .....	35.00	429.51
Midvale .....	340.98	4,200.70
Milton, Community .....	8.05	8.05
Onalaska, New Hope .....	0.00	410.46
Platteville, Rolling Hills .....	434.60	2,438.18
Reedsburg, Trinity .....	291.67	3,500.04
Sparta, Gospel .....	1,197.05	10,019.72
Sun Prairie, Prairie Springs .....	190.10	2,879.55
Central Totals .....	5,138.89	41,503.08

ASSOCIATION/CHURCH	DEC	YTD
<b>Lakeland Association</b>		
Bassett, Westosha .....	315.12	4,052.69
Kenosha: Fellowship .....	2,008.81	13,390.91
Parkside .....	2,671.44	18,043.38
Temple .....	121.00	2,087.00
Milwaukee: Bethlehem .....	0.00	0.00
Brown Deer .....	848.65	16,267.30
Christ Kingdom .....	0.00	0.00
Ephesians .....	264.00	3,230.98

ASSOCIATION/CHURCH	DEC	YTD
Faith Fellowship .....	0.00	350.00
Graceland .....	0.00	815.84
Greater Bethlehem .....	0.00	0.00
Hmong First .....	170.00	1,700.00
Jeremiah First .....	0.00	0.00
Jericho Miss. ....	0.00	0.00
Korean .....	0.00	1,650.00
Layton Avenue .....	1,648.00	17,380.22
Mercy Memorial .....	0.00	0.00
Monumental .....	100.00	3,008.87
Mt. Hermon .....	0.00	1,543.12
Mt. Horeb .....	0.00	0.00
Mt. Pilgrim .....	333.00	4,204.25
St. Timothy's Community .....	0.00	0.00
S. Milwaukee, Southeast .....	0.00	999.53
Pewaukee, First .....	909.44	5,931.28
Pleasant Prairie, Pleasant Prairie .....	883.00	5,059.00
Racine, New Beginnings Comm .....	143.67	2,483.46
New Hope .....	271.58	3,617.33
Wauwatosa, Northwest .....	2,677.93	25,235.74
West Allis, Emmaus Fellowship .....	0.00	2,560.00
Lakeland Totals .....	13,365.64	133,610.90

ASSOCIATION/CHURCH	DEC	YTD
<b>Northern Lakes Association</b>		
Eau Claire, Jacob's Well .....	1,048.03	12,728.35
Trinity .....	660.80	5,767.07
Milltown, St. Croix House Church .....	36.00	520.00
Rice Lake, Hope .....	29.64	1,111.53
Shell Lake, Lakeland .....	0.00	575.00
Spooner, First Grace .....	0.00	0.00
Wausau, Living Waters Ch Fhip .....	0.00	1,556.61
Northern Lakes Totals .....	1,774.47	22,258.56

ASSOCIATION/CHURCH	DEC	YTD
<b>Northwoods Association</b>		
Alborn, Swan Lake Road .....	0.00	758.85
Bemidji, Ridgewood .....	100.62	1,080.27
Brainerd, Hope .....	607.38	3,682.13
Cohasset, Calvary Pines .....	75.00	900.00
Crookston, Prairie Community .....	193.00	809.06
Duluth, Northern City .....	0.00	4,710.45
Ely, Berean .....	186.00	1,957.49
Floodwood, First .....	344.00	1,985.84
Grand Rapids: Grand Rapids .....	110.20	1,520.60
Splithand .....	0.00	271.85
Hibbing: Calvary .....	0.00	35.41
Hill City, Hill City .....	161.05	459.40
Intern'l Falls, Pleasant Hill .....	359.67	2,015.71
Superior, Superior Chapel .....	394.28	1,625.99
Warroad, Westside .....	52.00	503.70
Northwoods Totals .....	2,583.20	22,316.75

ASSOCIATION/CHURCH	DEC	YTD
<b>Pioneer Association</b>		
Austin .....	267.89	3,019.15

ASSOCIATION/CHURCH	DEC	YTD
Faribault, Asian Christian Fship .....	45.00	540.00
Berean .....	0.00	870.00
Dodge Center, Harvest .....	146.16	1,084.81
Mankato, Hope .....	407.26	6,000.81
Red Wing, Hiawatha Valley .....	509.16	6,927.50
Rochester: Abundant Life .....	107.00	3,017.81
Emmanuel .....	2,177.11	30,799.06
Emmanuel Asian .....	0.00	0.00
Joyful Hope .....	75.00	340.00
Rochester Community .....	0.00	0.00
Rochester Emman. Hmong .....	299.83	1,069.83
Waseca, Faith .....	0.00	2,087.60
Winona: Cornerstone Community .....	0.00	1,460.27
Hmong Baptist Church .....	0.00	65.00
Pioneer Totals .....	4,034.41	57,281.84

