

## Retirement sparks controversy as accolades are questioned

by Robert O'Brien

Southern Baptists, gathering in annual sessions across the nation, approved goals and promised resources to escalate the Southern Baptist Convention's ambitious Bold Mission Thrust goal to proclaim Christ's message to the entire world in this century.

That common thread wove together the deliberations of 33 currently organized conventions covering work in 50 states.

Several state conventions dealt with retirement issues.

One, Arizona, gave a number of gifts (including a Cadillac, lifetime secretarial assistance and travel expense to Baptist meetings) to retiring executive director Roy F. Sutton, 70. They include a \$300 a

month retirement supplement for the lifetime of him and Mrs. Sutton because, a convention spokesman said, Sutton's retirement income would have been only 31.5 percent of his pre-retirement income.

Another convention, Ohio, called for "a moving toward adequate retirement provisions for all Southern Baptist church and convention employees on a fair and equitable basis."

That was part of a resolution, passed by a vote of 73 to 63, which said the SBC Executive Committee unwisely used Cooperative Program funds by voting recently to add \$500 per month to the retirement income of its chief executive, Porter W. Routh, who will retire at age 68 Aug. 1, 1979 after 28 years in the post. The resolution was sparked by an editorial by Kentucky editor C. R. Daley, one of three Baptist editors to question the use of the funds.

"The Executive Committee took that action," said Charles L. Harvey, chairman of the committee handling details of Routh's retirement, "because Dr. Routh's annuity would have amounted only to 38 percent of his final pre-retirement income."

"Our committee," the former Executive Committee chairman told Baptist Press, "realized after careful study, that the small retirement benefit was far insufficient. There was no effort on our part to take this action as an honor to Dr. Routh, even though he deserves honor, but to compensate for the dereliction on our part to establish an adequate retirement program in years gone by."

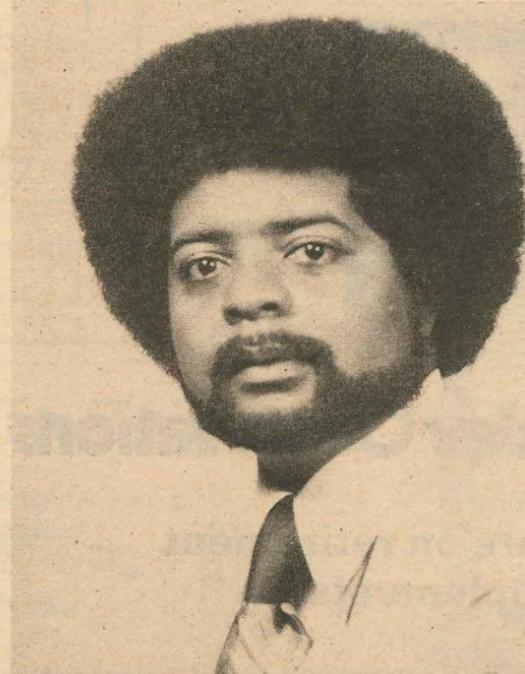
"The retirement committee would concur with the principle that no provision should be made for additional pension from Cooperative Program funds to honor or reward executives who have been provided a recommended adequate retirement program," Harvey said. "However, we would encourage churches, state conventions and Southern Baptist Convention agencies to provide an adequate program based on a 10 percent participation on the salary, which would result in at least 50 percent of final pre-retirement income." (See page 2, this issue.)

## Who's coming to dinner?

Numerous Southern Baptists joined President and Mrs. Jimmy Carter at the White House for a Thanksgiving eve buffet dinner.

Among those present were Porter W. Routh, executive secretary-treasurer, SBC Executive Committee, and Mrs. Routh; Jimmy R. Allen, president of the SBC and his daughter-in-law; Baker James Cauthen, executive director, Foreign Mission Board, and Mrs. Cauthen; Grady Cothen, president, Baptist Sunday School Board, and Mrs. Cothen; Russell H. Dilday, president, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and Mrs. Dilday; Darold H. Morgan, president, Annuity Board, and Mrs. Morgan; Foy Valentine, executive secretary, Christian Life Commission, and Mrs. Valentine; Emmanuel L. McCall, staff executive, Home Mission Board, and Mrs. McCall.

State Baptist convention executive directors James Lanes of Texas and Searcy S. Garrison of Georgia and their wives were also present. In addition, several Southern Baptist pastors and Baptist public officials attended the event.



## Robinson new minister for Kentucky State BSU

Mikel Francis Robinson, 26, has been elected campus minister at Kentucky State University, Frankfort. He is the first black campus director employed by the Kentucky Baptist Student Department.

A native of Huntsville, Mo., Robinson is a graduate of Wayland Baptist College, Plainview, Tex., and attended Southern Seminary.

He was a Home Mission Board summer missionary for two summers, 1972 and 1973, serving at Carver Baptist Center, New Orleans, and the social center of First Baptist Church, Baltimore. From 1974-76 Robinson was in the Foreign Mission Board's Journeyman program, serving in Kumasi, Ghana, West Africa. While there he met and married the former Janet Danquah, who is pursuing her American citizenship and education here.

## Catholics dominate in new Congress

Roman Catholic representation in the 96th Congress will continue to be higher than any other religious group, with 129, according to a census compiled by Christianity Today, an evangelical magazine.

United Methodists come next with 75 in both houses of Congress, a slight drop from the recently ended Congress. They are followed by Episcopalians, 70; Presbyterians, 60; Baptists, 57; and Jews, 30, with no attempt made to distinguish between the various varieties of these groups.

Other groups showing fairly significant numbers included Lutherans, 19; United Church of Christ, 16; Unitarian, 12; and Mormons, 10.

The Senate will have a record number of seven Jewish members among the 30 Jews in Congress. In 1972, Congress had two Jewish senators and 12 Jewish representatives.

William H. Gray III, pastor of the Bright Hope Baptist Church in Philadelphia, will join four other ordained clergymen in the House of Representatives. John Buchanan, R.-Ala., is a Southern Baptist. Delegate Walter Fauntroy, D.-D.C., is a Progressive National Baptist pastor. Robert Drinan, D.-Mass., is a Catholic priest and Robert W. Edgar, D.-Penn., is a United Methodist.

John Danforth, R.-Mo., is the only ordained senator. Gary Hart, D.-Colo., holds a degree from Yale Divinity School but lists no specific religious preference.

The census shows that religious affiliation listings showed no major shifts. Episcopalians, Lutherans and Baptists showed modest increases; United Methodists and the United Church of Christ had the biggest losses. Presbyterians held their own.

Fifteen denominations were represented by fewer than five members of Congress.



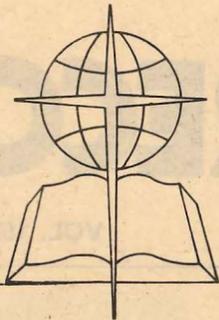
Don Fearheiley (c), executive producer of "At Home with the Bible" and supervisor of the Bible correspondence section of the Sunday School Board, discusses videotapes for TV stations with W. C. Woody,

vice president of special projects at the Radio-TV Commission, and Mrs. Linda Harris, who oversees placement of the program. It is seen Sundays at 7:30 a.m. on Louisville's channel 11 and on other stations.

