

# The river ran backwards

Van Yandell

John 7: 37-38 “ In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.”

The morning was cool but pleasant. I walked out onto the pier under the Brooklyn Bridge with my early morning coffee. The New York skyline cast shadows over the city, I felt totally alone and susceptible. We were working with a Christian disaster relief group providing meals for first responders and victims.

The scene of that September morning in 2001 included smoke off the site of the collapsed World Trade Center towers. It had been five days since the terrorist attack on America.

The smoke continued to rise off the rubble and the thoughts of the lives lost troubled my soul. The dead are dead but their families were in extreme grief. Not knowing for sure what has happened to a loved one is horrible but to consider the circumstances of their death sets the heart and mind beyond its normal limits.

Sea gulls floated by as if being uplifted by an unseen force emanating off the water of the East River. Not a river, it bears the name. Actually it is a saltwater tidal estuary or strait connecting the Atlantic Ocean in two places.

Finally my eyes cast down toward the water and the thought besieged my mind, “The river was running the other direction yesterday! Am I going mad? What’s happening?”

In a few seconds the realization came forth, the tide was going out; whereas yesterday it was coming in. Being from western Kentucky, my ability to comprehend the tides was limited and came only from text books.

A river running backwards happened on February 7, 1812. When the New Madrid fault slipped on that date, the Mississippi River ran backwards for several hours forming Reelfoot Lake in northwest Tennessee. That quake is

estimated to have been as high as 8.2 on the Richter scale.

Water in volumes too large to accurately determine, exerts tremendous force. The energy produced by tides exceeds all the energy produced by mankind every second of every day. To harness that energy is another matter.

Tidal energy is currently being used in a few locations around the world, most notably at the Sihwa Lake Tidal Power Station in South Korea and La Rance, France, which is the oldest large-scale tidal power station still in operation.

The awareness of tidal potential as a renewable and economical source of energy has long existed but the initial cost of tidal power plants is mostly prohibitive. Perhaps in the future, the tides will be utilized to decrease the use of fossil fuels which some believe is a major factor in climate change.

Life on earth could not exist without water. Genesis 1: 2 tells us, “The spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.” We know that water is one of the essential components for God’s creation process.

The combining of carbon based matter (Genesis 1: 1), water (Genesis 1: 2) and light (Genesis 1: 3), the process of photosynthesis happens. With that, chlorophyll is produced, of which a by-product is oxygen.

We humans inhale oxygen to be distributed by our lungs into our blood which in turn feeds the thirty trillion cells in our bodies. On the return trip through our veins the residue left (carbon dioxide) is exhaled into the atmosphere which provides for plants the fuel to produce more chlorophyll thus more oxygen.

God was the first recycler and it appears He thought of everything. I suppose that’s why He’s God.

Considering the power of moving water and that water is essential for photosynthesis and human survival, we can understand why Jesus emphasized water in His teachings.

John 4: 13 “Jesus answered, “Everyone

who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

At times it seems as if the church, like the East River, is running backwards. The church as Jesus intended it to be has in many cases lost its focus. Matthew 16: 18 “That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”

That statement by Jesus indicates one and only one church. His church has been severely fragmented and divided by denominationalism which is a result of individual thinking. Religionists have taken it upon themselves to distort the words of our Savior/Creator.

We cannot rewrite the scriptures and expect it to go unnoticed. Revelation 22 18b-19a “If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life.”

The perversion of the originally intended church goes far beyond the corruption of the scriptures. Churches are not to be social clubs or entertainment centers. Speakers are not to preach what has lately been dubbed as “feel good” preaching.

Jesus’ sacrificial death on the cross for the remission of the sins of all mankind was nothing to take lightly and celebrate as the winning of a ball game. Jesus’ death and resurrection changed the history of the world as no other event, ever!

We often wonder why the church is in decline in America. Perhaps these are a part of the reasons. We must preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ and adhere to His teachings and not let this river run backwards.

