

## Greer-Heard Forum, March 27-28, tackles issue of religious pluralism

Registration for NOBTS community is free until March 22

By Michael McCormack

Pluralism: Is Christianity the only true religion?

The fifth installment of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary's annual Greer-Heard Point-Counterpoint Forum in Faith and Culture will address the issue of religious pluralism. The March 27-28 event will feature scholars Paul F. Knitter and Harold A. Netland in dialogue and will coincide with a special meeting of the Evangelical Philosophical Society.

Knitter and Netland will dialogue Friday,



March 27, at 7 p.m., with on-site registration starting at 6 p.m. Then, on Saturday, March 28, scholars including Paul Copan, Millard Erickson and Terrence Tilley will present papers with Knitter and Netland responding afterward.

Registration is free for NOBTS faculty, staff and students until Monday, March 22, when registration increases

to \$5. Register online at [www.greer-heard.com](http://www.greer-heard.com) or at the door.

Click

to read more.

## Kelley: Southern Baptists are new Methodists

By Paul F. South

"Southern Baptists are the new Methodists," New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary President Chuck Kelley said March 3, and are in danger of following the mainline denomination into deep decline.

According to the NOBTS Leavell Center for Church Health and Evangelism, 89 percent of Southern Baptist churches have either plateaued or are in decline. The way to reverse the downward spiral, Kelley said, is to repent and to return to evangelistic discipleship.

Kelley delivered the prepared remarks at a Tuesday morning service at Leavell Chapel. At the end of the service, students streamed to the altar or prayed in the pews, many weeping openly in the wake of a call to repentance.

In 1945, Kelley noted, SBC churches baptized about 257,000 people. Ten years

later, SBC churches baptized a record 417,000 people. Never again have Southern Baptists experienced such growth.

Kelley attributed the baptism explosion that decade to doing church the way a farmer operates a farm. A successful farmer obtains land, plants, cultivates, sows and reaps. He said the current generation of Southern Baptists are no longer farming their way to fruitfulness.

"For 15 years I said, 'Southern Baptists are a harvest-oriented denomination living in the midst of an unseeded generation.' I now realize something more is going on," Kelley said. "We are more like gardeners working the window boxes than farmers working the fields. We are the grandchildren of farmers keeping harvest stories alive over coffee and dessert at family reunions."

Click **METHODISTS** to read complete article. Click **here** for more information.

## Next Week in Chapel

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

**David Brickner**

*Jews for Jesus*

THURSDAY, MARCH 26



**Dr. Millard Erickson**

*Renowned theologian and author of Christian Theology*

## Upcoming Chapels

TUESDAY, MARCH 31;

THURSDAY, APRIL 2



**Dr. Don Wilton**

*Senior Pastor, FBC, Spartanburg, S.C.*

## NOBTS Evangelism

Join the new Facebook group, "NOBTS



Evangelism," and stay connected on evangelistic

opportunities that happen every week.

## NOBTS holds annual campus revival

By Paul F. South

Spiritual brokenness took on the simplicity of pen and paper, hammer and nail, as New Orleans Baptist Seminary students nailed a written record of sin into a rugged replica of Calvary's cross. This powerful image of repentance marked the opening of the seminary's campus revival.

Contrition for sin was the theme of Dr. Jake Roudkovski's opening message at the 3-day revival, March 10-12. Hundreds of blank sheets of paper became written confessions before God at the conclusion of the message. Some students remained deep in prayer long after the service ended.

Preaching from 1 John 1:8 and following, Roudkovski reminded his audience that until they stand before God in Heaven, they will face a never-ending struggle with sin.

"Until that glorious moment, you and I will have to deal with and battle sin daily," Roudkovski said. "We will have to deal with

sins of omission, sins of commission. We will have to deal with secret sins . . . sins that so easily entangle us."

Sin must be dealt with, even in a seminary setting, Roudkovski said, because "sin suffocates the work of God." He pointed to Joshua 6 and the victory at Jericho, and the defeat of the children of Israel at Ai in Chapter 7, a loss sparked by the sin of one person.

