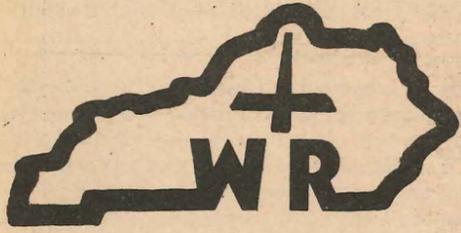




Part 1 of Franklin Owen's bold missions address, p. 5 . . . Reports of other state Baptist conventions, p. 6 . . . Eleanor Nutt—the 'other' minister in the family, p. 7 . . . Williamsburg's Lois Jane, a country girl turned gospel singer, p. 7 . . . And more letters from readers, p. 11



WESTERN RECORDER

VOL. 155, NO. 46, NOVEMBER 25, 1981

KENTUCKY BAPTIST NEWS JOURNAL

Mission disability program attacked by friends of paralyzed volunteer

Friends of a paralyzed mission volunteer have launched a letter-writing campaign criticizing the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board for its "inadequate" disability programs.

The group, calling itself "Friends of Bob Sorrels," and made up of some members of Capitol Hill Metropolitan Baptist Church of Washington, has circulated letters charging "inadequacies" and "shortcomings" in the disability program and urging "remedial action to prevent the suffering" of disabled volunteers such as Robert Sorrels.

Sorrels, 30, who now lives in Norman, Okla., was paralyzed from the shoulders down when his fourth vertebra was crushed in a traffic accident Apr. 15, 1980, less than a week after he arrived in Nigeria for a year as a Mission Service Corps volunteer.

A veteran Southern Baptist missionary, William D. Bender, and a Nigerian seminary professor, Titus Oluwafemi, were killed in the accident.

Sorrels, a member of Capitol Hill Metro church prior to leaving for Africa, was not covered by disability insurance, although he had signed up for hospitalization and life insurance made available to volunteers to purchase through the Southern Baptist Annuity Board.

The letters—sent to state convention presidents, editors and executive secretaries, all members of the Foreign Mission Board and "about 150 pastors in the SBC"—say because the FMB "does not have any disability program for short-term missionaries . . . Sorrels will be left to fend for himself."

According to Bill Vickers, one of the "Friends,"

and Sorrels' former roommate, the letters are an "awareness campaign" and ask that Baptists write letters to the FMB and that churches sign and send in petitions.

"It is the responsibility of every Baptist to take immediate action and see to it that the Foreign Mission Board be held accountable for this oversight and the situation be corrected," the letter says.

The campaign was set off after the October meeting of the FMB, in which directors agreed to continue paying Sorrels a stipend of \$603.50 per month—the same as he would have received from his sponsoring church as a volunteer in Nigeria—through October 1982, at which time board officials say Sorrels will become eligible for government disability benefits.

FMB officials have declined to accept long-term responsibility because Sorrels went to Nigeria as an MSC volunteer and not as an employed missionary.

"From the very beginning, the support base for these volunteers have been separate and apart from the resources of the Foreign Mission Board," said R. Keith Parks, president of the FMB.

Sorrels and other volunteers are required to sign a waiver absolving the FMB of responsibility in case of "loss of property, damage to same, personal harm or injury that may come." FMB records indicate Sorrels signed the waiver Dec. 5, 1979 and then counter-signed a letter in February saying he understood what he was signing.

Sorrels, however, told Baptist Press he did not recall having signed such a waiver and, that even if he signed it, he was not told what it was.

FMB officials say they have earmarked \$28,412.84 to help Sorrels, an amount one leader says is "\$28,000-plus more than we were responsible for or were required to pay." This amount included sending an additional physician and two nurses to the Eku, Nigeria, hospital to provide around-the-clock care for Sorrels, board leaders said.

Parks says the money was provided in an effort to help Sorrels. He called the decision to continue the stipend until October 1982 "a compassionate act . . . to provide a bridge until he has some other options."

He added that some board members questioned "whether our aid implied legal responsibility" but said he "felt we had to do it to tide him over."

"We felt we did more than we had to and about as much as we could," Parks said.

Sorrels says he does not know if the FMB has "legal responsibility but I do feel they have a Christian responsibility to help one of their own."

He added if "you are working for a business, making a business-related trip—which I was (in Nigeria)—and are injured through no fault of your own, you would think they would have some responsibility."

Sorrels says he feels "abandoned" and "betrayed" by the Foreign Mission Board and its leaders, whom he describes as "very cold businessmen . . . who lack Christian compassion."

He added he was "shocked" by the board action. "I had gotten indications they were going to do as little as possible for me, but I expected more than that. After October they are going to wash their hands of me."

Parks and other board officials say they have gone above and beyond their responsibilities. They suggest individuals, if they are truly interested, establish a special fund for Sorrels.

Southern Baptists urged by WMU to 'help them hear' through \$50 million mission fund, prayers

"How Shall They Hear?" is an urgent appeal to Christians to expedite the spreading of the gospel.

From Nov. 29 through Dec. 6 Southern Baptists will again ponder the question, "How Shall They Hear?" Taken from Rom. 10:14 it is this year's theme for the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions.

During the eight-day observance Southern Baptists will pray for approximately 3000 missionaries under appointment by the Foreign Mission Board in 95 countries. Through sermons, dramas, concerts and banquets millions throughout the convention will reflect on the responsibility they bear in worldwide evangelism.

After prayer and study Baptists will contribute to the greatest offering for missions known among all Christians—the Lottie Moon Christmas offering for foreign missions.

The national offering goal, set by Woman's Missionary Union, auxiliary to Southern Baptist Convention, is \$50 million. It marks an 11 percent increase over last year's goal of \$45 million which totaled \$44,700,339.

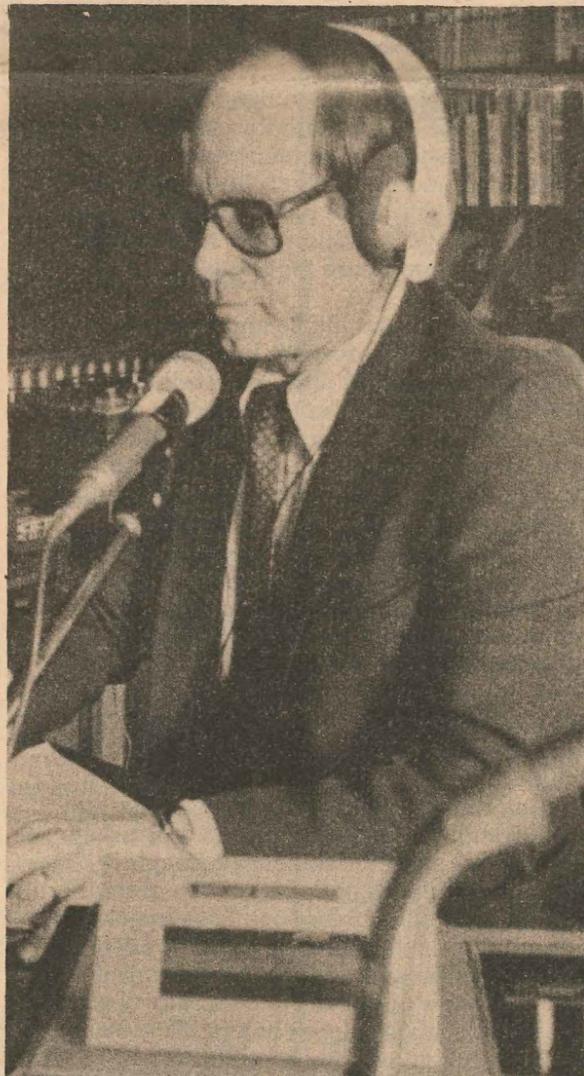
"One of the goals of Bold Mission Thrust is to double the number of missionaries by the year 2000," said Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of WMU, SBC. "But what will happen if we do indeed double the number of missionaries but fail to double the amount of money we provide for their support?"

Miss Weatherford also said that while Southern Baptists are giving record amounts of money to foreign missions, it has been more than 20 years since those amounts actually increased the buying power for missions causes.

"What we're doing is sending God's choice people around the world but we're not providing them with the tools they need," she said. She urged each Southern Baptist to contribute to this year's offering.

The offering provides approximately one-half of the operating budget for the needs of the mission fields in anticipation of reaching the goal.

The other main support of the Foreign Mission Board comes from the Cooperative Program, Southern Baptists' unified giving plan.



Stanley Crabb is not Lottie Moon but he's as close as they come for Kentucky Baptists. Crabb, a native of Louisville, and his wife, the former Patsy Maddux of Hopkinsville, are Southern Baptist missionaries in Rome, Italy. Crabb has been director of the radio and television ministry of Italian Baptists since 1970. Currently they are on furlough in Louisville where he is teaching at Southern Seminary. Pray for the Crabbs during the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions, Nov. 29-Dec. 6.

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

Our lifestyles belie our pleas

This is a followup on the Western Recorder editorial last week which rather severely chastised Southern Baptist churches which on the average spend about 85 cents of each dollar they receive on their own needs and wants. This selfishness is not restricted to churches. It tends to characterize all levels of organized Baptist life.

Consider state Baptist conventions, for example. The majority of them keep at least two-thirds of each dollar the churches share with them. Many Baptists think this is too much to keep in the state. This was demonstrated clearly in the response to Bill Whittaker's convention presidential address in Elizabethtown which called for increasing the Southern Baptist Convention part of Kentucky's Cooperative Program receipts by five percent by 1990. The messengers agreed with him.

A similar action was taken in several other state conventions this year. This is a good omen. It's always noble when any group decides to keep less for itself and send more on for the sake of others.

There's another thing that needs to be said, however. Those who benefit from such unselfishness should take note and demonstrate a stewardship worthy of such generosity.

And this is not always the case. In fact, the further the dollar gets from the offering plate, the more freely it appears to be spent. Extravagance is not restricted to local churches. It's a temptation for state and national conventions also.

This is not intended to put one against another but my observation is that Southern Baptist Convention agencies and institutions generally fare better than their counterparts in state conventions. And this in spite of the fact that states keep two-thirds and send only one-third on.

Denominational workers for Southern Baptist Convention agencies on the average receive higher salaries than state denominational workers. Successful denominational workers are constantly being lured away from state agencies to Southern Baptist Convention agencies by higher salaries.

The six Southern Baptist seminaries are not on easy street but they don't have the battle of the budget which many state Baptist colleges do. This is why concern was expressed at Elizabethtown that our Kentucky Baptist institutions share equally with added support being made for Southern Baptist Convention agencies. This is a vital concern.