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

#### WESTERN RECORDER

C. R. Daley Jr., Editor  
James H. Cox, Associate Editor  
Paul Whitler, Business Manager



Published by Western Recorder Inc., Box 43401, Middletown, KY 40243 weekly, except for one week in July and December. Second class postage paid at Louisville, Ky.

Subscriptions: Single \$3.68; foreign, \$3.75; church budget, \$2.50. Payable in advance, except church accounts, which require tax exemption number.

Directors: C. Carman Sharp, Louisville, chairman; Harold J. Purdy, Madisonville, vice chairman; Billy D. Marcum, Brandenburg, secretary; William S. Blakeman, Winchester; H. Stanton Carney, Paducah; Curtis Erwin, Glasgow; Garnett Hulette, Frankfort; William D. Jagers, Cynthia; John W. Kruschwitz, Ft. Thomas; Donald J. LaBelle, London; O. G. Lawless, Bowling Green; Gilbert Sapp, Russell Springs.



C. R. Daley

## Daley Observations

### More on retirement supplements

A background statement from the chairman of the committee which recommended the extra retirement benefits for Dr. Porter Routh and from the chairman of the Executive Committee is published in entirety on this page. Readers are urged to study this statement in light of the Oct. 11 Western Recorder editorial calling into question such retirement provisions. My reaction to the statement is found in the paragraphs below.

The statement is helpful but it would have been far more helpful if the rationale it offers had accompanied the recommendations. As I recall the recommendations were made without any explanation or statement of rationale. Executive Committee members were asked to accept or reject a proposal without being given proper background information or opportunity to study.

It would seem that the responsibility for providing information that would enable Executive Committee members to vote intelligently and for visitors to report and interpret the action properly belonged to those making the recommendations in spite of the barb in next to the last paragraph of the statement directed toward those questioning the action.

The statement verifies one thing no one who knows Porter Routh ever doubted. The action was not initiated by him. It is contrary to all he has stood for. It is most unfortunate that one who has spent 27 years building confidence and credibility for the Cooperative Program and for denominational leadership is involved in an action which some feel stands to hurt the very thing which has been his life and soul. But it is impossible in such matters to consider principles without involving personalities.

Actually several other denominational executives who have retired in recent years may have been treated more generously than Porter Routh is being treated. His salary also at his own insistence has been lower than salaries paid some other denominational executives.

The statement calls the present Executive Committee retirement plans for its staff inadequate and says it should be based on a 10 percent participation of salary instead of seven percent. If this is true, no one is to blame but the Executive Committee for not following the Annuity Board recommendation for 10 percent participation when it was suggested several years ago. Before then the denomination's contributions to retirement was five percent which it still is for pastors.

In other respects the statement leaves much to be desired. The chief reason given for recommending retirement supplement was the discovery that regular retirement income would amount to only 38 percent of the average salary for the highest five years instead of 50 percent which is

recommended for adequate retirement. These percentages don't help most Baptists understand what's happening because actual dollar figures are not given.

Why not forthrightly lay it all on the table? Why not say exactly what the retirement income without supplement for the retiring secretary will be from annuity, social security and other sources? I doubt if Executive Committee members who approved the supplement know this. If this figure constitutes a hardship, I will withdraw all objections and apologize for raising them.

It would seem that the important concern in providing adequate retirement should not be some sacred percentage but what is actually needed from all sources of retirement income. What percentage of a salary is required for retirement depends upon the salary. A 38% retirement on \$40,000 would be nearly 60% on a \$25,000 salary.

Actually it has been recognized for some years that no Southern Baptist retirement plans denominationally funded will be adequate for all retirement needs. This is why it has been recommended that we take advantage of Social Security and other opportunities such as tax sheltering some of our income during our most productive years. A check would reveal that most denominational executives have followed this counsel and do not have to depend entirely upon denominational retirement plans.

Consider what this rationale of a guaranteed retirement income for denominational executives of 50 percent of their income during highest salary years could mean. If it applies to one retiring staff member of the Executive Committee, should it not also apply to others all of whom have been under the same "inadequate" plan?

If the Executive Committee which occupies a high place in Baptist life and which should be exemplary in its policies and practices sets this precedent, can other denominational agencies do less? With annual salaries of agency heads ranging from \$35,000 to \$50,000 plus, how much Cooperative Program funds would be required to guarantee 50 percent (\$17,500 to \$25,000) retirement income for these denominational executives?

And when the state conventions do the same, and some have already started, where will we be?

The truth is that with this kind of rationale we could create an elite group within our denomination whose salaries and retirement pay are not based on need but on "principle and dignity." The retirement pay for them would exceed the highest salary ever received by the majority of Southern Baptist pastors. This is contrary to Baptist concepts of equality, fairness and priority to missions. Baptist agency or institutional heads should not be put on easy street financially while members of the staff or faculty who do most of the work are sometimes paid such inadequate salaries that they have to moonlight to make ends meet.

This practice must stop before it spreads throughout the denomination. If it doesn't stop, we stand to lose Baptist constituency confidence and credibility upon which our voluntary, cooperative giving depends.

This is my personal feeling down deep. All my ministry I have pled in churches where I belonged and in other churches for increased Cooperative Program giving assuring fellow Baptists that careful and wise use of these funds would be made. To lose this assurance would dampen my enthusiasm as a giver and as an encourager of others to give.

### Response of Routh retirement committee

In the light of recent editorials which have brought into question the action of the Executive Committee concerning the retirement provisions for Dr. Porter Routh, the retirement committee feels a statement for clarification is appropriate.

First, the recommendations of the retirement committee were made without any suggestions to the committee by Dr. Routh. When he was informed about the responsibility of the committee, he quickly responded that he wanted no action that would reflect on the Executive Committee or hurt the Cooperative Program. This response was congruous to the sacrificial spirit which he has exhibited for the past 27 years of service to Southern Baptists. Therefore, the committee agreed with Dr. Routh's thinking.

Secondly, the committee sought objectivity in fulfilling its responsibility. One who knows the dedication, commitment and service of Porter Routh realizes the difficulty of such achievement. However, the motive was not to honor or to reward the deserving man but to offer a retirement based on principle and dignity which would reflect the spirit and desire of most Baptists.

With these principles in mind, the retirement committee proceeded with its study and deliberations.

The study revealed that the retirement program which was worked out a number of years ago for the Executive Committee was inadequate. The program has been based on about a 7% participation, whereas, the retirement program in most churches, state conventions and in most Southern Baptist Convention agencies is based on a 10% participation on the salary. Also, the maximum for the Executive Committee retirement program is 42½% of the average salary for the highest five years. This program would have retired Dr. Routh at approximately 38% of his present salary. The supplement still will not provide the recommended 50% for his adequate retirement. This is incredible considering the years of faithful service, and the fact, also, that he has kept the operating costs of the convention operating budget at 1% of Cooperative Program receipts.

On the basis of these facts the retirement committee felt justified in its recommendation.

Admittedly, there are some who do not receive adequate retirement funds. This is a reflection on those who could have altered the circumstances. Also, the failure of others to provide adequate retirement income for some does not justify the failure of the Executive Committee to provide adequate retirement for the executive secretary.

The retirement committee would concur with the principle that no provision should be made for additional pensions from Cooperative Program funds to honor or to reward executives who have been provided a recommended adequate retirement program. However, we would encourage churches, state conventions and Southern Baptist Convention agencies to provide an adequate retirement program based on a 10% participation on the salary.

