

WESTERN RECORDER

OCTOBER 14, 1976

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Daley Observations

A Need To Be Met

Between now and the first of next year many churches will be planning and adopting a budget for 1977. Most churches can anticipate some increase in offerings next year but not enough to make it easy to satisfy all needs. Inflation could eat up most, if not all, increases in church income in 1977.

Everything a church uses will cost more next year. Higher postage, higher utility rates and increases in the costs of all materials and personnel will quickly eat up any added offerings.



The budget committee of every church, or whoever sees to such things, should not overlook the needs of the pastor and other church staff members. Ordinarily a pastor will plug for needed increases for staff members but not many pastors stand up for themselves. Thoughtful and appreciative church leaders should take care of the pastor's needs without any reminder on his part.

One needy and often overlooked financial need for pastors and other professional workers in the church is some kind of an adequate retirement plan. It is doubtful if one out of 10 Baptist pastors now has any plan for adequate retirement income unless he has other employment with generous pension benefits.

The denomination has never adequately challenged churches to be thoughtful and generous so far as retirement plans are concerned. We were a long time in doing anything. There was and still is a kind of feeling among some Baptists that the Lord will see to it that his servants are cared for and that human efforts for material provisions for a preacher may reflect a lack of faith.

There is enough truth in this to make it deceptive. Surely the Lord will take care of his own but how does he

do it? The most logical way for this to be done is through human instrumentality instead of by spectacular miracles.

It is more reasonable that a retired preacher would go to the post office for a monthly check from a denominational retirement plan than that he would gather from his yard every morning manna sent by God. God should not be expected to do for preachers what fairness demands that church members do.

We cannot assume that just because a pastor is in the Southern Baptist annuity plan he is well taken care of for retirement days. The original plan recommended was never adequate and is ridiculous in today's world. The plan called for only \$600 a year contribution to a retirement fund. The preacher paid \$200, the church \$200 and the denomination \$200. At this rate a pastor after a good many years' participation would receive less than \$100 a month in retirement income. This would amount to only a partial payment on the rent of a house he never bought because of a low salary and because he lived in a church-owned parsonage.

Fortunately a plan for more adequate provision is now being recommended to the churches. This is a contribution to a retirement fund by the church of at least 10 percent of the full salary of the pastor or staff member. Moreover the church is asked to pay all of this instead of having the pastor pay part of it.

Those planning the church budget should see to this and ask the church to do it. If not, some members of the church should present it in a business meeting.

Help to churches arranging this or any other retirement plan can be had for the asking. We have a full time Baptist Building staff member trained for this ministry. Contact Byrd Ison, Box 43433, Middletown, Ky. 40243, Telephone (502) 245-4101.

A Neglected Source of Blessing

Many of us are the poorer spiritually because we neglect some things that are available and easy to do. One of these is reading the Bible every day.

Now to read the Bible merely to meet a requirement in Church Training or in mission organizations is not so commendable but it is better than not reading it at all. Reading through the Bible each year or competing with someone to see who reads the most chapters doesn't make saints out of us but it has its blessings.

This came home to me again recently. During a revival in a small church everyone was challenged to select a Bible book or books to read through during the week to see if together we could read the entire Bible in six days. We succeeded and everyone participating was blessed.

My own experience was interesting. Wanting to participate and to take a book others not want or enjoy, I selected Leviticus. This book outlining the details of the sacrificial and worship system of the Hebrews is generally considered

difficult to understand and to enjoy.

For me it started out as a chore but not for long. Words and sentences in Leviticus began jumping from the pages stirring my heart and even suggesting sermon ideas. I soon forgot reading Leviticus was a chore and eagerly read chapter after chapter for the sheer inspiration.

Anywhere in the Bible one begins to read the Holy Spirit begins to speak for those who have ears to hear. This is the way it is supposed to be. The same Holy Spirit who inspired the writing of the scripture is required in the true interpretations of scriptures.

All parts of the Bible may not be as interesting and inspiring as some parts. The Levitical system of the Hebrews is not as inspiring to read as the gospels' account of the ministry of Jesus but my experience with reading Leviticus substantiates Paul's claim: "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" (II Tim. 3:16).

Baptist Forum

CHURCH DICTATOR

The article in your Sept. 16 issue, entitled "23 Expelled in Louisiana," certainly was one to arouse interest.

Church discipline has become somewhat lacking in our present day churches. But this does not mean that churches should go to the extreme in discipline.

I do not know the circumstances surrounding the dismissal of 23 members of a Baptist church in Shreveport, La. Possibly the charges were of a sufficient nature to justify their dismissal from the church body. But this is, in my opinion, debatable.

Apparently the pastor is quite capable of organizing a dictatorship. No pastor has the God-given authority to dismiss people from the membership just because they choose to vote in a business meeting according to their convictions.

Six people in that church chose to take that route. Because of that they were dismissed from the membership. They were informed by their pastor in a letter they received prior to the business meeting that anyone voting against the dismissal of 17 fellow members would themselves "vote themselves out of the church."

It is a sham and a shame when people cannot vote in their home church according to their convictions and not according to the pastor's wishes (pastors are not always right).

We live in a democracy, but even in America we can still find examples of dictatorships. This is certainly one!

Jimmie McKinney, Waynesburg

YEAR OF OBSCENITIES

Thank you for your enlightened editorial on the Carter-Playboy flap. With the Republican Rockefeller making gestures and the Democrat Carter saying words, this could be known as the Year of the Political Obscenity. I hope not. But the whole business got me thinking.

What is considered obscene (literally what offends the eye, but ears can be offended too) seems to change from age to age as well as from place to place and society to society. James Joyce's *Ulysses* was once but is no longer considered obscene. *Playboy*

"entertainment for men" is considered obscene by some groups and not by others. (I gather older people consider it more obscene generally than younger ones.) This is understandable when we remember that a word is merely a sound and a gesture, merely a posture or movement. The meaning a person or society gives to each thing makes it obscene or not. One person can express an obscenity without another recognizing it. One person can recognize an obscenity without another intending it at all. It all depends on the eye and ear of the one who says or does something and the eye and ear of the one who hears or sees.

For Christians Paul's definition of obscenity is doubtless best. Discussing the advisability of eating meat sacrificed to idols, Paul warned against doing anything or saying anything that might offend or lead astray a weaker believer. In other words, it is not the act or the word but the impression it makes and the negative influence it has on another person that makes it evil. According to this definition, then, an "obscene" word or gesture given in friendship to express intimate concern, if understood as such by the other person or persons, is not necessarily obscene. By the same measure, a diamond-crusted cross in the presence of starving people might well be obscene.

What we most often forget is that there are many levels of obscenity. While none is to be encouraged, we should be careful not to get so offended at small transgressions that we overlook the larger ones.

James T. Baker, Bowling Green

ONE VOTE FOR PLAYBOY

It's sad to see the negative reaction you refer to among Southern Baptists to Jimmy Carter's choosing *Playboy* to discuss his Christian views, which you agree are ones "always heard in Baptist Sunday school classes and pulpits."

I don't think he could have selected a more appropriate forum to put forth a Christian view of sexuality, since *Playboy* is devoted to supporting a definitely non-Christian view. Which periodical in America has readers who need more

to hear about Christian ethics in sexuality? It's fine with me that this edition of *Playboy* will sell more copies, since this is one of the few that will carry any kind of Christian message. Surely, hundreds of thousands of persons will read Carter's words — and perhaps be influenced by them — who would not enter a church building if one paid them.

