

WESTERN RECORDER

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KENTUCKY BAPTIST NEWS JOURNAL

SBC presidency

Who will follow Smith? History may offer clue

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

Southern Baptists' biennial preoccupation with the election of a new convention president is about to begin. It comes as the result of a clause in the convention's constitution which states that "the term of office for the president is limited to two years."

Bailey Smith, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, Del City, Okla., reaches that constitutional limit at the SBC meeting June 15-17 in New Orleans, La.

Thus, with the election of a new president only a few months away, some are already beginning to speculate on potential nominees. State editors will soon be reporting names of several of those who are presently only whispered about in the corridors of the SBC Building in Nashville and who are currently making the circuit of state evangelism conferences and other local and regional events.

Return to the pages of yesteryear

History may tell us something about the person we will elect in New Orleans even now, however.

Forty-two different individuals have been elected president of the Southern Baptist Convention since the convention was organized in 1845. All of these have been men.

By states, Texas leads with eight and Tennessee follows with seven. Georgia is just behind with five. Three men each were elected from Kentucky, Louisiana, Oklahoma and South Carolina, but there's a catch. One of those elected from South Carolina a century ago moved from that state and was reelected as a Kentuckian.

Two presidents each have come from Arkansas, Maryland, North Carolina and Virginia. One was elected from Alabama, Mississippi and Missouri.

The elections of the last three decades may be even more relevant to 1982.

In 30 years we have elected 17 different individuals from seven states. Five were Tennesseans, four were Texans, three Oklahomans, two North Carolinians, and there was one each from Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi.

All of them served the constitutional limit of two years with the exceptions of K. Owen White of Texas and James L. Sullivan and Adrian P. Rogers of Tennessee, who chose to limit their presidencies to one year.

Of the 17 elected since 1952, 14 presidents were pastors of large metropolitan churches. Two were laymen—Brooks Hays of Arkansas, elected in 1957, and Owen Cooper of Mississippi, elected in 1972. One, James L. Sullivan, was a retired denominational agency executive.

Of the 14 pastors, three served the same church in Tennessee during their presidencies (R. G. Lee, Ramsey Pollard and Adrian P. Rogers) and two served the same church in North Carolina during theirs (C. C. Warren and Carl E. Bates).

Lessons from the history book

The convention has met in 14 states during the last three decades. On seven occasions it met in Missouri, six in Texas, five in Florida, two in California, and one each in Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, New Jersey, Oregon, Pennsylvania and Virginia.

This year the convention returns to Louisiana. The only occasion the convention met in the Crescent City of New Orleans in 45 years occurred in 1969, when W. A. Criswell of Texas was reelected to a second one-year term as president.

Of the last 17 presidents, only Criswell—elected in 1968 when the convention met in Houston—and Jaroy Weber—a Texan elected when the convention met in Dallas in 1974—lived in the state in which the convention was meeting at the time of election.

Does this suggest that anyone but a Louisianian could be elected president of the SBC this year? If history repeats itself, the odds would certainly seem to be against anyone from the Pelican State.

What, if anything, does recent history suggest about those most likely to be elected president of the Southern Baptist Convention? If we look at the last 30 years, the following factors emerge:

1. Thus far, the president has always been a man.
2. A Tennessean or a Texan is most likely to be elected. (Jimmy R. Allen was the last Texan to serve, from 1977-79, and James L. Sullivan the last Tennessean, in 1976-77.)
3. Whoever is elected president in New Orleans, unless he prefers otherwise, will almost assuredly be reelected by the convention meeting in Pittsburgh in 1983.
4. The pastor of a large metropolitan church has an overwhelming chance of being elected president of the SBC—this year, and every year. Conversely, a layman or denominational worker has only a very small chance.
5. The odds are at least fair that a person elected president of the Southern Baptist Convention will be serving a pastorate from which one or more of his predecessors was also elected by the convention to be its president.
6. If tradition holds true, a candidate from a state where Southern Baptist work is strongest, other than Louisiana, will be elected convention president in 1982.

Another wrinkle has bearing

Of course, another factor has been interjected into convention presidential elections in the last three years, which must influence any speculation now. That is the question of inerrancy, and a candidate's position on the issue.

The traditional, proestablishment crowd firmly held the reigns until 1979. With the election of Adrian P. Rogers that year and Bailey Smith in 1980—both avowed ultraconservatives—a new set of factors has been brought into play.

To what extent the fundamentalist crowd is able to marshal its forces and sway the messengers at this year's convention in New Orleans remains to be seen. But if the tranquility of recent months prevails among the messengers, and healing among factions within the denomination continues, a potential result could be: the question of theological differences may have a greatly diminished effect on the outcome of the SBC presidential election in 1982 than in the three years just past.

For Southern Baptists, 1982 could be remembered as the year they put their theological differences behind them, and pressed on united toward more important tasks.



