

Western Recorder

July 14, 1977

Communication and Commitment are Necessary

Southern Baptists are bold. We are committed to reaching every person on earth with the gospel of Jesus Christ by the year 2000. More than that we are determined to establish a church or some kind of regular evangelical worship opportunity within the reach of every person in the United States.

This goal has no new sound to Southern Baptists. We have always talked about world evangelization as the Lord's assignment to the disciples but it has been mainly talk. Now we have actually set into operation specific plans and specific dates to get this done.



Can this be done? Yes, but not at our present pace. The task is greater than it sounds. It will require a genuine spiritual awakening to mobilize the personnel and to provide the resources for such an undertaking.

Besides the Lord's help two things stand in the way of success. They are communication and commitment.

In a group of 13 million of such diversity and independence as Southern Baptists it is next to impossible to get the word of what we are trying to do to

every Baptist in the pew. It is a sifting down process which has to pass through many barriers.

Let's put it another way. To get what happened to 15 or 20 thousand Baptists in Kansas City in June to 13 million Baptist church members, half of whom never darken the door of their churches, is next to impossible. There was enough inspiration in Kansas City to accomplish our bold mission but only relatively few experienced it and inspiration is hard to communicate.

Let's face it. A Gallup poll among Southern Baptists would probably reveal that not one out of every five has even a vague idea of what is meant by "Bold Mission Thrust."

Assuming that every one of the 16,000 messengers in

Kansas City became enthusiastic about this world evangelization plan, this is only one for every 800 Southern Baptists. How long would it take for one to enlist 800 more?

It is fortunate that 80 to 85% of the 16,000 in Kansas City were professional church workers and their families. They are in the communication business. It is unfortunate that more lay persons were not there because they would make the communication task easier in local churches.

In the Baptist way the key to all success is the local church. Until the plans and programs of denominational leaders reach and engage the 35,000 local churches, nothing significant can happen. This is one reason why the state paper is so extremely important for the life of the denomination and the ministry of the churches.

The other requirement for success in "Bold Mission" is commitment. Commitment is an overused word but not an overused trait among Southern Baptists. The actual facts are discouraging and even frightening.

Consider our plight. At least one-tenth of all Southern Baptists are missing persons. Their churches do not know where they are or whether they are dead or alive.

By their own admission 20% of Southern Baptists never pray and 30% never read the Bible. Half of the members of Baptist churches never attend church services and 40% never give anything to support the local church and 60% do not support its mission outreach.

Three-fourths of all Southern Baptists never serve in their churches in any way and 85% never attend prayer meeting. Ninety percent do not have family worship and 95% never lead another person to Jesus Christ.

Let's be realistic. We do not have 13 million Southern Baptists engaged in a world outreach. Presently half that number would be a good response and to expect much from any other than those seen in Sunday school and midweek prayer service is unrealistic.

The Lord is ready for Bold Mission Thrust. Communication and commitment stand between Southern Baptists and readiness.

The Tricky Art of Communication

Those who speak and write soon learn that communication is a tricky art. There is almost always some difference in what one thinks he said and what his hearers or readers understood he said.

This is inevitable because of the different backgrounds of the speaker or writer and the hearer. One's preconceptions have much to do with how he expresses his thoughts and how he hears the thoughts of others expressed.

This has been illustrated to some extent in every editorial appearing on this page. A recent example is my treatment of the ordination of women to the ministry. My intention was to report the facts and raise questions about the acceptance of women as pastors of Baptist churches.

At least some readers have concluded that I endorse

women for pastors of Baptist churches. I did not mean to communicate this.

Discerning readers of this page know that I do not hesitate to take a stand on issues whether the stand is popular or unpopular. If I was not willing to take the heat of disagreement, I would have long ago gotten out of the editorial kitchen. The most appreciated remark I hear from readers is, "I read your editorials every week. Sometimes I agree with you and sometimes I disagree with you."

I do not write editorials for approval or disapproval. I take strong editorial stands on some matters. On other matters I raise questions to stimulate the thinking of readers with a hope they will reexamine their views in light of all the facts available. I do not consider it my role to straighten out everybody on every point of Baptist faith

and practice. I have too much respect for the right of others to find truth to try to force them to accept my view. That would be playing God which is blasphemy.

The matter of ordination of women as deacons and preachers among Baptists is news today as it never has been before. That is why more space has been given to it in Western Recorder than it would otherwise be given.

My own views on ordination of women as Baptist deacons and preachers are based on my understanding of scriptures and human experience. The leadership role in churches, in politics, in the home and elsewhere belongs to man. The role of woman in church is a supportive ministry which is none the less important and will be none the less rewarded.

There are exceptions in the Bible. When men failed to

exercise their gifts, God used women to do what men should have done. This is also true today.

My convictions now would not allow me to vote for the ordination of a woman as deacon or preacher. However, I hope to be delivered from the kind of rigidity which pronounces anathema upon everyone disagreeing with me. To any sincere woman of God who says I am convinced God is calling me into the ministry of deacon or pastor, I would have to say, "I disagree with you, but God bless you if you are right and forgive me if I am wrong."

In the meantime I am not too greatly disturbed when some Baptist church ordains a woman. If it is not of God, it will be revealed sooner or later. If a woman is called by God to preach, she will find a way to do it with or without ordination and with or without being called as pastor by any Baptist church.

Baptist Forum

The executive board of Caldwell-Lyon Baptist Association in its regular meeting June 27, 1977 voted that the following letter be sent to Western Recorder editor C. R. Daley and members of the board of directors of Western Recorder:

At our recent Southern Baptist Convention messengers adopted as our goal and plan of action Bold Mission Thrust. Among other things we were challenged to double our mission force and mission giving through the Cooperative Program. It is against this background that we express our concern over recent trends in Western Recorder.

We have been encouraged for many years to lead our churches to supply its members with Western Recorder. The idea has been that our people need to be informed about what is happening in Baptist life. The tragedy is that churches which are reaching people and giving to missions seem to get such little exposure. On the other hand, when a church like Gravel Switch or Twenty-Third and Broadway does the controversial such as ordaining a woman, this church receives full page publicity in Western Recorder.

