



**BOLD**  
**BELIEVERS**  
**IN GIVING**

**Through the  
Cooperative  
Program**



**WESTERN RECORDER**

APRIL 8, 1976

## People & Places



Cox



Rowatt

Jim Cox (left), associate editor of *Western Recorder*, and Wade Rowatt, assistant professor of psychological religion at Southern Seminary, are Kentuckians leading sessions during the National Family Enrichment Conference at Glorieta (N. M.) Baptist Conference Center, July 10-16.

Poole (Ky.) Missionary Baptist Church held a revival recently. Wallace Morris, evangelist from Bowling Green, preached and John Evans of Owensboro directed music. Orville D. Hickey is pastor.

The Baptist Student Union of Georgetown College held a spiritual emphasis week recently. Features of the week included Archie Griffin of the Ohio State football team, "Honeytree," a religious folk singer, the Southern Seminary Choral Ensemble and Truth.

The funeral service of Leonard A. Stephens, 73, of Albany, Ga., was held Feb. 14 at Central Baptist Church, Albany. He was a native of Wakefield, Ky., and had pastored David's Fork Church, Lexington.

One hundred thirteen women of Third Avenue Baptist Church, Louisville, are members of Southern Seminary's woman's committee. They are the largest group from one church in the Southern Baptist Convention to affiliate with the 1,000-member organization.



Smyser



Ross

Keith Smyser, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Smyser, Winchester, will be employed by First Church, Winchester, as a summer worker. He is a senior at Eastern Kentucky University and will enter New Orleans Seminary this fall.

Jeff Ross, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Ross, Winchester, has been licensed to preach by First Church, Winchester. He is a freshman at the University of Kentucky and upon graduation plans to continue study at a Baptist seminary.

Paul Douglas Davidson was ordained to the ministry Mar. 14 by First Church, Richmond, Ky. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Davidson and is a student at Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex. His ordination was requested by First Church, Loco, Okla., where he has been called as pastor.

Joseph A. Callaway, professor of biblical archaeology at Southern Seminary, has been named a research professor for 1976-77 at the Albright Institute of Archaeological Research in Jerusalem.



Callaway



Davidson

Providence Baptist Church, Frankfort, Ky., was destroyed by fire in 1969. On Mar. 21 of this year the note on the new building was burned during a special service. The church is now debt free. David Stephens is pastor.

Midway (Ky.) Baptist Church and WMU recently honored Mrs. Ila Wash with a certificate of appreciation and a gift for 50 years of women's missionary work.

Providence Knob Baptist Church near Bowling Green honored Pastor R. B. Hooks Jr. recently with a surprise "This is Your Life" program. The occasion was climaxed with the presentation of a plaque of appreciation for 13 years of service, a miscellaneous shower for the pastor and his family and a churchwide supper.

Mark C. Fowler was recently named by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's Sunday School Department as a young adult consultant. He earlier held the position of minister of education at Crescent Hill Baptist Church, Louisville.

Southern Seminary has invited Alton H. McEachern to serve as J. Clyde Turner visiting professor of preaching. He will teach a four-week course in pastoral preaching during July. McEachern was formerly an adjunct professor of preaching at Southern Seminary while pastor of St. Matthews Baptist Church. Last fall he taught a doctoral seminar in preaching and worship at Midwestern Baptist Seminary in Kansas City.

The annual "Summer Youth Program Workshop" is scheduled at Southern Seminary Apr. 23-25. Information is available from William Cromer, Southern Seminary, 2825 Lexington Road, Louisville, Ky. 40206.

## Staff Changes

Arcade Baptist Church, Louisville, announces F. M. Jenkins of Iuka, Miss., as new pastor. Bill Mason, Rienzi, Miss., has been named youth director for the church.

C. Alan McCutchen has accepted the call as minister of music and youth at Crabtree Avenue Baptist Church, Owensboro. He is a native of Louisville and a graduate of Murray State.

Tom Biggs has accepted the position of minister through music and youth at Bethany Baptist Church, Mt. Washington, Ky. A native of Kentucky, Biggs has served in the Summersville and Cave City churches. He is a graduate of Campbellsville College and is now attending Southern Seminary.



Biggs

# Dangers of a Tailor-Made Religion

Duke K. McCall

President, Southern Seminary

After a third of a century of committee meetings some impressions about the character of the Southern Baptist Convention ought to emerge. I have spent the time sitting, listening and talking. I wonder what I saw?

I think I saw Southern Baptists change from custom-made religion to tailor-made religion. Once upon a time (before World War II) Southern Baptists were concentrated in the 18 Southeastern states. We were very much alike culturally, educationally and we constructed our church programs on that basis. We all sang "The Old Rugged Cross" before the offering and "Just As I Am" for the invitation.

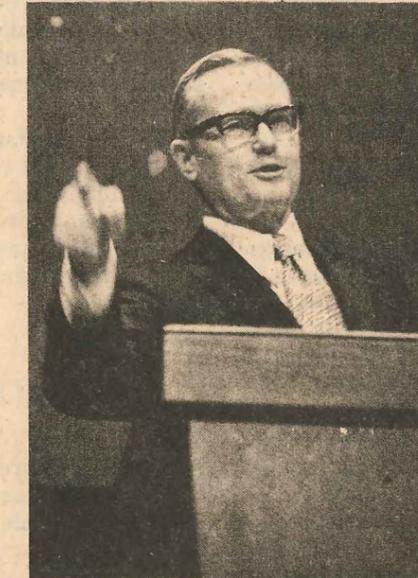
After World War II we took our piety, our devotion to the Bible as the Word of God and our sense of destiny as the people of God to folks in California and Oregon and Idaho and Massachusetts. This geographic dispersion coincided with the collapse of consensus culture in America. The latter was signaled by the death of the big national magazines whose articles had set the patterns and style of furniture, dress and life for the entire country. The contemporary scene has a specialized magazine for almost every conceivable (and some inconceivable) human interest.

No wonder our custom-made religious literature suddenly appeared irrelevant and dated to parts of our constituency who wanted tailor-made materials. People began to question the value of the Training Union which had actually provided hundreds of thousands of Baptist young people their only experience in leadership development. Public schools began to provide television panel experience for youngsters whose parents had gotten the equivalent experience as Training Union group captains.

