

# WESTERN RECORDER

May 19, 1977



# Daley Observations

## Southern Baptists Are at Home in Kansas City

Southern Baptist Convention messengers feel at home in Kansas City. When the gavel drops June 14 to call messengers to order for the 1977 convention it will be the fifth time the convention has met in Kansas City since 1905. Actually Kansas City is host this year by default of Memphis whose main convention hotel closed after first plans were made to meet in 1977 in Memphis.

In some respects Kansas City is the most ideal site for the annual convention. Located in the heart of America it is more accessible to messengers from all areas of the convention than any other city. It is close enough for those from the east and south and it is especially good for those from the west and southwest to whom the convention probably means most but who have less resources for convention expenses.



Travel accommodations in and out of Kansas City are good and lodging facilities are among the best as is the meeting hall. After Norfolk last year Kansas City will be especially appreciated.

Convention messengers will have plenty of interesting places to see and things to do in addition to attending the sessions. Southern Baptists are strong in Kansas City and in Missouri though for many years in

early Missouri Baptist history Southern Baptists and American Baptists both worked in the state and many churches were dually aligned. By now only a very few Southern Baptist churches in Missouri are also aligned with American Baptists.

The youngest of our six theological seminaries is in Kansas City. It is located on a 200-acre tract in a most desirable part of the city. Aptly named Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, the school had it rough in its early years but now seems to be looking up with an exceptionally strong faculty and a record enrolment of over 600. Midwestern is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year and is encouraging messengers to participate by providing for them transportation from the convention hall to the campus on Wednesday afternoon when there is no convention session scheduled.

Missouri Baptist headquarters are in nearby Jefferson

City. Some Kentucky messengers will want to drop by to see where former Western Recorder associate editor Bob Terry now ministers as editor of the Missouri state paper, Word and Way.

The 1977 convention promises no epochal happenings though it is never safe to predict the outcome of Baptist conventions. The unexpected announcement from convention president James Sullivan that he would not accept a second term has set off speculation concerning who will succeed him. The grapevine word is that Jimmy Allen of San Antonio, Ken Chafin of Houston and Adrian Rogers of Memphis will be nominated.

Allen is well known having appeared often on the convention programs including 1975 when he delivered the convention sermon. Chafin, now a pastor, is a popular former professor in two seminaries and former director of evangelism for the Southern Baptist Convention Home Mission Board. He was nominated for convention president in 1974 and ran a strong race. Rogers is the darling of the Baptist Faith and Message group and was nominated last year but graciously withdrew.

It's sad that anyone runs for this office or that their supporters conduct campaigns for them. But this is the way it is and messengers might as well know it. It would be refreshing for someone not seeking the office to be nominated and elected.

This is not to accuse Allen, Chafin or Rogers of seeking this office but it is known there are those working for them. All three are very capable men and are definitely convention presidential timber.

The convention program planners are again desperately trying to plan a program to inspire the messengers and to hold them through the final session. The program is geared to reach a high climax in the last session on Thursday night with Billy Graham as speaker.

Judging by past performances, many messengers would take off for home before the last session even if they knew the Lord would return for the session. Nevertheless, this writer joins the program planners in pleading again for all messengers to stay for the climactic final session.

One thing is sure. Messengers will not cut the last or any other night session this year for the ball park. The Kansas City baseball team will be on the road. Somebody goofed.

## One Year Is Enough for S.B.C. President

South Carolina Baptist editor John Roberts has proposed the Southern Baptist Convention presidency be limited to one year. The suggestion makes sense. The convention constitution now permits a president to serve two successive one year terms after which he is ineligible to serve again until at least one year lapses.

There are several good reasons to limit the convention president to one year. The first is the amount of time

required for the proper filling of the office. Actually his administrative duties are few and presiding over the annual convention sessions is difficult but not time-consuming. His chief function is to represent the convention in a multitude of places all over the nation and abroad and this is actually a full time task. Assuming he generates a positive response, his value to the convention is in proportion to the number of his appearances.

This makes it difficult for the one serving. Almost always he is a pastor of a large church which means he already has a strenuous schedule at home and receives many invitations for away-from-home appearances. Add to these the demands of the convention presidency and something has to be sacrificed. Generally it is the church which gets the short end and exchanges pastoral care and pulpit ministry for the honor of having a pastor who is the convention president.

It is now commonly understood that a church virtually gives up its pastor during his tenure as convention president. No more than one year of this should be expected of a church. If he is so conscientious, and some are, that he declines important invitations as the convention president in order to stay in his own pulpit, his value to the convention is diminished.

A second reason to limit the convention president's term to one year is the abundant presidential material. This office is used to honor one as well as to entrust one with special leadership. Among the 13 million Southern Baptists there are far more proven leaders who could perform with excellence and who deserve the honor of the office than could be gotten around to electing a new one each year.

Another reason for a new president each year is to remove the temptation to use the office for unwholesome denominational politics. The president in conference with the vice president does appoint the Committee on Committees which is the first step in the choice of those nomi-

nated as board members, trustees and commissioners of all Southern Baptist Convention agencies. In two years a president, if he chose to do so, could stack the Committee on Committees with people of his own bent and thus exercise more influence than he should.

Impossible, you say? Not so. Last year when there was much talk about a presidential candidate being sponsored by the so-called conservative Baptist Faith and Message Fellowship, this was exactly what was promised. A leader of the group was reported to say if their man got elected he would proceed to use his office to get seminary trustees elected who would clean the seminaries of what they regard as liberal teachers. It's sad to think anyone would so abuse the office but zeal sometimes disregards ethics and truth.

The argument that a convention president should serve two years because it takes one year to learn how to do the job well is not valid. One well enough known to be elected would have to have had extensive denominational experience and thus be familiar with the system.

If this argument were valid, one of the vice-presidents could be designated president-elect and thus have a year of preparation before taking office.

Limiting presidential terms to one year has been tried by some state conventions. Kentucky is one of these states and it works well.

Constitutional amendments must be approved in two successive conventions by two-thirds of the messengers present and voting.

## Baptist Forum

It is distressing to read that a Baptist church is threatened with expulsion from its association, and one wonders what grave offense precipitated the confrontation. If a congregation should burn the Bible, deny the virgin birth or divinity of Christ, disavow missions, or join the moonies, then such action would seem appropriate. But to suffer this wrath because a female was ordained to the gospel ministry—who can believe it!

We have all known an occasional phony minister who, having violated all reasonable standards of morality, is sent packing to find another vocation—if in truth he doesn't surface later in another association or state. Yet, I know of no association demanding that a member church "dis-ordain" such a man or suffer withdrawal of fellowship. Now, apparently, a servant should be called from a Home Mission Board

assignment to be stripped of her ordination. Our consistency surely is not kosher!

There is an honest difference of opinion about whether or not women should be ordained to any office. The same Apostle Paul who would not allow a woman to speak out in church nonetheless names Phoebe as a deaconess, using the exact same term as he employs to set forth the qualifications for deacon. We do not know if Phoebe had been "ordained" by her church or if Paul simply recognized that God had ordained her. Records outside scripture support the presence of deaconesses in the second century church. Of course, the office of prophetess is mentioned several times in the New Testament.

Churches should ordain those persons who have been called of God to various ministries. If that person should

be a highly qualified female, is ordaining her the ultimate heresy? And, possessing the courage to counter traditional but not infallible practice, is a church likely to reverse its action in the wake of associational criticism? Likely not.

Let us hope that before the autumn deadline arrives, this over-reaction will be identified as such and that the ordaining church will not be further troubled with this matter. For those who are left shaken and insecure by female ordination, I agree with your editorial that this practice will not threaten or supplant the great masculine forces in the church. It's just that God is color-blind, race-blind, and gender-blind and in need of workers in the vineyard.

