



WESTERN RECORDER

APRIL 28, 1977

Ordination of Women by Baptist Churches

What do Baptists believe about ordination of women? The answer depends upon which Baptists one is talking about.

This diversity is not a facetious reply. It is the way it is. The principle of freedom and independence practiced by Baptists allows for considerable diversity in belief and practice. This rules out identical answers for all Baptists to many questions.

This diversity is illustrated in different reactions to two Kentucky Baptist churches which have ordained women to the gospel ministry. In one case the ordaining church is being disciplined; in the other instance apparently no serious consideration has been given to reprimanding the church.



Ordinarily a local church which is considered to be departing from Baptist doctrine is disciplined by the district association if it is disciplined at all. State conventions and the Southern Baptist Convention for the most part have rejected efforts to discipline local churches. And so a Baptist church can be in fellowship with the state convention and/or the Southern Baptist Convention without being in fellowship with a local association.

In the cases above the South District Association executive board has voted to withdraw fellowship from the Beech Fork church if it does not revoke its ordination of a woman to the ministry while the Lyndon Baptist Church in Louisville has not been reprimanded in any way by the Long Run Association for ordaining a woman to the ministry. (See article on page 4 of this issue.)

What is the position of Baptists on ordination of women? Our position on ordination of women as on all other matters is the teaching of the Bible. The problem is agreeing on what the scriptures teach. Our belief in the priesthood of every believer and the access to the Holy Spirit of every believer and every congregation to interpret the scriptures for themselves complicates the matter. Unlike hierarchial systems which hand down to churches the official interpretation of the Bible, Baptists give this right to no one but reserve it for themselves.

Guest Editorial

Give Now

by Franklin Owen, Executive Secretary
Kentucky Baptist Convention

Belowed, I hope you are going to be counted in flood relief gifts. There has been a great deal of immediate disaster response by those geared to the immediate emergency. Baptists have been among such givers.

All sorts of Baptist groups, church and individual

What do the scriptures teach concerning ordination of women? The answer depends upon whether one takes the literal view or another view of scripture. Are the instructions of Paul to the New Testament churches he addressed intended for each local church in its particular situation and environment or are these instructions intended for all churches of all times?

If the New Testament is taken literally, there is little if any support for ordaining women. There is no specific reference to women's being ordained for preaching and only one or two questionable references to a woman as a deacon. Romans 16:1 refers to Phoebe as a servant of the church at Cenchreae. The same word (diakonos) is used of Phoebe as is used in I Timothy 3:8 for those qualifying as deacons. A less plausible argument is that I Timothy 3:11 refers to women who qualify for deaconship instead of to wives of deacons.

If the instructions of Paul apply only to the specific churches in their particular day and situations, Baptist churches today need only to be guided by the general principles enunciated in the New Testament. But even then it is hard to make a strong case for women to be considered for the same leadership role which the New Testament assigns to men. While women had prominent parts in the ministry of Jesus and in New Testament churches, their role, especially as Paul puts it, is supportive rather than in leadership.

The Bible views man's role in the church as well as in family life as that of leadership. This does not relegate women to an inferior role but puts her, as it does man, in God's assigned role. A woman filling her God given role is on a par with any man.

The vast majority of Baptists take the New Testament literally when it comes to passages like I Timothy 3. They are not inclined as much to take Paul's instructions elsewhere concerning covering women's heads in church and not permitting women to speak in church or teach.

This may be inconsistent but it holds nevertheless. Ordaining women as preachers or deacons will not be widespread among Baptists for a long time if ever. But more and more churches will be ordaining women, especially as deacons, in coming years. When they do, some will be disciplined by fellow Baptists and some will not. That's the Baptist way.

projects come to our attention. A former Baptist student from Pike County called BSU associate, David Book (we couldn't call into the flood area). David enlisted about \$1,000, borrowed a pick-up truck for three loads of needed materials, put those three loads into one larger borrowed

truck and went to that community with nearly \$1,000 worth of baby food, pampers—you name it. Westport Road, St. Matthews and Poplar Ridge churches contributed to his one-man disaster service. Eldred Taylor and John Dunaway (Somerset, Corbin) giving directly, just now, their churches involved in direct ministry projects, taking necessities right where it was needed through contacts they knew about. Bill Hancock at Highview, Louisville, provided a truck and a crew of men with supplies and shovels for cleanups and a second forty foot truck of furniture. Joe Carrico obtained the service of an Army helicopter and crew for five days of amazing results. Bill Jagers played liaison with authorities to get supply trucks in from Baptist volunteer givers. Rockcastle Association—\$500 sent direct. Silver Creek Prayer Breakfast sent help direct. On and on come reports of unpraised single direct actions. No Baptist name on the trucks on loan from Baptist laymen. No publicity.

But, disaster service is not what we can best do, except such above direct responses among individual and church friendship arrangements. Now that the tumult and the shouting have died, the people are faced with the larger costs of restoration and replacement. Public agencies cannot give to church and pastor-pastorium losses. This we can and must do, plus whatever else we are able.

An example: Loyall, First Baptist Church called Bob

Jones, Direct Missions, seeking counsel and guidance. A mobile home, a two-story building and floatations from a destroyed lumber yard created a temporary dam near the church that deflected the current and ruined their building (estimated \$68,000). Where can they meet now? A tent can be rented for about \$200 or so per month, or bought for \$2,300. Which is wiser? I wish Bob Jones and I could call them back and tell them we will buy the tent.

Early reports of losses include: Calloway, \$15,000; East Pineville, \$40,000, completely destroyed; Varilla, \$3,000; West Pineville, \$15,000, church and parsonage damage; Pineville, First, water eighteen feet in this lovely sanctuary, estimates up to \$500,000, pews and all lost—Sunday School furnishings likewise; Pikeville, First, same story; Riverside, \$10,000; Newton \$3,000; Riverview, \$25,000; Hosman, \$15,000; Ages Church, \$2,500; Calvary (Loyall) \$18,000; Four Mile, \$4,000; North Evarts, \$1,000; Kelly Street, \$1,000; Wallins, \$10,500; Associational Missionary home, \$6,000. On and on the reports just now coming in.

