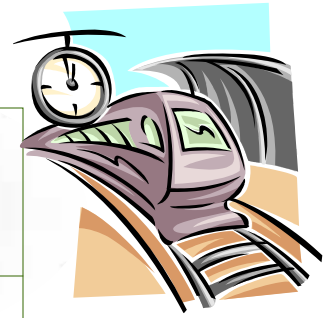


February 2008

Central Connection

Central Baptist Association



Volume 16, Issue 2



Tick Tock, Tick Tock, Can't Stop the Clock ...

by Kevin Branham

"Like sand through the hour glass, so are the days of our lives." My Mom used to watch that show and I always laughed at the entrance message. Now I am looking at the clock and watching the sand fall. It is already the second month of 2008! What has happened to the years? I remember seeing 2001: A Space Odyssey and then 2010: The Year We Make Contact. It was so in the future, now it is only 2 years away from the second movie! If you take a look at things from then to now, you can see

the major advances in technology and everyday items. Things are more streamlined and efficient.

One thing that has not changed since the beginning and will continue on, is time. Try as we might, we are not able to slow it down. We can use daylight savings time to try and milk more hours of daylight in to the workday, but it still ticks on.

What is time in the eyes of God? Scientist have long debated that, saying it is not possible to create the

world in 6 days! They are looking at it from a human point of view. God has His own timetable and things are done at His pace. Many times we pray to God and expect an immediate answer to our request. We only ask when we are trouble or we need some critical help

...it is not possible to create the world in 6 days!

with bills or a job. When God doesn't respond at our expected time, we say He is ignoring us. Maybe in God's time table He has

you penciled in for more time than you want to give. He is patiently waiting for you to show up for the appointed time, but you seem to be a little busy. So why should we expect him to be on call at our convenience? Maybe we should all do the one and only thing we can with time and in controlling it; share some time with God and listen to his plans for us. We may find out he has already heard our request before we knew what we needed and given us the time.

Ponder This

Did Washington just flash a quarter for his ID?

If WalMart is lowering prices daily, how come nothing is free yet?

If you're an atheist and swear on the bible, have you committed perjury?

Why do they lock gas station bathrooms? Are they afraid someone is going to clean them?

Would a fly without wings be called a walk?

Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.

Martin Luther King Jr.
US civil rights leader & clergyman (1929 - 1968)

Just Thinking

by Ken Goode



Thanks to my loving wife, Christmas I finally joined the iPod generation. It is all it is “cracked up to be”. It is a “pretty cool” little device. So far, I have only downloaded my CD’s but already I have over 550 songs on it. The little machine tells me those songs equal a day and a half of play, translated, that is 36 hours of music. Ah, I have only begun!

Truth is, right now I have the same music I already had. It is now just in a different package, but what a package. What were two wallets of CD’s now fit into my pocket. I can take it places I would not have dared drag my CD collection and a CD player. Not only is it portable but it is versatile. With the right accessories, I can play it through the home sound system, through any car radio, in an alarm clock system, in a portable shelf stereo unit, even through headphones on my motorcycle. True portability!

That is not the end of usefulness for the little gadget. It creates a host of new possibilities. I can find about any song I want. I am no longer limited to a store or website inventory of CD’s. Somewhere, on some website, is every song I could possibly want, available with a few key strokes.

The podcast world is now open to me. I can download and easily listen to the words of wisdom of a multitude of sermons, lectures, addresses, and presentations. If I am of a mind to, I can download audio books. I am not of a mind because my attention wanders astray when my eyes are not on a page but I could if I wanted. Shucks, I can even download movies and television programs and carry them with me. I will not do that either since watching them on the little screen of the iPod would cross my eyes, but I could if I wanted.

