

Language Missions Day Aug. 9

Marcie, a New Mexican Mescalero Apache Indian, knows "good news" because of James and Joan Huse, two of more than 1200 language missions workers sponsored by the Home Mission Board's language missions division.

Aug. 9 is Language Missions Day among Southern Baptists, focusing prayer and attention to the board's ministries to 79 ethnic groups which speak 77 languages and dialects.

Baptist historians tour Bowling Green area

Members of the Kentucky Baptist Historical Society, hosted by First Baptist Church, Bowling Green, in their annual meeting July 24 heard three research papers, elected officers and toured Baptist historic sites in Warren and Logan counties.

Guides for the tour were Julia Neal and R. B. Hooks Jr. Miss Neal, a recognized authority on Kentucky and Kentucky Baptist history, led tour members through the Kentucky Building on the Western Kentucky University campus, gave a commentary at South Union on the Shakers and on revivalism in the early 1800s at Gasper River, Muddy River and Red River meeting houses. The tour included a visit to the Red River meeting house and cemetery near Adairsville.

R. B. Hooks Jr. briefed tour members on the history of Providence Baptist Church at Rockfield, near Bowling Green. Providence was the first Baptist church in the area and the mother church of First Baptist Church, Bowling Green. Hooks is a former pastor of Providence.

Dinner for the members was served by First Baptist Church, Bowling Green. A business session and a program featuring three lectures followed dinner. Charles Bryant, lay member of Bowling Green First Baptist Church, lectured on the history and characteristics of First Baptist Church, Leo Crismon spoke on John Burnam, a 19th century leader of Bowling Green First Baptist Church, and Franklin Owen read a paper on Landmarkism and its influence upon Baptists in Kentucky. J. M. Pendleton, pastor of the Bowling Green church from 1837 to 1857, was one of the theological architects of Landmarkism.

Membership in the Kentucky Baptist Historical Society is available to all Baptists interested in Kentucky Baptist history. Annual membership dues are \$5 with life membership for \$50. Requests for membership should be addressed to Franklin Owen, Kentucky Baptist Convention, P. O. Box 43433, Middletown, KY 40243.

Appeals pending

Burnett wins \$400,000 in suit against Sunday School Board

by Linda Lawson

A former employe of the Baptist Sunday School Board has been awarded \$400,000 by a jury in the Third Circuit Court, Nashville, after an eight-day trial in the \$1.5 million lawsuit he filed against the board.

Don Burnett, 42, a former personnel placement consultant, was awarded \$300,000 in compensatory damages and \$100,000 in punitive damages on the charge of defamation, one of six allegations in the suit.

Judge Joe C. Loser Jr. directed verdicts in favor of the board on five other charges. Loser also dismissed William O. Thomason as a defendant in the case. Thomason was executive vice president of the board in 1976 when events leading up to the suit took place.

Verdicts directed by Loser in favor of the board included allegations of assault and battery, wrongful discharge, gross negligence, outrageous conduct and false arrest and imprisonment.

In his instruction to the jury, Loser defined defamation as "the malicious communication of false information tending to expose another living person to public hatred, contempt or ridicule and deprive another of the benefits of public confidence or social acceptance."

After the announcement of the jury's verdict, reached after two hours of deliberation, board president Grady Cothen said he will request attorneys for the board to file a motion for a new trial.

"We will explore all legal remedies. We do not believe the verdict is supported by the evidence," Cothen said.

Burnett told reporters following the verdict, "I am glad that through this trial, the truth was known."

The suit, filed in the spring of 1977, arose after Burnett went to Cothen in July 1976 to express his concern that certain board employes might be involved in massive conspiracies to defraud the board of funds and that some officials were engaged in sexual misconduct.

During the trial Burnett testified he had no concrete facts upon which to base his concerns. However, names of numerous employes surfaced in connection with rumors reported by Burnett.

Burnett recounted two meetings and several telephone conversations with Cothen in July and August 1976. Burnett told Cothen he feared board executives involved in improprieties would hire someone to ambush or kill him for reporting his concerns. He said he was carrying a gun in his car for protection.

Cothen testified that he investigated some of Burnett's allegations and found no evidence to support them and that he became concerned about Burnett's mental health and for the safety of board employes. Aug. 2 he asked Burnett to see a psychi-

atrist, Dan Calhoun, who had been suggested by Thomason.

Burnett voluntarily went to Calhoun Aug. 3 and 4 and at the conclusion of his second visit, Calhoun recommended hospitalization for further evaluation. Burnett refused.

Calhoun then called Cothen, told him he believed Burnett possessed the likelihood of harm to himself or others, and advised him to have the police pick up Burnett and take him to be examined by another psychiatrist.

Calhoun told Cothen he had filled out emergency commitment papers and a form certifying the need for hospitalization for evaluation, papers which the police were supposed to pick up before taking Burnett to the hospital.

Cothen testified he checked with legal counsel to verify proper procedures for emergency hospitalization before acting.

Testimony showed Burnett was picked up by police on the parking lot of the board and taken to the hospital. He was released that day, however, after conversations between his personal physician and the psychiatrist who was to perform the second examination.

Following the parking lot incident Aug. 4, Cothen spoke briefly to employes in chapel Aug. 6 about Burnett, without mentioning him by name. His remarks, tape recorded, were introduced as evidence in the trial.

Cothen told employes Aug. 6, 1976:

"Some of you witnessed, in spite of our best efforts, an unfortunate experience in the parking lot on the day before yesterday which we did our best to prevent. In spite of our plans it didn't come off in privacy as we had hoped.

"It has come to my attention that there are about the board wild rumors about what went on there, so let me say the only thing that went on there was an attempt on our part, acting upon competent advice, legally and medically, to attempt to get some help for one of our brothers who, in the judgment of competent authority, needed some help. He has not done anything bad. He has not done anything wrong. He is a respected Christian brother who does not deserve our judgment. He does not deserve our censure. He deserves our prayers.

"He will not return to the board until he obtains help, if he needs it."

After Aug. 4, 1976 Burnett was given a three-month leave of absence with pay and benefits and told he could return to the board with certification from a psychiatrist that he was able to resume his duties.

He was terminated Nov. 4, 1976 because he had failed to provide medical evidence concerning his health, and subsequently filed suit.

Indiana Baptist newspaper hires editor

David Simpson, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, New Whiteland, Ind., will become editor of the Indiana Baptist newspaper Sept. 1.

Simpson, 31, is chairman of the state convention executive board, was chairman of the editor search committee and was twice vice president of the state convention of Indiana Baptists.

He is a second generation Indiana Baptist. His father, Walker, was a pastor in the state and Simpson has been preaching since high school.

He graduated from Oakland City College, near Evansville, and Southwestern Seminary. He also

earned the DMin degree from Luther Rice Seminary in May. He plans to enrol in journalism courses this fall at the Indianapolis branch of Indiana University.

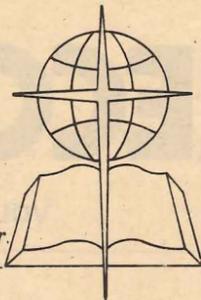
The Indiana Baptist, a 9600-circulation weekly, has been without an editor since Feb. 2 when Gene Medaris resigned suddenly following censure by the state convention executive committee.