"... You are all one in Christ Jesus."

Galatians 3:28b
Observe Race Relations Sunday
February 14, 1982

Sponsored by the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention

BJCPA official clarifies position on tax confusion

Confusion over President Reagan's apparent position reversal on the status of tax exemption for schools that discriminate has caused the issue to be debated primarily with race arguments.

Debate on that basis is too simplistic and neglects "subtle and profound" religious liberty issues says James M. Dunn, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs in Washington.

Reagan at first asked the Supreme Court to drop cases against Bob Jones University and Goldsboro (N. C.) Christian Schools that the Internal Revenue Service has brought against them for discrimination. When a howl arose that the administration was racist Reagan quickly asked Congress for legislation to deny tax exemption for schools that discriminate.

News reports then erroneously said Reagan's request was a policy reversal when in fact the original request remained in place, unchanged. The intent of Reagan's request from Congress was to take judgments on tax exemption from the hands of the IRS and put them under the force of law.

"I have to agree if the IRS is going to evaluate tax exempt status in the light of national policy regarding race they clearly need some direction from Congress about what the policy is," Dunn said.

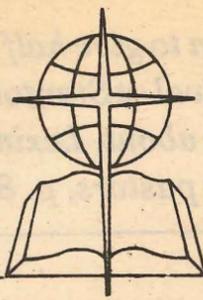
"But even there Congress doesn't have the right, responding to the majority of the moment, to sweep away the freedom of religion guaranteed in the First Amendment. It's entirely possible Congress could come up with legislation that would be such a blunt instrument it would be unworkable, unfair and unconstitutional."

Public interpretation of the Baptist Joint Committee's position on the issue has been confused, partly because the committee's general counsel filed a friend-of-the-court brief on behalf of Bob Jones University at the request of the American Baptist Churches. While on the surface that appears to cast them as racists, Dunn explains such categorization neglects finely drawn religious liberty issues.

Dunn pointed out the Bob Jones case has been in the courts 11 years and the point of contention is very finely drawn. There were no sweeping generalities about tax exemption for schools that discriminate. He said the Baptist Joint Committee's support of Bob Jones was not for their beliefs on interracial marriage, but for their right, as a religious school, to hold those beliefs without interference from the government.

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

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James H. Cox, Associate Editor



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C. R. Daley

Daley Observations

A crying need for most Baptists

Many things contribute to a warm-hearted, loving, caring and growing church but one thing is absolutely indispensable. This is a sincere evangelistic outreach which confronts men, women and young people every week with the good news of God's love and forgiveness.

The church has two principal assignments. These are to evangelize and to nurture those evangelized in spiritual growth. The facilities, the personnel, the program and all the many other things related to a Baptist church are for the purpose of enabling the church to carry out these two assignments.

Reaching people for Jesus Christ then is the bottom line. It's what it's all about. In spite of the static surroundings of many small Baptist churches, there are always opportunities to reach people. Generally there are more evangelistic prospects within the church community than is realized and then there are unlimited opportunities to become involved in unchurched communities beyond the church field.

Effective evangelistic witnessing is probably the scarcest commodity in Baptist churches. This is not because it has been tried and proven ineffective. In fact, it is usually a flaming success whenever it is tried and it has revolutionized some congregations which had lapsed into unconcern.

A great majority of Baptists simply don't know how to go about presenting Jesus Christ to another person. They tend to think this is a task requiring the skills of a pastor or an evangelist or a few special laypeople. A crying need, therefore, is a change in attitude as well as some specific help for those wanting to be effective witnesses but feeling they don't know how.

A growing number of Baptist churches have turned to a plan developed by a Presbyterian pastor and church in Florida. Sensing the need for some such plan to train church members to be effective personal witnesses, our own Home Mission Board has come up with a plan which promises to be much help. It's just beginning but much will be said about it from now on.

An old but a proven successful help in evangelism among Baptists is the state evangelism conference which is conducted annually. More inspiration and motivation have come to more Baptist pastors from this meeting than anything Southern Baptists have ever tried. A few laymen, but far too few, have also been swept into this evangelistic ardor.

The 1982 evangelism conference will be at Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown, Feb. 22-23. Evangelism director Jay Brown has planned a very helpful and inspiring program. How wonderful it would be if every Kentucky Baptist church had its pastor and at least one layperson in Elizabethtown. How different would be the 1982 report on baptisms in Kentucky Baptist churches!

Kentucky Baptists are hardy souls

January 1982 has outjanuaried most others and should finally convince us that the annual Bible study in Kentucky should be an activity for March or April instead of for January. But for Baptists in Earlington and Harlan this year it was a January experience in spite of the unusually frigid weather. And what an experience! The loyalty of these saints is enough to set a pastor's and a visiting teacher's heart to singing.

