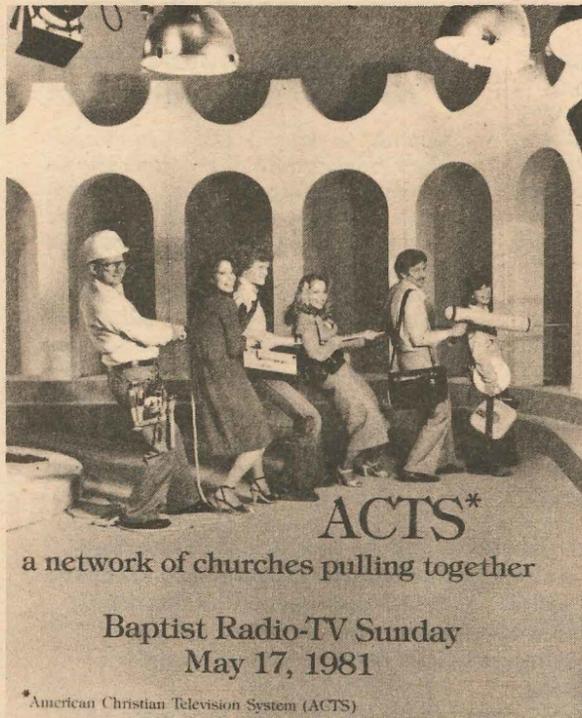


# WESTERN RECORDER

VOL. 155, NO. 17, APRIL 29, 1981

KENTUCKY BAPTIST NEWS JOURNAL



## Resolutions committee members are announced

The resolutions committee for the 1981 Southern Baptist Convention has been announced by Bailey E. Smith, SBC president. Two members originally named were replaced by Smith upon learning they were ineligible to serve.

Charles Graves, pastor of Nichols Hills Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, and a member of the SBC Executive Committee, will be chairman.

Under the SBC constitution, three of the 10 members of the committee must be members of the SBC Executive Committee, which functions as the convention between annual sessions.

The other two Executive Committee representatives are Gordon Dorian, pastor of Olivet Baptist Church, Wichita, Kan., and John Sullivan, pastor of Broadmoor Baptist Church, Shreveport, La., and president of the Louisiana Baptist Convention.

Others named are Bob Bacon, pastor of Del Norte Baptist Church, Albuquerque, N. M., and president of the Baptist Convention of New Mexico; Jane (Mrs. John) Dunaway of Corbin, Ky.

Morris Chapman, pastor of First Baptist Church, Wichita Falls, Tex.; Joel Gregory, pastor of Gambrell Street Baptist Church, Ft. Worth, Tex., and Carol (Mrs. John) Swartz, Escondido, Cal.

The two persons originally named, Paul Lewis, pastor of First Baptist Church, Carson City, Nev., and Bill Smith, pastor of Wailae Baptist Church, Honolulu, Ha., are from conventions which are not qualified for representation on the "Executive Committee, boards, commissions, standing committees and special committees" of which the Resolutions Committee is one.

The constitution specifies state conventions must have at least 25,000 members to qualify. Neither the Hawaii Baptist Convention nor the Nevada Baptist Convention meet those requirements.

Smith named Billy Barber, pastor of First Baptist Church, Tampa, Fla., and Carl Garrett, pastor of First Baptist Church, Carthage, Mo., as replacements.

## Mission report corrected

The 1980 Ninth and O Baptist Church mission giving as reported on page one of last week's issue was inaccurate. The \$14,400 Cooperative Program figure is correct but the Lottie Moon Christmas offering was \$8699 instead of \$3165, the Annie Armstrong home mission offering was \$1229 instead of \$1793, the state mission offering was \$710 instead of \$300 and the Long Run Association contribution was \$1205 instead of \$300. We regret inadvertently copying these offering amounts from the record of First Baptist Church, Clinton, instead of Ninth and O Baptist Church.

## Smith replaces eight committee appointees

Eight persons appointed to the 1981 Committee on Committees have been replaced, Southern Baptist Convention president Bailey E. Smith said.

Smith, who announced appointments to the 52-member committee Apr. 15 said the new appointments are being made in order to avoid having the same persons serve two years in a row.

"I got an extremely supportive letter from J. Howard Cobble pointing out there were duplications," Smith said. Cobble, pastor of First Baptist Church of Avondale Estates, Ga., a suburb of Atlanta, is chairman of the SBC Executive Committee.

"It (the duplications) came as a surprise to me," Smith said. "I had no idea there were repeats."

According to the 1980 annual of the Southern Baptist Convention, Smith's initial appointments included six persons who served on the 1980 Committee on Committees, appointed by then president Adrian Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn.

They are C. Wade Freeman Jr., pastor of Capitol Hill Metropolitan Baptist Church, Washington, D. C.; Ron Herrod, pastor of First Baptist Church, Kenner, La.; Tom Clayton Jr., pastor of First Baptist Church, Hobbs, N. M.; Stan Coffey, pastor of First Baptist Church, Albuquerque, N. M.; John Hatch, pastor of First Baptist Church of Lakewood, Tacoma, Wash., and Robert Harris, from Edmond, Okla., and a member of First Southern Baptist Church, Del City, Okla.

Two other persons also were replaced. They are Bobbi (Mrs. Jimmy) Jackson, whose husband is pastor of Whitesburg Baptist Church, Huntsville, Ala., and Jeanne (Mrs. Tom) Elliff, whose husband is pastor of Eastwood Baptist Church, Tulsa, Okla.

Mrs. Jackson's husband was on the 1980 Committee on Committees and has been recommended by the 1980-81 Committee on Boards as the Alabama representative on the SBC Executive Committee.

Mrs. Elliff is the wife of Smith's wife's brother. Smith said she told him "she would just as soon not have the responsibility of serving" since the Elliffs are candidates for appointment as missionaries of the Foreign Mission Board.

Dennis Homan, a layman from Highland Baptist Church, Florence, Ala., will replace Mrs. Jackson; Richard Logsdon, pastor of First Baptist Church, Upper Marlboro, Md., will replace Freeman; Ronald Prince, pastor of First Baptist Church, Minden, La., will replace Herrod;

Bob Lacey, pastor of Northside Baptist Church, Hobbs, N. M., replaces Clayton; Roy Spannagel, pastor of First Baptist Church, Farmington, N. M., replaces Coffey; and K. Milton Higgins, pastor of Richland Baptist Church, Richland, Wash., replaces Hatch.

The new Oklahoma representatives are Ted Coldiron, a layman from First Baptist Church, Enid, Okla., replacing Mrs. Elliff, and Hartwell Dunn, a layman from First Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, replacing Harris.

Smith told Baptist Press: "Trying to keep my promise of harmony and congeniality, I have called each of the people. They are friends and they agreed not to serve.

"I did not check with Adrian Rogers. It was amazing to me that since Adrian Rogers and I have so many of the same friends there were only these duplications."

Smith said he did not make the reappointments because of criticism from a group of moderates who met early in the week in Memphis, Tenn.

"J. Howard Cobble made me aware of them. When somebody pointed out what could be considered unfair, I immediately sought to change it. My commitment is to be open, honest and fair. It does not matter that it (repeating) has been done in the past. I just want to keep my commitment to bring harmony and peace to this convention without compromising my convictions."

Smith also pointed out he had not consulted with Paul Pressler or Paige Patterson "or any of their representatives" in making the appointments.

Responding to Smith's reappointments, Cecil Sherman, pastor of First Baptist Church, Asheville, N. C., and a leader of the moderate wing, said: "We don't

need errors like this—ineptitude and leadership lapses—in our top job. We need leadership.

Kenneth Chafin, pastor of South Main Baptist Church, Houston, Tex., and another leader of the moderate wing, said: "The least dangerous people among his appointments were the repeats. The most dangerous thing was that he stuck with his fundamentalist friends and representatives of a handful of churches who live on the right wing of the convention."

## Appointments disappoint some moderate leaders

A moderate wing of the Southern Baptist Convention is "truly disappointed" with appointments of SBC president Bailey E. Smith and with the report of the SBC Committee on Boards.

The "anger, grief and frustration" of the moderates could set off the first serious challenge to an incumbent SBC president in recent years.

Smith, who has said he will seek a second one-year term as president of the 13.6 million-member denomination, recently announced appointment of the Committee on Committees, which names the Committee on Boards, which in turn names trustees to 22 SBC organizations.

(After making his initial report, which included six repeats from the 1980 Committee on Committees, his sister-in-law, and the wife of a member of the 1980 committee, Smith issued a revised list of appointments. See article, column two.)

The Committee on Boards, chaired by Claude Kirkpatrick, Baton Rouge, La., recently released its recommendations to the 1981 annual meeting of the SBC in Los Angeles, June 9-11.

Cecil Sherman, pastor of First Baptist Church, Asheville, N. C., and a leader in the moderate wing, said 17 persons from eight states met in First Baptist Church, Memphis, to examine the appointments, discuss implications and formulate a response.