Why are churches such as Gravel Switch and Twenty-Third and Broadway placed in "hero" status by Western Recorder? Even you, Dr. Daley, who seem to have such a "romance" with woman ordaining churches stated in

your editorial of April 28, 1977: "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."

It seems repeatedly that only one side of the picture is presented. For example, the Twenty-Third and Broadway Church can vote to do whatever it wants in light of its autonomy. However, it seems that others ought to have a right to speak and our views respected since this church receives more from our denomination than it contributes. The records show (Kentucky Baptist Convention Annuals, 1974, 75, 76) that we are helping support this "experiment" through the Cooperative Program to the tune of \$5,000 in the last three years. At the same time this church had a three year income of \$161,910 out of which it gave \$123 to the Cooperative Program (in 1975 it gave \$0). Our support of the Twenty-Third and Broadway church and its glamorization in Western Recorder certainly hurts our attempts to lead our churches to increase their Cooperative Program giving.

It is our conviction that Western Recorder ought to stop making "heroes" out of women ordaining churches. Western Recorder ought to withdraw from its crusader position. At the same time, Western Recorder

ought to take a more positive approach to the good things that are being done—where people are being baptized and discipled.

Let's give of our money and ourselves toward sharing the gospel with every person in our world. Please help to inspire us in supporting missions and stop trying to arouse controversy.

Caldwell-Lyon Baptist Association
Princeton, Ky.

At the Southern Baptist Convention in Kansas City I asked the Convention to assign the Christian Life Commission the responsibility to help get us organized to oppose homosexuality in America. There is a need for people to show their feelings to the Florida Citrus Commission concerning their decision to terminate Anita Bryant's contract because of her stand on homosexuality.

If you are concerned about Anita Bryant losing her contract with the Florida Citrus Commission write them at the following address: Florida Citrus Commission, Department of Citrus, Tallahassee, Fla. 32301.

You can simply state: "We support Anita Bryant in her stand against homosexuality" or "We oppose your action against Anita Bryant because of her Christian convictions." Be sure to sign the letter.

Edwin E. Burriss
Centralia, Mo.

Baptist News in Brief

WMU Rallies Sept. 29

The Kentucky Baptist Woman's Missionary Union will again launch its new year Sept. 29 with eight identical Rally Day programs across the state.

Sept. 29 will be the first of 100 days of prayer which Kentucky WMU will observe in connection with its centennial celebration.

Hosting the Rally Day programs are: DeHaven Memorial, LaGrange; Somerset First; Paris First; Irene Cole Memorial, Prestonsburg; Oneida Baptist School; Bowling Green First; First Missionary, Benton; and Immanuel Baptist Temple, Henderson.

Poe, Curry New Ministers In State Student Work

Don Blaylock, director of the Student Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, Middletown, has announced the appointment of two new campus ministers in the state.

Richard Poe has been employed at Murray State University effective July 1. Lerond L. Curry will fill this position at Western Kentucky University Aug. 1.

Poe, a native of Oak Ridge, Tenn., is a graduate of Carson-Newman College and Southern Seminary. Since 1972 he

has been a juvenile detective with the Jefferson County Police Department. Earlier he served Jeffersontown Baptist Church as associate pastor and youth minister.

Married to the former Carol Hutchinson, he is the father of two sons, Randall and Richard.

Curry is a native of Bowling Green, a graduate of Western Kentucky, Southern Seminary and Florida State University with a doctorate. He has been assistant and associate professor of religion and philosophy since joining the faculty of Averett College, Danville, Va., in 1970.

Curry's wife, is the former Rebecca Holbrook. They have two children, Nathan and Michelle.

Mtn. Crusade July 25-30

The eighth annual campmeeting crusade and Christian life conference of the Cumberland Mountain Evangelistic Association, Middlesboro, is set July 25-30 at Southside Baptist Church.

An all night gospel singing July 30 will climax the event.

Among program personalities are Bertha Smith, missionary, author and speaker; F. F. Baird, Christian dentist, Louisville; and Jesse Buell, Kentucky mountain chaplain.

No Recorder July 21; New Schedule July 27

Postal regulations limit Western Recorder to 50 issues per year. One issue is omitted each summer, and that will be next week's paper (July 21).

Due to the early sale of Western Recorder printing equipment the current (July 14) issue is the last to be printed at Western Recorder's offices. The Recorder's board of directors voted in May to close its printing operations by September 1 of this year.

The Recorder will be printed under contract with a local printer beginning now. The publication date will be advanced to Wednesday of each week. Louisville and Lexington area subscribers should receive their papers on Tuesday, starting July 26, with all other subscribers receiving papers Wednesday, beginning July 27.

Presently Recorder copy must be available for typesetting eight days before publication. On the new schedule this will be reduced to seven days for partial copy, two days for the remainder, giving readers the latest possible news.

Western Recorder

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

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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

Double Exposure

Covered wagons for Cedarmore campers. Junior and senior high boys attending a week of camp at Rabro for several summers have been accustomed to sleeping in one of these horse-drawn—minus the horse—vehicles. Insides of these wagons have been converted into bedroom facilities for eight or 10 campers each. It's a unique experience, just as many others are for those privileged to spend a week on one of three campsites owned by Kentucky Baptists near Bagdad, Ky., each summer—Rabro (boys), Cedar Crest (girls) and Cedarmore (mixed and adult groups). For a pictorial account, see pages 8-9 this issue.



Vol. 151, No. 28

Kentucky Baptists at Work

The following is an account of a weird experience between a church and the federal government. It illustrates how slowly federal bureaucracy moves and how unfair the government can be in some instances in spite of its generally liberal spending policies.

On Mar. 23, 1964 a news release from Washington announced the post office and federal building in Paducah would be expanded and would require the property on which First Baptist Church was standing.

On July 7, 1964 a representative from the General Services Administration (GSA) visited the church to explain the procedure in appraising and purchasing the property.

A letter dated Sept. 9, 1964 from an official of the GSA informed the church that its property would be appraised in view of purchasing and everything would be done with the least amount of inconvenience to the church.



Congressman Carroll Hubbard looks on as pastor John Wood [l] and Congressman James Wright [Texas] examine the Congressional Record. Wright is a Christian lay speaker who agreed to help special legislation for Paducah's First Baptist Church through the House of Representatives.