Simpson has been pastor of churches in Princeton, New Harmony and Palestine, Ind., and in Fairview, Tex.

He and his wife, Connie, have two sons, Troy, 7, and Michael, 4.

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

What about women as deacons?

More and more Baptist churches are facing the question of whether or not to use women as deacons. Historically Baptists with few exceptions have used only men to serve as deacons. In recent years, however, more and more Baptist churches have decided women should serve in this office.

The emancipation of women in recent years from a traditional role of subordination to men was bound to be faced by Baptist churches sooner or later. It's unfortunate that churches have chosen women as deacons. Others are under pressure because some women in the church are aspiring to be deacons. Neither of these is a worthy reason for such consideration. It would be far better to look carefully at the present ministering responsibilities of the church in light of the New Testament and meet these responsibilities without regard to what other churches are doing or what ambitions women in the church might have.

Some churches are facing the question of women deacons because neighboring churches have chosen women as deacons. Others are under pressure because some women in the church are aspiring to be deacons. Neither of these is a worthy reason for such consideration. It would be far better to look carefully at the present ministering responsibilities of the church in light of the New Testament and meet these responsibilities without regard to what other churches are doing or what ambitions women in the church might have.

In response to specific requests the following thoughts on this question are offered with a quick admission they are but one person's views and other viewpoints are equally, if not more, valid.

In the first place a church must realize it has to find its own answer in the matter of women deacons. Neither the denomination nor any denominational leader has the answer. Surely ordaining women deacons in order to be like other churches or to satisfy ambitious women is not responsible action on the part of the church. Refusing to ordain women as deacons in order to hold to a traditional Baptist practice which may not be clearly biblical is not worthy of a church.

In the second place a church should proceed slowly and carefully in ordaining women as deacons. It is a controversial question capable of arousing strong emotions and dividing a congregation. It's not a life and death matter. Baptist churches have done very well since Christ without women deacons and the Kingdom doesn't depend upon a hasty settlement of the question. A wise pastor could express his views but should not become a crusader for ordaining women.

In the next place before changing a long standing policy a church should commit itself to a depth study of the Bible which is the only

recognized authority for Baptist churches. The pastor should lead in this search for biblical light but to keep from being identified with one side or the other, a pastor could invite a Bible teacher from a Baptist college or seminary or a neighboring pastor to deal at length with biblical passages related to this question. A brief consideration of two relevant New Testament passages follows this editorial.

Finally, a church should be fairly well united before proceeding with electing women deacons. This goes for any change. It's always better to wait until all or most all of the members are agreeable to the step than to proceed when many are unwilling.

What does the New Testament say about women as deacons?

If I were a pastor I would have difficulty recommending what to do about electing women as deacons. I firmly believe in full equality of women but I see different roles for men and women in the account of New Testament churches as I see different roles for husbands and wives in the biblical teaching on marriage and the home.

Like some other knotty questions, this one is not answered simply and emphatically in the biblical passages that deal with it. I know that some make the New Testament passages sound strongly for women deacons and some are just as certain the New Testament disallows women as deacons but such certainty comes more from preconceived opinions than from objective study of the Bible.

Two of the key passages are 1 Tim. 3:8-13 and Rom. 16:1. The Timothy passage contains Paul's list of qualifications for deacons and the Roman passage refers to Phoebe, a servant or a deaconess in the church at Rome.

Chapter three of Timothy lists qualifications for "overseers" and "deacons." These appear to be the only recognized officers in the early churches. Overseers are considered to be bishops or pastors who had charge of local congregations. At first there seemed to be more than one for each congregation. They took care of the preaching and other spiritual needs of the members.

The deacons (literally, those serving) apparently were elected to take care of the physical needs of the members such as visiting the sick and distributing provisions to the needy.

Verses one through seven list qualifications for the overseers. Verse eight takes up qualifications of deacons. Everything is fairly clear until verse 11 when "women" are introduced and qualifications given for them.

The big question is whether these women are deacons' wives or other women assigned to deacon ministries. The Greek word used is not determinative. It's the word for "woman" used in such passages as Matt. 9:20 when the sick woman touches the garment of Jesus and in Acts 5:22 which speaks of women who believed and joined the Jerusalem church.

This word is also translated "wife" as in Acts 5:1 where Sapphira is designated as wife of Ananias, in Ephes. 5:22 where wives are instructed to be subject to their husbands as well as elsewhere in 1 Tim. 3 where overseers and deacons are restricted to one wife.

How can it be determined whether the word in verse 11 means "women" or "wives"? It could be either. The King James version translates it "wives." The New International Standard uses

"wives" with "deaconesses" as the marginal reading. The New American Standard uses "women" in the text with "wives" in the margin.

In such cases we are taught to translate a Greek word on the basis of the context. In this instance this is also difficult. It could be wives of deacons or it could be women who were assigned deacon duties.

I believe the context favors women who were assigned the same responsibilities with poor and sick women of the congregation as men were assigned with male members. One consideration favoring this is that the first phrase in verses eight and 11 are identical in the Greek except for the words "deacons" and "women." "Deacons, in like manner, grave" (verse eight) and "women, in like manner, grave" (verse 11).

If women were assigned ministering responsibilities to the poor and sick, they were likely widows in the church who had limited domestic responsibilities and not deacons' wives who would have been expected to stay home to look after husband and children.

Rom. 16:1 refers to Phoebe as a "deaconess" or "servant" of the church in Rome. The New American Standard and the New International Version use "servant" in the text and "deaconess" in the margin. The King James Version uses "servant." The Revised Standard Version uses "deaconess."

The Greek word used in Rom. 16:1 is the same word translated deacon in 1 Tim. 3:8 except it is in the feminine form. Consistency would suggest that Phoebe was a deaconess assigned deacon responsibilities with poor and sick women.

My conclusion is, therefore, that New Testament churches did use women, mostly widows, for ministering to sick and poor women. However, I see no case for specific ordination of women as deacons. I believe they volunteered and were used by the church for these services without ordination in the way we practice ordination today.

I am certain the office of deacon in New Testament churches was not used to prove that women have equal rights with men or that they must be included as deacons so as to have their part in deciding on and recommending church policies. The office of deacon should not be so used today.

A benevolence committee composed of men and women looking after the sick and poor would be closer to the New Testament concept of deacons than the way deacons function in most Baptist churches today.

Baptist Forum

In praise of missions meet

The 33rd annual Mountain Missions Conference held at Oneida Baptist Institute offered a good time for spiritual refreshment and mutual fellowship for all who attended.

Sponsored by the Home Mission Board and the Kentucky Baptist Convention, this year's conference program personalities included J. S. Bell, director of missions in Three Forks Association, who addressed "A Look at Mountain Culture" and Verlin C. Kruschwitz, teacher at Boyce Bible School, who featured "Developing a Mission-Minded Church." There was much more, and the conference was a real highlight for me. I wish every Kentucky Baptist could attend it and get acquainted with the dedicated missionaries to the hills of eastern Kentucky. For together, we are partners in bold missions.

Monty Carney, Frenchburg

Baptist News in Brief

WMU trains leaders

Four Kentuckians will participate in the Woman's Missionary Union leadership conference, Aug. 8-14, at Ridgecrest (N. C.) Baptist Conference Center.