"I have examined carefully the Committee on Committees report," Sherman said. "I am truly disappointed. It is apparent that a narrow, provincial interest has been served."

Sherman recounted having met with Smith at the SBC Executive Committee meeting in Nashville, Tenn., in February, and said: "I was led to believe that his appointments would reflect all parts of Southern Baptist life. We wanted to trust him. We were led to believe we could trust him. We tried to trust him. He said he wanted to unify us, but he hasn't.

"We are disappointed, but more than that, we are grieved and angered by his actions. He is serving a narrow, small set of people who have a creedal wish for the denomination."

Kenneth Chafin, pastor of South Main Baptist Church, Houston, Tex., also criticized Smith's appointments, noting "the way to judge the kind of president a man is doesn't come so much from the kind of sermons he preaches on the circuit, but the kind of people he is willing to turn to for denominational leadership."

Earl Davis, pastor of First Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., host church for the meeting of moderates, says he expects a candidate to oppose Smith to arise spontaneously in the next few weeks and mentioned Chafin as a possible candidate. The Houston pastor, however, said he will not allow himself to be nominated as a candidate for president of the convention.

Smith said he is "shocked" by the opposition: "I thought they would be calling me to congratulate me," he said.

He said he had four qualifications for appointment: "I wanted people with a deep love for the Bible, a deep love for missions, a deep love for evangelism and a deep love for the denomination."

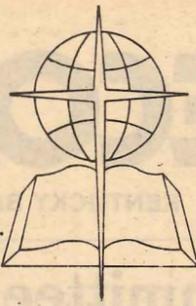
"Many of the names I received from state executive secretaries and denominational leaders," he said.

The moderate wing, in their Memphis meeting, also took aim at the work of the Committee on Boards, which will recommend 138 new trustees and 91 reappointments for convention action.

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

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C. R. Daley

## Daley Observations

### Committee reports will bring mixed reactions

Two important reports related to the Southern Baptist Convention appeared in last week's Western Recorder and another is on page 1 of this issue. They had been awaited anxiously because they will have much effect upon the spirit and atmosphere of the convention sessions in Los Angeles in June.

One of these reports is the list of those appointed to the Committee on Committees by convention president Bailey Smith. This committee is critically important because it nominates members of next year's Committee on Boards which, in turn, nominates members of all Southern Baptist Convention agency boards.

In his appointments president Smith appears to have tried to live up to his promise to be a healing and unifying president. He did Southern Baptists two favors. He announced his appointments early thus relieving speculation and tension and he chose a more balanced committee than the one last year.

The two committee members appointed from Kentucky are Wyman Copass, pastor of Reidland Baptist, Paducah, and David McClure, Louisville ophthalmologist. They can be trusted to nominate Kentuckians for the Committee on Boards who will be representative of all Kentucky Baptists and who will not contribute to denominational strife.

President Smith did not do as well in the appointment of the Resolutions Committee (see page 1). This is not to disparage any of those appointed but to observe that the committee is grossly unbalanced geographically. It's almost inconceivable Smith's appointments include no one east of the Mississippi River where the vast majority of Southern Baptists are located.

(Since the above was written president Bailey Smith has changed three original appointees. Two new appointees are from east of the Mississippi which assures some balance.)

It's very important that this committee be balanced geographically and ideologically because it will likely make more news than any other part of the convention. In fact, the only news from the convention which millions of Americans will read is what positions are taken in resolutions.

The report of the Committee on Boards is a little different story. As expected it shows in places a strong bent in the ultra-conservative direction and some of its nominees may be challenged from the convention floor on the grounds of their lack of interest and support of convention programs and projects. In other places the report is moderate.

The report clearly reflects the influence of

former convention president Adrian Rogers who promised all his appointments to committees would share his views on inerrancy of Scripture. The report proves beyond doubt the claim that the way to gain control of Southern Baptist Convention agencies and institutions is through controlling the presidency of the convention.

The Committee on Boards deserves commendation at several points. One is in releasing its report early enough for messengers to be acquainted with it before reaching Los Angeles.

The committee is also to be commended for honoring, for the most part, the custom of renominating board members eligible for a second term. Of 103 board members eligible for second terms, 92 were renominated including every eligible Executive Committee member. Granted, several of the other 11 eligible to return were left off for good reasons, one has to wonder why the others were replaced.

Of special significance is the fact that little or no effort was made to radically alter boards of trustees of seminaries. This must mean the committee did its own thing and was not unduly influenced by seminary critics like Paul Pressler and Paige Patterson.

On this point Larry Tapp and Alan Sears who were the Kentuckians on this committee are to be commended. They were most considerate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary by renominating capable trustees for second terms.

Upon talking with Tapp and Sears about their experience on this committee one conclusion comes through. They asked for and listened to suggestions from others but they made their own choices. There is no indication they were out to get anyone but rather they mostly chose those they considered best qualified. What else could be expected?

Hopefully those suggested for high places by this committee who now have records of marginal cooperation and support will be fully converted by seeing the inner workings of Southern Baptist Convention agencies. Few who have ever come to such places with openness and sincerity have not become stronger supporters and not a few who came to scoff have remained to pray.

### Lewis Searcy: gracious in life, graceful in death

One of my deepest longings is to die gracefully when the time comes. If I could choose a model other than Christ it would be Lewis Searcy whose death on Apr. 16 inspired all who were near him when he fell asleep in the Lord.

Lewis died by grace even as he lived by grace. He was undisturbed when told of his terminal

illness. He never left the hospital after the diagnosis so he transformed the hospital into an altar and a pulpit. As death approached he intensified the activities that characterized his life—witnessing, praying, quoting scripture and preaching.

Several days before the last one for Lewis on earth Doyle, one of his preacher sons, called to say the doctor had been by to see him and had told the family this could be his last day. I hurried to the hospital for a last visit and all signs indicated the doctor was right.

But not so! Later that day he rallied, called his family around and comforted them once more. A little later he indicated he had ideas for new sermons and asked for his Bible. And for the last 34 hours of his life he prayed, sang and preached practically every moment.

What a testimony! What a man! Would to God all of us could die so gracefully and victoriously.

### Day of prayer for Los Angeles convention

May 24 has been set as "Special Prayer Sunday for the Los Angeles Convention." How meaningful it would be for every Southern Baptist congregation in Kentucky to make a place in services that day to pray specifically for the Lord's presence and power in all the sessions and all the decisions of the convention.

Jack Taylor, first vice president of the convention, is heading up this prayer mobilization and he reports that the Special Prayer Room at the convention hall and the Prayer Room at the convention hotel have been secured.

This prayer mobilization was not conceived early enough to get into denominational program channels and so no written notices, announcements or suggested plans for observance will be received by churches. Please consider this appeal as sufficient to inspire each church to make its own plans.

In Kentucky Howell Upchurch is coordinator of this special prayer mobilization. For further information or for answers to questions contact him at Valley View Baptist Church, 8911 Old Third Street Road, Valley Station, KY 40272, phone (502) 935-5142.

In next week's Western Recorder there will be a report and evaluation of the 1981 Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union annual meeting in Ashland Apr. 23-25.

# Baptist News in Brief

## Multi-racial congregation has 'abundance of love'

Southlawn Baptist Church is "unique among churches in Montgomery and Alabama," according to pastor Steve Slusher. "The Lord has allowed us to see each other as unique individuals."

Described by Slusher as "multi-racial," Southlawn is the only church in the Alabama Baptist State Convention that has a racially mixed congregation with equal percentages of blacks and whites.

Of the church's 260 resident members, approximately 48 percent are white, 48 percent black and 4 percent oriental, Slusher said. Southlawn is named for a south Montgomery community which was originally racially mixed but now is predominantly black.

The church was founded in 1967. Deliberate action to welcome members of all races was taken in 1975 when members voted to "affirm the constitution," which says the purpose of the church is to proclaim the gospel at home and to the world, Slusher said.

The arrangement works because members "have such an abundance of love" that enables them to "break down the barriers," Slusher said.

## Louisiana women vote WMU a department

During their annual meeting Louisiana Baptist women voted 312 to 31 to accept their executive committee's recommendation that Woman's Missionary Union become a department of the Louisiana

Baptist Missions Division.

The move, under study for more than two years, will change WMU from an auxiliary to a department if the Louisiana Baptist executive board ratifies the action at its May meeting.

Miss Kathryn Carpenter, WMU executive director, said the program of WMU will remain essentially the same. "We will have a council to plan and promote our work instead of a board, and Camp Tall Timbers will be under the LBC executive board with WMU having priority for its use and for maintaining the calendar of other meetings."

She explained that throughout the Southern Baptist Convention 22 states have WMU departments and 12 have auxiliaries.

## Baptists win PR awards

Southern Baptists won five awards including a "Best in Class" grand prize in the annual Victor DeRose-Paul M. Hinkhouse awards competition of the Religious Public Relations Council.

Tom Brannon, director of public relations for the Baptist General Convention of Texas, was reelected president of the international organization and W.

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C. Woody, vice president for special projects for the SBC Radio and Television Commission, was elected to the board of governors.