It May Take Act of Congress to Help Paducah Church

by C. R. Daley, Editor

Following the instructions of GSA the church executed a "Right to Entry" form wherein the church agreed to a 360-day option to sell its property for \$267,000.

In December 1964 an appraiser from Evansville, Ind. inspected the property with a view of making an appraisal for GSA.

A Feb. 12, 1965 letter from GSA notified the church that the \$267,000 asked exceeded the value as determined by the appraisal. The letter suggested the church make an offer to sell for \$180,000 for consideration by GSA.

The church responded in a letter on Feb. 22, 1965 with a counter proposal to sell for \$198,000.

In the meantime First Baptist Church had decided to move from its downtown location to a residential area. The new church was under construction during the negotiations with GSA. Upon the word that the \$198,000 selling price had been approved, the church borrowed \$130,000 on unsecured notes from two Paducah banks to complete construction of the new building. The church occupied the new building in March 1965.

On July 16, 1965 word came from GSA that the post office property was being reevaluated. On Mar. 21, 1966 GSA notified the church that upon reevaluation the plan to expand the post office had been canceled.

A new location was found for the post office but reports through congressmen and others persisted that the church property would be bought by the government for parking for the federal building which remained on the site.

Other prospective purchasers of the property became discouraged when they learned of the possibility of the government getting the property by eminent domain.

In the meantime the property deteriorated from no use and vandalism. When GSA finally decided to buy the property for parking space, the offer was \$41,500. Naturally, the church was unhappy with such an offer.

At this point pastor John Wood and church leaders who had been agonizing over the problem for 13 years decided to seek some congressional help. The result was securing the efforts of Senators Wendell Ford and Walter Huddleston and Congressman Carroll

Hubbard.

The route eventually taken was private legislation by which Congress votes a special allocation to take care of such needs. This is an unusual procedure and requires much work to explain to senators and congressmen why such a special appropriation should be made.

The private bill was introduced into the Senate by Senator Ford. It called for paying the church \$207,740 which represents the original offer plus interest.

While Wood was in Kansas City for the Southern Baptist Convention in June a call from Senator Ford informed him the private bill had passed the Senate and was ready for consideration by the House. Wood flew to Washington to line up the needed support for House approval. He was encouraged by Congressman Hubbard and others who have chief responsibility for guiding the bill through the House.

At this writing the legislation has not received final passage, but it is expected soon and the feeling is President Carter will sign the bill correcting an injustice to First Baptist Church, Paducah.

Kentucky Baptists at Work

COLSON, Ky.—The walls and roof are up now on a mission building project so unique some folks told its instigator, Bill Mackey, it would never be done.

But if success can be measured in terms of overcoming great odds, then Mackey, pastor of First Baptist Church, Whitesburg, the mission's sponsor, has reached it already.

All along, he claimed, with God's help, a spacious mission facility to serve the community could be erected for less than \$50,000, excluding furnishings.

All along, he was convinced, if God wanted that building completed enough volunteer help would surface to construct it with free labor.

Ambitious? Perhaps. But . . . never underestimate the power of God and what one man's faith and determination can do.

To see a miracle performed we must go back to the beginning.

Colson, Ky., is a wide place in the road. It is so small, in fact, that the Kentucky Department of Transportation failed to include it on a highway map it produced. The old saying "blink and you'll miss it" was never more appropriate than here.

And yet, there are literally thousands of unchurched people living in Colson's back door nine miles due north of Whitesburg in Letcher County.

Seventy percent of the population of 25,000 in Letcher County is unchurched, Mackey confirms. "What an opportunity and a responsibility we have right here!"

In the L. O. Griffith era of the 40's some residents claim the Whitesburg church sponsored at least 12 missions at one time. Griffith, now retired in Georgia, was pastor.

At this time Bethel Baptist Church existed briefly on the site of the Colson mission. In fact, its pastorium, a white frame house, is today used for the Colson mission's nursery and children's building.

Bethel disbanded in the early 50's when the coal mines, principal source of economic security in the area, went



The completed church will contain educational space on the lower level and a sanctuary seating 225 upstairs.

down. As a result many church members were forced to move away.

Mackey, now in his eighth year at Whitesburg, led his congregation to recognize the need for a mission here shortly after his arrival. The church established the mission in 1971 and now also operates two more at Eola and Premium, Ky.

The Whitesburg congregation voted in November 1975 to erect a modern building on the Colson site to accommodate anticipated crowds for years to come. It began developing plans in January 1976.

At this point the story begins to take on unique proportions.

Bill Mackey has a brother, Ronnie, in the construction business at their family home in Lancaster, S. C. A Baptist layman, Ronnie developed an early interest in the mission project of his brother's church and personally volunteered to underwrite an architect's expenses.

Soon he became swept up in the "all volunteer army" himself. He has driven

the 6½ hours each way to Whitesburg on three separate occasions to donate a Saturday in the free labor movement.

Ronnie Mackey is but one of many, however, who believe in the project enough to back it up through personal sacrifice.

In a current building drive for construction materials a single individual has given \$5,000. Another pledged and is paying on a similar amount. Many other gifts, some of them \$1,000 or more, have come in.

Men of the Whitesburg church have given their days off, evenings and Saturdays for excavation and construction. Their wives have responded by providing lunch and supper for the hungry crews at the building site.

But perhaps the most unique facet of the whole project has been its seemingly magnetic appeal to volunteering helpers from outside Letcher County. Forest R. Sawyer, Kentucky Brotherhood director in Middletown, must receive credit for kindling much of this interest.

Sixteen months ago he was going up and down the state calling for volunteers to help this miracle in the mountains transpire. He was particularly interested in sharing his story with those in the construction business and those who didn't mind hard work.

While the results at this point may not be termed spectacular, quite a few have joined in who would otherwise never have been involved.

A group of men from Pleasant Home Baptist Church, Warsaw, led by their Brotherhood director, Tommy Boaz, drove the 225 miles to Colson to volunteer. Two Southern Baptist Theological Seminary students and an R. A. youth made the trek eastward from Louisville. Buckner Baptist Church, Oldham County, indicated its desire to bring a group. Others are joining in.

Surely this has been a cooperative venture in many ways, in partnership with the Lord.