We want, first, to help them get back into minimal function. Money! The rush is over. The dollar giving time has passed. Time now for the thousands. It won't have high visibility anymore—may not make secular news—but we ought to do it—let's do. Kentucky Baptist Convention Flood Relief. (Restoration)

Baptist Forum

For almost four years I have been trying to witness as I counseled with teenagers and adults about premarital sex. The teenagers I see are already having sex.

Since approximately half the children are having sex before they graduate from high school and since teenage pregnancies are growing at an alarming rate I have a burning desire to talk to every teenager and parent of teenagers across the state.

Very little sex education is being conducted in the schools and in the homes. I feel that it is time for the churches to help.

Since I am a registered nurse with approximately four years of counseling experience and also a concerned mother, I feel that I have something to offer. I am a 1951 graduate of Murray State College School of Nursing. I have also attended numerous human sexuality seminars. I have time to help others since I work only two days a week.

I am willing to talk with girls, boys or both. I am also willing to help

mothers, fathers or both learn to talk with their teenagers about sex.

I may be reached during working hours on Mondays and Tuesdays at (502) 365-5732 or at (502) 365-5791 on other days.

Maureen Owen
Princeton

Speak Up In
Baptist Forum

Having worked with "singles," the divorced, the widowed and the never married for the past two years, I found Don Burke's article, "Singles: Building the Church," most interesting. We have found this group to be an integral part of our congregation with a wide range of skills that enhance the ministry of the church as well as deepen their own commitment.

However, in the same issue (April 7), I was greatly disturbed by deacon Roy

C. Hall's letter regarding the biblical teaching concerning divorce. Such a hard-nosed, legalistic approach by many church members toward divorcees is serving as a great detriment to a constantly expanding group of adults that need the compassion and concern of born again Christians. Many divorcees carry a tremendous guilt load as a result of the trauma of divorce that often has gone against their own convictions as Christians.

Mr. Hall's argument regarding deaconship and divorce may be considerable, however his statement, "I have no doubt that the divorced person's sin is also forgiven, that is, the immediate act of separating one from his or her spouse; but the forgiveness stops there," reeks of legalism. First John 1:9 promises cleansing "of all unrighteousness."

Jesus said, "...if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your father forgive your trespasses."

Rebecca B. Steelman
Chattanooga, TN.

Baptist Forum

THANK YOU!, SOUTHERN BAPTISTS

As a grown man I first discovered you. As a Pennsylvania-born northerner I found you. For 33 years I've enjoyed walking among you. Through one of your sainted servants (L. T. Hastings) I met the Master. Through many of your finest children and churches I've come to know Jesus better. Through one of your finest churches I was embraced in the waters of New Testament baptism (First Baptist Church, Monroe, LA. When the call to preach was divinely made known to me, and became clear to others, this same church gave strength and security by licensing me to the gospel ministry.

When the war was ended and my training began, one of your great universities (Baylor) opened its doors to me—and a degree later—a portion of my college costs were borne by you. I am grateful. Two of your small rural churches endured me as their pastor during those rookie years. They were so patient. Four more years of my life was touched by your missionary ministry as I earned a degree from one of your noted seminaries (Southwestern). These three decades of preaching cause me to reflect with deep pride and gratitude to be one of you.

Thank you for allowing me the total freedom to proclaim the words of the Lord that he has given me. Thank you

for giving me a free pulpit and the free exercise of doing his work as it comes through my individual personality. For 17 years I've enjoyed laboring on one of your front line mission fields...New York and the Northeast.

More recently I wish to thank the thousands who prayed for my recovery through four major operations over the past two years. Your time, your blood and your tears are all a part of me. They brought me "Back from the borders" three different times. Now that the Lord has answered your prayers through healing hands in

another of your finest institutions (Baylor Hospital Dallas). I want to spend the rest of my days saying: "Thank You" for all you have done for me.

As I leave the New York area in a few weeks to devote my time to a Bible conference ministry, lay evangelism schools, writing, preaching and pleading for REAL REVIVAL among more of you, I hope to scatter my gratitude to all of you for these wonderful years of blessed fellowship.

Don Miller
Kings Park, L.I., N.Y.

Kentucky Baptists at Work

The South District Associational Executive Board has requested that Beech Fork Baptist Church, Gravel Switch, rescind its action ordaining Miss Suzanne Coyle to the gospel ministry or have fellowship withdrawn from the church by the association. The church is being given until this fall to comply with the request.

Miss Coyle was ordained by the Beech Fork Church on February 6, 1977. She is under appointment by the Home Mission Board and works as chaplain of the Center City Baptist Chapel in Philadelphia, PA.

The issue was orderly discussed in an Apr. 11 meeting of the Executive Board of the association. Beech Fork pastor Mike Jamison and the Beech

Fork layman serving on the Executive Board presented the viewpoint of the congregation. Several others cautioned against severe discipline upon the Beech Fork congregation.

Austin Roberts, pastor of the Lexington Avenue Baptist Church in Danville, raised the question of whether the association could act on this matter in light of the statement in its constitution that the association shall have no ecclesiastical authority over any local church. It was ruled this associational constitution provision had no effect upon this issue.

The final vote was 19 for and 9 against the motion requiring the church to resent its action or be put out of the association.

Double Exposure

Suffer little children and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven (Matt. 19:14).
Jose Furtado Rodrigues Neto, Baptist evangelistic worker in Curitiba, Brazil, follows the scripture's admonition to let the children come. He is sharing the gospel with these children, just as many other workers across the state of Santa Catarina shared with people in street witnessing, house-to-house visitation, vacation Bible schools, home Bible studies and radio programs. At the end of a recent six-week evangelistic effort 552 "conversion experiences" were registered.



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Baptists are making news!

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

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Baptist News in Brief

WMU Sets Help May 13-14



Miss
Weatherford

Mrs.
Wilson

Carolyn Weatherford, Birmingham, AL, and Mrs. Michael H. Wilson, Hanover, IN, are principal speakers at a WMU association clinic May 13-14 at Cedarmore Baptist Assembly. The clinic offers training for all members of the associational WMU council in specific responsibilities.