The retirement committee feels that the facts in the case justify their decision and recommendation. Also, the background material has been available but there has been no request for the rationale. It seems that a genuine interest in the facts would have prevented much misunderstanding and embarrassment to one whose unselfish service spans almost three decades of Southern Baptist Convention life.

We offer this background material with utmost confidence in the spirit and integrity of all concerned.

Charles Harvey, Chairman  
Retirement Committee  
Brooks Wester, Chairman  
Executive Committee

# Marketplace



**George Herman  
KENDALL  
REAL ESTATE  
BROKER**  
1709 Wyatt Pkwy. - Lex.  
606 - 252 - 0046

**LITTLE GIANT**  
The name to remember for  
FIBERGLASS BAPTISTRIES  
SPIRES—CROSSES  
WATER HEATERS  
KINKLGLAS  
WINDOWS  
Church credit plans available  
Free colored brochure



**LITTLE GIANT MANUFACTURING CO., INC.**  
Dept. 43 Box 518 / Orange, Texas 77630  
Phone: 713-883-4246

**FINANCING  
FOR  
CHURCH BUILDINGS**  
Call Toll Free  
**ANDY F. HARDY**  
1-800-231-6068



**SECURITY CHURCH FINANCE, INC.**

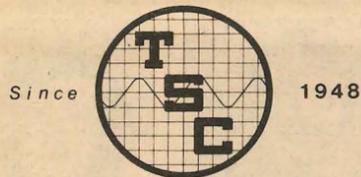
## Buyers Guide

For Sale: Three (3) church buses. Two (2) 54 passenger 1969 GMC; One (1) 44 passenger 1966 GMC. Contact Elsmere Baptist Church, 250 Garvey Ave., Erlanger, Ky. 41018 or call 342-7610 area code 606, if interested.

Aluminum Siding, exterior decorating, quality work. Call Colville Aluminum Co. (502) 425-3102.

For Sale: Luv truck. New tires, new shocks, new muffler, just tuned up and waxed—excellent condition. \$2,850. Western Recorder. Phone (502) 245-4101, Ext. 273.

Sound systems designed for the  
Baptist order of worship



**TECHNICAL SERVICE  
CORPORATION**

2618 SOUTH FOURTH ST.  
LOUISVILLE, KY. 40208  
502-636-1496

**Drexel**   
**Church Furnishings**

Pews, Pulpit and Chancel Furniture

Phone 704/322-8380  
Dept. J., P.O. Drawer 2187  
Hickory, North Carolina 28601

## HOLY LAND TOUR

Join Rev. Donald E. Wildmon on his 14th tour of the Holy Land, plus Germany and Switzerland. 11-day. Departs March 13, 1979. Limited enrollment at 40. Free brochure. **Five Star Tours**, Box 1398, Tupelo, Miss 38801. Phone 601/844-5036.

**CHRISTIAN TRAVEL  
BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY**  
Christian individuals needed for fast growing Christian Travel Industry. We are expanding the multi-million dollar Christian travel industry in this area. Learn how you can qualify to earn good money and travel free to the Holy Land, Hawaii, Europe, Orient and Caribbean. In addition to free travel you will help Christians enjoy the benefits of Christian travel.

It has been demonstrated they will go to Hawaii, Europe, Africa, South Pacific and Around the World if offered the advantage of traveling with Christian groups.

Fifty percent of our escorts, tour leaders and sales representatives are women. Let us put you in the Christian Group Travel Business. The cash investment of only \$4700.00 includes all-expense paid seminars in a major U.S. city, and training in the Holy Land, plus inventory and supplies. Applicants will be interviewed individually. Part-time and full-time people are needed. Hurry and call or write us today to see if you qualify for this most rewarding opportunity.

Mr. Jerry Sanders  
**WORLD TOURS, INC.**  
P. O. Box 4836  
Chattanooga, TN 37405  
615/870-4511

## WOLFE BROS. & CO. PINEY FLATS, TENN.

Manufacturers of **DISTINCTIVE  
CHURCH FURNITURE**

Since 1888—Write for free estimate.  
Dewitt F. Godby PH. 776-4944  
2433 Duncan St. 776-4091  
Louisville, Ky. 40212

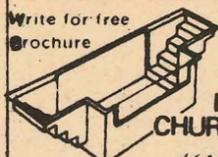
**SERVING ALL RELIGIONS**  
Prices to satisfy every preference and need

AIR CONDITIONED  PARKING AREAS

149 Breckinridge Lane Phone 896-0349

**PEARSON FUNERAL SERVICE**

Louisville, Kentucky  
Member: Ky. Funeral Directors Burial Assn.  
Member: National Selected Morticians  
by invitation

Write for free brochure  **BAPTISTRIES AND STEEPLES FIBERGLASS CHURCH PRODUCTS**  
(615)875-0679  
3511 Hixson Pike, Chattanooga, TN 37415

## PRECIOUS BIBLE STORIES in Full Color Jigsaw Puzzles

The Special Gift for that Special Someone

Start a Bible Story Jigsaw Puzzle Library For Yourself, Family, Friend, Nursing/Retirement Home, Mission Group or Your Church.

These beautiful Bible Story Jigsaw Puzzles now on TV and Radio, coast-to-coast. Nationally known religious groups have ordered.

Send check or money order for \$4.98 plus \$1. for shipping to All-Time Activities, Inc.  
11 Newbury Boston, MA 02116

**NOAH'S ARK**



BORN ANEW  
PRECIOUS OLD TESTAMENT  
BIBLE STORIES  
IN GIANT JIGSAW PUZZLES

500 Pieces  
14" x 20"—Completed  
Ages: 8-Adult

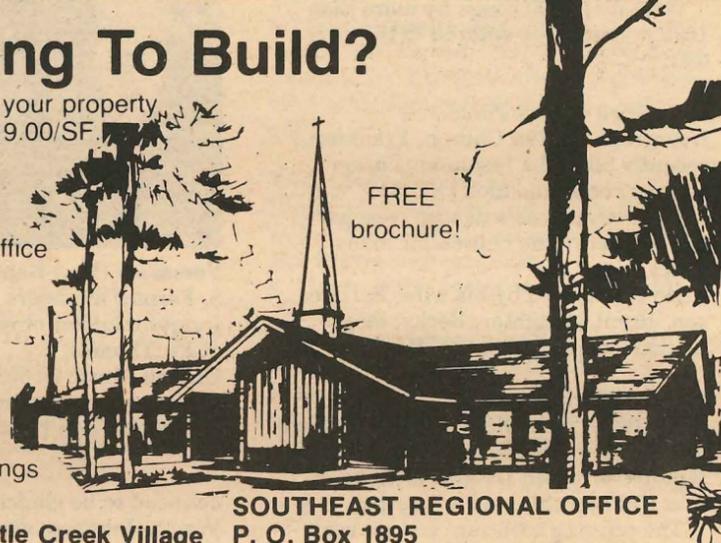
## Planning To Build?

This church on your property for less than \$19.00/SF.

Includes  
Social area  
Pastor study  
Secretary's office  
Classrooms  
Nursery  
Choir  
Baptistry  
Carpet  
Sanctuary complete with furnishings

**KING'S, INC.**  
1216 Two Turtle Creek Village  
Dallas, Texas 75219  
(214) 522-1412

**SOUTHEAST REGIONAL OFFICE**  
P. O. Box 1895  
Decatur, Georgia 30031  
(404) 292-0323



**HAVE YOU FELT GOD'S CALL TO SERVE HIM  
IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**THEN CONSIDER CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST SCHOOL**

*An Adult Institution Training God Called  
Persons in Southern Baptist Religious Educational Work*

Jesus commanded His followers to make disciples of all who would hear His "Call." *Teaching them to observe all things . . .* is our aim and the religious education program of Southern Baptists provides the means.