Robert O'Brien, overseas news coordinator for the Foreign Mission Board and former news editor of Baptist Press, won three of the awards including "Best of Class" in writing.

O'Brien's story in The Commission magazine, "Ge Vang's Long Road," about the plight of a Hmong refugee family from Laos won the award of excellence in the feature category and the DeRose-Hinkhouse award as "Best in Class" in writing. O'Brien was chairman of the refugee committee at First Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn., which sponsored the Ge Vang family. Vang is currently employed at the Sunday School Board.

O'Brien also won the award of excellence in public relations campaigns for "The Million Dollar Campaign," an effort he spearheaded to help restore a \$20,000 income tax exclusion for charitable workers overseas.

Linda Brown of the Baptist World Alliance in Washington won second place in the public relations campaign category for her efforts portraying the BWA meeting in Toronto last year as "More Than a Meeting."

Don Fearheiley of the Sunday School

Board earned second place in the television series category for the weekly Bible study program, "At Home with the Bible."

## Finances, gifts draw Midwestern board okay

Three gifts amounting to \$115,000 to endow scholarships, student aid and a special leadership series were announced at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary trustees.

Midwestern trustee Robert Keatley of St. Joseph, Mo., and his wife Wanda, made two gifts. One, for \$50,000, will endow the Midwestern Leadership Series, a program designed to bring outstanding lay persons to the campus for lectureships, workshops and achievement recognition awards. The other, \$40,000, will make \$4000 available annually for a Midwestern student and spouse to travel to the Holy Land upon graduation.

A \$25,000 gift, by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Harris of Kansas City, will be used to fund two annual \$1000 student aid scholarships.

Trustees also adopted Midwestern's largest budget to date: \$2,421,296, an 8.85 percent increase.

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# Mountains to the Mississippi

## Congregations

**Walkers celebrate 50 years**  
Dr. and Mrs. Arthur W. Walker, former pastor of Carlisle Avenue Baptist Church, Louisville, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Sunday, Apr. 26. The celebration was held at the church that afternoon.

**Planned famine raises funds**  
First Baptist Church, Franklin, recently raised almost \$2200 for world hunger relief when 23 youth and five adults participated in a "Planned Famine."

For 24 hours these church members went without food as other church members, family members and friends pledged monetary support for each hour the group fasted.

All money raised was sent to the Foreign Mission Board's program for world hunger relief.

David Crocker, pastor, said, "This famine gave our youth a chance to actually do something about the problem of world hunger. By doing without

food, even for a short period of time, they were able to identify with the suffering of hungry people."

Don Phillips, minister of music and youth, was in charge of the famine.

**119 study awards earned**  
A 12 week deacon training program sponsored by Salem Association was recently climaxed with commencement exercises. Diplomas for completion of the training were presented to 15 men. The training, conducted over a 12 week period, involved studying six books for five hours each.

In addition to the 15 completing the study, 18 other men earned credits for study. In all 119 study awards were earned.

Instructors for the study program included Calvin Fields, Harvey Strickland, Billy Marcum, Philip Fisher, Charles Blanc and Cecil Gilliland.

A. B. Colvin, assistant to the executive secretary of the KBC, was the commencement speaker.

**G'town College offers hymnals**  
Georgetown College is making approximately 100 hymnals available to any Kentucky Baptist church or mission upon request.

The hymnals were used for several years in the John L. Hill Chapel until



**Blackford Association moderator Arthur Morris [r] presents an appreciation plaque and bill of sales for a new car to missions director D. L. Meador and Mrs. Meador [l]. Meador has served the association for 37 years as missionary and earlier as a pastor in several churches. Standing next to Morris is Mrs. Beverly Kennedy, director of the Blackford WMU who sponsored the recognition service.**

new ones were purchased recently.

Any church or mission interested in obtaining the hymnals may contact Carolyn Hale, director of student activities, Georgetown College, Georgetown, KY 40324.

The recipient must pick up the hymnals or pay for shipping costs.

**Calvert City to honor Shelton**  
On May 4 Calvert City Baptist Church will have a dinner on the grounds and preaching all day in honor of T. Hicks Shelton, former KBC evangelism director.

Shelton is now interim pastor at Calvert City. The celebration will commemorate his 50 years service in the ministry.

**Nashville enters sanctuary**  
Nashville Baptist Church, Daviess-McLean Association, entered their new sanctuary for the first service Apr. 5.

Construction, under the supervision

of Church Building Systems, Inc. of Nashville, was begun in August 1980.

Formal dedication of the sanctuary was held Apr. 26 with services at 10:30 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Gates Bowman is pastor.

**Friendship enjoys progress**  
Friendship Baptist Church, Blackford Association, has progressed in its services to God in many ways. Sunday school and preaching attendance has doubled in the past few months.

The church has remodeled the auditorium with modern lighting, new pews and new pulpit furniture.

Plans are underway for a central air system, Sunday school educational facilities and a church bus system.

Henry Hylton and Oliver Sanders are the pastor and associate pastor, respectively.

**Calvary expands church facilities**  
Sunday, Apr. 12, Calvary Baptist Church, Danville, held a ground breaking ceremony following its morning worship service. The church has contracted to build almost 10,000 square feet of additional education and fellowship space at a cost of \$332,000.

The building committee, co-chaired by Jerry Wilson and Bob Reeves, has been working for many months. Other committee members are Jim Ledford, Gary Chidester and James P. Ledford III.

Groundbreaking day also marked 14 years of ministry for pastor Ernest L. Martin.

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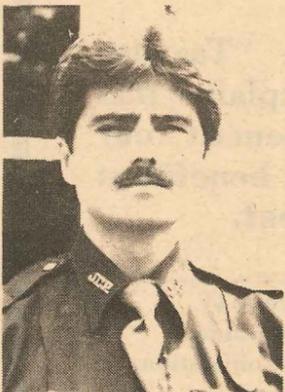


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## Revivals

**Cottrell, Adams lead revival**  
Geneva Baptist Church, Green Valley Association, held revival services Mar. 29-Apr. 3. Don Cottrell, pastor of Corydon (Ky.) Baptist Church, was evangelist.

The music director was Maxwell P. Adams, minister of music and youth at Audubon Baptist Church, Henderson.

There were four additions to the church as a result of the revival.

Timothy L. Waits is pastor.

**Two saved at Gamaliel revival**  
Gamaliel Baptist Church, Monroe Association, held revival services Mar. 29-Apr. 5. The church recorded two professions of faith with two additions by baptism.

A baptismal service was held Sunday, Apr. 5.

Burnett Whitaker, pastor in West Point, Cal., was evangelist.

Jerry Anderson is pastor.

**Willisburg reports 28 decisions**  
Willisburg Baptist Church, Central Association, reported 28 decisions during its spring revival Apr. 5-10.

There were 23 rededications, four professions of faith and one decision for full time service to the gospel ministry.

James M. Blackerby, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, Somerset, was evangelist.

John Torchick is pastor.

**Erwin evangelist at Providence**  
H. Curtis Erwin was evangelist at the First Baptist Church, Providence, revival.

A total of five additions to the church were recorded, four by baptism and one by promise of letter.

A baptismal service was held at the end of the revival.

Thurman Eaton is pastor.

**Northside revival saves 14**  
Northside Baptist Church, Princeton, reports 14 professions of faith and two additions by letter during its revival. L. C. Gray, pastor of Parrish Avenue Baptist Church, Owensboro, was the evangelist.

**Casey at Greasy Creek revival**  
Pastor Wilburn Bonta, Greasy Creek Baptist Church, Greensburg, recorded five professions of faith and one addition by letter in a recent revival. James E. Casey Jr. was evangelist.

## Personnel

**Roberts joins Buck Run staff**  
Anthony Roberts has accepted Buck Run Baptist Church's call as pastor. He will begin his responsibilities there May 3.

Roberts is presently completing work on a PhD degree at Southern Seminary.

**Eaton resigns Diamond post**  
Pastor Joe W. Eaton, Diamond Baptist Church, Little Bethel Association, has resigned.

Eaton has accepted a call to First Baptist Church, Brookport, Ill. He was at Diamond Baptist for three years.

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As part of an advertising program we will give to each reader of this publication who sees and returns this printed notice before Midnight, July 30, a pair of genuine emerald stud earrings for the sum of \$5 plus \$1 shipping and handling. There is no further monetary obligation. [Each pair of earrings contains a quarter carat total weight of genuine emeralds and will be accompanied by our Certificate of Authenticity to that effect.] This advertising notice is being placed simultaneously in other publications. If you see it in more than one publication, please let us know, as this information is helpful to us. Should you wish to return your earrings you may do so

at any time to the address below and receive a full refund. There is a limit of one (1) pair of emerald earrings per address, but if your request is made before July 18, you may request a second pair by enclosing an additional \$5 plus \$1 shipping and handling. No request will be accepted past the dates noted above; your uncashed check will be returned if post-marked later than those dates. Please enclose this *original* notice with your request; photocopies will not be accepted. Send appropriate sum together with your name and address to: **CHRYSIE & SPRYNGHE, LTD., Emerald Earrings, Advertising Program, Dept. 900-3, Box 1900, Greenwich, Connecticut 06830.** (S82960)

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**Lepper leaves Lebanon Junction**  
John Lepper, pastor of Lebanon Junction Baptist Church, has resigned to become pastor of Hardwick Baptist Church in Milledgeville, Ga.