All this negative reaction reminds me of how Jesus himself was treated when he went to common, sinful people outside the influence of traditional religion so he could tell them the good news about his kingdom. The religious establishment was much annoyed that he would bother with people like that. When he went to weddings and feasts — where the people gathered — they told him to find "another channel with more moral rectitude" to put forth his views. Happily, Jesus ignored them. I trust Carter will do the same.

We Southern Baptists need to become less interested in our "image" and more concerned with spreading the gospel of Christ any way and any place we can spread it. If we ever do that, *Playboy* and a lot of other publications will be writing about the great revival sweeping the country.

Mike Creswell, Cayce, S. C.

COUNTERATTACK?

I have followed your several only slightly veiled attacks on President Gerald Ford — beginning with your criticism of him speaking at the Southern Baptist Convention and continuing up to, and including the current issue of the *Western Recorder* (you imply that he is trying to sell out to the Catholics).

If most of your readers are like the writer such persistent attacks on a man may have the opposite effect from that which you apparently desire.

J. Woodard Oden, Bowling Green

Express Your Opinion
in
The Baptist Forum

Annuity Rates Up 35%

The Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention has announced a rate adjustment of 35 percent for its church medical insurance plan, effective Jan. 1.

The adjustment stems from climbing medical costs and an increased percentage of claims.

Last rate adjustment for the plan occurred in October 1974.

SBC Tops \$86 Million

The Southern Baptist Convention ended the 1975-76 fiscal year Sept. 30 with almost \$86.3 million in total receipts from churches — including over \$46.7 million for the SBC's national Cooperative Program unified budget.

The Cooperative Program figure, \$46,725,721, exceeds the basic operating and capital needs budgets for agencies administering the SBC's worldwide missions program by more than \$4.6 million. But it was \$4.2 million short of a "challenge" goal to meet unfunded mission needs.

The 1975-76 budget included a \$41 million basic operating budget, \$1,080,000 capital needs budget and \$8,920,000 in challenge funds for a total of \$51 million. At the beginning of October, Southern Baptists began shooting for a 1976-77 budget of \$55 million,

which includes \$49 million in basic operating needs, \$1,080,000 in capital needs and \$4,920,000 in challenge funds.



Eugene Whitlow, editor of the Baptist New Mexican, is welcomed by Baker J. Cauthen, executive director of the Foreign Mission Board, as 5,000th person visiting the board this year.

What's Up, Doc?

The Baptist Medical-Dental Fellowship was organized in Atlanta as Baptist physicians and dentists from across the nation formally adopted a constitution,

electing officers and carried on a first business session.

Purposes of the fellowship include providing Christian professional fellowship; additional opportunities for sharing, worshiping, ministering and witnessing; opportunities for educational experiences; and additional opportunities for expanded Christian service through mission support of home and foreign efforts, disaster relief and personal involvement in mission service "as members are led by the Holy Spirit," a spokesman said.

Kentucky Ranks High In Seminary Extension

Kentucky contributed 303 students, 369 course enrolments and 10 extension centers to the all-time record statistics in the 1975-76 academic year of the Seminary Extension Department of the six Southern Baptist theological seminaries. Kentucky ranked nationally in the top 10 in all categories.

During the past year the Seminary Extension Department totaled 8,449 students, 11,750 course enrolments and 292 extension centers throughout the United States.

Kentucky statistics show 240 students and 298 course enrolments in extension centers and 63 students and 71 course enrolments in home study.

Double Exposure

Let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith (Heb. 12:1-2). When Thomas Hicks Shelton retires in December as director of Kentucky Baptists' Evangelism Department he will have run a great race and carried an eternal torch, keeping the flame of outreach burning within our hearts. He is profiled on the opposite page in a fitting tribute before his retirement. We believe when the Lord totals Shelton's contribution to this state, he will say with us, *Well done, thou good and faithful servant* (Matt. 25:21).

Vol. 150, No. 40



Hicks Shelton Talks Evangelism; Looks to the Future

by Phil Burgess, Staff Writer

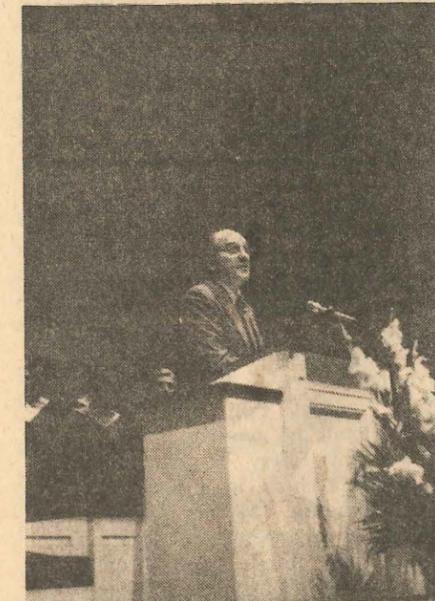
An era will come to an end this December for the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Hicks Shelton, director of evangelism for the state convention, is retiring.

Shelton, a native of Murray, Ky., and pastor of state Baptist churches for 35 years, came to the convention in 1965 as director of evangelism. He is the first full time department director.

"The greatest emphasis during my time has been lay evangelism," declared Shelton. "The big emphasis now is revival and renewal of the laity."

While recalling colorful aspects of his life Shelton stated that he attended the first state evangelism conference in 1937.

"The purpose of the evangelism conference is two-fold. It is to teach methods and to challenge the pastors and laity to be active in evangelism," he said. According to Shelton, the evangelism conference grew out of a



Hicks Shelton speaks to a congregation of Kentucky Baptists. He has enjoyed traveling over the state as director of evangelism.



Hicks Shelton listens to a speaker at the Harrodsburg recognition of 200 years of Baptist preaching in Kentucky. "One of the highlights of my tenure was having a part in the bicentennial celebration on Apr. 19."

desire of many to have dynamic preaching and singing. Fellowship is also a key to these popular conferences. "It has been called the preacher's revival," he mused. "As many as 2200 have attended."

Thinking of present trends in his field Shelton was enthusiastic about the CARE method of evangelism. CARE (for cultivate, awareness, revival and enjoying) centers around growing an evangelistic church. "We heard this from the grass roots. This is where we are in evangelism," he stated.

Since a great part of his life has been devoted to building evangelistic churches, Shelton has some definite ideas on what it takes: "The church has to grow spiritually. It has to major on preaching the gospel and the Sunday school must be an outreach for preaching and teaching — people aren't going to accept the gospel if they don't know it."

A NEW DAY

Shelton feels that because of the changing times "people are going to have to witness where they are. Individual Christians being witnesses has taken precedence.

"The gospel has to be demonstrated in the life of people before others will listen. This is the basis of my philosophy," declared Shelton. And it is fitting that Hicks Shelton said this. His life is a testimony of Christian concern for people from all walks of life. It is a concern rooted deeply and sincerely in the gospel message.

The Sheltons are the proud parents of four daughters. Thinking of Mrs. Shelton's role, Hicks said, "She has made a home for our youngest daughter while I stumped the state of Kentucky for the Lord." (He estimated that he has traveled about half-a-million miles during 11 years as director of evangelism.)

They now make their home in Paducah where Hicks spends time in evangelistic work for the western Kentucky area.

Upon retirement Shelton plans a variety of activities. He will lead in January Bible study, conduct lay evangelism schools, hold revivals and fill interim pastorates. "Three revivals are already scheduled in 1977," he observed.

Shelton also plans to do some fishing when time permits.