Bill Mackey is convinced the structure's final cost will not exceed \$48,000. Half of that amount is now in hand or

pledged. Furnishings will be purchased as memorial gifts by church members, classes and others.

When completed this fall the new facility will contain 4600 square feet of floor space on two levels. A sanctuary seating 225 persons will occupy the upper level while eight class rooms, a kitchen and rest rooms are in the basement. A connecting corridor will join the existing nursery and children's building next door.

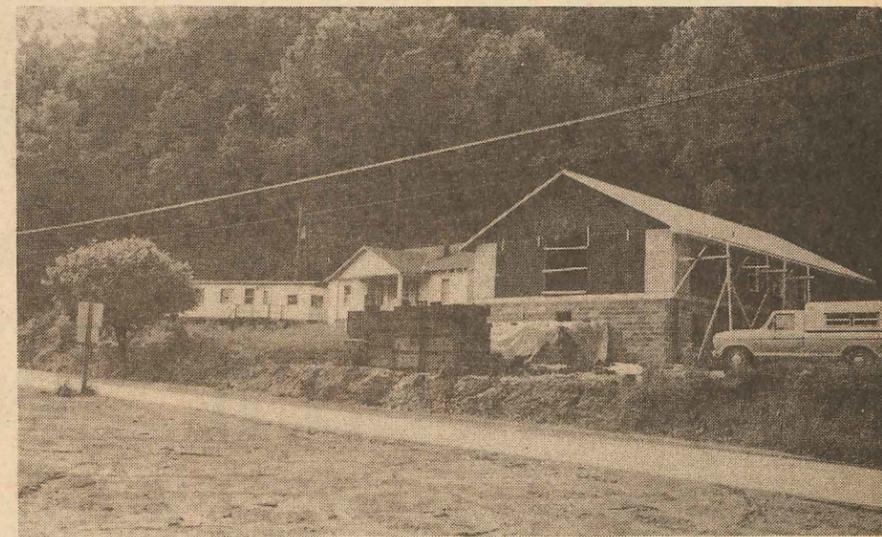
Mackey, himself, oversees the building project as often as he can. In his absences J. Don Collins, a retired member of the Whitesburg congregation, is head honcho.

Collins had the brainstorm of getting water for this new building from an abandoned coal shaft 1600 feet up the mountain behind the church. He put up a pipe line to pump the water down the slopes.

The mission is presently pastored by Kenneth Carvalho, who will be a third-year Clear Creek Baptist School student this fall. On weekends Carvalho, his wife and three children, live in a trailer home adjacent to the mission.

Mackey sees the mission functioning as a "church-type mission" for at least a year after the building is completed.

Not content to rest on laurels, mean-



At left is trailer home of mission pastor Kenneth Carvalho and his family. The white frame house in the center is used as a children's building and will connect with the new church [right] when construction is finished.

while, he is already envisioning a first unit type facility to be erected next at the Premium mission of the Whitesburg church.

"This is the kind of New Testament ministry needed in our area," he declares. "We need to have outposts of

our church which may eventually become the center of their own communities."

Believe it can't be done? If you think it, don't say it too loudly around Bill Mackey. He's always looking for another challenge.



C. B. Bradshaw [left], mission Sunday school superintendent and adult teacher, and J. Don Collins, Whitesburg member, discuss construction plans.



Another miracle story: The two brothers on the scaffolding are professional roofers. A church member paid for their services on a recent "work day."



Bill Mackey, pastor of Whitesburg First Church, takes the idea of building a mission seriously.

A Miracle in the Mountains Is Happening at Colson, Ky.

by Jim Cox, Associate Editor

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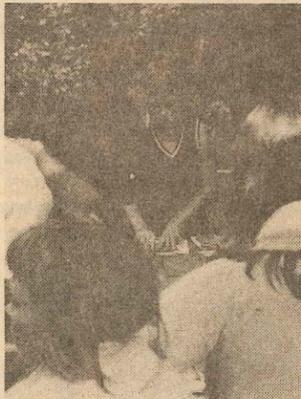
*Summer
at
Cedarmore*
A photo story by Jim Cox



If there is one activity universally loved by all youngsters it is swimming. This is one of the three Cedarmore swimming pools [Cedar Crest]. Every camper and youth week participant has the opportunity to swim under supervision of trained lifeguards every day.



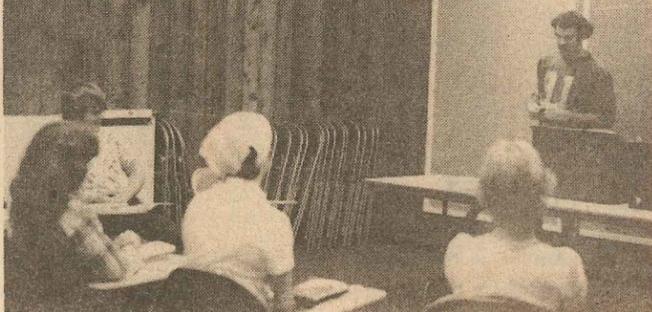
Left: David Book [center], associate in the Kentucky Baptist Student Department, awaits his turn to lead devotional period at youth week. Next: A camper learns how to embroider while at Cedar Crest. Then: Riding "Big



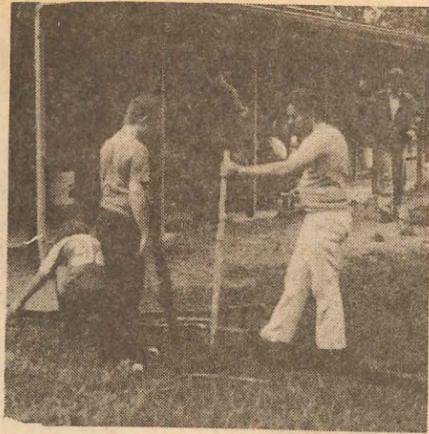
John" is what every boy looks forward to at Rabro. Finally: Wanda Carpenter, director of youth work, Kentucky Baptist Convention, shares some instructions with her youth week audience.



Sonburst, one of two creative youth teams sponsored by the Kentucky Baptist Student Department, perform for those attending youth week.



Small group discussions are a vital part of youth weeks. A young man on the Son-Share Players, state Baptist drama team, leads this session.