ASSOCIATION/CHURCH	DEC	YTD
<b>Twin Cities Metro Association</b>		
Bloomington, Grace Slavic .....	0.00	100.00
Southtown .....	1,250.48	14,439.80
Brooklyn Park: Ebenezer Comm. ....	532.35	2,395.01
North Center .....	2,025.47	10,660.52
North Center Lao .....	0.00	1,060.60
Burnsville, Crystal Lake Road .....	306.00	3,814.00
Coon Rapids, Friendship .....	181.09	3,144.62
Maple Grove, Northwood Comm .....	504.58	2,281.55
Minneapolis: El-Bethel First .....	0.00	0.00
Korean First .....	0.00	0.00
Minneapolis Hmong .....	0.00	192.00
New Hope .....	0.00	0.00
Twincity Hmong .....	0.00	350.00
First Ukrainian Evang. ....	158.00	629.40
Minnetonka, Northern Oaks .....	0.00	214.09
Monticello, First .....	0.00	800.68
North Branch, Hope .....	0.00	0.00
Roseville: Roseville .....	1,884.60	11,266.49
Roseville Hmong .....	0.00	0.00
St. Paul: E. St. Paul Hmong .....	100.34	143.13
First Hmong .....	0.00	797.27
Sunfish Lake, Bethel .....	0.00	1,500.00
Bethel Spanish .....	0.00	0.00
Woodbury, Rosewood .....	0.00	2,250.97
Twin Cities Metro Totals .....	6,942.91	56,040.13

ASSOCIATION/CHURCH	DEC	YTD
<b>Western Association</b>		
Alexandria, Alexandria .....	0.00	20.00
Marshall, Calvary .....	634.45	8,020.02
St. Cloud .....	0.00	462.17
Willmar, Grace .....	70.00	400.00
Western Totals .....	704.45	8,902.19
<b>Other</b> .....	103.00	1,158.99
<b>Grand Totals</b> .....	\$45,738.18	\$407,672.18

## MWBC church secretaries schedule Feb. 21-22 retreat

ROCHESTER, Minn.—Minnesota-Wisconsin Secretary Association (MWSAteLLites) will hold its first retreat at the Voyager Inn in Reedsburg, Wis., Feb. 21-22.

Nell Collins, a charter member of Texas Baptists' secretary association, will speak during the three sessions of the overnight retreat.

For more information, contact MWSAteLLites chairperson Ginger Hawkinson at (920) 494-3647 or

Rebecca Reeves, Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Convention church growth/health associate, at (506) 282-3636.

"Our prayer is that this retreat will be only the beginning of a long and healthy association with each secretary in our two-state area," Reeves said. "If your church has a secretary, help her/him to become a part of this association and to attend our first retreat."



**MAYO CHAPLAIN** Jan McFall, right, chairwoman of the evangelism and missions subcommittee of the Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Convention Executive Board, welcomes Rich Williamson to serve as MWBC chaplain. He was elected Jan. 17 and will work three days a week at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.

AFTER 2,000 YEARS, PEOPLE STILL NEED

Jesus

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# PEOPLE

## PEOPLE AND PLACES

BLOOMINGTON, Minn.—Southtown Baptist Church has called Betsy Dunning as full-time minister of music and youth. She began on Jan. 1.

Dunning grew up in Valley Baptist Church in Appleton, Wis., and is a May 2002 graduate of Southwestern Seminary in Ft. Worth, Texas. She is the daughter of Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Convention President Charles Dunning and his wife, Beth.



Dunning

FORT WORTH, Texas—Minne-

sota-native Brent Elwyn graduated from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, during the seminary's 204th commencement ceremony Dec. 14.

Hofen, from Ramsey, Minn., earned a master of music degree, and currently serves at Prairie Oak Community Church in Andover, Minn.

GREENFIELD, Wis.—On Dec. 22, Keith Chase announced his resignation as pastor of Layton Avenue Baptist Church, effective Jan. 31.

Having served the church for more than 15 years, Chase indicated that he felt God was calling him to another ministry. "It has been my distinct honor and privilege to

serve our Lord Jesus Christ by serving as your pastor," he said. "We have rejoiced as many have made personal commitments to growing in Christ on a daily basis."

Of particular importance, he emphasized, the church has "sent out five full-time missionaries and at least seven others have committed to following god's call to seminary and to full-time service."



Chase

Kathy Gariety, missionary to Ye-

men who was killed with two colleagues on Dec. 30, was called to missions at the church.

MANKATO, Minn.—Hope Baptist Church has called Jon Campbell as pastor. He will begin March 1.

MARSHALL, Minn.—Miles Rohde has been called as pastor of Calvary Baptist Church.

SAVAGE, Minn.—Twin Cities Metro Baptist Association has moved to new offices at 5011 W. 147th Street, Savage, Minn. 55378. The new phone number is (952) 440-2913.

SPARTA, Wis.—Gospel Baptist Church has called Jeffery Skinner as pastor.

## *Heart for the Harvest*

### **Empower 2003**

March 20-22 (Thursday evening through Saturday morning)  
Green Lake Conference Center ♦ Green Lake, Wis.