PLEASANT MEMORIES

"The greatest blessing I've received is the fellowship with the staff in the building and the pastors and churches where I've had the privilege to work," he recalled.

While Hicks Shelton can remember many good moments in his ministry certainly there are many folks who appreciate him for outstanding evangelistic work. He has unselfishly given his time and talents to the cause of Christ.

Hicks Shelton retiring? His Christian commitment and enthusiasm for the Lord seem to make "retirement" a misnomer.

Western Recorder

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

Published 50 times per year by the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Box 43401, Middletown, Ky. 40243. Second class postage paid at Louisville, Ky.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Individual, \$3.68 (tax included); Foreign, \$3.75; Church Budget, \$2.50. All except church accounts payable in advance. Church accounts must have tax exemption number.

Kentucky Baptists at Work

In their quest to be unique, Kentucky Baptist churches have sometimes chosen titles that became conversation pieces, too.

What's in a Name?

by Jim Cox, Associate Editor

What's the most popular name for Kentucky Baptist churches?

A survey of 2,190 churches affiliated with the Kentucky Baptist Convention clearly indicates that *First Baptist Church* is the choice of more congregations in Kentucky than any other.

Is that surprise *no* surprise?

In fact, *First* is first by a wide, wide margin, beating out its closest competition, *Calvary*, by more than 3-to-1. There are 74 *First* churches in the current annual of the Kentucky Baptist Convention but only 23 *Calvary* churches.

Yet, there are some additional figures which actually put these impressive *First* church numbers in the shade! For instance, if one considers all the churches which have the prefix *Mount* before their names (Mt. Gilead, Mt. Vernon, Mt. Zion, etc.) we can say that *First* is not first by any stretch of the imagination. There are 86 with *Mount* at the beginning of their names.

But this is not first either, for 87 have the prefix *New* (New Harmony, New Hope, New Salem, etc.).

And would you believe *Grove* forms a portion of a whopping 114 church names? There's Black Grove, Chestnut Grove, Elm Grove, Forest Grove, Locust Grove, Pine Grove, Silent Grove and dozens more.

But not even 114 for *Grove* puts it first. The one word appearing in the names of more Kentucky Baptist churches than any other is *Creek*, serving us 119 times! We have Briar Creek, Clear Creek, Deep Creek, Fern Creek, Fishing Creek, Greasy Creek, Indian Creek, Lower Turkey Creek, Sugar Creek, Yellow Creek and on and on the list goes.

With such impressive data, can *First* now really be considered *first*?

MANY BAPTISMAL POOLS

As we think of water, did you realize there are 39 Kentucky Baptist churches with *Springs* in their names? Twenty-

nine more use *Fork* as a part of their formal titles, while there are 19 with *River* and eight with *Branch*. Any wonder many Baptist preachers are available to baptize any time anywhere?

Two more words appear frequently in names of Kentucky Baptist churches as prefixes or suffixes. *Pleasant* is a portion of the name of 58 churches (Pleasant View, Mt. Pleasant, etc.). *Oak* appears in 31 (Oak Dale, Pilot Oak, etc.).

Additional prefixes which often contribute to our church names are *Beech* (Beechmont, Beechwood, etc.), 15 times, and *Old* (Old Poplar, Old Salem, etc.), 13 times.

If we forget about all the prefixes and suffixes, and go back to the original list with which we began, ignoring all other data however impressive it may be, what follows *First* and *Calvary* in popularity among our churches?

Behind *Calvary*, in third place, are 20 churches which call themselves *Liberty*. *Bethel* follows in fourth place with 16, while three others are successively a point behind: *Union*, 15; *Bethlehem*, 14; *Immanuel*, 13.

There are 10 *Central Baptist* churches; *Grace* and *Second* are tied at nine each; and *Broadway*, *Olivet* and *Trinity* have five each. Other names which are surprisingly not higher on the list are *Temple* and *Victory* (three each) and *Memorial*, two.

Biblical names, in addition to those already given, come in for a share of prominence. Antioch, Corinth, Gilead, Goshen, Macedonia, Mars Hill, Pisgah, Sharon, Zion and others are used throughout the state.

In Franklin Association there's a St. John Baptist Church; in Long Run, St. Matthews. Have St. Mark and St. Luke been slighted by Kentucky Baptists?

ONE OF A KIND NAMES

Finally, there are those "one of a kind" monikers that become true conversational pieces, each of which has a story

behind it. Some of the more unusual are *Hardmoney*, *Letterbox*, *Long Run*, *First Twelve Mile*, *Second Twelve Mile*, *Smallhouse*, *King Bee*, *Fry*, *Black Jack* and *Moscow*. How did they come to be?

We are not sure about some of these but can report on several.

With Baptists feeling as strongly as they do about separation of church and state it's hard to understand how they could let the federal government name one of their churches, but that's what happened.

When a post office was being established about 1882 in an unnamed community in McCracken County its residents were asked to think of a suitable name. When none was forthcoming, the Post Office Department in Washington took matters into its own hands.

As times were hard and folding green was difficult to come by, an anonymous postal employe who never saw the town he named selected *Hardmoney*.

The town later lost its post office, was renamed Ballance for one of its leading citizens, but eventually got its original name of *Hardmoney* back.

Long Run Baptist Church, in eastern Jefferson County, is believed to have been constituted by at least 1797 and possibly earlier. The church takes its name from nearby Long Run Creek.

Two similar theories exist as to the origin of the creek's name. One is that in the days of Indian raids a white settler was pursued along this creek by an Indian. After a lengthy chase, the Indian caught him and exclaimed, "White man, he long run."

President Harry Truman advanced the other account in a letter to Gov. Earle Clements: "My two grandmothers and one of my grandfathers were members of that church, and I remember Grandmother Young telling me how the church got its name. It seems that her grandfather and some of his neighbors were being chased by Indians.

"When they scattered, her grandfather crawled into a hollow log to hide.

The Indians who were after him jumped on the log and, after looking in vain in all directions, said, 'Long run white man'."

Today, the largest association of churches in Kentucky (130 total) is named Long Run Baptist Association.

First and *Second Twelve Mile Baptist churches*, both in Campbell County, were named for Twelve Mile Creek, which empties into the Ohio River. The origin of the creek's name is unclear.

The First church was organized in

1812 and the present structure is located on the site of one originally built in 1836. The church's original cemetery was located on an island in the creek, but much of it has washed away in Ohio River flood waters.

The Second church, at the head of the creek, is coincidentally about 12 miles from the First church.

Black Jack Baptist Church, six miles northeast of Franklin in the Black Jack community, was built in 1867. Its name is derived from the black jack oak tree,

often confused with the black oak today. Many black jacks, now considered very rare, were growing on the site of the church and were used in its construction.

Someone has said that "a rose by any other name smells just as sweet." A church's name, no matter how prestigious it may sound, does not tell us much about the church. Rather, the church may better be known "by the company it keeps"—and how that company works for the Lord.

At Shively, Life Began at 40

by Debbie Harris, Staff Writer

If your church looked as if it were dying what would your congregation do? Invest in a building plan costing over one million dollars? Probably not!

Five years ago Shively Baptist Church was in trouble. According to pastor Bruce Hodge the church was "cut off by the Dixie Highway and Watterson Expressway interchange." Not as many new families were moving into the area due to increasing commercialization. The church was "doing good to run 200 in Sunday school."

Attendance at Shively's two missions, Rockford Lane Baptist Church and Shively Heights Baptist Church, both located within one mile of the church, was booming but the mother church appeared to be in her last days.

