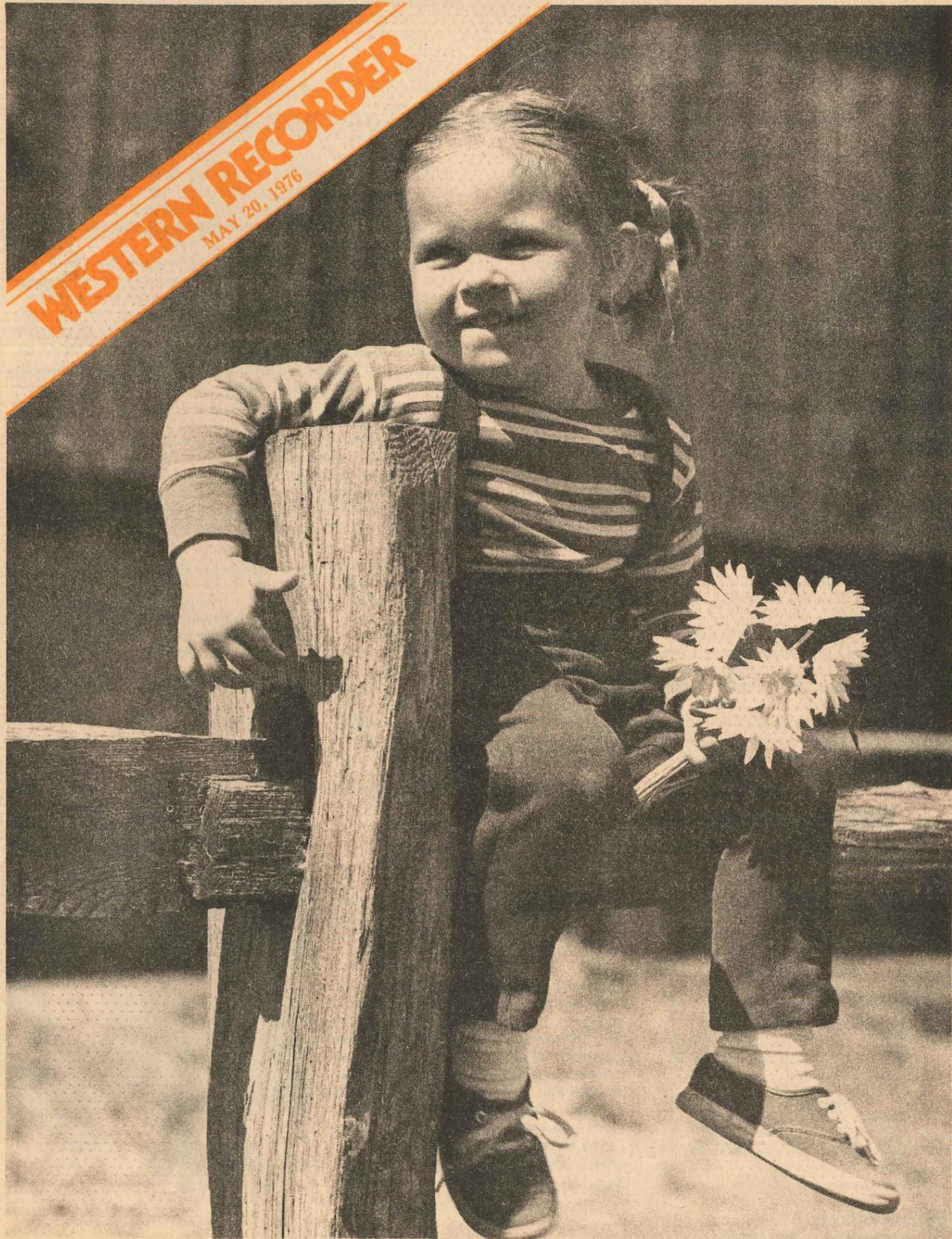


WESTERN RECORDER
MAY 20, 1976



Daley Observations

Questions and Answers on Tongues Speaking

Wherever tongues speaking takes place in a Baptist church it results in discord and confusion for the church members and for Baptists in surrounding areas. It most often results in more than discord and confusion. The congregation generally splits and especially if the pastor is one of the tongues speakers.



With no claim for special insight, here are some questions I am asked and the answers I give. If they are helpful, use them. If not, forget them.

Question: Am I missing something in not experiencing the gift of tongues?

Answer: Obviously I am missing something. A more basic question is whether I should be missing this experience. It's better to miss some things than to have them.

Question: Should I seek the gift of tongues?

Answer: No. We should remain open to all the gifts of the Spirit but we don't choose our gifts. The Holy Spirit apportions them to each one as he wills (1 Cor. 12:11). The apostle Paul advised us to earnestly desire the higher gifts such as love and prophesy. Tongues speaking was on the bottom of his list (1 Cor. 12:31).

Question: Can speaking in tongues be humanly induced?

Answer: Yes, and this is a danger. Most any emotional experience can be induced by self-hypnosis or manipulation. In a highly emotional experience like tongues speaking it is not easy to know whether God or man is the motivator.

Question: Would God allow the modern tongues speaking movement to develop if it was false?

Answer: God is not a policeman that stops anyone from going the wrong way on a one way street. The history of Christianity records many false movements which flourished for a time and which misled many.

Question: Is the gift of tongues a sure sign of being filled with the Holy Spirit?

Answer: No. The only sure sign we are filled with the Spirit is living like Christ lived. The pride of some tongues speakers and their condescending attitude toward those without this gift are not Christ-like.

Question: Does the gift of tongues bring instant spiritual maturity and power?

Answer: No. As a wise man has said, "Spiritual accomplishment is not easily come by. It never comes quickly, but, like maturity of any kind, it is the product of the slow process of growth. How shallow, then, is the view of many glossalaliacs who assume spiritual maturity has suddenly arrived in one short hour of ecstatic experience."

Question: Is tongues speaking a modern heresy? Is it inspired by Satan?

Answer: Nothing is heresy if given by the Spirit and used to glorify God and edify the church. However, its abuse could be inspired by Satan who misses no opportunity to mislead sincere believers and sow discord. It is a heresy when it is regarded as the one certain sign of the presence of the Holy Spirit, when it teaches a second baptism, when it is considered necessary for a completely dedicated life and when it diverts attention from Jesus Christ to the ones possessing the gift.

Question: How should we treat tongues speakers?

Answer: Treat them as fellow disciples. Love them but don't envy them. Give them their right to their beliefs but resist any efforts to make tongues speakers out of all disciples.

Roy Boatwright — Retired But Not Tired

Some tire before retiring, others retire before tiring. One of the latter is Roy Boatwright, the energetic, vigorous director of the Sunday School Department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. One has to check the vital statistics of Roy to know he has reached retirement age. His vigor and enthusiasm are that of a 35 year old instead of a 65 year old man.

Sunday school work is one of the strongest areas of Baptist work in Kentucky and most of the credit goes to Roy Boatwright. For 24 years he has been from one end of the state to the other end inspiring and training Sunday school workers. He never seems to become weary in well doing.

Roy has but one speed; wide open. He exudes enthusiasm like a rose spreads fragrance. Whatever he chooses to present, those present are caught up and sent away ready to work. He always accentuates the positive and ignores the negative. The word "can't" is not in his vocabulary.

The ministry of Roy Boatwright among Kentucky Baptists has been far more than a Sunday school specialist. Whatever else he is, Roy is first and foremost a preacher

and pastor. In his 24 years in Kentucky he has supplied the pulpits and served as interim pastor in more Kentucky Baptist churches than any person living. Without exception he is loved in these churches and has had to say "no" many times to churches wanting him as full time pastor.

This preaching and pastoral ministry may be the clue to where Roy will end up upon retiring as a denominational worker. He will have all kinds of offers to become a pastor and nothing suits him more. He will also have offers to continue in the field of religious education.

Indications are he will stay in Kentucky instead of returning to his native Missouri or going elsewhere. This would be great. Instead of retiring he would simply change places of ministry without even slowing down.