**Courses offered in:**

**BIBLICAL STUDIES, THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR PROGRAM OF SUNDAY SCHOOL, CHURCH TRAINING, THE MISSIONARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN BROTHERHOOD AND WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION.**

*For Information Write:*

Director of admissions  
Clear Creek Baptist School  
Pineville, Kentucky 40977



May the joy of serving Christ brighten your celebration of Christmas and give special meaning to the New Year.

President and Mrs. Grady C. Cothen  
Employees of the Sunday School Board

# Mountains to the Mississippi

## Congregations

**Rutledge wins music award**  
Bill Rutledge, minister of music and youth at Lancaster (Ky.) Baptist Church has been awarded second place in the 1978 Broadman gospel song writing contest. Rutledge, a graduate of Southern Seminary, received \$300 for his song "The Maker."

Judy Ward, a professional singer from Gwynn, Va., won first prize of \$500 for her song, "He is Lord."

A total of 3000 songs by more than 1600 persons was entered in the contest.

**Evergreen honors Poole**  
Evergreen Baptist Church, Frankfort, recently passed a resolution citing Harold Poole who died Oct. 31.

Poole served as a deacon, teacher and worker in the church for many years.

He is survived by his wife, Earline; son, Brent; daughter, Becky; step-mother, Nora; and sister, Doris.

**Record offering received**  
R. D. Baker, president of the 1978 Kentucky Baptist Pastor's Conference, reported a record freewill offering of over \$700 for this year's meeting.

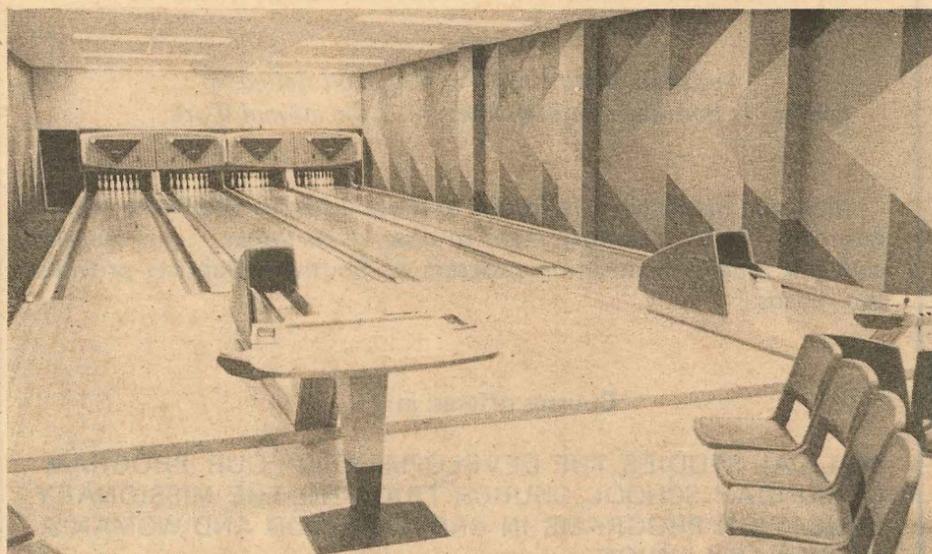
The offering took care of expenses and left a small balance for next year's expenses.

Baker expressed appreciation for this generous response.

**Reidland dedicates center**  
Reidland Baptist Church, Paducah, Ky., recently dedicated a family life center building.

The center, which houses a bowling alley and a gymnasium, is the only one of its kind in the area.

C. Wyman Copass, pastor at Reidland, reports that response to the program is far greater than anticipated.



New bowling alley at Reidland family life center.



**Ribbon cutting at the dedication ceremony.** Those in the group are: (l-r): Greg Williams, activities director; Tom Lyle, church building systems, Nashville; C. R. Daley, dedication speaker; Frank Robards, stewardship committee chairman; C. Wyman Copass, pastor and A. C. Barker, building committee chairman.



**Versailles (Ky.) Baptist Church observed the 10th anniversary of its sanctuary Nov. 5.** Former ministers pose with current ones at homecoming (l-r): David Shreve, former minister of music now at Vinton, Va.; John Kruschwitz, pastor 1955-71 now at Ft. Thomas, Ky.; Donald Spencer, former minister of music now associate, Church Music Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, Middletown; Henry Johns, current pastor; Rob Bagget, former interim minister of music now with KET, Lexington; and Bruce Richardson, current minister of music.

**Johnson to be clinician**  
Wayne Johnson, chairman of the department of music at Georgetown College, will be guest clinician at a SBC choir festival sponsored by the Church Music Department of the Sunday School Board.

The festival, for junior high choirs, will be Aug. 13-16, 1979 at Furman University, Greenville, S. C.

Cost per person will be \$50. This includes all meals, a room at the college, insurance and administrative costs.

For information write: Youth Music Consultant, Church Music Department, 127 Ninth Avenue, N., Nashville, TN 37234.

**McMillen honored**  
First Baptist Church, Lebanon Junction, recently adopted a resolution honoring Mrs. Ethel McMillen.

Mrs. McMillen was cited for 71 years of service as a Sunday school teacher and worker in the Woman's Missionary Society.

**Johnson celebrates anniversary**  
Mary Johnson, director of preschool ministries at Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville, was honored Nov. 12 for 10 years of faithful service at Walnut Street.

Miss Johnson, who came to Louisville from Oklahoma, is responsible for the educational program for all preschool children and child care during worship services.

**Ross presented 1979 LTD**  
John M. Ross, director of associational activities, Greenup Association, was presented a 1979 Ford LTD by the association as a token of appreciation for his faithful service.

## Ordinations

**Bagby ordained at Greensburg**  
Vernon Bagby was ordained as a deacon Oct. 15 at Greensburg Baptist Church.

Pastors and deacons of Russell Creek Association participated in the service.

**Robinson Creek ordains Bradshaw**  
Rollin Bradshaw was ordained to the ministry Nov. 5 at Robinson Creek Baptist Church, Campbellsville, Ky. Sam Sowder, pastor, delivered the charge.

Bradshaw, formerly of Green County, is a student at Clear Creek Baptist School. He and his wife, the former Vickie Thompson, have one son.

Bradshaw is pastor of Southside Baptist Church, Corbin, Ky.

**Davis, Nash ordained at Immanuel**  
Donald Davis and Lester Nash were ordained as deacons Nov. 19 at Immanuel Baptist Church, South District Association.

**DeMoss ordained Dec. 3**  
A. O. DeMoss Jr., pastor at Suthards Baptist Church, Little Bethel Association, was ordained to the ministry Dec. 3.

**West ordained to ministry**  
Milton West, interim pastor, First Baptist Church, Dawson Springs, Ky., was ordained to the ministry Nov. 19 by First Baptist Church, Mayfield.

## Personnel

**Clay minister at Munfordville**  
Mark Clay, a graduate of Campbellsville College, has accepted the position of minister of youth and music at Munfordville Baptist Church, Lynn Baptist Association.