The truth is and the point of this editorial is that the lifestyles demonstrated by denominational workers and especially those on adminis-

trative levels don't match our pleas. We plead for Baptists in the pews to sacrifice for world evangelization but they don't have many examples of sacrifice on our part to inspire them.

If we go looking for sacrifices in order to support Baptist world outreach, we will find more among humble, sincere, fixed income and low income church members than anywhere in Baptist life.

The ongoing debate over how much should be kept in the local church and by the state conventions is serving to conceal the more fatal flaw that affects every level of organized Baptist life. This is a lifestyle that is more American than Christian. For most of us newspaper ads and television commercials are more convincing than the New Testament.

Heaven forbid Heaven Hill

The forces of evil work overtime to take advantage of every opportunity for their destructive purposes. More than that, when opportunities are not apparent, these forces make opportunities to suit their purposes.

A prime example came to light on a recent visit to General Butler State Resort Park at Carrollton. Just inside the park entrance is a sign warning visitors that alcoholic beverages are illegal in Kentucky state parks. It's commendable that state park officials post such a sign giving visitors no excuse for breaking Kentucky laws.

What is not commendable and is wholly inconsiderate is what a brochure being distributed at this and presumably other Kentucky state parks contains. An extremely attractive brochure announces that the first major Alpine ski area in Kentucky will be located at General Butler Park.

So far, so good. Nothing in recreation is more wholesome than skiing. And the facilities planned are impressive. There will be nine different slopes from beginner to expert, five ski lifts, 1000 sets of rental ski equipment, a complete ski shop and 24 hours a day phone information on snow conditions.

And now for the stinger. Could you guess what names are to be given to these nine ski slopes in a state park where alcoholic beverages are not allowed? They will be known by such names as Heaven Hill, Early Times, Old Grandad and other popular brands of whiskey.

How clever and how diabolical! Imagine millions and millions of dollars worth of free advertising for the number one drug menace in America and a notoriously destructive enemy of the physical fitness symbolized in a ski slope. To associate such a physically and morally destructive product with ski slopes in a publicly owned park is the height of immoral audacity.

Responsible state officials must be called into account. No doubt they anticipated this and will try to absolve themselves by saying the ski facilities are to be a private business operation. This won't hold. The business is on park property whoever runs it and therefore its policies ought to be subject to the approval of park officials.

Rumors have it that private contributions are making possible the ski facilities. If this be true, a list of the contributors including those connected with the liquor industry should be made public.

The name, address and phone number of the Kentucky Commissioner of Parks is Lou C. Karibo, Capital Plaza Tower, Frankfort KY 40601, phone (502) 564-2172.

He was appointed by and answers to our fellow Kentucky Baptist named John Y. Brown. He can be reached through the governor's office.

Thanksgiving every day

The American celebration of Thanksgiving is associated with the thought of abundance. The celebration this year, therefore, tends to be blunted because of the serious economic recession. The unemployed and the low-income retired will have fewer material things than usual for which to be thankful.

Other circumstances sometimes dim the traditional Thanksgiving celebration. Thanksgiving is no holiday for hospitals, nursing homes and other places where the sick and handicapped are cared for just as on other days. If Thanksgiving depends upon health and painless existence, multitudes will celebrate no Thanksgiving day in 1981.

But this is just the point. The only sure Thanksgiving spirit is the one which comes from within and doesn't depend upon health, economic prosperity or any other thing we usually consider a blessing. It is an attitude toward whatever we have or don't have. It is based on believing that not having what we want could be better for us than if we had it.

Paul said it to the Thessalonians. "Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thess. 5:18, New International Version).

This kind of thanksgiving doesn't wait for a national holiday. It fills the soul every day and keeps a song in the heart.



"How can they call to him for help if they have not believed? And how can they believe if they have not heard the message? And how can they hear if the message is not proclaimed?" (Rom. 10:14 TEV).

Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions
November 29-December 6, 1981

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
Goal \$50,000,000

Oneida Journal

Cries of the soul



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

"Mr. Moore, right now I'm feeling very, very bad. I'm afraid I'm going to have to go home. I don't want to go home because there is nothing there for me. I don't even have my own room to sleep in. I can do it. I just don't know how. I want to be able to take home A's but all I manage is F's. Where am I going wrong?"

"So far I've only accomplished getting into trouble and I feel alone and dumb. Everyone says I'm smart. But I don't see any 'smart' people making F's. Do you? I need to sit and think. I have no solution.

"At first I thought it was the drugs, so I gave them up. It didn't help. Then it was my friends. I gave them up. It didn't work. Then I began to expand my interests into other areas. That didn't work.

"I've given up.

"I need help.

"I am a Christian. But I have problems I don't understand. What can I do? Do you see where I've become lost?"

"I believe Oneida has helped me in many ways. But still I am searching. I feel if I go home I will never accomplish this goal of finding myself. Do you have any suggestions? If so PLEASE tell me."

"Another writes: 'I can't really say why you should think I'm any different from others that have gotten kicked out of OBI, and came back and did the same things. I'm willing to do any kind of work to show you I can change my ways, to pay for what I've done.'

"I love Oneida very much because I feel that I belong there. I feel there are people who really care at Oneida. I feel like Oneida is my home.

"I ain't got any other home. There are people I care about there. People I want to make proud of me. I feel lost and empty when I'm not there.

"I've been staying in the house while here, so that I don't get in any trouble. This town I live in scares me because all there are here is a bunch of hoodlums and delinquents. I used to think of them as my friends. But I don't want to end up where they are going.

"I want to be trusted and I want to be respected. I don't have any money but I have a good strong back. I'll work the hardest jobs. I'm begging you to let me back in school. This one chance, just one more chance to prove myself to you, and to all the faculty that I am trustworthy. Sir, please let me come back. All I can do is ask you to believe me and pray to God you will believe me. I really do think I can change."

A father writes of his daughter: "She claims to have accepted Christ as her savior. But she has not grown in Christ, rather away from him. In the past year she has been involved with liquor, drugs and sex. She has constantly ignored or rebelled against her parents wishes, rules or hopes.

"I would deeply appreciate any assistance that you or your staff could render towards our daughter.

"I praise God for Oneida Baptist Institute and its mission. Thank you so much for your kindness and understanding."

A Catholic mother sending a donation to our work writes: "I will NEVER be able to thank you enough for helping our son and us last year. I would like to keep in touch with the school as I think it is one of the greatest. Please let me hear from you. May God bless you always."

The above are cries from the soul. Help us, God, to respond with your wisdom and your love.

Clear Creek Comments

Thank you, alumni

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



During the recent Kentucky Baptist convention I had a chance to speak to many of our former students. They are a blessing I cannot describe. Of the many states they serve of course more are in our home state, Kentucky.

Alumnus and Mrs. Bill Bailey again hosted the Clear Creek alumni breakfast in Central Baptist Church, Elizabethtown. They have done this each time the group met in Elizabethtown and it is gratefully appreciated by each one who comes. This year more than 100 former students and friends attended the breakfast.

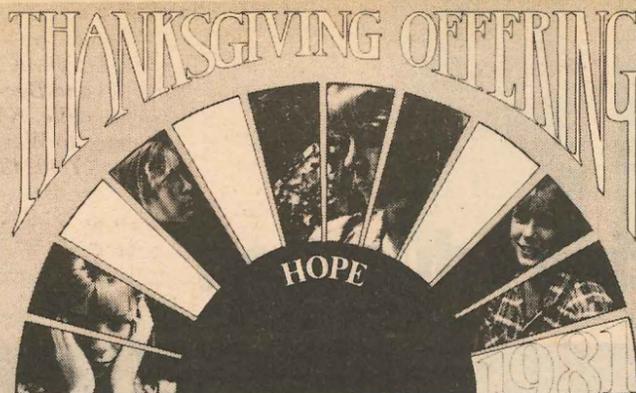
We were honored to have the president of the convention, Bill Whittaker, with us and the president elected this time, Bill Jagers, was also there and spoke to the group. He is no stranger to Clear Creekers as he served as trustee for six years and has stood behind our work for many years. He is a great servant of the Lord and will serve the convention well this year.

My wife and I have been serving Clear Creek School for more than 30 years and it is hard to explain my feelings as I met with this group for the last time as president of the school, but happily I introduced Dr. Leon Simpson who will be taking over the duties of president after our retirement June 15, 1982.

At the time of our retirement we will report to the Foreign Mission Board for duties in Zambia, Africa for two years.

I want to express my deep appreciation for the plaque and the wonderful tribute given me during the time of the education commission report. It overwhelmed me. Thank you.

Yes, the convention is a wonderful time and I want to say again to each "preacher boy" who has come through our school, "Son, I am proud of you, keep up the good work."



GIVE A DAY'S PAY
YOUR MINISTRY "UNTO THE LEAST OF THESE"

KENTUCKY BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOMES

CONVENTION-WIDE GOAL... \$550,000.00

CLIP AND MAIL TO:

Rev. Eldred Taylor, Exec. Director
% Kentucky Baptist Child Care Program
10801 Shelbyville Road, Middletown, Ky 40243

With a prayer of thanks for Our Child Care Program I enclose my gift of \$_____ to share my blessings this Thanksgiving season with dependent, neglected, and abused children.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

The columns on this page are paid space.

Meet Cumberland

College Student



Donna Lynn Thompson

Last spring, Donna Lynn Thompson, current Cumberland College sophomore faced a crucial decision. She was attending a large, prestigious eastern university, but was searching for a school more warm, loving, and personal. "I wanted to attend a small school, but I had no idea where. I was accepted by several schools but had not heard of Cumberland College."

One night, Donna, a reborn-Christian since the 5th grade, heard "Sunesis", the Cumberland College contemporary gospel singers, at her local church. That night changed her life. "They were so 'on fire' for the Lord. I talked with them and realized that Cumberland College was where I wanted to go. So, here I am."

Donna had many adjustments to make after transferring from her large eastern school to the tidy warmth of the Cumberland College family. The students and faculty at Cumberland College helped her adjust. "I love the people here. At Cumberland I can fellowship with Christian people who share an unstated common bond, a deep love and commitment to Christ."

Donna's desire is to become an elementary or special education teacher, concentrating her love on "special" students. "I have love for and patience with these children. They need much love and understanding but cannot always find these emotions. Cumberland is helping me develop even much more love to give away to these special people."