Miss Weatherford is executive director of the Southwide WMU office. Mrs. Wilson, a missionary to Taiwan, is currently on furlough.

Spending More Now?

Southern Baptist church debt passed \$1 billion mark for the first time in history, directors of the denomination's Home Mission Board were told in Atlanta.

"It's taking more and more to do less and less," said Robert Kilgore, director of the board's division of church loans. "Passing the \$1 billion mark is a milepoint for us," he added. "I don't know if that's good or bad."

Sullivan Gives Procedure For SBC Resolutions

Daniel Grant, president of Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, AR, has been appointed chairman of the committee on resolutions to report to the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) in Kansas City, June 14-16.

SBC President James L. Sullivan of Nashville urged all persons submitting resolutions to (1) do so in advance in writing; (2) check resolutions passed by

previous conventions to avoid repetition; (3) consult with the resolutions committee before a resolution is submitted to the convention; (4) be prepared to turn in a written copy of the resolution at the platform if it is made from the floor.

Resolutions to be submitted should be sent as soon as possible to Daniel Grant, SBC Resolutions Committee, Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, AR 71923.

SBC Evangelists Meet June 15, Kansas City

The Southern Baptist Evangelists Conference in Kansas City June 15 in the Music Hall in the Kansas City convention complex will feature a variety of evangelists and evangelistic singers.

The annual meeting will come during a break in the schedule of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) annual meeting June 14-16.

Speakers include Wayne Bristow, evangelist, Lubbock, TX; Bob Kendig,

evangelist, Memphis, TN; Angel Martinez, evangelist, Ft. Smith, AR, and Billie Hanks Jr., president of International Evangelism Association, Ft. Worth.

Taking Child to SBC?

Arrangements for preschool child care, bus shuttle service and postal service have been announced for the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) in Kansas City, June 14-16.

The preschool child care center, located in Bartle Exposition Hall just west of the SBC registration desk, will open 30 minutes before each session and close 30 minutes after.

Costs are \$3.50 per child for each session and \$2.50 for each additional child in the same family, with an additional charge for late pickup. If the child eats a noon meal in the facility, the charge will be 50 cents extra.

Bus shuttle service between the convention center and most hotels will be provided. As in previous years, tickets will be sold to those riding buses.



Among 3,000 participating in a Witness Against Executions in Atlanta Easter weekend were [L to R]: Floyd A. Craig, director of public relations, SBC Christian Life Commission, Nashville; former U. S. Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark, New York; and Joe Ingle, director, Southern Coalition on Jails and Prisons, Nashville.



First Baptist Church, Loyall, met outside its flood-damaged building Easter Sunday. An inside view of the church tells why. [Joye Durham photo]



Nixon Joins Staff Of Western Recorder

William Russell (Nick) Nixon, 29, of Carthage, TN, has joined the staff of Western Recorder as a journalism intern.

Nixon, who is presently pursuing the M. Div. degree at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, is a graduate of the University of Tennessee's communications school. He has held previous part time positions with the Carthage Courier and Knoxville News-Sentinel.

A five-year Air Force veteran, he served in Illinois, Florida, North Carolina and Spain.

Nixon is married to the former Barbara Blay of Oak Ridge, TN, and they have two sons, Jeff, 7, and Matthew, 4. Nixon is a deacon at Louisville's Westport Road Baptist Church and director of the junior high department.

He will fill one of two vacancies at Western Recorder created with the seminary graduations of current interns Phil Burgess and Debbie Harris. Both have served in the program since 1975.

The intern program offers practical on-the-job training, applying textbook principles to daily journalism experience. It is a cooperative effort of Southern Seminary and Western Recorder.



Nixon

Sullivan Declines Term

Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) President James L. Sullivan announced he will not serve a second term as president of the 12.9-million-member denomination.

Calling the reasons "personal and the decision final," Sullivan, 67, will request that his name not be placed in nomination at the SBC annual meeting in June in Kansas City, MO.

"The ceaseless air travel, constant physical and emotional strains and extended absences from home cause me to conclude that one term is sufficient and best for me and the convention," he told Baptist Press.

He expressed gratitude "for the opportunity which has been mine of serving the Lord and Southern Baptists in this manner" and said his "experiences as president have deepened my conviction that the Southern Baptist Convention is the greatest denomination on earth and that God has mighty things in his plans for the future."

Only two other SBC presidents have served one term.

Queen Accepts Post

A. C. Queen, editor of the Penn.-Jersey Baptist, publication of the Baptist Convention of Pennsylvania-South Jersey, will become regional director of evangelism in Carson City, NV, May 1.

Queen, 63, a veteran of 34 years of pastoral and denominational service,

will serve under appointment as a missionary associate of the Home Mission Board. He will work in Nevada, Utah and Idaho, cooperating with the evangelism departments of the Arizona and California Baptist Conventions.

BSSB, HMB Cooperate

The need for additional Sunday schools and churches to compensate for rapidly rising population is the basis for a new cooperative effort of the Southern Baptist Convention Sunday School and Home Mission boards.

Grady C. Cothen and William G. Tanner, executive heads of the Sunday School and Home Mission boards respectively, said the agencies want to work with state Baptist convention and association leadership to begin thousands of new Sunday schools and church-type missions.

The sponsoring church, association, state convention and the Sunday School Board will work together to start and organize new Sunday schools.

The Home Mission board will work with the sponsoring church, association and state convention to develop new Sunday schools into church-type missions.