When I left Louisville on the Sunday morning for the beginning of the Jeremiah study in Earlington the temperature was 11 degrees below zero. The high for that day was three degrees below. Some were not able to make it but many Earlington Baptists did for morning and evening studies. They were back on Monday night in spite of frigid conditions. On Tuesday the snow came and we finally decided enough was enough and so the pastor is finishing the study on Wednesday evenings.

The next Saturday evening when I left Louisville for Harlan to begin the January Bible study on Sunday the temperature was four degrees below zero with a wind chill factor of -42 degrees. Pastor Roy Carlton and I had talked on Friday about the predicted winter storm for the weekend but he said if I could make it to Harlan, he was not inclined to call off the Jeremiah study. I made it without difficulty to Harlan and a surprising number of Harlan Baptists made it for the study on Sunday. On Sunday morning the temperature in Harlan was 13 degrees below

zero and some had to walk because their cars would not start but they were there. On Monday night the Harlan streets were coated with ice but a good number made it including Loyall pastor Keith Rogers and several members of his congregation.

Hardy Baptists, who brave sub-zero weather to study the scriptures and worship the Lord do not expect to receive brownie points or otherwise be rewarded for their hardiness and faithfulness. Their reward is the experience itself.

Older saints or those ailing need not feel guilty for staying home by a fire when weather conditions are so adverse. In many instances they worship by radio or television and their prayers bless the services they cannot attend.

Severe winters in Kentucky in recent years have been hard on church attendance and offerings but it's amazing how many Baptists keep their gifts coming in in spite of their forced absences. This faithfulness undergirds the round-the-clock ministry and outreach of Southern Baptists around the world.

Should services ever be canceled due to severe weather? The circumstances of each church have to be considered but I like the rule now being followed by many churches. This rule is that the church will stay in business for whoever can get to church on Sunday morning. At that time decisions on evening services and weekday activities can be made.

A record worth noting in Kentucky Baptist giving

Records of Cooperative Program contributions and designated gifts of each state Baptist convention to the Southern Baptist Convention worldwide missionary enterprise come to the editor's desk each month. It is quite natural to compare the gifts from Kentucky Baptists with those of Baptists from other states and almost always we compare favorably.

We usually resist the temptation to boast because boasting is seldom appropriate and besides successful statistics is but one criterion for measuring success. However, when my eyes fell on the report for last December I couldn't help but shout hallelujah in my soul and thank the Lord again for Kentucky Baptists.

Ordinarily the Southern Baptist Convention mission gifts of Kentucky Baptists reflect a 12 to 16 percent increase over the same month a year before. This puts us in the class with most of the old line established state Baptist conventions. The December record so far surpassed the usual increase and for that it demands recognition.

December Cooperative Program gifts from Kentucky to Southern Baptist Convention causes increased from \$288,254 in 1980 to \$468,695 in 1981 which was a 62.6 percent increase. The dollar increase (\$180,441) was the largest for any state convention in the Southern Baptist Convention and the percentage increase was the highest of any of the older, larger state conventions.

Two factors are involved in this unusual record of giving by Kentucky Baptists. Kentucky Baptist churches gave \$902,177 for the Cooperative Program during November, the highest November in history. KBC November receipts are reflected in SBC December receipts.

Kentucky Baptist churches gave \$1,007,153 for the Cooperative Program during December—the fourth highest month in history (the three

previous highs were the final months of three fiscal years). This will be reflected in the SBC January receipts.

The other unusual thing about last December was the special distribution of funds accumulated in the mission reserve fund of which Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program causes received a share.

This December Cooperative Program record was accompanied by an even more phenomenal increase in designated offerings—an increase from \$42,399 in 1980 to \$107,682 in 1981 or a 154 percent increase.

Such records constitute a tribute to pastors, staff members, leaders and members of the Baptist congregations in Kentucky. As editor of the state Baptist paper, I'm grateful to God to be a part of such people of the Lord.

Baptist Forum

Thanks, Southern Baptists!

We thank God for the instrumentality of Southern Baptists who through the medium of the Foreign Mission Board made possible to us the privilege of serving as your missionaries for more than 42 years in South and Central America.

Upon our retirement Dec. 1, 1981 we found adequate provision through Social Security and the pension plan of the board had been made for us.

Our years of serving God as we felt he had called us to do and continuing opportunity for service have thus been provided by the churches of the Southern Baptist Convention.

We thank you.

Frances and Sydney Goldfinch
Emeritus Missionaries, FMB, SBC
Uruguay, Paraguay, and Costa Rica

Oneida Journal

'A week of magic'

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



One of the rewards of our labor and daily struggle at Oneida is hearing from parents, uncles, aunts and grandparents of students whose lives we have touched.

A good sample of such a letter is the following from a distant city: "I have often wondered how you folks at Oneida can keep a reasonable amount of patience, much less your sanity! I assume that a good percentage of your student body is not at Oneida because they are angels.

"I know I sent a 'potential' to you that had misplaced his halo and his wings were not working at all!