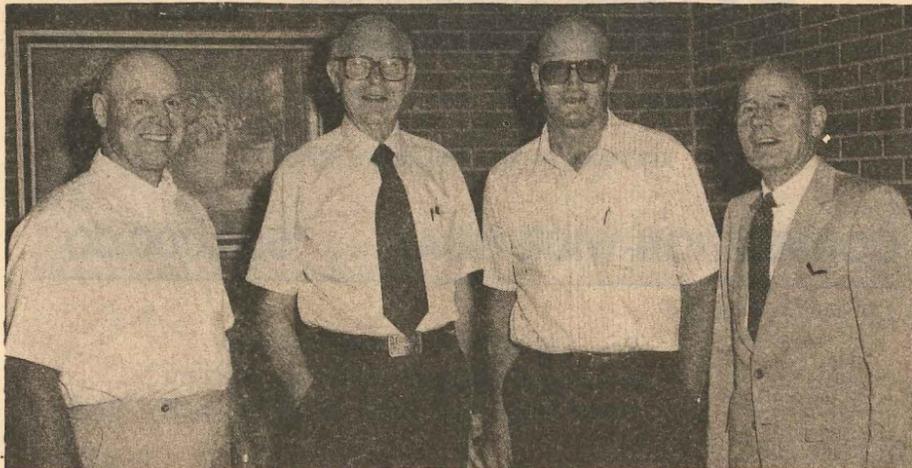
Here she is. We're glad she came. There are others like Donna that we want to help grow, learn, and develop.

President Taylor.
Please send me more information about how I can help other students like Donna.

Name: _____

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

Christian Education



The Correll Family Enterprises of Somerset recently hosted a banquet honoring Clear Creek Baptist School president D. M. Aldridge and Mrs. Aldridge. The Corrells announced they are giving \$120,000 to the school. Pictured [l-r] are Ward Correll, D. M. Aldridge, Ray Correll and Blaine Correll.

SEBTS builds, renovates

Trustees of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C., have voted to proceed with two classroom projects.

A \$400,000 development of the ground floor of Binkley Chapel into classrooms was approved. The project will transform 11,000 square feet of unused space into two large and four small classrooms equipped for a variety of teaching methods.

In addition, the trustees approved a plan to refurbish Appleby Hall, a classroom facility.

Jackson takes SBTS post

Walter C. Jackson III, a veteran pastor, chaplain and educator, has been named director of supervised experience in ministry and professor of ministry by Southern Seminary.

Jackson, director of the department of pastoral care for Baptist Medical Center of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City, will join the seminary Jan. 1.

He will be responsible for overseeing all ministerial placement at the seminary and will be responsible for Southern's emphasis on practical and spiritual preparation for ministry, said Walter B. Shurden, dean of the seminary's School of Theology.

Clear Creek is accredited

During the recent meeting of American Association of Bible Colleges, Clear Creek Baptist School was granted candidate status.

This gives the school the privileges of an accredited school and is the last step before accreditation in about 18 months.

Give their regards to . . .

The lights of Broadway will be the setting for an off-campus program in theater field studies being planned for Christmas break by Russ Mobley, assistant professor of drama and speech at Campbellsville College.

The dates for the program are Jan. 4-9, 1982. It is open to college students, high school students and others interested in experiencing professional theater in New York.

The trip costs about \$400 per person, according to Mobley. This fee includes transportation and lodging but not food.

The group will spend five days and six nights viewing Broadway and off-Broadway plays, talking to members of casts and theater critics.

G-town marks record gifts

Fiscal year 1980-81 marks the first time annual contributions to Georgetown College have exceeded \$2 million. The college received \$2.2 million in its second year of the \$6.5 million campaign.

Much of the total new money can be attributed to the matching funds challenge by the J. Graham Brown Foundation in Louisville.

Speaking to the college's board of trustees, Georgetown president Ben M. Elrod said, "The college is thankful for this outstanding evidence of interest in what we are doing. The new support will have untold benefit for the students we serve for year and years."

3-way grant is available

The matching funds scholarship program to assist worthy prospective Kentucky Baptist students to attend Campbellsville, Cumberland or Georgetown colleges has picked up its pace of recipients in this first semester of the school year.

The program which involves the student's church, college and state convention in a three-way matching funds scholarship allows qualified students to receive \$300 for each semester for their first year in a Kentucky Baptist college.

During first semester 1981-82, a record 150 students have been certified to receive this three-way assistance. These will also be eligible for the second semester.

The present program means the college will match the \$100 per semester which the student's church has provided and the state convention (if funds are available) will provide an additional \$100 per semester.

Qualified students should apply for second semester 1981-82 prior to Dec. 15.

Early application is encouraged due to a possible lack of funds which makes a first come, first served policy necessary.

To apply, write: Christian Education Promotion, Box 43433, Middletown, KY 40243.

This program has assisted almost 1000 students in the 8½ years it has been in use.

Daley to address SEBTS

Graduation exercises at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C., Dec. 19 marks the first mid-year conferring of degrees since 1958 when 48 graduated. This year 83 will receive degrees.

C. R. Daley Jr., editor of Western Recorder, will address the graduates. A former trustee at Southeastern, Daley has a son who will be awarded the MDiv degree at the ceremony.

Kentuckians aid SBTS

Three late Kentuckians recently willed more than \$130,000 to the support of Southern Seminary.

Mattie Dotson of Sharpsburg provided more than \$75,000 in memory of her late husband, John Andrew Dotson.

A bequest of \$55,627 from the estate of John A. Guffaker of Louisville has been added to a previous distribution from his will to provide a total contribution of \$80,627 for the seminary.

Robert E. Hamilton of Louisville, a long time supporter of Southern Seminary, left an additional \$4000 to train future ministers.

The gifts are part of more than \$300,000 in endowment funds recently given to the seminary.

Pinson challenges seniors

"Campbellsville College can be the place where the fire breaks out. You can put your life on the line to go and tell about Jesus Christ and this place will become known as the place where it all started. I hope I read and hear about you."

This challenge was delivered by William M. Pinson Jr., president of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Cal., to Campbellsville College students during the school's convocation Nov. 10.

"Great missionary movements have started on college campuses," said Pinson, "and you can be part of a Christian revolution."

Turned from hatred to God

At five, Carl Nelson began to hate whites and God.

The incident that triggered the hatred occurred more than 20 years ago in Mississippi when Nelson innocently stepped into a wading pool occupied by another child. The problem was that Nelson was black and the other child was white.

"Her mother sent a bigger, older brother to beat me up," Nelson recalls. "And that's when I started hating both white people and God. How could God allow that boy to beat me up?"

Now 27, Nelson is a theology student at Southern Seminary. Every weekend he drives 300 miles, alternating as pastor of two rural black congregations with a combined average attendance of 225.

Nelson is preparing for a ministry that includes all people, regardless of color. But the path to that commitment has been strewn with obstacles.

When he was seven, Nelson's family moved to Memphis, Tenn., where "a gang jumped me the first day.

"I decided then I would fight back," he relates. The next day he bought a knife and the gang left him alone. But the incident caused him to "wonder where this God was my grandmother told me about."

While still in high school he became a street hustler for prostitution. Controlling his "business" meant carrying weapons. Violent confrontations were inevitable. On separate occasions he was stabbed in the chest and shot.

Nelson's concern for fellow blacks eventually led him to the Black Panthers. Upon Martin Luther King's assassination his hostility intensified despite his grandmother's recurring prayers.

At 17 he heard a sermon in which "the preacher said even after Jesus had been beaten and persecuted, he prayed, 'Father, forgive them.' I wanted to read more about what the preacher had said. I lied about the reasons, but I got a Bible and read."

At that point, Nelson began "not to trust whites, but to at least give them a chance."

Now he believes "the Lord is leading me to preach the gospel to the poor and the 'put down,' in ghettos—both black and white—and a lot of other places most people don't want to go."



W. R. Davenport [l], president of Campbellsville College, and Mrs. Davenport chat with Golden Gate Seminary president William M. Pinson Jr. after a chapel address in which Pinson urged students to begin a "Christian revolution."

Baptist News in Brief



Rogers



Mrs. George

Rogers urges abortion halt

Armed with a 1980 Southern Baptist Convention resolution calling for a legislated or constitutional ban on all abortions except to save the life of the mother, former SBC president Adrian P. Rogers urged a Senate panel to pass legislation to stop abortions in the U. S.

Rogers told the Senate subcommittee on the Constitution he was appearing in the dual capacity of pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., and immediate past president of the SBC. The committee is considering several constitutional amendments on abortion — ranging from an outright prohibition to a proposal which would permit states and Congress to pass laws regulating abortion.

The Memphis pastor urged the Senators to pass the anti-abortion legislation "in haste," warning that "one day, we will all give an account of our actions concerning the tragedy of abortion on demand."

Heigh ho, come to the fair!

More than 405 performing groups, most of them choirs from Southern Baptist churches, have made application prior to the Nov. 1 deadline to perform at the Baptist Pavilion at the 1982 World's Fair.

Baptist Ministries for the 1982 World's Fair is still accepting applications, however, for performing groups that wish to perform at off-site places such as shopping centers and campgrounds and for individuals interested in volunteer missions.

In addition to the performing groups 20 volunteer hosts/hostesses will be needed at the Baptist Pavilion each day and at least 13 others will be needed to work in off-site mission projects, according to Arnold F. Nelson, a Chris-

tian Service Corps volunteer who is director of volunteers for Baptist Ministries at the World's Fair.

Nelson said there is need for a maintenance crew, hospitality coordinator, Bible display authority, program contact team worker, on-site contact team worker, photographer, puppet contact team worker, language-culture family host, seamstress, public relations worker, international worker, orientation worker, technical back-up person, deaf interpreter, literature/office supply person, telephone operator/receptionist, and general office worker.

Deadline for applications is Jan. 1 so assignments and processing can be completed by Mar. 1. Persons interested in volunteering should write Baptist Ministries at the World's Fair, 1811 Melrose Ave., Knoxville, TN 37916.

Keeping Up with Inflation?

What you give matters.

Give more . . . So more can be done!

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
National Goal: \$50,000,000

Week of Prayer
for Foreign Missions
November 29—December 6, 1981

Stringer program expands

Denise George has been added to Western Recorder's state correspondent program primarily as representative for Louisville, Jefferson County and surrounding counties.

Mrs. George, 30, is the author of *How to Be a Seminary Student and Survive*, published by Broadman Press. She has been published in *The Student* and *Mature Living* magazines.

A native of Chattanooga, Tenn., she studied creative writing at Harvard University.

Her husband, Timothy, is assistant professor of church history and historical theology, Southern Seminary. They became parents of a son in September. Mrs. George will enrol in the MDiv diploma program at Southern in February, hoping to have "a full time ministry in writing" one day.