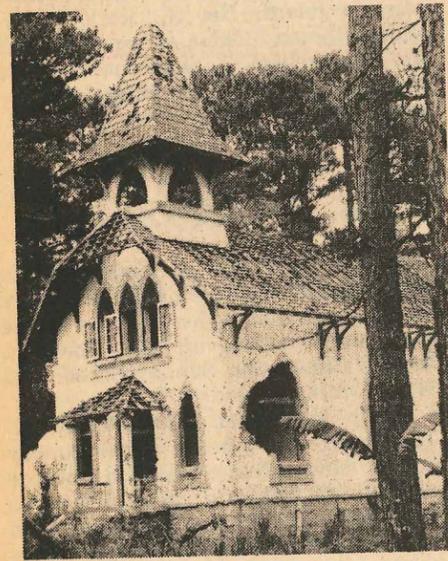
Tanner and Cothen said that the program will be implemented "as quickly as possible so new Sunday schools and churches can be established to help Southern Baptists in their goal of bringing men to God through Jesus Christ."

Missions & Ministries

Mob Attacks Revival Tent in Ecuador

Three men reported to be Roman Catholic priests led a mob of Indians in an attack on a Baptist revival tent in Tambo, Ecuador according to Pat Muse, Southern Baptist missionary press representative. Two nationals were injured in the incident on March 20 and the tent was almost totally destroyed.

(Outright conflict between Baptists and Catholics on the mission field today is unusual, according to spokesmen at the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, in Richmond, VA. In many countries, they even cooperate in some projects, such as Bible distribution.)



The church situation in Vietnam today is a clouded picture. According to rumors, churches are meeting but some say these meetings are more like political rallies. Religious freedom is officially sanctioned, but Christians are under severe pressure not to use it. It was not easy for Southern Baptist Missionaries to leave the people of Vietnam. As one missionary put it, "We left friends as dear as life." The collapse of Vietnam came at a time when response to the gospel seemed to be growing. People were turning to the gospel when everything else around them seemed to be falling apart.

The tent meetings had been scheduled as an evangelistic thrust to the Queschua-speaking Indians in Tambo, despite previous persecution of believers in the area.

The man who led the group of about 500 rural Indians entered the tent late Sunday afternoon while final preparations were being made for the first service of the campaign. Dressed as an Indian, he demanded immediate departure of the tent and everyone with it, according to Mrs. Muse.

The mob followed him, tearing down everything, even splitting one of the large wooden support beams. People of the area identified this leader and two others in the group as men they knew to be Roman Catholic priests.

Mrs. Muse said the leaders further threatened that if everything was not gone by the following day they would be back to burn it all and there would be bloodshed. At the same time, anti-North American messages were voiced over the loudspeaker of the Catholic Church.

When Southern Baptist Missionary James C. Muse Jr. sensed trouble was coming, he went to get help from Canar, some 15 miles away. Police there came back to Tambo with Muse, only to find the worst of the damage had been done.

The men at the tent had tried to tell the mob that legal written permission had been given by the proper authorities to conduct the services.

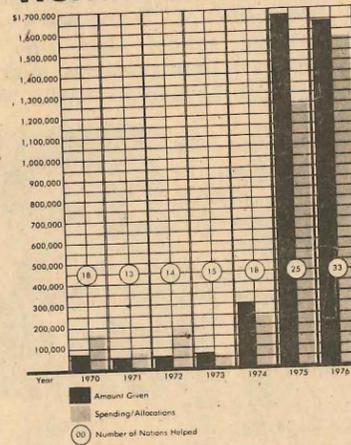
The town law officers stood up to the leader and told him clearly that he was breaking the law, but it seemed to make no difference, according to Mrs. Muse. Afterwards, the constable wrote an official denouncement to the governor of the province.

Ecuador Baptists were to lead the revival. The Muses and Southern Baptist Missionaries Mr. and Mrs. Gerald W. Doyle, who helped to organize the meetings, have returned to their homes, according to Dorothy Gilbert, Southern Baptist missionary to Ecuador who has just arrived in the United States for furlough. She indicated the Ecuador Baptists wanted to go ahead with the revival but didn't know if they had. Mrs. Gilbert said most people of Tambo were favorable toward the revival plans.



Claude Cox [left], writer and producer of "SoulSearcherS," confers with the show's new host, John Barry Pleasant of Los Angeles. "SoulSearcherS" is produced and syndicated by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission on 91 radio stations around the country. It uses music to reach black listeners with the message of Jesus. Pleasant's professional name is J. B. Stone. He works at KHJ Radio in Los Angeles, CA.

World Relief Giving



HOW SOUTHERN BAPTISTS HAVE GIVEN—This graph illustrates the growth of Southern Baptist contributions for world relief in the past seven years. Black columns indicate the amount given each year and the shaded columns show the amount that the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board spent or allocated each year. Southern Baptists have designated the Foreign Mission Board as their official channel for meeting relief and hunger needs around the world.

Mountains to the Mississippi

Hinson to Edit Arkansas Baptist History

E. Glenn Hinson, David T. Porter Professor of Church History, Southern Seminary, has been selected to edit a history of Arkansas Baptists.

Work on the history has already begun with the collection of historical information. Hinson will then use this data in developing the history which will be published in 1978.

Officials Praised

Members of the Baptist Ministers Conference of the West Union Baptist Association have commended four local officials for their efforts to stem the tide of pornography in the area. The ministers pledged their support and prayers to Judge Raymond Schultz, Sheriff Hal Cole, Paducah Mayor William Murphy and Police Chief Robert Holt.



Bardstown Baptist Church has paid off its debts and has burned the note to prove it. Shown here participating in the recent note-burning ceremony are: [L-R] Harold Searcy, Treasurer; Tom McClure, Chairman of the Finance Committee; Gerald Florence, Moderator and Jim Mattingly, Deacon Chairman.

North Concord Churches Hold Clear Creek Days

North Concord Association churches observed Clear Creek Days on April 17 and 24. Various professors from Clear Creek Baptist School conducted the

services. Special offerings were taken to raise money for construction of a cottage for students at the school. Lynn Pat Robbins is the associational missionary.

Northside Expands

Northside Baptist Church, Mount Vernon, is adding 20 feet to their auditorium to provide for increased worship attendance. Harvey Pensol is pastor.

Deaths

Automobile Accident Kills Pastor and Wife

Arnett Williams and wife were killed in an automobile accident last week. Williams had served a number of churches in Ohio County and for the past several years until his death had pastored Olaton and Concord churches in Ohio County. Funeral services were conducted Apr. 21 in Hartford.