"I have seen a week of magic with Jack while he was home for vacation. I see a big change in him. I now know that he is not only trying but is having some success in directing his life in a positive way.

"Oneida provided the opportunity for Jack to make these changes, and it is to your credit that this is happening.

"He was very cooperative and worked hard to help me in the house, and it would take three more pages to list all the fix-it projects Jack accomplished. He helped my dad put bales of hay up in a barn. He told dad that he was an 'old hand' at hay bailing because he learned that at Oneida.

"It probably is not proper for me to discuss another student, but it points out that Oneida, in some cases, not only redirects young minds' way of thinking, but saves their lives, spiritually and physically.

"I did not know Maynard or his family prior to his coming to Oneida. He was referred through a mutual friend. Anyhow, I told him to do me, Jack and Oneida a favor and refer only good kids. The doctor replied to me that he considered Oneida to be the last resort to save this boy's life. So many things had been done with little success. He said that statistically Maynard would be dead from an overdose or suicide before he reached age 16. I have trouble relating to this because I don't understand why.

"Anyway at the bus station I saw Maynard with his hair cut, a smile on his face, and though he wasn't jumping up and down saying he could hardly wait to get back to Oneida, when the bus pulled up two kids quickly gathered up all their treasures to hop on the bus. I feel my Jack already knows that Oneida will provide the opportunity to get his act together. I have the feeling Maynard suspects the answer for him is down at Oneida, Ky. but he isn't about to admit it yet!

"We adults need positive feedback too. That's why I am writing you. You are all giving of yourselves to provide something special, a different way of life to youngsters. THANKS."

A mother writes of her children. "I believe that one year at Oneida has been more beneficial to them than three years in public school. I believe a good education is the most important thing in a child's life. You cannot go very far without it.

"I don't wish my children to have to do manual labor the rest of their lives as I am doing. They have also learned some very important values at your school and for that I thank you very much.

"I will get my account with you paid as soon as possible. Of course, what I owe you cannot be paid in money. Money cannot pay for the things my children have learned and experienced in the past year."

A Catholic mother writes sending a \$50 donation: "I will never be able to thank you enough for helping our child and us last year. May God bless you always for this."

Clear Creek Comments

Telling the story

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



"Tell me the old, old story, / Tell me the old, old story, / Tell me the old, old story / Of Jesus and his love."

That hymn is often heard in the mountains of eastern Kentucky, especially in some of our smaller churches. It is simple, contains an important message and is easy to sing.

In a very real sense that message is proclaimed by the students of Clear Creek Baptist School in places of service all over this region. I am constantly amazed and thrilled at what our students and alumni are doing as they carry out the Great Commission found in Matt. 28:19 and 20.

It is not without sacrifice, however, they perform their tasks. Most of them serve churches many miles from the campus where they make their homes. They give up weekends, when many people sit back and relax, to go to places far removed from the major highways. The congregations are small, but eager to do the work of the Lord.

Soon I will complete my tenure of service at the school and my wife and I will leave for Zambia, Africa for service with our Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. I look forward to it with mixed emotions. Kentucky is my home and I love this land and her people. However, I have always tried to follow the Lord's leadership and he is leading us to Africa.

Please pray for us, but don't forget to continue to pray for our students here. Pray for our president-elect, for the trustees and for the faculty and staff. God has blessed our efforts far above all expectations and it is only through your continued prayer and financial support that we can continue the work God began here in 1926.

I will be spending a great deal of time in churches in many places the next few months. I hope to see you. If not, why not plan a visit soon; we'd love to show you our campus. If you would like to let us know ahead of time of your arrival, please call me, D. M. Aldridge, at 606/337-2380 or write me at the school.



Ministering to the children of the 80's



Reaching out to touch

Eldred M. Taylor,
Executive Director

Luke's gospel tells of the Good Samaritan who reached out to touch one who had been beaten, robbed and left to die. The Samaritan reached out to touch this unknown stranger because he had "compassion." J. B. Phillips translates that Greek word "practical sympathy." Jesus, our example, was often moved with "practical sympathy" when he saw people in need.

The Kentucky Baptist Child Care Program is a ministry of "practical sympathy." Our program seeks to fulfill a ministry which grows out of the Christian compassion of Kentucky Baptists and finds practical ways of helping dependent/neglected children and families.

Through 112 years of reaching out to touch children in Christ's name, many have been blessed and have come to know Jesus. For years our ministry centered in one place: the Louisville Baptist Orphans Home. Then to better serve children throughout the state, Kentucky Baptists established a home at Glendale, Ky. in 1915. Through the years these two homes: Glen Dale and the Louisville Baptist Home (now Spring Meadows Children's Home at Middletown) have served hundreds of children and families from all parts of Kentucky.

Ever mindful of the example of our savior, we keep reaching out to touch and minister to those in need. To touch another requires closeness. Your child care ministry, through regional offices, is closer to more Kentucky Baptists than ever before.