Clay is currently a student at Southern Seminary.

**Owens, Lester called as pastors**  
Geneva Baptist Church has called Ed Owens as pastor.

Dupay Baptist Church has called James Lester as pastor.

Both churches are in Green Valley Association.

**Greensburg calls Davis**  
Greensburg Baptist Church has called Rodney Davis as minister of music and youth.

Davis, a native of Missouri, is a student at Southern Seminary.



Cheek



Miss Wright

**Cheek moves to Grantville, Ga.**  
Randy M. Cheek, former minister of youth and music at First Baptist Church, Shepherdsville, has been called as pastor of First Baptist Church, Grantville, Ga.

Cheek, a native of Georgia, is a graduate of Mercer University and Southern Seminary.

He is married to the former Connie Brantley of Marietta, Ga.

**Wright joins Stearns staff**  
Miss Elaine Wright, a native Kentuckian and daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Billy Wright, has joined the staff of First Baptist Church, Stearns, as assistant to the pastor with ministries in music and youth.

Before coming to Stearns Miss Wright received her music and education degree from Campbellsville College and taught school four years. During this time she assisted Kentucky Baptists through the KBC Church Music Department.

Realizing her place in the call of the Lord, she received her music degree from Southern Seminary. While at Southern she assisted her professor with the music program of Second Presbyterian Church in Louisville.

Billy J. Turner is the pastor at Stearns.

**Henderson new pastor at Corinth**  
W. L. "Dub" Henderson is the new pastor of Corinth (Ky.) Baptist Church. Henderson, a graduate of Clear Creek School, has pastored churches in Tennessee, Ohio and Indiana.

At a revival, led by Henderson, Corinth reported four being saved, three for baptism, three by letter and 10 rededications.

**Martin new bus director at Radnor**  
Dan J. Martin has accepted the call to become bus director at Radnor Baptist Church in Nashville.

Martin, who served in the same position at Ninth & O Baptist Church, Louisville, will assume his duties at Radnor Dec. 17.

Martin attended Eastern Kentucky University and Campbellsville College and expects to complete his BS degree at Belmont College, Nashville.

He and his wife, the former Patricia Ziegler of Louisville, have two children. Pastor at Radnor is Paul Durham.

**Temple Church calls new pastor**  
Ronnie Forrest has been called as pastor at Temple Baptist Church, Owensboro.

Forrest, a native of Ohio County, has previously pastored in Muhlenburg County.

Forrest and his wife, Eunice, have a two-year-old son, Michael.

**Draper called to Double Springs**  
Double Springs Baptist Church, Waynesburg, has called Barry Draper as minister of music.

Draper, a music major, is attending Cumberland College.

He and his wife, Shirley, are formerly from Marietta, Ga.

## Revivals

**Simpson leads successful revival**  
James Harmon, pastor of Central Grove Baptist Church, Freedom Association, reported a successful revival with Jim Simpson, former pastor of Central Grove, as evangelist.

There were six baptisms, one letter and five rededications.

**Eleven additions at Gilead revival**  
Fred Halbrooks, director of the Sunday School Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, was evangelist in a revival at Gilead Baptist Church, Glendale, Ky. Mrs. Wilma Terry led the music.

Five professions of faith and six additions by letter were reported.

Terrence Freeman is pastor.

**Two baptized at Bethany Chapel**  
Jim Kensen, pastor, Bethany Baptist Chapel, Russell Creek Association, baptized two into the fellowship of the church Nov. 5.

Bethany Chapel reported a great revival and World Mission Conference.

**Revival, noteburning at Mouthcard**  
Mouthcard (Ky.) Baptist Church had a fall revival with 23 professions of faith, 15 rededications and one by letter. Joe Moebley was evangelist.

On Nov. 19 Mouthcard had a note burning paying off a \$15,000 debt on two church vans. A fellowship meal followed.

Nine professions of faith have been reported from the church's mission, Faith Baptist. The mission recently purchased carpet, pews and a piano for the



**Mrs. Betty Jean Chatham, artist-in-residence at First Baptist Church, Shelbyville, Ky., was in Nashville recently to record an album of piano arrangements of some well-known hymns for Broadman Press. The album, "Morning Has Broken," will be released early in 1979. Mrs. Chatham is a frequent accompanist for recording vocalists and will be the featured pianist this summer at the church music leadership conference at Glorieta, N. M.**

new sanctuary.

Carl Mullins is pastor at Mouthcard and the mission.

**Thirty-six decisions reported**  
Charles Holland was evangelist and Tom Smith music director in a revival at New Salem Baptist Church, Nelson Association.

Thirty-six decisions were reported.

**Revival, conference successful**  
Summersville Baptist Church, Russell Creek Association, reported a great revival and World Mission Conference. There were four professions of faith and many rededications.

Irvin Milby is pastor.

**Bellfield reports 12 baptisms**  
Bellfield Baptist Church, Green Valley Association, reported a good revival with 12 baptisms.

Bryan Parris was evangelist.

David Overman is pastor.

**Colvin evangelist at Robards**  
Robards Baptist Church, Green Valley Association, held a November revival with A. B. Colvin as evangelist.

Truman Cochran is pastor.

**Shoopman leads Sebree revival**  
Sebree (Ky.) First Baptist Church was in revival Nov. 6-12 with Lon Shoopman, former pastor, as evangelist.

Jeff Day is pastor.

**East Hickman revival adds 46**  
East Hickman Baptist Church, Fulton Association, was led in revival services by Gary Frizzell, pastor of Northside Baptist Church, Mayfield.

There were 43 professions of faith and three additions by letter.

Richard Ams directed the singing.

T. Lynn Walker is pastor of East Hickman.

**One surrenders to preach at Baldrock**  
Baldrock Baptist Church, Laurel River Association, had an October revival with Howard Partin, evangelist. During

the revival one answered the call to preach, one made profession of faith and 15 rededications resulted.

**Wattenbarger leads Florida revival**  
Seymour Wattenbarger, pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, Laurel River Association, led a revival at Weekie Wachee (Fla.) Baptist Church.

Over 30 decisions, including one surrendering to the ministry and six professions of faith, resulted.

**December revival at Hart**  
Hart (Ky.) Baptist Church began revival Dec. 4-10. Robert E. Johnson was the evangelist.

James Vandy is the pastor.

**Kirby leads Thanksgiving services**  
Gary Kirby was youth evangelist at Thanksgiving services at East Pittsburg Baptist Church, Laurel River Association.

David Cheek was music director.

Special program emphasis for the month of December is "Prove your love for Christ and your church."

**Liberty hosts revival, board meeting**  
Audrey Turner was evangelist in a revival at Liberty (Ky.) Baptist Church.

The revival resulted in nine rededications, three by baptism and three by letter.

Members of the church are finishing some of the rooms of the new educational building which is partly occupied.

Liberty hosted the Laurel River executive board meeting and pastors-laymens' conference.

**Lily hosts revival, honors Parker**  
Phillip Rosenbaum led a revival at Lily Baptist Church, Laurel River Association, Nov. 27-Dec. 3.

On Oct. 29 the church presented Tom Parker with a plaque recognizing him for several years of faithful service as Sunday school director. A fellowship meal followed.

The church laid a new sidewalk around the building and purchased new carpet for the educational building.