No wonder we turned from the single custom-made program for all churches to try to provide a variety of tailor-made programs for the specific interests and needs of different people. It was the right response at the right time. The psychological impact of this shift to a sort of tailor-made approach

was unfortunate, however.

The average church member suddenly began to feel that not only everything in his church but also everything in his denomination should be tailor-made to him and his needs. Instead of seeing the options provided as an affirmation of the right of people to be different, we have complained that nobody has found a single program of Bible study or evangelism that is precisely right for us. The religious music that arose from the youth culture has grabbed some and offended others,



cabulary or church organizational pattern. That was 40 years ago. In contrast, I have recently preached within the same week in a robe in a Baptist church with a divided chancel and also stood on the back end of a cotton wagon in shirt sleeves to proclaim the love of God. Everything was altered except the biblical message.

More devastating to our denominational program, however, than this diversity of life styles found in different communities is the changing life style of individuals as they march down the corridor of the years. As they and their family's needs change, they speak of the church as old-fashioned and irrelevant, unaware that other families are today where they used to be. They want the whole church restyled or else they drop out of the center of its life. Like an old suit which no longer fits, they discard their church relations. Sometimes they move to a new and different kind of church of the same or another denomination. Now I am a Baptist but I prefer to see a man active among the people of God somewhere rather than simply being a disgruntled, inactive Baptist. By moving he will probably lift the average level of both the church he leaves and one to which he goes.

Southern Baptists have heard the needs of people, and we have changed. But we cannot change enough to provide a tailor-made church style for everybody. We are going to have to decide who we are as the instrument of God and, despite our efforts to be flexible and make room for diversity, agree to some common areas of cooperation.

Let us get on with personal soul-winning, mass evangelism, tithing, layman-led Bible study, unabashed pride in our denominational agencies and programs, pastors with earned doctorates, bought doctorates and honorary doctorates and no diploma at all. Let us be congregational evangelicals who cooperate wherever we can and do our own thing the rest of the time. The world needs us and God will use us for Christ's sake.

but both groups require the denomination to produce a hymnal tailored to their tastes. (The new Baptist Hymnal has something for all of us.)

As long as we had a custom-made denominational pattern all of our churches and most of our people were alike or else assumed they ought to be alike. In retrospect I see this dramatically portrayed in my experience. I grew up in a sophisticated First Baptist Church of a major city and then became pastor of a half time open country church. I experienced no change in musical tastes, religious vo-

## WESTERN RECORDER

"Earnestly contend for the Faith which was once for all delivered to the saints"—Jude 3

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## All Roads Lead to Harrodsburg

Two hundred years ago most Kentucky wilderness roads ended or passed through Harrodsburg. This year all roads for Baptists in Kentucky again lead to Harrodsburg for the significant Apr. 19 celebration of 200 years of Baptist preaching in Kentucky.

This day may see the largest gathering of Baptists in Kentucky in the 200 years. Indeed, such should be the case. After all, it is unlikely any Kentucky Baptist living today will ever have such an opportunity again.

Apr. 19 is not merely another big meeting for Baptist preaching. It is a celebration of our heritage resulting from 200 years of Baptist preaching in Kentucky.

What is this heritage we celebrate? It is first of all a heritage of liberty in Jesus Christ and freedom of worship in America. There is no way to price these freedoms. Freedom is the gift of God for all who accept Jesus Christ and it cannot be taken away. But the privilege of exercising this gift in public worship is worth shouting from the housetops. It is denied in most other places on earth.

In Harrodsburg we will also celebrate our belief in the priesthood of every believer and the personal call of God for ministers of his gospel.

William Hickman, who is credited with this first Baptist preaching in 1776, was a most unlikely prospect for the ministry from the human standpoint. His father and mother died when he was very young and he was reared by his grandmother. His educational opportunities were limited since there was "little time to go to school." He could hardly read or write and, by his own admission, he fell in with bad associates early in his life and became a very wicked man. He even kept his wife who was converted before he was from being baptized for many months.

Hickman was not even an ordained minister when on that spring Sunday 200 years ago in Harrodsburg he was handed the Bible by Thomas Tinsley and told he would have to preach or there would be no preaching that day. From there Hickman went on to become a prominent preacher in early Kentucky.

In Harrodsburg on Apr. 19 we will not only reaffirm our belief that God called and mightily used William Hickman but that God still calls and uses preachers of his gospel from all ranks and stations of life.

Another part of our heritage to celebrate in Harrodsburg is the sense of divine destiny of Baptists in Kentucky. The Baptist scene in Kentucky today is

a far cry from that little outdoor service at the head of the spring in Harrodsburg in 1776.

Today Baptists in Kentucky number more than 800,000. This is the Lord's harvest of the divinely inspired 200 years efforts of Baptists in Kentucky. But with all which has been done in the past the challenge in 1976 is as great or greater than it was in 1776. Part of our celebration should be a recommitment to our divine destiny as evangelists for God.

Still another part of our heritage to celebrate in Harrodsburg is our belief in the brotherhood of man and the equality of all in the sight of God. Our record has not been very good at this point. The fact that black and white Baptists in Kentucky worship separately in most instances and that we have separate conventions is enough evidence to convict us.

In Harrodsburg on Apr. 19 black and white Baptists will be celebrating together. This, itself, will be a liberating experience and the long range benefits could be tremendous.

And so all roads for Kentucky Baptists should lead to Harrodsburg Apr. 19.

## Sugaring In Vermont

The most picturesque sight in the Vermont countryside is the sugar house. Its product is not sugar but the famed maple syrup made from the sap of maple trees which grow everywhere in Vermont. The "sugaring season" depends upon when the sap begins flowing which usually is from the middle of March through April.

This is long before any real outward signs of spring. The maples are still bare, snow covers the ground and the weather is cold. In fact, ideal sap season is when the daytime temperatures rise into the 20's and 30's and the night temperature drops to the teens. The flow of sap is determined by the climate. Sugar farmers have to work when the sap flows and sometimes it's day and night.

