

January 2008



# Central Connection

*Central Baptist Association*

Volume 16, Issue 1

**It Was a  
Good Year!  
2008**



**A**nother year is in the history books. It doesn't seem possible to be entering the year 2008. It was only yesterday we were getting ready for Y2K. The only thing that affected was my VCR.

In today's world of technology and speed, it seems like everything is faster and more push button. Cell phones are now mini-computers. What happened to the car battery sized phone that you had to lug around with two mules? Some things have definitely taken us to the next generation. I

guess the scary part is most of today's technology was inspired from the original Star Trek series, with Captain Kirk and Mr. Spock.

Is faster really better? Do you remember the days of actual handwritten letters? E-mails are cold and often misunderstood, but those handwritten letters could convey so much feeling and emotions with just a few strokes of the pen. You had the feeling that you were in the room with that person. Letters had that smell of friendship

and family. In the Navy, while on the ship, I longed for a letter from my wife so that I could be with her for just a little piece of time. Now days, the only thing that comes in the mail is bills or junk.

It seems like that when we talk to God, we

conversation or to wait on a letter. I believe that God is waiting on just such a thing. He wants that letter so that he can feel your emotions and have that warm smell to place him at your side. He wants to know the feelings of the words penned from your heart.

*~ most of today's technology was inspired from the original Star Trek series ~*

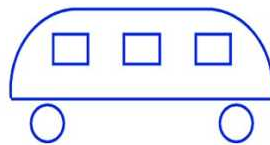
The next time you talk to God, try writing an old fashioned letter and then send it by way of knee-mail. Sometimes it's the simple things that say the most, if you give them the time.

are in a hurry so we send an e-mail or just text a message. Because we are in an electronic age, we don't have the time for a

## Riddle me this ?!?!?

Pre-school children were asked the following question:

"In which direction is the bus pictured below traveling?"



Look carefully at the picture.

Do you know the answer?

(The only possible answers are "left" or "right.")

Think about it

Still don't know?

Okay, I'll tell you.

Next Month

# Just Thinking

by Ken Goode



All of us have some environment or experience that we avoid because we are unsure how to negotiate it. We make a wide circle around it. There are many examples. You can see it in grocery stores that have the self-pay checkout stations. Watch folks stand in a long line at a cash register staffed by a person to avoid the often-empty self-checkout lane. There are folks who have never been to church who would consider it except they do not know how to “do church.” There are those who will not travel to a foreign country for fear they will not know how to get around.



For years, one of the environments I avoided was a gym. I wanted in the worst way to join one but it was foreign to me. It was a major step the day I stopped at one, filled out the paperwork and signed up with a trainer. The first day with the trainer was a blur. He assessed my training needs, set up a program and taught me the use of the equipment. My next visit was without a trainer. I was as lost as a goose. I could not remember which machines I was supposed to use. I could not make heads or tails of my notes on the machine settings. Therefore, like all honest people I faked it until I got it right. It took about six months to become comfortable with the gym life but the trainer opened the door and shortened the learning curve.

Churches experience the same thing when they consider penetrating, with the gospel, a culture or setting that is unlike their own. The most obvious example is the mission trip whether foreign or domestic. Most churches I have been involved with choose a mission destination that is radically different from their own so that the destination provides a “stretch and grow” experience for the participants. If they are wise, they choose a trainer, someone who can coach them in engaging the culture. It may be a native or someone like a missionary but it is someone who has some understanding and connection to both cultures.

The least obvious “foreign culture” is the one in the church’s own neighborhood or service area. That culture may be a different socio-economic level, an ethnic or racial group or a lifestyle group. Regardless of the culture, effective, targeted ministry will involve a trainer.

Often the local “foreign culture” is a disenfranchised population that suffers from the effects of poverty, violence, addictions and the litany of social ills. The Albuquerque area is fortunate to have the perfect trainer for these populations. Love INC, Love In the Name of Christ, is a coalition of churches that mobilizes volunteers and resources to take the love of Christ into South Albuquerque. If your church wants to apply its faith to communities needing the love of Christ, contact Love INC. They would be happy to connect you and coach you in making a difference for the kingdom.



Meanwhile, in 2008, challenge those places you fear to tread. Grab the arm of a trainer and jump in. Have fun, grow, and expand the Kingdom.



| January 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 | 30 | 31 |    |    |

**Sorry We're  
CLOSED**

January 1

Jan 9th  
CBA Administrative  
Committee Meeting

There will be Evangelism Block Party Trailer Training on January 30th. This training is required for your church to be able to check out the trailer. Call the CBA office to make a reservation.

Jan 15th  
CBA Executive  
Board Meeting



Old or Young Woman?



## Preachers vs. Sneakers on Faith & Family Night

With your Allegiance: ThunderBalls of the NBA Development League

vs.

Friday, January 25, 2008 at 7pm at Dingley Coliseum

12-18 children to order tickets and students a Brother and a Sister (with membership) will have their places held for the past game since for the game sheet will be played on our.com.