Former HMB Head, Courts Redford, Dies

Courts Redford, 78, former executive secretary-treasurer of the Home Mission Board died April 11, in Springfield, MO.

Redford, who headed the Home Mission Board from 1953 to 1964, had been ill since suffering a heart attack in January.

Since his retirement from the board, Redford had been president emeritus of Southwest Baptist College in Bolivar, which he headed from 1930 to 1943. He later served the college as interim president, 1967-68.

The directors of the Home Mission Board also had designated him as executive secretary emeritus.

His widow, the former Ruth Ford, resides in Bolivar. Survivors also include nine children.

Taylorsville Deacon Dies

Jack Woodson Spears, a long-time deacon, of First Baptist Church, Taylorsville, died Feb. 26. The church recognized his many years of service with a resolution.

Personnel Changes

Three New Ministers Come from Pleasant Run

Three young ministers have come out of the fellowship of the Pleasant Run Baptist Church in Pulaski County recently.

Mike Hail, a senior at Cumberland College, has recently been called to pastor Oak Grove #2 Baptist Church near Eubank.

Jewell E. Hail Jr., a junior at Cumberland College, will be working as a summer missionary for the Home Mission Board in Philadelphia, PA, this summer.

Harold Harris has recently enrolled at Clear Creek Baptist School for the coming fall term.

Jewell E. Hail Sr., who graduated from Clear Creek in 1958, has been the Pleasant Run pastor for six years.

Highland Calls Kingery

Highland Baptist Church, Louisville, has called Sheary Fairchild Kingery as Interim Minister of Education and Youth.

She is a native Texan and a graduate of Baylor University and Southern Seminary.

She previously served as a campus minister at Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA.

Dunaway Named Pastor

Harold J. Dunaway assumed the pastorate of Blue Spring Baptist Church, Trigg County, on Mar. 27.

He has previously pastored the Campton Baptist Church, Wolfe County, and the Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Winchester, Ky.

Christian Education



John Howell [left], pastor of Louisville's Crescent Hill Baptist Church, talks to Southern Seminary president Duke K. McCall about the seminary's \$10 million endowment-capital funds campaign. Crescent Hill Church became the first Louisville area group to contribute to the campaign with a recent unsolicited \$1,000 check.

Foster Grandparents For Campbellville

Approximately 40 Campbellville College students are participating in the Foster Grandparent Program sponsored by the missions committee of the Baptist Student Union. The program, in conjunction with Metzmeier Nursing Home in Campbellville, provides each participating student with a patient at the nursing home to be his "foster grandparent."



Louisa-Teresa Brown Unthank, associate professor of English at Cumberland College, was recently chosen for inclusion in World Who's Who Of Women, published by Cambridge University, England. She has been a member of the Cumberland College faculty since 1964.

Baptist College's Law School Gets \$150,000

The University of Richmond has received more than \$150,000 from the estate of the late Mrs. James H. Barnett Jr., whose husband taught law at the Baptist university for 48 years. Professor Barnett became the first full-time member of the faculty of the T. C. Williams School of Law at the University of Richmond in 1920.

A native of Kentucky and a graduate of Georgetown (KY) College, a Baptist school, he directed athletics at Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, TN, before coming to the University of Richmond, where he enrolled in the law school and graduated in 1917.

DBC Saves Sports

The sounding of a death knoll for the entire athletic program at Dallas Baptist College has turned into peals of victory as students have raised the funds to reinstate the program.

Any doubt about the students' ability to raise the necessary \$100,000 for participation in intercollegiate basketball, baseball and soccer quickly dissipated with the collection of over \$50,000 in cash and pledges in the first month of the drive to save athletics.

5 at 7:30 in the T. J. Roberts Memorial Cafeteria on the Kentucky Baptist college's campus.

Guest speaker for the program will be Lexington attorney and National Football League official Thomas P. "Tommy" Bell.

Evangelizing World Now To be Conference Topic

"Evangelizing Today's World" will be the theme of an upcoming continuing theological education conference at Southern Baptist Seminary May 2-6.

Special guest lecturer for the conference will be Robert H. Schuller, pastor of Garden Grove Community Church, Anaheim, CA., and considered by many to be one of the nations leading authorities on church growth.

Each conference session will include a dialogue period between conference participants and lecturers.

Registration materials and information on other conferences are available from Russell Bennett, Southern Baptist Seminary, 2825 Lexington Road, Louisville, KY 40206, or by calling, toll free, (800) 626-5525.



Schuller

McCall to be Honored

Honorary degrees will be conferred on six persons including U.S. Senator Mark O. Hatfield in commencement exercises at the University of Richmond May 8.

Other recipients are Lewis T. Booker, a Richmond attorney; Joseph E. Nettles, retired alumni director, public relations director and teacher; Elizabeth Camp Smith of Franklin, VA; William P. Tuck, pastor of First Baptist Church, Bristol, VA; and Duke K. McCall, president of Southern Seminary.

CC to Hold Banquet

Cumberland College will honor its athletes from the various teams at the school's annual All-Sports banquet May

Head Receives Award

K. Maynard Head, director of public relations at Clear Creek School, Pineville, recently was awarded first place for editorial writing by the Baptist Public Relations Assoc.

Meeting at Louisville, the BPR recognized Mountain Moments, a weekly human interest newspaper column written by Head.

A native of Kentucky, Head is a graduate of Clear Creek and Cumberland College.



Head

Mills, Bates and Spears Listed in Who's Who

Robert L. Mills, president of Georgetown College and Clyde Bates, profes-

sor of business administration and economics and Woodridge Spears, professor of English, have been listed in the 15th edition of *Who's Who In the South and Southwest*.

Selected persons who have made contributions to literary and professional fields and to the communities in which they live are listed in this publication.

Cumberland Aids Flood Victims

As news spread that the Cumberland River would flood homes and businesses in Whitley County, Ron Griffin, student activities director at Cumberland College, began engineering a relief center, located in the Kentucky Baptist college's Boswell Campus Center, and raising a volunteer army which would finally consist of 60 Cumberland College students, two pickup trucks, two vans and an El Camino.