Smith H. Gibson  
Covington, Ky.

# Baptist Forum

The word church means a called out assembly or gathering such as a town meeting in Ephesus (Acts 19:41). Israel called out of Egypt was a church but not in the same sense as the New Testament church.

In Matt. 16:18 Jesus said I will build my church which is future tense.

In Matt. 28:10 and John 20:17, Jesus calls his disciples brethren for the first time showing that until his death and resurrection on their behalf the relationship had not become possible.

The church is not Baptist or Methodist or whatever but the church is the body of Christ. There were about 120 disciples in the upper room waiting for the promise of God. The Holy Spirit came on the day of Pentecost baptizing the 120 into one body. On this day the Holy Spirit came to stay and abide in his own. This is the norm for all those who believe unto salvation in the risen Christ is in this age of grace. "For by one Spirit are ye all baptized into one body."

Before Pentecost some individuals were given the Holy Spirit for some definite work or service but since Pentecost all believers receive the Holy Spirit the moment they believe into Christ for the forgiveness of sins. This is true of individuals and it is true of the corporate body of believers. The Holy Spirit is in and with the church today working out the cleansing and

service of the church as we yield to him.

Edna Sikes  
Bowling Green, Ky.

In the past weeks there have been several letters regarding a divorced man being a deacon. I would like to say some things about it since I am one who was divorced 18 years ago.

Four years after my divorce I met a young lady and later we made plans to be married. She was a Christian and a member of a Baptist church and I was a Christian and a member of another Baptist church. She had never been married before and wanted to have a church wedding in her church. She had lived there and worked in her church most of her life. We talked to her pastor and he wouldn't marry us. We talked to my pastor in the church where I had been a member and worked several years. He turned us down, too. I respected their decision. If this is what they believed, then they should not do it. I still have great respect for the man who was my pastor. It did hurt us both.

We were married in a church wedding in my home town in the Presbyterian church by the minister of that church. We thank the members of that church very much for their kindness and for allowing their minister to do

this for us and we thank the minister for performing the marriage. We hope to repay their kindness in the years to come in some way.

Just as soon as we were married, my wife moved her membership into my church. They didn't mind putting her to work in all the jobs she would take. They don't mind taking our tithes and offerings because I have been divorced.

I have served as church treasurer for the past 11 years. I have served in most of the places a man can serve in a Baptist church except being a deacon.

I don't know if I would serve if I were asked. I have some very strong feelings about some things a deacon should be and should do. I think there is a lot more to being a deacon than just being ordained. I think we as Baptists need to be more careful in selecting men to serve as deacons. There is a lot more in I Timothy 3:1-13 on the requirements of a deacon than the husband of one wife. I think all these other things should be carried out. One is no more important than the other.

I think the main reason is, if a person is divorced, then it is out in the open and all the other qualifications in these scriptures are just overlooked. The other things are not brought out or enforced by the churches.

Some ordained deacons seem to forget what they are supposed to be

and do. Some come to church when they can work it into their plans, some give a small amount of money for their tithe and some do anything that they can get away with. We sit still and let this go on in all of our Baptist churches and do nothing about it. They remain deacons until they die, even if they have done all these things that they shouldn't have done. The only thing that is enforced is the husband of one wife.

As men who have been divorced, we can do anything that the deacons can do except going to the deacons' meetings and serving the Lord's Supper. Maybe we can do a lot more than some of the deacons who don't take their deaconship seriously.

Thomas Barlow  
Stanford, Ky.

The action of South District Association and your editorial on the ordination of women by Baptist churches has some disturbing implications.

If you take the Bible literally, there would be no ordination of deacons or ministers as practiced by Baptists today. Since we obviously do not take the Bible literally, let us note some strong Biblical teachings and some vital Baptist principles.

First the Bible:

1. The only place in the New Testament where a deacon is actually named is Romans 16:1 "Phoebe, a deaconess of the church at Cenchreae" (RSV). It seems rather clear that whatever the deacons were at Philippi, Phil. 1:1, Phoebe was at Cenchreae.

2. It is very clear that I Tim. 3:11 does not apply to the wives of deacons. "The woman likewise must be serious" (RSV). Had wives been the aim of Paul here, he would have said wives, so why did he say women, unless he meant women deacons?

3. In Acts 21:9, we read about the daughters of Philip, the evangelist "And he had four unmarried daughters, who prophesied" (RSV). What does this mean unless they were preachers?

4. Finally, we have a basic principle in Gal. 3:28 "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female: for you are all one in Christ Jesus." It took Baptists an awfully long time to get right on the "slave and free." How

long will it take us to come to terms with the "male or female"?

Now for some Baptist principles:

1. I have always understood the association as a body of fellowship, for mutual encouragement and the carrying out of missionary ministries. When did it get to be an ecclesiastical body, with powers over churches to be used to keep them in line doctrinally?

2. I have also understood ordination to be the duty and the privilege of the local church. It seems that South District Association is moving toward the Presbyterian form of church government. If ordination does belong to the church, the association gets involved only when invited to do so by the church in a brotherly or sisterly manner.

3. Finally, I have been under the impression that God calls ministers and the churches are simply involved in ratifying, encouraging or approving the call.

Today, there are scores of dedicated young women in our colleges and seminaries who are reporting calls from the Lord to ministry. Is God getting his wires crossed, or is it time for Baptists to get in line with the moving of the Spirit?

Carman Sharp  
Louisville, Ky.



The Bible is very specific concerning who may serve as a pastor or deacon. "A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife . . ." (I Timothy 3:2). "Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife . . ." (I Timothy 3:12).

It is impossible for a woman to be a husband. It is also impossible for her to be a scripturally ordained pastor or deacon. She may have gone through the formalities but hers is a counterfeit ordination because it is clearly in violation of the will of God as expressed in his inspired Word.

Out state Baptist conventions, and the Southern Baptist Convention should follow the good example of the South District Association Executive Board.

They should simply request that of-fending churches recind the unscriptural ordinations, and if they refuse to do so, the associations should withdraw fellowship from those churches.

We cannot tolerate the teaching and practice of false doctrine and expect God to continue to bless us. "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you." (II Corinthians 6:17.)

William R. Hagan  
Taylorsville, Ky.

This letter comes in response to the word from John Carter about the Big Brothers of America program printed in the May 5 issue. I commend him for his broad and bold view of Christian discipleship.

Presently, I am a student at the Southern Baptist Seminary. I have felt part of my call has been to become a liaison for the Christian community to the existing humanitarian organizations and programs of the community. Such institutions have, for the most part, been shaped and designed by society's non-Christian leaders. Too long have we Christians allowed this! Why cannot we participate in such community programs? Why cannot we put the example of Jesus out on the real firing line? At a past chapel service at the seminary, Dr. Allen Graves pointed out that while we celebrate 100 years of the seminary in Louisville, "how has its existence affected the community?"

At the seminary some students are becoming aware of this, slowly. We now have a cabinet on the Student Government Association called Community Relations. It is our goal to become active and professional decision-makers wherever and whenever God can use us. We already participate in Big Brothers, the Louisville Jaycees, community councils, Metro United Way volunteer positions and other areas.

I challenge every Christian to look around him/her for such opportunities. This is not to deny one's church ministry opportunities. But with little extra effort, a lot of us are already very close to participation in the community's attempt for goodwill. Let us put Christ into these efforts!

Ken Meyers  
Louisville, Ky.