The last thing to associate with Roy is a rocking chair. This is pitiful in a sense because he would have so many happy memories with which to rock. But happiness for Roy is not remembering success but in succeeding on and on. Those of us knowing him understand this and even envy him a little. But can a man retire who never seems to tire?

Baptist Forum

SUGGESTIONS FOR BSSB

I made the following motion to the SBC meeting in Miami last year: "that the money being used by the Sunday School Board in its program of cooperative education and promotion work with the state conventions be given to the Cooperative Program." According to Bylaw 17 the motion was referred to the SSB for consideration and report to the convention this year.

The SSB spent \$1,385,000 in 1974-75 in this program. State conventions are now given \$15,000 for each of the first two full time professional workers in the departments the SSB chooses to support, plus \$3,000 for each additional full time professional worker.

Below are listed a few of the reasons I think the program of promotion should be discontinued and the money given to the Cooperative Program.

1. It discriminates against the smaller conventions which need more money to spend where they see fit, not for SSB interests only.

2. It may tend to inhibit independent thinking in those departments, and

abort any criticism they may have of the SSB. It is hard to nip the hand that holds the goodies.

3. It might encourage the buildup of these departments at the expense of other work which has no patron agency to subsidize it.

4. It might give the SSB the feeling of having clout with the state conventions. Someone might even be tempted to throw his weight around in an unbaptistic manner.

5. It creates a Santa Claus syndrome with an agency giving annual rewards to state conventions based on the size of their personnel pools.

6. It seems self-serving for an agency to spend three times as much promoting its own work as it gives to the Cooperative Program.

T. M. Linnens, Boiling Springs, N. C.

PANAMA CALLING

Panama, a nation about the size of South Carolina with a million and a half people, urgently needs additional Southern Baptist missionaries.

Important needs include at least three general evangelists, a theological teacher, a book store and literature worker and a business manager. If such persons were appointed before September, they could be out of language

school and on the field by January 1978.

Immediately, two couples are needed to engage in general evangelism in rural and urban areas. The couples must have field experience, be able to speak Spanish and be called to serve now in Panama. Such couples could be missionary couples who found it necessary to terminate their services in Spanish America, but are now ready to return to the foreign mission field.

Charles W. Bryan, Richmond, Va.

BAPTIST SINGSPARATION

Here's a special invitation to all your readers planning to attend the Southern Baptist Convention in Norfolk. We hope you will come one day early and come via Washington, D. C. to participate with us in our bicentennial festival of praise at Washington Cathedral from 12:30 till 4 p.m. on June 12 (Saturday).

William J. Reynolds will lead us all in a time of hymn singing based on American contributions to Christian Hymnody. The Sons of Jubal, Georgia Baptist ministers of music, will perform Randall Thompson's setting of words by Thomas Jefferson entitled "A Testament of Freedom." We'll have a recital on the cathedral's 180 rank pipe organ, and a full concert of American music

Continued on Page 4

Western Recorder

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

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Individual, \$2.99 (tax included); Foreign, \$3.00; Church Budget, \$2.00. All except church accounts payable in advance. Church accounts must have tax exemption number.

Double Exposure

This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it (Ps. 118:23-24).

Thank you, God, for days of children's laughter, for daisies and rhododendron and mountain laurel blooming along the Kentucky countryside, for the blessings of life, health, peace, contentment. Help us to be the best ambassador we can be for you this day and always as we enjoy the bounteous goodness of your mercies. Let us "give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good" (Ps. 118:29).

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Baptist Forum

Continued from Page 3

by The Centurymen, directed by Buryl Red.

James C. Allcock, Jr.,
Lutherville, Md.

I LIKE IT!

You and Jim Cox are to be congratulated on the "new look" in the May 6 issue of *Western Recorder*. The new design elements make for an attractive and more readable publication.

Considering the limited financial resources with which you must work, I know that producing a quality Baptist state paper must sometimes be like making bricks without straw. That's why I am all the more appreciative of your efforts.

I did miss the "letters to the editor" section. But I assume that this was omitted because of space limitations, and will reappear in subsequent issues.

Personally, I like the idea of clustering all the advertising on two or three pages. Since this tends to emphasize the amount of advertising in the paper, I would like to add a word about that. Not long ago I noticed a letter from a reader of *Western Recorder* criticizing the use of "secular" or non-churchy advertisements. Such a point of view fails to take into account the economics of publishing a state Baptist paper, I think. The truth is, with the remarkably low subscription rates which you have maintained despite unbelievable increases in production costs, advertising surely must be an important source of income for *Western Recorder*. I seriously doubt that the reader who wrote that letter would be happy about having to pay the increased cost of a subscription if there were no advertising from "secular" businesses.

Beyond that, it needs to be pointed out that some "religious" businesses—Bible companies, for example—are just as secular, just as profit-oriented in their operations as anybody else. I appreciate the people who are advertising in *Western Recorder*. And I appreciate the fine standards which you maintain in your acceptance of advertising which, while not all church-related, is certainly not unharmonious with the nature of the paper.

Lucien Coleman, Louisville

DISQUALIFY CHRISTIANS?

On Apr. 15 I turned the television on early in the morning and was astounded to find myself listening to a debate on whether or not a certain presidential candidate's public commitment to Jesus Christ made him an unacceptable candidate. The program was ABC's "Good Morning, America!" and Max Lerner, a journalist, argued that an evangelical Christian in the White House would be a violation of the doctrine of separation of church and state.

How ridiculous! Mr. Lerner is one of the same persons who was so appalled (as I was) by objections to Al Smith and John Kennedy on the basis of their Roman Catholicism. But he contends the issues now are not the same because the present candidate avows Christ so "strongly." A few days later, another of the presidential candidates publicly attacked his opponent as a "phony" because he talked about his faith.

It seems that the religion of the President is a problem only when it is public, fervent and evangelical. No group in America, throughout our history or in the present hour, has struggled so hard to preserve the doctrine of separation of church and state as have Baptists. Now to attack a Baptist candidate on the basis of his having publicly said that Jesus Christ is the most important thing in his life is utter absurdity.

Regardless of one's political affiliation or preferred candidate, there is a perverse principle here which quickly should be put to rest. The media has already made far too much of the so-called "religious issue." Freedom of conscience must be extended to the believer as well as the unbeliever. I pray the day will never come when the fact a man is a Christian and is not ashamed to admit it will disqualify him from any public office in America!

Raymond Bailey, Newport

GERMANY CALLING

Grace Baptist Church (English), Heidelberg, Germany, needs SBC pastor; opening will exist July 15, 1976. Interested individuals should contact John N. Marshall, Logistics Assistance Office—Europe, APO New York 09403.

John N. Marshall, Germany

Convention Calendar

MAY

- 20-21 Missionaries' Workshop—Cedarmore
- 24-26 Senior Adult Retreat—Cedarmore

JUNE

- 4-5 Weekday Early Education and Mentally Retarded Conference—Cedarmore
- 7-12 Counselors' Training Week—Rabro, Cedarmore
- 13-14 SBC WMU Meeting—Norfolk, Va.
- 14-19 RA Camp—Rabro, Cedarmore
- 15-17 Southern Baptist Convention—Norfolk, Va.
- 17-20 Pre-Camp Training—Cedar Crest, Cedarmore
- 18-20 Conference for Deaf—Cedarmore
- 21-25 Kentucky Baptist Youth Week—Cedarmore
- 21-25 GA/Acteen Camp—Cedar Crest, Cedarmore
- 21-26 RA Camp—Rabro, Cedarmore
- 23-25 WMU Executive Board—Cedarmore
- 28-July 2 Kentucky Baptist Youth Week—Cedarmore
- 28-July 2 GA & Acteen Camp—Cedar Crest, Cedarmore
- 28-July 2 RA Camp—Rabro, Cedarmore

JULY

- 2-3 Father/Son Camp—Rabro, Cedarmore
- 5-7 Adult Bible Preaching/Teaching Retreat—Cedarmore
- 5-9 Kentucky Baptist Youth Week—Cedarmore
- 5-9 GA Camp—Cedar Crest, Cedarmore
- 5-9 RA Camp—Rabro, Cedarmore
- 8-9 Adult Bible Preaching/Teaching Retreat—Cedarmore
- 9-10 GA Mother/Daughter Overnight Camp, Grades 1-3—Cedar Crest, Cedarmore
- 9-10 Father/Son Camp—Rabro, Cedarmore
- 12-14 Adult Bible Preaching/Teaching Retreat—Cedarmore
- 12-16 Children's Music Camp—Cedarmore
- 12-16 Mountain Missions Conference—Oneida
- 12-16 GA & Acteen Camp—Cedar Crest, Cedarmore

Baptist News in Brief

Brewer Heads Hospitals

Ben Brewer has been named executive vice president and chief administrative officer of Louisville Baptist Hospitals. His appointment will be effective Sept. 1.