"It wasn't something we were asked to do," reflects Griffin, "we just felt that we could and should help."

Working in crews of six, student volunteers, many members of Cumberland's Baptist Student Union, were speedy in evacuating homes, in Williamsburg and as far away as Jellico, TN, of those in danger.

"When we offered to help the flood victims they were both thrilled and appreciative," reflects Pete Murphy, a sophomore from Louisville. "I wouldn't trade this experience for anything. I saw this as an opportunity to witness for Christ."

For Murphy and the more than 200 volunteers who worked in flood relief before the emergency passed, their efforts removed social barriers which seem to always, to some extent, exist between colleges and towns. According to Murphy, "Because we reached out, the townspeople have developed a closer tie with us of the campus community which might never have come about if we hadn't made an overture."

"I wouldn't call our experiences fun," says Murphy, "but they were highly satisfying."

Freshman Berry Alton, one of the original volunteers, worked 22 hours straight on his first shift. "When mention of helping the flood victims was first made, I became extremely excited. I think it was the idea of saving lives."

Alton contends that he personally

didn't save any lives, but "many personal possessions were saved which made resettlement after the flood a great deal easier."

One of the many problems which faced the student volunteers was the fact that many residents refused to believe that their homes could actually go under water. According to Murphy, "A great many people would wait until the last minute before they would leave their homes."

Cumberland College opened its facilities and resources to flood victims while students manned four telephone hot-lines. A CB base was set up in the campus center and a communication relay system was maintained with the rescue squad and fire departments.

Since the flood water did not reach the college campus, located on a hill above Williamsburg, the Cumberland College family was able to extend its services further than if school facilities had been in danger.

"I think the flood disproved the idea that individuals do not want to become involved. At several points during the flood there were more people, and not just Cumberland College people, who wanted to help than there were problems," comments Griffin.



Noted Kentucky writer James Still [left] and Carlyle Cross, associate professor of English and director of libraries at Cumberland College [right], indicate to Jay Overmyer, Cumberland College senior, the scene of their recent adventurous vacation in Central America where they were caught in a violent demonstration in San Salvador, El Salvador, protesting the selection of General Carlos Romero as the Central American country's president-elect.

GC Announces Additional Graduate Courses

Combining the facilities of Kentucky Educational Television and the George-

town College campus, several new courses have been added to the college's summer school schedule, according to David L. Jester, director of the graduate school.

Added to the list are Human Relations and School Discipline, Human Relations in School, Teaching Children to Read, Problems in Teaching Reading, Characteristics of Learning Disabilities, Teaching in the Elementary School, Teaching Contemporary Problems Through Art and Design and Crafts.

The courses are being offered in late April, May and June. Additional information including specific schedules may be obtained by contacting David L. Jester, Georgetown College, Georgetown, KY 40324.



Williamsburg business and civic leader Hugh Steeley [left] discusses with Cumberland College president J. M. Boswell the recent radio auction conducted by the members of the Cumberland College Chorale and Chamber Choir as part of their effort to finance their upcoming summer concert tour [To Sing God's Praise] through Europe. The merchandise from the auction was donated by area business firms.

Robinson Makes History

Leonard Robinson recently made history by becoming the first student to work at Oneida Baptist Institute, Oneida, Ky. He is presently doing his student teaching at Oneida.



Robinson

At Cedarmore

Four State Girls Take Youth Honors

by Jim Cox, Associate Editor

Kentucky state youth Bible drill and speakers' tournament winners have been announced by Wanda Carpenter, Kentucky Baptist Convention youth director.

The annual state eliminations were held recently at Cedarmore Baptist Assembly with representatives from 26 local associations participating. Forty-four competed in the Bible drill while 32 vied in the speakers' tournament.

First place winner in the Bible drill was Janice Craig, 14-year-old daughter

of Mrs. and Mrs. Bobby Craig of Paducah, a member of Oaklawn Baptist Church.

The runnerup was Joy Rhea Dunn, 13-year-old daughter of Mrs. Lynn Dunn, Arlington. She is a member of First Baptist Church there.

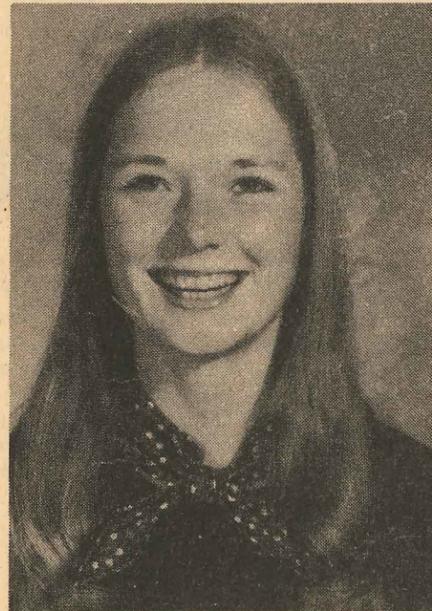
Two winners tied for first place in the speakers' tournament.

Dianne Burr, 16, of Sulpher Spring Baptist Church, Adairville, spoke on the subject, "Are You There, God?" Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. Jack Burr.

Kathy Warner, also 16, of Mt. Sterling's First Baptist Church, spoke on "Keep On Trusting." Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. Billy Warner.

The first place winner in the Bible drill and the co-winners in the speakers' tournament will compete July 9-15 with other state winners during the Church Training week at Ridgecrest, N.C.

Excerpts from winning speeches in the speakers' tournament are included on these pages.



Are You There, God?

Dianne Burr

I Am! But they will not believe me! Tell them, I am that I am!

Do you recognize this as a conversation between God and Moses at the burning bush?

The children of Israel also questioned God's presence by asking if they were led out into the wilderness to starve and die. God answered their pleas by sending meat and bread down to them and replying, "I am the Lord your God."

Yes, the question, "Are you there, God" was asked even long ago, by

Moses, by Pharaoh and by the children of Israel. Each time God replied, "I am!"