Yet even during such troublesome times Shively continued to be a missions-oriented church. Some years it gave 25 or 26 percent of its budget to missions through the Cooperative Program.

In 1973 a building program was proposed. Hodge, who has pastored the church since April 1973 after serving as minister of education two years prior to that, recalls that everyone in the congregation did not favor such action, but soon it was unanimous that relocation should take place.

Hodge feels the real turning point in the life of Shively was when "we decided God was not willing for Shively's doors to close but that we should buy new property, move and continue on as God willed."

Things began to change at Shively

Baptist Church and the statistics show that life began again when the church was 40 years old. A new enthusiasm developed and with it came new members. During the three years of the building program the church experienced 509 additions. Of those, 241 additions occurred in 1975. Sunday school enrolment grew from 200 to over 500. And in spite of the costly building program Shively Baptist Church ranked third in Long Run Association in missions giving in 1974-75 and 31st among all churches in the state.

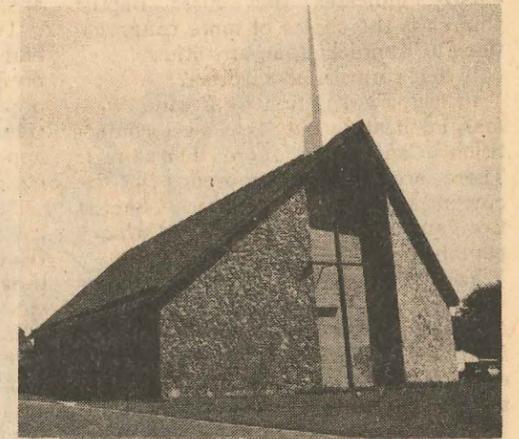
Bruce Hodge explains, "The spirit of the Lord was moving in the old building and that accentuated the move."

The new church facilities are only three blocks away from the original location on an eight-acre plot of land. They include a sanctuary that can seat 1,000 and educational facilities designed to handle 700 in Sunday school.

The first services in the new building were on July 11. Some 673 were present for Sunday school and 1,045 attended the worship service. During this past summer an average of 144 persons attended Church Training each week.

Hodge explains that "God is blessing a mission church that gave sacrificially and is not letting her dry up. Because of our step of faith every inch of the educational building is now being used and some Sunday school classes are meeting in the halls."

Future plans call for construction of an activities building to accommodate



A step of faith that cost over \$1 million is what has kept Shively Baptist Church, Louisville, alive. New facilities, occupied since July 11, are almost outgrown already.

further growth.

The church staff has grown from three members to seven and now includes the pastor, associate pastor, secretary and ministers of education, youth, visitation and music. Last year's budget totaled \$208,000 and this year's is expected to exceed that considerably.

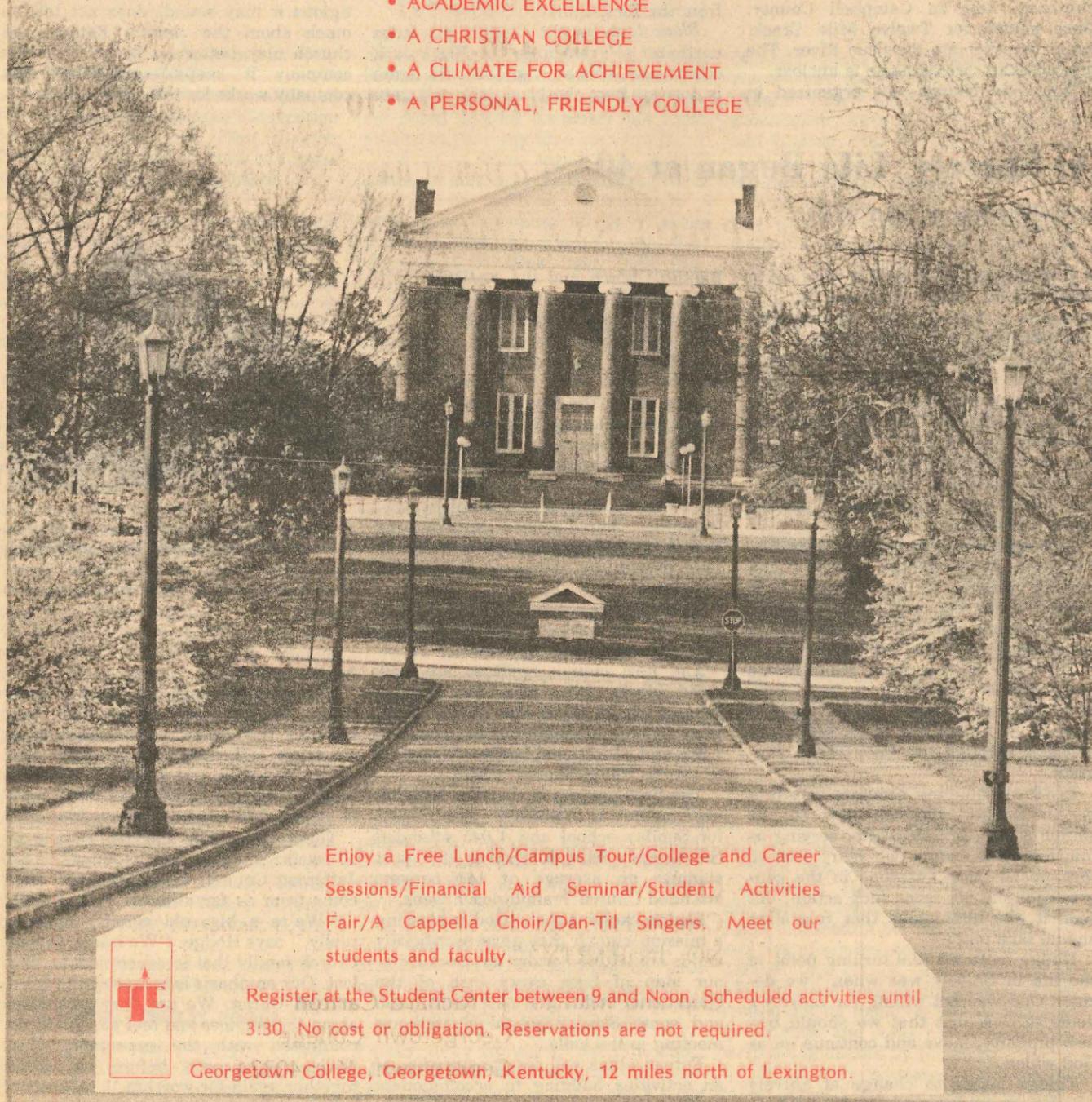
The congregation includes people in all walks of life and from all over Jefferson County, including some that come from as far away as Fern Creek.

"We're a big, old country church, really," says Hodge. "We have a loving church family that is concerned for the lost. Our emphasis is to preach the word and lift Christ. We are very particular about the services and feel all should be conducted with the expectancy that Christ may come before we meet together again for worship."

VIP DAY OCTOBER 23

FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS INTERESTED IN

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Register at the Student Center between 9 and Noon. Scheduled activities until 3:30. No cost or obligation. Reservations are not required.

Georgetown College, Georgetown, Kentucky, 12 miles north of Lexington.

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL GEORGETOWN COLLEGE BREAKFAST

7:00 a.m.