Lepper is a native of Florida and a graduate of Southern Seminary. He came to Lebanon Junction Baptist from Upton Baptist Church. His last Sunday with Lebanon Junction was Apr. 12.

**Lake Spring issues Murphy call**  
Lake Spring Baptist Church, Simpson Association, has called Sam Murphy as pastor.

He began his ministry at Lake Spring effective Sunday, Mar. 29.

**Voelkers resign Middleton job**  
Mr. and Mrs. Brian Voelker, ministers of music and youth at Middleton Baptist Church, Simpson Association, have resigned.

They are leaving to assume other church positions in a church near Lebanon, Ky.

## Ordinations

**Munfordville ordains Rose**  
Munfordville Baptist Church ordained Jerry W. Rose as a deacon on Mar. 29 at the morning worship service.

Rose is the son of Mrs. Sarah B. Rose and the late Duncan E. Rose. He has been a member of the Munfordville church since the age of 10.

Rose resides in Munfordville with his wife Diane and two sons, Jason and Mark.

LeRoy Grissom, pastor, and deacons of the church conducted the service.

**Pansy ordains Brittain deacon**  
Eddy R. Brittain was ordained as a deacon on Apr. 12 at Pansy Baptist Church, Upper Cumberland Association.

His wife is the former Faye Cain. They have two children Carl, 13, and Tammy, 2.

Randall Stallings is pastor.

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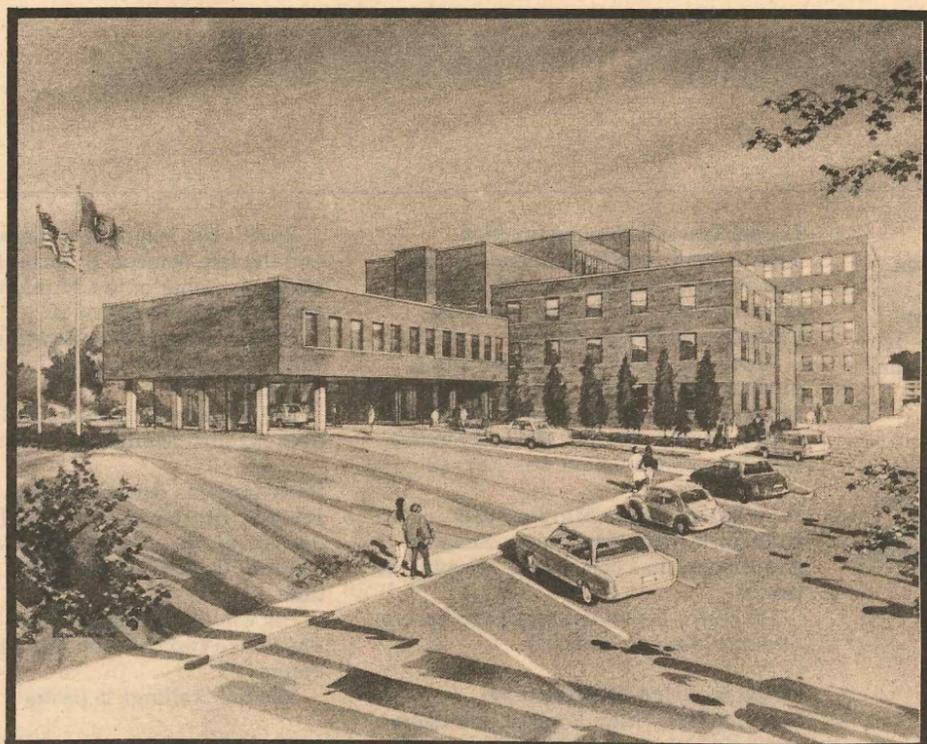
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# Baptist Hospitals

## A Time

for t

## Ministry o



CENTRAL BAPTIST HOSPITAL  
Lexington, Kentucky

Mother's Day is one of our most meaningful observances.

The day coincides with the birthday of Florence Nightingale, the mother of nursing. It is also the first day of National Hospital Week, a period devoted to reemphasizing the ministry of healing.

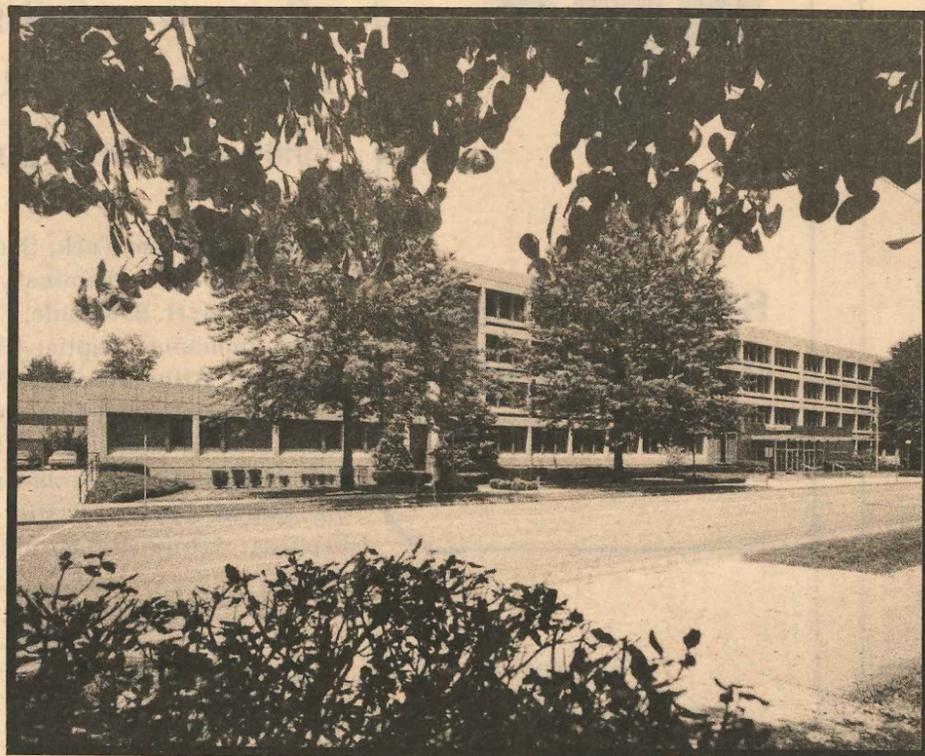
Mother's Day has an extra special meaning to many Kentucky Baptists. More than 40 years ago, our state convention authorized an annual Mother's Day offering to help defray the costs of hospitalization for those in need. Last year, 77 persons received help from the fund in the amount of \$56,728.

Gifts are channeled into the Sunday School Charity Fund for use by needy patients admitted to any of our four hospitals. The funds are invested and managed by the hospitals.

Thanks to the generosity of Kentucky Baptists, the Sunday School Charity Fund received more than \$34,000 last year.

On Mother's Day in 1981, you can make a designated gift through your church for use by the Sunday School Charity Fund.

*Give An Offering  
On Mother's Day  
To Help Defray  
Hospital Costs  
For Persons In  
Need*



WESTERN BAPTIST HOSPITAL  
Paducah, Kentucky

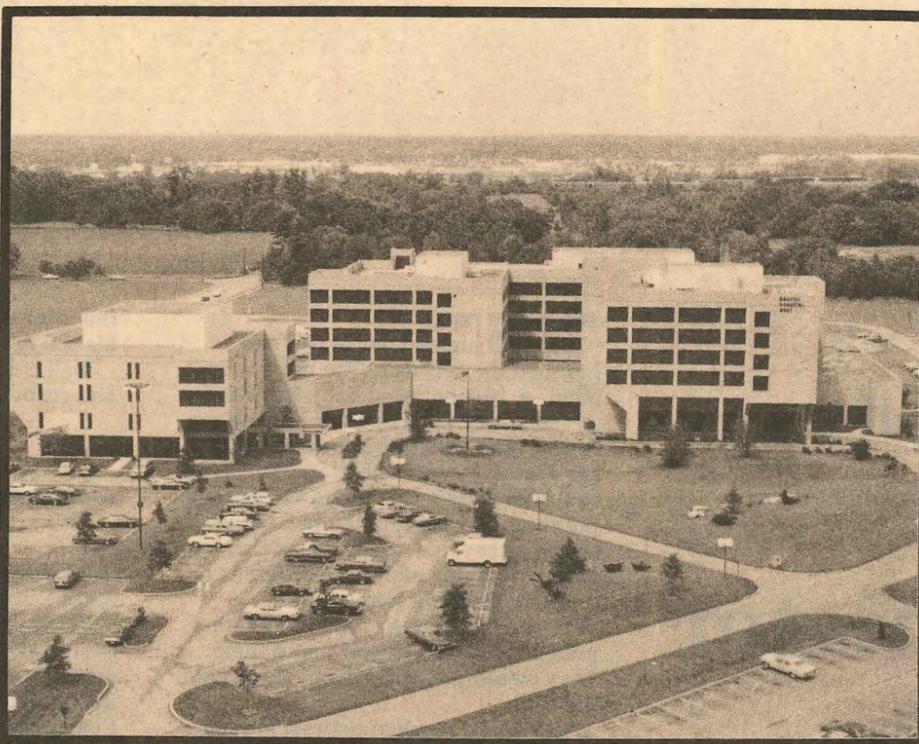
The symbol of Baptist Hospitals, Inc., encompasses the philosophy and task of all of our hospitals—HEALING, TEACHING, PREACHING. It is based on the scripture found in the Gospel of St. Matthew, 4th chapter, 23rd verse: "And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of disease among the people."