The maple syrup process is simple. The sap is collected and boiled until most of the water has evaporated and the consistency of the syrup is right. About 40 gallons of sap are needed for one gallon of syrup. Four maple trees averaging 40 years of age

are needed for enough sap to make one gallon of syrup.

Many sugaring operations are small family type projects but large operations produce 2,500 gallons or more a season. This means collecting and processing sap from 10,000 trees.

The sap collection is not an activity for weak backs. While snow is still a problem to navigate, the trees must be tapped and buckets hung to catch the sap. In earlier days the taps were made by manual bits. Now easier but costlier methods are used. A large tree may have four or five buckets hanging on its sides. Before vehicles were made to traverse the snow and rough terrain the sap was collected in tanks mounted on sleds and pulled by horses or in buckets strapped to the strong shoulders of sugar farmers.

Some sugar farmers now use plastic tubing instead of buckets to collect the sap. The tubing is an

easier method but is more expensive, especially if a deer comes along to wreck the tubing or a thief makes away with it.

The holes for sap are good for only one season and so new holes for collecting sap are made each year in the trunks of the trees. Thus maples tapped over the years have the appearance of targets on a rifle range. The old holes don't close but apparently the trees are not seriously injured though some have a hundred or more bullet size holes in their trunks.

Sugar farmers have it hard like other farmers living off the land. Production costs continue to rise making the margin of profit less and less. They complain and threaten to quit but every early spring when the sap starts flowing they take to the snowy maple stands with their sap buckets. There's sugaring in their blood.

## BAPTIST FORUM



### CHOICE OF PRESIDENT

In a democratic fellowship, choice of an elected leader is the great recurring challenge. Southern Baptists face it again in the election of a president at Norfolk.

Their history confirms the maturity they have exercised in selecting the 38 men who have served in this position. Each in his own way made his individual contribution to that fellowship.

The one who served the longest, P. H. Mell, 1863-71 and 1880-87, distinguished himself in the primary quality, that of presiding. Patrick Hues Mell was the chancellor of the University of Georgia, pastor of part time churches known as the "Mell Kingdom," married twice and the father of 14 children.

One contemporary, characterizing his commanding performance, referred to him as "the imperial Mell." One cannot escape the impression that when Mell let the gavel fall the Convention came to order, period.

Mell is the only man who served two separate terms for a total of 15 annual meetings. The only reason Mell was not elected for a 16th time was almost certainly because the old "imperial" died between annual sessions.

The first layman president, Jonathan Haralson of Alabama, prominent jurist and civic leader of Selma, had a useful 10-year career for the Convention, after which Southern Baptists, at the turn of the century, decided that enough was enough and limited the term to three years.

Another to make a unique contribution

in office was R. B. C. Howell, the only man to resign after being duly elected. This he did in 1859 in Richmond after being chosen for a fourth consecutive time. His stated reason: because the Landmark controversy was being introduced as an issue on the Convention floor. No man ever resisted Landmarkism as vigorously or as effectively as did R. B. C. Howell, but he would not be a party to the inappropriate introduction on the floor of the Convention of an issue which had to be resolved locally.

More recent history recalls the singular service of another layman of our time, Brooks Hays. Schooled in the ready tumult of practical politics, Brooks contributed two rare qualities: (1) a priceless ready wit, and (2) a gentle human respect.

Perhaps the man who made the most lasting gift was the very first one to occupy the chair, William Bullein Johnson of South Carolina. For almost 50 years he had distinguished himself as an educator, a missionary agent, a denominational statesman.

At the formation of the Triennial Convention in 1814 he had in large measure framed the constitution for that body. In 1845 he was called on to do the same in Augusta for Southern Baptists. He introduced each document with the phrase which states the purpose of the people called Baptists: "a plan for eliciting, combining and directing the energies of the denomination for the propagation of the gospel."

What qualities do we need in a

president of our Convention? Has not Johnson expressed it? Someone to elicit, combine and direct our energies in this sacred purpose.

Joe W. Burton, Nashville, Tenn.

### SOME AD-VICE

I have been putting off writing to you for some time. When I got this last issue of the Western Recorder, I decided I could no longer put it off.

I'm a young Baptist pastor who enjoys reading our state paper, even when I disagree with many of the things I may read in it. But I have always been under the impression that our paper was just that; OUR state paper!

Perhaps I'm mistaken. I thought it was for news of happenings and discussions of things going on within our state convention. I was also under the impression that it was funded and supported by our convention in this state.

But my complaint is this: why has there suddenly become so many classified ads of non-church-related items? I can understand (although I'd just as soon they weren't in there) ads concerning funeral homes and church furniture businesses and such. But of late, I've been seeing ads for used car dealers, eye wash, cook books and such things!

There are newspapers for ads such as these! IF our convention funds the Western Recorder I fail to see the need for outside revenue from these kinds of ads. I read my Recorder for church-related information, but if I need an eyewash, I can go to the local drug store and buy it. I can read such ads in a local newspaper or circular.

J. Duane Holland, Eddyville

## BAPTIST NEWS BRIEFS

### UNENROLED MEN AND BOYS PARTICIPATE IN MISSIONS

More than 26,000 Southern Baptist men and boys not enroled in any mission organization participated in mission activities during the last church year, an examination of the Uniform Church Letter revealed.

Glendon McCullough, executive director of the Brotherhood Commission, said the discovery of the additional men and boys involved in missions raised to 502,754 the number of male mission participants six years and older in and outside of organized Brotherhood units.

Southern Baptists reported 476,002 men and boys participating in missions through Baptist Men's units and Royal Ambassador chapters, an increase of 15,259 from 1974.

Two new categories to measure the involvement in missions of men and boys outside organized Brotherhood units were added to the Uniform Church Letter in 1975 at the request of Brotherhood leaders.

"We are continuing to get reliable reports that a significantly larger number of men and boys were participating in missions than churches were reporting in formal Brotherhood enrolment," the Baptist leader explained.

"As more churches discover categories 124 and 125 for listing the mission involvement of their men and boys who aren't in organized Brotherhood units, I think Southern Baptists are in for a surprise at the volume of activity.

"About 2,000 churches reported activity the very first time these two categories were included," McCullough added.

In the case of the men, the category asks for a report on the men not already counted who were involved individually in such activities as mission tours, lay revivals and lay renewal.