[www.cbabq.com](http://www.cbabq.com)

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CHURCH: \_\_\_\_\_  
 GROUP LEADER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_  
 STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
 DAYTIME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE EVENING: \_\_\_\_\_  
 EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Ticket Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$10 (Some Seats may be available for other amounts)  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL TICKETS TOTAL DUE \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I WILL PROVIDE A PREACHER AND A BROTHER FOR THE POST-GAME

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SEC - Via - Am \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_ VDate \_\_\_\_\_  
 Card # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
 PAY TO: CBABQ/THUNDERBALLS vs. Vipers/ThunderBalls 2008-09-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-100-101-102-103-104-105-106-107-108-109-110-111-112-113-114-115-116-117-118-119-120-121-122-123-124-125-126-127-128-129-130-131-132-133-134-135-136-137-138-139-140-141-142-143-144-145-146-147-148-149-150-151-152-153-154-155-156-157-158-159-160-161-162-163-164-165-166-167-168-169-170-171-172-173-174-175-176-177-178-179-180-181-182-183-184-185-186-187-188-189-190-191-192-193-194-195-196-197-198-199-200-201-202-203-204-205-206-207-208-209-210-211-212-213-214-215-216-217-218-219-220-221-222-223-224-225-226-227-228-229-230-231-232-233-234-235-236-237-238-239-240-241-242-243-244-245-246-247-248-249-250-251-252-253-254-255-256-257-258-259-260-261-262-263-264-265-266-267-268-269-270-271-272-273-274-275-276-277-278-279-280-281-282-283-284-285-286-287-288-289-290-291-292-293-294-295-296-297-298-299-300-301-302-303-304-305-306-307-308-309-310-311-312-313-314-315-316-317-318-319-320-321-322-323-324-325-326-327-328-329-330-331-332-333-334-335-336-337-338-339-340-341-342-343-344-345-346-347-348-349-350-351-352-353-354-355-356-357-358-359-360-361-362-363-364-365-366-367-368-369-370-371-372-373-374-375-376-377-378-379-380-381-382-383-384-385-386-387-388-389-390-391-392-393-394-395-396-397-398-399-400-401-402-403-404-405-406-407-408-409-410-411-412-413-414-415-416-417-418-419-420-421-422-423-424-425-426-427-428-429-430-431-432-433-434-435-436-437-438-439-440-441-442-443-444-445-446-447-448-449-450-451-452-453-454-455-456-457-458-459-460-461-462-463-464-465-466-467-468-469-470-471-472-473-474-475-476-477-478-479-480-481-482-483-484-485-486-487-488-489-490-491-492-493-494-495-496-497-498-499-500-501-502-503-504-505-506-507-508-509-510-511-512-513-514-515-516-517-518-519-520-521-522-523-524-525-526-527-528-529-530-531-532-533-534-535-536-537-538-539-540-541-542-543-544-545-546-547-548-549-550-551-552-553-554-555-556-557-558-559-560-561-562-563-564-565-566-567-568-569-570-571-572-573-574-575-576-577-578-579-580-581-582-583-584-585-586-587-588-589-590-591-592-593-594-595-596-597-598-599-600-601-602-603-604-605-606-607-608-609-610-611-612-613-614-615-616-617-618-619-620-621-622-623-624-625-626-627-628-629-630-631-632-633-634-635-636-637-638-639-640-641-642-643-644-645-646-647-648-649-650-651-652-653-654-655-656-657-658-659-660-661-662-663-664-665-666-667-668-669-670-671-672-673-674-675-676-677-678-679-680-681-682-683-684-685-686-687-688-689-690-691-692-693-694-695-696-697-698-699-700-701-702-703-704-705-706-707-708-709-710-711-712-713-714-715-716-717-718-719-720-721-722-723-724-725-726-727-728-729-730-731-732-733-734-735-736-737-738-739-740-741-742-743-744-745-746-747-748-749-750-751-752-753-754-755-756-757-758-759-760-761-762-763-764-765-766-767-768-769-770-771-772-773-774-775-776-777-778-779-780-781-782-783-784-785-786-787-788-789-790-791-792-793-794-795-796-797-798-799-800-801-802-803-804-805-806-807-808-809-810-811-812-813-814-815-816-817-818-819-820-821-822-823-824-825-826-827-828-829-830-831-832-833-834-835-836-837-838-839-840-841-842-843-844-845-846-847-848-849-850-851-852-853-854-855-856-857-858-859-860-861-862-863-864-865-866-867-868-869-870-871-872-873-874-875-876-877-878-879-880-881-882-883-884-885-886-887-888-889-890-891-892-893-894-895-896-897-898-899-900-901-902-903-904-905-906-907-908-909-910-911-912-913-914-915-916-917-918-919-920-921-922-923-924-925-926-927-928-929-930-931-932-933-934-935-936-937-938-939-940-941-942-943-944-945-946-947-948-949-950-951-952-953-954-955-956-957-958-959-960-961-962-963-964-965-966-967-968-969-970-971-972-973-974-975-976-977-978-979-980-981-982-983-984-985-986-987-988-989-990-991-992-993-994-995-996-997-998-999-1000

Answer to last month's question -  
 "? Crimson. He broke your window."  
 "Question Mark Crimson"

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He will **ENDURE**  
as long as the **SUN**,  
as long as the **MOON**,  
through all **GENERATIONS**.

**PSALM 72:5, NIV**