## Western Recorder

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

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## Double Exposure

Following the service of dedication for the new television production center of the Radio & Television Commission Apr. 16, these three program participants inspected a mobile production van recently acquired by the commission for video work on location. (L to R): Porter Routh, Nashville, executive secretary, Executive Committee, SBC; Paul M. Stevens, Ft. Worth, president, Radio-TV Commission; and James Waters, Macon, Ga., chairman, commission trustees. Sunday, May 22, is Baptist Radio and Television Sunday, a time to pause in recognition of the witness inroads we have made through the media.

Vol. 151, No. 20



# Convention Preview

## Southern Baptist Convention

Roe Bartle Convention Center

Kansas City, Mo.

June 14-16, 1977

Theme: "Let the Church Reach Out"

### Tuesday Morning, June 14

- 8:30 Music for Inspiration—Kansas City Metro Baptist Band, Phillip C. Posey, director
- 9:00 Call to Order  
Congregational Singing—William J. Reynolds, director, Nashville, Tenn.  
Scripture—Dan Ireland, Huntsville, Ala., leading Prayer
- 9:15 Report of Registration and Constitution of Convention—W. Fred Kendall, Nashville, Tenn.
- 9:20 Report of Committee on Order of Business—Wayne Dehoney, pastor, Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville, Ky., chairman
- 9:30 Welcome—Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
- 9:40 Response
- 9:45 Recognition of Fraternal Messengers from other Baptist Bodies
- 9:55 Announcement of Committee on Committees, Committee on Resolutions, Committee on Tellers
- 10:00 Miscellaneous Business Session
- 10:25 Introduction of Resolutions
- 10:45 Executive Committee Report (First Section)—Porter Routh, Nashville, Tenn.
- 11:20 Congregational Singing—William J. Reynolds, Nashville, Tenn.
- 11:25 Music—Dean Wilder, director of vocal studies, William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo.
- 11:30 President's Address—James L. Sullivan, Nashville, Tenn.
- 12:00 Benediction—Wilbur Herring, Jonesboro, Ark., president, Arkansas Baptist State Convention

### Tuesday Afternoon, June 14

- 1:30 Music for Inspiration—Young Musicians Choir, First Baptist Church, Ada, Okla., Jo Ann Butler, director
- 2:00 Congregational Singing—J. Eugene Sutherland, Louisville, Ky.  
Scripture—William R. Hann, Walnut Creek, Calif., leading Prayer—Otis Testerman, Grand Junction, Col.
- 2:15 Election of Officers
- 2:25 Executive Committee Report (Final Section)—Porter Routh, Nashville, Tenn.
- 3:05 Stewardship Commission Report—A. R. Fagan, executive director, Nashville, Tenn.
- 3:15 Miscellaneous Business
- 3:35 Introduction of Resolutions
- 3:50 Historical Commission Report—"Our roots and heritage 'to elicit, combine and direct . . .'"—Lynn E. May, executive director, Nashville, Tenn.
- 4:00 Congregational Singing—J. Eugene Sutherland, Louisville, Ky.
- 4:05 Music—Beverly Terrell, concert artist, Dallas, Tex.
- 4:10 Message—"Our Reason for Being"—W. A. Criswell, pastor, First Baptist Church, Dallas, Tex.
- 4:40 Benediction—Harold W. Sorrell Jr., Clinton, Md.

### Tuesday Evening, June 14

- 6:30 Music for Inspiration—Southern Baptist Singing Men, James D. Woodward, dean of music, Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Okla.
- 7:00 Congregational Singing—Bob Woolley, state Baptist music secretary, Jefferson City, Mo.  
Scripture—Ken McFarlane Smith, Arlington, Va., leading Prayer—Ron Dillon, Parkersburg, W. Va.
- 7:15 Election of officers  
Miscellaneous Business
- 7:35 "Let the church reach out—by all means—to all people—everywhere!" (combined challenge of the Radio-TV Commission, Foreign and Home Mission Boards)
- 8:55 Music—Southern Baptist Singing Men, James D. Woodward, Shawnee, Okla., director
- 9:00 Message—"The World God Loves"—Frank Pollard, pastor, First Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss.
- 9:30 Benediction

### Wednesday Morning, June 15

- 8:30 Music for Inspiration—Wieuca Road Baptist Church Choir, Atlanta, Ga., Jack Gantt, minister of music, director
- 9:00 Congregational Singing—Jack Gantt, Atlanta, Ga.  
Scripture—Lloyd E. Batson, Pickens, S. C., leading Prayer—Calvin M. Bailey, Pittsburgh, Pa.
- 9:15 Election of officers  
Committee on Resolutions (First Report)
- 9:45 Committee on Committees Report  
Committee on Boards Report
- 9:55 Annuity Board Report—Darold H. Morgan, president, Dallas, Tex.
- 10:10 Home Mission Board Report—William G. Tanner, executive director, Atlanta, Ga.
- 10:25 Foreign Mission Board Report—Baker J. Cauthen, executive director, Richmond, Va.
- 10:40 Radio-TV Commission Report—Paul M. Stevens, president, Fort Worth, Tex.
- 10:55 Miscellaneous Business (consideration of any constitutional change and other matters)  
Election of officers
- 11:30 Congregational Singing—Jack Gantt, Atlanta, Ga.
- 11:35 Music—Wieuca Road Baptist Church Choir, Atlanta, Ga., Jack Gantt, director
- 11:45 Annual Convention Sermon—William E. Self, pastor, Wieuca Road Baptist Church, Atlanta, Ga.
- 12:15 Benediction—Robert Batemon, Columbus, Ohio

[No Sessions Wednesday Afternoon—Open for Other Events]

### Wednesday Evening, June 15

- 6:30 Music for Inspiration—Kansas City Massed Choirs, Duncan Couch, head of Music Department, Southwest Baptist College, Bolivar, Mo., director

- 7:00 Congregational Singing—Wesley L. Forbis, William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo., leading  
Scripture—Thomas Sherrill, Minot, N. D., leading  
Prayer—Milton Morales, Independence, Mo.
- 7:15 Recognition of Past SBC Presidents
- 7:25 "The Challenge of Preaching, Teaching"—Combined presentation of the six seminaries and the Sunday School Board
- 8:30 "... every believer a witness into the world"—Combined presentation of Woman's Missionary Union and the Brotherhood Commission
- 8:50 Congregational Singing—Wesley L. Forbis, Liberty, Mo.
- 8:55 Music—Kansas City Massed Choirs, Duncan Couch, Bolivar, Mo., director
- 9:00 Message—"The Gospel, the Power of God unto Salvation"—William E. Hull, pastor, First Baptist Church, Shreveport, La.
- 9:30 Benediction—Richard Rogers, Lansing, Mich.

### Thursday Morning, June 16

- 8:30 Music for Inspiration—Combined Handbell Choirs, Merrill Luman, minister of music, Sharpstown Baptist Church, Houston, Tex., director
- 9:00 Congregational Singing—Gene Bartlett, state Baptist music secretary, Oklahoma City, Okla.  
Scripture—William D. Hillis, Baltimore, Md., leading  
Prayer—Ted Sisk, Lexington, Ky.
- 9:15 Sunday School Board Report—Grady C. Cothen, president, Nashville, Tenn.
- 9:30 Seminaries Report
- 9:40 American Baptist Seminary Commission Report
- 9:45 Education Commission Report—Ben C. Fisher, executive director, Nashville, Tenn.
- 9:55 SBC Foundation Report—Hollis E. Johnson, executive secretary, Nashville, Tenn.
- 10:05 Miscellaneous Business
- 10:50 Congregational Singing—Gene Bartlett, Oklahoma City, Okla., leading
- 10:55 Woman's Missionary Union Report—Carolyn Weatherford, executive director, Birmingham, Ala.
- 11:05 Brotherhood Commission Report—Glendon McCullough, executive director, Memphis, Tenn.
- 11:15 Committee on Resolutions (Final Report)
- 11:35 Congregational Singing—Gene Bartlett, Oklahoma City, Okla., leading
- 11:40 Music—Forbes Woods, minister of music, North Phoenix

### Sunday Night, June 12

- 7:00 Musical Concert
- 7:25 Welcome and Presentation of Program—Jerry Vines, SBC Pastors' Conference president and pastor, Dauphin Way Baptist Church, Mobile, Ala.
- 7:30 Bible Study—Warren Wiersbe, pastor, The Moody Church, Chicago, Ill.