### SOUTHEASTERN PLANS URBAN STUDIES PROJECT IN D. C.

Trustees of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C., authorized a one-year academic and data-gathering urban studies project in Washington, D. C., to begin in January 1977. The project is part of a comprehensive long range planning effort underway at the seminary, said Southeastern President Randall Lolley.

"We have had a consistent program for training in rural ministry as well as urban studies seminars through the years," Lolley said. "This new project will provide us much needed data on how better to train seminarians for ministry in urban settings. More and more the Atlantic seaboard is becoming a strip city and it's mandatory that Southern Baptists meet the challenge for theological education posed by this emerging situation."

Details of the academic program will be forthcoming. Preliminary plans are to offer in Washington, D. C., courses for credit which will take advantage of the unique learning resources in the nation's capital. Project facilities will be provided by the Capitol Hill-Metropolitan Baptist Church, located on Capitol Hill, Lolley said. (BP)

### NOBTS TO GIVE CREDIT FOR LA. COLLEGE'S COURSES

Louisiana College, a Baptist school at Alexandria-Pineville, La., and New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary have entered into a joint agreement that makes it possible for Louisiana College students to receive up to 16 hours credit in religious education toward a seminary degree.

The announcement was made by James A. Young, chairman of Louisiana College's department of religion, who said that under the contract students majoring in religious education at the college will be able to select from nine courses toward work at New Orleans.

Ray P. Rust, executive vice president at New Orleans Seminary, said they are also working toward similar agreements with other Baptist colleges and began such a program with Gardner-Webb College, Boiling Springs, N. C., several months ago. (BP)

April  
19



Franklin Owen

Don't forget it. Make plans for it. Let's have a tremendous day at the special meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention at Harrodsburg Apr. 19. Our fellow Baptists of the General Association of Baptists in Kentucky will be meeting with us jointly as together we celebrate the bicentennial of Baptist preaching in what is now Kentucky.

It was on Apr. 19, 1776, at Fort Harrod in Harrodstown (now Harrodsburg) that Thomas Tinsley and William Hickman preached the first sermons on record by Baptists in our Commonwealth territory. Though we know that Squire Boone (Daniel's brother), a Baptist preacher, preceded these men on Kentucky soil and must have preached, the earliest record we have is of the Fort Harrod services of Hickman and Tinsley.

On Apr. 19, 1976, we Baptists, black and white, will assemble at the same place, at 10 a.m. for a day of preaching, with both constituencies taking part in both the proclamation and the amens. You are going to miss something great if you don't attend.

The Kentucky edition of the Liberty Bell will summon the assembly at 10 o'clock. We shall conduct a march in the afternoon to the roadside marker in honor of the above mentioned first preaching service. We shall ring the bell again at this time, loud and clear, as well as at other appropriate intervals.

Bring \$6 with you and buy a copy of our new bicentennial history "Baptists in Kentucky - 1776-1976." Fifteen chapters by illustrious Kentucky authors.

A great spirit will prevail. God's spirit will be present, and we pray that it will mark the beginning of a great revival among the Baptists of Kentucky.

-o-

Our office recived from the churches in March \$572,031.15 compared with \$400,193.20 for the same month a year ago. Our receipts to date are \$3,639,449.01, as against \$3,066,969.09 last year. It looks good, but not enough yet for our bicentennial "Hallelujah Goal" of \$7,000,000, which needs to average \$583,333.33 per month.

## Kentucky to Assist Guatemala

The Brotherhood Department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and the Foreign Mission Board are working together to send workmen from Kentucky to aid in reconstruction work in Guatemala.

A crew of 15 men is scheduled to leave Louisville Sunday, May 9 and will spend one week in Guatemala. According to Brotherhood Director Forrest Sawyer 10 men have already committed themselves to take part. One Spanish speaking man is committed to go and one more is being sought. Four concrete block masons, three carpenters and two electricians are needed. Other

team members should have general handyman skills.

Each person on the work crew is to pay his own way. Expenses include \$244.36 for round trip fare and \$5 per day for food. Anyone interested in going on the work crew may obtain more information by contacting the Brotherhood Department, Kentucky Baptist Building, Middletown (502-245-4101).

Other states sending work crews include Illinois, Louisiana, Texas, Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, California, Tennessee, Virginia, Oklahoma.

## Radio-TV: Giving SBC Their Money's Worth

Baptists are getting their money's worth from the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission.

In 1975, for instance, records show the cash money value of free air time given Baptists for Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission-produced programs on public service time amounted to \$9.42 million.

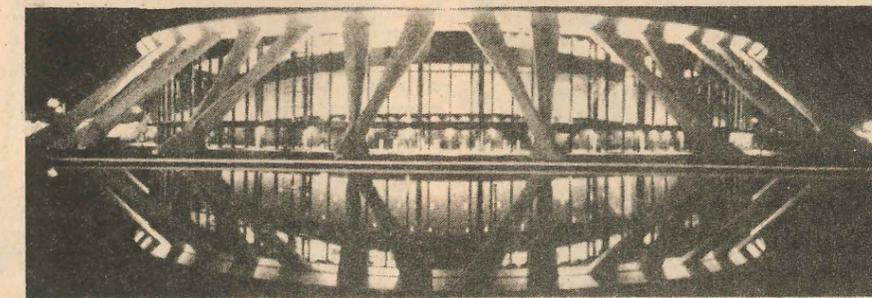
But what's interesting is that the programs the Commission produces are done on an operating budget of less than \$2 million.

What's really exciting is that the \$9.42 million was a jump from the 1974 gift of \$9.04 million, and ahead of the 1973 gift of \$8.5 million. Add to these figures the \$7.5 million given Baptists in 1972 and the \$5.9 million given in 1971, and it totals some \$40 plus million - given Baptists by broadcasters just in the past five years.

That's what happens when God does business. We're not whistling Dixie. We're singing "Showers of Blessings."

**BOLD BELIEVERS IN GIVING**  
Through a Christian Life Style

Sunday, Apr. 11, 1976, will be observed Convention-wide as Cooperative Program Day. Plan to use this day to inform church members of the importance of the Cooperative Program and some of the ministries being accomplished through it. Pray for your missionaries who are sharing the gospel around the world. Pray for your church to become burdened for a bold mission thrust in 1976. Pray for increased giving in your church for world missions through the Cooperative Program and for increased support of your associational missions program.