While Bible study is a major part of the "curriculum" at all Cedarmore activities, much practical training is gained from outdoor experiences, too.



One night each week girls at Camp Cedar Crest spend the night in these tents, with six or seven girls and a counselor per tent. Different groups are in the tents on different nights each week.

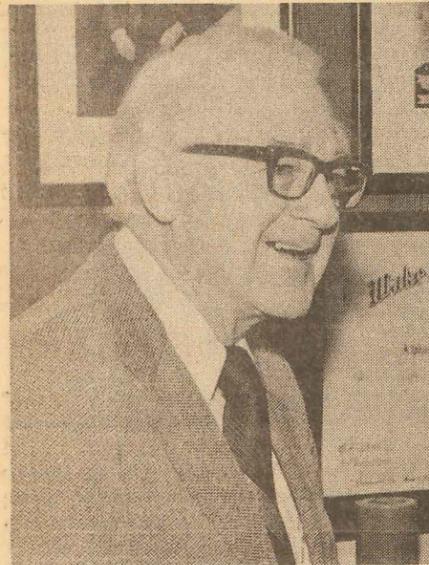
Recipe for Happiness
Take a typical warm summer week. Put it along a lakefront setting flanked with lush green trees and nature's friendly species. Add 400 happy kids and their counselors on three campsites. These are the basic ingredients for a lazy summer day at Cedarmore Baptist Assembly, Bagdad, Ky. This picture story was captured on a late June day when 200 7th-12th graders attended one of three youth weeks at Cedarmore's main facilities. One of nine week-long RA camps at Camp Rabro and one of eight GA/Acteen camps at Camp Cedar Crest were also in progress. Camps are for boys and girls 4th grade up. Now what could a child possibly do in summer that would bring him more joy than what we see here?



At Camp Rabro morning activities include a period led by boys' cabin counselors. These boys are about to replant a small tree which they dug in the woods nearby. Counselors are usually college or seminary students.

Below, trials of youth week kids were set free when these objects of prayer were written on cards and attached to helium filled balloons, then released. Youth march to the launch site.





Retiring A. V. Washburn Knows What Sunday School is All About

over as Sunday school director. His parents' strong commitment to Southern Baptists and the association with Barnette in those early years, made moving to the Sunday School Board in 1933 a "natural thing," according to Washburn.

His first position at the Sunday School Board was superintendent of young people's work, which he assumed two months after he graduated from Wake Forest University.

After a three-year stay in the U. S. Naval Reserves from 1943-46, Washburn returned to the Sunday School Board as secretary of teaching and training in the Sunday School Department and associate editor of the "Sunday School Builder." He was named secretary of the Sunday School Department when Barnette retired in 1957.

Washburn's theory of operating for his years in Sunday school work, probably is best explained in his paraphrase of one of Barnette's sayings:

"If you will work to grow a great Sunday school, in that process, you will have already developed a great church, because the basic element of reaching people and teaching them the Word of God is what Sunday school work is all about."

Several opportunities have arisen during the past years to leave the Sunday School Board to work in a church, or a state convention, but Washburn said he "always felt led to remain at the Sunday School Board, because the mission of the board is right at the heart of New Testament churches—which thrills me."

"The outlook for Southern Baptist Sunday schools is very bright," according to Washburn. "There have been periodic detractors," he said, "but we have continued to reassess essential functions of the church and what a Bible teaching program can perform."

"Sunday schools have always played an important role in establishing new churches," he said, "and the cooperative spirit that exists now between Southern Baptist agencies as related to establishing new congregations through new Sunday schools is one of our most exciting prospects for the future."

"Growing momentum in the numerical growth of Sunday school enrolment

and attendance, plus current reports of churches using the ACTION Sunday school enrolment plan to increase enrolment and attendance are two of our most encouraging signs of things to come," he added.

"However," Washburn injected, "I believe the most promising point for the stability and continued growth of Sunday schools is the strong emphasis on improving the quality of Bible teaching and learning."

A total of 44 Bible teaching learning workshops were conducted in the spring of this year to help state conventions prepare Sunday school workers. Washburn attended over 30 of them.

After his retirement, he expects to be at least as busy as he is now.

The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has offered Washburn and his wife, Kate, the opportunity to work in Scotland for a year, beginning in April 1978. While there, he will serve as a general consultant to the Baptist Union of Scotland in the field of religious education.

He also has received numerous offers from state Baptist convention executive secretaries and Sunday school secretaries to work with them in establishing new Sunday schools and conducting ACTION campaigns.

Several associational directors of missions have asked Washburn to work with them to improve the quality of Bible teaching in their particular areas.

Working in areas where Southern Baptist work is still in the pioneer stage particularly appeals to him, possibly living in his trailer in an area where no church exists.

A number of writing assignments will be taken care of during the early spring months while the Washburns are preparing to go to Scotland.

Washburn says that he looks back with "a great deal of gratitude for the privilege" of serving at the Sunday School Board and with his fellow workers.

"In the future, there surely will be greater achievements for Southern Baptist Sunday schools," he concluded.

Washburn, a believer in Bible study for everyone, may now retire to do what he has done faithfully across the years—tell more people about Bible study.

Christian Education



Ken Meyers [r], a religious education student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, receives a copy of Broadman Bible Commentary from Southern's dean of student affairs Arthur L. Walker. Meyers, a native of Atlanta, Ga., was one of six seminarians honored by Broadman Press as an outstanding student leader.

McKinney Gets Doctorate

Victor McKinney received his doctor of ministry degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in June.

McKinney, who pastors Great Cross Baptist Church in Scott County, is a graduate of Kentucky State University and Southern Seminary. He is also editor of the American Baptist paper for Kentucky.



Cumberland College professors Chester Nevels [l] and James Meeks recently completed courses in microcomputer interfacing and digital electronics at Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va. Meeks was recently named instructor in amateur radio theory and practice by the American Radio Relay League.

Partin Awarded Ph.D.

Howard Partin, associate professor of biology at Cumberland College, was recently awarded his Ph.D. in zoology from Ohio State University.

Partin, a native of Laurel County, has been on the Cumberland faculty since 1971. He holds other degrees from Cumberland and the University of North Carolina.



Partin

degrees from Punjab University, Vikram University and the University of Nebraska.