- Baptist Church, Phoenix, Ariz.
- 11:45 Message—"By His Spirit"—Richard Jackson, pastor, North Phoenix (Ariz.) Baptist Church
- 12:15 Benediction—Doy Jones, Wichita, Kan.

### Thursday Afternoon, June 16

- 1:00 Music for Inspiration—A parade of evangelistic singers
- 2:00 Congregational Singing—Ken Bittiker, evangelistic singer, St. Joseph, Mo., leading  
Scripture—Don Moore, Evansville, Ind., leading  
Prayer
- 2:15 Miscellaneous Business
- 2:45 Baptist World Alliance Report—Robert Denny, executive director, Washington, D. C.
- 2:55 Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs Report—James Wood, executive director, Washington, D. C.
- 3:05 Committee on State Baptist Papers—H. Franklin Paschall, Nashville, Tenn., chairman
- 3:15 Denominational Calendar
- 3:20 Christian Life Commission Report—Foy Valentine, executive secretary, Nashville, Tenn.
- 3:30 Congregational Singing—Ken Bittiker, St. Joseph, Mo., leading
- 3:35 Music
- 3:40 "Our World and the Gospel"  
Address—William Pinson, pastor, First Baptist Church, Wichita Falls, Tex.
- 4:30 Benediction—Raymond Lau, Honolulu, Hawaii

### Thursday Evening, June 16

- 6:30 Music for Inspiration—Kansas City Metro Baptist Band, Phillip C. Posey, William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo., director
- 7:00 Congregational Singing—William J. Reynolds, Nashville, Tenn., director  
Scripture  
Prayer—Mrs. Leroy Parker, Greensboro, N. C.
- 7:15 Presentation of officers for 1978
- 7:20 Challenge, commitment, consecration service. Planned by Jesse Fletcher, pastor, First Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tenn. Combined Missouri Baptist College Choirs, Wesley L. Forbis, Liberty, Mo., director  
Billy Graham, evangelist, Montreat, N. C., will deliver the "charge" to the congregation
- 9:00 Benediction—Jerry DeOliveria, San Jose, Calif.

## Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference

Kansas City Municipal Auditorium Arena

Kansas City, Mo.

June 12-13, 1977

- 8:30 Message—Stephen Olford, Encounter Ministries, Holme Beach, Fla.

### Monday Morning, June 13

- 9:00 Musical Concert
- 9:20 Bible Study—Warren Wiersbe

# Convention Preview

- 10:00 Message—John T. Tippet Jr., pastor, Calvary Baptist Temple, Savannah, Ga.
- 10:40 Message—Homer Lindsay Jr., pastor, First Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Fla.
- 11:20 Message—Carliss Odom, lay speaker, North Little Rock, Ark.
- Monday Afternoon, June 13**
- 2:00 Musical Concert
- 2:15 Bible Study—Warren Wiersbe
- 3:10 Message—Clyde Narramore, Christian psychologist, Narramore Christian Foundation, Rosemead, Calif.
- 3:40 Election of Officers
- 4:00 Message—Sam Cathey, evangelist, Owasso, Okla.
- Monday Night, June 13**
- 6:45 Musical Concert
- 7:00 Message—R. G. Lee, pastor emeritus, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn.
- 8:10 Message—W. A. Criswell, pastor, First Baptist Church, Dallas, Tex.
- 9:00 Message—Stephen Olford

## Southern Baptist Religious Education Association

*Sheraton Royal Hotel*  
*June 12-13, 1977*  
*Kansas City, Mo.*

Theme: "The Bold Mission of Religious Education"

### Sunday Afternoon, June 12

2:30-5:00 Registration

### Sunday Night, June 12

William E. Young, Nashville, Tenn., presiding  
 Theme: "Bold Bible Teaching"

- 7:00 Music—Festus Robertson, music promotion specialist, Broadman Sales Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn., and Polly Riddle, director of keyboard instruction, William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo.
- 7:10 Welcome to Kansas City  
 Program Preview  
 Appointment of Committees
- 7:20 "Why We Teach the Bible"—William E. Hull, pastor, First Baptist Church, Shreveport, La.
- 7:50 Testimonies: "Our Church on Mission . . ."—Charles P. Wood, minister of education, Cottage Hill Baptist Church, Mobile, Ala.; Bill Taylor, minister of education/administration, First Baptist Church, Lafayette, La.; and Roye L. Blackmon Jr., minister of education, Putnam City Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Okla.
- 8:30 Dialogue
- 8:45 Fellowship-Refreshments  
 Displays-Consultation

### Monday Morning, June 13

Elmer F. Bailey, Memphis, Tenn., presiding  
 Theme: "Bold Education in Mission"

- 8:15 Displays and Consultation
- 8:50 Music—Bill O'Brien, secretary, Department of Denominational Coordination, Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va., and Polly Riddle, Liberty, Mo.
- 9:00 "Living Out Bold Mission"—Albert McClellan, associate executive secretary and director of program planning, SBC Executive Committee, Nashville, Tenn.
- Dialogue
- 9:40 Break
- 10:00 "Trends...Products...Services"—Crawford Howell, manager, Broadman Sales Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.

ager, Broadman Sales Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.

- 10:20 "The Church and the Challenge of Bold Mission"—W. Randall Lolley, president, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C.
- 10:50 Testimonies: "Our Church on Mission . . ."—Peggy Latham, minister to internationals, First Baptist Church, Wichita Falls, Tex.; David Roddy, minister of education, First Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss.; and Alan H. Runnels, pastor, Swope Park Baptist Church, Kansas City, Mo.
- 11:30 Dialogue
- 11:45 Adjourn

### Monday Luncheon, June 13

- Ballroom South, Sheraton Royal
- Charles M. Lowry, Alexandria, La., presiding
- 12:15 Luncheon
- Music—Virginia Seelig, assistant professor of voice, Southernwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex., and Polly Riddle, Liberty, Mo.
- Tribute to Phillip B. Harris and A. V. Washburn—Melva Cook, program consultant, Family Ministry Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.; Joe Davis Heacock, retired dean, School of Religious Education, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex.; and Keener Pharr, director, church development division, Florida Baptist Convention, Jacksonville, Fla.