**Mason evangelist at Mount Zion**  
A revival at Mount Zion Baptist Church, Laurel River Association, resulted in one profession of faith. Lowell Mason was evangelist.

Robert Johnson, pastor at Mount Zion, led a revival at White Hall Baptist Church, Clay County.

**Partin evangelist at Pine Grove**  
Hoard Partin led Pine Grove (Ky.) Baptist Church in a November revival.

**33 decisions at Lawndale**  
Lawndale Baptist Church, Green Valley Association, reports 33 decisions from a revival with Bryan Parris as evangelist.

Ronald Payne is pastor.

**Clark leads Bethlehem revival**  
Bethlehem Baptist Church, Russell Creek Association, recently closed a revival with Rick Clark, Greasy Creek Baptist, as evangelist.

Four people were saved and many rededications reported.

Gary Ervin is the pastor.

**Oak Hill holds November revival**  
Oak Hill Baptist Church, Lynn Association, held a November revival with Sammy Gilbreath as evangelist.

Randy Smith is pastor.

**Millers leads Appollo revival**  
Hollie Miller was the evangelist for Appollo Heights Baptist Church, Owensboro.

The church two baptisms and two rededications.

**Walker evangelist at Ridgecrest**  
Ridgecrest Baptist Church, Ohio County Association, was in revival Nov. 26-Dec. 3 with Billy Walker from Arkansas as evangelist.

Jesse Tichenor is pastor.

**White Oak has revival**  
White Oak Baptist Church, Laurel River Association, had November revival services with Jimmy Williams as evangelist.

**Wolf Creek has revival**  
Wolf Creek Baptist Church, South Union Association, had a revival with Jim Mayes as evangelist.

Mayes is the pastor at Pleasant Hill.

**Evangelist Anderson leads Fairview**  
Larry Anderson, Haworth, Ill., was evangelist at a revival at Fairview Baptist Church, Ohio Valley Association.

Jackie Ferguson is pastor.

## Missions

**New organization formed at KBC**  
A new Baptist organization came into being at the annual Kentucky Baptist Convention. The organization, made up of mission directors, will be known as the Kentucky Fellowship of Directors of Missions.

The first meeting was attended by 48 mission directors. G. Allen West of Louisville was featured speaker.

New officers are: Ross Figart, president; Louis Shepherd, vice president; Ray Cooper, secretary-treasurer. Shepherd will also edit a quarterly bulletin for the organization.

Committees were appointed to carry on the work of the organization between annual meetings.

## Deaths

**William Hund dies Nov. 4**  
William Hund, 82, a deacon of Third Baptist Church in Owensboro where he taught the men's Bible class for 30 years, died Nov. 4 at Owensboro.

Hund, a retired teacher, was a veteran of WWI, a member of the Scottish Rite and the University of Kentucky alumni association.

Survivors include his wife, Grace Hund; a daughter, Nannie Rose Hund of Owensboro; and a sister, Emma Beck of Louisville.

**Kenwood loses eldest member**  
Mrs. Nora Snawder, the eldest member of Kenwood (Ky.) Baptist Church, died Nov. 13. Mrs. Snawder, who became a member of Kenwood in 1947, would have been 98 this December.

**A. W. Bratcher dies in Louisville**  
A. W. Bratcher, deacon for 30 years at Clarkson (Ky.) Baptist Church, died Nov. 3 at Norton's Hospital where he was recuperating from surgery.

Bratcher taught the young adult men's class and was a trustee.

He was active in all phases of church work, had previously been Sunday school superintendent, clerk and treasurer.

## Clear Creek's James Raglin a unique man

James Raglin, pastor of First Baptist Church, Harlan, is a unique man.

He is the only black man enrolled at Clear Creek Baptist School, Pineville's theological school for adults.

Raglin operated a barber shop in Lexington and was pastor of First Baptist Church there until he was called to the Harlan church in 1970.

He is from a family of preachers. His father, I. H. Raglin, Lexington, and five of his brothers are also ministers.

Three of Raglin's seven children have been members of the Harlan Boys Choir and toured Europe with the group, which sang in the International Music Festival in Vienna. Two daughters have traveled extensively with the Harlan Musettes, a singing group.

Raglin enrolled at Clear Creek in 1976 and has had a perfect attendance record except for the period of his wife Shirley's illness and death the past April. He plans to graduate next May.



Richard DeBell (l), pastor of Harlan Baptist Church, talks with James Raglin, a student at Clear Creek Baptist School. DeBell's church has contributed to Raglin's support at school.

## Seminarians spend night on the town

by Rex Hammock

Some students at Southern Seminary are learning to be ministers by spending a night on the town.

"A night," explains their professor Larry McSwain, "during which the students get a perception of the city they would never have from just reading a book."

The students, members of McSwain's evangelism and community ministries class, begin the evening with only 50 cents in their pockets. Dressed in their oldest clothes, they spend 24 hours in downtown Louisville on what has come to be known as the "plunge."

It's been nine years since McSwain, associate professor of church and community, began sending students on plunges. He admits that he, too, has learned many things along the way.

### One student robbed

"The first time," he recalls, "we didn't take all of the precautions that we do now. It was more a walking tour. As a result, one of the students was robbed at gun point."

McSwain says that he and the students have learned over the years that "the city is a threat only if you have something worth taking."

"Now instead of wearing college letter jackets and carrying wallets, the students try to blend in as well as possible."

The students have no specific assignment when they begin the plunge. "Most of the time," explains McSwain, "They spend just trying to find some food or a warm place to lie down."

What do the students learn from the day and night of experiencing the city?

"It provides a very real basis for understanding urban life in the context of ministry," says McSwain.

"The students develop some idea of what ministry there is in the city and what ministry there could be.

### 'They learn quickly'

"Believe me," he explains, "the students experience what churches in the city do and don't do. They learn quickly what is effective and what is not."

Students, he says, usually lose their fear of the city after taking part in a plunge.

"All of the students have learned first hand that there are always people in the city who will help . . . and most students say that those who will help the most are usually the ones who have the least to give."

Does experience change the students?

McSwain thinks it does.

"I haven't really thought about all the people who have gone on a plunge and what they are doing now, but many former 'plungers' have told me that their experience helped them to get in touch with some of their gifts and talents."

And then there's the student who was robbed during the first plunge. What effect did the experience have on him?

"Well," says McSwain, "today he is an inner-city social worker appointed by the Home Mission Board."

# WE'RE GIVING OUR PASTOR A LASTING GIFT

"Mr. Deacon" smiles for a good reason.

His fellow church members just gave their minister a lasting gift for Christmas — the new Southern Baptist Retirement Program.