A native of Tennessee, Brewer comes to the position after serving as executive vice president and chief administrator of Central Baptist Hospital, Lexington, since 1965.



Brewer

Brewer is a graduate of Memphis (Tenn.) State University and Washington University, St. Louis, Mo. He has served as assistant administrator for Western Baptist Hospital, Paducah.

He is past president of the Ky. Hospital Assn., a fellow in the American College of Hospital Administrators and a member of the board of directors of the American Hospital Assn. He is married and has two sons.

notify those whose rooms were canceled.

"Hotels in Norfolk, however, will hold rooms until 6 p.m. the evening of arrival, although an advance deposit would be appreciated," the spokesman said.

CLC Adds Wood, Sapp

John A. Wood and W. David Sapp have been elected to the staff of the SBC Christian Life Commission, Nashville.

Wood, 38, will become director of program development and will coordinate special projects on alcohol education and action, race relations, gambling and world hunger.

Sapp, 28, will become director of organization for the commission. His responsibilities include the development of applied Christianity in state organizations as well as with other Convention agencies.

Since 1973 Wood has been executive director of Caritas, an inter-church social service agency in Waco, Tex.

Sapp is associate director of student development services at Southern Seminary.



Wood



Sapp

Care to Name Speaker?

Southern Baptists everywhere will be given an opportunity to make a suggestion for the preacher of the annual Southern Baptist Convention sermon in 1977, according to R. G. Puckett, chairman of the SBC committee on order of business.

Suggestions for the preacher of the annual sermon should be addressed to R. G. Puckett, chairman, committee on order of business, 1313 York Road, Lutherville, Md. 21093.

Va. Beach Canceling

Some hotels in Virginia Beach have already begun canceling reservations on rooms of people attending the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-17, if a one night's deposit was not received in the allotted time (by Apr. 15).

"The canceled rooms may not be retrievable," a Norfolk Convention Bureau spokesman said. The convention bureau asked the hotels to be sure to

Severns Valley Wins Meet

The 1976 R. A. track meet was held at Cedarmore Assembly May 8.

Severns Valley was the associational winner in the Pioneer I division (grades 7-9) and Ohio Valley was runner-up. In Pioneer II division (grades 10-12) Severns Valley was associational winner while Salem was runner-up.

Individual winners in Pioneer I division include: R. Williams (Ohio Valley), cross country mile; Bruce Carson (Salem), high jump; Phil Tarven (Ohio

Valley), broad jump; James Hamilton (Severns Valley), shot put; Jeff Franklin (Severns Valley), 100 yard dash; Severns Valley, relay winners.

In Pioneer II division individual winners were: Ron Vaughn (Severns Valley), cross country mile; Ashley Blalock (Elkhorn), high jump; Don Pogue (Severns Valley), broad jump; Courtney Jeter (Severns Valley), shot put; Russel Mims (Salem), 100 yard dash.

Severns Valley won the team relay.

Is Your Church Covered?

Under a Kentucky law passed in January 1972 all churches are required to have workman's compensation on all employees.

The state department of insurance is now investigating churches to see if this mandate is in effect.

A church is exempt from this requirement only if it can prove it can compensate for the claims made due to disabilities of employees.

Employees who have health insurance cannot make claims that would ordinarily be covered by workman's compensation.

Claims such as disability or injury on the job will be denied unless employees also have workman's compensation.

Gwen House Joins WMU

Gwen House, a second year student at Southern Seminary, will become Kentucky director for Mission Friends and GA organizations June 15.

Her responsibilities will include teaching in leadership conferences, co-directing summer camps at Cedar Crest and developing teaching guides for teachers of Mission Friends and GA's throughout the state.

Miss House is from Nashville, Tenn., and graduated from Carson-Newman. She will receive her MRE degree from Southern Seminary in June.



A World-Encircling Gift

Special Report

Jaroy Weber Reacts to Years As Southern Baptist President

by Toby Druin

Jaroy Weber winds up two years as president of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) in Norfolk in June.

Those two years have seen him travel almost a quarter of a million miles, make more than 100 addresses as Southern Baptists' highest elected officer—more than one a week—and through it, he says, gain a deepened appreciation for the denomination, its people, churches and pastors.

"I am more proud of Southern Baptists than before I became president," Weber said in his office in Lubbock, Tex., where he is pastor of First Baptist Church. "My contact with Southern Baptist leadership both in the denominational structure and in the pastorate has made me more confident in the ability and commitment of these leaders than I have ever been before.

"The general attitude of our leadership, the philosophy of the pastors in trying to make the churches biblical and evangelistic and the overall atmosphere of all the meetings I have attended is progressive, hopeful and optimistic about what we are trying to do," he said.

Reflecting on his tenure and the insight it has given him, the stocky pastor who described himself at his election two years ago as a "conservative Bible-believing preacher" said convention unity in the last few years and success in increased giving and enrolment is due to a return to "theological conservatism."

He also commented on a variety of other subjects, including the charismatic movement, qualifications a person should have before election as convention president, the role of the SBC Pastors' Conference, requirements for convention affiliation and the invitation to President Gerald Ford to speak to the convention.

Weber was elected president of the convention in Dallas in 1974 and reelected to a second one-year term last year in Miami Beach. He is not eligible for reelection in Norfolk.

His presidency has been a busy one. The first year he logged more than 101,000 miles in convention travel and

in the past year he has added another 115,240 miles and 62 speaking engagements, including a trip to the Baptist World Alliance in Stockholm. He is proud that in spite of the demands on his time only four times during the last year will he have been out of his pulpit on Sunday.

"My staff has done a marvelous job of filling in for me when I have had to be gone," he said. "They deserve a lot of credit for the success the church has achieved over the last year." Weber became convention president only a few months after assuming the pastorate of the 10,277-member congregation. In the last two years the church has baptized more than 400 new converts and has had more than 1,750 total additions.

Weber said one of the biggest problems facing the denomination is its success. "We have had such apparent success," he said, "that it is very easy to depend on our own innate abilities for progress rather than depend on the Holy Spirit."

He cautioned that the convention has become so large that it is impersonal in many cases. "We need to be sure we stay person-centered and keep in mind that in everything we do we need to have the individual in mind—a local church member or local pastor," he said.

Weber said he felt the charismatic movement among Southern Baptists has "reached its peak and maybe tapered off in the Bible belt where there is a great deal of biblical preaching. Biblical preaching," he said, "is the solution to all problems. I don't know of any problem we face in our churches that strong biblical preaching wouldn't correct," he contended.

Weber said he had noted recent state paper editorials about the selection of his successor as president and said he agreed that the convention ought to seek the man and not the man seek the office.

"There's nothing wrong in names being suggested throughout the convention year as possibilities," he said, "but I don't think any individual ought



SBC President and Mrs. Jaroy Weber

to start a structured campaign to be elected. I think if anyone does he is not the type person who should be elected."

Weber said the convention president should be a person who is familiar with Southern Baptist structure, who has familiarized himself with the work of the association, state and Southern Baptist Convention level.