Arkansas interim named

L. L. Collins, associate executive secretary of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, has been named interim executive secretary, succeeding Huber L. Drumwright Jr., 57, executive secretary, who died Nov. 2 following a heart attack.

The convention operating committee named Collins to serve until the convention's executive board meets Nov. 17 and also voted to recommend that he be elected to fill the interim post until a successor to Drumwright is named.

Collins, formerly registrar and director of admissions at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, became Drumwright's assistant Feb. 2.

Dare to Care: doing good

Five Louisville Baptist churches are among 30 centers to which hungry Louisvillians may turn for help when an emergency arises. As distribution centers for Dare to Care, the churches offer aid in an edible, nourishing form.

Dare to Care is an ecumenical effort to assist persons in crisis by providing

them enough food to see them through a short term emergency. Collecting donated food and buying additional staples with monetary gifts, Dare to Care provided emergency food assistance to more than 30,000 needy persons in metropolitan Louisville in 1980.

According to Jean Jones, executive director, needs have skyrocketed in 1981.

Eleven years ago, a West End child starved to death during the Thanksgiving season. The determination that such a tragedy must never be repeated led an inner-city priest to begin Dare to Care.

Developing since then, Dare to Care now employs Miss Jones as full time director and a part time secretary. Volunteers and church staff members work in the distribution centers, most of which are in churches.

Baptist churches involved are Walnut Street, Bethlehem, Westside Portland, Vine Street and Jefferson Street Baptist Center.

Miss Jones assures Dare to Care is not a "give away" program. All applicants are screened by trained volunteers to determine the legitimacy and extent of needs. They then provide the household a three- to five-day supply of nourishing food. If the need recurs or continues, clients are referred to long term assistance agencies.

Until Christmas, Dare to Care is conducting its annual fall food drive, the primary source of its year's supply of food.

Miss Jones said Sunday school classes or other organizations are often main contributors during the holiday season.

Donations of food or money can be picked up by Dare to Care and additional information on the program is available at its office: 112-A Louisville Air Park, Louisville, KY 40213, telephone (502) 361-8288.

Concerns that affect Bold Mission Thrust

Part 1 of 3 parts

Executive secretary-treasurer Franklin Owen was invited by the 1981 Kentucky Baptist Convention program committee to address the messengers on his concerns for the convention and Baptist life. His address contained these concerns. Below is his statement of the first of these. The other two will appear in subsequent issues of Western Recorder.

When the committee on order of business invited me to speak about my concerns for our convention and Baptist life they caused me to think of a long list of concerns that often call for my attention. I have not known which ones to choose for the limited time we have tonight nor how much to say hurriedly about each. I have tried to target on things that perhaps most affect our success in the many and huge goals of Bold Mission Thrust.

I. I AM CONCERNED FOR THE FELLOWSHIP AMONG THE CHURCHES AND THEIR MINISTERS

Is it possible in this high speed age of super promotions and glamour showmanship that church people are becoming less appreciative of the quiet, steady man of character in the pastor-

ate? Has our activist age caused us to think that only activity is virtue? Are we demanding excitement and showmanship to the point of wrongly thinking that Christlike pastors are failing? Are we confusing worship and religious entertainment? Do we still realize that more important than what our pastor can do, is the question of what he is?

I have a deep concern for the rate at which churches are dismissing their pastors, or deliberately discouraging them into resigning with no place to go. (I hear the rude terms of "hire" and "fire" used to speak of engaging and disengaging ministers. This is degenerative language compared to earlier days.)

I am distressed also to observe instances of the autocratic pastor whose sometimes inappropriate pulpit anger and high-handed misuse of his office as pastor provokes bad treatment from the congregation.

I am concerned about our learning to better understand and relate to the multiple ministry to which system the churches have become so widely devoted but have failed to realize the necessity of supporting one general shepherd (pastor) as supervisor of an otherwise chaotic staff from which is

apt to grow a fragmented church.

I am deeply concerned about the unemployment and family hardship suffered when pastors and other ministers are dismissed without livelihood. At least two associations and one church have seen so much of want in this regard as to have set up financial support systems for such men and their families and have urged me to lead our convention to set up extensive support systems for such ministers: offering counseling, retreats with expenses paid and continuing help for the family.

I have deep concern for the preaching ministry which has great priority in the New Testament. The pastor finds little strength and inspiration for great preaching in non-supportive atmosphere. Also he needs time to preach. Our interest span in this world of excitement has been shortened, like that of children. We expect our preachers to furnish a steady diet of brief, topical, catch-phrase sermonettes that will allow us to beat the Methodists and Presbyterians to the Sunday cafeteria lines.

Granted, we preachers need mostly to be more brief, but beloved, some great Christian themes can't be dealt with in a few minutes. We are respon-

sible for a great body of biblical doctrines that require time and thought which both preacher and people must be willing to give if our faith is to remain sufficiently strong to penetrate this world.

In connection with the need of time for preaching the great biblical doctrines, maybe there needs to be a renewed agreement concerning the preaching time and that which is consumed by the music and other things in so many Baptist meetings. In other years one choral number or a one number solo preceded the sermon in a one hour service. Now it tends to be a concert or a medley of numbers. More and more services seem to turn things over to the preacher late.

And the preacher is always the one blamed for the overtime. Maybe we need to preach the sermon first and let the other parts of the service go past 12 o'clock. Don't misunderstand, we love the music and need the promotion. Can't do without them. But great preaching needs at least one-half of an hour's service for the sermon and invitation.

I wish there were time to discuss all the above concerns fully, instead of only mentioning them.

State convention reports

MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi Baptists elected James Yates, pastor of First Baptist Church, Yazoo City, president, adopted a 1982 budget of \$13.9 million and passed resolutions concerning peace, pornography, television and morality and prison ministry.

Yates succeeds Brooks Wester, pastor, First Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, who became the first Mississippi Convention president since 1907 to decline a traditional second one-year term.

Wester explained to the record 1484 messengers a \$1.2 million expansion project at his church prevents him from giving the office the time it needs. He also informally suggested the convention consider allowing one year only for presidents.

The budget sets aside 34 percent to Southern Baptist Convention causes outside the state. This is a half percent rise from 1981.

Lewis Nobles, president of Mississippi College, reported the final documents have not been signed to attach Clarke College (the Mississippi Baptist junior college in Newton) to Mississippi College. But in August the Clinton school's trustees began administration of the junior college with permission of Clarke trustees.

The 1982 meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Convention will be Nov. 8-10 at First Baptist Church, Jackson.

ILLINOIS

Illinois Baptists, meeting in their 74th annual convention, voted to expand and strengthen education and training opportunities already present, rather than to attempt to start a four-year college in the state.

The action takes a \$10,400 contribution to Judson and Southwest Baptist Colleges and sets it aside for scholarship aid for ministerial and lay leadership training.

Messengers reelected Craig A. Ridings, a Rockford attorney, president.

A 1982 budget of \$6,621,045 was adopted of which \$3,849,968 will come from the churches of the state. The Illinois Baptist Association will contribute 41.5 percent of its receipts to worldwide missions, up a half percent from 1980.

The 1982 annual meeting will be Oct. 26-28 in the Prairie Capital Convention Center, Springfield.

INDIANA

Messengers to the annual meeting of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana commissioned a study of their constitution as they met in Sunnycrest Baptist Church.

An amendment to instruct the committee to specifically study placing the Indiana Baptist under a separate board, the method of hiring state staff and the method of electing executive board members was voted down by a two to one margin.

State convention president Frank Worthington, pastor of Ross Baptist Church, Gary, who was reelected to a second term, appointed a five-member committee to study the constitution, naming Calvin T. Harvell, pastor of Grace Baptist Church, Evansville,

chairman.

Messengers approved a \$1,748,508 budget, of which \$1,240,000 will come from the 282 churches and 41 church-type missions. The budget provides 31.5 percent — \$390,600 — to support worldwide causes of the SBC, the same percentage as last year.

The 1982 annual meeting will be at First Southern Baptist Church, Terre Haute, Nov. 9-11.

WEST VIRGINIA

West Virginia Baptists elected their first woman officer and heard encouraging first-year reports of the Mountain State 200 drive.

Velma Caldwell, Bluefield housewife and former state Woman's Missionary Union president, was elected second vice president of the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists, the first woman to be elected an officer of the 11-year-old convention.

Messengers reelected Charles Whitlock, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, Fairmont, president, and elected Cleith Campbell Jr., pastor of Altizer Baptist Church, Huntington, first vice president.

Missions director Floyd Tidsworth told the 331 messengers and visitors the convention's goal of doubling the number of congregations by 1985 is on schedule. He said 21 congregations were started in 1981 by combined Mountain State 200 efforts of West Virginia and North Carolina Baptists.

North Carolina is cooperating in a sister convention relationship and sent 138 groups into West Virginia in the last year for backyard Bible classes, vacation Bible schools, church building projects and other mission efforts.

Messengers adopted a 1982 budget of \$900,118, including \$417,232 anticipated income from West Virginia churches. Of that, 25.5 percent will be forwarded to national Southern Baptist Convention causes, an increase of one-half percent over last year.

The 1982 convention will be Nov. 5-6 at Grace Baptist Church in Parkersburg.

NORTH CAROLINA

Messengers to the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina approved the sale and relocation of the Baptist Building.

The approved recommendation provides that the difference between the price received for the sale of the current building and construction of the new one must not exceed \$750,000. If the cost cannot be contained to the figure authorized, a new building will not be constructed.

It is expected a new building would cost \$2 million. It would contain 50,000 square feet of floor space, about 3000 more than the current structure. The location likely would be on one of two sites in the Raleigh suburbs.

Messengers elected Frank Campbell, pastor of First Baptist Church, Statesboro, president of the convention in a close vote. Campbell, who had been first vice president, defeated Henderson Belk, a layman and a member of First Baptist Church, Charlotte.

Campbell had been identified with the "moderate" faction within the

Southern Baptist Convention and Belk with the inerrancy group, but the election did not take on those political overtones, observers said.

Marian (Mrs. J. Marse) Grant was elected recording secretary, the first woman ever elected to the post. She is the wife of the retiring editor of the Biblical Recorder, journal of the state convention.

Messengers adopted a \$20.8 million budget. Thirty-five percent of the first \$20,250,000 will go through the SBC unified budget. Phase II of the budget — \$550,000 — will be shared on a 50/50 basis with the SBC.

The convention met in joint session with the black Baptist convention, the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina.

North Carolina Gov. James B. Hunt addressed a joint session, calling on churches to make an all out effort to help troubled youth.