### Monday Afternoon, June 13

- James D. Williams, Fort Worth, Tex., presiding  
 Theme: "Bold Discipleship Development"
- 2:00 Displays and Consultation
- 2:15 Music—Robert Snead, head of Fine Arts Division, Truett-McConnell College, Cleveland, Ga., and Polly Riddle, Liberty, Mo.
- 2:25 "Equipping: Biblical Images and Current Structures"—Billie Pate, supervisor, pilot project section, Church Training Department, Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.; John Hendrix, consultant, pilot project section,

- Church Training Department, Sunday School Board.
- 3:05 Dialogue
- 3:20 "My Development as a Disciple"—Velma Rhea Torbett, assistant educational director, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn.
- 3:30 "The Church Ministering Through Family Counseling"—B. A. Clendinning, minister of consultation, Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church, Atlanta, Ga.
- 4:00 "Leadership Requirements for Bold Mission"—Elaine Dickson, Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.
- 4:20 Dialogue
- 4:35 Adjourn

### Monday Evening, June 13

- William E. Young, Nashville, Tenn., presiding  
 Theme: "Bold Personal Involvement"
- 6:00 Displays and Consultation
- 6:45 Music—Royce Dowell, consultant, Church Music Department, Baptist General Convention of Texas, Dallas, and Polly Riddle, Liberty, Mo.
- 6:55 "How the Bible Changes Lives"—William E. Hull, pastor, First Baptist Church, Shreveport, La.
- 7:30 Music—Maxine Souther, Salt Lake City, Utah, and Polly

- Riddle, Liberty, Mo.
- 7:35 Committee Reports  
 Findings Committee—Gerald Dunlap, chairman, minister of education, First Baptist Church, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.  
 Nominating Committee—Roy Lee Williams, chairman, church services director, Union Baptist Association, Houston, Tex.  
 Miscellaneous Business—Elmer F. Bailey, associate pastor, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn.
- 7:50 "The Leader as a Trainer"—P. Kevin O'Sullivan, executive vice president, American Society for Training and Development, Madison, Wis.
- 8:30 Testimonies: "On Mission...Personal Growth and Development"—Mark Short, associate pastor, South Main Baptist Church, Houston, Tex.; Truman Kerr, associate pastor, Broadmoor Baptist Church, Shreveport, La.; Bruce Powers, church program training center coordinator, Conference Center Division, Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.; and Wilford E. Beal, consultant, church staff section, Church Administration Department, Sunday School Board.
- 9:00 Dialogue
- 9:15 Adjourn

## Southern Baptist Church Music Conference

*RLDS Auditorium, Independence, Mo.*

*Gano Auditorium, William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo.*

*June 12-13, 1977*

Theme: "Our First 20 Years"

### Sunday Evening, June 12, 6:30 p.m.

A Service of Worship and Praise  
 RLDS Auditorium, Independence, Mo.

#### Presiding

Paul R. Bobbitt Jr., president, Church Music Conference, and director of church music, Florida Baptist Convention, Jacksonville

**Worship Leader/Narrator**  
 Ragan Courtney, poet-lyricist-playwright-performer, Nashville, Tenn.

#### Organ Recitalist

Donald P. Hustad, professor of organ, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville

#### Southern Baptist Singing Men

Group from all state Baptist singing men groups, conducted by James D. Woodward, dean, School of Fine Arts, Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee

#### A Thousand Voices

Missouri and Kansas choir members conducted by Duncan Couch, dean, School of Music and Fine Arts, Southwest Baptist College, Bolivar, Mo.

#### Congregational Singing

Led by Bob Woolley, secretary of church music, Missouri Baptist Convention, Jefferson City

#### Violinist

Robert Harrison, associate concert master, Atlanta (Ga.) Symphony

#### Vocal Soloists

Cynthia Clawson, singer-recording artist-songwriter, Nashville, Tenn., soprano, and David M. Ford, minister of music, First Baptist Church, Nashville, bass

All Monday Sessions at  
 Gano Auditorium, William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo.

### Monday Morning, June 13

- 8:00 Registration and Exhibits Open
- 8:45 Presiding—Jim Ashworth, vice president, Church Music Conference, and minister of music, First Baptist Church, Ponca City, Okla.  
 Moments of Meditation—Paul McCommon, secretary, Church Music Department, Georgia Baptist Convention, Atlanta
- Welcome—Wesley L. Forbis, chairman, Music Department, William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo.
- 8:55 Concert: Chapel Handbell Choir—Hart Morris, minister of music, Westbury Baptist Church, Houston, Tex., director
- 9:10 Address: "Our First 20 Years"—Cleamon Downs, associate professor of church music, William Carey College, Hattiesburg, Miss.
- 9:30 Concert: Missouri Music Women—Linda Boyd, associate, Church Music Department, Missouri Baptist Convention, Jefferson City, director
- 9:50 Address: "Acoustics for the Sanctuary"—Joe Coleman,

# Convention Preview

architect, Tulsa, Okla.  
 10:15 Exhibit break  
 11:00 Presiding—Max Lyall, Church Music Conference vice president and associate professor of church music, Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif.  
 Concert: Children's Choir—First Baptist Church, Ada, Okla., Jo Ann Butler, children's choir specialist, director  
 11:25 Business Session  
 Introduction of new president-elect and executive council  
 Presentation of honorary life memberships  
 11:40 Concert: Kentucky Baptist Male Chorale—J. Eugene Sutherland, minister of music, Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville, Ky., director

## Monday Afternoon, June 13

1:30 Presiding—Allen R. Brown, Church Music Conference vice president and church music secretary, Baptist General Association of Virginia, Richmond  
 Concert Honoring SBC Composers in the West—Adult Choir, First Baptist Church, Tulsa, Okla., Jim Davis, minister of music, director  
 1:55 Premier of Anthem Commissioned by Southern Baptist Church Music Conference: "It Takes Faith"—Gene

Bartlett, church music secretary, Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City  
 2:00 A Recital-Lecture: "The Violin in Missions"—Robert Harrison, Atlanta, Ga.  
 2:30 Concert: Missouri Music Men—Bob Woolley, Jefferson City, Mo., director  
 3:00 Division Meetings—Election of Council Members  
 Local Church Division  
 Educational Division  
 Denominational Division  
 3:30 Special Interest Conferences (choose one)—"The Use of a Solo Orchestral Instrument in the Worship Service"—Doug Smith, associate professor of church music, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.  
 "Acoustics for the Sanctuary"—Joe Coleman, Tulsa, Okla.  
 "Handbell Demonstration and Materials"—The Chapel Handbell Choir, Westbury Baptist Church, Houston, Hart Morris, director  
 "What to Do in Case of a Choir Rehearsal"—James D. Woodward, Shawnee, Okla.  
 4:30 Adjourn

## Monday Evening, June 13

7:00 Presiding—Paul R. Bobbitt Jr., Jacksonville, Fla.  
 An Evening of Music from William Jewell College

## Woman's Missionary Union

H. Roe Bartle Convention Hall

Kansas City, Mo.

June 12-13, 1977

Theme: "World, Listen!"

## Sunday Afternoon, June 12, 3 p.m.

Bold Mission Rally  
 Hymn—"I Will Sing the Wondrous Story"  
 Prayer—Mrs. Tom Barber, Johnson, Kan., president, Kansas-Nebraska WMU  
 Drama—Bold Missions from Adam to Tomorrow  
 Hymn—"Come All Christians, Be Committed"  
 Hour of Prayer for Bold Missions—38 separate prayer groups led by the state WMU presidents, home and foreign missionaries

## Monday Morning, June 13, 9:30 a.m.

Hymn—"This Is My Father's World"  
 Prayer—Mrs. Donald Murphy, Kansas City, Mo., president, Missouri WMU  
 Meditation—"Messages from God to Woman"—Josephine Pile, senior design consultant, Sunday School Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.  
 Report of the WMU Executive Director—Carolyn Weatherford, Birmingham, Ala.  
 Hymn—"O, For A Thousand Tongues to Sing"  
 Address—"Spanish World, Listen!"—Mike Mojica, home missionary, Laredo, Tex.  
 Special Music  
 Address—"Pleasure World, Listen!"—Robert Tremaine, home missionary, Miami, Fla.  
 Missions Mandate—Scripture Choir, William Jewell College students, directed by Janice Glover