Duke K. McCall, president of Southern Seminary and the Baptist World Alliance, will teach daily Bible studies on women.

Methods conferences for leaders and members of WMU will be directed by Mary Jane Thurman and Janie House, both of Louisville.

Sue Enoch will lead segments of the conference for deaf women and those who work with the hearing impaired.

The theme for the conference will be "Women in Missions."

A dozen women missionaries will speak.

The conference will culminate Friday morning with a salute to women of the

Baptist World Alliance and a parade of national dress by women attending the conference.

For registration information write: Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Ridgecrest, NC 28770. For program information write: Woman's Missionary Union, 600 North 20th Street, Birmingham, AL 35203.

Atheists file lawsuit

Federal court lawsuits have been filed in Mississippi and Arkansas, challenging portions of the state constitution which require a belief in a supreme being for election to state offices.

According to Jon Murray, director of the American Atheist's Center in Austin, Tex., and son of Madalyn Murray O'Hair, the suits are part of an effort to get such provisions removed from the constitutions of Mississippi,

Arkansas, Texas, North Carolina and South Carolina.

In the Arkansas legal action, Mrs. O'Hair was joined by her son, Frances Flora of Mount Ida and Erin Leary of Fayetteville. It names Gov. Frank White, state supreme court justices, President Ronald Reagan and the cabinet.

In Mississippi the suit was filed by Paul G. Tirmenstein, an 82-year-old retired engineer, and names the State of Mississippi, Reagan and the cabinet.

Reagan is asked in both cases to withhold federal funds until the laws are overturned.

The challenged Mississippi constitutional provision says that "no person who denies the existence of a supreme being shall hold any office in this state."

In Arkansas Section One of Article 19 of the state constitution says: "No person who denies the being of a god shall hold any office in the civil departments of this state nor be competent to testify as a witness in any court."

In Mississippi, Mrs. O'Hair said her group, the Society of Separationists, had attempted to find a lawyer, but none would take the case.

Baptists, Catholics team

A Southern Baptist interfaith witness expert and a Roman Catholic publisher have teamed up to break a long-standing barrier between the largest Christian denominations in the United States.

Paulist Press, a Catholic publishing house, has printed "Introducing Southern Baptists: Their Faith and Their Life" by C. Brownlow Hastings, assistant director of interfaith witness for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

"While brief pamphlets have been published by Catholic presses about Protestant denominations, this is one of the first full-length books on Baptist faith and life produced by a Catholic publishing house," Hastings said.

The purpose of the book is to answer questions about Baptist faith and life for non-Baptists, especially members of Roman Catholic and Orthodox churches, Hastings said, noting he based the content of the book on questions asked of him during the 11 years he has been involved in interfaith discussions on behalf of the board.

The book also includes a glossary of Southern Baptist terms and a series of most-asked questions about the denomination.

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Baptist Forum

Hymnals needed in Nigerian church

While visiting Nigeria, West Africa, recently, I was asked to make an appeal to Kentucky Baptists for copies of the new Baptist hymnal to be used in First Baptist Church of Jos, Nigeria.

It occurred to me that there might be churches, individuals, Sunday school classes or other groups that would like to join me in a project to fill the need of this church.

There are 3000 members of the church. I would think that a goal of at least 500 songbooks would be a considerable challenge. Who will join me in this need?

If your church, group or you will share in this, then let me know how many books you will assume responsibility for, and I'll supply you with the name of the church and the address and you can send the books directly to them. Write to Russ Mobley, Route 3 HB 68, Campbellsville, KY 42718, phone (502) 465-6436.

Russ Mobley, Campbellsville

Help for the unemployed pastor

The need to help pastors who become unemployed is striking. Most people have some kind of unemployment protection. Pastors are not really self-employed. They are dependent upon the local church for their salary. Many are only able to live week by week.

Therefore, when a pastor becomes unemployed for whatever reason, disaster strikes the financial status of his family.

Because of the structure of the "calling" procedures of Southern Baptist churches a pastor may remain without a pastorate for several months. Other kinds of jobs are difficult for the minister to find because the employer knows that the "preacher" will leave as soon as he can. Also job skills may be minimal because the pastor has been out of the job market for some time.

Where is he to turn? There is nothing within our national or state conventions that will be of aid. The "relief" was dropped from the Annuity Board many years ago.

The Caldwell-Lyon Baptist Associa-

tion has incorporated a "Ministerial Unemployment Supplement Trust" (M.U.S.T.) to receive and disburse funds for assistance on a temporary basis to ministers who become "unemployed." The association adopted the incorporation papers for the M.U.S.T. at the June 29 executive board meeting. A board of directors elected by the association will administer M.U.S.T.

Harold Greenfield, Princeton

Rejects literal Genesis interpretation

With many other modern Christians, I reject fundamentalist creationism or literal interpretation of Genesis, but I question the easy assumption by some other critics of that view that our universe is infinitely old. Most astronomers now hold that our universe, having exploded outward from a single point no more than about 20 billion years ago at the "Big Bang," will expand forever in contrast with the minority view proposing an infinitely old universe oscillating eternally, expanding and contracting. The journal "Astronomy," June 1981: "Such an ever-expanding model is favored by most astronomers."

Now, in the context of the majority view, most theistic and non-theistic minds alike find it implausible that, as a crude, concentrated mass, the universe hovered in existence through all eternity until 20 billion years ago, then suddenly exploded to develop through all the complexities of evolution. That the "Big Bang" was sudden and absolute creation by God is a reasonable view for scientifically informed religious progressives.

At the same time we can agree there has always been a universe. Our universe might be only the latest in an endless succession. A universe, then, might in its turn explode into existence, might expand through its particular history (say, 100 billion years), and, finally, cold and dead in the depths of infinity, might be utterly withdrawn from existence (Rev. 21:1).

Simultaneously might come the brilliant burst of a new creation.

Robert E. Crenshaw, Waterloo, S. C.

Love-In-Action!

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Several years ago, a group of concerned Cumberland students established Love-In-Action, a community Christian outreach program in an effort to touch the surrounding mountain communities with love and Christian concern. The program grew rapidly as it ministered to the needs of the isolated hollows and small villages and is now a permanent fixture of the campus.

The program is flexible. In summer, week-long Vacation Bible Schools are held for the children in many remote areas. Throughout the entire year, many other programs are available: recreation for the young, Bible studies, tutoring and educational programs for children and adults, and craft classes. Many students working in Love-In-Action are preparing themselves for full-time field placement in many areas.

President Taylor.

I would like more information about Love-In-Action and how I can help continue this successful ministry to the mountain people.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

(Clip and mail to Dr. James Taylor, President, Cumberland College, Williamsburg, KY 40769)

Mountains to the Mississippi

Personnel

Hollander resigns church, presidency
George Hollander has resigned as president of the Louisville Baptist Minister's Fellowship and as assistant pastor of education and outreach at Westport Road Baptist Church, Long Run Association.

After serving the church three years Hollander has accepted a position in Jackson, Tenn. as minister of education at West Jackson Baptist Church.

Floyd Co. preacher keeps the law
Doug Lewis may be the only sheriff in the United States who is also a Baptist preacher.

Lewis, sheriff of Floyd County, was converted after being elected as sheriff and is being used more and more by churches in the area. Recently he tried preaching in his first revival at Home Branch Mission sponsored by Fitzpatrick Baptist Church.