The Lubbock pastor had just completed a term as president of the Pastors' Conference when he was elected to the convention presidency. There was a time, he acknowledged, when criticism was rampant that the Pastors' Conference was too often used to promote a person for the presidency.

"Then the convention reacted and said in essence it was not going to elect anyone who had been Pastors' Conference president," he said, and added some were surprised at his election in 1974.

"I don't know that the convention has changed its mind," Weber said. "I know I was president of the Pastors' Conference before I was elected convention president, but I don't think any man ought to use that (Pastors' Conference presidency) with the idea that it is a tool to get elected as convention president."

Weber said he would have no problem with rescheduling the Pastors' Conference to follow the convention to remove it as a potential presidential launching pad.

Weber said he believes that at the 1976 convention, June 15-17 in Norfolk, Southern Baptists will make a new commitment to reach America and the world for Christ and "evangelism will come into focus as never before. I think it will be a very positive convention."

Jimmy Carter Talks Of Religion, Politics

The following interview with Jimmy Carter was conducted on the campaign trail by Jim Newton, editor, *World Mission Journal*, published by the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) Brotherhood Commission of which Carter is a trustee. A request for a similar interview on religion and the presidency is being made of President Gerald Ford by Baptist Press, the SBC news service.

Question: Why do you want to be President? What role did your Christian convictions play in your decision to run for President?

Carter: There are many reasons. I outlined most of them in my announcement speech in 1974. I say often that I agree with theologian Reinhold Niebuhr, who wrote that the purpose of government is to establish justice in a sinful world. I am committed to that purpose. I also have a conviction that whatever talent God gave me should be used to the maximum degree. I believe God wants me to be the best politician I can possibly be.

Question: How have the pressures of the campaign affected your family life, your church life? Is it worth it?

Carter: There is a lot of pressure, but I believe I've been holding up well, and so has my family. This is a very carefully planned campaign and it's been planned for over 3½ years. I've got a very close-knit family and a very close-knit staff and they've responded well. We all work together as a team. I have a sure sense of what I am doing.

Question: You've repeatedly said that you think you will win. Do you think you will win because God is on your side?

Carter: Well, I do think I will win, but I've never asked God to let me win. I've always prayed that I will be able to do the right thing whether I win or lose. I do pray frequently during the day. When I go home I try to go to church every Sunday that I can and I try to teach Sunday school when I can. Week before last I taught my class (as a substitute teacher) at Plains Baptist Church. People are always telling me that they pray for me and I deeply appreciate that. Many times people will say as I shake hands "God bless you," or "I'm praying for you." That means a lot to me.

Question: What organized, visible

support have you received from the organized church and have you received any opposition from the organized church?

Carter: It's hard to identify sometimes. I don't really know. I've had a lot of support from Methodists. I spoke at the United Methodist General Conference three years ago and I still get a lot of invitations to speak to Methodist groups.

Question: Gerald Ford was invited to speak at the Southern Baptist Convention in Norfolk, June 15, but you were not. Do you feel you should have been invited to make it a nonpartisan thing? What is your reaction to the invitation to President Ford when the leading Democratic candidate, who is a Baptist, was not invited?

Carter: I have had no adverse reaction to that. I don't feel excluded by not being invited this year. I spoke to the Southern Baptist Convention when it met in Dallas in 1974 and introduced Gerald Ford (then vice president) at the Brotherhood Commission-sponsored prayer breakfast.

Question: How have you responded to the news media questions when reporters ask what you mean when you say you are a "born-again" Christian? What do you say and how do they react?

Carter: It is very difficult for anyone who has not had that experience to understand. You do because you have had that experience. But many of the newsmen who ask about this have never had this experience. Some of them are downright cynical about it. I think it worries some of them.

I just explain my own spiritual experience openly and honestly. When I first was asked this question I had to decide how I was going to respond with the same kind of openness and honesty to this question that I would to any other question.

I point out that I have been a church member since I was 10½ years old. But about 10 years ago I realized I was missing something important. I seemed to have no purpose in life. There seemed to be no real meaning in life. I began to pray about it and to talk to others about it and I had a personal spiritual experience that is difficult to explain to people who have never had such an experience.

I began to grow. I participated in several pioneer mission efforts (in areas where Southern Baptist work is relatively new) and was deeply inspired by a Cuban minister (Eloy Cruz) I met on one of these mission trips (in Springfield, Mass. in 1968). I became uniquely aware of the Holy Spirit as an integral part of my life. I learned that I cannot depend on myself for every need and to solve every problem.

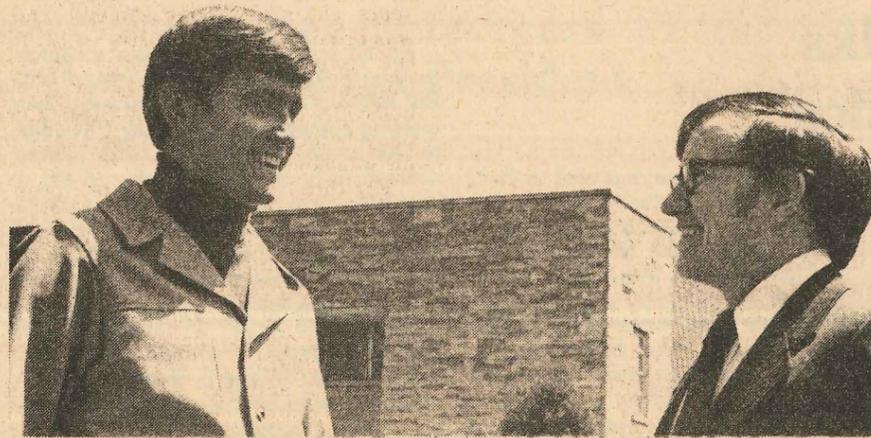
A lot of news reporters are mystified by this. I don't think they doubt my sincerity but they just don't understand. I don't make a big issue out of it but neither do I hesitate to say publicly that the most important thing in my life is Jesus Christ. There have been about 100 articles written by columnists and reporters about my religious life. Some have been quizzical, some doubtful, some defensive, but in the main they have been favorable.

Question: If you are elected President how would you use the office of President to demonstrate your Christian convictions?

Carter: I would try to exemplify in every moment of my life those attitudes and actions of Christianity that I believe in. I would ask God for guidance on decisions affecting our country and make those decisions after evaluating the alternatives as best I could. I would recognize that my influence on others would be magnified 100 times over as President. I had this same experience on a smaller scale as governor of Georgia.

Because I am a Christian I feel my limitations more intensely. I used to deny my limitations and conceal them. Now I am much easier in my relations with other people and with God. This helps me a lot. It even helps me politically. When I move through a crowd shaking hands with people, even in a brief encounter, I have a genuine affection for that person.

Christian Education



Craig Shoulders and Van Thompson graduated at the top of the class of 1976 at Campbellsville College May 16. This is the first time in 13 years both valedictorian and salutatorian have been male. Shoulders (at left) is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Andrew Shoulders of Providence. Thompson is the son of Mr. and Mrs. James Van Thompson of Owingsville.

Honors and Awards Day Held at Campbellsville

The annual honors and awards convocation was held recently at Campbellsville College.

Kathy Kibbons, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Kibbons of Campbellsville, was named this year's "Miss Campbellsville." David Brandon, son of Rev. and Mrs. John Brandon of Morgantown, was named "Mr. Campbellsville."

Other Kentucky students receiving awards during the ceremonies were:

Steve Gowler, Florence, Rotary award; Craig Shoulders, Princeton, Marshall Lyon award and business and economics award; Elaine Neil, Campbellsville, Business and Professional Women's Club award and art department award; Darrell K. Pierce, Campbellsville, freshman chemistry award; Gary F. Walker, Erlanger, drama award; Rhonda M. Blakeman, Louisville, education award; Vickie Thomas, Fern Creek, English award; Gran Mefford, Worthville, physical education award; and Thomas Neil Decker, Marion, physical education award.