Cumberland Students Selected for UK Program

Three Cumberland College students were selected to participate in the University of Kentucky College of Medicine's summer program. Those selected are: JoEtta Branin, Evarts; Catherine Stevens, Strunk; and Sheila Underwood, Huntersville, W. Va.



Mrs. Drake

She Rarely 'Hears' Thanks for Serving

For several years Mrs. Darlene Drake has spent much of her time planning with, learning about and visiting with her friends. For all of this hard work she has rarely "heard" a single thank you.

Mrs. Drake, who is registrar at Georgetown College, has devoted much of the past seven years to helping improve the lifestyle of the deaf community in the central Kentucky area.

Most of Mrs. Drake's work with the deaf is done through her church, Immanuel Baptist, Lexington. There she leads the sign language class during the Church Training hour each Sunday evening and is chairman of the seven-member deaf committee.

She and Immanuel pastor Ted Sisk, who is Kentucky Baptist Convention president, look forward to continued expansion of Immanuel's deaf ministry.

"I am excited about our ministry to the deaf," Mrs. Drake said. "Anyone would be after seeing that spark of understanding ignite in the eyes of a deaf person when he begins to learn about God's love for the first time."

Walking for Dollars

For the second consecutive year, Campbellsville College students have walked for dollars. Circle K, a service club on campus, sponsored a walk-a-thon recently that netted over \$400 for the college.

Das Named to GC Staff

Nobel V. Das has been named assistant professor of chemistry at Georgetown College. A native of India, Das holds

Interesting People

by Jim Lowry

A. V. Washburn, "Mr. Sunday School" to Southern Baptists for the past 20 years, will retire as head of the Sunday School Board's Sunday School Department Aug. 31.

Washburn, a board employe of 44 years, has invested his life in promoting Bible study because of a conviction that "reaching people for Christ is a tremendous challenge."

He has worked with many outstanding Southern Baptist leaders, including four presidents of the board, I. J. Van Ness, T. L. Holcomb, James L. Sullivan and Grady Cothen.

Sunday school leaders with whom he has worked include Hight C. Moore, Prince E. Burroughs, Arthur Flake and J. N. Barnette, the only other person to head Southern Baptists' Sunday school program, which now has almost 7.5 million members enrolled.

As a boy in North Carolina, Washburn was a member of the same church as Barnette, who served as Sunday school director of the church. Consequently, Double Springs Baptist Church, near the railroad's Washburn Switch, has provided Southern Baptists with the only two men ever to lead the Bible study program.

When Barnette left Double Springs Baptist Church, Washburn's father took

Missions & Ministries



African families worship together in the major railroad town of Kapiri Mposhi, Zambia. A three-member evangelistic team held a week of services there recently which resulted in 21 professions of faith and 17 persons signing up for the Bible Way Correspondence School. The new work in this town is being financed entirely by the Baptist Convention of Zambia.

Louisvillian Plays Vital Role in Italian Campaign

Louisville native Stanley Crabb, a SBC missionary in Italy, recently played a significant part in the overall success of the Italian evangelistic campaign. The campaign utilized over 200 Baptists from nine states and had a great impact on the 15 Italian churches which participated in it.

Philippine Mission Gets More Funds for Bibles

An additional \$29,800 for Bibles has been granted to the Philippine Baptist Mission from the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

The new allocation supplements \$10,000 approved in January from the Ann Oldham Fund, which is set up for publication and distribution of Bibles around the world.

The \$40,000 will make possible the importation of \$25,000 Good News Bibles. The Good News Bible edition will be budget-priced, making possible purchase of the Bible by the vast student population in the islands.

The first shipment of Bibles arrived June 15 and the second shipment is expected to arrive about Aug. 1.

Missions People

Mr. and Mrs. R. Edward Nicholas, missionaries to Gaza, have arrived in Harrisonburg, Va., on furlough. She is the former Anne Youngblood of Harrodsburg.

Dr. and Mrs. Donald G. Duvall, missionaries to Indonesia, will spend their furlough in Dallas, Tex. He is a Lexington native. She is the former Sarah Eddleman. She lived in Louisville and Georgetown while growing up.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Miller have returned to Ogbomoso, Nigeria, following furlough. He is former associate pastor and minister of music and education for Immanuel Baptist Church, Louisville.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Leslie Smith, missionaries to Indonesia, will live in Henderson while on furlough. She is the former Edna Bradley of Hebbardsville.

Mr. and Mrs. S. Thomas Tipton, emeritus missionaries to Uganda, are now residing in Floyds Knobs, Ind. He was born in Louisville and lived in Providence and Ashland. She is the former Virginia Dixon of Ashland.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest E. Brown Sr.,

missionaries to the Bahamas, will spend their furlough in Marietta, Ga. She is the former Marian Smith of Shepherdsville.

Mr. and Mrs. James B. Boswell are living in Williamsburg while on furlough from Peru.

James and Jane Park, missionaries to Liberia, are living in their home town of Paducah while on furlough.

Mr. and Mrs. Carroll H. Adams, missionaries to Liberia, are living in Owensboro while on furlough. He is a native of Trigg County and she is the former Kaye Litsey of Daviess County. Adams was director of Clifton Heights Baptist Day Care Center, Louisville, before entering mission service.

Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell D. Sledd, who serve in Nigeria, are living in Gilbertsville while on furlough. He previously pastored churches in Paducah and Brandenburg.

Kentucky natives James and Barbara Spaulding are serving as missionary associates in Glasgow, Scotland. Prior to mission service, he was pastor of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Shepherdsville.

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Frank Owen



HANG ON

Church Training, as it is known today, is the organization from which I feel I benefitted most as a young Christian before entering the ministry. Possibly, that experience influences what I am about to try to say to people who work with Church Training.

My word is, "hang on," keep trying. If Training Union is difficult of success in your church, you have lots of company. Many noble leaders are fighting with you in other places too, where hosts of Baptists also have forsaken Sunday night church.

On the other hand, maybe it would be news to you for me to state that in going up and down this state one is pleasantly surprised to see how many very live Sunday night Church Training programs are still going strong and making a tremendous contribution.

It is my observation that human habits do not remain the same, generation after generation. Interest patterns change from time to time. If not within a generation, then oftentimes with the next one. Young people often deliberately abort the way of life they have seen their parents live, and choose opposite ways and customs.