## Monday Afternoon, June 13, 2 p.m.

Hymn—"Because He Lives"  
 Prayer—Mrs. Wayne Dehoney, Louisville, Ky., president, Kentucky WMU  
 Meditation—"Messages from God to Woman"—Josephine Pile, Nashville, Tenn.  
 Feature—"Big City, Listen!"—Dale Cross, director, Chicago Metropolitan Baptist Association, with James Queen, church planner, and Don Sharp, associate director of missions  
 Hymn—"We Are Called to Be God's People"  
 Business  
 Special Music  
 Address—"Africa, Listen!"—Carlos Owens, foreign missionary, Moshi, Tanzania  
 Missions Mandate—Scripture Choir

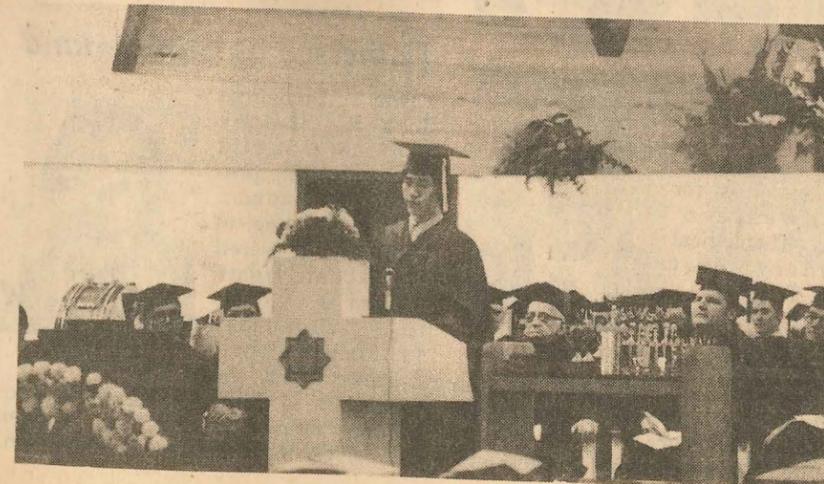
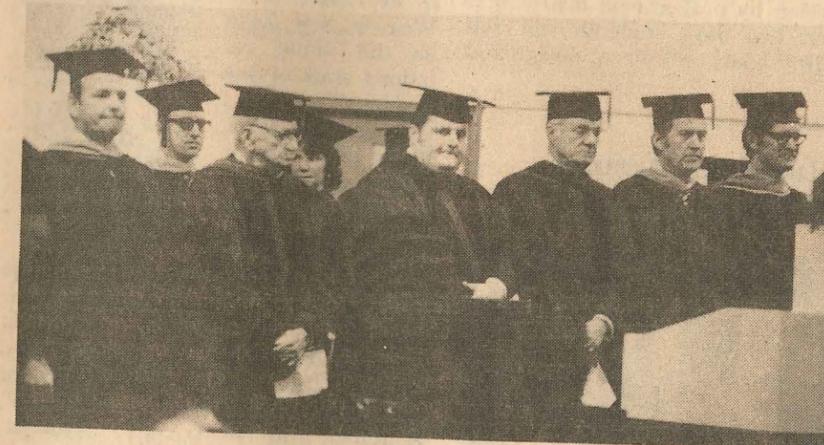
## Monday Evening, June 13, 7 p.m.

Hymn—"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"  
 Missions Petition—Scripture Choir  
 Meditations—"Messages from God to Woman"—Josephine Pile, Nashville, Tenn.  
 Special Music  
 Address—"America, Listen!"—William G. Tanner, executive director-treasurer, Home Mission Board, Atlanta, Ga.  
 Challenge Address—"Speak Out, Reach Out"—John R. Claypool, pastor, Northminister Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss.  
 Hymn—"Send Me, O Lord, Send Me"  
 Adjournment

# Christian Education

## Graduation at Oneida Baptist Institute

by Debbie Harris, Staff Writer



Graduations are always special events and nowhere are they more special than at Oneida Baptist Institute.

The 78-year-old school, nestled among the mountains in Clay County, is special in itself for it is the last high school operated by the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Commencement exercises were held at Oneida on May 1. Fifty-five seniors received their diplomas and students in each grade (grades 7-12) were honored for scholastic and athletic achievements.

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Anxious graduates line up outside Oneida's chapel [top left].

The chapel, which seats over 600 people, was completely filled for the services.

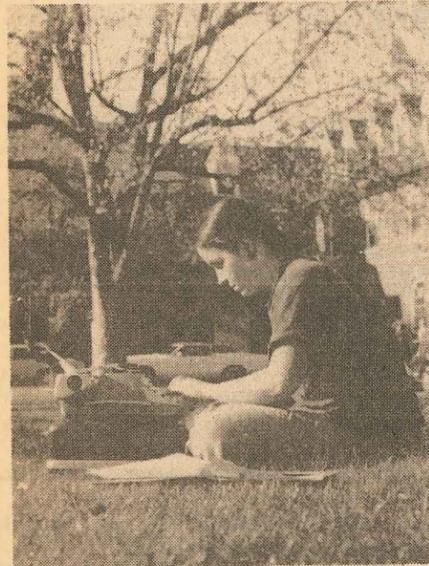
Oneida's president, Barkley Moore, [center, middle photo] and faculty members stand in recognition of the graduating class.

There are over 300 students at Oneida. They hail from all over Kentucky, many other states and several foreign countries. One international student, I-Feng Wu, [lower left] was this year's salutatorian.

After the services [below] it was time for tears, hugs and goodbyes as graduates bid farewell to fellow students and teachers.



# Christian Education



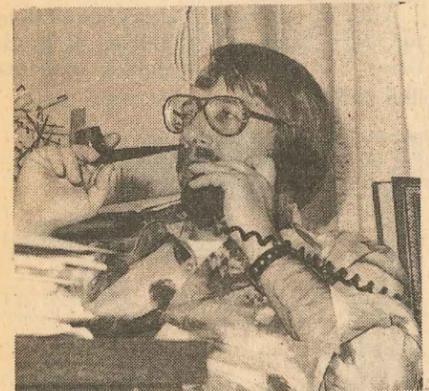
## Belmont Students 'Set Sail' for the Bahamas

Belmont College's (Nashville) physical education department will conduct a short-term course in sailing—worth three semester hours of credit—in the Bahama Islands, Aug. 13-21, according to John Thompson, chairman of the department and instructor of the course.

Although students need no sailing experience to register for the course offered by the Baptist school, they will receive some basic sailing instructions on nearby Percy Priest Lake before the 20-person class leaves Nashville.

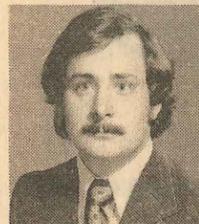
Students, who will pay \$365 each for transportation, food and lodging, will spend eight days and nights on board sail boats with no more than five students to a boat. Boats will sail the first six days in a group with close supervision by professional instructors. The last two days students will sail their own boats within a designated area.

Spring has sprung and young thoughts turn to . . . term papers? Marcia Jowers of Atlanta, Ga., is a first-year religious education student at Southern Seminary and like many other students this time of year, her desire to prepare for class work sometimes combines with her love for the great outdoors. There's just one question: where does she plug that thing in?

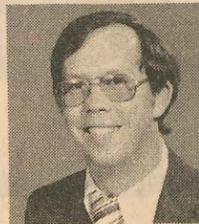


James L. Meeks, head of the department and professor of chemistry at Cumberland College, had his article "Electronic States and Geometric Isomerism of p-Distributed Cyanoanilines" accepted for publication in Chemical Physics Letters. The article was written in collaboration with Omar S. Khalil, Rutgers University, and Sean P. McGlynn, Louisiana State University.