Jacob saw God standing at the top of the stairs saying, "I am Jehovah." Isaiah asked, "Are you there, God," when his people wandered so far into wrong doings, then he saw God high and lifted up.

Even after 2,000 years we're still asking that same question, Are you there, God? Today we have as our guide to God the holy Bible and his presence with us throughout each and every day.

Atheists of the 20th century support their idea of God being dead by saying all traditional theological thinking is now irrelevant, God's presence was merely a historical event, final and irrevocable. They argue that God has actually died in our time, in our history, in our existence and therefore is not present in the word of faith. But God's promise to us is, and lo, I am with you always even unto the end of the world. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.

In science, mastering the intellect, but touching not the heart, men have not found the handkerchief to wipe away our tears, no answer to the question of suffering and death, no forgiveness for men's sins, no healing for the broken heart, no power to take pain out of parting and the sting out of death. Science can tell us how far the earth is from the sun but not how far God takes men's sins from them when they repent toward God and trust in Christ. It can transport our bodies with

great speed, but cannot impact qualities of the soul. Science can talk to us of the graves of once living creatures in the fossiliferous rocks, but nothing about the resurrection of the dead—nothing about the mortal putting on immortality. It can remove stains from silks and marble, but can do nothing to cleanse the blood-stained hands of murderers. Science has eliminated disease plagues but has done nothing to eliminate the incredible evils that lie in human hearts. Only God can do so and only God could have come to earth and created such a magnificent universe.

Some say it is hard to accept the Genesis story that God made man and the world. But much harder it is to accept the fable that the world made God.

In the beginning God created. But if it had read: In the beginning the heavens and earth created themselves and then created man, and then went on to create God, that would have been a tax exorbitant on faith.

The difficulties of explaining the world without God are much greater than the difficulties of explaining it with God.

Any day, all I have to do is look around me at all of the magnificent wonders, think about all the answered prayers and remember the times I really needed a comforting hand to lean on and I never have to ask the question, Are you there, God? I know my God is there, here, everywhere, every minute of every day.

Moses took off his sandals at the burning bush because the ground on

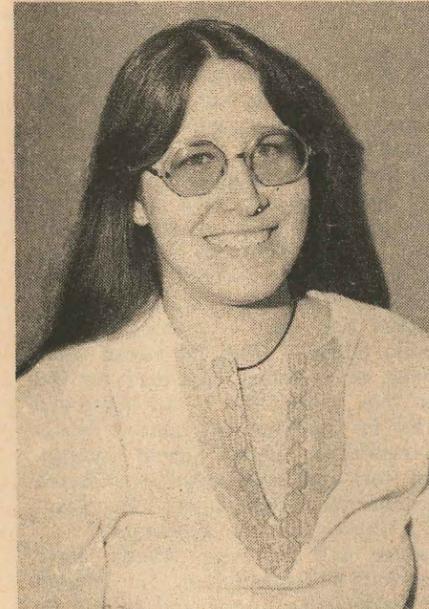
which he stood was holy ground. God spoke to him there, saying, "Tell them I am that I am."

What does I am mean? It means I am eternally existent. I never had a beginning, there will be no end; there was no beginning, there will be no end. This boggles the imagination. We don't have the wisdom to unravel it. Man cannot comprehend God intellectually. That's why the scripture says that by wisdom we cannot know God.

I'll never have an ending may seem easier to accept than the fact that there never was a beginning. But that's what God is saying: "I am eternally existent." Implied in that name "I am" is one who creates and who gives man purpose by his existence.

To me through faith:

God is love
God is understanding and forgiveness
God is strength
God is creator
God is peace
God is ageless, spaceless and timeless
God is justice
God is freedom
God is quietness and rest
God is mine
God is yours
God is there!



Keep on Trusting

Kathy Warner

Trusting is a very simple word, but it's so very hard to do. Imagine yourself in a strange room, in complete



Janice Craig

darkness. You struggle along with your arms stretched out in front of you, wondering just when you are going to bump into a chair. Now, imagine yourself in the same room. But, this time with a flick switch. You move confidently around obstacles you couldn't see in the darkness. It's so much easier for us to trust in something we can see than in something we can't see.

One of my favorite stories is of a little boy who asked his mother if God really exists. "Of course, son," she said. "But mommy, have you ever seen God?" The little boy put his mother on the spot, as they are often known to do, so glancing outside an idea came to her mind, and she took her son outside.

"Son" she said, "Can you see the wind?" The little boy looked around him and hung his head, "No mommy, I can't see the wind." "But how do you know there is a wind?" "I can see it blowing the leaves on that tree over there, and I can feel it, but I can't see it." "No, honey, you can't see the wind, but you can see the things it moves and touches. It's the same with God, honey, we see him through the things he moves and touches."

The poet, Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, "All I have seen teaches me to trust the Creator for all I have not seen." Mr. Emerson summed up in this one quote his belief and trust in God. He didn't need theological answers to tell him there was a God, he just opened his eyes to the miracles that God had already performed and



Joy Rhea Dunn

knew they were none the less greater than the ones God will someday perform.

Jesus once said that if we wanted to enter his kingdom we had to become as a little child. I think the reason he said this is because children are so easy to trust. When a child trusts in you he does so with his whole heart, and nothing you can say or do will convince him you could be wrong. That's the kind of trust that God wants from us, as his children—trust and belief that hold no room for doubt.

An explosion occurred in a Chicago elementary school one day while the children were in their afternoon session. A young businessman ran down the street to find 12 children trapped in the burning building. He stood beneath the second story window and yelled up to the terrified second graders, "Just jump into my arms—I'll catch you!" One little girl leaned on the window sill and yelled at the man below who was begging her to jump, "I can't I'm afraid!"

Later, when friends tried to console the man in the loss of his seven-year-old daughter, he would just hang his head in his hands and moan, "If only she had trusted in me—I'm her father."

If paths are steep
And hard to climb,
Remember,
sometimes things take time.
Don't give up hope, and
Don't despair
Remember, God hears every prayer.