Vacation Bible school which is being conducted at the same time of the revival at Home Branch is staffed this year by 22 members from Lyndon Baptist Church, Louisville.

Carney now pastor of Frenchburg
Monty D. Carney is now pastor of Frenchburg Baptist Church.

Carney is a native of Louisville and a graduate of Eastern Kentucky University, Clear Creek Baptist School and Southern Seminary. Before going to Frenchburg he was pastor of several churches in Kentucky and Indiana and was public relations director at Clear Creek Baptist School.

Mrs. Carney is the former Ruby J.

Caldwell of Hazard. The couple has two children: Latona, 8, and William Andrew, 5.

Fitch exchanges pastorate for school
Gordon Fitch, pastor of Benedict Baptist Chapel, Enterprise Association, has resigned to attend Clear Creek Baptist School, Pineville.

The Benedict congregation has called Doug Lewis as interim pastor. Lewis, sheriff of Floyd County, was converted after being elected to the office and he has become a lay preacher.

Illinois church calls Bob Jones
Bob Jones, pastor of Shively Heights Baptist Church, Long Run Association, has accepted a call to Grace Baptist Church, Granite City, Ill.

Jones began his ministry there July 26.

Mercer resigns Sonora FBC post
Jack Mercer has resigned the pastorate of First Baptist Church, Sonora, effective Aug. 17.

Nichols to be Calvert City pastor
Larry Nichols has accepted the call to become pastor of First Baptist Church, Calvert City. He will begin his duties there Aug. 23.

Newberry leaves church for hospital
Orin Newberry, minister of education at First Baptist Church, Bellevue, has resigned his position to serve as supervisor in residency at Bethesda Hospital, Cincinnati.

Newberry will work and train in pastoral care and counseling.

Victory minister accepts Virginia call
Robert W. Jones has resigned as minister of education at Victory Memorial Baptist Church, Louisville, to accept the call to First Baptist Church, Woodbridge, Va.

Jones began as associate pastor in education Aug. 1.

Lyndon secretary resigns
Diane Hill, secretary at Louisville's Lyndon Baptist Church, is resigning after 11 years of service.

She is planning to be married and move to northern Illinois.

Turner leaves Hillvue for New Orleans
Amil Turner has resigned as education director of Hillvue Heights Baptist

Church, Warren Association, to enter New Orleans Seminary in August.

Lindsey resigns Rocky Hill pastorate
Bobby Lindsey has resigned as pastor of Rocky Hill Baptist Church, Warren Association. He had been in the position one year.

Allen leaves 12-year pastorate
The pastorate of Jackson Grove Baptist Church, Warren Association, has been resigned by Hulon Allen. He has been pastor there since 1969.

Harris ends three years at Plano
Kelley Harris, pastor of Plano Baptist Church, Warren Association, has resigned after three years at the church.

Harris has moved to Tennessee to attend school.

Martin resigns interim pastorate
Bill Martin has resigned as interim pastor of Cedar Bluff Baptist Church, Warren Association. He had served the church nine months.

Interim Morris accepts Woodburn call
Wallace Morris has accepted the call to the pastorate of Woodburn Baptist Church, Warren Association.

He has been the church's interim pastor for one year.

Watts to lead Living Hope youth
Living Hope Baptist Church, Warren Association, has called David Watts as youth director.

Watts is a student at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green and a former member of Lake Dreamland Baptist Church, Louisville.

Billy Compton is pastor.

Johnson goes to full time at Bethel
Jim Johnson, part time pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Warren Association, has been hired in a full time capacity.

Finley calls Whitehouse as pastor
Finley Baptist Church, Green Valley Association, has called Kenneth Whitehouse of Mitchellsburg as pastor.

He began in early August.

Peck resigns Calvary pastorate
Walter Peck has resigned the pastorate of Calvary Baptist Church, West Union Association. He is serving as the church's supply preacher.

Carson accepts call to Bashford Manor
Bashford Manor Baptist Church, Long Run Association, has called Tony Carson as pastor. Carson is the former associate pastor of church administration at Ninth and O Baptist Church, Louisville.

Calvary hires visitation minister
Dave Willets is minister of students/visitation of Calvary Baptist Church, Lexington. He is a native of Georgia

but spent most of his early life in Tulsa, Okla., where his father was pastor of Whites City Baptist Church.

He is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University and has begun seminary work which he plans to complete later.

He served several congregations in Oklahoma before coming to Lexington.

Mrs. Willets (Leesa) is a native Oklahoman and a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University. She is a public school music teacher.

Sheets called to Bonnierville pastorate
Lonnie Sheets has been called to the pastorate of Bonnierville Baptist Church, Lynn Association. His service began July 12.

Green River calls Gilstrap
Green River Baptist Church, Ohio County Association, has called Joey Gilstrap as director of evangelism. Mike Brady is the church's pastor.

Lindsey to fill Narrows pastorate
Narrows Baptist Church, Ohio County Association, has called Jim Lindsey as pastor.

Anderson serves Oaklawn youth
Hugh Anderson, a graduate of Murray State University, has been called to be full time youth director for the summer by Oaklawn Baptist Church, Paducah.

Anderson will attend Southern Seminary in Louisville in the fall.

Bells Run pastor resigns
Bob Phillips, pastor of Bells Run Baptist, Ohio County Association, has resigned to accept the pastorate of Petersburg (Ind.) Baptist Church.

Bardwell FBC celebrates century
First Baptist Church, Bardwell, celebrated its 100th anniversary in June. Highlighting the celebration was lunch in the new dining facility which displayed memorabilia from the church's past.

Dukes moves to Owensboro church
Denzel L. Dukes is pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church, Owensboro. He came to the Owensboro pastorate after serving 15 years at First Baptist Church, Milan, Tenn. Dukes is a native Kentuckian and a graduate of Southern Seminary.

Miss Young honored by Beechwood
Ina Young, secretary at Beechwood Baptist Church, Louisville, was honored by the church Wednesday, July 22. Miss Young is retiring after 14 years at the church.

Lebanon Junction FBC calls White
First Baptist Church, Lebanon Junction, has called Rick White to be pastor effective Aug. 16.

White will move to Kentucky from an Indiana pastorate. The Michigan native is a graduate of Carson-Newman College and Southern Seminary.

C. Vernon Cole is interim pastor.

Revivals

Clear Run revival brings in four
Four professions of faith were made at the late May revival at Clear Run Baptist Church, Ohio County Association.

David E. Gray was evangelist. Paul Frick is pastor.

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Little River has July revival
Mac McCain was evangelist for the July 19-25 revival at Little River Baptist Church, Jonathan Creek Assembly.

Hancock leads Lafayette revival
Lafayette Baptist Church, Jonathan Creek Assembly, was in revival July 12-17. William Hancock was evangelist.

East Bend has July revival
East Bend Baptist Church, Northern Kentucky Association, was in revival July 20, ending with a homecoming celebration July 26.

Revival evangelist was Ray Brown. Jackie B. Wilson is pastor.

Central Grove held revival
Central Grove Baptist Church, Ohio County Association, was recently in revival with Duncan Smith as evangelist. Chris Carter is the church's pastor.