The 1982 annual meeting will be in Cumberland County Coliseum in Fayetteville, Nov. 15-17.

GEORGIA

Georgia Baptist Convention messengers approved without dissent a record Cooperative Program budget, a big new capital improvement endowment program and possible new programs in world hunger and church-minister relations.

Veteran observers called it one of the most harmonious Georgia convention sessions in years.

W. Ches Smith III, pastor of First Baptist Church, Tifton, was reelected to a second term as president.

Approved without discussion was the 1982 Cooperative Program budget of \$18,400,000, representing an increase of five percent over 1981. After deduction of almost 10 percent in shared expenses with the SBC it will be divided on a 50-50 basis between Georgia and Southern Baptist causes, the same percentage as last year.

Messengers gave quick assent to a \$13,850,000 capital improvement and endowment program.

Georgia Baptists approved a revision of their state constitution. The major change requires churches to give at least some dollar amount to the Cooperative Program to have more than two messengers to state convention sessions.

The Georgia Baptist Convention will hold its 1982 annual meeting Nov. 15-17 at Wieuca Road Baptist Church, Atlanta.

VIRGINIA

Messengers to the Baptist General Association of Virginia amended their constitution to provide that gifts through the Cooperative Program be the sole basis for messenger qualification.

Under the formula a church making a contribution of any amount is entitled to one messenger. It receives two for \$100, three for \$500, four for \$1500, and an additional messenger — up to the maximum of 15 — for each \$1000. A total of \$12,500 is required for the maximum number of messengers.

In another action, messengers accepted the abortion policy of the Vir-



How Shall
They Hear?

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
National Goal: \$50,000,000

Week of Prayer
for Foreign Missions
November 29—December 6,
1981

ginia Baptist Hospital, Lynchburg.

The vote was not on abortion but on whether the 250-bed hospital has satisfied a requirement, adopted in 1978, that the hospital establish a policy on abortion.

George Dawson, hospital administrator, told messengers the policy was adopted in January 1981 and includes the statement that "abortions are not performed at Virginia Baptist Hospital on the basis of patient convenience."

They are, however, allowed when, in the opinion of the attending physician, they are "medically indicated for physical or emotional reasons."

The action released \$103,020 which had been held in escrow since the 1980 annual meeting.

Messengers also approved a new "programmatic" relationship with the hospital, in which financial support will be given for the specific programs of ministry at the hospital. Under the new budget, the hospital receives \$23,760 rather than the \$103,020 it previously received.

The convention also will continue to nominate trustees for the hospital.

Messengers elected M. Vernon Davis, pastor of First Baptist Church, Alexandria, president.

They adopted an \$11.2 million budget which will be divided 61.5 percent for state missions and 38.5 percent for worldwide missions causes, an increase of a half percent from 1980.

The 1982 annual meeting will be at First Baptist Church, Alexandria, Nov. 9-10.

SOUTH CAROLINA

South Carolina Baptists elected a new executive secretary-treasurer, adopted a \$16 million budget, honored its retiring executive and acted on 14 resolutions in its Nov. 10-11 meeting.

The convention unanimously elected Ray P. Rust to become executive secretary next Mar. 1 on the retirement of A. Harold Cole.

Rust, a Louisiana native, came to South Carolina in March 1978 as president of Anderson College. Previously, he was executive vice president of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and a pastor in Louisiana 28 years.

The 1982 Cooperative Program budget is \$1.5 million larger than the 1981 budget. It has a current operating and capital needs total of \$12.9 million and a challenge portion of \$3.1 million. The current and capital portions include \$4.6 million for the Southern Baptist Convention and \$8.3 million for causes in South Carolina. The SBC portion is 38.71 percent of the basic budget, up a half percent from 1981.

The \$3.1 million challenge is to be divided equally between SBC causes and the development of Baptist ministries for the aging in South Carolina.

Horace B. Sims Jr., pastor of Abney Memorial Church, Greenwood, was elected president.

The 1982 convention will be Nov. 16-17 in Spartanburg.



Eleanor Nutt

Her life's not getting older, only better

by Denise George, State Correspondent

Who is a minister? Can a person who ministers without pulpit or paycheck be called a "minister"? Eleanor Nutt thinks so!

"For a long time my congregation was my Sunday school class," claims Eleanor Nutt, the attractive and energetic wife of well known minister, entertainer, television personality, author Grady Nutt.

Although she is not employed officially in a paying ministerial position, as a church worker, homemaker, speaker and writer Eleanor ministers to a great number of people.

A member of Crescent Hill Baptist Church, Louisville, since 1969, Eleanor not only teaches her Sunday school class of young adults, but is a deacon and chairman of the pastoral care committee.

As one of many female church workers at Crescent Hill she has definite ideas about women serving in church leadership positions.

"If God had not intended for me to use my gifts in church maybe I wouldn't have been given these gifts," she states. "We've had so many significant women at Crescent Hill and we've all been able to minister. I'm so grateful to be in an equal opportunity church!"

A caring person, who genuinely loves people, Eleanor takes very seriously her pastoral care role.

"When I was asked to chair the pastoral care committee I was so grateful for the opportunity because I had received good pastoral care. I feel I owe who I am to the counseling I received."

She admits good counseling not only helped her become a more confident person, but it also saved her marriage.

Grady and Eleanor met when Grady preached a revival at her home church in Memphis, Tenn. They dated for two years, while both attended Baylor University in Waco, Tex., and then married.

"When we married, we took great pride in having

never had an argument," Eleanor recalls. "It took me years to wise up enough to realize that this was possible only because we both agreed with Grady, both loved Grady."

Eleanor remembers herself as a "peace at any price" person who lived only to please God and Grady! In his book, *So Good So Far*, Grady describes their union as "your typically male-dominated marriage."

"I intimidated; I belittled; I erased the blackboard of her personality with a wet rag," he confesses.

According to Eleanor, they were "two immature people who did not know how to communicate, did not know how to handle money and had not made any significant life plans."

Thus, their relationship worsened steadily. At the end of three years they had had two babies and had moved three times. The last move had been to Louisville where Grady became a student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

"By now Grady and I were hardly even friends," Eleanor admits, "and we had two frightened, unhappy little boys."

Not until Grady had declared divorce as the only

A celebrity wife's wife proves there can be two ministers in the same family—'prime' and secondary. But Eleanor Nutt really doesn't view her role as secondary to anybody, and with good reason.

solution to their crumbling relationship did Eleanor take her first courageous step. Without his permission she went to see a marriage counselor. When she told Grady what she had done his first reaction was rage. But Grady finally agreed to the joint counseling.

Through a slow and painful period of pastoral care, and with the love and support of Crescent Hill friends, they worked out most of their problems. The counseling also helped Eleanor realize that she, too, was a person of worth with her own special God-given gifts.

Eleanor describes their marriage now as "much better than ever before" as they observe their 25th wedding anniversary—an event they have decided to celebrate all year!

Eleanor's home is another outlet for her pastoral care ministry.

"We have always had our home open to people," she told me. "I've learned my self worth is not related to how clean my house is, or whether you can see your face in my dishes. My home is a place where people can cry as well as laugh."

As a homemaker Eleanor hopes to be a role model for the many young people who are constantly in and out of her home. The stereotype of the typical housewife who watches television, drinks coffee and screams at the kids, provokes her.

"I feel I was so fortunate to have the opportunity to stay home with my children," she explains. "I had good gifts to do that, good parenting skills, and I really enjoyed them."

Eleanor believes a woman can "stay at home and continue to grow, think, be intelligent and creative . . . and be a homemaker."

Through her home, through her church and through her speaking and writing opportunities, Eleanor eagerly shares her Christian faith.

She admits Grady's popularity has opened many doors for her to minister.

"There are times I get invitations to speak and the only reason is because I'm Grady Nutt's wife. But I don't resent that because after I get there I can stand on my own two feet and be Eleanor Nutt. Because of the experiences I've had I have my own way of sharing the Good News."

Eleanor writes about these experiences in a chapter of her first book, *Women On Pilgrimage: Crisis, Change, and Choice*. The book contains chapters written by the three coauthors, as well as other women who have found strength through their Christian faith and community in times of great personal need. The book will be released in April by Broadman Press.

Who is a minister? Does the wife of Grady Nutt—the Prime Minister of Humor—see herself, indeed, as "the other minister"? Well . . . put it this way: When Eleanor Nutt makes her weekly Wednesday rounds to visit all the Crescent Hill members who are hospitalized, she will continue to park her car in the spot marked: "Parking—Clergy Only."

Lois Jane: a little bit country, a whole lot gospel

by Susan K. Taylor, Staff Writer

Lois Jane is undeniably a believer—a believer in her songs and her talent, but especially in her message.

"Whatever you do, do it for the Lord," she says, "and you'll have peace. The world can't give peace. Things and money and fame can't give peace, but the good Lord can."

Lois Jane's commitment has evolved into a full time gospel performance career.

She has recorded eight albums of music which are played on gospel, country and contemporary Christian radio stations across the country.

She has sung at two Kentucky Pastor's Conferences, including the meeting Nov. 9 at Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown.

The small woman, though attractive, is made strikingly so by the conviction evident in her full, warm, low-toned voice and in her blue eyes which are not afraid to meet their audience.

Singing of God's love and power, she moved to the sanctuary floor shaking hands and interjecting between the lines of her song, "I believe it. I surely do."

A member of Main Street Baptist Church, Williamsburg, Ky., Lois Jane said she has been performing out-of-state for years but recently began singing in Kentucky churches once more. For a long time, she would not perform in churches at all.

"That's part of my testimony," she explained, "to tell church people how I was bitter and blamed them" for trying to manipulate her with rejection and criticism.

She has fought to prevent control of her life by other people for a long time, she said.

Lois Jane began singing at three years of age. "I've been singing for 28 years," she quipped, "and I'll let you figure out how old I am from there so I won't have to tell you."

At 16 she was under contract with Wally Fowler, a Nashville, Tenn. promoter, and toured with country music stars such as Merle Haggard, Mel Tillis and Dolly Parton. Lois Jane still did gospel music, however, because "I knew this was what the Lord wanted me to sing," she said emphatically.

Billed as the "teenage star," 16-year-old Lois Jane performed on the Wally Fowler Show, a television program of country artists, performing religious songs.

"Everybody was telling me to do country music," she said shaking her dark curls as if still feeling pressured. Reared in Kentucky's McCreary County, she has a deep southern accent which coupled with her style of singing would easily cast her in the country music role.

People who "make the stars" told her if she would let them change her name, her music and follow their direction they would make her a star, too.

"But I always knew the Lord wanted me to sing his music," she repeated.