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Kentucky Baptists at Work

DMD Adds Lanier

The Direct Missions Department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention has announced the coming of a new staff member. Beginning June 1, I. Houston Lanier will serve as an associate in that department and as Director of Mountain Missions.

Lanier, a Texas native, comes to the position after serving as associational director of missions for Laurel River Association since 1969.

He is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist College, Arkadelphia, AR, and received a Master of Theology degree from Southern Seminary, Louisville, in 1944.

Lanier has pastored churches in Columbia, Sturgis and Manchester, KY, as well as churches in Illinois and Indiana. He was a pioneer missionary in Indiana and an area missionary in Kansas City, KS.

He is a former moderator for Booneville Baptist Assoc. and served two years as a member of the executive board of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He has been vice president of Clay County Ministerial Assoc.

Lanier has been a member of the London Kiwanis Club for seven years serving as secretary treasurer for the past five years. He is an approved worker for the Kentucky Sunday School department in Sunday School Enlargement work and is approved as a Church Administration Department Consultant and a Church Library Consultant.

Lanier and his wife, Aileen, have three sons and a daughter. The Laniers will reside in Lexington and he will be making his office there.

Lanier will primarily assist in the administration work of the missions department and will work with the missionaries in 34 Eastern Kentucky counties. He will also have charge of the Mountain Missions Conference.



Lanier

Sunday School Lessons

by H. C. Chiles, Murray, Ky.

International Series

Life and Work Series

A Faith That Works

James 2:14-26

James protested vehemently against all attempts to divorce faith and works. He considered them as two vital units of a whole. To him profession without practice was meaningless. He believed that saving faith creates love in the heart, and that this love finds expression in compassion and helpfulness. The faith that brings salvation produces good works. James did not contradict Paul's doctrine of justification by faith, but he did combat the perverters of Paul's teaching. Paul wrote about justification before God on the basis of faith, while James referred to justification before men on the ground that works are an evidence of saving faith. Paul emphasized the faith that works and James emphasized the works of faith. James did not minimize faith, but he did insist that it be demonstrated in good works. Faith is first but works must follow, said he, or there is no proof that real faith exists. Faith and works are united inseparably. If a man has saving faith, it is certain to manifest itself in good works. Faith lives, moves and works.

The root of salvation is in grace through faith, but the fruit of the faith which brings salvation from the Lord Jesus is good works. With James it was not a choice between faith and works, but he strongly emphasized the importance of both. Genuine Christian faith is to be demonstrated in and through dedicated service to others.

The relationship of faith and works was exhibited beautifully in the life of Abraham. Looking at justification from the viewpoint of its source, Abraham was justified by faith when he believed on or exercised faith in God. Looking at justification from the viewpoint of its effects, Abraham was justified by works when he offered Isaac as a sacrifice on the altar. Abraham proved that his faith was genuine by his willingness to offer his son in obedience to the specific command of God. In that act his faith reached its consummation. His faith and his works were inseparable. Abraham's genuine faith in God enabled him to do what he did. His good works constituted positive proof that his faith was living and effectual.

James brought forward a second example of justifying faith in the person of Rahab, and proceeded to illustrate by her case also that faith produces works. Her works proved that she had a saving faith. Except for their faith in God, perhaps no two people could have been more unlike than Abraham, "the father of the faithful" and "the friend of God" and Rahab, "the harlot." By risking her life in helping the spies to escape from her city she demonstrated the genuineness of her personal faith in God.

As certainly as the beating of the pulse proves that one is alive, the performance of good works by the Christian proves his faith is genuine and acting. If we have the faith which has brought us into a vital and life-transforming union with Christ the saviour and Lord, let us see to it that our faith produces deeds that substantiate our faith.

Qualifying as a Church Leader

I Timothy 3:1-13

If a church is to function smoothly, properly, efficiently and effectively in the accomplishment of the goals which the membership, under the direction of the Holy Spirit, deems important and necessary, great care must be exercised in the selection of the pastor and deacons.

Qualifications of A Pastor—I Timothy 3:1-7

Before a man can qualify for the office of bishop or pastor of a New Testament church, he must have had an experience of grace, an assurance of salvation, a good character, an unblemished reputation, an ability to preach, a call from God, a heart of compassion, an eagerness to learn, an unquestioned sincerity, a dedicated life and a willingness to sacrifice.

If a man is to exercise oversight or supervision of a church in an effective and Christ-honoring manner, he must be blameless, not a polygamist, vigilant, serious-minded, exemplary in deportment, hospitable, apt to teach, an abstainer from intoxicants, not a striker, not greedy, patient, peaceful and not contentious, generous, one who rules his household well, not a novice, humble and dependable.

In faithfully discharging the duties of his office a pastor has some wonderful privileges, such as being an exemplary Christian gentleman, being Christ's representative in the world, helping others to get right with God, helping Christians to live triumphantly and to grow spiritually, and holding forth the Word of life. His preeminent privilege is that of proclaiming the gospel of Christ and the Word of God. This tremendous responsibility merits the highest qualifications, the most thorough preparation, and the most diligent efforts that any noble life can produce.

Qualifications of A Deacon—I Timothy 3:8-13

Inasmuch as the word "deacon" means "servant," the deaconship is dishonored if and when it is regarded as a post of honor rather than a medium of service.

Like a pastor, a deacon should be a man of Christian character, good reputation, genuine piety, real wisdom, sound judgment and exemplary deportment. If a deacon is to set a worthy example for church members and wield a wholesome influence, he must possess certain sterling qualities. A deacon must be serious minded (verse 8a), trustworthy (8b), saying what he means and meaning what he says without being "doubletongued" or "two-faced," must be a total abstainer (8c) refraining from the use of alcoholic beverages if he is going to represent Christ and exercise an effective leadership in his church, and must not be covetous (8d). Also a deacon must be well established in the Christian faith (9), and must not have more than one living wife (12).

A good deacon will grow as a Christian, assist in building church attendance, care for the sick and needy, enlist the unenlisted church members, greet visitors in the services, help create a good fellowship, witness to the unsaved, and look after church finances.

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