Golden Gate Budget Up

Trustees of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary adopted a record \$1,425,118 budget for 1976-77.

A salary increase of about 12 percent was projected as the largest budget in the seminary's history was announced during the school's annual trustees' meeting.

Staff promotions were approved for Eugene V. England to vice president for business affairs and Stanton H. Nash to vice president for development. England and Nash, long term administrators at the seminary, formerly served as business manager and as assistant to the president, respectively.

Seminary president Harold K. Graves announced plans for immediate construction of 24 more apartment units on the campus to meet the needs of the growing student body. An enrolment increase of 10 percent was reported for the past school year.

Clear Creek Board Meets

Trustees of Clear Creek Baptist School, Pineville, recently held their semi-annual meeting at the theological school for adults.

John Hughes of Danville was elected chairman of the 18-member board, succeeding J. C. Helton, Pineville attorney. The trustees approved the largest budget in the history of the school and heard reports from the school's president, D. M. Aldridge, regarding progress on several building projects directed toward the shortage of

student family housing and classroom facilities.

Reports regarding Clear Creek's largest enrolment in history were also heard.

Campbellsville Elects 13

New officers have been elected by several Campbellsville College organizations for 1976-77.

Tim Clark of Flatwoods is next year's Student Government Association president. Richard Jeter, Campbellsville, is vice president, and Richard Martin, Louisville, is chief justice.

New BSU officers include: Randy Karshner, Louisville, president; Dennis Benzel, Brooks, vice president; Nita McGee, Louisville, secretary; Susie Smith, Ft. Mitchell, treasurer; Cristal Pendencygraft, Lebanon, devotional leader; Judy Lewis, Mt. Washington, program chairman; Susan Davenport, Campbellsville, enlistment leader; Perry Puckett, Louisville, music leader; Larry Brandenburg, Lexington, commuter-married couples' representative.

Paula Settle of Philpot is 1976-77 president of Baptist Young Women.

Mid-Continent Progresses

A cornerstone at Anne Parrish Markham Library, Mid-Continent Baptist Bible College, Mayfield, was laid with appropriate ceremony Apr. 17. This is the second of seven buildings planned for the new campus.



Cumberland College English professor Richard E. Fuson bears a strong physical resemblance to Benjamin Franklin, from whose writings Fuson often draws in presenting interpretative readings before bicentennial audiences. Fuson is one of 20 professors at Cumberland offering their speaking services at no charge to civic, educational and other non-political groups.

Ministerial Quartet Graduates at Baptist School

by K. Maynard Head

How could a former locomotive engineer, automobile mechanic, industrial worker and school administrator be classmates in the same school? What do these four men have in common?

They are seniors at Clear Creek Baptist School, a theological school for adults at Pineville. This ministerial quartet will graduate with other adults ranging from 24-50 years old in commencement exercises May 21 at Pineville's First Baptist Church.

Robert Pryor, 50, was employed by the L & N Railroad 25 years when he surrendered to the call to preach and entered Clear Creek School in August 1973. He recalls, "My family and friends thought I had lost my mind when, at 47, I left my job and home in Louisville to come to Clear Creek."

Pryor participated in lay-led revivals before coming to school where he became pastor of Turkey Creek Baptist Mission, Barbourville. Under his leadership, the congregation doubled in attendance, ordained a deacon, purchased a van, remodeled the building and bought new furniture for the sanctuary.

Pear, his wife, will graduate alongside her husband in May. They have three sons.

Gary Roberts, 35, was a successful automobile mechanic before enrolling at Clear Creek. Becoming a Christian at age nine and married at 19 Roberts had a family of four children and an automotive business with a substantial amount of property when his life began to change at 29. He served as a church member in various positions before becoming pastor of a mission church in Kings Mountain, N. C., in March 1973. That fall he enrolled at Clear Creek. Now active in a jail ministry and lay witnessing, Roberts was formerly pastor of Crane Creek Baptist Church, Manchester.

He commented, "Before coming to Clear Creek I was a very alert witness for the Lord. I told everyone I met about Jesus, visited families over 20 miles away for the church and drove a bus bringing many people to worship

services."

Roberts has maintained a garage for students where he has provided an important service for his classmates while working his way through school.

His wife, Jeffery, will graduate with her husband. They have four children.

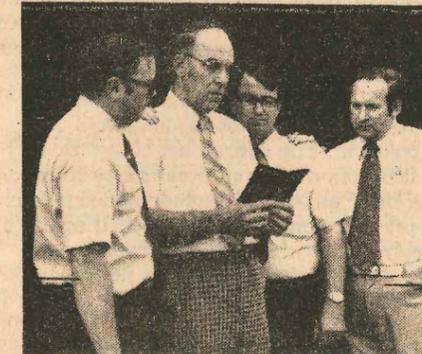
Jerry Thurman, 30, was track coach and assistant principal at Crittenden County High School for six years before he felt called to the ministry. A native of Marion, Thurman is a graduate of Murray State University where he obtained a master's degree in 1971.

Soon after becoming pastor of east Barbourville Baptist Church he began his theological education. He stated, "Since I enrolled at Clear Creek School, God has richly blessed the work at East Barbourville while guiding me in much needed training at this school."

Thurman has seen his church complete an educational annex to the existing church building, install a baptistry and call a director of music and youth activities since becoming their pastor in 1973. In addition, Sunday school and Church Training programs have doubled in attendance.

Thurman is married to the former Joyce Mitchell and they have two children.

Seibert Keith Sullivan, 39, says he became a Christian when he was eight



Robert Pryor, second from left, compares his calendar with fellow 1976 graduates of Clear Creek Baptist School. From left: Jerry Thurman, Pryor, Gary Roberts and Seibert K. Sullivan.

years old. The Taylor County native was ordained to the ministry in 1970 by the South Campbellsville Baptist Church. He was employed at Campbellsville by the Ingersoll-Rand Company before coming to Clear Creek for his ministerial training.

For three years Sullivan has been a student pastor of the Dewitt Baptist Church near Barbourville. He stated, "One highlight of my ministry was the Knox County-Stinking Creek Evangelistic Crusade at the Dewitt church. We saw many people baptized and many lives changed."

Sullivan and his wife, the former Minnie Louise Harris, who also graduates, have three children.

These four ministers will soon be alumni of Clear Creek Baptist School. The school is experiencing unprecedented growth and a resulting shortage of student housing and classroom facilities. Two new student cottages have recently been constructed on the Pineville campus with funds donated by interested friends of the school. Ground has been broken for a 12-family student apartment building, to be occupied this fall, which will help to ease housing demands being made upon the school.

A two story classroom office addition to the school's administration building will soon be completed providing much needed classroom space for the increased student body. Overflow classes are being held in the chapel and a shuttle bus operates between the administration building and Kelly Hall, Clear Creek's former classroom building, to alleviate the classroom shortage.

D. M. Aldridge, the school's president, stated, "Clear Creek celebrates its golden anniversary in 1976. We serve a golden purpose, training adults for the ministry. Students come to us seeking training to become pastors, evangelists and missionaries. Many people have a part in our school. We are fortunate to have a large number of friends, as well as many loyal alumni."

The Bible records that Jesus often asked his followers to leave families and friends and give up their jobs and businesses. Now 2,000 years later men continue to respond to the call to the ministry and increasing numbers of people hear the message of love preached by students and graduates of the Clear Creek Baptist School.

Our Baptist Heritage

"Started early to attend Baptist Association. . . . The Association convened in a small school house, but a spacious stand in the woods nearby had been erected. A great mass of people as-

sembled here to hear preaching. The woods were swarming with people and horses. It seemed as if every house in Anderson County had emptied itself for this occasion."

The late Wyatt Shely, beloved Kentucky Baptist churchman, writer and historian, discovered these words in the diary of B. F. Hungerford. Penned in 1876, they highlight the importance associational meetings had for Baptists of another era.