She said she felt little relief from the manipulative pressure when she sang in churches. "I didn't dress right. Some people thought I wore too much makeup or didn't sing the right songs. I began to look at those people in the pews and if even one of them was frowning at me I felt rejected. I just couldn't please everybody and that made me bitter and resentful.

"I told God that if he would forgive me for feeling that way and would open the doors I would go back into the churches. And he's opened the doors.

"I had been looking at people instead of looking to Jesus," she said, breaking into a bright smile.

Having overcome her bitterness and extreme concern for people's opinions, Lois Jane began touring and recording full time more than two years ago. Her husband, Ron Huddleston, is her manager and operates the sound system.



Lois Jane

Earlene Young travels with them as promotion manager and editor of the bimonthly newsletter which goes to more than 6000 supporters of Lois Jane's work.

Lois Jane said, "I used to make a lot of plans. Now I just look forward to the future. I just want to go wherever the Lord wants me to go."

She said she has no regrets about not following the advice to become a country music star.

"I've been around those big country stars and some of them are happy, but some are searching for just what I have, and that's not fame or money—it's peace."

Mountains to the Mississippi

Personnel

Pastor is police chaplain, too
Marshall Eastham, pastor of Dunbar Hill Baptist Church, Russell Creek Association, has become chaplain to the Kentucky state police force.

He will continue as pastor of the church.

Fuller is Central associate pastor
James R. Fuller became associate pastor at Central Baptist Church, Winchester, Aug. 1.

A doctoral student at Southern Seminary, Fuller is a graduate of Illinois State University and Midwestern Seminary. Before moving to Central he was staff assistant to Midwestern's president and director of the seminary's student support services.

Salt River gets music minister
Salt River Baptist Church, South District Association, has called Larry Farris as minister of music.

Walker moves to Las Vegas church
Bob Walker has resigned the pastorate of Calvary Baptist Church, Bethel Association, to accept a pastorate in Las Vegas, Nev.

Reed to take Mt. Freedom pastorate
Donald Reed, pastor of Crosswoods Baptist Church, Lexington, has accepted the call to be pastor of Mt. Freedom

Baptist Church, Wilmore, effective Dec. 6.

H. B. Kuhnle of Lexington has been interim pastor at Mt. Freedom since June.

Howerton is Liberty pastor
Liberty Baptist Church, Russell County Association, recently called Jerry Howerton as pastor.

Howerton is a student at Campbells-ville College.

Kirkwood resigns at Walnut Grove
Amos Kirkwood, pastor of Walnut Grove Baptist Church, Bethel Association, resigned in October to accept the pastorate of Harmony Baptist Church, Dixon.

Burhanses leave for German church
Rollin S. Burhans and Mrs. Burhans left the United States Nov. 10 for West Germany where he will be interim pastor of Schweinfurt Baptist Church for two-and-a-half months.

Since his recent retirement from First Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Burhans has been involved in revivals in three states as well as other preaching activities.

Mrs. Clem leads Campbellsburg youth
Stuart Clem is youth director at Campbellsburg Baptist Church, Henry County Association.

Mrs. Clem is a student at Southern Seminary.

Whisnant to lead Pleasureville youth
Terry Whisnant, a Southern Seminary student, is minister of youth at Pleasureville Baptist Church, Henry County Association.

Casey begins Audubon service
Jay S. Casey began as pastor of Audubon Baptist Church, Louisville, Nov. 2.

Casey will receive the PhD from Southern Seminary in December. He has been pastor of Mud Pike Baptist Church, Osgood, Ind.



Carolyn Fitch of Paducah, one of 14 new members of the Foreign Mission Board, talks with board president R. Keith Parks at the board office in Richmond, Va. Miss Fitch joins Rollin S. Burhans of Bowling Green and John Huffman of Mayfield in representing Kentucky Baptists on the board.

Oak Grove picks Apple to lead music
Oak Grove Baptist Church, Logan County Association, has called John Apple as minister of music.

Highlands calls pastor Hanslow
Highlands Baptist Church, Elkhorn Association, has called William C. Hanslow as pastor.

Southwestern grad returns to state
W. L. Dillehay, originally of Daviess County, is pastor of Fordsville Baptist Church, Ohio County Association. Dillehay is a graduate of Southwestern Seminary.

Cedar Point pastor is Samples
Mike Samples became pastor of Cedar Point Baptist Church, Pulaski County Association, in September.

Mrs. Booher honored for 35 years
Beulah Booher was honored upon her resignation as custodian and caretaker of Turner Ridge Baptist Church and cemetery, Crittenden Association.

Mrs. Booher and her late husband, George, worked together at the church 35 years. She retired Aug. 16 after her husband's death.

Tommie Williams is Turner Ridge pastor.

Providence FBC takes on associate
First Baptist Church, Providence, recently called John Boswell as associate pastor. He will aid with visitation and be available for supply preaching. Thurman Eaton is pastor.

Kentuckians write for BSSB
Many Kentucky Baptists have written for December issues of periodicals published by the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville. Among them are:

Church Administration—Glenn W. Mollette, pastor, Stamping Ground (Ky.) Baptist Church, "Soul Winning in a Rural Community"; Don M. Aycock, pastor, West Side Baptist Church, Louisville, "Funeral Ministry Outside the Church."

Church Training—R. D. Baker, pastor, First Baptist Church, Morehead, "Biblical Basis of Church Growth" and "Pastor Leads, Church Grows."

Mature Living—James H. Cox, associate editor, Western Recorder, Middletown, "When Radio Was King."

Open Windows—Mrs. Kathy F. Berry, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary Student, Louisville, devotions for Dec. 1-5; James H. Cox, associate editor, Western Recorder, Middletown, devotions for Dec. 13-19.

Sunday School Leadership—James E. Rennell, pastor, Parkland Baptist Church, Louisville, "Training to Make a Difference"; Mrs. Mildred Wade, director of teaching improvement and training, Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington, "To the Director of Teaching Improvement and Training"; Mrs. Mary Kinney Branson, director of preschool and children's ministries, First Baptist Church, Madisonville, "Worship in Children's Sunday School"; and Gean D. Smith, pastor, First Baptist Church, Smithland, "A Decade at Denton."

Congregations

Campton erects, lights steeple
Campton Baptist Church, Red River Association, recently installed a 29-foot white aluminum steeple and spire, funded by a memorial gift to the church.

The bell from Campton's first building was put in the new steeple. Spotlights are also being mounted.

James M. Hisel is pastor.

Graefenburg expands for growth
Graefenburg Baptist Church, Shelby County Association, is expanding and improving its facilities to accommodate its growth.

Movable partitions are being installed in the second fellowship hall to create four new classrooms. Another parking lot is under construction, a 12-passenger van has been purchased and a large playground-recreation area is being prepared for use.

'This is your life, John Kruschwitz'
John W. Kruschwitz's 10th anniversary as pastor of Highland Hills Baptist Church, Ft. Thomas, was celebrated with a surprise "This is Your Life" theme program.

As Kruschwitz was preparing to speak Sunday evening, Nov. 1, minister of music Charles E. Gray announced a change in the order of service. The hour

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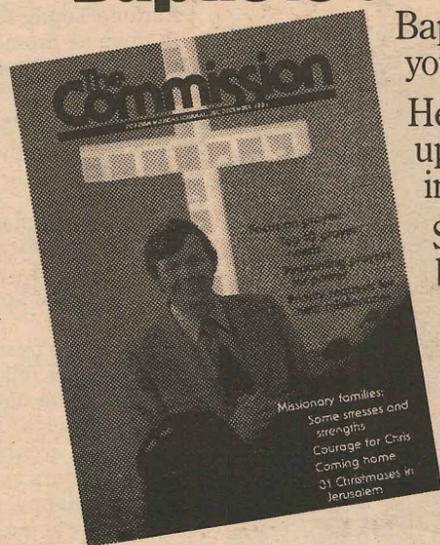


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Fuller



Burhans



Kruschwitz



Stone



Miss Jones



Miss Foster

that followed featured written and recorded greetings from denominational leaders, elected officials, friends and former church members representing Kruschwitz's 37 years of ministry.

A narrated slide presentation traced his life from his first pastorate at Lilly-Creek Baptist Church near Alexandria, Ind. to successive pastorates at Mayslick, Sand Spring and Versailles Baptist churches. He was pastor of the Versailles church 17 years immediately preceding his move to Ft. Thomas.

The Kruschwitzes received an honorarium and a bound volume of letters of appreciation from members of Highland Hills.

Association parades through London



Twenty-seven churches of Laurel River Association joined in a parade Oct. 3 to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the association.

The Laurel County High School band played as 33 floats, designed to fit biblical themes, traveled through London as an estimated 2500 people watched.

Members of several association churches carried flags, provided by the Foreign Mission Board, of nations in which Southern Baptists sponsor mission work.

Followed by high attendance Sunday, Oct. 5, the parade "generated a tremendous spirit of togetherness and common purpose," according to Billie C. Wright, Laurel River director of missions.

Baughers serve Sunday school 30 years LaMar and Henrietta Baugher were honored Sunday, Oct. 18 for serving First Baptist Church, Danville, more than 30 years.

Mrs. Baugher has taught in the Sunday school children's division 35 years.

Baugher has been the church's Sunday school director. He was also recognized by South District Association for 30 years of work, most of which has been as a member of the executive board and as associational Sunday

school director.

After Baugher's upcoming retirement, he and his wife will move to Satellite Beach, Fla.

Immanuel, Frankfort, turns 20 Immanuel Baptist Church, Frankfort, celebrated its 20th anniversary Oct. 16. A large crowd attended morning and afternoon services and a picnic lunch served at noon. Speakers were Western Recorder editor C. R. Daley, who assisted in constituting the church and was interim pastor for several months, and Al Gisler, the church's first full time pastor.

The congregation met in the carriage house of Barry Hill Mansion in west Frankfort until the construction of its first building on Collins Lane. The church has undergone two additional building programs in recent years. The pastor is Malcolm G. Lunceford.

Baptists to fight liquor sales in parks Main Street Baptist Church, Williamsburg, has adopted a strong resolution in opposition to the sale of alcoholic beverages in Kentucky state parks.

The resolution notes that Cumberland Falls State Resort Park near Williamsburg is located in a county where for many years the sale of alcoholic beverages has been prohibited by law. The resolution also notes the disastrous death and injury rate from use of alcohol.

The congregation pledges an all out effort to defeat attempts to pass such legislation. Copies of the resolution were sent to the governor along with the representatives and senators who comprise the Kentucky General Assembly.