Serving western Kentucky is our regional coordinator Bill Heaton, at Madisonville (502-825-2191). Serving eastern Kentucky is regional coordinator Joanna Hawthorne, at Lexington (606-252-5080). At central Kentucky are two regional coordinators, Dwight Moore and Ron Soloc, at Middletown (502-245-2101 or WATS 1-800-292-9440).

If you know of a situation that needs our ministry, reach and touch us by calling the office nearest you. We will respond immediately by reaching out to touch the child and family who need our ministry.

The columns on this page are paid space.

Meet Cumberland College Student...



Steve Ware

When Steve Ware, Cumberland College junior majoring in Religion and business administration, first visited Cumberland College he knew only one person. Before the first weekend was over, he had made several friends, both faculty and students, and had decided that Cumberland was where he wanted to attend college.

Steve transferred from an Ohio business college and quickly immersed himself in his new home. He became the Baptist Student Union choir director and participated in youth-led revival teams. "I was given the chance to serve the Lord and to help others. I love visiting in different churches and meeting the people there."

Steve met many people last summer when he served as a Summer Missionary in Virginia, working in youth camps as a recreation director and youth counselor. "I enjoyed working with the young people, helping them learn about life and about how to make right decisions with God's help."

Steve sacrificed his summer vacation because, "It was a chance to help youngsters learn and I am interested in helping young people with their problems."

Steve may attend seminary after graduation, "If God calls me, I will go. My educational combination of business and religion is unique but I believe there is room in a religious vocation for both. God can use everyone."

There will be room for Steve. At Cumberland College we have room for more like him.

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

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

Baptist News in Brief



Reynolds

Reynolds joins WR staff

Howard C. (Rick) Reynolds has been named to a journalism internship at Western Recorder, effective Feb. 1. Reynolds, 38, a candidate for the MDiv degree at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, is a native of Oakland, Calif.

Married to the former Linda Gracie Dankworth of Phoenix, Ariz., he is the father of two children, Angela, 16, and Steven, 13.

Reynolds is a graduate of Grand Canyon College, Phoenix, with the BA degree and holds the MS degree from Nova University, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

For 14 years he taught in the public schools of Arizona and in junior college. He has been a newspaper reporter and former editor of the Payson (Ariz.) Roundup six years. He was a stringer for the Arizona Republic and a stringer for KTVK-TV in Phoenix. He has been published in numerous regional newspapers and magazines, and submitted Associated Press wire stories. He is a

blue ribbon winner in juried photography competitions.

Like his 22 predecessors in Western Recorder's journalism internship program, Reynolds plans a career in religious communications. He expects to graduate in 1984.

Race issue reaction mixed

President Reagan's announced support for legislation denying tax exempt status to private schools which practice racial discrimination is drawing mixed reactions from congressional leaders.

While both Republicans and Democrats welcomed the President's support for such legislation, the announcement only partially muted the concerns of some Democrats over his reversal of a 12-year-old Internal Revenue Service policy prohibiting tax exemption to private schools that discriminate on the basis of race.

Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., welcomed Reagan's support for legislation on the issue but warned that "The President's words do not undo the damage" caused by what Kennedy called the administration's "shocking action" of withdrawing the IRS regulations. The result, he said, restores "racist tax subsidies" until Congress acts to correct it.

Republican leaders hailed Reagan's announcement, with Senate finance committee chairman Robert J. Dole, R-Kan., indicating he would introduce the administration's bill as soon as it is drafted.

Nutt to get RTVC award

NBC news anchorman John Chancellor and Louisville humorist Grady Nutt will

receive top honors in the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission's Abe Lincoln awards.

Chancellor will receive the distinguished communication medal and Nutt the Christian service award in ceremonies Feb. 11. Chancellor's award is the highest recognition given by the RTVC.

Chancellor was cited for his contribution to the integrity of broadcast journalism. Chancellor also will be keynote speaker at the banquet.

Nutt, Christian humorist and a regular on television's "Hee Haw" since 1979, is an ordained Southern Baptist minister. His credits include six albums, five books and numerous television guest appearances.

Others who have received the Christian service award include former President Jimmy Carter, Dallas Cowboy coach Tom Landry, comedian Jerry Clower and singer Dale Evans Rogers.

Hammock pulls for Boner

H. Rex Hammock, director of communications for the Southern Baptist Education Commission and editor of its magazine, the Educator, resigned to become press aide for Fifth District Congressman Bill Boner.

He joined Boner's Washington staff

Kentucky Cooperative Program Receipts

for month of December 1981

\$1,007,153.36

To date this year	\$3,601,862.71*
Operational goal to date this year	3,446,666.00
To date this time last year	3,324,825.76
NEEDED EACH MONTH TO REACH	
OPERATIONAL GOAL	861,667.00
NEEDED EACH MONTH TO REACH FULL	
COOPERATIVE PROGRAM GOAL	1,200,000.00
Over operational goal	155,196.05

*\$277,036.95, or 8.33%, increase compared to this time last year.