In 1785, six churches of Central Kentucky united to form Elkhorn Association. Early associations desired, in the words of Elkhorn's constitution, "the glory of God, the advancement of the Kingdom of the dear Redeemer, and the mutual comfort and happiness of

the churches of Christ."

They corresponded with other associations and dealt with the problems of slavery, baptism and worship.

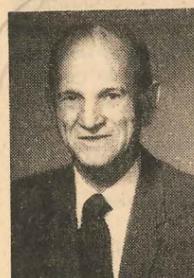
Associations were a prime target of Alexander Campbell, who considered them to have too much authority; and one church in Long Run in 1825 even 'queried,' "Is there any authority in the New Testament for associations?"

Somehow, associations have not seemed so necessary for the more affluent churches of our own day, many of whom have more members than the early associations. In a form more suited to urban society the rediscovery of the association may be an achievement of Kentucky Baptists' third century.

Deaths

Mellie Harp Moody died in Bardstown Apr. 21 following a long illness. She was the widow of W. H. Moody, pastor of Bardstown Baptist 1928-54. She was president of the Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union two years. Graveside services were conducted at Memorial Gardens, Canton, Ga., Apr. 24.

Joe W. Burton, 69, retired editor of *Home Life*, died in Nashville May 6, of a heart attack. Burton, the first and only editor of the magazine for more than 25 years, retired from the Sunday School Board in 1972. Earlier he was secretary of education for the Home Mission Board. He was secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention 1947-65. He is author of *Road to Augusta*, released May 1.



Burton



Shoulta

Ordinations

Bill Ed Shoulta was ordained to the ministry by Immanuel Baptist Church, Paducah. Billy G. Hurt, pastor, delivered the ordination sermon. Shoulta has assumed the pastorate of Freedom Baptist Church, North Vernon, Ind. He and his wife, Jill, reside in Louisville where he is a student at Southern Seminary.

Franklin Owen

LEVEL GROUND Volume II

Let us hypothecate another situation where the Baptist revulsion to level ground is involved. (I don't want us to be too content on the level, but like Paul, we need to endure unalterable circumstances and function worthily in their midst—"I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content" Phil. 4:11.)

Suppose the call of a young, vigorous, ambitious pastor to serve a church that "wants action." The combination of his youth and vigor, together with the church's ambition for growth and success, results in a rapid series of upward achievements from one level to another. Growth and gains are actually faster than orderly consolidation is possible. The church has a few years of fast action and rapid net gains from one brief plateau to another and finally a sort of a pinnacle is reached. It has pretty well achieved the success level that its potential field makes possible. It is time to live on level ground a while.

There is no way to exceed former excesses and it isn't long until people (both pastor and laity) who have now been conditioned to excitable achievements think that the work has gone stale. Maybe the pastor wonders if his

work is done and fears that the people may be thinking he should move. Yet the Lord has not opened any doors of opportunity. Frustration and sometimes desperation sets in.

This is a perfect point at which motivations can get confused and both pastor and people,



with their inability to live on level ground, wonder whether they or anyone among them might be in process of gaining some new super spiritual gift; some exceptional endowment—one more plateau of yet unachieved success, one more exciting experience. If such begins to stir, be sure to "try the spirits, whether they are of God." (I John 4:1)

Maybe no new spiritual gift appears. Maybe local people are disposed contrariwise concerning such things. If such be the case it is time for the church and the pastor to learn that different kinds of successes are possible in different places, at different times, but are not possible every place all the time. There are times and places where the highest calling is to be faithful at the good housekeeping of worship, prayer, praise and teaching the Word.

Interesting People

Hospital Chaplains Help Heal the Hurts At Western Kentucky

by Ellen Fleming, Staff Writer

Most hospitals have the stereotype of being sterile and stark: sick people, professionals dressed in white starched uniforms, steamy corridors, no fresh air, et cetera. But Western Kentucky Baptist Hospital, Paducah, is atypical. It has sick people and white clothed professionals; but it also has a widespread epidemic of caringness. It's a "healthy" hospital.

Two people help create this epidemic. Chaplains Rita Moody and Harley Dixon inject personal concern and large doses of encouragement to all people within the hospital.

Both feel that their ministry of caring is an extension of the healing ministry of Jesus Christ. "Many patients have the stereotype of a chaplain as being an evangelist," says Dixon, "but we're concerned about meeting the needs of the whole person."

"When a patient comes to the hospital he wants to leave a better person," Dixon continues. "Illness doesn't just involve a physical ailment, but it involves a time of reflection about one's spiritual and social relations. We help patients clarify their relationship to God."

Because of a time limit, the chaplains can't establish long-term relationships with patients, so they must quickly pinpoint the patients' needs in order to help.

Chaplain Moody detects needs as she talks with patients. She listens, which inevitably encourages patients to talk. She clarifies what a person thinks and feels. She verbalizes the good points in

people and shares her belief that "the best life is one which holds the peace of Jesus Christ."

Mrs. Moody has a special distinction. She is the only female chaplain in a Kentucky Baptist Hospital. Chaplain Dixon, her supervisor, admitted that he had some apprehensions about hiring her because "this region is basically conservative." But he is delighted with the tremendous job she has done.

"The employes have accepted her graciously and the women employes are especially pleased," says Dixon. Mrs. Moody says she has been accepted equally well by men. "The pastors who visit here frequently accept me beautifully." Before meeting her, their only qualm concerned her position on ordination. But she sees no reason to be ordained, "for my situation it would be inconsequential to me."

Chaplains Dixon and Moody not only minister to the patients, but also to the hospital personnel. They operate on the philosophy that all employes affect the patients and each other. "Any time employes are hurting, they hurt what they can contribute to the patients' or co-workers' well being," declares Dixon. The doctors especially appreciate the chaplains, they work together in restoring a patient to a whole healthy life. Both Moody and Dixon have received graduate degrees and have taken clinical pastoral education.

The hospital encloses many people who are hurting, but the outside "healthy" community also benefits from the chaplains. Dixon teaches pastoral care at the hospital for Mayfield Bible College students. "The training helps students define and come to grips with their ministering role," states Dixon. Mrs. Moody has a group of pastors' wives who meet on a regular basis. Through group discussion and special readings, each learns her particular ministry.

Chaplain Moody observed that through her work she has a better understanding of the church's role in

crisis intervention. As she deals with people who have lost money, health and family care, she is aware of the necessity of Christian caring. "When I see a patient surrounded with a community of love and support it's a special blessing."

A hospital can be a haven for hurting people. Chaplains Moody and Dixon help heal the hurts. They draw people out of their heartache and handle carefully and gently the feelings expressed. They administer no quick remedy, but rely upon God to help them help the person recognize and reconcile his hurts.

Travel Diary

A. B. Colvin, *Missions Related Division*
May 23—Hindman—Program honoring J. S. Bell on his retirement
May 24-25—Nashville, Tenn.—Meeting with state directors of church minister services

James H. Cox, *Western Recorder*
May 27-29—Augusta, Ga.—Regional ACTION Campaign Coordinator Training (BSSB)

Kathryn Jasper, *WMU*
May 24-26—Cedarmore Assembly—Senior Adult Retreat
May 28-29—Hudgins Hill Camp—Ashland—Baptist Women Retreat

Herbert B. Jukes, *Church Training*
May 23—Rosedale Baptist Church, Richmond—Worship services and family conference
May 24—Severns Valley Association—Church Administration Conference

Forrest R. Sawyer, *Brotherhood*
May 24—Blood River Association, Murray, 11 a.m.—World Missions Conference
May 24—Graves County Association, Mayfield, 4 p.m.—World Missions Conference
May 25—Bethel/Logan Association, Russellville, 11 a.m.—World Missions Conference
May 27—Long Run Association, at Beechmont Church, Louisville—World Missions Conference