Missions

Miss Ward establishes filing system
Marie Ward of Temple Hill Baptist Church, Monroe Association, worked for the Home Mission Board in Atlanta, Ga. during her June vacation.

Assigned through the Christian Service Corp, Miss Ward organized a filing system for the Atlanta Baptist Association of church volunteers throughout the Atlanta area.

Deaths

Former Kentucky pastor dies
Harvey L. Holland, 69, former pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist in Trenton, Roland Memorial Baptist in Greenville and Hebron Baptist in Kuttawa, died July 9.

Holland is survived by his wife, the former Louise Baker of Fredonia; two children, Betty Lou Ivanyi of Michigan and John Harvey Holland of Calhoun, Ga.; and six grandchildren.

Former HMB staffer dies
George W. Cummins, 74, former director of chaplaincy for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, died July 12 of natural causes.

At the time of his death Cummins was interim pastor of First Baptist Church, Powder Springs, Ga. Church members found his body in a nearby motel room when he failed to attend Sunday morning worship services.

Cummins joined the staff of the board in 1955 when he was named associate director of the HMB Chaplains Commission. He was elected director of the division of chaplaincy in 1961 and served there until his retirement in 1971.

Previously he was pastor of churches in Kentucky, chaplain in the U. S. Navy, associational missionary in California and superintendent of western missions for the HMB.

Congregations

Cumberland breaks ground for growth
Ground-breaking ceremonies for the sanctuary of Cumberland Baptist Church, Middlesboro, were Sunday, June 6.

Construction began on the building June 28. Approximately \$180,000 of the necessary \$569,000 has been raised.

Calhoun breaks ground for education
Members of Calhoun (Ky.) Baptist Church broke ground Sunday, July 19 for an education wing for the church.



Phase one of a four- to five-year building program, the wing will be a two-story addition of six classrooms, temporary office, kitchen and dining room.

Much of the labor toward the \$100,000 project will be done by church volunteers.

Pictured are building committee members (l-r): Ed Tunget; David Floyd, chairman; Gary Belcher, minister of music and youth; and Thomas S. Stokes, pastor.

Bryan Station sponsors mission
Deerfield Baptist Mission, Empire Drive, Somerset, was formally constituted July 18. The sponsoring congregation was Bryan Station Baptist Church, Lexington.

The congregation has recently moved into a new brick building. Wendell P. Furlong is the Deerfield pastor.

Walnut Street honors Young's service
In honor of his 25 years of service at Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville, Sunday, July 26 was Bob Young Day at the church.

Young preached in the morning worship service and a reception was given that evening for Young and his wife, Kathleen.

Currently associate pastor and church administrator, Young has also been assistant to the pastor and education minister since he joined the Walnut Street staff in 1956.

Shively group does Michigan missions
Thirty-two members of Shively Baptist Church, Long Run Association, recently returned from a week-long mission trip to Port Huron, Mich.

The group, comprised of youth, single adults and a family of six, spent the week leading seven backyard Bible clubs and conducting a religious census of 100 blocks, as well as leading and promoting services at the 19-member Gracemont Baptist Church, the only Southern Baptist church in the area.

The group also ministered at its campsite, providing Bible study, worship and a Bible club for campers.

Lebanon Junction FBC celebrates 100
First Baptist Church, Lebanon Junction, will celebrate its 100th anniversary Sunday, Aug. 23.

Special events, including a display of memorabilia depicting the church's history, invitations to former pastors to spend a Sunday in the pulpit and a homecoming celebration, will follow the morning worship service.

Campton Baptist celebrates 133 years
Campton (Ky.) Baptist Church will celebrate its 133rd anniversary Sunday, Aug. 16. The service will begin at 10 a.m.

Chiles honored by Blood River gift
Almost \$50,000 has been collected by churches in Blood River Association and given in honor of Dr. and Mrs. H. C. Chiles for a cottage at Glen Dale Children's Home.

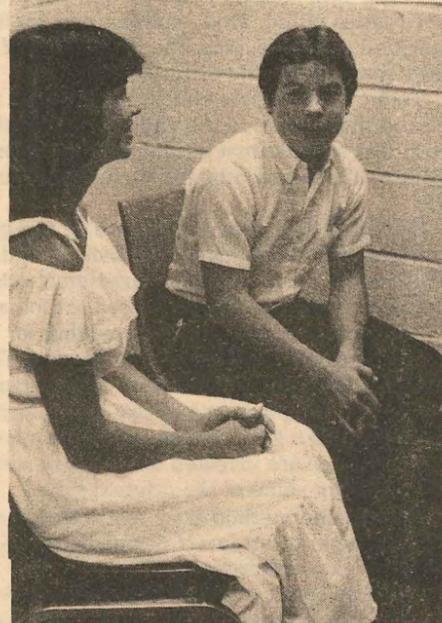
Chiles, pastor of First Baptist Church, Murray, for 22 years, has been clerk of the association since 1960. Currently a teacher at Boyce Bible School, Chiles was on the Kentucky Baptist Board of Child Care for 10 years. He was pastor of First Baptist Church, Barbourville, from 1933-38 and people of that area have donated approximately \$2500.

Each new cottage at Glen Dale costs about \$150,000. The construction is part of a \$2 million project which also includes new cottages at Spring Meadows Children's Home, Middletown.

Sand Spring marks 80 years
The congregation of Sand Spring Baptist Church, Lawrenceburg, celebrated the church's 80th anniversary Sunday, July 26.

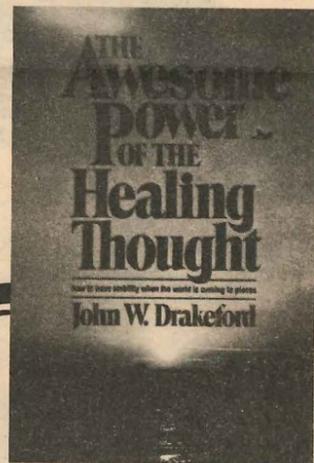
J. J. Owens, professor of Old Testament and Hebrew at Southern Seminary, delivered the address.

Bill Messer has been pastor of the church since 1975.



Kentucky youth speakers' tournament and Bible drill winners, Linda Williams and Greg Roederer, attended the Church Training leadership conference in Ridgecrest, N. C. recently and demonstrated their skills.

Miss Williams is a member of First Baptist Church, Lawrenceburg. Roederer is a member of Louisville's Highview Baptist Church.



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John W. Drakeford, author of twelve Broadman books and tapes, is professor of psychology and director of the Baptist Marriage and Family Counseling Center at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas. \$6.95

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Ministering to the children of the 80's

For vulnerable children

by Thomas Moore,
Director of Development/Communications

Since 1869 the child care program of Kentucky Baptists has meant hope for the future of thousands of vulnerable children.

In the 19th century children under our care were primarily in need of the basic necessities of life: food, clothing and shelter. These things were provided along with spiritual guidance. Now the necessities of life are available to most children and so they come to us with different needs.

Today's vulnerable children bear scars within. The kind of life situation that placed those scars in the child's life can also lock that child into a life that is filled with fear and distrust of himself and others. This in turn brings on an attitude of failure. These are vulnerable children who are not able to cope with the demands of life.

Our child care program is here by the grace of God to provide hope, to help these children overcome anger and distrust and find meaning and purpose for their lives. This can be done only in a Christian atmosphere in which the ultimate goal is to help each child be rightly related to God and his church.

The financial demands of providing for hundreds of children every year are met by Kentucky Baptists and their friends. The need continues to be great, and many Baptists and their friends want to help carry on this vital ministry. Wills and bequests can be left in one of two ways. First, they can be left as most are in the form of unrestricted gifts. These monies can be used as the board sees best. Initially these monies are invested and the interest used until the need of the children calls for spending some of the original gifts.

The second method is by restricting the gift to permanent endowment. Hence, the principal is left intact permanently and only the interest is available for use in the child care ministry.

All of us could leave at least 10 percent of our estate, whether large or small, to the child care program. The savings in taxes would pay for much of the gift.

There are others of you—like those in the past—who can give greater amounts through your will. Just as you will live on as a child of God in the kingdom of heaven, so make plans for your material gain to live on in the name and service of Christ on earth.

Sunday School Lessons

AUGUST 9, 1981



H. C. Chiles

THE BASIS OF COVENANT RENEWAL

International Series

Deuteronomy 29:2-15 Aware that he was approaching the end of his earthly life, Moses wanted to prepare the Israelites for their entrance of the promised land which they were eager to possess. In a huge mass meeting on the plains of Moab, Moses sought to impart to them the strength which they would need if they were to survive in their new home.

Moses challenged the Israelites to reflect on God's grace and goodness which he had extended to their ancestors so bountifully, even before many of them were born. Moses reminded them that God had liberated them from bondage in Egypt, had made a covenant with them at Sinai, had cared for them and sustained them for 40 years while they sojourned in the wilderness, daily supplying them manna for food and a sufficient supply of water to meet their needs, and had brought them safely to the border of the promised land after having given them military victories over their enemies. Not once had God broken a promise he had made to them at Sinai.

In making a covenant with the Israelites at Sinai God voluntarily placed upon himself certain obligations relative to those whom he called into the covenant relationship with him. We may well think of that covenant as a matter of God's offer in love and of man's response in faith and obedience. God's offer was neither demanded nor earned, but was an act of marvelous grace, love and mercy.

Of course Moses knew full well that the people through their stubbornness of will and determination to do as they pleased had broken their covenant with God. Their brazen disobedience was both unnecessary and inexcusable. Inasmuch as they had broken their covenant with God through disobedience, it was their obligation to return to God, to acknowledge their sinfulness, to request divine forgiveness, and then to renew their covenant with him. Obedience to God is ever the price of blessing and true spiritual prosperity.

Without hesitation and with great earnestness, Moses besought the Israelites to whom he was speaking on this memorable occasion to avail themselves of the glorious opportunity of renewing their covenant with God, of making a new, public and full commitment of themselves to God, and of being faithful in keeping their promises to God in the difficult, discouraging and dangerous situations in which they were sure to find themselves. Any and all of God's children who sincerely enter into a covenant with God will discover to their satisfaction and joy that God will always keep every promise that he has ever made to them. To the very limit of our abilities and opportunities let us do everything possible to please and honor God, who has done so much for us, until we come to the end of life's way.

WHEN YOU ARE BETRAYED

Life and Work

There is no agony in life like that of being betrayed by one who has been an intimate friend. The more intimate the friendship the more acute is the pain caused by the betrayal.

Fear—Psalm 55:1-7 In the depths of his distress, anguish and fear, the psalmist was in a quandary as to the best way to secure liberation from the desperate plight in which he found himself. Unfavorable and uncongenial circumstances over which he did not have any control consumed his thoughts and energies to such an extent that he was not able to perform his duties in a commendable fashion. With mixed emotions and great mental anxiety, he expressed a sincere desire and an earnest hope that God might enable him to escape the torture to which he was being subjected by permitting him to flee from his enemies and go into the solitude of the wilderness.

Fury—Psalm 55:9, 12-14 The more the psalmist thought about the betrayal to which he had been subjected by his foes the more intense did his anger become. In his fury he called upon God to destroy his adversary who had pretended to be his friend. Words cannot describe the pain and agony which the psalmist experienced when he was betrayed by his intimate friend with whom he had enjoyed sweet fellowship in the worship of God in his house. It is not surprising that he was so greatly perplexed because of his betrayal from the source from whence it came, and requested God to deal with it. When we have a similar experience of betrayal we must never allow it to embitter us.

Faith—Psalm 55:20-22 Shocked, astonished and grieved at the betrayal of the one who had broken his covenant of friendship, the psalmist gave prayerful thought as to the proper procedure to follow in the correct solution of this difficult problem. Recognizing his helplessness in this regard the psalmist turned to the Lord in earnest prayer, fully expecting that God would vindicate him.

In response to his prayer God told the psalmist: "Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee." How are God's children to cast their burdens upon the Lord? By telling him about them, by asking his help in their bearing them and by expressing submission to his will with reference to them. This is just what we frequently fail to do. When we roll our burdens over on the Lord who cares for us, we discover he is both able and willing to sustain us by removing our burdens, by disclosing their design, by imparting increased strength to us or by promising a brighter future of rest and joy.

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Clear Creek Comments

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



Students who also work

I am often asked how much it costs to come to Clear Creek School and people are amazed at the answer.

Actually our school is a family school since most of our students are men with families. They have left the security of excellent jobs and sold their homes to move here where they prepare for the ministry. We now offer two types of study: a three-year course offering a certificate of achievement and a four-year course leading to a bachelor's degree. Wives also obtain a Christian workers certificate when they take classes with their husbands. Areas of study include theology, religious education and music.

Tuition and fees are extremely low, around \$300, which by most standards is very reasonable. Housing costs are kept at a minimum, allowing our students to concentrate on their classes rather than earning a living.

How do we do it? Well, the Kentucky Baptist Convention provides part of our income through Cooperative Program receipts. The balance must come from supporters of the school like you and your friends. They respond with regular contributions which enable us to assist the students with their tuitions and fees.

When inflation is as high as it is these days, some supporters cannot make their normal gifts and we must adjust. Therefore, we must seek additional support from those who can provide it. Your sacrificial giving has been a blessing to me over the 30 years I have served here, and I pray you will seek God's will in the future as you pray about your support.

Our students appreciate your interest in their ministry and often express it publicly.

Another area of support is the love offering from churches. When Clear Creek Day is observed everyone has the opportunity to give.

The gifts which come to Clear Creek are not large; many of them are under \$25, but they do make the difference. Without that support we would have a difficult time making ends meet. So whatever you give is important.

If it were possible I'd like to sit down with you personally and tell you how much your prayers and financial support mean. Since I cannot do that please accept this means of communication as my personal "thank you."

KBC Activities

Here and now

AUGUST

- 6 & 7 Interfaith Witness Conference. 7 to 9 p.m.
6—Murray, First Baptist Church
7—Ashland, Rose Hill Baptist Church
- 6-8 Early Childhood Education Workshop. Cedarmore. For workers in churches with day care, nursery school and kindergartens. 1 p.m. Thursday through lunch Saturday. Make reservations through Cedarmore
- 9 Language Missions Day

Looking ahead

- 10-12 Pastor-Wife Retreat. Cedarmore. Register with Cedarmore. Sponsored by Church Administration, KBC
- 10-12 Church Secretaries' Retreat. Cedarmore. Register with Cedarmore. Sponsored by Church Administration, KBC

Planning ahead

- 14-15 Children's Sunday School Workers Seminar. Cedarmore
- 16-19 College Students' Pre-School Conference. Cedarmore. 4 p.m. Sunday through noon meal Wednesday. Register with Student Department, KBC
- 17-18 Sunday School "Basic" Books Training for Assist Teams. 7 to 9 p.m.
Paintsville Baptist Church
Campbellsville Baptist Church
First Missionary Baptist, Benton
First Baptist Church, Barbourville
- 20-25 WMU Leadership Conferences. Cedarmore. For lunch reservations on drive in days and full accommodations for overnight events, contact Cedarmore.
20 and 21—drive-in days; 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
22-23 and 24-25—overnights; 1:30 p.m. on first day through lunch on second day
- 23-30 Church Music Week. Materials in Church Music publications
- 24-25 Sunday School "Basic" Books Training for Assist Teams. 7 to 9 p.m.

The Child Care, Clear Creek and Oneida columns are paid space.

Oneida Journal

On the firing line

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



Our students arrive this coming Sunday, Aug. 9 to begin our 83rd academic year. Our summer school ended July 29, our faculty conference and annual prayer retreat begins tomorrow, and our last campers will leave Saturday. We'll have an afternoon and night to clean before our students move in.

What a busy several months it has been! The summer began with the destruction of our maintenance shop and newest boys' dorm by fire. It is ending with plans to have a one-story shop building and, with your help and God's blessings, to build a new dorm with a capacity of 120 boys in time for the opening of school in August 1982.

We had 162 in our summer school and summer work program. This was the largest number ever and, yet, the fewest problems I can recall. We have had so many hundreds here for week-long camps and retreats that I have lost count.

We have had large camp groups from Iowa, Minnesota, Kansas, Delaware, Nebraska, three groups from Texas, three groups from Alabama, and two groups from each of the following states: Georgia, Maryland, Tennessee, Ohio and Illinois.

The 33rd annual Mountain Missions Conference was July 6-10 with approximately 150 attending. Verlin Kruschwitz led the Bible and mission study periods each day, and J. S. Bell gave insights into ministry in the Kentucky mountains from his more than 40 years of mission work. Longtime participants in the conference agreed that this was the finest ever.

Many individuals and groups have come to labor as volunteers this summer, helping up to prepare for another year. Notable among these was a group of laymen from Mt. Vernon Baptist Church in Albertsville, Ala. who did a marvelous work toward the renovation of the 32-year-old Oneida Baptist Church basement. A group of 40 boys and girls from the Dwight (Ala.) Baptist Church worked a week helping to clean debris from the burned Hensley Hall as well as painting seats and varnishing bleachers in the gym. A group of men came to work a day from the Mill Creek Baptist Church of Radcliff.

Bill Cole of the Ballardville Baptist Church was here for several weeks and Jim Zaring of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church near Middletown did carpentry work for our new concession stand. Fenton Hewins of Central Baptist, Lexington, was back to work on air-conditioning; bank vice-president Allen Atkins of East Cumberland Baptist Church, Middlesboro, did much maintenance type work in July and inspired many of his friends to lend a hand; also Mr. and Mrs. Gay Higginbotham are giving a week of their time in carpentry and painting, their first visit with us.

Brothers Curt and Hiram Campbell, sons and nephews, were back from Hamilton, Ohio to do more electrical wiring, making over \$10,000 worth of labor they have donated in the past 1½ years. They first became acquainted with Oneida while growing up in the Buckhorn Presbyterian School and walking across the mountain to play basketball at Oneida.

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Spahr Jr. and Mr. and Mrs. Mack Hunter of Winchester's First Baptist Church, and Mr. and Mrs. T. K. Strong of Jackson First Baptist were back for another week of painting. They beautifully redid the lobby and lounge of our girls' dorm as well as up the staircase.

Pastor Edwin Kirkpatrick and his amazing flock from Ten Mile Baptist Church, Glencoe, were back for the third consecutive year. It has been a busy summer.

Frank Owen

Growing ministers



Back in the 1950's, L. R. Cooke of Lexington showed me some beautiful Hereford cattle on his Shannon Run Farm. Among the specimens pointed out was the Tri-State Champion in the two year old class.

Some time later, I was again at the farm and the herdsman was grooming a magnificent three year old animal for another session of the Tri-State Fair.

Remembering the two year old championship, I said, "Do you expect him to win again as a three year old?"

The herdsman replied, "This is not the two year old winner. There he stands over in the field. He was better than this one last year, but this one is much the better three year old." Thus, I learned that different animals are at their best at different times of life.

I sometimes think of that when I see church people place strict age limits on their requirements for prospective pastors. It seems wiser to seek the man for what he is: his convictions, talents, reputation, Christian philosophy of life, his poise, etc. . . . Let the age question come later, and only as to whether it should eliminate him.

Some preachers are at their best in their youth. Some "peak" at middle-age. Others grow and grow even until they are old. Find a growing Christian minister, whatever his age. There are such men. When we find them they seem always to be men of humble realization that they need to apply themselves studiously and vigorously throughout their careers—no coasting.

No one ever learns it all. Whoever should think himself omniscient has passed his last peak. Many ministers dig, dig, dig and stay in touch all their lives. They realize that the least informed person is sure to know some things that the tallest Ph.D. has not yet learned. They ever give an humble ear to their fellows and ever continue the pursuit of knowledge and truth. Such men grow and grow as long as their natural strength lasts.

Another year's statistical record becomes final
with August receipts from the churches.

Baptist News in Brief

Executive's dream alive

A service begun two years ago as the result of a Southern Baptist agency executive's dream has grown into a nationwide ministry to persons seeking Christian materials.

The direct sales service of the Baptist Sunday School Board was started in 1979, based on the dream of board president Grady C. Cothen that "we would be able to meet the needs of anyone, anywhere, anytime. It seemed to me the time had come for the Sunday School Board to provide a home shopping service for our Baptist constituents," he said.

"Today the service has an ever-growing list of customers that number 45,000. Persons responding to the Ministers Resource Service, a shop-by-mail program for church staff members and denominational workers, number 6000; Round Table Book Club, promoted by Woman's Missionary Union, has 3000 members; and Lifeway Home Shopping Service, a shop-by-mail service offering Christian books and materials, has 36,000 customers.

Among the Lifeway customers are 10,000 who have enrolled in an ongoing program to purchase the BibLearn series of books, published by Broadman Press for children ages six to 11.

Fair team auditions set

College students with music and drama skills may audition soon for a Southern Baptist group which will perform at the 1982 World's Fair, said Bill Lee, assistant director of special mission ministries for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

The fair, scheduled for May through October 1982, is expected to attract more than 11 million people.

"This is an opportunity for college students to express their faith to a large, diverse audience through music and drama, while also sharing one-to-one with tourists, community residents and World's Fair employees," Lee said.

Eighteen student performers will be assigned as semester student missionaries to serve Apr. 15-Oct. 31.

"The group will present a musical drama written especially for the World's Fair," Lee said. "Other talents, such as puppetry and clowning, will be helpful. We want to select the most talented, committed and attractive group of students that we as Baptists have to offer."

Southern Baptists plan to sponsor a pavilion located in the middle of the park that will be the base for ministry and witness, he said. The focal point of the pavilion will be a small theatre. Students will perform in the pavilion and may also have opportunities to perform in other areas of the park.

Theme of the Baptist pavilion, "The Word is . . . Energy," will be interpreted through displays, a multimedia presentation and the special musical. The world's fair theme is "Energy Turns the World."

Interested students may complete a regular student missions application and indicate World's Fair team. Applications should be in Lee's office at least seven days prior to audition time.

Auditions will be held in four locations: Glorieta Baptist Conference Center, Glorieta, N. M., Aug. 17 and

18; Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Ridgecrest, N. C., Aug. 24 and 25; First Baptist Church, Dallas, Tex., Sept. 11 and 12; and Central Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tenn., Oct. 16 and 17.

Students will be notified of audition times, Lee said. They should indicate on their application which audition they will attend. Students who cannot serve the entire six and a half months should not apply, he said.

For more information contact Lee at 1350 Spring St. N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30367, or phone him at (404) 873-4041.

Doctors, dentists to meet

The Baptist Medical Dental Fellowship (BMDF), an independent spiritually oriented professional organization of Baptist doctors and dentists, will meet Nov. 12-15 at the Executive Inn, Nashville, Tenn. More than 300 Southern Baptists in the medical-dental field along with 24 foreign missionaries are expected to attend.

Program personalities for the meeting include R. Keith Parks and William O'Brien of the Foreign Mission Board, James H. Smith of the Brotherhood Commission, Carolyn Weatherford of Woman's Missionary Union and Russell Dilday of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Cecil Sherman, pastor of First Baptist Church, Asheville, N. C., will lead the Bible study at each session.

The purpose of BMDF is to provide Christian professional fellowship among the membership and to strengthen individually and collectively the relationship and commitment of the membership to Jesus Christ. Through the organization the physicians and dentists receive opportunities to support missions, take part in disaster relief and participate in other mission service including work tours on the mission fields.

William Snowden, a Winchester, Ky. dentist, is president of BMDF.

Room priorities drawn

Block room reservations priorities for the 1982 Southern Baptist convention in New Orleans have been assigned by random drawing.

Tim A. Hedquist, convention manager for the SBC Executive Committee, said the system of drawing to establish priorities for assigning blocks of rooms was established last year.

"Under the policies people may request blocks of rooms in writing before July 15, and a drawing will be held immediately to determine the priority of assigning the rooms," he said.

Hedquist explained the policy was necessary because more blocks of rooms are requested than are available.

FMB consultant improves

Franklin T. Fowler, medical consultant for the Foreign Mission Board, is recovering from double coronary by-pass surgery performed July 24.

Fowler suffered an allergic reaction following surgery, but doctors say his condition is stable. Fowler entered the hospital a week before surgery after

experiencing chest pains.

The former missionary to Paraguay and Mexico is responsible for the health care of more than 3000 missionaries worldwide and assists the board's office of overseas operations in developing health care ministries overseas. He has been medical consultant since 1961.

Armstrong gifts pass goal

Southern Baptists exceeded the \$17.25 million goal for the Annie Armstrong Easter offering for home missions in July, the second earliest the goal has been reached in the past decade.

Total contributions through offerings in Southern Baptist churches received by the Home Mission Board reached \$17,274,088 July 27.

If giving through the offering continues for the rest of the year at the same rate as during the past five years, total offerings by the end of 1981 may exceed \$18.5 million, predicted Leonard Irwin, Home Mission Board vice president for planning.

HMB president William G. Tanner observed that in the light of today's economy and inflation the record gifts are an indication that Baptist churches are continuing to take seriously Jesus Christ's great commission "to preach the gospel to every living creature."

In Birmingham Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of Woman's Missionary Union which promotes the offering nationally, expressed thanks to Southern Baptists for supporting the offering, adding she hopes surpassing the goal will enable a breakthrough in home mission efforts.

Educator Mrs. Allen dies

Hattie Bell McCracken Allen, 85, a Baptist educator and writer, died Friday, July 24, in Winston-Salem, N.C., after a long illness.

Mrs. Allen lived in Nashville more than 40 years until 1972 when her husband Clifton J. Allen retired as editorial secretary of the Sunday School Board.

She became one of the first women in the Southern Baptist Convention to serve as a minister of education on a church staff when in 1924 she was called to the staff of First Baptist Church, Hartsville, S. C.

In 1926 Mrs. Allen moved to Nashville to become an assistant editor at the Sunday School Board, where she worked until 1947.

Mrs. Allen, a native of Columbus, Miss., earned the BS degree from William Carey College, Hattiesburg, and the BA and MA degrees from Peabody College, Nashville.

Lay participation up in LA

Lay participation increased slightly in the 1981 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Los Angeles, according to the annual messenger survey.

The survey, conducted by Martin Bradley of the Baptist Sunday School Board research department, is based on 11,376 responses from the 13,549 registered messengers at the convention.

Bradley said the survey showed there was "no great change" in the characteristics of 1981 messengers as compared to previous meetings of the 13.6 million member denomination.

"There is an amazing stability over the years," he commented. "The 1981 meeting reflects a slight rise in lay participation and by women messengers, but other than that there is no great change."

Of those who participated in the survey 59 percent were male, 39.1 percent were female and 1.9 percent did not indicate sex. This compares with the St. Louis SBC when 60.2 percent were male, 38.1 percent female and 1.7 percent not indicated.

Texas provided the most messengers with 13.7 percent of the total. California contributed 12.7. North Carolina was third with 9.0 percent; Georgia, 6.6; Tennessee, 6.3; South Carolina, 5.2; Alabama, 5.1; and Virginia, 5.0.

In 1980 Missouri provided 11.4 percent of the messengers, Texas 9.6, Tennessee 7.5 and Kentucky 7.2.

The survey also showed there were no registered participants from Maine, Rhode Island or Vermont. Five other states showed less than 0.1 percent participation: Delaware, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, North Dakota and Puerto Rico.

FMB adopts new policy

A new policy enabling long-term missionary associates to transfer to career missionary status will prove a "significant morale booster" to associates on foreign fields, according to Bill Marshall, Foreign Mission Board vice president for human resources.

Adopted during the board's July meeting, the new policy will allow associates who successfully complete two terms of service, meet educational requirements and gain board approval to transfer to career status.

"Although the support level for associates has been equal to the career program for several years, this action should eliminate any feeling of 'second classness' among associates," said Marshall. "In the long haul, it will strengthen our career base."

The new policy also affects academically qualified missionary candidates past the 39-year-old beginning age limit for career service. Such candidates may be eligible for career status after two successful terms of associate service.

Other new guidelines allow persons as old as 60 to begin associate service, set minimum educational requirements at 60 hours of college-level course work, provide for separate orientations and debriefings for associates, and authorize increased language study for certain assignments.

Launched in 1961, the missionary associate program employs Southern Baptists past the eligibility age for career mission appointment, and sometimes lacking full educational qualifications, to meet urgent specialized needs on mission fields, usually for single, four-year terms.

In the two decades since, more than 500 associates have worked in mission assignments ranging from maintenance and mechanics to English-language church leadership.