Jan. 25.

Hammock, 27, joined the commission in June 1979 after graduation from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and Samford University. While in Louisville he was director of news and information and edited the school's alumni publication. He also worked for the Louisville Courier-Journal.

Baptist trucks help Poles

The Polish government is allowing church and relief groups to effectively distribute food, medicine and other supplies from outside the country.

Knud Wumpelmann, general secretary of the European Baptist Federation, made the observation after accompanying a team transporting more than 23 tons of food and supplies from Danish Church Aid to Warsaw Jan. 7.

"The situation in Poland is still critical and help will be needed for a long time to come," Wumpelmann said.

"The relief distribution is well organized by all the churches," he said. The Danish truck he accompanied drove to a church distribution center in Warsaw without delay. The supplies were quickly distributed through participating institutions to families with children and to elderly people unable to stand in line for several hours in winter weather for government rations.

The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has already released \$265,000 in hunger and relief funds to assist the needy in Poland, and European Baptists also have given substantial aid.

Christian School Principal Wanted

First Baptist School of Little Rock, Arkansas is now accepting applications for the position of PRINCIPAL. Current enrollment of 200 (K-6) with plans to expand into junior high grades next year. Ultimate plans K-12. Application by Resume only. Respond to Richard Hill, Chairman of the Personnel Committee of the First Baptist School, 62 Pleasant Valley, Little Rock, Ark. 72212.

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by Mary K. Branson,
State Correspondent

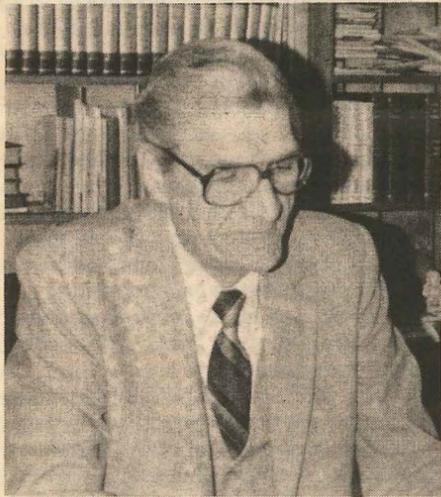
How can a church increase its giving to missions from 16 to 28.5 percent in four years? How can you account for a church which gives \$280 to World Hunger in 1977 and \$7000 in 1981?

What leads a congregation in a four-year period to increase its giving to its district association from \$1200 to \$2700, its Cooperative Program contributions from \$11,135 (11 percent of its total giving) to \$27,870 (16 percent), its Lottie Moon offering from \$1447 to \$6118 and its Annie Armstrong offering from \$557 to \$1056?

How does a church give six times more to Jonathan Creek Assembly in 1981 than it gave in 1977? How could it double its Child Care offering in the past four years?

The financial records of First Baptist Church, Earlington, speak louder than Guy Gordon, its modest pastor, cares to speak. Gordon is hesitant to talk about his church's giving, wanting instead to point out that, while his church has an excellent stewardship program, it is not so strong in other areas.

"I wouldn't want anyone to think we were boasting about our giving," stresses Gordon. "I know we are not doing as well as many churches in local missions. Earlington is a town with very little growth presently. Only two or



Guy Gordon

three Baptist families and very few other new families have moved here in the past several years. I wish we were reaching more people for Christ locally but we have limited opportunities here.

"Giving to missions beyond our community is one thing our church can do," states Gordon. "Our people are committed to witnessing and ministering beyond the local setting. We feel any church program that does not contribute to carrying out the Great Commission is impossible to justify."

Gordon returned to First Baptist Church in September 1977, having been pastor of the same congregation from

1958-63. One of his goals was to lead the church in greater outreach through its giving. He took specific steps to lead the congregation to the type of commitment he dreamed about.

"I believe the lordship of Christ and stewardship of his followers are responsible doctrine. We have an annual stewardship emphasis at which time we seek individual and family commitments. Stewardship sermons, stewardship emphasis in church mail-outs and other means are used to impress members with their stewardship responsibilities. We have an ongoing emphasis on stewardship.

"On the Sunday prior to World Hunger Day I preach on hunger and give a biblical basis for response to the cries of the hungry masses around the world. I use statistics to show how our families could actually feed a starving family. They want to help personally. That's the heart of our giving experience. It doesn't represent the gifts of one or two wealthy families. Some offering envelopes we receive are filled with coins."

Dale Vincent, former church treasurer, affirms this. "It's lots of people, each giving a little," observes Vincent.

"Our designations are not the type that takes money from the budget," notes Gordon. "Most of our mission offerings are given on designated occasions and they do not adversely affect our regular gifts."