KENTUCKY BAPTIST  
SCHOOL OF NURSING  
Louisville, Kentucky

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**BAPTIST HOSPITAL EAST**  
Louisville, Kentucky

Kentucky Baptist Hospital opened in 1924. From that entry into the healing ministry, the Kentucky Baptist Convention, with Baptist Hospitals, Inc., as controlling authority, now operates four hospitals with 1,145 beds—meeting the health and welfare needs of thousands of people throughout the state each year in the name of Christ. BHI hospitals include:

- Baptist Hospital East
- Highlands Baptist Hospital
- Central Baptist Hospital
- Western Baptist Hospital

*Mother's Day  
Offering 1980*

*Receipts from you:  
\$34,000*

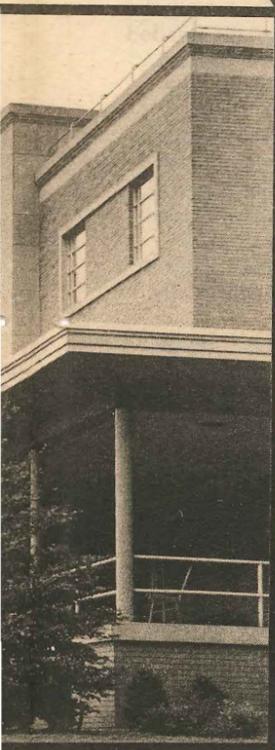
*Persons Helped: 77  
Thanks!*

In addition, BHI operates healing and other programs of services and education in these facilities: Kentucky Baptist Hospital School of Nursing, Louisville; Baptist East Doctor's Building, St. Matthews; Central Medical Building, Lexington; Southern Baptist Seminary Infirmary, Louisville; Health Data Network, Louisville; Ancient Buried City (operated by Western Baptist Hospital), Wickliffe; and the new physician's building adjacent to Highlands Baptist Hospital being completed this spring.

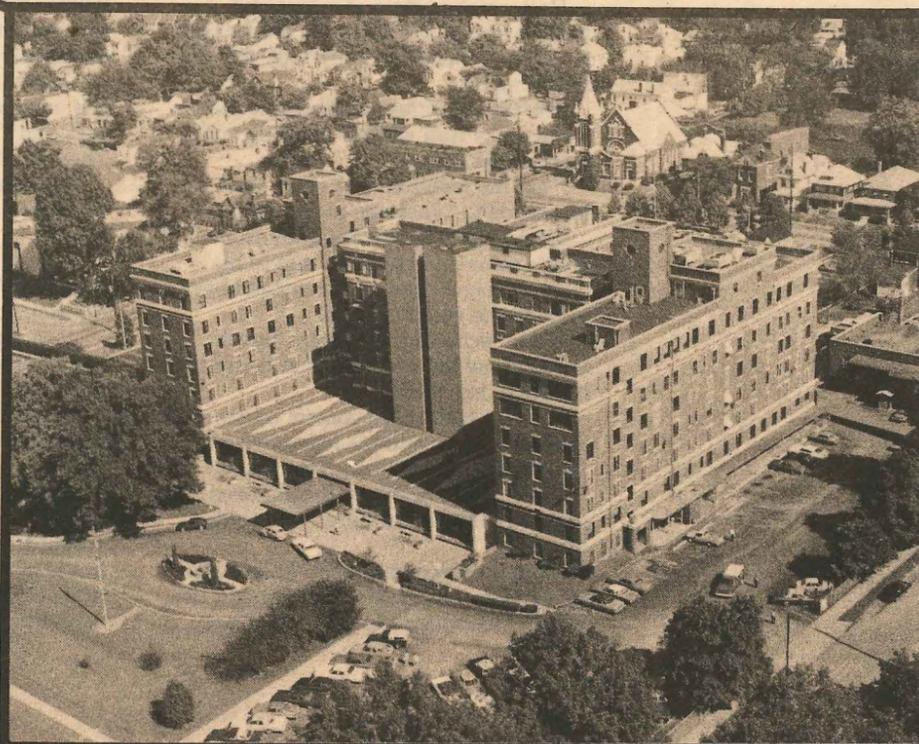
Kentucky Baptists may be justifiably proud of their hospital system, which is directed by 24 pastors and laymen elected as directors by the Kentucky Baptist Convention.



## Kentucky Baptist Convention



**BAPTIST HOSPITAL  
NURSING**  
Kentucky



**HIGHLANDS BAPTIST HOSPITAL**  
Louisville, Kentucky

## Bill Hall

# Minister to the grieving

*A layman surrounds*

*bereaved families*

*with Christian love*

*& understanding care*

by Laurie K. Taylor,  
State Correspondent

The phone rang.

Bill Hall jumped out of bed and grabbed the receiver. The news wasn't good. A 16-month-old baby was dead.

The family lived in a low income section of town. They could not afford to pay the high cost of heating. On this cold New Year's Eve night, the parents put their only child in the bed between them as they had done so many nights before. But this night was different.

As the freezing temperatures dropped, the young mother and father pulled the covers tightly about them. They tossed and turned and shivered in the cold.

The father reached to draw his son closer to him. The groping hand rested on the baby's chest. The tiny body was cold and still—unusually cold and still.

Alarmed, the father grabbed his son and jumped out of bed. The mother sat up half-dazed.

Only moments passed before they realized their child was dead.

Hall knew it would be a difficult situation, but he had no choice. He had to go.

Quickly he dressed and rushed out into the cold. Enroute to the home he tried to control his own emotions. He had to be strong. A devastated young couple depended on him.

He found the house, pulled over to the curb and sat silently in the darkness.

"Oh, Lord," he prayed. "Give me the strength to get through this. Give me the wisdom to comfort. Let me minister in your name."

He opened the car door and got out. As he walked to the weather-beaten frame house, the front door opened.

A young man dressed in tattered jeans met him. With swollen red eyes he pointed to a darkened room.

In the room, a brokenhearted mother rocked her lifeless child. The stillness was broken only by her muffled sobs.

Hall watched for a moment and walked over to the chair. With shaking hands he reached out and took the still, small bundle.

The father waited at the front door in silence. As Hall walked by, the young man stopped him.

"Let me love him one more time," he pleaded. "Just one more time."

He gently scooped the baby from Hall's arms and clutched him to his chest. Broken sobs of uncontrolled grief pierced the solemn quiet.

Hall reached for the baby, but the father drew the precious bundle more tightly to his chest.

Finally, Hall could control his own grief no longer and his legs gave way. He dropped numbly onto the couch.

"I've got to get myself composed and get that baby out of here," he chided himself.

With a determined push he jumped to his feet and put his arms around the father's shoulder. As their eyes met,

the grief-stricken daddy slowly placed his son in Hall's arms.

Hall held tightly to the little bundle and rushed back into the darkness.

### A call, commitment and test

Scenes such as this have become routine in Bill Hall's life.

In the 60's he felt God's call to minister to the grief-stricken. His commitment to that call was tested when he was in the middle of his training at the Cincinnati School of Mortuary Science. His first wife died and left him with three children under the age of seven.

He attended classes all day and worked in a factory all night. Filling the dual role of father and mother added pressure to his schedule, but he never gave up. In 1965 his determination paid off when he finished school.

Today Hall is a mortician at Milward Funeral Directors on North Broadway, Lexington. His 15 years in the field have instilled in him a deeper insight into death, grief and life itself.

He has witnessed the responses of Christians and non-Christians in the grief process. He has experienced the power of the Holy Spirit as comforter. He views himself as a minister to the grieving.

"I enjoy working with people," Hall explains. "The funeral business is one area not everyone can work in."

"You have to be a special person to hold up in the circumstances you find yourself in. You have to be able to support families in times of death or they'd be lost as to how to handle the ordeal."

Contrary to the assumption that his work must be depressing, Hall vows it isn't.

"It's depressing only at times when I relate too strongly to the loss," he confesses. "When a child the age of one of my own children dies, I begin to relate too deeply."

"I have to remind myself the family has entrusted their loved one in my care and I've got to come through. They're counting on me."

Hall deals almost entirely with total strangers. His first job is to win their trust.