Moody

Dixon

Market Place

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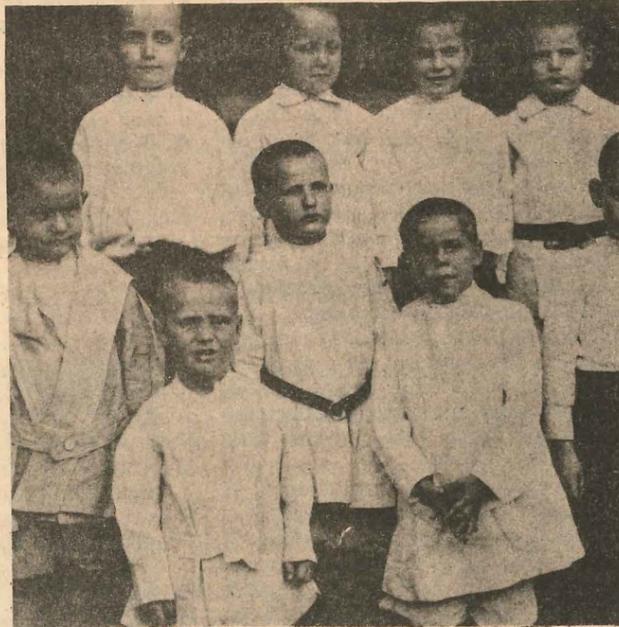
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Mountains to the Mississippi

Okolona Baptist Church, Louisville, had a reception May 2 in honor of Pastor and Mrs. John E. Carter. The service commemorated 25 years of service. The congregation presented them a new car.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard D. Clement, missionaries to Ecuador, have completed furlough and returned to the field. Address: Casilla 4725, Quito, Ecuador. He is a native of Mortons Gap.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Nelville Clazon, missionaries to Benin, have arrived in the states for furlough. Address: 116 E. Third St., Frankfort, Ky. 40601. He is a native of Switzer; she is from Winchester. Before being appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1948 he was director of associational work, Training Union Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention.

April 25 was W. R. Royce Day at Broadway Baptist, Richmond. In honor

of his 91st birthday the church gave Royce a hat and plaque for his 26 years of faithful service to the church. Marion Turley is pastor.

G. Steven Coppock has been named dean of Sullivan Junior College of Business, Louisville. He has served as director of public relations at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary since 1973. He will have academic, personnel and public relations responsibilities.

O. W. Yates, Lexington, observed his 67th anniversary in the ministry Apr. 20. The North Carolina native retired in 1966 after pastoring Rosemont Baptist, Lexington, 14 years. He had spent 12 years as professor at Ouachita Baptist University, Ark., and had been president, dean and professor at Bethel College in Kentucky.

The World Mission Planning Meeting for Long Run Baptist Association will be held at Beechmont Baptist Church, 4574 S. Third St., Louisville, May 26 at 7 p.m. The meeting is for pastors, mission study leaders, hospitality, church promotion and transportation leaders of local churches planning to participate in the World Mission Conference.

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An Omission

In the feature article on television ministries of Kentucky Baptist churches in last week's (May 13) issue of the *Western Recorder* the television ministry of Ninth and O Baptist Church in Louisville, Ky., was inadvertently left out. The writer of the article is a newcomer to Kentucky. The responsibility lies with the editor who did not check the story closely before it went to press.

Ninth and O Baptist Church is in its fifth year of telecasting the Sunday morning worship service. During early years the telecast was in black and white on channel 32, Louisville. Now the popular and influential telecast is in color on channel 41. The church now has its own equipment and technicians for the telecast.

PEWS FOR SALE: First Baptist, 10600 Waterson Trail, Jeffersonton, Ky., has like-new oak pews for sale. These pews are now in use, but will not fit in the new building. The sizes are: 23 pews 5 ft., 7 inches; 12 pews 11 ft. 9 inches. Anyone interested may call Mr. Jerry Williams at 778-5181 or Rev. Thurman Coleman at 587-8714 or 778-4706.

Providing for the Family

by Bill Whittaker, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Murray

The forecast for the family is cloudy with the possibility of thunderstorms. Neighborhoods are spotted with "for sale" signs erected because of divorce. The popularity of the television shows The Waltons and Little House on the Prairie testify to America's hunger for a happy home.

How we need to hear the words of 1 Timothy 5:8: "If anyone does not provide for his own family, he has disowned the faith and is worse than an infidel." The apostle Paul surely means providing more than food, shelter and basic necessities. We are challenged to provide our families with all the riches of a vital faith in Jesus Christ.

We should be concerned about the family. The home is central and crucial for the future of America and the strength of the churches. Our concern for the home is in step with the concern of God. He created man and woman and united them in the community of a home.

The home came before government, educational institutions and the church. So much of the biblical revelation comes to us in the language of the home. God chose to send his son to a humble, God-fearing home. Jesus taught us to pray "Our Father" and illustrated the love of God for wayward sinners by describing a father's love for his prodigal son.

The first churches were in the home. The home has always been and will always be a major arena of God's activity in the world.

During recent weeks Congress was flooded with protests against the Child and Family Services Act of 1975. These protests focused on the fear that the federal government would assume the parents' right and authority over their own children. Many parents readily protest any interference in their home but still fail to provide the leadership and commitment needed to ensure a sound, happy home.

We must provide for the family because the home builds basic moral values. A news analyst commented: "Most parents seem willing to allow the schools to pick up the moral slack."

The Lord did not give the task of moral teaching to the schools but to the home.

The home is a place for the best preparation for the future. What better place to learn responsibility, trust, the right attitude toward work and the principles of democracy? The experience of working with youth from unstable and non-Christian homes has convinced me that the scars of such a beginning are hard to overcome. The April 1976 issue of *Home Life* included an article which stated "children tend to repeat the marriage pattern of their parents."

We must provide for the family because in the home the soil is prepared for either acceptance or rejection of the gospel. It is easier for a child to trust Christ if he has been surrounded by a positive, relevant faith in Christ. The task of the home is enunciated in Deut. 6:4-7: "These words, which I command you shall be in your heart, and you shall teach them diligently unto your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise up . . ."

There are many provisions we need to make for our families. May these five be a beginning for you to strengthen your home.

Love must be present. The scripture says the love in the home must be "like Christ loved the church." God's kind of love. This love isn't blind. Many unhappy homes could be avoided if some common sense was applied when choosing a partner. The home needs more than good food and good sex. It needs love that lasts through the honeymoon and through the years. A love that "bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things."

The home needs *individuality in the midst of mutuality.* What is said of the church applies to the home, "one body but members in particular." The scripture cautions parents not to break the spirit of a child. Involved in that is a respect for the unique individual who is maturing in the home. Help him to become what God wants him to be. The needs of each partner should be considered and nurtured.

The family needs a large investment of *time.* A chaplain at one of our Kentucky Baptist hospitals quoted a

comment heard from divorcees: "He spends more time now with the kids than he did before the divorce." What would be the divorce rate if a larger investment of time went into the home before the troubles started? Quality time with each other strengthens every home.

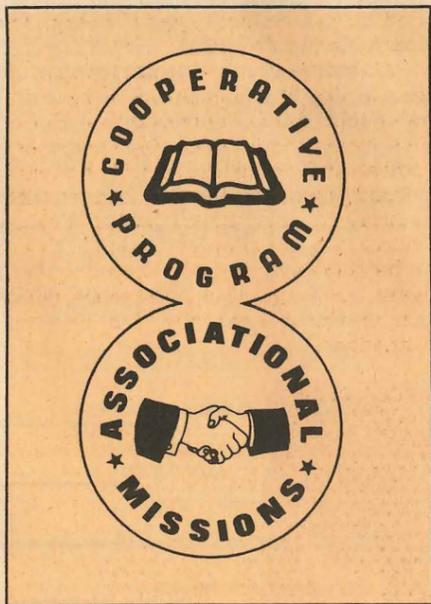
The family needs *discipline.* A repeated lament of educators is the loss of discipline in the schools. Are we reaping the foolishness of a decade of swallowing the advice from child "experts" to "let him do his own thing?" Discipline means "to teach" and involves positive praise and encouragement as well as firmness when it is needed. Two wise and practical books in this regard are *Dare to Discipline* by James C. Dobson Jr. and Fitzhugh Dodson's *How to Father.*

The family needs *faith.* Faith in Christ who can provide the power to build a home that meets his quality standards. Isaiah once said to King Hezekiah, "Set thine house in order."