"Strengthening our missionary outreach was a decision made by vote of the church Jan. 6, 1980. At that time the church adopted its own bold mission challenge," reflects Gordon. "This challenge has helped keep our stewardship commitment before the people."

The church's bold missions goals were (1) to continue mission emphasis and prayers to send out from the church one career missionary before the end of the decade and (2) to move immediately toward a goal of 50/50 distribution of

funds between local and world missions by the end of the decade. When this challenge was adopted, the church was devoting 25 percent to world missions and 75 percent to local church needs.

"One goal of the conventionwide Bold Mission Thrust calls for doubling the cooperative giving between 1977 and 1982. We have already done this," observes Gordon. "By the end of 1982 we will have tripled our 1977 Cooperative Program giving."

The stewardship record of First Baptist Church is commendable. Most churches would like to have similar records. How did this church make the desire a reality?

"The staff must lead the way in stewardship response," explains Gordon. "Most congregations will readily follow a staff that is committed to faithful stewardship."

"The involvement of the deacons is important, too. Our deacons have a spirit of cooperation that is unusual. They will try anything the staff feels will be successful."

"But the people must be committed if a stewardship campaign is to be successful. The more our people give, the more they seem to want to give."

Such stewardship practices lead to surplus funds for Earlington. Gordon explains his church's philosophy on such surplus funds.

"We don't believe in accumulating a large reserve," states Gordon. "In fact, we don't allow it."

Nine times in the past five years First Baptist Church has had a considerable surplus of funds and each time the congregation has voted to use these excess funds for missions.

"These five surpluses amounted to \$23,800. We sent \$12,000 through the Cooperative Program and the rest to World Hunger, Lottie Moon, the temporary Kentucky Baptist child care

shelter being built near Dixon, Little Bethel Association and Jonathan Creek Assembly.

"By sending more than half of this surplus through the Cooperative Program you can see that we are strong believers in this way of giving," notes Gordon. "I personally see the Cooperative Program as the lifeline of our missionary outreach."

"But I am also a believer in special offerings for missions," Gordon continued. "Not all worthy missionary causes, including world hunger, are provided for by the Cooperative Program."

"I don't consider it an either-or, but a both-and situation. Our church's special offerings have in no way taken funds from the Cooperative Program. While our special offerings have grown we have steadily increased our Cooperative Program giving."

"I realize that not every church can do what ours is doing," observes Gordon. "Some churches have large debts. Some have building programs. Some have more staff needs."

"I certainly don't feel that any church should try to increase its mission giving at the expense of not providing well for its staff. Our church takes proper care of its staff. That's some of the most important money a church can spend, since a good staff can lead the church to grow in every area."

Gordon spoke intensely as he explained his convictions on stewardship.

"A church has as great a responsibility in administering its funds as an individual has for personal New Testament stewardship," Gordon said with urgency.

"I stress to my congregation members that they are not giving to First Baptist Church. They are giving to God through their church."

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Revival

Fervor of fall services at Stanton still going strong

by Laurie K. Taylor, State Correspondent

Revivals come and revivals go, but at Stanton (Ky.) Baptist Church it looks like revival is here to stay.

Since their fall revival, led by evangelist Joe Mobley, the church has gained 42 new members by baptism boosting their total membership to 450. Sunday school attendance has shot from 75 to 125 and Church Training attendance has grown from 25 to 65. The youth program has soared from 12 to 60 and the folks are eagerly sharing Christ with their community.

*'Before the revival
I asked the preacher
to do my soul winning.
Now I do it.'*

"We are in the beginning of something big," declares Joe Stephenson, pastor, who has been at the church since August 1980. An avid soul-winner, Stephenson led James King, district judge to the Lord a year ago.

King explains what is happening in the church. "We're experiencing an internal and external revival all in one," he shares. "Our members have

been revived and are getting out into the community seeking the unsaved.

"Christ has made a difference in my life like day and night," he continued, "and now I have an awful desire to bring others to Christ."

It was this desire to share Christ that led King to the home of Stanton physician Sam Cecil. After the revival one evening King felt impressed to witness to Cecil. By midnight he knew he had to tell the doctor about Jesus, so he went to Cecil's home with Stephenson and Mobley at his side.

"I had exposure to Christianity from my childhood into my teen years," recalls Cecil, "but no one had ever confronted me personally until that night.

"They cared without wanting anything from me in return and I don't have a lot of people coming to me without wanting something," the general practitioner admits. "These men came out of concern for me.

"Christianity has filled a niche that wasn't filled before. I'm planning to get closer to the Lord through Bible study, prayer, church attendance and learning from other Christians.

"I find a lot of opportunities for witnessing with my patients now," he reflects. "I try to make the best of those opportunities."

Already Cecil has led one person to the Lord and is actively praying for others.