The 1976 meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-17, will be in Norfolk Scope. When the SBC met previously in Norfolk in 1898 total registration was 857. This summer messengers are expected to total around 16,000.



## Sullivan Can't Answer, What's Retirement Like?

Most men seem to approach retirement with anticipation of getting out from under the pressures experienced in their working careers. But James L. Sullivan, chief executive officer of the Baptist Sunday School Board for more than 21 years, is an 180-degree exception.

Instead of decreasing activity since he retired from the board 14 months ago, he seems to have done the opposite.

"I'm actually traveling about as many miles and speaking almost as many times as I did when I was employed," said the denominational statesman in Elizabethtown recently.

Sullivan said he had requests which would have filled his calendar for five years had he accepted them.

"That was before I was elected a vice president of the Baptist World Alliance," he explained. "My plans have changed considerably since."

He is attempting to nail down commitments only through 1977 now.

Mrs. Sullivan travels with her husband "as frequently as her own schedule will permit."

Both are active in Nashville's First Baptist Church and participate as regularly as possible.

In addition to the speaking engagements, Sullivan is also currently preparing a textbook manuscript for the Seminary Extension Department of the Southern Baptist seminaries, Nashville.

He likes to garden and fish (their home is on Old Hickory Lake just outside Nashville). "But those opportunities just don't happen every day," he laughed.

He plans to establish a shop at home, too, "when I get my library out of the way."

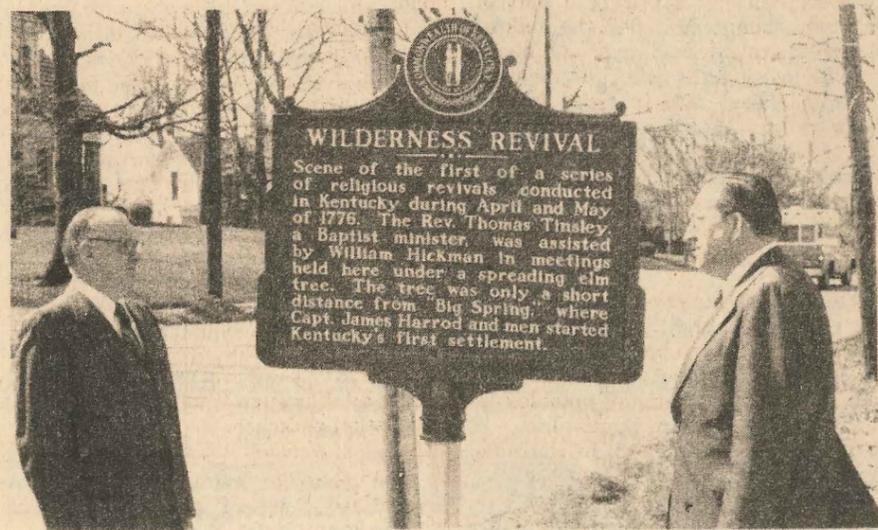
Not enjoy retirement? James L. Sullivan wouldn't think of it. He probably wouldn't have the time.



Harrodsburg Baptist Church will host state Baptists' 200th anniversary.

## TV, March, Dinner on the Grounds Help Baptists Celebrate Apr. 19

by Jim Cox, Associate Editor



Ezra Scott [left], Harrodsburg deacon, and Pastor S. C. Gash view the marker erected by the state at the site where it all began two centuries ago.

They're putting the finishing touches on one of Kentucky Baptists' biggest extravaganzas in years now at Harrodsburg. It's the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the first preaching by Baptists in the state, to be commemorated Apr. 19.

The convention will join with the General Association of Baptists in Kentucky (Black Baptists) to appropriately mark this historical event.

As the big day approaches:

- The host church, Harrodsburg Baptist, affiliated with the Kentucky Baptist Convention, is hanging new drapes in its tastefully decorated contemporary sanctuary.

- Final arrangements to cover events in the 1300-seat auditorium by closed circuit TV are being made. An additional 500 persons will be able to see and hear proceedings "live" on a giant screen erected in the fellowship hall.

- Ezra Scott, Harrodsburg church deacon, is coordinating local efforts to provide police escort service for a half-mile march from the church to the original site of the first preaching west of the Alleghenies. Those on foot will walk four abreast down Harrodsburg's main thoroughfares. Those who can't walk will ride chartered buses which Scott is reserving.

- Arrangements to feed all those multitudes are being completed, too. If good weather prevails, the Harrodsburg Pioneers football stadium will provide a natural setting for dinner on the grounds. But Harrodsburg Elementary School cafeteria is also being reserved, in case of rain.

- A great central region chorale is alternating between Harrodsburg and Danville for rehearsals for its performance at the closing session Apr. 19.

- And the host church is planning a gigantic pre-anniversary celebration for Apr. 18 at 7 p.m. with R. G. Lee, one of Southern Baptists' most revered preachers, as speaker.

Host pastor S. Clelland Gash, a Harrodsburg native who graduated from Georgetown College and Southern Seminary, is outspokenly optimistic about the prospects.

"There will be a wider cross section of people here for this than those who attend the Daniel Boone drama and who come to see the historical sites," he predicts.

Gash, who became pastor of the Harrodsburg church in August 1970, returned to his native home from the chaplaincy, having served a year in Viet Nam. Earlier he was assistant pastor of both First Baptist Church, Owensboro, and Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn.



The church auditorium, completed in 1961, is modern in every appointment.

Speakers for the Apr. 19 program include five prominent men: Wayne E. Ward, professor of Christian theology, Southern Seminary, Louisville; A. Russell Awkard, pastor of New Zion Baptist Church, Louisville; Verlin C. Kruschwitz, pastor, Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown; Franklin Owen, executive secretary-treasurer, Kentucky Baptist Convention, Middletown; and Manuel Scott, pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, Los Angeles, Calif.

At a service at the historic marker during the afternoon, three men will briefly recount the history of Baptists surrounding that spot: J. E. Darter, clerk, Mercer Baptist Association; Gash; and John M. Carter, pastor, Calvary Hills Baptist Church, Stanford.