Revival will come only through the work of God, not through the work of men, Roudkovski said. But sin must be confessed.

"A single sin that is not confessed and dealt with, hinders and suffocates the work of God," Roudkovski said.

Sin also stifles intimacy with God, an intimacy described in Rev. 3:20.

"God desires an intimacy with you," Roudkovski said. "But I believe that a single sin will destroy that intimacy and that closeness with God."

Click **REVIVAL** to read complete article.

## Melvina O'Neal, long-time NOBTS employee, dies at age 49

Melvina O'Neal, long-time housekeeper for New Orleans Seminary in the Sellers Music building, passed away this week. She was 49 years of age and died after a brief illness.

O'Neal relocated to the Atlanta area after Katrina and is survived by her husband, Tharnell, and daughter, Janay. Viewing was held at the Levett Funeral Home in Conyers, Ga., and the funeral service was Friday, March 13, at 11 a.m. at Millers Chapel Baptist Church in Conyers, Ga.

Melvina's sister-in-law, Opal O'Neal, serves on the Seminary's housekeeping staff as well.

Sympathy cards may be sent to: Mr. Tharnell O'Neal, 811 Cedar Lake Drive SE, Conyers, GA 30094. Please keep Melvina's family in your thoughts and prayers during this time of loss.

## Prison Fellowship Seeks Field Director

Prison Fellowship is looking for a Field Director (chaplain) for the Baton Rouge and/or New Orleans areas.



Check out the organization's website at [www.pfm.org](http://www.pfm.org). For

more information, please contact Debbie Simmons at [debbie\\_simmons@pfm.org](mailto:debbie_simmons@pfm.org).

## Texas Camp Seeks Summer Missionaries

Highland Lakes Camp and Conference Center, located in Spicewood, Texas, is looking for members of its Summer Missions Team.

Each summer missionary receives free housing, meals and limited health/accident insurance; a weekly stipend of \$60; and a scholarship made to the college of the missionary's choice upon successful completion of 12 weeks of service.

Each year, Christian students serve at Highland Lakes to impact the lives of adults, youth and children. The hours are long and the work is hard, but the rewards are great.

Apply today to serve as a summer missionary at Highland Lakes Camp and Conference Center. Call Danny Dawdy or Judy Sansom at 1.888.222.3482.

## CMR Ministry Opportunities

### Children and Preschool

- FBC, Clinton, Miss.; Minister to Children
- Bellevue BC, Nashville, Tenn.; Preschool and Children's Ministry Director
- Lost Mountain BC, Powder Springs, Ga.; Children's Minister
- Spring Hill BC, Mobile, Ala.; Preschool and Children's Minister/Director
- Community Life Church, Forney, Texas; Children's Minister

### Combination

Full-time

- FBC, Bay Minette, Ala.; Youth Ministry/ Associate Pastor
- FBC, Bay Minette, Ala.; Minister to Children and Family Ministries
- Stave Creek BC, Jackson, Ala.; Music and Associate pastor
- Christian Fellowship BC, Zebulon, Ga.; Music and Youth Director
- Fort Trial BC, Stanleytown, Va.; Associate Pastor of Youth/Children's Ministry

Click for more ministry opportunities.

## Christ IN THE Passover



### Passover Service March 24, 11 a.m. Leavell Chapel

Led by David Brickner  
Executive Director, Jews for Jesus

JEWES FOR JESUS

Dr. Robert B. Stewart, who directs both the Greer-Heard Forum and the Institute for Christian Apologetics at New Orleans Seminary (NOBTS), said the topic of pluralism is quite timely.

"The world is shrinking," Stewart said. "The question of the relationship between Christianity and other religions is no longer an abstract question. It is one that anyone has to deal with. For this reason, this issue is especially important for missionary religions like Christianity or Islam."

And Stewart said the issue of pluralism quickly becomes personal.

"This question takes on a very personal connotation for almost all of us as we have friends, coworkers, classmates, employees and others about whom we have to ask the question: Where do they stand in God's eyes?" Stewart said. "Exactly what is our responsibility to them based on what we believe about God and salvation?"