More than ever attend Evergreen Evergreen Baptist Church, Franklin Association, registered 491 persons attending Sunday school and 700 in worship on high attendance day Nov. 8. These figures represent the highest attendance in the church's history.

During the past eight months Evergreen has more than doubled its Sunday school and worship attendance.

Jeffrey L. Naylor is pastor.

Stone honored for 10-year leadership Central Baptist Church, Winchester, observed the 10th anniversary of its pastor, Ron Stone, Nov. 1.

A native of Huntsville, Ala., and a

Advertisement for Bowling United Industries, Inc. featuring icons for Steeples, Baptisries, Signs, Lights, and a toll-free number: 1-800-446-7400. Address: Box 2250, Danville, VA 24541, In VA (804) 797-3277.

graduate of Florida State University and Midwestern Seminary, Stone came to Winchester from Maywood Baptist Church, Independence, Mo.

Since he has been Central's pastor there have been 1066 additions to the church and Sunday school attendance averages more than 600.

The church ranks fifth in Kentucky in total gifts to missions and has helped establish a mission in Traverse City, Mich. that later became a church. Laymen have done pioneer work in six states and participated in mission trips to other countries.

A bus ministry, handbell choirs, deacon family care plan, media center, recreation ministry and an annual mission emphasis have been initiated, as well as ministries to senior adults and to the deaf.

The church has also completed two major building programs.

The Stones received a grandfather clock at a reception in their honor.

English retires \$4000 debt English Baptist Church, White's Run Association, had a note burning ceremony recently, representing the liquidation of its \$4000 debt. Mike Durbin is pastor.

Missions

Parks end furlough, return to Chile Missionaries J. Kenneth and Divina Park have completed furlough and returned to their Chilean mission field.

Park is a Paducah native. Mrs. Park, the former Divina Key, is a native of Nortonville but lived in Paducah. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1964.

Miss Jones begins as journeyman nurse Kentucky native Teresa Jones has begun her service to the Foreign Mission Board as a nurse at the Sanyati Baptist Hospital.

Miss Jones of Smiths Grove is a missionary journeyman to Zimbabwe. She will work at the hospital two years.

Before she was employed in July 1981 she was a nurse at Greenview Hospital, Bowling Green.

Zimbabwe has Kentucky nurse Tammy Foster, missionary journeyman to Zimbabwe, has arrived on the field to begin her two-year term as a nurse in Sanyati Baptist Hospital.

Miss Foster was born in Hopkinsville, lived in Bowling Green and prior to her employment by the Foreign Mission Board in July 1981 was a nurse at Murray-Calloway County Hospital, Murray.

Mrs. Bender returns to Nigeria Kentucky native Novella Bender has completed furlough and returned to Nigeria, where she is a missionary.

She and her late husband, William D. Bender, were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1955.

South Africa missionaries have child William P. and Susan Steeger, missionaries to South Africa, became parents of a daughter, Gretchen, Oct. 3.

Appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1976, the Steegers are currently living in Rineyville, Ky.

Milbys back on Zimbabwe field Mr. and Mrs. F. Eugene Milby, missionaries to Zimbabwe, have completed furlough and returned to the field.

Milby is a Louisville native; Mrs. Milby is the former Reva Morris of Trimble County. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1963.

Cooperative Program is the best way.

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Advertisement for Kentucky Baptist Children's Homes. Title: THANKSGIVING OFFERING. Subtitle: HOPE. Text: GIVE A DAY'S PAY YOUR MINISTRY "UNTO THE LEAST OF THESE". KENTUCKY BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOMES. CONVENTION-WIDE GOAL..\$500,000.00. Includes a large graphic of a wheel with the word 'HOPE' in the center and '1981' at the bottom.

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KBC Activities

Here and now

NOVEMBER

- 26 Thanksgiving
- 30-12/1 State Executive Board Meeting. Middletown, Kentucky Baptist Building
- 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

Planning ahead

DECEMBER

- 6 Foreign Missions Day in Sunday School
- 25 Christmas
- 27 Student Day at Christmas. Materials available from Student Dept., KBC

Looking Ahead

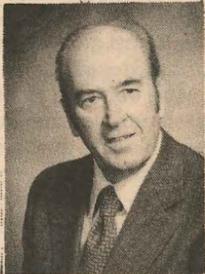
JANUARY

- 4-8 January Bible Study Week
- 10 Witness Commitment Day
- 18 Area Evangelism Conference. Louisville, Cedar Creek Baptist Church
- 19 Area Evangelism Conference, Lexington, South Elkhorn Baptist Church
- 22-23 Deacons, Pastors and Wives State Conference. Cedarmore
- 24 Baptist Men's Day
- 24 and 27 Prayer Emphasis for Bold Mission Thrust 82-85 and April Simultaneous Revivals
- 25 Area Evangelism Conference. Owensboro, Bellevue Baptist Church
- 26 Area Evangelism Conference. Bowling Green, Calvary Baptist Church
- 29-30 Deacons, Pastors and Wives State Conference. Kentucky Dam Village, Gilbertsville

FEBRUARY

- 1 Area Evangelism Conference. Mayfield, High Point Baptist Church
- 1-3 "Preaching" Seminar. Lexington, Rosemont Baptist Church
- 2 Area Evangelism Conference. Hopkinsville, Hillcrest Baptist Church
- 7 Baptist World Alliance Day
- 8 Regional Royal Ambassador Congress. Allen (Ky.) Baptist Church and Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly
- 8 Area Evangelism Conference. Somerset, Pleasant Hill Baptist Church

Frank Owen



Two great offerings

Our two largest annual offerings are on the horizon at this time. The Thanksgiving Offering for the Child Care Program is I suppose the oldest continuous annual offering in Baptist life. Among the earliest Kentucky Baptist records of our organized life are repeated mentions of the Childrens program and the Thanksgiving Offering for its support.

I remember as a child in rural Missouri the great emphasis on the Thanksgiving Offering which was usually collected and shipped in the form of produce from the farms. Carloads of produce were shipped by rail to our state Children's Home at Pattonville. In subsequent years of increasing urban population the offering gradually became a money conveyance rather than farm produce.

Cooperative Program funds support our Child Care Program in the amount of \$140,000.00 per year and the great heart appeal of this work expects to raise \$550,000.00 through the Thanksgiving Offering. If you or your church have not yet given or arranged for this offering there is still time to do so.

The other great offering is the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering which climaxes the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions the first week in December. It is observed in honor of the above great missionary to the Orient whose dream was for a Christmas offering over and above the denomination's regular support for Foreign Missions. This annual extra has now outgrown the Foreign Mission Board's portion of the Cooperative Program of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Kentucky's gifts through the Cooperative Program last year resulted in \$1,808,626.64 for the Foreign Mission Board. The Lottie Moon and other designated offerings in Kentucky brought an additional \$1,626,764.22 for Foreign Missions. The goal for the Lottie Moon Offering in Kentucky this year is \$1,502,270.00 and for the entire Southern Baptist Convention is \$50,000,000.00.

There is plenty of time to plan and publicize this great offering between now and Christmas, and of course everyone's prayer support is enlisted as well as participation in the special prayer programs of the Week of Prayer.

Sunday School Lessons



NOVEMBER 29, 1981

H. C. Chiles

FREED BY THE GOSPEL

Life and Work Series

Galatians 1:1, 9-17 Paul informed the Galatian Christians that he was a man whom Christ had saved, selected and sent forth as his ambassador to deliver for him an accredited message to the people who needed it so much. His office of apostleship did not come to Paul by self-appointment, by his own choice or by the act of any man or group of men, but by direct, divine call and appointment. He gloried in the fact that he had been sent on a divine mission.

Paul was shocked and grieved that some of the Galatians, whom he had influenced to receive Christ and thereby obtain forgiveness and salvation, had exemplified such an amazing instability by deserting the glorious gospel of the blessed God and turning to the erroneous teachings of the Judaizers, who were doing their utmost to undermine the influence of the apostle. In response to two accusations of the Judaizers, one that Paul was preaching one thing in some places and another thing in other places for the sole purpose of pleasing men sufficiently to win them as his followers, and two that his doctrines encouraged unbecoming conduct on the part of his hearers, the apostle admonished his readers to refuse to give heed to those who came to them with any message which was contrary to the gospel of Christ. Paul insisted that the gospel which he had preached unto them had not come to him through a human intermediary, but that it was of divine origin and had come to him directly from Christ. Paul declared that in the event that he, for any reason, should bring them any message other than that which he had previously delivered to them, they should refuse to believe what even he might say. He was convinced that no possible combination of circumstances could invalidate the gospel he had preached to them.

In his defense of the supremacy of the gospel of Christ over the false teachings of his critical opponents, Paul went somewhat into detail regarding his personal experience of salvation on the road to Damascus, his realization of the call of Christ to become a minister of the gospel, his reception of the direct revelation from the Lord, his lack of direction from the other apostles, and his personal withdrawal into Arabia for an extended period of prayer, study, communion with and instruction from God.

From the time he became a child of God until the end of his useful life Paul was ever grateful that the Lord had saved him and entrusted him with the glorious gospel of Christ. To the great task of proclaiming it to all who would listen he gave himself unstintingly. Since this same gospel has been entrusted to us in order that we may share it with others who need it, let us be faithful in our stewardship of it. This is the only gospel which will produce saved souls and transformed lives. And all who are not children of God need to hear and to heed the glorious gospel of salvation by grace through faith.

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

International Series

1 John 4:7-21 John, the beloved disciple, understood the basic fact that "God is love," and dwelt upon the love of God more than any other writer in the New Testament. Love has never been absent from God's being and never will be. His love is righteous and just, but also compassionate and sacrificial. There cannot be any practical knowledge or experience of the love of God except through the son of God in whom that love is revealed and the word of God in which it is recorded.

In exercising Christian love towards other children of God, the human will is an important factor. That accounts for the exhortation, "Let us love one another." As Christians love one another they give evidence of their Godlikeness. If one does not love, it is clear he does not know God. Love is the test whereby it can be determined whether or not a person is saved.

God wants us to realize fully that we are the objects of his wonderful, almost incredible love. Knowing that God's love was calculated to excite the admiration, appreciation and devotion of his readers, John challenged them to look at it penitently, appropriatingly, adoringly and gratefully. And we must never forget that God did not bestow his unmerited and unending love on the amiable, the attractive, the worthy or the lovable, but upon those who were in active rebellion against him.