Wednesday, November 10

in the Convention Hall of the

PHOENIX HOTEL

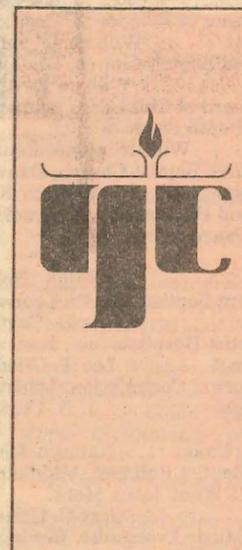
120 East Main St., Lexington, Ky.

For Alumni and Friends of Georgetown College

Now a tradition at the Kentucky Baptist Convention, the Georgetown College Breakfast is a time of food and fellowship for alumni and other friends of the College. These are invited to be the guests of the College on this special occasion. Make your reservations now to be one of the 1,000 Kentucky Baptists attending the breakfast to meet friends, old and new, and to fellowship with the Georgetown College family.

Reservations are limited and must be made by Friday, November 5th.

So complete the form below and mail it today!



**YES, I PLAN TO ATTEND THE
GEORGETOWN COLLEGE BREAKFAST
ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10th.**

NAME

STREET ADDRESS

CITY

CHURCH

NO. IN PARTY

Clip and mail to: J. Richard Carlton
Georgetown College
Georgetown, Ky. 40324

CONVENTION PREVIEW

PROGRAM

Kentucky Baptist Convention

139th Annual Meeting

Calvary Baptist Church, Lexington, Ky.

November 9-11, 1976

CONVENTION OFFICERS

President	Henry Huff
Layman	Crescent Hill Baptist Church, Louisville
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Kentucky Baptist Convention,	Middletown
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Calvary Baptist Church,	Lexington
Pianist	Mrs. Jim Fightmaster
Calvary Baptist Church,	Lexington
Host Pastor	L. Reed Polk Jr.
Calvary Baptist Church,	Lexington

Convention Theme: "Let the Church Stand Up"

TUESDAY MORNING — NOVEMBER 9, 1976

Song Leader	Inman Johnson
Former Professor,	Southern Seminary, Virginia
10:40 Processional:	"America The Beautiful"
Kentucky Baptist Chorale	
Prayer and Convening of 1976	Kentucky Baptist Convention
Henry Huff,	President, KBC
Hymn	
Worship and Welcome	L. Reed Polk Jr.
Organization of 139th Annual	Convention
Appointment of Committees	Henry Huff
Report of Credentials Committee	H. B. Kuhnle
Retired Minister,	Lexington
Report of Committee on Order of	Business
Bob C. Jones	
Lawrenceburg Baptist Church,	Lawrenceburg
11:10 Fraternal Greetings	
Hymn	
11:20 Special Music	Kentucky Baptist Chorale
Eugene Sutherland,	Director
11:30 President's Address	Henry Huff
12:00 Benediction	William Carter
Stanford Baptist Church,	Stanford

TUESDAY AFTERNOON — NOVEMBER 9, 1976

Song Leader	Inman Johnson
1:45 Hymn Singing	
1:55 Worship and Greetings	K. L. Moore
Chairman, State Missions,	General Association of Baptists
in Kentucky, and Pastor,	First Baptist Church, Frankfort
2:05 Highlights of Executive Board	Report
Franklin Owen	
2:40 Hymn	
2:45 Report of Bicentennial	Committee
Robert L. Mills	
Chairman, Georgetown	
2:50 Recognition of New	Leadership
Franklin Owen	
3:25 Report of Missions Related	Departments
A. B. Colvin	
Coordinator, Kentucky Baptist	Building, Middletown
Direct Missions	Robert C. Jones
Director, Kentucky Baptist	Building, Middletown

Cooperative Ministries: Christian Life. William H. Rogers
 Director, Kentucky Baptist Building, Middletown
 Evangelism Thomas H. Shelton
 Director, Kentucky Baptist Building, Middletown
 Stewardship Jesse C. Stricker
 Director, Kentucky Baptist Building, Middletown

4:00 Business Session and Resolutions	
4:30 Election of President	
4:45 Benediction	Harold Jones
Dry Ridge Baptist Church,	Dry Ridge

TUESDAY NIGHT — NOVEMBER 9, 1976

Song Leader	Inman Johnson
6:45 Hymn Singing	
7:00 Worship	G. Willard Reeves
Head of Religion Dept.,	Cumberland College, Williamsburg
7:10 Report of Church Services	Departments
James H. Whaley	
Coordinator, Kentucky Baptist	Building, Middletown
Sunday School	Fred E. Halbrooks Jr.
Director, Kentucky Baptist	Building, Middletown
Church Music	Eugene F. Quinn
Director, Kentucky Baptist	Building, Middletown
Church Training	C. Vernon Cole
Director, Kentucky Baptist	Building, Middletown
Brotherhood	Forrest R. Sawyer
Director, Kentucky Baptist	Building, Middletown
Cedarmore Assembly	Arlis C. Hinson
Manager, Cedarmore Baptist	Assembly, Bagdad
Baptist Student Union	Don Blaylock
Director, Kentucky Baptist	Building, Middletown
7:50 Special Music	Cumberland College Chorale
Williamsburg	
8:00 Message	Landrum P. Leavell II
President, New Orleans Baptist	Theological Seminary
8:30 Hymn	
8:35 Christian Education	Report
Henry Johns	
Versailles Baptist Church,	Versailles
Address	Barkley Moore
President, Oneida Baptist	Institute, Oneida
8:50 Special Music	Cumberland College Chorale
9:00 Address	To Be Announced
9:30 Benediction	William A. Hartung
Thorn Hill Baptist Church,	Frankfort

WEDNESDAY MORNING — NOVEMBER 10, 1976

Song Leader	Inman Johnson
8:45 Music	
9:00 Worship	Joe Lewis
Professor of Religion,	Georgetown
9:10 Christian Life	Committee Report
William L. Turner	
Central Baptist Church,	Lexington
9:20 Report of Child Care	Board
William E. Amos	
Executive Director, Board of	Child Care, Louisville
9:30 Report of Committee to	Make Depth Study of
Child Care Program	William Austin Roberts
Lexington Avenue Baptist	Church, Danville
9:35 Public Affairs	Committee Report
Wallace Kent	
Crestwood Baptist Church,	Frankfort
9:40 Election of Officers and	Miscellaneous Business
10:20 Constitution and	By-Laws
Committee Report	Ralph Hodge
Bethlehem Baptist Church,	Louisville
10:25 Report of Baptist	Hospitals, Inc.
Homer D. Coggins	
President, Baptist Hospitals	Inc., Louisville
10:35 Report of Historical	Commission
Leo T. Crismon	
President, Historical	Commission, Louisville
10:45 Report of TV and	Radio Committee
J. B. Crawley	
Layman, Campbellsville	
10:55 Report of Woman's	Missionary Union
Kathryn Jasper	
Executive Director, Kentucky	Baptist Building, Middletown
11:05 Solo "Behold The Man"	and "I Want Jesus More
Than Anything"	Gary C. Griesser
Music Evangelist,	Burlington
11:15 Scripture Reading	S. Clelland Gash
Harrodsburg Baptist Church,	Harrodsburg

Convention Sermon	H. Curtis Erwin
Glasgow Baptist Church,	Glasgow
11:45 Benediction	Ferrell Gardner
Carlisle Avenue Baptist	Church, Louisville