My new iPod is a dynamite package of versatility, portability, and potential. My iPod and I are ready to tackle the world. As great as it is, it cannot match the versatility, portability and potential of our faith. Think about it! Well used, where can we go that our faith does not walk with us? It not only accompanies us, its music penetrates everything around us. Think about its versatility! What human situation can we possibly find ourselves in that our faith is not adequate to sustain us? Experiences of grief, loss, joy, victory and failure are no match to the capability of our faith.

Our faith’s potential is beyond imagination. It can lead us to places we never dreamed of walking. It leads us to make music beyond our puny ability. It has the potential to affect others eternally. It turns our world right side up. It gives us personal access to the Creator.

Let your faith play. Let it produce music, words of wisdom, and a video of a life given to the Father. In public, we wear headsets with our iPods to keep the music to ourselves. There is no headset output in our faith. God meant it for private and public consumption. Let it sound out.



New Future



As the future presents new needs, the Central Baptist Association is adapting to meet those needs and to provide a resource for Pastors, Churches and their Members. We are continually evolving, and in doing so we have developed a new logo and statement that will take us into the future side by side with our partner churches.

As we approach our 100th year as an association, we are excited about the changes that are in store for all of our futures and look forward to expanding our relationships.

BLOCK PARTY TRAILER WILD SUCCESS

More needed

by Carl Russell

Most of you know about the Association's Evangelistic Block Party Trailer. If not, let me introduce you to the unit, a great resource for outreach, fellowship, evangelism and ministry. Since we brought it on line about a year ago it has been a wild success and many churches have used it, some a number of times. This is your Block Party Trailer and it is here for your use.

Implementing this unit was a new experienced for us. We have been on a very steep learning curve as we have learned the best practices for the unit. Most of the churches that have used it have had a wonderful time with it but some have had some issues that came up. We apologize for any inconvenience you may have had with it and we are taking steps to correct issues as we learn about them.

Because of what we have learned, we are making changes that will make a big difference in the effective use of the unit. Outlined below are the changes:

- ⇒ We will pull the unit out of service two days each month to clean it, fix anything that may be broken and replace anything that is missing.
- ⇒ The deposit and use fee was too complicated so we have streamlined it. Instead of a deposit there will be a straight \$50 use fee. This use fee will help maintain the unit.
- ⇒ A major issue that constantly surfaces is broken or missing items. This has created use problems for some of our churches. As we are capable, we will purchase duplicate equipment so that we can rotate them out of service for repair.

We have another need with the unit. Pastor Ken Clair at First Baptist Church in Bernalillo generously donated to us the current inflatable bounce house. It is a crucial part of the unit and has been well used. Because of its high use it was damaged a number of times and, though we had it professionally repaired, it continues to sustain damage. It is obvious that we need to replace it with one that is larger and of commercial quality. The new bounce house is about \$1,500. To purchase the new bounce house and the duplicate equipment will cost about \$5000.00.

If your church or an individual would like to make a donation toward those purchases, it would accelerate getting the unit up to full speed. Please call Carl Russell at Central Baptist Association, 243-2707, to make a donation or for more information. To schedule the use of the Evangelistic Block Party Trailer please call Kevin Branham at the same number.



Block Party Trailer



Proposed Jump House



February 2008						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	

NW & NE E2 Lunches will be combined into a single lunch on the 1st Thursday of every month at Furr's Cafeteria, San Mateo and Montgomery, 11:30

Feb 16
EBPT Training



Feb 18
Presidents Day



Answer to last months riddle:
The pre-schoolers all answered "left."
When asked, "Why do you think the bus is traveling in the left direction?", they answered:
"Because you can't see the door."

How do you feel now???
I know, me too!!!

If you have any information that you would like to have published in the newsletter, or if you have any general comments or questions please contact us at newsletter@cbabq.com

Deadline is the 15th of the month.
Example: 15th of January for the February issue.

Central Baptist Association

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and you don't see it in the
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WWW.CBABQ.COM



*“Love the **LORD** your
God with all your heart and
with all your soul and with
all your strength.”*

Deuteronomy 6:5, NIV