Team that concern with Western culture's pressure to place all religions on equal footing, and the topic of pluralism stands out even more.

Both scholars who will dialogue at this year's Greer-Heard Forum are well-acquainted with the topic of pluralism.

Knitter, the Paul Tillich Professor of Theology, World Religions and Culture at

Union Theological Seminary in New York, was a student at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome in the mid-1960s. Knitter witnessed the Second Vatican Council firsthand as the Catholic Church wrestled with its attitude toward other religions.

Netland, professor of philosophy of religion and intercultural studies at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Deerfield, Ill., is a former missionary to Japan. He earned master's and doctoral degrees from Claremont Graduate School, where he studied under John Hick.

Both Knitter and Netland bring extensive experience to the discussion of pluralism. They also bring friendship.

"Knitter and Netland are friends and are able to engage each other on these issues without compromise or rancor," Stewart said. The kind-spirited conversation expected between Knitter and Netland illustrates the Forum's commitment to fair-minded dialogue on faith and culture.

"Too often, public discourse on the sort of issues that Greer-Heard deals with is shrill in tone and piecemeal in content," Stewart said. "Our goal therefore is to give these issues legitimate expression and to do so in a public forum on a level playing field."

A special meeting of the Evangelical Philosophical Society (EPS) will coincide with the Greer-Heard Forum. A separate registration of \$5 is necessary to attend EPS.

For more information about Greer-Heard, go to [www.greer-heard.com](http://www.greer-heard.com).

## Students say thank you to revival sponsors

NOBTS students are encouraged to send "thank you" notes to the following churches and individuals who provided lunch during the NOBTS Campus Revival last week:

### Rev. Toby Hughes

New Zion Baptist Church  
17387 New Zion Church Rd.  
Covington, LA 70435

### Rev. Gary Watkins

622 West Poplar Avenue  
Suite 5-150  
Collierville, TN 38017

### Rev. Kris Chenier

Trinity Heights Baptist Church  
3820 Old Mooringsport Rd  
Shreveport, LA 71107

### Dr. Brett Golson

First Baptist Church  
205 South Church Ave  
Post Office Box 547  
Louisville, MS 39339

## Upcoming Summer Opportunities

- The Florida Baptist Convention is hiring a worship leader for its Mission's Adventure Camp this summer. This is a boy's camp, so the worship leader needs to be a male. For more information, contact Eddie Blackmon at 1.800.226.8584, ext. 3122, or [eblackmon@flbaptist.org](mailto:eblackmon@flbaptist.org).
- First Baptist Church, Montgomery, Ala., is hiring a Children's Ministry Intern this summer. The church desires the intern to be a single male. The position begins in May. For more information, contact Glen Leathers at 334.834.6310 or [glaethers@montgomeryfbc.org](mailto:glaethers@montgomeryfbc.org).
- Mars Hill Baptist Church, Watkinsville, Ga., is looking for a Summer Children's Intern. This is a 10- to 11-week, full-time position, beginning in May. Salary and housing are provided. Contact Pastor Charles Jones at 706.548.6962 or [pastor@marshallbaptist.org](mailto:pastor@marshallbaptist.org).
- Highland Baptist Church in Metairie, La., is looking for two day camp staff for the summer. For more information, contact Kristina Palmer at [hbcmetairie@gmail.com](mailto:hbcmetairie@gmail.com).

## UP to host CP Discussion Luncheon

Unlimited Partnerships will provide lunch for free in the NOBTS cafeteria April 9, 16, 23 and 30 for people who will participate in a discussion group about the Cooperative Program from 12 p.m. to 12:50 p.m. Contact Bethany Hales for more information — [bethanyhales@yahoo.com](mailto:bethanyhales@yahoo.com) or 504.816.8095.