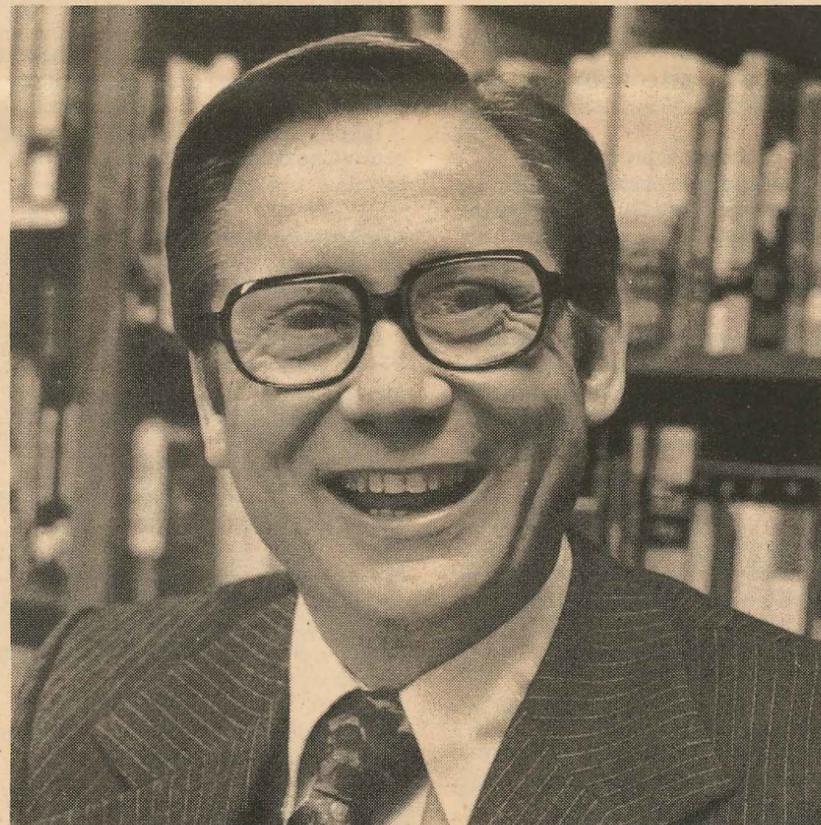
Smart church, don't you think?

We think so. In fact, more Southern Baptist churches should give the new retirement program to their ministers and career employees this Christmas.

We feel this way for two reasons. You see, the new retirement program is one of the strongest we've offered. And it protects the church as well as the participant.

The program features a choice of funds for building a retirement annuity, high earnings on accumulations and flexible benefits.

The program was designed with career ministerial and church lay personnel in mind. It provides financial security whether they live to retirement age, become disabled or die in active service.



Spouse protection is included also.

The program calls for the church to pay the retirement section, while the state convention provides disability and survivor benefits for ministerial personnel.

Your church can give your minister or employee

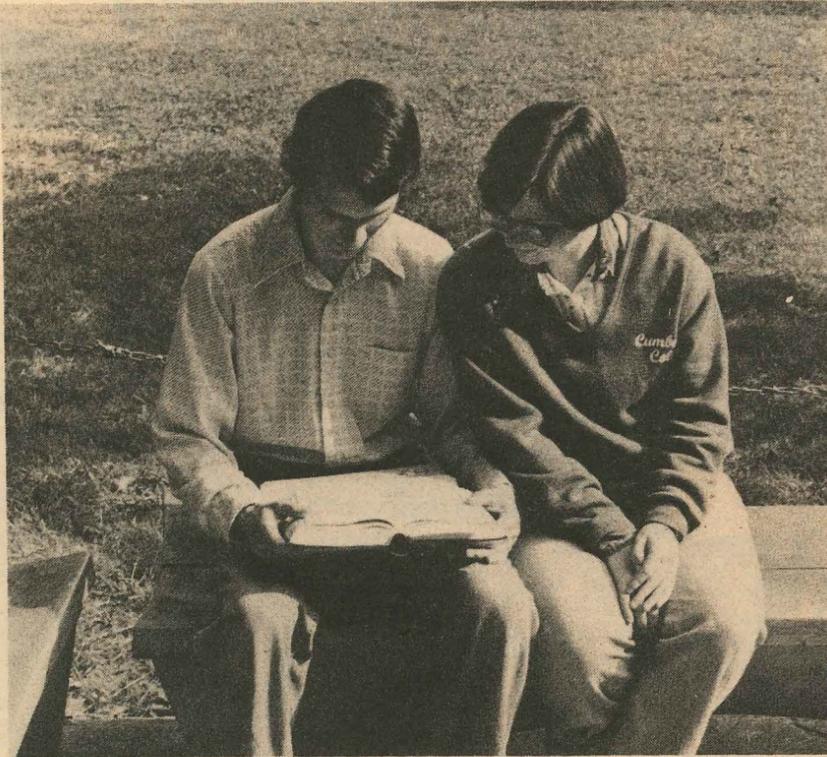
this lasting gift this Christmas. The Annuity Board will show you how.

Just call our toll free WATS number at 1-800-527-4767. Texas WATS number: 1-800-492-2182. Operators are standing by to help you.



Annuity Board of The Southern Baptist Convention • 511 North Akard • Dallas, Texas 75201

# Husband, wife pursue nursing at Cumberland



Steve and Barbara Newton

Not all husbands and wives are going their separate ways. For the first time the Cumberland College nursing education program has enrolled a husband and wife team, Steve and Barbara Newton.

Both agree that the nursing education program is difficult but by training together they have done much to remove some of the difficulties they would have experienced alone.

"By being in this program together, we are facing and overcoming many immediate and long range problems. Steve and I generally are interested in the same subjects. By working together we are able to share information and experiences, thus developing a more complete insight into our chosen profession," reflects Barbara.

It was Barbara who decided to enter nursing first. "I had already decided to enter the health profession but I was not sure which specific direction I would take.

"After observing Barbara and the pride and interest she had in the nursing subjects she was taking, I decided to give it a try. I have yet to regret this decision," comments Steve.

"By being able to talk over the ex-

periences and problems we have faced daily, we are able to understand each other more," Steve adds. "When we actually enter the profession we will have a clear understanding of the demands placed upon each of us and our lives will run more smoothly than otherwise would be possible."

The couple's life is not completely problem free. "We face the same problems any married couple attending school have: running a home, periodic homework conflicts and taking care of our son Michael. But by sharing these duties we again have been able to proceed quite smoothly," says Barbara.

Shared interests have allowed Steve and Barbara to smooth out many of the ruts which are confronted by student couples. They both contend that husbands and wives working together can do many things which they could not achieve alone.

"Whenever a couple attempts to become involved in each other's lives, they can overcome potential problems. Whether they are in the same chosen profession or taking the same classes, husbands and wives can help each other greatly through understanding," says Steve.

## Sunday School Lessons H. C. Chiles Lessons for Dec. 17, 1978

### Life and Work Series

### The action tells the story

#### Matthew 25:31-45

In the conclusion of the last sermon which Christ preached before his arrest and crucifixion—while he was sitting on the Mount of Olives looking toward Jerusalem—he referred to a great event in the future—"The Judgment of the Nations." He indicated clearly that when he comes again for that event it will be in the role of a mighty, majestic and glorious king and judge.

#### The division—Matt. 25:31-33

The subjects in the judgment will be the nations which will be living on the earth when the judge shall appear. With unerring accuracy the righteous judge will separate into two groups those appearing before him on that occasion on the basis of their treatment of God's chosen people or the brethren of the returning Lord during the time of the persecution preceding his appearance. They will be separated into two groups, those who have done good unto the brethren and those who have

done evil to them, just as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats at the close of the day. The "sheep" are those who have done good to the brethren, and they will be placed at the right of the judge, which indicates the place of honor, power and blessing. The "goats" are those who have done evil to the brethren, and they will be placed on his left, which indicates or represents the place of condemnation and dishonor.