## Kentuckians Among SWBTS Graduates



O'Neal



Harrison

Five students from Kentucky received degrees during spring commencement exercises for Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex.

Seminary president Robert E. Naylor conferred 340 degrees and diplomas to the largest graduating class in the seminary's 70 year history.

Stephen Edward Boyd, Columbus,



Boyd

received the master of religious education degree; Henry C. Harrison, Stanton, received the master of church music degree as did Stephen J. O'Neal, Owensboro. Also receiving master of religious education degrees were



Miss Worden



Workman

Cynthia Sills Worden, Burna and Richard Lynn Workman, Murray.

## Miss Weaver Joins SBTS As Communications Head

Miss Carol A. Weaver of Athens, Ga., has been named director of communications at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

A native of Piedmont, Ala., Miss Weaver has been on the public relations staff of the University of Georgia, Athens, since 1974. She is former editor of the university's weekly faculty-staff publication, Columns, and her most recent position was news services and alumni affairs director for the school of veterinary medicine.

Miss Weaver has previously worked for the Athens Banner-Herald and for two television stations, WGTA-TV, Athens, and WAGA-TV, Atlanta.



Miss Weaver

## Francisco at Cumberland

Clyde T. Francisco, John R. Sampey professor of Old Testament interpretation at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, delivered the baccalaureate sermon at Cumberland College May 14. Francisco holds degrees from the University of Richmond and Southern Baptist Seminary and has written extensively in various areas of religion.



Francisco



Hamid Zaheri, [third from left] Vienna, Austria, is shown at a reception in the home of Dr. and Mrs. Robert Mills during his visit to the Georgetown College campus. Shown with Zaheri are Mrs. John Crigler, Ray Alexander, James Heizer and Mrs. Zaheri. Earlier in the day, Zaheri, chief of information for the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, spoke at the college as part of a tour of campuses coordinated by the Cincinnati Council on World Affairs.

## Cumberland Participates In Outreach Program

Cumberland College has long been a participant in a community outreach program under the auspices of the Appalachian Leadership and Community Outreach, INC. (ALCOR).

ALCOR was created in 1969 at Alice Lloyd College for community services in education, health and related social activities. Later, five other colleges (Union College, Southeast Community College, Cumberland College, Lees Junior College and Hazard Community College) joined the program, uniting the personnel and resources of all the accredited colleges in the 20 county area of Kentucky Appalachia in a unified front against existing social ills.

In Cumberland's particular program, special tutorial services are provided to the Williamsburg city schools. At the Kentucky Baptist college, students act as tutors to youngsters who are temporarily experiencing difficulty in a particular subject, but who, with extra assistance, have the potential to effectively meet academic standards.

Unlike other ALCOR programs, Cumberland's endeavor deals exclusively with already established curricula. Students experiencing difficulty in a particular subject are tutored in that subject with his or her own textbooks and appropriate supple-

mental aids furnished by ALCOR. Through this practice, disruption of the permanent teacher's program and further confusion for the student is avoided.

Classrooms, instructional aids and the tutors themselves are furnished through Cumberland's department of education, headed by John P. Duke Jr. Duke speaks enthusiastically of the program, calling it one of "enrichment" where future teachers learn "how to teach students, along with the pleasures and pitfalls in teaching." Duke's daughter, Melinda Karyl, is receiving tutoring in mathematics through the program. Her attitude toward school has improved tremendously along with her academic performance," says Duke.

Mrs. Georgia Kay Nevels, director of tutorial assistance at Cumberland, emphasized the fact that participation in ALCOR is strictly voluntary; no child is forced or arbitrarily assigned to the program. To be enrolled in the program, the student must be recommended by a public school teacher and parental permission given. Then for one and one-half to two hours each Monday through Thursday afternoon, after



Mrs. Nevels

regular school hours, the youngster reports to Cumberland's campus to participate in the program. This service is offered at no cost to the student.

The college tutors are not just education majors; many are specialists in various academic fields who are volunteering their time or are fulfilling their college workshop commitments.

Mrs. Wanda Jeffries, a second grade teacher at Williamsburg Elementary School, sees Cumberland's ALCOR program as a great service to the community and a builder of community/college rapport. Mrs. Jeffries says, "Cumberland's practice of using the curricular materials which are being used in the public schools greatly re-inforces the public school program."

"Our program has become such a success that we have been forced to develop waiting lists, says Mrs. Nevels, with a look of pride spreading across her face.

Plans have been made to extend the Cumberland College ALCOR facilities to Whitley County students outside of the Williamsburg city limits.

## Cave to Speak at SBTS Graduation

Nearly 300 students, the largest number ever in a single commencement, will receive degrees and diplomas from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and from the Boyce Bible School, a division of Southern Seminary for students without college degrees.

Julian Cave Jr., pastor of St. John's Baptist Church, Charlotte, N. C., will be speaker at Southern Seminary's commencement service, scheduled for June 3 at 10 a.m. Cave, a graduate of Furman University and Southern Seminary, currently serves as national alumni president for the seminary.

Combined with more than 150 students who received degrees in December, the total graduating class for this academic year will total almost 450 students.

Boyce Bible School, which will also hold its commencement exercises June 3, will present diplomas in Christian ministry to 27 students.



Cave

# Buyers Guide

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# Frank Owen

THREE GOOD MEN



It was a sort of tense situation that had some differences of opinions involved, largely based on the different environments in which we lived and the different points of view from where we stood. Those of us in the middle of the woods saw the trees, those of us from farther away saw the forest. It didn't look quite the same. Communication was needed.

I sat down to talk with three good men, and what a difference it makes when you talk to three good men. We began to sit where each other sits and look out of the same portholes that each other looks out of. Things took on a much more similar appearance to each of us as we swapped about, peeping through the same binoculars.

Understanding was reached. Agreement? Well, maybe not 100% agreement but 100% of understanding of each other's points of view. We slipped on each other's shoes for a moment to see where the tacks hit in each case and it affected our judgments upon the manner in which different ones of us limped.

You can solve most anything when you have three good men. You can stand up to, or under, most any load, if you have three good companions. Jesus had three; Peter, James and John. They were all great and Jesus loved them all but these three names occur more frequently. In the garden where he sweat great drops of blood, it appears that these three "went a little farther," too, as is stated of our Lord.

Jesus said if two agree "as touching anything . . ." (Matt. 18:19). The Old Testament speaks of one chasing a thousand and two putting ten thousand to flight (Deut. 32:30). Two makes multiplied strength, but three is still more. Jesus said, "where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst . . ." (Matt. 18:20). We had two or three. It was in his name. Three good men. The problem was, at least, reasonably solved. The victory was won. I came away thanking God for three good men.

Thanks for much increased response for flood relief—\$69,927.28 by May 9, 1977.

# Sunday School Lessons

Lessons for May 29, 1977

by H. C. Chiles, Murray, Ky.

## International Series

### An Enduring Faith

James 5:7-20

James tenderly admonished the suffering saints to remain steadfast in the midst of trials and tribulations.

A Plea for Patience—5:7-11

James exhorted the early Christians who were being persecuted to be patient until "the coming of the Lord." James cited three examples of those who exercised patience: first, the farmer waiting from plowing time until the harvesting season; second, the prophets of God who bore their testimony for him notwithstanding the fact that they had to endure persecution; third, Job.

James urged them to endure these things patiently for Christ, and then he assured them that when Christ returned their persecutors would be punished and they would be rewarded.

Of all of those mentioned in the Bible, Job is the outstanding human sufferer. The way in which he bore his troubles and sufferings proved his devotion to God, for he said: "Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him." Let us emulate Job, who endured his afflictions patiently and produced an invaluable fruit of genuine faith.