"I have to gain their confidence," he declares. "I must assure them I'll care for their loved ones the best I can."

"I'm a guide, not a decision maker," he underscores. "I have to convince the family the world hasn't stopped although death has struck. I assure them they're not alone in making decisions."

"Hopefully," he continues, "the funeral experience will help them accept the fact that a life has been lived but is now over. They must go on without the deceased. I must gain their confidence to get all this across."

### A Christian's response

Immediately, Hall can sense if the survivors are Christians.

"A Christian family views death as the beginning of life. They receive power and comfort from the Lord. They have an assurance and a deep inner peace."

"On the other hand," he discerns, "non-Christians flounder. They 'hope' their loved one is in heaven. Most cannot converse about funeral arrangements."

Hall admits making final arrangements is difficult, but his real ministry comes during the first viewing of the body.

"I take the family to the viewing room and leave them alone for a few minutes. However," he reveals, "I stand within hearing distance so I can help in the event a family member responds traumatically. This is a private moment, so I never watch."

After a few minutes he returns and asks if everything is all right. He works to draw out comments to make sure the family is satisfied.

At this time, if the deceased was a Christian he comments about how restful the body looks. He helps the family picture him with the Lord, free of problems and sickness.

In all cases Hall assures the family "the Lord won't put more on us than we can stand. Down the road all this will become clearer."

Hall's job is made easier when friends help confront the family's grief. He explains the importance of shared grief.

"Attending the funeral is a great comfort to the family. Through their presence friends are saying 'It's our loss, too. You're not alone. Let's face the future together.'"

Grief doesn't end with the closing and burial of the casket. This is only the beginning. Support is especially needed during the days following the funeral.

"Don't let the person in grief stay home and draw into a shell," Hall warns. "Help him get on with his life. Returning to the mainstream of everyday life is the key to overcoming grief."

Working so closely with death forces a person to realistically confront his own feelings concerning death. Hall's view of death has changed drastically during the past 15 years.

"Death used to bother me," he reveals. "I dreaded the end of my life when the casket will close on me forever. Now I realize only my body will be in there."

"I look at a corpse and think about how peaceful it seems. Then I think about the soul and how much happier and more peaceful it must be."

Hall, a deacon at Gardenside Baptist, Lexington, offers a final word of advice.

"Death is a shock. Prepare as best you can. Try to realize death is incapable for us all. When death happens, the world doesn't stop. It's a transition. Through death, God's plan for man is fulfilled."

And through committed Christian laymen like Bill Hall, the fulfillment of that plan is made easier to bear.

# Georgetown College wages \$6.5 million campaign

by Greg L. Hancock,  
State Correspondent

Lt. Governor Martha Layne Collins says the reason she gave three evenings of a very busy week to the Georgetown College Decade of Progress Campaign is because she believes "in the product of strong Christian education."

"It is said," quoted the Lt. Governor, "if you think in terms of a year, grow a seed. If you think in terms of 10 years, grow a tree. But if you think about 100 hundred years from now, grow a young person."

Mrs. Collin's address topped off an evening of promotion by the college. More than 160 representatives of Baptist churches in central Kentucky were present. Meeting at Lexington's Hilton Inn, the assembly listened intently as Georgetown president Ben Elrod gave reasons Baptists should be in the college business.

"We should be in education, first, to bear witness to the lordship of Christ over all of life," he said. "Secondly, we should be in education to bear witness to Christian life as an alternative to sub-Christian culture."

"Baptists should be in education to

be a witness to the value of life lived in commitment to God and fellow man; and, finally, we should be in education to bear witness to the redemptive nature of the gospel," he added.

Elrod makes no apology for the strong spiritual emphasis he has spearheaded on the Georgetown campus.

"Elrod has given the college a definite direction," commented one alumnus. "I think that direction is one most Baptists not only agree with but whole heartedly support."

That observation was borne out in testimony from several pastors present. Richard Allison, pastor of Georgetown Baptist Church, served as pastoral spokesman. "We're supporting the campaign because we're a missionary Baptist church and we believe in what's happening on the Georgetown College campus," Allison stated.

"We believe in it on two levels: on the campus level because we see the result of Christian commitment on campus, and on the mission field because we see what place Georgetown graduates are taking in active mission work," Allison claimed.

The campaign is primarily moving among individuals and churches of Kentucky to raise funds for endowment and building needs.

Acting under the authority of the KBC executive committee, the college is asking churches to make a one year financial commitment and individuals to make up to a five year commitment to the school. The bottom line of this commitment is in two phases: \$4,000,000 by 1984; and an additional \$2,500,000 by 1989.

James Highland, pastor of First Baptist, Shelbyville, and chairman of the Decade of Progress Campaign, cites \$2,000,000 as the goal for the church portion of the campaign. Raising that amount will qualify the college to receive the James Graham Brown Foundation grant in the amount of \$1,000,000. Funds from the Brown grant, plus the \$2,000,000 accumulated locally, will be used to endow Christian education at Georgetown.

In closing the meeting Highland suggested those present return to their local congregations and encourage them "to plan a worthy gift to the college."

"Our people (Kentucky Baptists) can believe in what's going on in Christian education at Georgetown College," he added. "Lead them to support that belief by giving."



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## Ministering to the children of the 80's

### Continuum of services?

by Edna R. Woofter,  
Director of Program Services

As you read these articles you see me refer to "continuum of services." I intentionally repeat this phrase because of the pride Kentucky Baptists should feel because you make possible a scope of services to meet needs of different individuals. I want to share what one of our young people has shared with me.

Darryl was living at Spring Meadows. In the spring of 1980 he went on a retreat with some youth from Spring Meadows and St. Matthews Baptist Church. During this retreat Darryl felt God tugging at his heart and after some consultation he made his decision. He immediately let all his friends at Spring Meadows know that he had committed his life to Christ. He became active in witnessing and became more involved in church activities. A series of events and evaluations followed and Darryl was placed in a foster family home.

Darryl wrote, "The Reeces mean a lot to me. I love them very much. I have a family now. Most of all, they are a Christian family. I have a Mom and Dad I can tell my problems to. They have helped me to open up to them and talk. I used to keep everything inside until I exploded all at once. We have our problems but we get along and we ask God to give us guidance."

He closed by saying, "Thanks for letting me have a chance to write about my great experience with Christ and for giving me the nice family that I have now." Foster family care is an integral part of our service delivery and budget planning. The Kentucky Baptist Board of Child Care pays a monthly boarding rate and provides for clothing, recreation and weekly allowance. Agency staff maintains regular contact with foster families and foster youth.

With the help of foster families such as the Reeces and Kentucky Baptists around the state, this area of our ministry meets the needs of approximately 30 young people each year.

## Baptist News in Brief

### Brotherhood staffer takes missions post

James W. Hatley, director of world missions conferences for the Brotherhood Commission for almost five years, will become executive director of missions of the Austin (Texas) Baptist Association May 1.

Hatley, 57, in addition to directing world missions conferences at the commission, was also responsible for associational missions relations. He has been active in Shelby County Baptist Association and was chairman of the stewardship and finance committee when he accepted the new assignment.

Hatley has been a home missionary to Spanish-speaking people, Arizona,

director of missions in Magic Valley Baptist Association, Texas, and rural-urban missions consultant for the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

### Brotherhood names Crusader director

Karl Bozeman, consultant in preschool and children's work for the Baptist General Convention of Texas, will become director of the Crusader department of the Royal Ambassador division of the Brotherhood Commission June 1.

Bozeman, 54, succeeds Frank Black, who transferred to the Baptist Men's division as an associate director.

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## Sunday School Lessons

MAY 10, 1981



H. C. Chiles

### PIONEER OF OUR SALVATION

International Series

With people living in a state of alienation from God and indulging in sin "God sent forth his Son . . . to redeem them that were under the law." Christ's supreme purpose in coming into this world was to make atonement for sin and provide salvation for sinners, and there is no salvation apart from him.

**Christ's actions—Hebrews 2:10-13** When our blessed Saviour took upon himself the form of man he took a place "a little lower than the angels," for they were deathless creatures. His entire earthly life was without the slightest taint of sin. Concerning his sinlessness the Bible says: "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures. "Who his own self bore our sins in his own body on the tree, that we being dead in sins, should live unto righteousness." Salvation from sin, which was purposed in the mind of God and prompted by his love, was perfected by the Son of God. Since men could not save themselves, it was necessary for the Saviour to come into the world in human flesh and to suffer and die in order that an atonement might be made for their sins so that they might be saved.

**Christ's accomplishments—Hebrews 2:14-18** In compliance with the perfect will of God the Father, Christ the Son came into this world, lived without a sinful thought or deed, experienced every type of testing and died an ignominious death on a cruel cross in order that every true believer might receive forgiveness and salvation from the penalty, the power and eventually the presence of sin. Through Christ's death on the cross Satan's power was conquered. Through Christ's saving power multitudes have been brought into the family of God and delivered from subjection to the terror of dying without hope. Through his death and resurrection Christ has guaranteed the same to those who believe on him while living on earth.