## Metairie Church Plant Seeks Ministers

Hope Fellowship is a brand-new contemporary SBC church plant in Metairie, La. This church is searching for a youth pastor, Children's minister, AV/IT minister and worship leader. Contact Pastor Jim Louviere at [jimatjc@yahoo.com](mailto:jimatjc@yahoo.com).

## NOBTS Prayer-A-Thon

For the past few weeks alumni from around the world have been praying for their NOBTS as it deals with the economic challenges and as the seminary family seeks God for personal revival. Now is our opportunity to pray for them in their challenges.

Beginning this Monday (5:30 to 8:30 p.m.), we will call alumni and ask to pray personally and specifically with them for a few minutes. We will do this for 3 nights a week, for 3 weeks. All we will do is pray for them. You can even help call alumni in your home state.

However, we need many more students and spouses to help us with this Alumni Prayer-A-Thon. We will provide the names, phone numbers, phones and refreshments — even a free evening banquet at the end of the three weeks to say "thank you" for participating.

As a student, staff, faculty, or spouse, please contact Cheryl Hughes at [alumni@nobts.edu](mailto:alumni@nobts.edu) or 282.4455, ext. 3331, and join us for at least one night of calling and praying for our alumni. This is a great way to invest a night of spring break.

## Church-Minister Relations

### Ministry Opportunities

The following are a few of the ministry positions received by the Church-Minister Relations office. Churches are listed according to the type of ministry position needed and whether the position is classified as part-time or full-time. All positions within a 2-hour radius of New Orleans are listed separately with the approximate distance in parentheses. To contact any of these churches, or to have your resume sent to other unpublished ministry opportunities, visit the CMR office (second floor, Frost Building) or contact them at 504-282-4455 or 1-800-662-8701, ext. 3291, or [cmrconsultant@nobts.edu](mailto:cmrconsultant@nobts.edu).

#### New Orleans Area

##### Full-time

- FBC, Lockport, La.; Pastor (51)
  - The Church on Main, Columbia, Miss.; Worship Leader (136)
  - FBC, McComb, Miss.; Worship Leader (110)
  - Woodlawn BC, Baton Rouge, La.; Director of Children's Ministry (76)
  - Erwinville, BC, Erwinville, La.; Pastor (92)
  - Evangelical Formosan Church of New Orleans, Kenner La.; English Minister (14)
  - Temple BC, Hattiesburg, Miss.; East Campus Pastor (109)
  - Union BC, Brookhaven, Miss.; Pastor (135)
  - Silver Springs BC, Osyka, Miss.; (78)
  - Riverside BC, Denham Springs, La.; Youth Minister (93)
  - Silver Creek BC, McComb, Miss.; Youth Minister (117)
  - Plainview BC, Bogalusa, La.; Pastor (70)
  - Grace Memorial BC, Slidell, La.; Minister of Music/Adult Education (29)
- ##### Part-time
- Fellowship Church, Prairieville, La.; Children's Minister (65)
  - Juniper Grove BC, Poplarville, Miss.; Minister of Music (72)
  - The Church on Main, Columbia, Miss.; Children's Minister (136)
  - Bay Vista BC, Biloxi, Miss.; Bivocational Pastor (80)
  - Christ BC, Houma, La.; Music Minister (60)
  - Cambridge BC, Gautier, Miss.; Minister of Music (98)
  - Goodyear BC, Picayune, Miss.; Minister of Youth (47)

- Goodyear BC, Picayune, Miss.; Minister of Music (47)
- Unity BC, Magnolia, Miss.; Minister of Youth/ Children (106)
- FBC, St. Rose, La.; Worship Leader (22)
- Highland BC, Bogalusa, La.; Minister of Music and Youth (70)
- Immanuel BC, Hammond, La.; Minister of Youth (61)
- Westside Emmanuel BC, Bogalusa, La.; Music/ Worship Leader (69)
- Coteau BC, Houma, La.; Youth Minister (57)
- Handsboro BC, Gulfport, Miss.; Minister of Music and Youth (77)
- FBC, Luling, La.; Worship Leader (31)
- Harmony BC, Picayune, Miss.; Youth Minister (bivocational) (48)
- Fordoche BC, Fordoche, La.; Bivocational Pastor (114)
- FBC, Harahan, La.; Bivocational Pastor (14)