Van Yandell is a retired Industrial Arts teacher, an ordained gospel evangelist and commissioned missionary. His email: vmy2121@outlook.com

# Addiction Recovery Care announces leadership transition; Randy Hunter named CEO

Submitted by Vanessa Keeton  
VP of Marketing and Access

ASHLAND, Ky. (Aug. 6, 2026) — Addiction Recovery Care (ARC) today announced that Randy Hunter, CEO of Frontier Behavioral Health and a leader in substance use disorder treatment services, has been named CEO of ARC, effective immediately. His appointment is focused on bringing financial and management stability to the organization while maintaining the care that ARC has provided thousands of Kentuckians.

Hunter brings extensive experience in the development, implementation and operation of substance use disorder (SUD) treatment services across Kentucky. Throughout his career, he has demonstrated a com-

mitment to expanding access to care, strengthening operational performance, and supporting high-quality clinical outcomes for individuals and families affected by substance use disorders. He founded the residential treatment centers of Prestonsburg-based Frontier Behavioral Health, a network of SUD treatment facilities in Eastern Kentucky that has helped hundreds of people by empowering holistic recovery through comprehensive care. A retired Kentucky State Police trooper, Hunter also served as an investigator in the Kentucky attorney general’s Medicaid Fraud Control Unit.

Hunter will continue in his role as CEO at Frontier Behavioral Health and draw on the management best practices he implemented there to improve ARC.

“I am looking forward to leading ARC and guiding it into the future,” Hunter said. “As we navigate this transition, our commitment to the people of Kentucky is unchanged. We are dedicated to providing evidence-based treatment services that are clinically appropriate, medically necessary, and tailored to the unique needs of each person who entrusts us with their care.”

Hunter succeeds Cassandra Webb, who served as interim CEO. Webb will continue in her role as president and chief operating officer of ARC.

“We are incredibly grateful to Cassandra for her exceptional leadership, agility and dedication as interim CEO,” Hunter said. “I look forward to working closely with her as we lead ARC into its next chapter.”

## RELIGION CALENDAR

**SATURDAY, AUG. 8**  
THE KINGSMAN QUARTET — 6 p.m., The Barn at 4C Farm, 7130 KY 57, Vanceburg, KY 41179, doors open at 5 p.m., love offering will be received.

**S A T U R D A Y , AUGUST 22**  
LEARN TO SQUARE DANCE WITH KEVIN ROBINSON, DOSIDO CLUB, LEXINGTON — Trinity United Methodist Church Mission Fundraiser, reservations only (deadline Aug. 12), meal served at 5 p.m., \$20 per person, tables of eight available, Mike Huff dinner entertainment, preferred payment in advance or pay at door, dancing is not required, all funds go to the mission team, 26 West Third Street, Maysville, KY 41056, call 606-564-4462.

**THURSDAY, SEPT. 3**  
POET VOICES — 7 p.m., The Barn at 4C Farm, 7130 KY 57, Vanceburg, KY 41179, doors open at 6 p.m., a love offering will be received.

**THURSDAY, SEPT. 10**  
SHANNON METH-ODIST CHURCH 225 YEAR CELEBRATION (1801-2026) — revival 7 p.m., Rev. James Finch, refreshments 6:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY, SEPT. 11**  
SHANNON METH-ODIST CHURCH 225 YEAR CELEBRATION (1801-2026) — revival 7 p.m., Rev. Bill Bentley, refreshments 6:30 p.m.

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 12**  
SHANNON METH-ODIST CHURCH 225 YEAR CELEBRATION (1801-2026) — revival 7 p.m., Rev. Owen Dolin, refreshments 6:30 p.m.

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 13**  
SHANNON METH-ODIST CHURCH 225 YEAR CELEBRATION (1801-2026) — church celebration, Rev. Bill Richards 10 a.m.

**FRIDAY, OCT. 16**  
MASTER’S VOICE — 7 p.m., The Barn at 4C Farm, 7130 KY 57, Vanceburg, KY 41179, doors open at 6 p.m., a love offering will be received.