A vast number of parents need to recapture the sense of holy calling in the responsibility of building a home. There is no larger responsibility and no greater accomplishment. What more awesome task and longer lasting work could one be involved in than the nurture of a life? This is no boring, humdrum chore. It is a ministry of the highest order. You may be successful in business—how is it at home? You may be extremely talented and doing a lot of good in community affairs—are you providing for your family? Are you saving the least of yourself for the biggest job?



Whittaker



Sunday School Lessons

Lessons for May 30, 1976

International Series

The Healing Community

Galatians 6:1-10

In the verses comprising today's lesson Paul revealed what the attitude of believers toward one another should be.

Verse one sets forth the duty of a Christian toward a fellow-believer who is guilty of a breach of conduct. When a believer and church member yields to temptation and is guilty of wrongdoing, a true Christian has a splendid opportunity to prove the genuineness of his spirituality by his attitude and behavior toward the fallen one. Rather than rejoicing over the fact that his brother has fallen into sin, or displaying an arrogant spirit toward him, it is the duty of the Christian to deal tactfully, carefully, sympathetically, meekly, prayerfully and lovingly with him.

When a believer in Christ falls into some old habit or besetting sin, our Christian duty is to speak to him about it, pointing out the evil of it and emphasizing the provision which God has made whereby forgiveness may be received and life may be transformed into a victorious one.

Sooner or later, every person has burdens. Recognizing the reality of burdens is not enough. In verse two Paul urged Christians to bear their own burdens. No one can transfer the burden of responsibility. There is a life for you to live and a service for you to render that can never be transferred to another.

In forbidding the continuance of an action which was then going on, Paul said: "Stop deceiving yourselves; God is not mocked." One is a fool if he things that he can break God's laws and escape the consequences.

Knowing that we are liable to get tired of doing good, God exhorts us not to grow weary. The real test comes in continuing to do good.

Concerning our priceless opportunities to do good, I should like to emphasize their source. Unfortunately, some miss their golden opportunities. Since priceless opportunities never come again, we should seize them upon their arrival and make the most of them. Any longing for a second chance, after an opportunity has been lost, is entirely in vain. In the home, business, society and the church, we are afforded opportunities to believe something, to be somebody, to see something, to do something and to leave something. Let us practice doing good to our brethren in Christ especially, but also to those who are not Christians.



H. C. Chiles
Murray, Ky.

Life and Work Series

One Way for All Men

Galatians 2:9-10

While attending the conference with the apostles and elders in Jerusalem, Paul accurately informed them as to the content of the message which he had been proclaiming. James, Peter and John, who were three of the reputed pillars of the church in Jerusalem, readily recognized that Paul had preached the gospel of grace as being entirely sufficient for salvation. Inasmuch as he had received his message from the Lord, they did not have either the ability or the desire to add anything to it.

Galatians 2:11-16

When Peter arrived in Antioch, Jews and Gentiles were eating together without any discrimination. Ere long a deputation of Jewish Christians arrived from Jerusalem and they were shocked when they discovered that Jewish Christians were eating with Gentile Christians. Immediately Peter ceased to eat with the Gentile Christians because of his fear of what others might think, say or do. Without hesitation Paul publicly challenged Peter and rebuked him kindly and lovingly.

Knowing that the works of men and their observance of the law did not have anything to do with their justification before God, Paul declared that justification is available only by grace through faith in Christ Jesus. It is noteworthy that Christianity is the only religion which teaches justification by grace through faith as the way of salvation.

Galatians 2:20-21

Paul declared that he was not living as he had lived previously because a great change had been wrought in him. Christ was living in him and that meant refreshment, enjoyment and abiding strength for the daily life. It meant victory in the battle with Satan and sin. His life was under the mastery of Christ. Christ's will had replaced his will and Christ's presence had filled his soul so completely that he was able to conform to the divine will in a remarkable manner. What Christ did for Paul he is willing and able to do for us. Each of God's children should strive to live in such a way that he does not frustrate, set at naught or nullify the grace of God. To the end of our earthly lives let us give undisputable evidence of our love for Christ through faithful and persevering service to him.

Letters of Syntyche

One in a Series

Philippi in Macedonia
60 A.D.

Syntyche, a servant of the Lord Jesus Christ and of his church at Philippi. Greetings to the brethren and sisters at Antioch.

How blessed it was to receive the epistle from brother Barnabas. He had his differences and misunderstandings with our dear brother, Paul, and he has helped us to hold both him and Paul in Christian esteem and love.

We had forgotten that Paul was tried in the Roman courts for breaking the Jewish laws. His accusers, the Pharisees, thought that breaking their interpretation of the law was denying the law. Jesus had much the same experience with the religious leaders of his day. Both Paul and Jesus loved the scriptures and knew the word of God was the inspired word. Jesus told his accusers that he came not to destroy the law, but to add a dimension of love and spiritual understanding. Euodia and I needed to dwell upon these thoughts.

These words brought to mind that the inspired word will have a personal message for every individual in every nation of the world and throughout all ages of time.

In reverence, meekness and love, Euodia and I must prayerfully ask that the true meaning of the scriptures will be opened unto us as we grow in knowledge and faith.

Euodia understands more fully the inspired writings of Paul and that his words, "brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye who are spiritual restore such a one . . ." does include women, even if you can't translate 'brethren' literally to mean 'sisters.'

Your relating about the time you and Paul stayed in the home of Philip while in Caesara, has helped us. Philip's four daughters, who are even now proclaiming God's message, were preaching the word with the blessings of the church during Paul's sojourn with them. We are grateful their home was opened to Paul as a refuge from the Pharisees. We are praying for him that he might continue his missionary journey, even into Spain.

Since our women are praying with more understanding of doing the will of God, Euodia has started singing again in the church choir. We believe Paul's words, "In Christ there is no Jew nor Greek, no free nor bond slave, no male nor female," is a shout of triumph that will ring down through the ages.

The brethren will be grateful that the entire responsibility of taking the gospel unto the uttermost parts of the world does not rest upon them. In the far distant future, a woman may follow in the footsteps of Paul and take the missionary gospel of our Lord to that strange country of China.

"And in the last days I shall pour out my spirit upon all men. Your sons and your daughters will prophesy. Yes, even on my slaves, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days and they will prophesy." So be it.

Peace and Amen



Missions & Ministries

Kentuckians Appointed

Six Kentucky couples were among 20 missionaries appointed May 11 during a meeting of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Halsell Jr., currently living in Louisville, will be engaged in student work in Senegal.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry W. McAtee, also living in Louisville, will be assigned to Jordan where he will be a maintenance engineer.

Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Turner, living in Hodgenville, will be engaged in general evangelism in Zambia.

Quake Hits Europe

Reports of the major earthquake which struck Italy and other Eastern European countries May 6 do not yet include complete death tolls or damage estimates, but Southern Baptists are standing by to send aid as soon as needs can be established.

The disaster response coordinator of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, W. Eugene Grubbs, was in touch immediately with Bob Clary, director of operations for the U. S. Aid office in Washington, D. C.

New High for Lottie

Southern Baptists' Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions topped \$26 million, exceeding its 1975 goal by over \$2 million and surpassing the previous year's total by almost \$3 million.

Carolyn Elkins, at right, shows a Rhodesian worker at Sanyati (Rhodesia) Baptist Hospital how to mix chemical solutions. Mrs. Elkins, her husband Dr. Thomas E. Elkins, and Dr. and Mrs. John A. Heit spent eight weeks on the compound working with Southern Baptist missionaries. Mrs. Heit is a nurse.