#### Pastor

##### Full-time

- FBC, Fulton, Mo.
  - Hope BC, Mankato, Minn.
  - Chambersburg BC, Chambersburg, Penn.
  - Rancocas Valley BC, Rancocas, N.J.
  - Poplar Corner BC, Brownsville, Tenn.
  - Lexie BC, Tylertown, Miss.
  - Shiloh BC, Chipley, Fla.
  - St. Rest BC, Dubach, La.
  - Woodland Heights BC, Bedford, Texas
  - Pleasant Hill BC, Somerset, Ky.
  - Faith BC, Emporium, Pa.
  - New Hebron BC, Waskom, Texas
  - FBC, Vinton, La.
  - Smithville BC, Smithville, Miss.
  - FBC, Lincoln, Calif.
  - Enon BC, Atmore, Ala.
  - Unity BC, Fayette, Mo.
  - Southside BC, Nahunta, Ga.
  - Maplesville BC, Maplesville, Ala.
  - College Parkway BC, Arnold, Md.
  - FBC, Americus, Ga.
  - FBC, Ruidoso, N.M.
  - Hilton Terrace BC, Columbus, Ga.
  - First Baptist Newcastle, Newcastle, Okla.
  - Retta BC, Burleson, Texas
  - New Hope BC, Monroe, La.
  - Plant City BC, Lanett, Ala.
  - Semmes FBC, Semmes, Ala.
  - Southeast BC, Greensboro, N.C.
- ##### Part-time
- FBC, Centerfield, Utah (bi-vocational)
  - Ridgway BC, Memphis, Tenn.
  - Crossroads BC, Littleton, N.H.
  - Stapleton BC, Stapleton, Ga.
  - Sunrise BC, Palmdale, Calif.
  - Stamford BC, Stamford, Conn.

#### Music

##### Full-time

- Calvary BC, Russellville, Ala.
  - FBC, Willow Park, Texas
  - Creola FBC, Creola, Ala.
  - FBC, Batesville, Ark.
  - FBC, Belle Glade, Fla.
  - Iuka BC, Iuka, Miss.
  - Woodlawn BC, Austin, Texas
  - Grace BC, Springfield, Tenn.
  - Cherokee BC, Gaffney, S.C.
  - Memorial BC, Killeen, Texas
  - FBC, Hayden, Ala.
  - Lena Vista BC, Auburndale, Fla.
  - Hopeful BC, Lake City, Fla.
  - Fredonia Hill BC, Nacogdoches, Texas
  - Grawood BC, Keithville, La.
  - FBC, Cleburne, Texas
  - Eastmont BC, Wenatchee, Wash.
- ##### Part-time
- Warrington BC, Pensacola, Fla.
  - Enon BC, Jayess, Miss.
  - Goodwood BC, Baton Rouge, La.

#### Youth

##### Full-time

- The Church at Quail Creek, Amarillo, Texas
  - Second BC, Russellville, Ark.
  - Calvary Baptist, Camden, Ark.
  - FBC, Sandersville, Ga.
  - Heritage BC, Dothan, Ala.
  - Korean BC of Memphis, Collierville, Tenn.
  - Towaliga BC, Jackson, Ga.
  - Cross Roads BC, Pelahatchie, Miss.
  - FBC, Garrison, Texas
  - FBC, Valdosta, Ga.
  - FBC, Duluth, Ga.
  - FBC of Leesburg, Leesburg, Ga.
  - First Southern BC, Evansville, Ind.
  - Grove Level BC, Dalton, Ga. ( High School)
  - Grace BC, Tullahoma, Tenn.
- ##### Part-time
- Warrington BC, Pensacola, Fla.
  - St. Clair BC, Boyce, La.
  - Eastside BC, Collinsville, Okla.
  - First Baptist Mableton, Mableton, Ga.

*Click for more  
ministry opportunities.*



**NEW ORLEANS**  
BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY