



The agencies' columns move to a new location in the paper, p. 3 . . . A young lady tells what it's like to minister as a woman on the staff of a metropolitan super-church, pp. 4-5 . . . Sunday school lessons return, p. 6 . . . We get letters on a variety of subjects of interest to readers of the state paper, p. 7

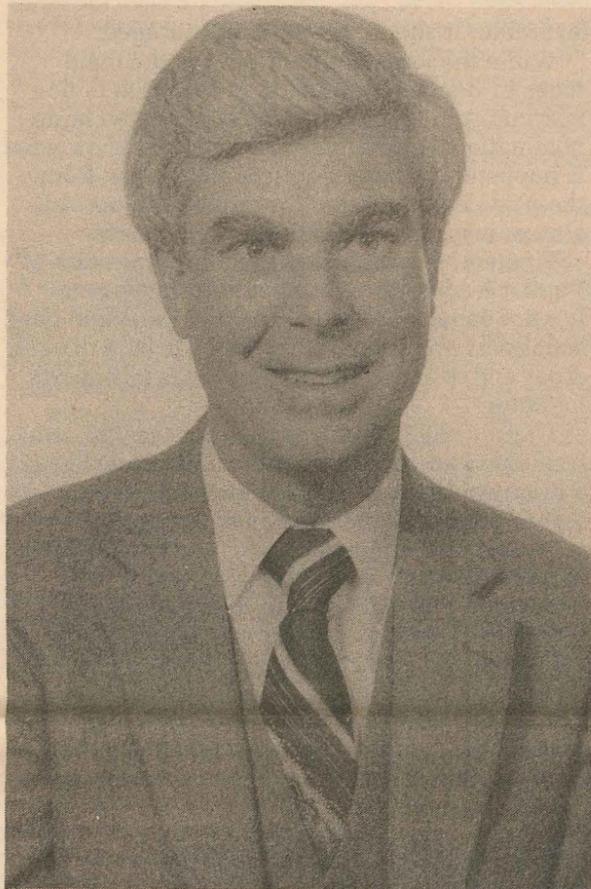


WESTERN RECORDER

VOL. 155, NO. 43, NOVEMBER 4, 1981

KENTUCKY BAPTIST NEWS JOURNAL

First, Paducah calls Georgian Robert White



J. Robert White

J. Robert White, pastor of Tabernacle Baptist Church, Carrollton, Ga., has accepted the call of First Church, Paducah, as pastor, effective Dec. 1.

White, 35, is a native of Ft. Pierce, Fla. His father, J. R. White, was pastor of Main Street Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Fla., and First Baptist Church, Montgomery, Ala., during White's youth.

The younger White is a graduate of Samford University, Birmingham, Ala., with the BA degree and holds MDiv and DMin degrees from Southern Seminary.

Ordained by First Baptist Church, Montgomery, Ala., White was minister of youth at two Birmingham churches in student days, and minister of music and youth at Evergreen, Ala. From 1969-72 he pastored Dabney Baptist Church, Holten, Ind., and from 1972-74 he was associate pastor of First Church, Montgomery. He accepted the Carrollton, Ga., pastorate in 1974.

White is married to the former Janice Gail Goodlet of Hialeah, Fla. They have three daughters, Kathy, 9, Karen, 6, and Jennifer, 3.

Currently vice president of the Georgia Baptist Convention, White has been active in both associational and state Baptist life.

Elroy Lamb, 60, retired Louisville pastor, passes

Elroy Lamb, 60, who retired earlier this year from the pastorate of Franklin Street Baptist Church, Louisville, died Oct. 27 at Baptist Hospital East.

C. R. Daley, Western Recorder editor, conducted funeral services for Lamb Oct. 30 in Louisville.

A native of Hazel, Ky., Lamb received the BA degree from Baylor University, Waco, Tex., and ThM and ThD degrees from Southern Seminary.

His pastoral experience included assistant pastor of West Broadway Baptist Church, Louisville, and these pastorates: Memorial, Frankfort; First, Paris; Lexington Avenue, Danville; Parkway, Miami, Fla.; First, Albemarle, N. C.; and Franklin Street, Louisville.

Prominent in Kentucky Baptist life, Lamb had been a member of the KBC executive board several terms; a director of Western Recorder; and was first vice president of the state convention in 1962.

He is survived by his wife, the former Barbara Jean McKercher; daughter, Mrs. Lisa Jean Mauney, Burnsville, N. C.; son, Richard Elroy Lamb, Waco, Tex.; sister, Mrs. Sarah Rodman, Easton, Md.; and grandchild.

Brush with death causes couple to be more aware and committed

by Gail Rothwell

When Ann and Charles Smith say, "Whether I live or die let it be all for the glory of God," they say it with conviction born of experiences which began a year ago.

Six days before Thanksgiving 1980 the Smiths survived the Las Vegas MGM Grand Hotel fire that killed 83 persons. They were in Las Vegas to talk with church leaders about starting singles work. Mrs. Smith is a consultant in single adult ministry at the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville.

They were apart when the fire was discovered and remained separated during their individual efforts to escape the smoke and flames. Mrs. Smith suffered a compound leg fracture when she dropped to a balcony below. Smith was uninjured and they were reunited at a hospital seven hours after the ordeal began.

As the Smiths look back over the past year, several impressions stand out.

Ann's injury gave her a new sensitivity to hand-capped persons. "During the past year there have been times when I was totally dependent on Charles for everything," she said. "During part of that time I lost all motivation."

Charles said isolation has been his most overwhelming feeling: "Isolation comes because it is very difficult to go through an experience of this kind, care for your wife and maintain a helpful relationship with clients. It is hard for anyone to understand what you've been through."

The Smiths agree that the fire has caused them to reflect upon the meaning of their lives.

Ann said the tragedy has made her more aware of what a self-oriented and self-centered world she lives in and how transient life really is.

"One of the greatest truths I've discovered this year is that we Christians need to develop a new sensitivity to others," she said. "We need to be able to exhibit real love, without placing undue expectations on each other."

When traveling, Ann and Charles now take added precautions. They have a policy never to stay above the third floor of any hotel. They always familiarize themselves with the location of fire exits and the hotel's fire system.

The Smiths believe the trauma of the MGM Hotel

has helped them grow closer to God and each other and has given them a new appreciation for life.

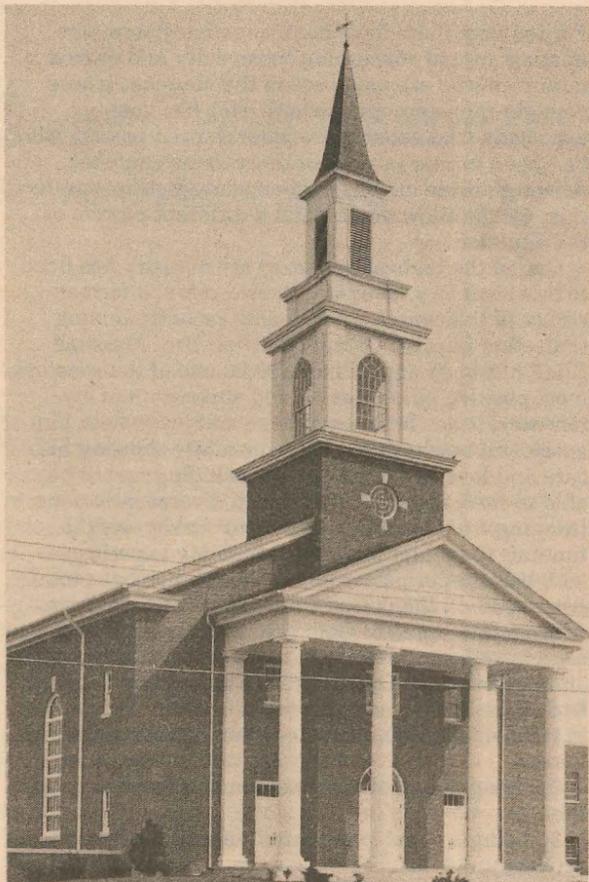
"I know God is working for my good in everything," Ann said. "If I'm committed to him, there will be no experience which can come to me which I cannot use to grow."

Gail Rothwell, reporter in the Baptist Sunday School Board's Office of Communications, was staff writer at Western Recorder from 1978-80.



They give thanks daily

A year ago this month Charles and Ann Smith survived the Las Vegas MGM Grand Hotel fire which claimed 83 lives. Despite emotional and physical effects of the fire the Smiths are again leading single adult conferences across the nation.

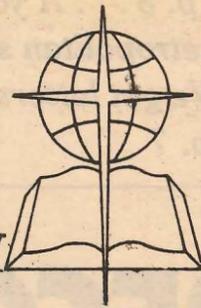


E'town, here we come

Messengers to the 144th annual Kentucky Baptist Convention meet next week [Nov. 10-12] with the oldest congregation in the state, Severns Valley, Elizabethtown, celebrating 200 years this year. [See editorial, page 2.]

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

The Campbellsville legacy

Campbellsville College is celebrating 75 years of Christian education ministry this year. In light of the contribution of Campbellsville to the world through thousands of informed and inspired students, it is altogether appropriate that special diamond jubilee activities have been planned by Campbellsville throughout this year.

One of these special activities was the first formal Founders' Day celebration at Campbellsville Oct. 8. In planning for participation in this event I discovered a rich legacy bequeathed to this generation of Kentucky Baptists by those who started Campbellsville and who have sustained it through 75 years.

There are several distinguishable elements in the Campbellsville legacy. The first of these is an unyielding belief in the infinite worth of every human being and the right of every individual to an education. Believe it or not, formal education was not available to the common people in the Campbellsville area 75 years ago. Baptists of Russell Creek Association took note of this and appointed a committee in 1900 to raise funds and to proceed to build a school.

This conviction of Campbellsville founders was clearly expressed in the committee's report to the association in 1906. The report pled for funds "by which we may make it possible for your neighbors, friends, and children, as well as those yet unborn, to get such an education physically, mentally and morally as will better prepare them for duties and responsibilities of the life that now is as well as that which is to come." Thus, Campbellsville College was born in 1907 as the Baptist Academy of Russell Creek Association.

That the school was meant for those with limited resources is evidenced by the costs listed in the 1912-13 catalog. Tuition ranged from \$18 to \$36 a year according to courses taken. Room and board was \$2.75 for a seven day week and \$2.25 for a five day week.

Another distinguishable element in the Campbellsville legacy is a strong emphasis upon a Bible oriented curriculum. Its founders were determined to have a school where the Bible could be taught every day. Campbellsville has never offered any apology for a strong Christian emphasis on the campus and in the classrooms. At the same time this school has never neglected efforts for academic excellence in every field and is recognized as a quality liberal arts college.

Space permits the mention of only one other distinguishable element in the Campbellsville legacy. This is the belief of Campbellsville founders and sustainers that Baptists possess distinctive principles and insights that cannot be properly propagated in public schools but only in

Baptist schools and at Baptist expense.

This conviction shone through when the Baptist Academy of Russell Creek Association was temporarily converted into a public school in 1911. Some of its strong supporters did not believe its original purposes could be realized as a public school and so with the hardest of efforts and sacrificial gifts to remove a heavy indebtedness, the school was reclaimed for Baptists in 1913.

This crisis in its early days proved to be prophetic for Campbellsville. Crisis has been its way of life and apart from divine intervention and almost unbelievable human efforts the school would have long since died as did scores of others in Kentucky that were started in the same way for the same reasons.

The limitless dedication and extraordinary human efforts that account for Campbellsville College are as conspicuous today as anytime in its 75-year history. President Randy Davenport, the staff and faculty are wholly consumed in making the Campbellsville legacy even richer.

Any account of the survival and success of Campbellsville must include the indispensable contribution of the Campbellsville Baptist Church and its pastors. The successful effort to regain the school in 1913 was led by pastor L. C. Kelly and its modern Moses has been Chester Badgett. In recent years the Campbellsville community has given strong support but the church has been its succor throughout its 75 years.

Kentucky Baptists salute Campbellsville College on her 75th anniversary.

It's important to be in Elizabethtown

When the 144th session of the Kentucky Baptist Convention convenes next week in Elizabethtown it is imperative that a large number of messengers from all areas of the state be present. Only with widespread participation by ministers and laypersons can the convention remain healthy and strong.

It's always a temptation for busy Baptists to leave denominational business to those who have the time and inclination for such things but this is a dangerous attitude. It undermines the democratic process so important for Baptists and plays into the hands of power usurpers.

Kentucky Baptists should take note of what happened to Southern Baptists in recent years. Many who had good reason and the financial means to attend the annual Southern Baptist Convention meetings reasoned their participation wasn't necessary nor important. They opted for other activities and left the convention to professional convention goers. As a result power blocs marshaled their forces and proceeded to take over the convention. Two years were required to awake enough Southern Baptists to attend the 1981 convention in Los Angeles to restore balance.

There is no evidence that any such situation exists now among Kentucky Baptists but the possibility is always present when conditions are

favorable. It should never be encouraged.

While the local church is always the main focus in Baptist life there is much value in denominational awareness which is created in denominational gatherings. To hear and know what is happening among Baptists all the way from the next community to the ends of the world is always inspiring to local church members.

To meet, to hear and to see the inspiration of Baptist leaders is to find personal inspiration. It's not enough to read about programs and personalities. We need to feel the heartbeat of each other and to sense the tie that binds our hearts together.

There's value also in getting far enough away from our own setting and our daily routine to get a more objective view. As a pastor I never returned from a state or national convention without a new appreciation for and commitment to ministry in my own community.

Severns Valley Church in Elizabethtown promises a special blessing next week. There 200 years ago a small group of brave souls constituted the first Baptist church on Kentucky soil. We'll relive that moment of 1781 history with Severns Valley Baptists while doing the Lord's business in 1981.

Baptist Forum

In praise of retired pastors

For too long there have been negative statements floating around concerning those older and retired ministers who are members in the churches where younger ministers are pastors. This has been especially true about those older/retired pastors who had been former pastors of those same churches. Although there may have been some justification for this, please allow me to paint a different picture of the situation.

One of the highest honors of my ministry has been to have had as a member, for two years, a former pastor of the church where I am presently serving (Palestine Baptist, Campbellsville). Bro. Marshall Black has been and will always be one of the greatest, most positive influences on and supporters of my ministry. It has been a privilege and joy to hear him speak and teach; to see him constantly showing his care and love to our members, including me; to be able to work together with him in diverse situations (ranging from hospital ministry to survey work to funerals to budget planning, etc.). My experience with this former pastor of this church has been totally positive and I thank God so much for this privilege.

From this "man of God" I have truly learned the secrets and formula of how to be the kind of Christian and pastor whom God desires of me. I have learned from Bro. Black's examples of:

- 1) having genuine and deep compassion for all persons,
- 2) being a man of consistent and continuous prayer life,
- 3) being a "real gentleman" in attitude and actions,
- 4) having uncompromising convictions from God,
- 5) seeking all possible knowledge and wisdom to be used for God's glory, and
- 6) giving oneself to God and other in a truly agape manner.

Jackie Carmicle, Campbellsville

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



I have just finished reading a story on the front page of the Courier-Journal entitled "Can a so-so student make life's honor roll?" written by Leslie Scanlon.

Among her "11 people of accomplishment" she quoted an Oneida student of the 1920s, who was later governor of Kentucky, Bert. T. Combs: "We were taught at Oneida that the 20th century was just coming awake, that there were new discoveries and opportunities for young people who had the energy and the tenacity to carve for themselves a place in the world outside.

"The teachers were almost evangelistic in their desire to inspire, and their enthusiasm was contagious. The training that I received at Oneida has had a profound impact on the course of my life."

Governor Combs' grandfather, Lee Combs, was a noted feud leader. Later he joined with our founder in ending the feuds in our section by founding Oneida Institute and teaching the boys and girls to love one another rather than to kill one another. The teaching of Christ's love makes a difference in lives. Lee Combs served on Oneida's first board of trustees, a group of 12 men, over half of whom could neither read nor write. He is buried on the hill overlooking our chapel as is the great-grandfather of governor Combs. The father and mother of the future Kentucky governor were among Oneida's first students.

No one suspected that their little boy, Bert, would one day become a prominent lawyer, judge and governor. But he was taught at Oneida by teachers who believed each student "special," God-made, created for a purpose. We know Jesus died for each one and that each one's acceptance of the Lord as savior affects heaven itself where the angels rejoice.

Many while at Oneida have caught a vision of their own self-worth and potential and have gone on to do great things in many avenues of life.

I was reminded of this at a recent session of Long Run Association's annual meeting. Rev. Don Coleman opened the session with a devotional thought and prayer. I remember the day he first came to our campus, a tall young man from Florida. Kentucky Baptists and others invested in his life financially and Oneida staff gave of their time and energy. He met a lovely girl here named Peggy Barker from Ashland. After Oneida graduation, they married and worked their way through Georgetown College and Southern Seminary. Don is one of our trustees today.

Like so many grateful Oneidians they returned to Oneida to serve some years. The eldest of their four children is now one of our teachers. Don has served two pastorates in Virginia and two in Kentucky, and has been with South Jefferson Baptist Church for eight years.

Charles Barnes, a 1953 Oneida graduate, was elected moderator-elect of Long Run Association this year. Charles was at Oneida all four of his high school years. As a freshman he served as treasurer of Oneida's first Baptist Student Union. Today he is executive vice president of First National Bank, Louisville.

Charles worked his way through Oneida, Cumberland and holds a master's in economics from the University of Louisville, and has done graduate study at Rutgers University. For years Charles has been an active layman of East Baptist Church and has done yeoman service for the association, most recently as finance chairman. Charles is a trustee of Cumberland College and has served as board chairman. He and his wonderful wife have two fine sons at UK and Vanderbilt.

Bert, Don, Peggy, Charles—all dividends on investments made in Christian education.

Clear Creek Comments

Serving the small church

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



Clear Creek Baptist School is committed to the task of training men and women, called of God, for service in Southern Baptist churches, but there is one distinction—most will serve the smaller church.

In a recent article in The Baptist Program Sharon Roberts said, "Nearly 25,000 Sunday schools in the SBC have less than 150 members, but don't try to measure their effectiveness by their size."

Actually there are approximately 22,000 such Sunday schools and over 2500 missions schools with 150 or fewer enrolled. They are clearly in the majority (61 percent) of SBC churches and represent 1.5 million people.

For the most part they are found in open country or villages. State conventions having the largest number of small churches are Texas (2215), Alabama (2085) and North Carolina (1949). Following closely are Georgia and Tennessee.

The small Sunday schools are important to the Bold Mission Thrust emphasis and Clear Creek School plays no small part.

These smaller Sunday schools are important, no matter their size, and can reach people for Bible study, witnessing, ministering and interpreting the cooperative work of the church and denomination.

The students here at our school will, for the most part, prepare for service in the small Sunday school in pastoral ministry, religious education or church music.

To complete their training they must have your support, both in prayer and financial assistance. The dreadful economic condition of our country plays havoc with their income, some living on such a reduced amount that it seems impossible for them to study here.

Your support is what makes the difference and one needs only come and observe first-hand their extreme dedication to become committed to provide financial aid.



Ministering to the children of the 80's



A commendation

Eldred M. Taylor,
Executive Director

... from Franklin Owen

"The Thanksgiving offering for our children is the oldest continuing special offering in our denomination. Our records indicate that it began the third year of operation of the children's home work of that time in 1872. A spot check of records from then until now finds our people to have been talking about children's offerings at Thanksgiving time. Brother Taylor and his co-workers in the child care program are appealing to our people to again exceed all past records this Thanksgiving with our gifts to this program of child care. We heartily commend the offering and urge our people to support it generously."

Franklin Owen

... from Eldred Taylor

"It is a joy to be part of the Baptist family in Kentucky. There is a fellowship in Christ which nourishes us and a togetherness in task which challenges us. I am glad that the child care program is such a vital part of our Baptist family. For many years the child care work has had an unusually warm place in the hearts of Kentucky Baptists. You love the child care work, and I know you will continue to support that which you love.

"Because we care about one another and share in the task of the commission, it is easy to join hands in helping each other. Although your child care program receives some support from the Cooperative Program (\$140,000—7.4 percent of our budget), it is a small part. It has been determined fair for us to receive a smaller part of the Cooperative Program because of the appeal child care has through the Thanksgiving offering. Indeed, Kentucky Baptists have shared generously through this appeal, and you are to be commended for it.

"I am glad that just as Dr. Frank Owen and I join hands in promoting the Cooperative Program, we also can join hands in encouraging you to give generously to child care through the Thanksgiving offering. Child care is one of your dearly beloved ministries. The Thanksgiving offering is one of our oldest special offerings. The needs of hurting children have never been more demanding nor more costly. I urge, plead and beg you, my Baptist friends, to give generously and sacrificially that the Thanksgiving offering may go over the top. We want to help children. Will you make it possible with your special Thanksgiving offering?"

Eldred M. Taylor

The columns on this page are paid space.

Meet Cumberland College Student

Debbie Fraker



When Debbie Fraker decided to attend college, her entire family prayed about the matter, and then, feeling God's response, they packed-up and moved from the industrial sprawl of an Ohio city to the peace of the Kentucky mountains. While her parents worked, Debbie, and later her younger sister, attended Cumberland College.

Although she grew-up in the north, Debbie quickly adjusted to a different environment. She decided to major in music because "I want to use music to make other people's lives better." For her outstanding abilities, she soon won a Presser Foundation Scholarship without which she might not have continued her education.

Debbie also had to work long hard hours in every imaginable capacity on the Cumberland work-study program. As a member of the school's maintenance department she trimmed hedges, cleaned buildings, and even painted fire escapes.

"I have been given the opportunity to earn an education. I think this is what God wants us all to do."

There are others like Debbie who could succeed if they were only given the opportunity.

President Taylor,

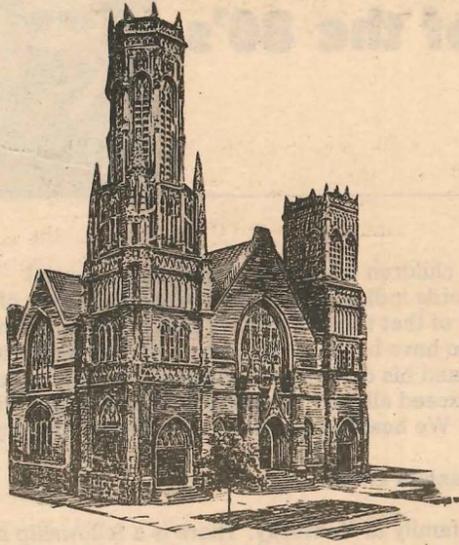
Please send me more information about how I can help other students like Debbie.

Name: _____

Address: _____

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

Ministry in the superchurch different bu



by Susan K. Taylor, *Staff Writer*

Within a variety of cultural, ethnic and economic settings, Linda Frost has been involved in a lifelong, give-and-take love affair with the church.

A Louisville native, Miss Frost is minister of community missions at Walnut Street Baptist Church. She is also a young woman with a strong sense of call into God's work and a devotion to his church and people.

For a long time, she said, "I could not concretize my call or verbalize my vocational objective." But she has had, since her work in junior GAs in Shively Baptist Church, a "sense within me that the church is where I'm happy."

But until recently she couldn't envision being happy in a superchurch, so called for a large congregation, facilities, financial resources and status.

While a typical superchurch in those

respects, Walnut Street is not typical in many ways, Miss Frost maintains.

In 1967 when many of the nation's largest churches were "abandoning downtown for the suburbs," leaders of Walnut Street "decided to stay, to invest in the future as God revealed it might be," Miss Frost said. Speaking at an October chapel service at Southern Seminary, she said such a step takes a great deal of "courage and optimism."

"Ministry at its best is a long term investment." Miss Frost feels Walnut Street's investment in Old Louisville has proved to be worthwhile.

In her role at the church Miss Frost assists area residents and church members through financial crises. The church offers food, clothing and shelter, on occasion, to people facing emergencies. She also provides information and referral to appropriate sources for addi-

tional aid "to those trying to make it," she said.

Initially apprehensive about serving in a superchurch, she has found Walnut Street to be "very open," she allowed. It offers a home to women looking for a place to serve, to seminary students and to minorities as well as the wealthy. People normally considered "outcasts"—alcoholics, those from nursing homes and others with

'The issue is not whether my church is in the New Testament but whether you can find marks of the New Testament in my church whatever size that might be.'
—Linda Frost

The study Bible that lives up to its name...

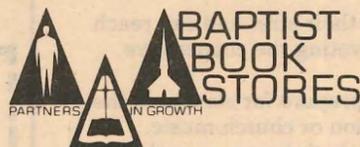
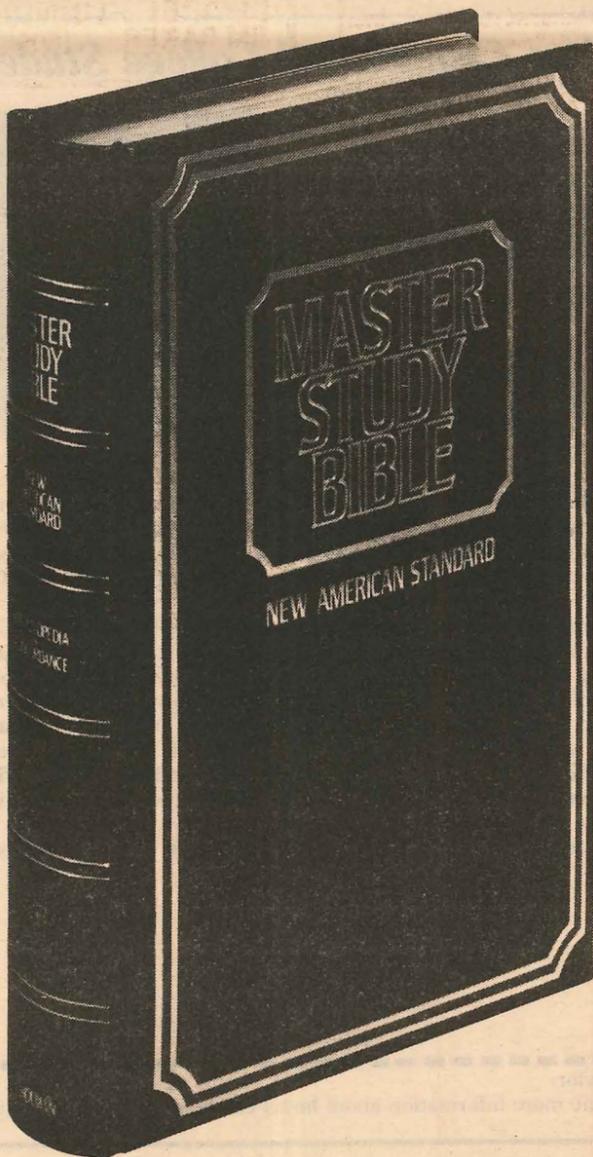
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overwhelming problems—are also part of the church. "Whoever will could come," Miss Frost discovered soon after she began working at Walnut Street.

Much of the church's vitality lies in its willingness to "wrestle with issues that count," she said, such as the racial issue. "Some churches don't even know those issues exist."

She claims roots in Old Louisville because she was born in the city's south end, but "I remember it in the 'pre-ghetto' days," she said.

She was raised in a more middle class neighborhood and attended Shively Baptist Church.

After her graduation from George-

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13 Medical Missionaries

But Miss Frost loves church 'whatever form it takes'

town College in 1972 she worked for the Texas department of welfare in Corpus Christi. A social services worker, she determined potential recipients' eligibility for welfare and other financial aid. She then moved into case work and family services.

Returning to Louisville in 1976 she earned the MDiv degree from Southern Seminary and is now completing the doctor of ministry degree.



Miss Frost was ordained by Westside Baptist Church in 1979 while youth minister there.

When working as a temporary part time chaplain for Wood haven Medical Services, she was contacted by Walnut

Street Baptist Church. "But I didn't want to stay in Louisville. I didn't want to work in a big church and I didn't want to work in social ministries," she declared.

The Walnut Street job was described as an assistant pastorate, allowing Miss Frost preaching and other liturgical opportunities. She has had those opportunities, she assured.

She had always found it difficult to justify the existence of the superchurch, she said, because there are no New Testament examples of churches like Walnut Street. Given time she discovered, "The issue is not whether my church is in the New Testament but whether you can find marks of the New Testament on my church, whatever size that might be."

Ministers often steer away from the largest churches because of ego needs. "Most of us don't want a supporting role," Miss Frost said. Returns for work in large churches come slowly if at all; "you get too few strokes."

Many ministers, too, prefer planting to sowing seed.

Planting allows time to touch and cultivate each seed, nurturing it individually as it grows. In the superchurch, however, the number of

demands on financial and staff resources require the gospel to be spread by sowing, "throwing a handful of seed into a plowed field without any guarantee of where it will fall.

"I still like planting," Miss Frost confided, "but I am learning to appreciate sowing seed."

Representing Walnut Street Baptist Church, Miss Frost sows seed as a member of the board of directors of Old Louisville's Neighborhood Development Corporation, an organization of churches and neighborhood groups. It works to develop and maintain housing and deals with political issues and social concerns affecting the community.

Miss Frost is also chairman of the NDC's social concerns committee.

NDC runs the DISMUS house, a rehabilitation program for ex-offenders. "We want to provide, if not treatment and cure, at least shelter," she said.

Miss Frost has given her life to the church but has received from each church as well, she said gratefully.

At Shively Baptist Church "I learned what it's like to be part of a family." At her church in Texas she explored the role of "contributing member." It has been at Walnut Street, the super-

church, that Miss Frost has "learned to care deeply for the world beyond."

Walnut Street is "open to the community beyond the confines of the congregation." It has "no fences around its property," she said, "and that's exciting to experience."

Miss Frost has worked with church members "from black to Mexican American to white," worked within organizational structures "where they bought the Southern Baptist Convention plan right down the line" to those even without Sunday school programs, and worked within theological settings from "slightly charismatic to conservative." But her GA devotion to God's institution has not faltered.

"I love the church whatever shape and form it takes," she said.

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SBTS holds peace march

Students from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary participated prominently in observance of International Peace Week, Oct. 26-30.

One of the activities was a prayer vigil for peace. Seminary students from World Peacemaker groups at Clifton, Crescent Hill, Deer Park, Highland and St. Matthews Baptist churches along with other seminary students gathered for a rally in Mullins Courtyard and joined in a processional to the Woman's Missionary Union Building chapel for a candlelight prayer service.

In the service prayers were led by international students from India, Ghana, Brazil and Japan. Speaker for the observance was Pat McCullough, director of the Louisville Council on Peacemaking and Religion, founded in 1980.

Rick Axtell, one of the student leaders in peacemaking efforts, says, "Our intention is simply to gather as a community to pray for peace in our world. We hope to demonstrate our concern for reconciliation in the midst of our world's fragmentation."

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KBC Activities

Here and now

NOVEMBER

- 1-7 Royal Ambassador Week
- 9-12 Kentucky Baptist Convention meetings. Elizabethtown, Severns Valley Baptist Church
 - 9- — Executive Board Meeting, Religious Education Association;
 - 9-10 — Music Association Meeting, Pastor's Conference
 - 10-12 — Convention in session

Planning ahead

NOVEMBER

- 15 American Bible Society Day. Suggestions available from The American Bible Society, Box 5656, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10017
- 15-18 Foreign Missions Study. Books available from Baptist Book Store for each age group. Theme: "French Speaking West Africa"

PROGRAM CHANGE: JANUARY BIBLE STUDY PREVIEWS

January Bible Study Preview programs listed in the 1981 Baptist Diary have been CANCELLED. Each association has been asked to plan and conduct its own Bible Study Preview. The Sunday School Department is cooperating by offering financial assistance toward honorariums, materials and travel expense for the Bible teacher or conference leader.

- 22 Child Care Day
- 26 Thanksgiving
- 29-12/6 Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas offering. Theme: "How Shall They Hear?" Program and promotional materials available from WMU, KBC
- 30-12/1 State Executive Board Meeting. Middletown, Kentucky Baptist Building

DECEMBER

- 6 Foreign Missions Day in Sunday school
- 25 Christmas
- 27 Student Day at Christmas

Frank Owen



Facts of interest

Statistics from our fiscal year recently ended are still coming in from the churches. They afford interesting observations:

Our Western Recorder has recently published the 10 leading churches in Cooperative Program gifts, including also the 10 highest in per capita gifts. Our office has mailed our commendation and gratitude to the 100 leading churches in each of the two categories.

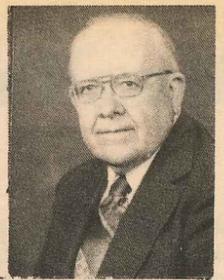
The Missionaries, Moderators, Clerks and all other officers and people in 15 of our 80 associations are to be congratulated in that every one of their churches gave to the Cooperative Program during the past church year. This Honor Roll of Associations is as follows: Anderson, Bethel, Boone's Creek, Caldwell-Lyon, Grayson, Henry, Logan, Northern Kentucky, Ohio County, Ohio Valley, Pike, Red River, Russell County, Shelby County and Ten Mile.

There were 2,331 congregational units (most all churches—some missions functioning as churches) from which cooperative gifts could be anticipated. Our Cooperative Program received something during the year from 1,989 of these congregations (85.33%).

Incidentally, we have just had the highest October in our history (\$877,196.18) which exceeds our minimum monthly operational budget demands (\$861,667.00) but leaves us proportionally \$30,801.42 short of our goal for the first two months of our fiscal year. (These early months tend to run lower than later in the fiscal year.)

We have a prayerful concern for the 342 Congregations (14.67%) that gave nothing to our general, overall mission fund (Cooperative Program). Among them, of course, are numbers of needy churches that receive help from us. But, no doubt, other cases are to be attributed to disinterest, apathy and sometimes just plain non-missionary sentiments. Probably, most of the non-sharers in world missions simply haven't been well enough informed and it is our fault. Let us all try to do better in every responsibility. Each is responsible in Christ toward the whole world. Giving is the only way we can go beyond where we are.

Sunday School Lessons



NOVEMBER 8, 1981

H. C. Chiles

POWER TO OVERCOME EVIL

Life and Work Series

It appears Christ crossed the Sea of Galilee for the specific purpose of bringing relief to a man who possessed a demon.

The case. Mark 5:2-5 As soon as their boat grounded on the beach in Gadara and Christ and his disciples disembarked, they saw a dreadful wreck of humanity rushing toward them. His body was bleeding from self-inflicted gashes. Demons had taken possession of this ghastly figure and played havoc with his mental, emotional and volitional faculties which were dominated by demons. Their mastery had ruined him.

The contrast. Wretchedness and prosperity frequently exist in the same place. While others were clad respectably, this miserable man refused the raiment of decency and led the life of a vagrant.

The cry. Mark 5:6-7 Perceiving the party landing, the demoniac ran toward Christ and cried loudly, "What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou son of the most high God?" Thus the demoniac acknowledged the deity and sovereignty of Christ.

The command. Mark 5:8 With the calm voice of unmistakable authority Christ uttered the command: "Come out of the man, thou unclean spirit." Instantly there burst forth from the victim a most fearful shriek as his taut muscles relaxed. In a moment the demons were cast out of him and he became a rational being and the wild look faded from his face.

The change. When the demons were cast out of the man his reason was restored, his wild cries ceased, his wounds were healed and his soul was granted that peace which passeth understanding. An amazing transformation took place in him and he passed from the companionship of demons into fellowship with the son of God.

The conversation. Mark 5:9-10, 16-17 The demons asked Christ to permit them to enter the swine nearby. Christ consented and when the demons entered the swine they became so miserable they rushed over the cliff and drowned themselves in the sea. Resentful of the loss of the hogs the Gadarenes requested Christ to leave their country. In compliance with their wishes Christ departed promptly.

The commission. Mark 5:18-20 When Christ stepped into the boat to depart, the healed and saved man begged Christ for permission to accompany him, thinking that thereby he could show his gratitude, but Christ refused to grant his request. He placed the man's duty above his desire, beautiful and commendable though that desire was. Christ commissioned him, saying, "Go home to thy friends and tell them the great things the Lord hath done for thee." In this commission we note two things: a desire denied and a duty demanded. Our Lord appreciated the man's gratitude, motive and desire, but he assigned him a quiet and unostentatious work, and yet one that was sorely needed. Christ knew that the man could be far more useful telling about his savior in his own home and community than he could by traveling with him. It was better for the man, for his friends and for the area in which he lived that Christ denied his request.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT

International Series

That the Holy Spirit indwells an individual is positive proof that he is united with Christ and has eternal life.

Romans 8:12-17 When the spirit of God takes up his abode in the heart of a believer in Christ that person is no longer under the control of the flesh or devoted to the satisfaction of the fleshly lusts. Having been saved by grace through faith in Christ one should hold in check the fleshly inclinations to the wrong manner of life, rely upon the Holy Spirit for enabling power and walk humbly before God in the sight of men. The Holy Spirit leads God's dear children from sin, from dependence on themselves and into the paths of service into which he directs and for which he provides the strength. One evidence that a person is a child of God is his being led by the spirit of God.

Christians have the joyous privilege of living victoriously over carnality on the condition of their willingness to receive and appropriate the strength that is made available to them by the Holy Spirit. As we yield ourselves to the indwelling Holy Spirit our lives portray peace, joy, gratitude, humility, power and fruitfulness. Out of hearts of love we should follow the leadership of the Holy Spirit into the fields of Christian service. By our actions we can and should prove our gratitude for the fact that we are heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ. If we suffer in our sphere as Christians as Christ suffered in his, we too shall be glorified with him. The Holy Spirit keeps alive in Christians the expectation and anticipation of the highest glory which will follow the resurrection.

Romans 8:28, 35-39 To know that God is working all things together for good to them that love him is a great strength to our faith. Paul did not say that all things are good or that every experience of life is good. He did say that all things work together for the ultimate good of those who love God. Our all-wise God is making all things work together to carry out his plan for our everlasting good and his imperishable glory. All things—fair and foul, smooth and rough, prosperous and adverse, joyful and painful—are working for the welfare of those who truly love God. We know this because God has said it is true, because others have testified that it is a fact and because we have experienced it in our own lives.

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?" The answer to this question is "no one." The seven things mentioned in verse 35, plus all other possibilities, are absolutely unable to separate a Christian from Christ's love for him. Satan and his cohorts are numerous, crafty, ruthless and powerful, but they can be overcome through Christ. No matter how difficult the circumstances of life may be, the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord, will never let us go. He provides everything the believer in Christ needs here or hereafter. No creature, which exists at present or may do so hereafter, will ever be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ. What a blessed assurance! What an encouragement! What more can we ask?

Baptist Forum

Maybe a full time staffer?

In response to an editorial on "Applications for vacancies" (WR 10/14/81) I would like to simply say TRY IT. It is way past time for an effective placement department! However, I strongly believe the pastors of this state should educate their churches to proper procedure in seeking a pastor.

I have somewhat of a hesitation as to placing men's names in the Recorder for placements. However, I have no apprehension whatsoever as to placing churches' names in the Recorder and asking for those interested to send to them their resumes.

Maybe the state should employ a man just to take care of such matters. This man could write articles and go to churches and teach laymen and laywomen that this is accepted procedure in the future.

Let's begin to educate our churches. I'm sure they would be most grateful to feel that this is the proper and best way to seek out a pastor or other staff persons.

Donald R. Garrison, Henderson

There must be a better way

Your editorial on churches inviting applications for vacancies (WR, 10/14/81) really fits my situation.

I graduated from Southeastern Seminary in May. After graduation I returned home to eastern Kentucky to wait for a place of service. However, the weeks have now turned into months without any results. I have had only one serious consideration during this time but I didn't feel the Lord leading me to accept.

Since I attended seminary in North Carolina I am a relative unknown to pastors and churches in the local area. I have written all the local associations, filed resumes and contacted the "right" people. I have done all that I honestly know to do. I sometimes feel forgotten by my denomination, but with all the needs that exist in the pastorate I know the right place is there somewhere.

If you would like to use me for a guinea pig in your plan, feel free to do so. I have listed my name, address and phone number below. I know somewhere in Kentucky there is a church willing to take a chance on a young, inexperienced and slightly used preacher. If a church feels the Lord's leading I can be contacted at:

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Placement in print great idea

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do so until this now. I have just finished reading "Should churches invite applications for vacancies?" (Oct. 14). I would answer this with a resounding YES.

I am currently finishing my fifth semester at Boyce Bible School in Louisville at Southern Seminary. I will graduate in December this year. I will be in somewhat of a unique situation when I graduate and I won't go into this at this time, but I would like to have a list of churches that might be looking for a man in this position.

I have been on at least one pulpit committee or as we call it today a search committee, and it is a problem trying to find a man. I feel we literally go out and steal a good man away from his church. I don't understand why a list of both churches and available men couldn't be run in the paper. I believe it would alleviate the situation tremendously.

P. B. Tichenor, Louisville

Let's help the Lord with this

I read with interest the article in Oct. 14 Western Recorder "Should churches invite applications for vacancies?" This struck a particular nerve inasmuch as our church is at this moment in search of a pastor.

To list the churches which are in search of a pastor, I think an excellent idea, since this would place each interested pastor in a position of equal consideration. However, I do not see any advantage to listing the available pastors, inasmuch as this reverts back to the random search idea.

To examine this in a purely practical sense, when an interested pastor submits his resume to the church's search committee, an immediate on spot preliminary evaluation can be made, thus opening a door that otherwise may have remained closed, an opportunity overlooked, a dream unfulfilled.

This approach would save time, of which we have too little, and money which could be better utilized.

We so often ask the Lord to help us, I see no reason why we should not try to help him.

Mrs. Virginia T. Spurlock, Covington

Stand with the Lord but what next?

I was very interested in your article, "Should churches invite applications for vacancies?" (WR 10/14/81). Western Recorder has been a blessing to me for years and I see no reason why a church and a pastor who should meet each other could not be introduced by our state paper. If they were to meet in this way and have a long and happy ministry together I would be happy for both.

However, I prefer the system that appears to be coincidence but isn't! I was director of missions for Lynn Association in the fall of 1973 and we were in a world missions conference. A foreign missionary on furlough and interim pastor of Gano Avenue Baptist Church was one of our missionaries that week. He asked me if I planned to remain in associational work or would consider the pastorate. My answer was that I hoped to pastor again at a later time. Soon after, the chairman of the pulpit committee talked to me by phone and after several contacts with the church, a call was extended in January 1974.

Perhaps a method that would yoke the two mentioned above would be a person who could give his full time and energies to introducing pastors and churches. Someone who knows pastors and their problems and the frustrations of pulpit committees could certainly be a blessing to many though not all. If I were inclined to relocate, I would tell the Lord first and ask his will in the matter. But I have no idea who I would tell next or where to go from there.

Darrell Cruse, Georgetown

Convention sports

The Christian life center at Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown, will be open for use by those attending the Kentucky Baptist Convention at designated hours. This includes the running track, handball courts and gymnasium floor. The hours will be:

Tuesday morning, Nov. 10, 8-10 a.m.;
Wednesday morning, Nov. 11, 7-8:30 a.m.; Thursday morning, Nov. 12, 7-8:30 a.m.; All days (Monday-Wednesday), 12-1:30 p.m.

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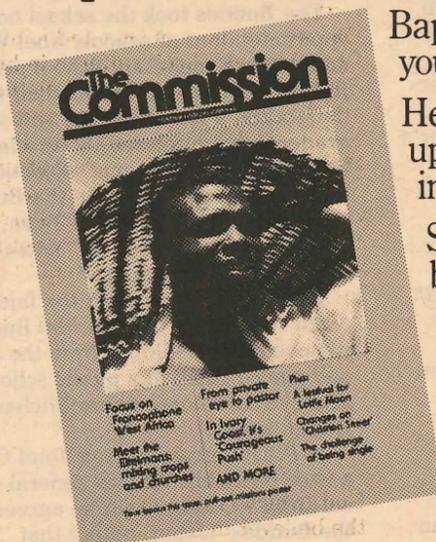
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Baptist News in Brief

Man, wife ordained in Ga.

Oakhurst Baptist Church, Decatur, Ga., ordained members Nancy and Ken Sehested to the ministry Oct. 25 in what may be the first time both husband and wife have been ordained in the same service in a Southern Baptist church.

Both ministers will serve the church: Nancy, 30, as part time associate minister specializing in missions and education; and Ken, 30, as coeditor of SEEDS magazine, a ministry of the church devoted to world hunger. Mel Williams is pastor at Oakhurst.

During examination by the ordination council, Nancy said, "I realize there are limitations as to the places where I can be heard and where I can serve. I have no burning desire to be exclusively a crusader for women, but I realize that in ordination I take a stand. There is comfort in knowing I have been called of God."

She is the third generation of her family to be ordained as a Southern Baptist minister. Her father is C. B. Hastings of Atlanta, noted interfaith witness leader with the Home Mission Board specializing in Baptist-Catholic relations. Her grandfather was Luther Hastings, long time pastor at Monroe, La.

Texans: focus on drunks

Two Texas Baptist leaders have co-authored a letter urging President Ronald Reagan to establish a commission on the drunk driver problem in this country.

Signing the letter were Phil Strickland, director of the Christian Life Commission of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, and D. L. Lowrie, chairman of the BGCT executive board. Lowrie is pastor of First Baptist Church, Lubbock.

The Baptist leaders cited a recent news conference in which three U. S. congressmen called on the President to set up a commission to examine the "alcohol crash problem in our country and to make specific recommendations to impact the problem."

In their news conference the congressmen stressed that in the past two years drunk drivers have killed more people than the 50,000 U. S. soldiers who died in combat during 10 years of fighting in Vietnam.

The Baptist leaders said there are many pressing problems in our society, but it is time for the drunk driver problem to be addressed.

B'hood reduces divisions

Trustees reduced the organizational structure of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission, named three area directors and elected officers to second one-year terms.

The new organizational structure calls for three service areas: Brotherhood program, support and business. Former divisions of Royal Ambassadors and Baptist Men's work were incorporated into Brotherhood program services.

Trustees okayed the recommendation of executive director James H. Smith to name Norman Godfrey, associate executive director, as director of Brother-

hood programs and services; Jack Childs, director of the marketing department, as director of support services; and Lynette Oliver, business director, will lead business services.

Brotherhood program services include Baptist Men, Pioneers, Crusaders, associational Brotherhood, Brotherhood administration and general editorial services.

Within support services are public relations and marketing, graphic, merchandise and periodical services.

Business services includes accounting, comptroller's office and building maintenance.

Elected to second terms as trustee officers were Jack Knox of Germantown, Tenn., chairman; James Gardner of Blytheville, Ark., vice chairman; and Fred Harris of Hatch, N. M., recording secretary.

Haney quits B'hood post

David P. Haney, a former Kentucky pastor and director of the Baptist Men's department at the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission, has resigned to become a church renewal and management consultant.

The resignation, effective Dec. 31, was accepted by trustees of the agency during an executive session at their semiannual meeting.

Haney is one of three executives of the Memphis-based commission named Apr. 9 in a federal court lawsuit filed by a female secretary of the commission that alleges sexual harassment and defamation of reputation.

The suit is pending in federal district court in Memphis. It also names the Brotherhood Commission, the Southern Baptist Convention, James H. Smith, commission executive director, and Norman Godfrey, associate executive director.

The suit, which seeks \$3 million in damages, alleges Haney declined to promote the plaintiff, Barbara Minor, to division level secretary in the summer of 1980, after she refused to respond to what she described as a request for sexual favors on behalf of a friend.

Woman crawls to church

Faith Strand, 73, climbs 28 steps on her hands and knees to attend church.

Mrs. Strand, a heavy woman, partially crippled by arthritis, faithfully attends Templo Bautista Ven-A-El, an English-Spanish congregation at Rock Island, Ill.

"Our congregation meets on the second floor of a downtown building," explained Mrs. Juan Lujan, the pastor's wife. "The steps are unusually steep and long, but Mrs. Strand insists on reaching the top under her own strength."

"She tells us, 'Now everyone stay back out of my way,' and then she gets down on all fours. After services, she waits until all have left, then she sits down on the top step and scoots down, one step at a time. Often on Sunday mornings, we hear her heavy breathing, even before we see her, as she exerts herself to reach the top."

The congregation meets in such an out-of-the-way place because a layman of another faith provides the space rent-free, including all utilities.

HMB sends most ever

In the largest commissioning service in its history the Home Mission Board commissioned 75 missionaries and endorsed 29 chaplains in a joint service.

The 29 chaplains included 12 military chaplains and spouses, nine hospital chaplains and spouses, seven industrial chaplains and one for business-industrial chaplaincy.

The 75 missionaries commissioned included 28 involved in church extension, most as church planter apprentices; 14 in Christian social ministries; 16 in rural-urban missions; four in evangelism and three in black church relations.

All missionaries commissioned had previously been appointed by the board, and most are already serving on the field.

Merger in Texas ok'd

In a "historic and unprecedented" move, trustees of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary voted to merge with Mexican Baptist Bible Institute in San Antonio.

The action provides for Southwestern to assume control and ownership of the Institute from the Baptist General Convention of Texas. The proposal must be approved by two consecutive annual meetings of the BGCT. The first vote was taken during the convention's annual meeting Oct. 27-29 in Waco.

Plans for transfer of control and operation will begin immediately, according to officials of both institutions.

Under the new arrangement the San Antonio school will be known as Hispanic Baptist Theological Seminary. Major emphasis will be in training Hispanic ministers in noncredit diploma, associate degree and master's degree programs.

Instructors in accredited programs would be adjunctive teachers on the Southwestern faculty and would be elected by Southwestern's trustees.

Daniel J. Rivera, MBBI president, would continue as chief administrative officer of the new seminary.

Sooners switch than fight

A Southern Baptist church-state expert says he supports a Roman Catholic couple who have taken an Oklahoma community's school board to federal court over what they claim is the unconstitutional teaching of religion in a public school.

Michael and Julie Budd sued the Adair, Okla., school board for permitting two women to engage in systematic religious instruction of children during school hours and in the classrooms of Adair Elementary School. School board officials have acknowledged that the practice has gone on unprotested for the last 38 years.

The Buddes took the school board, superintendent of schools Noel Winfield and Adair Elementary School principal Robert Boyd to court after their two daughters, a fourth grader and a first grader, were harassed by classmates because of their parents' objections to the practice. According to the Buddes' attorney, Greg Bledsoe of Tulsa, the children were taunted as "anti-Christian" and "communist."

Local pressure against the family became so intense, he said, the Buddes removed their children from the school and placed them in a public school in nearby Claremore, where Michael Budde works.

In Washington, Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs general counsel John W. Baker said he agrees with the Buddes' action, noting that "all major denominations—including the Southern Baptist Convention—have

formally endorsed" the 1962 and 1963 Supreme Court decisions outlawing state-required and state-sponsored religious exercises in public schools.

SWBTS urges early orders

The 1981 meeting of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary graduates in Kentucky will be Wednesday, Nov. 11 at noon at Immanuel Baptist Church, Elizabethtown, according to Vivian Shoemaker, president of Southwestern Seminary alumni in Kentucky.

Among the program personalities will be Bill Caldwell, Southwestern faculty member; Ben Elrod, Georgetown College president and a Southwestern alumnus; and Don Wilson, minister of music, First Baptist Church, Paducah.

Tickets are \$3.75 each and may be obtained from Dan Cooper, Calvary Baptist Church, Lexington 40507, telephone (606) 266-8467; John Robert Walker, First Baptist Church, Oak Grove 42262, telephone (502) 439-4897; or Vivian Shoemaker, 46 Martin Circle, Paducah 42001, telephone (502) 554-9649.

Texas 1st in CP giving

Texas Baptists contributed more than twice as much money to missions through the national Cooperative Program last year as the next highest contributing convention, Georgia.

A year-end analysis of receipts to the SBC Executive Committee from state Baptist conventions Oct. 1, 1980 through Sept. 30, 1981 shows total undesignated gifts to be \$81,685,873, up 13.83 percent from the previous fiscal year.

Texas contributions totaled \$14,259,616, or 17 percent of the total national Cooperative Program receipts. Texas, with 2.2 million members, has 16 percent of SBC membership and 11 percent of the churches and is the largest state Baptist convention.

The Baptist Convention of Georgia was the second largest contributor with \$6,814,663. North Carolina was third with \$6,051,123 and Florida fourth with \$5,448,116.

Other top 10 dollar givers were Alabama, fifth, \$5,312,067; Oklahoma, \$5,255,617; Tennessee, \$5,035,033; South Carolina, \$4,631,989; Mississippi, \$3,982,075; and Louisiana, \$3,896,523.

Oklahoma's receipts were boosted by a promise from Southern Baptist Convention president Bailey Smith who vowed after his election to triple the Cooperative Program contributions of his church, First Southern Baptist of Del City.

Through September, the first nine months of its fiscal year, First Southern had contributed \$112,740, up from \$31,654 for the same period the previous year, a 256 percent increase. First Southern now is second only to Tulsa's First Baptist Church, which gave \$122,727 in the same period, in Oklahoma Cooperative Program giving.

"When I went to Kenya on a mission trip and saw the great work our missionaries do, I was doubly convinced our Southern Baptist mission program was used of God and it was important for us to get behind it and undergird it," Smith said. His church plans to become the No. 1 Cooperative Program contributor in Oklahoma.

The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board received the largest single portion of the Cooperative Program receipts with \$37,901,757 or 46.4 percent.

The Home Mission Board received \$15,974,200 or 19.6 percent. The six Southern Baptist seminaries, through a complex formula they agree upon, shared \$19,344,822, or 23.7 percent.

The Baptist Sunday School Board and the Woman's Missionary Union, an auxiliary, receive no Cooperative Program funds.

Receipts from Kentucky put it in 11th place with \$3,745,281.