I predict the day will come when human beings will be surfeited with Sunday sports and gorged on Sunday night television. So widely and deeply addicted to such things now, they will "burn out" and get tired of them eventually. Human nature cannot permanently endure the present level of the same thing, however enjoyable.

When modern Americans finally founder on Sunday sports and Sunday night TV, lonely Christians just may hunt their way back to the warm Sunday night fellowship of God's house for a time of sharing in Christian discussions, study and testimony; the singing of the hymns of praise and the worship of their Lord. That is why I say to Training Union leaders, "hang on," keep trying (or try again), the tide may turn and sooner than we think.

International Series

by H. C. Chiles, Murray, Ky.

Claiming the Promised Land

Association with Moses for 40 years afforded Joshua sufficient experience to qualify him to lead the children of Israel. God told Joshua to cross the Jordan River, to lead the Israelites into the Promised Land and to enjoy the blessings that were in store for them there.

Joshua 4:4-7

Joshua led the children of Israel across the Jordan while God stopped the water from flowing. As soon as they had crossed, God instructed Joshua to choose one man from each of the 12 tribes, and to have them to carry large stones from the river and erect a memorial. Such a memorial would excite the attention of those who passed that way and would increase the gratitude of those who understood its significance. When the rising generations inquired about its purpose and meaning, their parents and others would joyously relate the story of that miraculous crossing to the praise and honor of God.

Joshua 5:10-12

After a long interval in which they had not observed the passover, the children of Israel gladly did so at Gilgal. The manna ceased to fall, and they ate unleavened cakes and parched grain. God's care of them continued in a new and different form, and they enjoyed "the fruit of the land of Canaan."

Life and Work Series

No Other Gods

Exodus 20:3

God is absolute deity and refuses to tolerate the worship of any other god. He demands preeminence in the lives of all whom he has made. It is sheer folly for anyone to share with another the adoration and devotion which are due to God alone.

Psalms 100:1-5

In the prophetic 100th Psalm, restored Israel invites all others to share in her joy by appearing before God to worship him with gratitude. Israel's humility will be seen in that she will not make any claim to superiority, but will ascribe all the glory and honor unto God.

Israel is also represented by the figure of sheep, to be protected and provided for by God's hand and not by her own strength. Into this humility and the blessing that flows from it, she invites all others to enter with her. The nations are exhorted to approach with thanksgiving because of his Word. The reason for such worship is that God is good. His goodness is universal. His mercy is everlasting, and his truth endureth to all generations.

Thanksgiving and praise should fill our hearts as we worship God. Let us sing his praises and serve him with

Joshua 6:1-5

Before the Israelites could proceed from the river safely it was necessary for them to deal with the walled city of Jericho. In the light of God's promise the land was theirs already, but it was their responsibility to take possession of it. Their enemies were within the walls of Jericho and had to be removed before they could make any progress on their journey. They did not know how to capture the city, inasmuch as they did not have a known way of penetrating or scaling its walls.

It was not for Joshua to decide on a method of attack. That decision was left with God. God presented to Joshua a plan which seemed quite strange, but it was one which would result in God receiving the honor and glory for its success rather than the Israelites. God instructed Joshua to have the Israelites march silently around the walls of Jericho for six successive days. On the seventh day they were to march around the city seven times. When this had been carried out, the priests blew a long blast on their horns, the people shouted, and the walls collapsed. This was a clear demonstration of the power of God.

Joshua 11:23

Following the conquest of Jericho, the people of God took possession of the land which God had given them. Joshua apportioned it to the tribes and God's promise was fulfilled.

gladness because God made us and we belong to him. We are invited to enter his gates to thank and praise him and to bless his name because he is good, merciful and faithful.

Jeremiah 2:11-13

The deluded people, who had known God's presence in majesty and might, gave his place to gods which were not of any profit to them. God pointedly told Jeremiah what two of the outstanding sins of the chosen people were. One of their sins was that of desertion—"They have forsaken me." The forsaking of "the fountain of living waters" for "broken cisterns that can hold no water" is an irrational sin. Such desertion is a mark of ingratitude also. Another of their sins was substituting false gods for the true and living God. For this sin there is no justification.

Matthew 6:24, 33

If one is occupied with the Lord and the things which pertain to God's good pleasure, his life will be controlled by God. If one is controlled by Satan, his life will be impoverished tragically. To be the true servants of God, we must give him the preeminence in all things. Right relationship to God and devotion to him and his way of life will insure happy, useful and successful living. Unless his command to seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness is obeyed, the promise will not be fulfilled.

International Series

by H. C. Chiles, Murray, Ky.

Difficulty in Keeping the Covenant

Judges 2:13-23

When the great and godly leaders like Joshua passed from the scene, the Israelites demonstrated a proneness to forget God.

Their Defection—Judges 2:13

Soon after the death of Joshua and the elders associated with him, the people quickly turned to the corrupting idolatry which was practiced around them. The Israelites turned to the worship of Baal, the male god of power and violence, and Astarte, the female goddess of fertility and corruption. For their folly in succumbing to the immoral practices of pagans, the Israelites had to pay the penalty.

Their Distress—Judges 2:14-15

As might have been expected, when the chosen people turned away from God and worshiped idols and plunged into immorality, it was necessary for him to deal with them in such a way as to bring them to repentance and a turning from their wicked ways.

God refused to allow the Israelites to consort with idolaters who were participating in obscene rites. As a means of administering discipline for correction, "he delivered them into the hands of spoilers." God is no respecter of persons. Even his chosen people found that failure to obey him brought judgment and sorrow. Their deliverance into the hands of their enemies was definite judgment of God. When any people turn from worshipping

God to idolatry, God's anger will be raised against them and his chastening hand will be laid upon them.

Their Deliverance—Judges 2:16-23

While God had to punish the Israelites for their apostasy, he did not forsake them. Their continual wandering from God was exceeded by his mercy in delivering and restoring them. Moved with compassion toward them, God repeatedly manifested his grace by giving them another opportunity.

For their deliverance God raised up judges whom he used to rescue the people from their enemies and to call the Israelites back to him. When the Israelites turned back to God in penitence, the judges delivered them from punishment which they had brought upon themselves by their sinful ways.