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON — NOVEMBER 10, 1976

Song Leader	Inman Johnson
2:10 Hymn	
2:20 Worship	H. E. Coker
Professor of Bible & Religious	Education,
Campbellsville College,	Campbellsville
2:30 Report of Business	Related Departments
Business	Barry G. Allen
Business Manager, Kentucky	Baptist Building, Middletown
Foundation	Grady L. Randolph
Executive Secretary, Ky.	Baptist Foundation, Middletown
2:40 Annuity	Byrd R. Ison
Director, Kentucky Baptist	Building, Middletown
Message	Darold H. Morgan
President, Annuity Board,	Dallas, Tex.
3:00 Report of Resolutions	Committee
B. B. Steele	
Woodland Avenue Baptist	Church, Lexington
3:15 Business Session	
4:00 Report of Committee on	Aging
H. Curtis Erwin	
Glasgow Baptist Church,	Glasgow
4:05 Report on Chaplaincy	
4:10 Benediction	Harold A. Dann
Burgin Church, Burgin	

WEDNESDAY NIGHT — NOVEMBER 10, 1976

Song Leader	Inman Johnson
6:45 Hymn	
7:00 Worship	Earl Clark
Professor, Clear Creek	Baptist School, Pineville
7:10 American Bible	Society
W. Louis Walters	
Pastor, Ralph Avenue	Baptist Church, Louisville
7:20 Report on Home	Missions
Lowell Lawson	
Beechmont Baptist Church,	Louisville
7:30 Baptist World	Alliance
Robert S. Denny	
General Secretary, Baptist	World Alliance,
Washington, D. C.	
7:50 Special Music	Sanctuary Choir
Calvary Baptist Church,	Lexington
8:00 Foreign Mission	Report
Bill Messer	
Sand Spring Baptist Church,	Lawrenceburg
James Spaulding	on furlough from Trinidad
James Musen	on furlough from Kenya
Dean Fitzgerald	on furlough from Jordan
8:45 Hymn	
8:50 Report of Cooperative	Program Committee
Frank Dorris	
Auburn Baptist Church,	Auburn
8:55 Message	James L. Sullivan
President, Southern Baptist	Convention, Nashville, Tenn.
9:25 Benediction	Harold Butler
Wing Avenue Baptist Church,	Owensboro

THURSDAY MORNING — NOVEMBER 11, 1976

8:45 Hymn	
9:00 Worship	John D. Sanderson
Oneida Baptist Institute	
9:10 Temperance League	Report
Delbert Butts	
Executive Director, Temperance	League of Ky., Louisville
9:20 Obituary Report	I. L. Baughn
Dundee Baptist Church,	Hartford
9:30 Report of Western	Recorder
C. R. Daley	
9:40 Unfinished Business	and Appointments
Editor, Kentucky Baptist	Building, Middletown
10:50 Report of Committee	on Committees
Eugene I. Enlow	
Beechmont Baptist Church,	Louisville
Report of Committee on	Nominations
Harold Skaggs	
Calhoun Baptist Church,	Calhoun
Report of Committee on	Arrangements
S. Clelland Gash	
Harrodsburg Baptist Church,	Harrodsburg
11:00 Recognition of	Convention Officers
Franklin Owen	
Presentation to President	

11:10 Appreciation of	Outgoing Officers
Presentation of New	Officers
Hymn and Special	Music
Mrs. Charne Bomhard	
Church Music School, SBTS,	Louisville
11:20 Conventionwide	Education Report
Calvin A. Perry	
Main Street Baptist Church,	Alexandria
11:30 Message	R. G. Puckett
Chairman, Trustees,	Midwestern Seminary, and
Editor, The Maryland	Baptist, Lutherville, Md.
12:00 Benediction	Billie C. Wright
Stanton Baptist Church,	Stanton

KENTUCKY BAPTIST PASTOR'S CONFERENCE

Calvary Baptist Church, Lexington
 November 8-9, 1976

President	Willis Henson, Lone Oak Church, Paducah
Vice President	Bill Mackey, First Church, Whitesburg
Secretary-Treasurer	Gayle Toole, Edgewood Church, Nicholasville
Organist	Austin Roberts, Lexington Avenue Church, Danville
Pianist	Dallas Sugg, First Church, Carlisle

Theme: Let the Church Stand Up

MONDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

2:00 Hymn	Tony Whitfield, Lone Oak Church, Paducah
2:05 "Monday Morning	Manna"
C. Wyman Copass	
Reidland Church, Paducah	
2:15 Special Music	Tony Whitfield
2:20 Message "Let The Church	Stand Up Through Preaching
The Great Doctrines"	Fred S. Roth
Professor of Religion,	Cumberland College
2:50 Hymn	Tony Whitfield
2:55 Testimony	Walter Jackson
Chaplain, Louisville Baptist	Hospital
3:10 Offering	Gale Toole, Edgewood Church, Nicholasville
3:15 Hymn	Tony Whitfield
3:20 Message "Let The Church	Stand Up Through Minis-
tering To The Larger	Community"
John Wood	
First Church, Paducah	
3:50 Special Music	Duet
Mr. Tony Whitfield and	Mrs. Bob Rodgers
3:55 Message "Let The Church	Stand Up Through New
Testament Evangelism"	Bob Norman
Belmont Heights Baptist	Church, Nashville, Tenn.
4:25 Benediction	Andy Reese, First Church, Barbourville

MONDAY EVENING SESSION

6:45 Organ Mini-Concert	Albin Whitworth
Walnut Street Church,	Louisville
7:00 Hymn	Bill Williams, Immanuel Church, Lexington
7:10 "Monday Morning	Manna"
Curtis Erwin	
Glasgow Church, Glasgow	
7:20 Special Music	Bill Williams
7:25 Message "Let The Church	Stand Up Through Prayer"
Landrum P. Leavell II	
President, New Orleans Baptist	Theological Seminary
7:55 Offering	President
8:00 Election of Officers	
8:10 Hymn	Bill Williams
8:15 Special Music	Choir, Immanuel Church, Lexington
8:20 Message "Let The Church	Stand Up Through New
Testament Preaching"	Wayne Ward
8:50 Benediction	Terry Sills, West End Church, Paducah

TUESDAY MORNING SESSION

9:00 Hymn	Eugene Quinn, Church Music Dept., KBC
9:05 "Monday Morning	Manna"
Eugene Enlow	
Beechmont Church, Louisville	
9:15 "The Pastor's Wife	Speaks"
Mrs. Ted Sisk, Lexington	
9:35 Special Music	Kentucky Baptist Chorale
Gene Sutherland, Director	
9:55 Message "Let The Church	Stand Up Through Missions"
Franklin Owen, Executive	Secretary-Treasurer, KBC
10:25 Benediction	New President

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KENTUCKY BAPTIST MUSIC ASSOCIATION

Immanuel Baptist Church
3100 Tates Creek Rd., Lexington
November 8-9, 1976

MONDAY AFTERNOON, NOV. 8

12:15 Officers' luncheon at Cape Codder, Ashland and High Sts., Lexington

1:00 Exhibit of music publishers by Baptist Book Store opens, hosted by Linda Feddern

1:30 Concert by Young Musicians Choir, Immanuel Church, Lexington

1:50 Refreshment break, hosted by Immanuel Church

2:00 Rehearsal of Kentucky Baptist Chorale, Eugene Sutherland directing

2:00 K.B.M.A. wives conference, Mrs. David Gardner leading

3:00 Refreshment Break, hosted by Immanuel Church

3:15 Chorale Rehearsal and Wives Conference continued

4:15 Business Session, Tony Whitfield presiding

5:00 Performance of "The Prodigal Son" (Debussy) by Cumberland College Opera Workshop, Joe Tarry directing

6:00 K.B.M.A. Banquet at Immanuel Church

Entertainment by "Purpose" of Lone Oak Church, Paducah, Tony Whitfield directing

MONDAY EVENING, NOV. 8

8:00 Concert by Georgetown College Choir, Wayne Johnson directing. Music and recognition of John Jacob Niles of Lexington.