**MISC.**  
CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH — Every Wednesday at 6 p.m., Bible Study, 410 Pelham Street, Maysville.  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH — Choir practice, 7 p.m. on Wednesdays. Bible study, 6 p.m. on Wednesdays. Both at 21 West Third Street in Maysville.  
MASON COUNTY

MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION — Meeting the second Wednesday of each month, contact any of the new officers: President, Rev. Adam Burton (Central Baptist Church); Vice President, Rev. Elizabeth Smith (Seddon Methodist Church); and Secretary/Treasurer, Marilyn Roades (Wesley Chapel Church).

MOUNT TABOR — Tuesday Bible Study, 6 p.m. Join in the study of Psalms and put a “Psalm in Your Heart.” Church located in Ribolt.

S H E P H E R D ’ S HOUSE/COMMUNITY TUESDAY — Every Tuesday, 209 East Third Street, 10 a.m.-noon, open to the public, sewing and clothing ministry, free sewing machine adjustments; every third Tuesday food box hand-out. Text Gordon Jones, pastor, at 606-301-1921.

S H E P H E R D ’ S HOUSE FOOD DRIVE — Donations of non-perishable foods are now being accepted at both church locations at 209 East Third Street.

ST. JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH — Mass, 9:30 a.m., Minerva, services every Sunday.

WASHINGTON CENTRAL METHODIST CHURCH — Choir practice, 6 p.m. on Wednesdays. Bible study, 5 p.m. on Sundays.

# Hard work and generating passive income

Creating passive income is lingo that you probably have heard or thought about more than once. Generating an ongoing flow of cash that keeps coming is welcome by most of us. Seminars are often held by different entities explaining their technique for how to build a steady stream of income. All of us need money so it’s usually a topic of interest.

Years ago, a friend influenced me to sign up for Amway. He was doing great things and lived well. I signed up. That lasted maybe a month or two. I didn’t make any money from it but I admit I gave up quickly. Later, I was influenced by

another friend to sign up for a telephone pyramid scheme. Supposedly, people were making money. After about two months, I lost interest. On another occasion, I signed up to sell vitamins. On this occasion someone was reporting about how it helped people with multiple sclerosis. My wife was very sick from the disease and I was willing to buy or try anything that would help her. The vitamins did not help her and I gave up on the vitamin business.

The old adage that if it’s too good to be true then it probably is, is accurate most of the time. Occasionally someone wins the lottery and occasion-

ally someone is struck by lightning.

When I was 18 years old, I was working for a little country church. My only deacon whose name was Harold Rice said, “Glenn, we are going to enroll you in the annuity program operated by the Annuity Board of our Southern Baptist Convention.” Today, it’s called Guidestone. “We are going to put six dollars a month into your account,” he said. That contribution probably occurred approximately 12 times. I moved on to college. About 13 or 14 years ago I remembered



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that and called to see if an account like that even existed. The account did and it had grown to \$30,000. I was shocked.

A year or so later I took the fund out and invested it into an index fund which at that time was Ameritrade and now Schwab. The account has grown to \$90,000. Yes, I am talking about over 50 years of growth. The dividends were reinvested every year. The dividends from that little fund today are an ongoing passive income.

The best way for you to develop passive income is to work a job and put

some money into an Individual Retirement Account every year. I like a Roth IRA best because once you have paid tax on it and invest it into the Roth then it will generate income that you never have to pay tax on again.

At age 25, if you will start putting \$5,000 in a Roth IRA every year until you are 60 your fund could easily total ABOUT \$1.2 million. At the young age of 60 that account could easily produce \$12,000 or more of income for you. This is really passive income. Then, you can keep working or play golf every day.

Nothing is free and easy but you don’t have to make a huge sum of

money to put \$5,000 a year into a Roth IRA. You may have to skip eating out some or pass on a few vacations. You might have to drive an old car longer and avoid credit card purchases. Any sacrifice you make will be worth it later in life.

Dr. Glenn Mollette is the author of 15 books. He is a graduate of Georgetown College, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville Kentucky, Lexington Theological Seminary, Lexington, Kentucky, and is the founder of Newburgh Theological Seminary, Newburgh, Indiana. His column is published in over 600 media outlets nationally.