Through Jesus Christ, who died on the cross and arose from the tomb, millions have become the children of God, have lived victorious, joyous and Christian lives, have practiced self-denial and have rendered useful service for their Lord in helpfulness to their associates. It is amazing what one can accomplish for Christ and others as he yields himself to the glorious task of accomplishing Christ's will. The blessed assurance of admission to heaven, of living with the Lord Jesus who has saved us and of enjoying the blessed reunion with our loved ones and friends is beyond our present ability to estimate. All these and many other blessings have been made possible for us because of what Christ our Saviour and Lord accomplished for us while he was here.

### YOU SHALL BE MY WITNESS

Life and Work Series

Witnessing to Christ's power to save is the greatest task that can occupy the thought, time, strength and substance of Christians.

**Acts 1:8** A witness is one who has seen, heard or experienced something and is willing to tell what he knows. A witness for Christ is a Christian who tells a non-Christian what he knows about the Saviour with a view to winning him to a saving knowledge of Jesus. If souls are to be saved, the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit must accompany the witnessing of Christians for Christ.

**Acts 17:10-12** In the synagogue at Berea Paul and Silas encountered some Jews who were willing to eagerly listen with open minds to the message of Christ's ambassadors. After they had listened attentively, they carefully searched the scriptures to see if the preaching of the missionaries was true. Upon discovering their preaching conformed with the scriptures, many of them believed on Christ and were saved.

**John 4:7-10, 42** Weary from the journey, Christ sat on the parapet of Jacob's well while his disciples went into Sychar to buy food. Before long a Samaritan woman came to draw water for her household needs. Anxious to save this woman, with remarkable wisdom and tact, Christ asked her to give him a drink. This request awakened her surprise, broke down her prejudice and appealed to her sympathy. In the course of conversation Christ told her those who drank from Jacob's well would thirst again but there was something far better than the water from the well. He told her the water he offered completely satisfied all who would drink it. After Christ identified himself as the Messiah the woman accepted him as her Saviour and then hurried to Sychar to tell others that Christ had saved her. Many were convinced by her testimony and accepted Christ as their Saviour also.

**Acts 16:9-10** When Paul and his colleagues arrived in Troas he received a vision of a European, standing with outstretched arms, begging, "Come over into Macedonia and help us." When morning came he told his companions what he had seen the night before. They promptly departed for Europe, arriving there in two days. In Philippi many were saved and a church was organized. Through the efforts of its members others came to know Christ as Saviour and together they did a great work for him.

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**WANTED:** Southern Seminary student wishes to purchase the following out-of-print books needed for research on a doctoral dissertation. *Memoirs of James P. Boyce* by John A. Broadus. *Baptists and Their Doctrines* by B. H. Carroll. *Inspiration of the Bible* by B. H. Carroll. *The Bible Doctrine of Inspiration* by Basil Manly Jr. *Freedom and Authority in Religion* by E. Y. Mullins. *Inspiration* by William Sanday. Contact DWIGHT MOODY, Route 2 Box 187, Holton, Indiana 47023. 812-689-6876. 4-29-00

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**\*\*FLY-DRIVE-FLY-VACATION\*\*** Los Angeles Baptist Convention. Fly to Los Angeles-Rent Motor home-use for Convention. Accommodations and tour Calif. Available until June 19th. \$235.00 Wk plus 6 cents per mile. 20' Tioga, fully equipped, sleeps 5. (502) 267-5884. 4-29-01

# Clear Creek Comments

D.M. Aldridge, President  
Clear Creek Baptist School  
Pineville, Ky. 40977



# Oneida Journal

## It took a miracle

Barkley Moore, President  
Oneida Baptist Institute, Oneida, Ky. 40972



Ly Chau was in a tiny boat in the South China Sea less than a year ago. He was escaping from the communist paradise called Vietnam.

It took a miracle for this fine young man to escape from his unhappy homeland and to arrive safely in America. His American sponsor is an Alabama state policeman and a devout Baptist layman who has sponsored 21 Vietnamese refugees on his policeman's salary.

The policeman called me last August and asked if we would accept Ly on a full scholarship. A few days later he arrived with the boy. Every month as he sent a little "pocket" money for Ly, he would enclose a note, "Pray for my Ly that he will become a Christian."

Several weeks ago, in a morning worship service, his prayers and ours were answered. I called that policeman late in the evening. It was a joy to hear that man of God praising the Lord as he shared the news with his family.

Sunday afternoon, Apr. 5, I watched Ly be baptized. He and 77 other precious souls entered the baptismal waters that afternoon. The church was so crowded with parents and friends that the baptismal candidates had to enter from outside the church to be baptized.

I remember a similar occasion 30 years ago in November 1951 when I made my profession of faith and was baptized with 52 others in the largest such service ever held at Oneida at that time. Many of that group of 30 years ago are active stalwarts today as Sunday school teachers, deacons, church treasurers, and other Christian workers such as my work as president of Oneida.

Watching these 62 young men and 16 young ladies being baptized, it was thrilling to think of miracles which already happened and to contemplate on those to be experienced in their lives in the years to come.

Before mid-March, 69 had already been baptized into our fellowship by our pastor, Joel Rackley. God is love and pastor Rackley mirrors that love in his daily ministry.

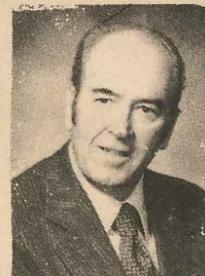
At the close of our spring break, Dennis Rush, who has been pastor of nearby Horse Creek Baptist Church for 32 years, came to preach for six days. There were no histrionics, no gimmicks. He simply preached God's saving grace. There were decisions in every service. Scores rededicated their lives and 61 made professions of faith, 53 asking for baptism. The services ended on a Friday evening but the revival is still continuing. In the services of the week following the revival meeting 25 more accepted Christ and were included in the Apr. 5 baptismal service. Eleven others are now awaiting baptism.

I have participated in over 40 revival services at Oneida over the years. Never has there been so many lives visibly changed. Unusual is the large number of boys making decisions, almost four times the number of girls.

Albert, a handsome young black man from Alabama, in the arms of our pastor, also an Alabamian, as he made his confession of faith is a memory to keep for eternity. Considering racial attitudes in Alabama, Oneida and everywhere just a few years ago, only a miracle of God's love made such a scene possible.

If you have given through the Cooperative Program or directly to Oneida this year, or if you have lifted us up in prayer, you have helped in this glorious harvest of 166 souls since August who came to Oneida without the Lord.

## Frank Owen



### Big train needs wide track

As Southern Baptist leaders look toward an annual assembly of messengers we need to remember that a rather broad spectrum or constituency makes up the voluntary cooperative which we call the Southern Baptist Convention. We are all basically conservative but our expansive spiritual domain envelopes considerable climatic variety.

There is a great body of doctrine and customs that generally distinguishes us as one people. The entire cooperative body recognizes the Holy Scriptures as authoritative in faith and practice. However, our free people and congregations are of considerable variety in local customs and practices and we mutually respect a goodly measure of local autonomy among cooperating churches. This variety is apparent as one visits about, even in Kentucky, and much more so as one travels among our 33 state and territorial conventions of the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii.

The atmosphere of a convention session makes one aware of a great deal of this variety but we must remember also while in session that there are thirteen million free members of the more than 37,000 SBC churches who are not present to express themselves.

If we try too hard to homogenize Southern Baptists, we are liable to find ourselves with what chemists refer to as an unstable solution that may explode if disturbed.

Wise leaders will be aware of the somewhat heterogeneous nature of any general Baptist body whose people believe in individual freedom and congregational autonomy. The larger and more widely scattered the body the more freedom is required.

When we assemble at conventions and vote on resolutions that claim to reflect the attitudes of thirteen million Baptists, let us remember that we have left far more people back home than are present. We must not lay narrow gauge track on which our big train won't run.

We have been able to hold reasonable unity within allowable diversity in the more important common task of world missions. The writer believes we can continue to do so.

## Invaluable help

Christians can learn much from others who followed God's leading and became a blessing. One thing we learn is that there are many ways of blessing others.

Intercessory prayer was ordained by God as one way of helping. A friend in Alabama once wrote these words: "Due to my limited income, I can no longer contribute monthly to the education of ministers in your school. But this one thing I will do. Every Friday, I'll pray one hour for your students who will be going out as ministers in churches and missions." What a blessing are the fervent, regular prayers of God's saints.

Other contributions are made through the Cooperative Program, as well as by individuals and groups. Without such faithful stewardship we could not offer low tuition and living costs, workshops and other financial assistance. Praise the Lord for saints who share material possessions. In addition to money, some donate automobiles, stocks and bonds, houses and other property.

Good stewards also want to contribute to God's work after death. They often do this through their wills. One man willed his large farm to Clear Creek and another institution, with the provision that his two sisters have control and income of the prosperous farm during their lifetime. The farm's value is a valuable part of our endowment.

We thank God for such astute stewardship. Another friend said, "The members of my family do not need my money, so I am leaving it to Clear Creek School." Think of all the interest that will accrue to that person's estate in heaven as he has a part in leading hundreds of persons to Jesus Christ through our students.