9:00 Choral Mission Projects and Techniques, Joel Land of Atlanta, Ga., speaking

10:00 Organ Mini-Concert, Albin Whitworth performing

10:15 Devotional period, David Gardner leading

TUESDAY MORNING, NOV. 9

8:30 Rehearsal of Chorale at Calvary Church, Lexington. Doughnuts and coffee provided.

9:35 Chorale Message at Pastors' Conference

10:40 Processional by Chorale, opening Kentucky Baptist Convention sessions.

KENTUCKY BAPTIST RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Calvary Baptist Church, Lexington
November 8, 1976

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00 Registration and Fellowship
Wanda Carpenter and Calvary Education Staff

2:00 Welcome Bill Sirex
Immanuel Church, Lexington

2:10 Introductions William G. Crawford

2:10 Worship
Music Richard Dwyer and Debbie Simmons, Calvary Church
Meditation L. Harold Lee Sr.

2:30 "Two Strategic Areas of Ministry"
John Steen, Editor, *Mature Living*
Sunday School Board, Nashville
Ministry to Senior Adults
Ministry to Single Adults

4:30 Adjourn

5:30 Banquet
Music Ann Clark
Calvary Church, Lexington
Entertainment - "Another Day in Folding, Spindling and Mutilating of Brother Blotz, Minister of Everything"
"Motives That Matter"
L. Reed Polk Jr.
Pastor, Calvary Church, Lexington

EVENING SESSION

7:30 Worship
Music Richard Dwyer and Debbie Simmons
Meditation Vernon Cole
KBC Church Training Dept. Director

7:45 Business Session

8:00 "The R.E. Worker and Home Missions"
Robert E. Bingham
Home Mission Board, Atlanta

9:15 Installation of Officers

9:25 Adjourn

Buyer's Guide

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AWARD-WINNING BOOK - "We Were There" was named second place winner in national contest sponsored by SBC Historical Commission. Tells the story of Baptists in Illinois in first-person, anecdotal style. Described by one reviewer as "oral history at its best." Albert McClellan says, "I recommend it to people who don't like history books. It breathes, it talks, it runs. It makes the past present. In short, it lives." Interviews and text by Robert J. Hastings. \$4.99 plus .36 postage. Illinois Baptist State Association, Box 3486, Springfield, Il. 62708.

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- Herbert Wagemaker, Director of Inpatient Psychiatry General Hospital, Louisville
- Anne Davis, Professor of Social Work Education The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

October 25th and 26th, 1976
Crescent Hill Baptist Church
2800 Frankfort Avenue
Louisville, Kentucky 40206

TOGETHERNESS

Southern Baptists have achieved a great measure of cooperation and unity. Yet our togetherness is almost completely voluntary. Final authority rests in the local congregations. The more general bodies (associations, conventions) have influence but no authority over the churches. Everything beyond the local church is a voluntary cooperative. This often results in notable individuality among our churches. Visiting various of our 2209 Kentucky Baptist churches, in 80 associations, I encounter a considerable variety of customs.



Yet, in spite of our containment of much freedom of thought and diversity of opinion there is also a great body of truth and doctrine on which the holy scriptures seem crystal clear to virtually all of us and these truths form the doctrinal center that holds us together—the Lordship of Christ, the inspiration of scripture, etc., etc.

This free system without creed or book of discipline, other than the Bible, has kept its unity largely by showing respect for local and congregational customs, allowing freedom and a reasonable measure of diversity. ("Unity in diversity" is a common expression among us.)

Possibly the strongest tie by which we hold together is the great task of world missions. The compelling force of the Great Commission, the standing

command of Christ, is more important to us than the allowable differences among us. The only hope of carrying out such an order lies in our pooled strength and united effort. Most Southern Baptists realize this.

I shall never forget, more than 20 years ago in Miami, Fla., the Southern Baptist Convention was in hot dispute over some now forgotten issue. Baker James Cauthen stepped to the microphone and told the messengers that if the Convention were to break up over the issue he would have to call home our great army of foreign missionaries around the globe. It stunned and sobered the suddenly thoughtful assembly. In a few minutes all was calm. And so may it ever be with our free, voluntary fellowship of Christian love and common purpose.

Christian Education

Anderson at KBC

Justice Conrad Anderson, professor of missions at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex., will represent that institution at the Kentucky Baptist Convention in Lexington. Southwestern alumni will meet Nov. 10 at noon for a luncheon at the University Inn.



Anderson

Anderson, a native Texan, has been teaching at Southwestern since August 1974. The graduate of Baylor University and Southwestern has pastored churches in Texas and served as a missionary in Argentina for seven years. While in Argentina he taught five years at the International Baptist Theological Seminary. He is the author of numerous articles and publications in both Spanish and English.

UK BSU Alumni Meeting

The annual meeting of the University of Kentucky BSU Alumni Association is set for 10:30 a.m. Nov. 6 at Calvary Baptist Church, Lexington. Ray Correll, former All-American football player, now a businessman in Somerset, will be the featured speaker. Brunch will be served prior to the meeting. Activities will include the dedication of the new Baptist Student Center on the U.K. campus and the homecoming football game when U.K. plays Vanderbilt.

Law School Profits From Jaworski's Book

Baylor University's School of Law, Waco, Tex., will be the major beneficiary from the sales of the book "The Right and the Power," by Leon Jaworski, former Special Watergate Prosecutor and a Baylor law graduate. Royalties and other income from the book will go to the Leon Jaworski Foundation, a

charitable body of which the law school of the Baptist university is the principal beneficiary.

The book concerns Jaworski's duties as special prosecutor and the events surrounding the investigation and prosecution of the Watergate defendants. He relates many incidents in his book that have remained untold until now. The book is a best seller and has been adopted as a Book of the Month Club selection. A condensation of it is to be published by *Reader's Digest*.

Deaths

William G. Caldwell, Danville, died Sunday, Oct. 3 of a heart attack. He was in his second term as a member of the Board of Directors of *Western Recorder* and was chairman of the print shop committee for the paper.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Oct. 5 at First Baptist Church, Danville, where Caldwell was a member. Survivors include his wife, Sylvia Powars Caldwell and three children, Mrs. Greg (Sharon) Hancock, Mrs. Steven (Gwen) Leen and Larry Nelson Caldwell.

by H. C. Chiles, Murray, Ky.

International Series

Life and Work Series

The New Life as Freedom

Romans 7:14 — 8:2

When one becomes a Christian he is ushered into an experience of conflict and thereafter his struggle is intensified greatly. Even though Paul enjoyed experiences and reached heights far beyond other Christians, and was in fact the greatest Christian the world has ever known, he had a tremendous inner conflict. In spite of the fact that he knew what was right, and was very definitely and thoroughly committed to doing it, repeatedly he was tempted to do wrong. Those of us who are Christians repeatedly find ourselves in a terrific struggle with temptations to sin. We are never justified in yielding to these temptations and allowing Satan to control us.

Those who have trusted the crucified, buried, risen and ascended Christ as their personal saviour have been liberated from sin and the law and have been saved by him, and are happily under grace. This freedom from the demands of the law is never an incentive to sensual or sinful living. On the contrary, love for Christ challenges and persuades us to give our very best to our Lord in Christian service.