A. R. Lasley, General Association of Baptists in Kentucky, and T. Hicks Shelton, Kentucky Baptist Convention, will preside over the day's proceedings.

The first session begins at the church at 10 a.m. followed by lunch "on your own." The second session continues at 2 p.m., concluding with the celebration march at 4 p.m. and feeding of the multitude.

The evening session is scheduled to get under way at the church at 7 p.m.



Mercer Baptist Association is proud of its heritage in Kentucky Baptist life as evidenced by signs erected near the Harrodsburg city limits.

# Harrodsburg: Where It All Began

Harrodsburg is conceded to be the oldest settlement in Kentucky, and is the oldest Baptist preaching point in the state. There has been preaching by Baptists in Harrodsburg from the earliest times, but there was no Baptist church in the town until 1839.

"From the earliest times" refers to a series of services conducted by Thomas Tinsley, assisted by William Hickman, in Harrodsburg in 1776. It is from that series of meetings that Baptists date the beginning of their history in Kentucky.

There is ample historical proof to substantiate the fact that Harrodsburg was an important preaching point even before a church was organized there. Harrodsburg was of such significance as a Baptist center that it drew Luther Rice as early as 1818. To Rice Baptists are indebted for inaugurating the work of foreign missions and Christian education on a national scale.

William Vaughan, one of the great theologians of his day, was making his way through Kentucky when he visited Harrodsburg in 1839. He found a number of Baptists living in and around the town. After a service they asked that he lead them in constituting a church.

The first home of the Baptist congregation was the old Republican Meeting House. Originally a brick structure 40 by 50 feet, it faced northward toward the court house, comprising a part of the town square. By 1840 the fellowship had expanded to over 30 members. They purchased the meeting house, paying \$1,400 in three installments over an 18-month period.

A. W. LaRue was the first full time pastor of the church, taking up his duties in 1853. One of his outstanding accomplishments was the inauguration of a Sunday school, a daring innovation in those days.

The 137-year history of the Harrodsburg Baptist Church, which will host the bicentennial celebration of Baptist preaching in Kentucky Apr. 19, includes the names of many notables in Kentucky and Southern Baptist life.

- J. Morgan Wells, born in Harrodsburg in 1855 and licensed to preach by the church, became recognized as one of the most eloquent and fascinating speakers of the American pulpit.

- George C. Lorimer, native of Edinburgh, Scotland, was ordained to the

ministry by the church while serving as its pastor (1859). He has been referred to by historians as "probably the most sought after pulpit orator of his generation." He later served famed Tremont Baptist Temple, Boston, and First Baptist Church, Chicago.

- J. M. Frost, pastor in 1870, would be elected first executive secretary-treasurer of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, 21 years later.

- E. Y. Mullins served the church 1885-88 and later became president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (1899), the Southern Baptist Convention (1921-24) and the Baptist World Alliance (1923-38).

- Fred F. Brown, pastor from 1913-15, was also a president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

- C. R. Daley, who served from 1954-57, left the Harrodsburg church to take up responsibilities as Western Recorder editor.

- Wallace H. Carrier, pastor from 1957-70, is now an editor at the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville.

The present pastor, Samuel Clelland Gash, is himself a product of the Harrodsburg church.

"Without boasting, I'm proud of the fact I worshiped as a Junior and an Intermediate in the original meeting house of 1839," he says. "I'm the only pastor to have done that, and I suppose the only one who ever will have that honor."

That facility has now been torn away to provide for today's progressive, flourishing program. The congregation now numbers 2,080 plus.

The present educational building was dedicated in February 1950. The modern sanctuary was completed in November 1961 at a cost of \$554,000. A bi-level parking structure for 67 vehicles which also doubles as a recreation complex was dedicated in 1975.

Harrodsburg Baptist Church was not the first one organized in the area, however. At best, it must claim to be at least fourth place, having been preceded by Shawnee Run, Deep Creek and Bethel churches.

But it is a visible example of dedication and determination to some principles which Kentucky Baptists everywhere have cherished for two centuries.

And Kentucky Baptists will return to the shrine where it all began Apr. 19.

## Across the SBC

### Glorieta to Host Small Churches

Leaders of small churches will be offered a "first" at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center, Aug. 23-27.

Sponsored by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board and led by age-group personnel of the Sunday School Department, the week long conference is patterned after other Sunday school weeks, the exception being that only small churches are invited. Participants will be involved in leadership training classes, as well as Bible study, gospel singing and worship.

Provisions for family members include demonstration departments for preschoolers and children and a youth Bible conference for young people attending with their parents. No provisions will be made for youth groups, however.

Sessions begin with the evening meal at 5:30 on Monday, Aug. 23 and conclude on Friday, Aug. 27. Halls, lodges, dormitories and housekeeping units are available, with charges being based on a four-day conference.

Reservations should be made in writing to Glorieta Baptist Conference Center, Box 8, Glorieta, N. M. 87535. A \$5 deposit must accompany each reservation.

### NOBTS Adopts Budget, Program

A diploma program designed to certify competency in Bible interpretation, preaching and pastoral administration for ministers without a bachelors degree, a \$2,627,000 budget, establishing of a long range study committee and hiring of a new faculty member were approved by the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary board of trustees.

The diploma program, to be offered through the seminary's School of Christian Training Program, is "unique because more than half of the requirements leading up to the diploma in pastoral ministries may be completed off-campus," said Ray P. Rust, executive vice president at New Orleans.

"Seminary Extension, Baptist colleges, Church Administration Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board and state convention-sponsored

education extension centers offer courses, which will be credited toward the diploma in pastoral ministry," Rust said.

Of the seminary's new budget, more than \$1,800,000 will come from the Cooperative Program unified budget of Southern Baptists.

The board elected H. T. Bryson, pastor of the Eastdale Baptist Church, Montgomery, Ala., as associate professor of preaching in the division of pastoral ministries.

### Miss Roberts Named Information Assistant

Sharon Roberts, editorial assistant since November 1972 in the Sunday School Department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, has been named information assistant in the board's office of public relations.