These judges did not owe their position to any human influence, but were called of God to their task. Their desire was to be a blessing to the nation in getting it restored to God's favor. They were instruments in God's hand to extricate the people from the abyss into which they had willfully plunged themselves and to give them another opportunity to obey and serve him faithfully.

Fortunately the people turned to God in contrition and repentance. In so doing they received deliverance, protection and assistance.

Life and Work Series

The Gods We Make

How tragic that people make gods of various sorts and substitute them for the true God, their creator and preserver!

Exodus 20:4-6

Through the ages multitudes have wanted a god whom they could see and that is why they have made images. In the Bible all idolatrous representations of God have been forbidden. There is nothing on earth or in heaven to which God may be likened, for he is Spirit. To attempt to represent the living God by that which is without life and made by man is useless, sinful and a debasement of deity.

Jeremiah 7:8-10, 13-15

In Jeremiah's day the people were in a state of appalling self-deception. They trusted in mere forms and gloried in the temple rather than in the God of the temple. The spiritual life of the people was at an extremely low ebb. Shocked by the sinful living and spiritual apathy of the people, Jeremiah stood at the entrance of the temple and called upon the people to amend their ways and to substitute good deeds for their evil ones. He informed them that genuine reformation would make it possible for them to remain in their city and country, but failure to reform would result in their expulsion.

Jeremiah taught his hearers that unless they were true and obedient to God they did not have a right to expect the

temple to remain inviolate. Jeremiah told them that they should be honest in their dealings, strive to meet the needs of others and serve God to the best of their ability. He reminded them that God would not overlook their willful sins and continue to abide in their midst unless they repented of their sins and changed their manner of life. Jeremiah's hearers interpreted his preaching as blasphemy against God and treason against the nation.

Colossians 1:15, 2:9

In these verses we have the most comprehensive statement of Paul's evaluation of Christ that he recorded in his epistles. He made it clear that Christ must never be placed on a level with even the greatest of earth. Those who have wrong views with reference to the person, position and power of Christ will have wrong opinions about everything else. Paul's assertion about Christ's preeminence fills us with an overwhelming sense of the majesty and glory of our Lord. Recognition of Christ as the visible representation of the invisible God gives the child of God a new sense of assurance and satisfaction. As Christ went about blessing the children, feeding the hungry, healing the sick, comforting the brokenhearted, lifting the fallen and saving the lost, by his actions he was saying, "God is like this. He that hath seen me hath seen the Father."

Mountains to the Mississippi

by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.



A day of dedication and recognition was observed June 5 at First Baptist Church, Fort Thomas. Included in the services was a dedication of a new organ and a memorial cross erected on the church tower. Those receiving special recognition are [l-r]: Harold Stephens who delivered the dedication message; Lucille White, organist; George Munro, pastor; Mrs. Robert Tate, church secretary; and James Scott, deacon chairman.

Bilbro Honored at Evarts

Evarts Baptist Church has expressed special appreciation for W. H. Bilbro who has resigned as treasurer to the church after 28 years of service. Ill health made it impossible for him to continue his service.

Ann Martin Featured In Paducah Concert

Ann Martin of Atlanta, Ga., was presented in a sacred music concert on June 12 at First Baptist Church, Paducah.

Miss Martin's ministry is a testimony to her perseverance and dedication. She weighed only 29 ounces when she was born and has been blind since birth. She is active in the Atlanta Christian chorus and was vocalist at the 1977 Georgia Baptist Convention.

On Glorieta Staff

Betty Jo Ranschaert, Bardstown, is serving on the staff this summer at Glorieta (N. M.) Baptist Conference Center.

Glorieta, located 20 miles east of Santa Fe, N. M., is a year-round religious retreat owned and operated

Ohio River Missionary In Evansville Hospital

Henry T. Parrott, missionary in Ohio River Association, is confined to St. Mary's Hospital, Evansville, Ind. He was stricken with severe pain in the lower right back while attending the Southern Baptist Convention in Kansas City. Tests have not fully revealed the source of his trouble. He called especially to request the prayers of Western Recorder readers.

Long Named PR Head

Jerry Long has been named public relations director for Long Run Association. Long is a native of Atlanta, Ga., and holds a journalism degree from the University of Georgia. He is a second-year student at Southern Seminary.

Kentuckian Writes Book

Alice J. Kinder, Pikeville, is the author of a new book entitled *Mama's Kitchen Window*. The book is an excellent treatment of childhood experiences which influence the life of the author. It is available for \$1.95 plus postage. Orders should be sent to Alice J. Kinder, Rt. 6, Box 666, Pikeville, Ky. 41501.



Rochester Missionary Baptist Church recognized Frances Reneer June 26 for completing 11 years of perfect Sunday school attendance. Prentiss Arnold presents Miss Reneer her award as pastor Joe Bunch looks on.

Personnel Changes

Gammon Heads New Life

Joe Gammon has become pastor of New Life Baptist Church, Waddy. Gammon assumed his new duties on June 19, coming to the Waddy pastorate from First Baptist Church, Felicity, Ohio. John Meeks, a layman from Louisville, has served the congregation as lay pastor for several months.

Beechwood Changes Told

It's been a busy week at Louisville's Beechwood Baptist Church.

Hugh and Ruth McElrath, who have served as co-directors of music at Beechwood since 1954, announced their resignation, effective July 15. Hugh McElrath is professor of church music at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and is taking sabbatical leave for the next year.

In another staff change, Beechwood has called Joseph R. Estes as pastor. Estes, a native of Louisville, is a graduate of Georgetown College and Southern Seminary.

Estes has taught at Southern Seminary, the Baptist seminary in Switzerland and Kentucky Southern College; has worked for the Home Mission Board; and has held pastorates in Crestwood, Bowling Green, Deland, Fla., and, most recently, Madrid, Spain.

He and his wife, the former Helen Frances Trout, have five children.

Calvert City Calls Lawson

Guy H. Lawson Jr. has begun his ministry as pastor of First Baptist Church, Calvert City. Lawson was previously pastor at Alice Bell Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tenn. A graduate of Southern Seminary, Lawson has also served churches in Daviess-McLean and Franklin County Associations.