As long as the Christian remains on the earth he will have two natures: the carnal nature with its sinful tendencies and cravings, and the new nature which was implanted in him at the time of his regeneration. Paul readily acknowledged that in his carnal nature there was a force which demanded compliance with its lusts. It was the source and spring of evil. As soon as a good thought entered his mind, or he attempted to do that which was right and good, his evil nature hindered him greatly. When there was any inclination to do that which was good, there was also the temptation to delay the matter.

There are many similarities in Paul's spiritual autobiography and ours. Each has, so to speak, a dual personality. On one side it is good and on the other it is bad. The duel between the conflicting forces within our personalities is of the utmost importance to all who are interested in developing Christian character and applying Christianity.

Where is the power which will resolve the conflicts within us and give us the victory? One thing that is necessary is the vision of the possibility of it. Because it is possible for us to be better and to do better, we need to catch a vision far beyond that of our achievements. We also need to learn that sufficient enabling power is available. You have an evil nature which you will never completely destroy in this present life; therefore, turn to Christ in complete dedication and let him give you power to master the evil forces that are within you and to overcome temptations from without. He is able and anxious to enable you to make a remarkable conquest. A genuine personal surrender to Christ will make available the strength you need to live victoriously.

Telling Others About Christ

Every Christian has been commanded to tell the unsaved about Christ, and is expected to do so.

Acts 1:6-8

Just before our Lord ascended, the disciples, who were still expecting Christ to bring national restoration and political independence to Israel, asked him if he would restore the kingdom immediately. He replied that this was not the consideration of present or paramount importance. It was not their privilege to "know the times or the seasons," as those things were entirely with God. Christ told them that they were not to be absorbed in counting days, but in witnessing for him by their words, ways, walks, works and warfare. For this work they needed a power beyond any provided by nature, or any which they might have acquired through fellowship with him, namely, the Holy Spirit coming upon them. The purpose of his coming was that "Ye shall be witnesses unto me."

Acts 4:16-18, 29-31

Following the healing of the lame man at the Gate Beautiful, the authorities conferred among themselves as to what they should do to and with the apostles. They decided that the only thing they could afford to do was to threaten them, and command them not to preach or teach again in the name of Christ. The command to stop preaching Christ did not present any difficult problem to them. Having received their authority from a higher source, the apostles promptly and adamantly decided that there was only one thing for them to do, namely, to go on preaching the crucified, buried and resurrected Christ, regardless of the consequences. Let us, too, ask God to sustain us and to give us the necessary faith, courage, boldness and ability to share the gospel.

Upon returning to their group, Peter and John reported their experiences, following which they engaged in a period of praise and prayer of thanksgiving to God for his blessings upon them and their work. With the Lord's work being resisted by the opposition, the apostles extolled God's greatness and praised him for his goodness to them. Grateful to God for not allowing his enemies to go beyond a certain point, their prayers were marked by sincerity, earnestness, unity, faith and definiteness.

Acts 11:19-21

In order to live, some unnamed disciples had been forced to leave Jerusalem. In the populous and wicked city of Antioch, the capital of Syria, those brave and daring souls preached the gospel of Christ, whereupon a number were saved, and the first Gentile church was established. God never fails to crown with blessing and success the efforts of those who obey him and share his message with those who need it so much.

Second of Four Parts

Moral Issues in Elections '76— Focus on Freedom

by C. Welton Gaddy

Freedom has always been a big word in the United States of America.

An unwavering commitment to freedom has shaped the documents of our democracy.

The blessings of freedom have become the lyrics of our national songs.

The importance of freedom has expressed itself in our national military defense and in the personal sacrifice of tens of thousands of our finest young men.

Christians have a special interest in freedom. Fully aware that the truest form of freedom resides in a redemptive relationship with Jesus Christ, Christians are nevertheless sensitive to the significance of freedom within the civil realm.

Recent infringements on freedom are cause for alarm. Court decisions affecting a person's right to privacy, Congressional hearings on abuses of freedom perpetrated and perpetuated by the FBI and CIA and persistent warnings regarding the erosion of public support for freedom have made citizens uneasy. The fact that some would selfishly use government to legislate adherence to their religious point of view while others would deceptively use religion to accomplish partisan political goals is frightening.

In this election year as always, eternal vigilance is the price of liberty. Candidates for public offices should give an account of themselves on various freedom issues. Here is a brief review of the positions of the two major presidential candidates on some concerns related to religious freedom and civil liberty:

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

The candidates' positions on three different issues indicate their postures regarding a principle which has historically been a major concern of Baptists.

Gerald Ford, the Republican nominee for President, has clearly stated he

believes private and parochial education are essential to the nation and worthy of aid in any manner which is "constitutional." His major sponsorship of the tax credit proposals under President Nixon was an example of his long-time support of aid to parochial schools. Democratic Presidential nominee Jimmy Carter opposes federal aid to parochial schools. Though he would not allocate public money for religious instruction, he would give aid to students who go to private schools.

Regarding mandatory religious exercises in public schools, the candidates differ in their positions.

Carter thinks private prayer should be permitted but not required. He favors the ban on imposing religious exercises on public schools.

Ford favors a prayer amendment to the Constitution. His 1971 vote for the Wylie prayer amendment indicated his support of religious exercises in public schools.

On the matter of abortion, both candidates oppose a constitutional amendment to prohibit all abortions.

Ford is against abortion on demand but feels abortion is justified in cases of rape and where the life of the mother is at stake. He would assign the states the task of defining the limits of abortion.

Carter is opposed to assigning such responsibility to the states. He has said, "I think abortion is wrong and I think that government ought not ever do anything to encourage abortion."

CIVIL LIBERTY

Both Carter and Ford have declared their opposition to any discrimination which denies civil freedom to anyone on the basis of race or sex. For example, both candidates strongly support the Equal Rights Amendment and both have advocated equal employment opportunities.

The matter of compulsory busing to achieve racial balance and equal educa-

tional opportunities in the public schools has been addressed by both.

Ford has said, "Busing as a remedy ought to be the last resort, and it ought to be limited in duration and scope to correcting the effects of previous violations."

Carter's position is, "Mandatory busing, no. Voluntary transfer, yes."

The willingness of many citizens to give up essential liberties stems from fear provoked by rising crime rates.

Ford favors mandatory minimum sentences as one means of stemming the increase in crime. Additionally, he wants four new federal prisons and an increase in prosecutors and judges.

Carter has said that the best way to reduce crime is to reduce unemployment. The most effective deterrent within the criminal justice system, according to Carter, is swift, firm punishment. Accordingly he advocates streamlining court procedures, abbreviating trial procedures and exercising sure punishment.

Two issues closely related to the joint concerns of crime and freedom are laws to deal with handgun abuse and the use of the death penalty.

Ford favors the death penalty for the crimes of sabotage, espionage, treason and murder. He cautions, however, that the penalty should not be applied if there is duress, impaired mental capacity, or similar extenuating circumstances.

Carter believes the death penalty should be retained for a few aggravated crimes. A jury should always assess this penalty and each case should be reviewed by a three-judge panel of the state Supreme Court.

Both candidates support prohibitions on the manufacture and sale of cheap handguns known as "Saturday night specials."

Ford has said he is "unalterably opposed to the registration of gun owners and the registration of guns." He does, however, want to strengthen existing laws on the sale of handguns and increase the number of federal firearms investigators.

Carter would prohibit the ownership of guns by criminals who have used guns in their crimes and by mentally incompetent persons. He supports "handgun registration, reasonable waiting periods and appropriate licensing provisions."