A native of Texas, Miss Roberts is a graduate of Belmont College. She has written several articles for the "Sunday School Lesson Illustrator."

### Evangelists Set Meet

The Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists will meet in Norfolk, Va., at 4 p.m., Wednesday, June 16, between sessions of the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting.

The annual program, in Chrysler Hall of the Scope Convention Center, will feature addresses by evangelists Manley Beasley of San Antonio, Tex.; Dudley Hall of Fort Worth, Tex.; and Jerry Spencer of Memphis, Tenn. and Oscar Thompson, assistant professor of evangelism at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth.

### BPRA Meeting

Addresses by a Pulitzer prize winner and the editor-in-chief of a national news service will highlight the three-day meeting of the Baptist Public Relations Association Apr. 13-15 in Sarasota, Fla.

Hayes Johnson of Washington, a reporter for the Washington Post, will open the annual meeting of the public relations practitioners with an address on "The American Experience."

H. L. Stevenson of New York, vice president and editor-in-chief of United Press International, will speak at the closing session on "The Future of Journalism."

Other program features include workshops on graphic arts and principles for solving public relations problems. The conferees also will hear four newsmen discuss techniques for working with news media.

The 23-year-old association is composed of 250 public relations practitioners from agencies and institutions in the Southern Baptist Convention, state Baptist conventions and associations. Roy Jennings of Memphis, executive assistant at the Brotherhood Commission, is president.

### B. A. Sizemore Dies

A head-on automobile collision in Kansas City, Mo., took the life of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary professor Burlan A. Sizemore Jr., 42, and seriously injured four members of his family. The accident occurred on Sunday afternoon, Mar. 21.

Sizemore and his family were on a four-lane road about two miles from the seminary, where he was professor of Old Testament interpretation and Hebrew. Their car was hit by one driven by a 16-year-old youth, who was apparently drag racing, a seminary spokesman said. The youth's condition was not known.

Sizemore's daughter, Rebecca, 11, was "critically injured, with partial paralysis," the spokesman noted, while the other family members, including Sizemore's widow, Dorothy, Cynthia, 17, and Burlan, 16, were "seriously injured." The four were in North Kansas City Memorial Hospital. An older daughter, Sherry, 19, was traveling in Europe. His mother also survives.

A native of Centerville, Mo., Sizemore was previously on the faculty of Georgetown (Ky.) College, coming to Midwestern in 1968. He had been an instructor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, from which he was graduated with the bachelor of divinity and doctor of theology degrees. He was graduated also from Southwest Baptist College and William Jewell College in Bolivar and Liberty, Mo., respectively.



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## BiCentennial Concerts

April 19 .....	Harrodsburg Baptist Church .....	10:00 A.M.
April 19 .....	Louisville, Atherton High School .....	8:00 P.M.
April 20 .....	Owensboro, First Baptist Church .....	7:15 P.M.
April 21 .....	Paducah, Jetton Junior High School .....	8:00 P.M.
April 22 .....	Bowling Green, Van Meter Auditorium .....	8:00 P.M.
April 23 .....	Frankfort, Bradford Hall, K. S. U. ....	8:00 P.M.

A KENTUCKY HISTORICAL COMMISSION BICENTENNIAL EVENT



## SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

by H. C. Chiles

(This Lesson for Apr. 18, 1976)

The text for this lesson is the same for both the International and the Life and Work Series. Therefore, only one commentary is given this week. — Editor

### After Rejection — Resurrection

After Joseph of Arimathea, a secret disciple of Christ, obtained from Pilate permission to remove Christ's body from the cross, he and Nicodemus prepared it for burial. Together, they laid their Lord in a new sepulcher which was hewn out of a rock in the garden and had been prepared for Joseph's own burial. The tomb was sealed and a huge stone was rolled in front of the entrance. Pilate authorized a group of soldiers to be on duty to prevent the tomb from being robbed. But the stone, the seal and the guard could not keep the Lord of life a prisoner to death.

#### The Triumph — Matthew 28:1-10

Christ's body remained in the tomb until early Sunday morning, then God raised him from the dead. Christ laid aside his grave clothes and walked out of the tomb a living Lord, triumphant over death and the grave. His resurrection was a proof of his deity.

At dawn on Sunday morning, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and John and Salome approached the tomb in which Christ was buried to anoint his body with spices and perfumes. That which they beheld was an impressive scene. There was an earthquake, an angel of the Lord had descended from heaven, the stone had been rolled away from the entrance to the tomb, and the angel sat upon it. This stone had been rolled away from the door, not in order to allow Christ to escape, for he had already done so, but to demonstrate to the women, and any others who might enter, that he was not in the tomb.

When the angel saw how terribly frightened the women were, he said: "Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said." This declaration reminded the distraught women of Christ's various predictions that he would come forth from the grave. The angel urged these women to "see the place where the Lord lay. And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead." The women departed immediately to carry to the disciples the good news that Christ Jesus was alive. The women were filled with joy. They were so eager to share the good news with the disciples that they ran instead of walked.

Before they got very far, Christ met them with the greeting: "All hail." It was the presence of Christ that dispelled their doubts and brought them unspeakable joy. Always, when we are in the pathway of obedience to God, we shall have the delightful privilege of having fellowship with our Lord.

#### The Task — Matthew 28:16-20

In obedience to the command of their Lord, the eleven apostles made their way to Galilee, and there they met the Master. When they saw him, they worshiped him.

1. Christ's power was announced (Matt. 28:18). Quiet-

ly, but without any hesitation, Christ announced that he was given all authority over the entire creation. He said: "All authority is given unto me in heaven and on earth." No greater claim than that was ever made. It is a claim of unconditional and unlimited authority. In the light of this claim, Christians need not be troubled by what they may encounter. Rather, they should remember that nothing can be done to them by men or demons without the permission of their Lord.

2. Christ's program was advanced (Matt. 28:19). Christ has commanded us to go into all the world making disciples for him, baptizing them and teaching them his glorious truths. Christ expects us to evangelize the unsaved and to edify the saved. It is his will that we proclaim his gospel wherever men are found. Christ's program is universal in its scope, individual in its appeal, practical in its purpose and personal in its obligation. We are not expected to bring everybody to Christ, but we are commanded to take the gospel of Christ to all of the people in the world. To the best of our ability, we must strive to obey this great command of our Lord.