Having become the recipients of his love we should not only love him supremely, but also for his sake love one another and become channels through which his love flows to the unsaved. It is by our love for others that we prove our Christian sonship. The love of God for us precedes and is the cause of our love for him. He loved us compassionately when sin was pleasant to us and before the pleadings of his gospel had persuaded us to repent of sin and to believe on Christ. Now, as we, the children of God, contemplate what Christ did for us on the cross, which we never could have done for ourselves and which no other could have done for us, let us resolve to love him devotedly.

How can we express our love for him who first loved us? We reveal our love for him by thinking about him—his will, his word and his way for us. If Christ is pre-eminent in our thinking we shall become more like him in his victory over temptation to sin, in his devotion to the father's will and in his passion for the souls of men. We express our love for God by speaking about his son and our savior—the beauty of his character, the sinlessness of his life, the infallibility of his teaching; the efficacy of his death, the triumph of his resurrection, the wonder of his salvation, the joy of his fellowship and the glorious hope of his return. Unquestioning and wholehearted obedience to his commandments is the best evidence of our genuine love for him. Christ said: "If ye love me, ye will keep my commandments." A Christ-centered and Spirit-filled life is the supreme expression of love for the Lord. We should remember the statement of evangelist Gypsy Smith: "Spend more time telling people what God has done for them and you'll have to spend less time telling them what they should do for him."

Those who truly love God express their love for him by thinking about him regularly, speaking about him frequently, obeying him faithfully and living consistently for him.

Baptist Forum

On buildings, budgets, prospects and divorces

I am against the new Southern Baptist building in Nashville. Dr. Daley's "con" statements (WR, 10/14/81) far outweighed his "pro" statements. It is (to me) totally inconceivable anyone would consider spending that much Southern Baptist money on a project like you described when the need is so much more urgent in other places.

And, because it bears on the same subject, if \$139,000 was spent by Southern Baptist Theological Seminary to purchase Dr. Duke McCall a condominium (WR, 10/7/81), it was an absolute travesty on Southern Baptist money that was contributed by Southern Baptist churches. I could understand and would favor a retirement gift of about \$25,000, but nothing more. Most of my friends would not be happy with the \$25,000 and if the other figure gets much notoriety, it will bring about quite a hubbub!

I am for better communication between prospective pastors and churches who need a pastor (WR, 10/14/81). That also goes for any other administrative positions we have in Baptist churches. In your prayerful considerate manner I say use your paper for this purpose. I would also be for Bro. John Wesley's Southern Baptist committee to assist divorced pastors (WR, 10/14/81), if we had a solid biblical foundation for one. I do not know if we do or not. I know of none, but I do not know all there is in the Bible. I would like some data on this subject.

Denny Burchett, Hopkinsville

[Editor's note: The condominium in which Duke McCall lives now belongs to the seminary and not to Dr. McCall.]

Taking care of retired ministers

In response to your article in Western Recorder under the heading of "Baptist churches are mistreating their pastors." I am indebted to two ministers for the following illustrations.

An incoming pastor requested that the church sell the parsonage and give to him a monthly sum to apply to the purchasing of a home for him and his family. They agreed to this suggestion and it went into effect immediately. The pastor informed the church that he had this benefit in his previous pastorates.

The other was from a minister who was nearing his retirement. Shortly after he became pastor of the church which he had now served for 40 years he suggested that the church give him a specified sum monthly to be invested in his name, the income from which was to be added to the principle so that at his retirement he would have an income adequate to meet his needs. The church heeded his suggestion and he was to be provided for in his anticipated retirement.

With this plan should a pastor move to another church, he could withdraw the accumulated sum and transfer it to a bank or investment institution where he is to live.

I am well aware of the fact that most of our churches are very small and could not do this easily but it could be a beginning and the Lord would honor it and bless them for their thoughtfulness of God's servant.

In my ministry of 60 years I did not offer the above suggestions as I did not know about them. But I saw to the churches' tithing and giving generously to all missions and God has provided for our support in our retirement time.

L. G. Gatlin, Jeffersonville, Ind.

1 Corinthians 13 for preachers

Even if I speak with the eloquence of G. Earl Guinn or the thunder of Bailey Smith, if I have not love, I'm merely tooting my own horn. If I have the gift of preaching like Wayne Ward and can fathom all mysteries, like John Newport, and if I have faith like R. G. Lee, even enough to move mountains, if I have no love I'm still a zero. If I give away all I make, like W. A. Criswell, or become a martyr, like Ralph Eliot, if I don't love I will not have gained an inch on heaven.

Love gives latitude and is genuinely kind. It isn't petty or pompous or proud. Love is gracious and selfless. Love keeps its temper and doesn't keep a log of wrongs. It isn't proud of evil, but it is ecstatic in the truth. Love always shields, always trusts, always believes the truth in the face of the obvious, and always hangs in there.

Love never poops out. All preaching will cease, languages will become tongue-tied and knowledge will fade from memory. We all have our blinders and speak only partial truth. But when the real thing appears, all imposters will be exposed. When I was a kid I jabbered like a kid, thought childishly and reasoned illogically. But when I grew up I left Tinker-toy thinking far behind. Now we see the truth as if it were reflected in a warped mirror; then we will see it eyeball to eyeball. Now I know only fragments; then I will have the whole picture, even as my true self will be fully comprehended.

Now these three things hold on: faith, hope and love. But the sunna bonum is love.

Don M. Aycock, Louisville

It was Bell Association which erred

I am a native of Monticello, Ky., now living in Maryland. I keep up with the activities of Kentucky Baptists through Western Recorder. I read with concern and interest the article on the mode of baptism issue and Bell Association.

The Middlesboro congregation has taken an unpopular position based on biblical study and Baptist principles. Early Christians so regarded baptism as an outward, visible expression of the inner, invisible grace of God they baptized those who were making their initial commitments to Christ. They baptized new converts. They did not rebaptize fellow Christians. Thus, baptism was not and is not to be an initiation rite into a religious club.

First Baptist, Middlesboro, also has taken our Baptist heritage seriously. They are stressing the importance of believer's baptism by emphasizing the meaning rather than the mode of baptism. While maintaining immersion as their practicing mode, they recognize the meaning of believer's baptism regardless of the mode. Southern Baptist congregations in Alabama, Georgia and Virginia have made similar decisions.

Bell Association has taken action

which violates one of our most cherished Baptist principles, the autonomy of the local congregation. I hope Bell Association will reverse its decision because the association needs First Baptist and First Baptist needs the association so that they might together guide people to become and to be Christians.

Howard W. Roberts
Temple Hills, Md.

Part time / full time

In response to the Sept. 30, 1981 edition of Western Recorder and the article by James H. Cox found on page 3 concerning women and the position of campus minister.

The article includes the statement, "not since the days of Shirley Purdy in the 60s had there been a feminine version of today's traditionally male-oriented BSU director in the Bluegrass State." I respectfully submit that there has been at least one "feminine version" of a BSU director in the state since the 60s. Mrs. Pat Brunner has served Berea College as BSU director since September 1979.

Pat has served faithfully and has gained the respect and the love of the students with whom she has directly ministered. The city of Berea, Berea College, Berea Baptist Church, and most of all the Berea BSU are all blessed by the work and ministry of this particular "feminine version" of the BSU director.

Alan Burner, Berea

[Editor's note: The article referred to above contained the statement "only a year ago she [Alice Lynn Kerr] became the first woman of her generation to serve on a Kentucky university campus as a full time Baptist student minister." Mrs. Brunner is doing excellent work at Berea but she serves on a part time basis and not full time.]

Bell Association . . . tsK, tsK

May I begin this letter by saying I totally believe immersion is the scriptural and proper mode of baptism.

When I read the article (WR, 10/28/81) on the ousting of First, Middlesboro from the Bell Association, it unfortunately brought back memories of another such incident in which I was involved. While serving as minister of education in Evansville, Ind., our church also had similar action taken against it. In our case, the dispute was over the authority to baptize rather than that of mode. Both cases reek of Landmarkism. Our association discontinued fellowship with us because we accepted General Baptists without rebaptizing them.

I do not want to focus on the subject of mode or authority of baptism but on discontinued fellowship. This seems to me to be the most unchristian response an association can take. Where does Christ ever disassociate himself from those with whom he had disagreements? My Bible reads Christ always tried to keep the avenues of fellowship open.

Although the moderator assures us that no feelings toward Rev. Pennington or First, Middlesboro have changed, I unfortunately know differently. When you are ousted from an association you are viewed as a rene-

Is that a fact?

By the end of 1982, 288 appointments are needed if the projected goal of 5,000 career missionaries, serving in 125 countries by the end of the century, is to be realized.

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
National Goal: \$50,000,000

Week of Prayer
for Foreign Missions
November 29—December 6,
1981



gade. People smile at you out of one side of their mouth and downgrade you from the other. Another unfortunate aspect of our case in Indiana was that our minister brethren who did attempt to persuade the association to allow us to remain in fellowship were no longer asked to serve in leadership positions. All of these unfortunate things happen because of human nature.

I am praying that Bell Association will realize the mistake they have made, will open their arms to First, Middlesboro, and try to work together to reach souls for Christ.

My heart goes out to Rev. Pennington and his people. I know how you feel as a small minority trying to follow your savior. I applaud you on ministering to people instead of rules and regulations.

One thing we can be sure of is God will never remove First, Middlesboro from his fellowship (Isa. 43:1-7).

Terry E. Belew, Ft. Mitchell

From the associational circuit

As a representative of Kentucky Baptist Child Care, it has been my privilege to attend 10 associational meetings in our western area of the state. I am happy to report that Southern Baptists in western Kentucky are actively involved in going about God's business. Wherever I went I found our associations excited and enthused about Southern Baptist programs. Bold missions, bold evangelism, bold witnessing, bold giving, bold involvement were common themes through the associations. West Kentucky Baptists are taking seriously the goals and dreams of the Southern Baptist Convention and the Kentucky Baptist Convention in all areas of their ministries. As the Bible says, "I have seen with my eyes and heard with my ears," west Kentucky Baptists are giving their time, money and talents to the service of our Lord.

In attending these associational meetings my goal was to share news about my work with Southern Baptists in the western area of the state. This I did, but I had not expected the blessings and uplifting experiences I received. As I think about my experiences now, I see how I was ministered to as I heard the good news in the associations and the wonderful work Baptists are doing. My experience was more than positive, it was uplifting and spiritual and I wanted to share this with you as I know of your interest and love of Kentucky Baptists.

William K. Heaton, Evansville, Ind.



Churches have an obligation to be good stewards, too.

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If you can find a better plan, do your church a favor—take it. If not, ask for your free copy of the easy-to-understand booklet, "Church Newsletter Survival Workkit," and share it with someone who's in a position to save your church big bucks in 1982.

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