#### The declaration—Matt. 25:34-45

Speaking to those on the right, the judge will invite them to enter upon the enjoyment of the kingdom prepared for them prior to the foundation of the world. This gracious invitation will be extended to them because of their relationship to him. To minister to the spiritual, intellectual and physical needs of others is one way of ministering unto Christ. It is certainly one of the fruits of salvation. Christlike people forget themselves and take delight in giving loving service to others.

### International Series

### God judges and forgives

From this lesson we learn that he will not judge those who have sinned against him in retaliation or unfairly, but that he will forgive those who truly repent of their sins and believe on his Son.

#### Hosea 4:1-3

When the people plunged to the depths of sin, Hosea summoned them to appear at God's tribunal. The Israelites had covenanted to be God's people and he had covenanted to be their God. They had so broken their part of the covenant that conditions were terribly grievous. The people closed their eyes and minds to the truth and refused to be taught.

God was grieved deeply when he saw the nation which he had redeemed from bondage in Egypt, to which he had given the law and to which he had shown remarkable love and favor, steadily growing worse. For them a calamity was inevitable because in their stupidity they had drifted thoughtlessly into ease, extravagance and debauchery.

Moreover, the time-serving priests were unfaithful to their trust and allowed the people to perish for lack of knowledge. So far had they strayed from their functions as moral teachers that they con-

nived at, if they did not directly foster, the sinfulness of the people. A spiritual leadership will tend to develop a spiritual people, and a spiritual people will aid also in the development of a spiritual leadership.

#### Hosea 11:1-4, 8-9

As Hosea was wounded deeply by the conduct of his unfaithful and immoral wife, so God was wounded and grieved on account of the sins of the people of Israel. Out of pure grace God had chosen Israel, entered into a covenant with her and made her the object of his special love, care and blessing. Like Gomer, Israel had left her first lover for profligate lovers—the heathen deities.

God reminded the Israelites that he had chosen them to be witnesses for him, out of a compassionate heart had delivered them from slavery in Egypt, had protected them from harm, had supplied their needs and had brought them to the promised land. Because of his great love for them, God had dealt with them as a loving father deals with his child who is learning to walk. Because of their refusal to repent of their wickedness and to return to God, it became necessary for him to chastise them.

## Frank Owen

### Unbridled religion

The world was stunned at the People's Temple religion events in Guyana. Mass religious slayings and suicides? Incredible! Fanatical, independent, personality cult religion with highly charismatic, single authority leadership is dangerous—and moreso when such autocratic leader has no connection or obligation with a larger body of dependable tradition and order. People who follow such leadership ride a horse without a bridle. No one knows where a bridleless horse may go. Religious leaders are not entirely immune to the proverb: "Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely."

I don't believe wholesome religion has any place for fanaticism. Out-of-balance people distort sound religion when they become fanatical. Zeal, yes—fanaticism, no.

Religious human beings need the fellowship and discipline of a religious community of inherent equality. Jesus established the church, whose members all can relate to the Holy Spirit and help each other understand his leading.

Individual members can share together their comprehension of the same Lord who will lead them all similarly. We need to feel the opinions and pressures of each other. It is in the religious community that zealous believers can "try the spirits whether they be of God" (1John 4:1). We are disciplined by our comrades who also are in touch with God's spirit.

The same spirit guides all of his people and he is apt to lead us together. He isn't likely to install one of us over the rest of us. As we try to hear and heed the Holy Spirit we need to know what each other is hearing. This is part of the test as to whether we are hearing the right spirit. Religion doesn't cause insanity, but insanity often expresses itself in religious distortions. The church community of peers will correct whomever gets beside himself. The demagogue is uncorrectable.

Christians need the church community in which to interpret the will of God together, in relationship to one another. When one fanatical autocrat becomes the only one with the word from God, BEWARE.



## Baptist News in Brief

### Leeper denied Turkish residency

The Turkish government has announced that James F. Leeper, Southern Baptist missionary expelled from Turkey in September, will not be allowed to return to the country to live.

J. D. Hughey, Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board secretary for Europe, the Middle East and South Asia, made another appeal on Leeper's behalf to the Turkish ambassador to the U. S. Hughey also asked that Turkey grant permission for a replacement to serve as pastor of Galatian Baptist Church, an English-language church in Ankara, if Leeper may not return.

### Black leader urges loyalty to God

"If the church is not concerned with the social implications of the gospel, then it is not truly the church of God," Fred Shuttlesworth, a black leader during the 1960's civil rights movement, told students at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Preaching in chapel, the pastor of New Light Baptist Church in Cincinnati, Ohio, said, "The gospel of Jesus Christ not only brings comfort to the afflicted—the gospel must also afflict the comfortable."

Shuttlesworth, whose home was bombed and wife stabbed while he was a Birmingham, Ala., pastor during the early 1960's, told students, "God can do anything if he can find a man or woman willing to stand up for him. Just when you think you have done all that you can, God breaks through."

### After controversy, Shedd withdraws

Author Charlie Shedd, who drew the fire of a Houston Baptist pastor over his statements on sexual behavior, has withdrawn as keynote speaker for the Texas Baptist family life conference in March.

The Union Baptist Association (greater Houston) adopted a resolution asking that Shedd be withdrawn as speaker because he has said there is nothing wrong with oral-genital sex in marriage.

Glynn Little, pastor of Houston's Langwood Baptist Church, who brought the resolution, contended that oral-genital sex in marriage is a perversion.

Little brought a similar resolution to the Texas Baptist state convention in Austin.

In lieu of Little's resolution, the messengers adopted without debate a resolution from its committee on resolutions which requested convention agencies "in all of their programming to exercise caution to assure that the emphasis of speakers who address the issue of human sexuality is positive and biblically sound."

### Milbys moved in Rhodesia

Mr. and Mrs. F. Eugene Milby, Southern Baptist missionaries to Rhodesia, have moved from Plumtree to Bulawayo after guerrilla activity in the Plumtree area sharply curtailed their ministries there.

The Milbys are both natives of Kentucky, where Milby was pastor of several churches before their missionary appointment.

Shortly after the Milbys returned from furlough, guerrillas killed a leading Methodist layman in their first action against churches in the rural border town. Guerrilla threats closed the Dingumuz Primary School, where the Milbys taught scripture classes, the same week.

In Bulawayo, Milby will work at the Baptist Publishing House. Mrs. Milby will edit junior Sunday school materials, help revise the Sunday school manual and complete some Ndelbele language projects. They are still responsible for work in Plumtree and hope to return when conditions stabilize.

### McCall is on the mend

Southern Seminary president Duke K. McCall made a surprise appearance in seminary chapel Nov. 28 to thank the students and staff for their concern and prayer. Though there were physical signs of his ordeal of heart surgery, the president included a wholesome bit of humor in his report of satisfactory recovery and assurance of early return to full strength. He received an ovation from the students and left for Florida the next day for further recuperation.

### Baptist schools get aid

Four Southern Baptist schools have been awarded grants under a federal program designed to help students secure employment in their major field of study during their college years.

The four grants, totaling \$117,735, were awarded to Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Okla. (\$37,535); Mississippi College, Clinton, Miss. (\$35,814); Belmont College, Nashville (\$22,300); and Meredith College, Raleigh, N. C. (\$22,086).

In all, nearly \$15 million was designated to 316 colleges and universities, both public and private.

*"Claiming My Campus for Christ" is the theme for Student Day at Christmas 1978, an observance held by churches to recognize their college students and give them opportunity to share with the congregation about their spiritual experiences at college—through Baptist Student Union and college church.*