Proclaiming the gospel of Christ to unsaved people everywhere is the greatest task which our Lord has committed to us. No greater work can occupy the thought, the time, the strength or the substance of the saved. What a tragedy that Satan has blinded the eyes of so many Christians to the tremendous privilege and the marvelous responsibility that Christ has conferred upon us!

3. Christ's presence was assured (Matt. 28:20). Christ said: "And, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the age." If we hope to enjoy his blessed presence, it is incumbent upon us to advance his program. The enjoyment of Christ's presence is conditioned upon our obedience to his commands. If we are obedient to him, we may expect to enjoy his glorious presence all our days. His presence with us guarantees constant companionship, fullness of joy, sufficiency in trial and comfort in sorrow, all of which we need throughout our sojourn on the earth.

Appreciative of the fact that God has been gracious to us in making the gospel of Christ effectual to the salvation of our souls, let us express to him our gratitude for all that he has done for us. As stewards of his glorious gospel, we occupy a position of trust, of honor, of influence and of responsibility. Let us be faithful to this trust and share Christ with all whom we can. The gospel of Christ has not been given to us for selfish consumption or selfish distribution. Rather, we are obligated to share it with all who have never received it. As we carry the message of his redeeming love to the people of every nation, we shall enjoy his blessed presence with us and his wonderful blessings upon us.



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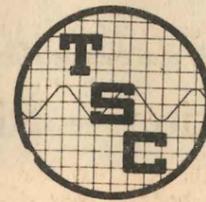
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# KENTUCKY WMU ANNUAL MEETING

APRIL 20 - 22

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
OWENSBORO

Presiding: Mrs. Wayne Dehoney, President

## PROGRAM

### TUESDAY EVENING 7:00

**HERITAGE MEDLEY**  
Prelude by Youth Handbell Choir, First Baptist, Owensboro  
Grover Waller, Director  
Call to Worship by Kentucky Baptist Male Chorale  
Eugene Sutherland, Director

**SONGFEST**  
Congregation with  
Beverly Terrell, Soloist and Director  
Martha Waller, Organist  
Patti Webb, Pianist

**WELCOME**  
Lealice Dehoney  
David Nelson

**BELLRINGERS**  
Baptist Young Women Feature by Anna Mary Byrdwell

**FREEDOM CELEBRATION**  
Kentucky Baptist Chorale

**OFFERTORY: "Let us Break Bread Together"** arranged by Bock  
Martha Waller and Patti Webb

**LIBERTY IN AMERICA**  
Address by Wendell Belew  
"GOD SAVE AMERICA" by Lwoff  
Kentucky Baptist Chorale

**WHERE THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS . . .**  
Meditation by Chester Swor

**CHORAL BENEDICTION**  
Solo by Beverly Terrell

### WEDNESDAY MORNING 9:15

**PRELUDE**  
**SONGFEST**  
**CALENDAR OF PRAYER**  
Sharon Belva

**BELLRINGERS**  
Mission Friends Feature by Gwen House

**BUSINESS**  
**BELLES: YESTERDAY, TODAY, TOMORROW**  
Report of Executive Board by Kathryn Jasper  
"MAKE ME AN INSTRUMENT OF THY PEACE" by Assisi  
Solo by Beverly Terrell

**LIBERTY TO ANSWER GOD'S CALL**  
Testimony by Ann and Dale Beighle

### INTERMISSION

### WEDNESDAY MORNING 11:15

**SONGFEST**  
**BELLRINGERS**  
Acteen Feature by Nancy Ferrell

**OFFERTORY: Meditation on "Amazing Grace"** arranged by Held  
Martha Waller

"FILL MY CUP LORD" by Beverly Terrell  
Solo by Beverly Terrell

**WHERE THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS . . .**  
Meditation by Chester Swor

**CHORAL BENEDICTION**

### WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON 1:45

**PRELUDE**  
**SONGFEST**  
**BELLRINGERS**  
Baptist Women Feature by Rosa Fiechter

**FREEDOM IN BELGIUM**  
Address by Laurabelle Yoder  
"HOW BEAUTIFUL UPON THE MOUNTAINS" by Harker  
Solo by Beverly Terrell

**WHERE THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS . . .**  
Meditation by Chester Swor

**CHORAL BENEDICTION**

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT 7:00

**BICENTENNIAL REFLECTIONS**  
Prelude and Processional by Brass Choir, Kentucky Wesleyan  
College; Howard Luttrell, Director  
Call to Worship: "Battle Hymn of the Republic" by Howe  
Solo by Jo Ed Jones

"MY COUNTRY 'TIS OF THEE" by Smith  
by Congregation

"INHERITANCE" by Hermion Jackson  
Pageant presented by Acteens, Third Baptist Church, Owens-  
boro; Tom Smoot, Director

**A PAST TO REMEMBER—A FUTURE TO MOLD**  
Address by Carolyn Weatherford

**CHORAL FANTASY ON "AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL"**  
arranged by Whitney; Church Choir, First Baptist Church,  
Owensboro; Grover Waller, Director

**WHERE THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS . . .**  
Meditation by Chester Swor

**BICENTENNIAL RECEPTION AND DISPLAYS (Fellowship Hall)**  
Autographing Parties by Beverly Terrell, Chester Swor, Scott  
Cook, Wendell Belew, Odessa Ferguson, and  
Franklin Owen

### THURSDAY MORNING 9:15

**PRELUDE**  
**SONGFEST**  
**CALENDAR OF PRAYER**  
Barbara Reynolds

**BELLRINGERS**  
Girls in Action Feature by Gwen House

**BUSINESS**  
Treasurer's and Finance Committee Report  
Nominating Committee Report  
Election of Officers

**PRAYER**  
**WONDERFUL NEWS TO SHARE**  
State Missions Week of Prayer Presentation by Ross Figart

**LIBERTY TO BE INVOLVED**  
Address by Carolyn Weatherford

**SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT** by Akers  
Solo by Beverly Terrell

**WHERE THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS . . .**  
Meditation by Chester Swor

**BENEDICTION**