Why don't you make it a point to come by our campus this spring and meet some of our students. Write me when you can come: D. M. Aldridge, Clear Creek Baptist School, Pineville, KY 40977.

## KBC Activities

### Here and now

#### MAY

- 2 State Royal Ambassador Track Meet. Cedarmore
- 3 Senior Adult Day. Suggestions in Mature Living or from Church Services Division, KBC
- 3-10 Christian Home Week. Suggestions available from Family Ministry Services, KBC. New books available from Baptist Book Store

### Looking ahead

- 8-9 State Youth Choir Festival West. Jonathan Creek. 7 p.m. 8th through 4 p.m. 9th. Register with Church Music Department, KBC
- 8-9 WMU Associational Clinic. Cedarmore. Evening meal 8th through noon meal 9th. Reservations made with Cedarmore
- 10 Mother's Day
- 11-13 Senior Adult Retreat. Cedarmore. Evening meal Monday through lunch Wednesday. For all Senior Adults and their leaders. Register with Cedarmore. Retreat repeats May 18-20
- 11-12 Outreach Clinics for Church Sunday School Workers. 7 to 9 p.m.
  - 11—Bowling Green, Hillvue Baptist Church; Cynthiana, Cynthiana Baptist Church; Paintsville, First Baptist Church; Campbellsville, Campbellsville Baptist Church
  - 12—Middletown, Kentucky Baptist Building; Barbourville, First Baptist Church; Benton, First Baptist Church; Madisonville, Second Baptist Church
- 14-15 Preschool/Children's Church Staff Retreat. Cedarmore. Evening meal Thursday to Friday afternoon. Register with Cedarmore
- 14-15 Director of Missions Workshop. Cedarmore
- 15-17 BSU Presidents/Campus Ministers Conference. Middletown, Kentucky Baptist Building
- 16 WMU Officers' Clinic. Jonathan Creek
- 17 Baptist Radio and Television Sunday. Materials from Radio/TV Commission, Box 12157, Ft. Worth, TX 76116
- 18-19 "Pastoral Evangelism" Seminar. Madisonville, First Baptist Church. 10 a.m. 18th through 4:30 p.m. 19th. Register with Evangelism Department, KBC
- 18-20 Senior Adult Retreat. Cedarmore. Evening meal Monday through lunch Wednesday. For all senior adults and their leaders. Register with Cedarmore
- 22-23 Youth Mission Retreat. Cedarmore. 9-12 grades. Youth interested in mission vocation or summer missions workshops. Register with Cedarmore
- 26 Interfaith Witness Conference. Radcliff, Stithton Baptist Church. 7 to 9 p.m.
- 28-29 Interfaith Witness Conferences. 7 to 9 p.m. 28—Campbellsville, Pleasant Hill Baptist Church. 29—London, First Baptist Church

# 77 years young

## Retiree and his bride begin mission service

by Tim Nicholas

A 77-year-old man and his bride of nine months are on their way to Hawaii from Scooba, Miss., to serve two years in the Mission Service Corps. Edward and Mary Farr will work in the First Southern Baptist Church of Pearl Harbor in Honolulu in church administration, religious education, evangelistic visitation, literacy and Woman's Missionary Union work.

A widower since 1959 Farr stated, "I had prayed for 21 years that the Lord would reveal to me (a new wife)." When he met Mary Wallace while both were in Israel in 1979 he thought, "This is a strange phenomenon, a person with

lights in her eyes." He compared meeting her to Moses seeing the burning bush. "He turned aside to see what was happening," he said.

A traveling companion for Mrs. Wallace told Farr that "Mary thinks God is going to put a rope around a man's neck and lead him to her." Farr said he knew the rope was around his neck. After only one quick hand squeeze during the Holy Land trip, and about 50 letters each afterwards, Farr drove to Memphis to see Mary, 59, after the Mississippi Baptist evangelism Bible conference in February 1980.

Farr said he wanted both of them to get God's answer to their future but he

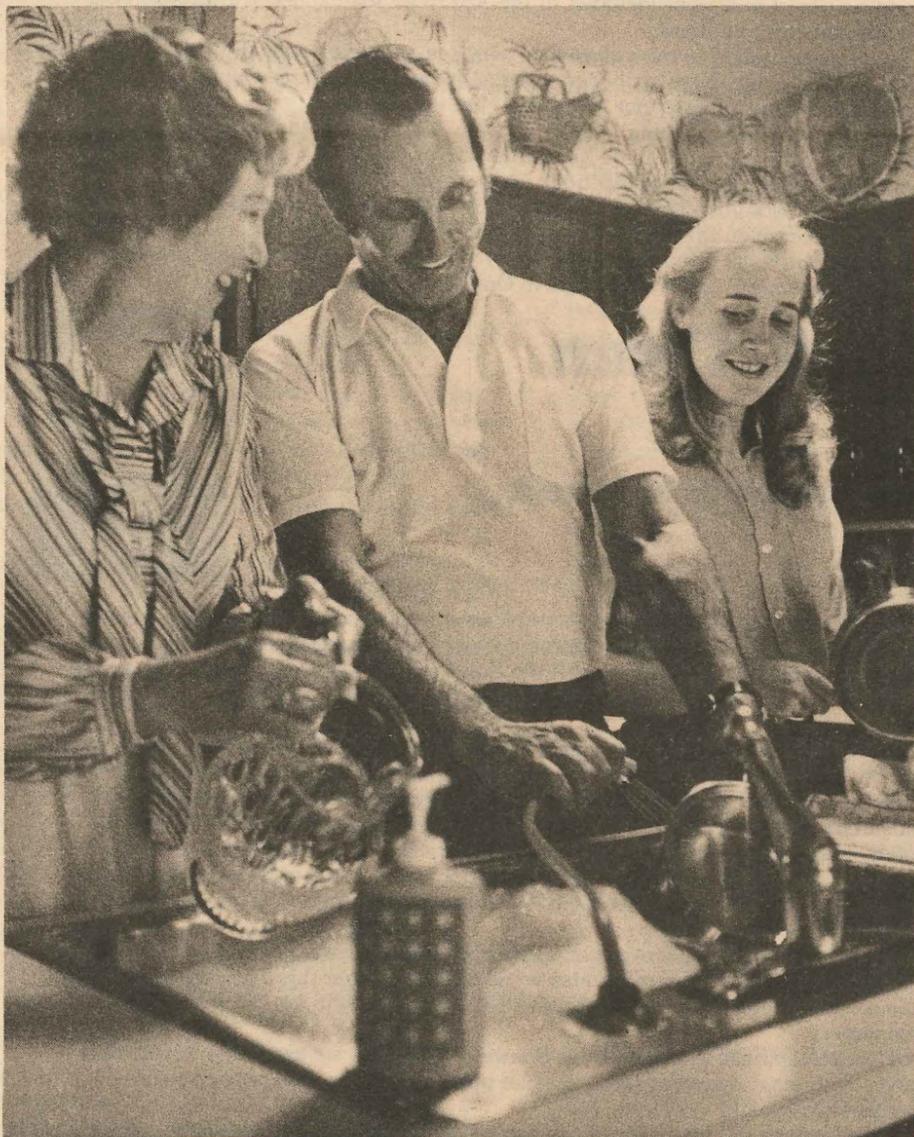
traveled with a ring in his pocket. He talked with his prospective bride about mission involvement and found ready agreement. Her experience teaching people to read with the Laubach method and teaching English to Laotians helped the couple win their appointment to the Hawaiian church where the congregation ministers to many language groups.

Farr explained he "came into the world to be a missionary." He said his mother told him late in life that she had dedicated him to the Lord even before he was conceived.

He helped start 12 churches and has preached under brush arbors, in homes, stores and courthouses.

He was the first white teacher under a federal court order to teach at an all black school in Greenville where he taught for five years and preached at Bogue Baptist Church. He has also taught in Manpower programs in three Mississippi junior colleges.

Farr first retired at 65 from Westside Baptist Church, Macon. Then he retired again at age 70 from Bogue. "I've been supplying, and preaching and getting married since," he remarked with a straight face. Going to Hawaii places Farr one step closer to what he feels is his destiny. "I've known for many years," he said matter-of-factly, "that I was going to preach on my 100th birthday."



*Christian Home Week*

Christian Home Week, set for May 3-10, provides churches an opportunity to emphasize the importance of families like Martha, David and Sharon Buster, members of Brentwood [Tenn.] Baptist Church. The theme for 1981 Christian Home Week is "The value of persons in the family of God." Churches are encouraged to use this week to provide family enrichment opportunities for members.



*Senior Adult Day*

In recognition of the many contributions senior adults make to Southern Baptists, churches are encouraged to set aside May 3 as "Senior Adult Day." Senior adults [l to r] Sarah Golden, Betsy Kyzar, Helen Long, Rubye Moseley and Bernice Ford are Senior Adult Music Time members, Belmont Heights Baptist Church, Nashville.