Patience is sorely needed. We need it when we are ill, or when we are undergoing trials of any sort. We need to be patient with others, and especially with those to whom we present the gospel. Not only should we wait patiently for the fruit of our labors, but also for relief from our trials.

A Plea for Prayer—5:12-18

Hardships, afflictions, and suffering are inevitable in this life. How shall we react to them when they come to us? When we encounter them, prayer will prove to be appropriate and profitable to us who know and love the Lord. When trouble comes, let us seek refuge in earnest prayer.

James told his readers that, when their bodies were subjected to one or more of the diseases common to man, they should call persons of genuine Christian experience, who have the ability to pray, and ask them to pray for them. When God so wills, he can and does heal directly, but he also uses means, such as medicines and the skills and abilities of physicians and nurses, to bring about the restoration of health.

James emphasized the importance of confessing sin. He implied that the confession of sin is a vital factor in availing prayer. Prayer should be offered to God in all kinds of situations. Prayer is both a privilege and a duty. True prayer accomplishes so much. "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." In prayer we connect our impotence to God's omnipotence.

A Plea for Concern—5:19-20

When one breaks ranks from those who follow Christ, he is not to be abandoned, but he should become an object of loving concern, and be urged to confess his sins, to seek and to obtain divine forgiveness, and then to prove his genuine appreciation for that forgiveness by his future obedience to Christ.

## Life and Work Series

### Christianizing Our Priorities

I Timothy 6:6-19

Paul warned Timothy against the belief that the acquisition and possession of material things constituted an indication or a guarantee of godliness. It is pathetic to see the way in which men will spend themselves in order to acquire wealth, holding the silly notion that money will solve life's problems.

Instead of putting the main emphasis and the greatest efforts on acquiring material possessions, Christians should have godliness as their priority, for it does bring contentment. To be godly is to have the good, holy and perfect will of God done in our lives. Apart from Christ one will seek contentment in vain.

Many are obsessed with the desire for material gain. They want to get rich quickly and easily, and this accounts for much of the present-day discontent. We need to stress the fact that a man is not profited if he loses his soul, regardless of what else he may gain.

Money is not held in disrepute in the Bible. Of itself money does not have any power of good or evil. It is the use to which it is placed, and that use springs from the desire of the heart. It is the love of money which is the root of all manner of evil. Covetousness prevents contentment and happiness, and adds many burdens to the life. Because the love of money has entered many hearts, pity has cooled, compassion has frozen and charity has fled.

Inasmuch as Timothy's priority or main concern was that of God and spiritual things, Paul admonished him to do three things:

#### 1. TO FLEE

"O man of God, flee these things." Timothy was called a "man of God" because he had been born of God, had yielded his life to God and had been called to deliver God's message. For his own safety and for the glory of God he was urged to flee from things that were wrong.

#### 2. TO FOLLOW

Paul exhorted Timothy to "follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience and meekness." By that he meant to pursue them as they came within his reach. In spite of disappointments, discouragements and hardships, these six qualities are to be pursued until they become a part of one's character.

#### 3. TO FIGHT

"Fight the good fight of faith." "The Son of God goes forth to war" against evil in our day. The Christian life is a fascinating fight. It appeals to the very best that is within us, has important issues, has a superb leader, and results in incalculable good. It is a good fight because it is in a good cause—that of God and his truth.

In the closing verses of this lesson, Paul emphasized that those whom God has blessed with material possessions should refrain from trusting in riches because such an attitude is very displeasing to God, and that they should use them for the glory of God and the benefit of others.

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# Mountains to the Mississippi

## Sullivan to Speak At Mount Moriah

James L. Sullivan, Southern Baptist Convention president and former pastor of the Mount Moriah Baptist Church, Boston, will speak at that church's 175th homecoming anniversary celebration May 29, at 2:30 p.m.

The church will hold a reception May 28, from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Boston Community Center. All friends and former members are invited to attend both events. Lee McGlone is the pastor.

## Walker Gets Degree

Richard E. Walker, Southern Baptist missionary to Brazil, received his doctor of ministry degree from Luther Rice Seminary, Jacksonville, Fla. His doctoral thesis was entitled "The Purpose of God."

Walker was pastor of First Baptist Church, Murray, from 1972-75.

## Dorsett Named Associate At SC Baptist Hospital

James V. Dorsett Jr., Louisville, was named associate administrator at South Carolina Baptist Hospital, Columbia, effective May 1.

Dorsett was associated with Baptist hospital work in Kentucky for 15 years. At various times he was related to all Baptist hospitals in Kentucky.

His last assignment in Kentucky was executive vice president of the Baptist hospitals which included Kentucky Baptist Hospital and Baptist Hospital East, both in Louisville, Mallory Taylor Hospital, LaGrange, and Western Baptist Hospital, Paducah.

Dorsett is a native of Alabama and received his hospital administration training from Northwestern University. Mrs. Dorsett is the former Sue Evelyn



Dorsett

Arnold of Madisonville. The Dorsetts have two children, a son and a daughter.

## Kentucky Baptist Couples Invited to 'ceLAYbration'

Kentucky Baptist couples have been invited to attend a lay renewal evangelism meeting July 8-9 at the Imperial House North in Dayton, Ohio.

The "ceLAYbration," which is jointly sponsored by the Home Mission Board, Brotherhood Commission and Ohio Baptists, will include presentations on various aspects of the lay renewal evangelism program.

David Haney, director of lay renewal for the Brotherhood Commission, and James Mahoney, a Nacogdoches, Tex., Bible conference leader, will be featured along with various Ohio Baptist leaders.

Reservations are required and can be obtained by writing Ron Martin, Ohio Baptist Brotherhood Director, 1680 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43203. A \$3 advance registration fee, which is credited to motel expense, is required.

## Louisville Church Hosts Puppeteering Seminar

Beechmont Baptist Church, Louisville, will host a seminar on the use of puppets as instructional tools on Friday, June 3, from 6:30-10 p.m.

This session will be conducted by professional puppeteers from Puppet Productions, Inc., a San Diego, Calif., company that has trained more than 35,000 persons in similar sessions.

Individual registration fee is \$15 with reduced rates available for groups. Additional information can be obtained by contacting Mark Myers at (502) 368-5806.

## Eminence Church Has 'A Great Happening'

Stanley Chaney, pastor of Eminence Baptist Church, calls a recent Sunday

"a great happening." It was designated as Miracle Day and visible results included 405 in Sunday school, six decisions for Christ and over \$4,000 offering. The Sunday school attendance was a new record for the church. Executive secretary Franklin Owen was guest speaker for the occasion.

## Copass Gets Doctorate



Copass

C. Wyman Copass, pastor of Reidland Baptist Church, Paducah, received a doctor of ministries degree at Luther Rice Seminary, Jacksonville, Fla., May 6. Copass is a native of Monroe County, a graduate of Campbellsville

College and Southern Seminary. Before going to Reidland he was pastor of Hillvue Heights Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Gamaliel Baptist Church and Park City Baptist Church.

## Formal Opening Set

Central Baptist Hospital, Lexington, will have a formal opening of its new obstetrical-newborn care unit Sunday, May 22, from 3-5 p.m. Visitors are invited for the occasion.

## Revival Report

Ben A. Baird, pastor of the Corinth Baptist Church, London, reports revival services in which Raymond Sanderson was evangelist and Eugene Quinn music director. Sanderson is pastor of Hickory Grove Baptist Church, Charlotte, N. C., and Quinn is state music director for Kentucky Baptists. Revival results included four additions by letter, one by baptism and many rededications.