Perhaps the most visible results of revival are being seen in the youth program. Marie Stephenson, the pastor's wife, recalls that a year ago she struggled to find eight teenagers willing to participate in a short drama. Today 24 youth are involved in its presentation and travel to share the play with other churches.

"Since our revival the youth have had a willingness to witness to others. They are not ashamed to tell others they are Christians and to stand up in churches and give their testimonies," Mrs. Stephenson says. "They want to know more about the plan of salvation so they can tell others about the Lord."

The impact of the revival has even spilled over into the high school according to Joyce Smallwood, a 10-year veteran social studies teacher. "Prayer at lunch is a visible change. Over 200 kids pack into the lunchroom and everywhere I look I see individual kids

bowing their heads in silent prayer. It gives me chill bumps!

"I've also noticed a renewed concern for family and friends. The students are approaching Christian adults and friends to ask help in leading mutual friends to Christ. The daily concern and humility to God are quite evident."

Teresa Rogers, a senior cheerleader and member of the Stanton Baptist youth group, recommitted her life during the revival. For two years she had been praying for a lost friend. The next day she led that friend to Christ.

"Before the revival I asked the preacher to do my soul winning," she grins. "Now I do it!"

Anthony Wickline, a senior basketball player and member of the Christian church, accepted Christ during the revival. He returned to his own church and told his minister and church family about his decision. Since October Wickline has become active in the Baptist youth group and has led his father and two cousins to the Lord.

"The Lord's not through with me yet," smiles Wickline. "I'm still working on a few more."

According to the teenagers the revival enthusiasm will "definitely" last. They agree much of their encouragement comes from the "Upper Room," a 10-minuted devotional time conducted each morning before school. Prior to the revival 12 youth attended the early morning meeting. Now 55 youth gather each day for encouragement and sharing.

Stephenson adds the youth gather on their own at a local fast food restaurant on weekends to "study the Bible together and discuss sermon points." The teens also take this opportunity to share Christ with friends.

What else is in store for this small, rural church led by the pastor and six dedicated deacons?

"Our first priority right now is finding a youth minister who will work weekends with our kids," shares Stephenson. "We had 60 teenagers at our watchnight service this year and they are really wanting to grow spiritually.

"I guess we'll just keep praying and the Lord will keep sending revival. I just know we're experiencing something unusual . . . something very unusual."

*More than 50 years of teaching
brings 'blessing' and gratitude
to Bernice Alderson
of Slaty Point Baptist Church*

by Ken Forman, State Correspondent

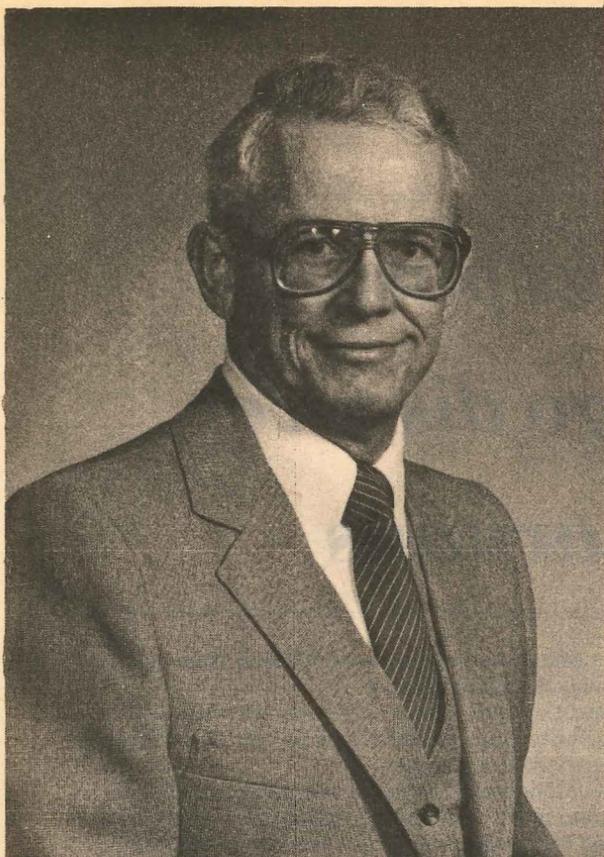
Nestled in the hills of Rowan County where the lifestyle belies the hurried pace of Interstate 64 cutting across its fields rests the little community of Slaty Point.

Bernice Alderson became a Slaty Point resident when she was born Jan. 16, 1907.

More than 50 of her 75 years have been spent as a teacher at Slaty Point Baptist Church, a fact for which the church honored her recently with Bernice Alderson Appreciation Day.

Mrs. Alderson's pupils have included age levels from preschool to adult. Her most recent assignment was teaching an adult Sunday school class composed of both men and women.

Her knowledge of the Bible is profound and illus-



Minister or clown? Bruce Johnson is both!

Immanuel minister teaches others to clown for Christ



by Laurie K. Taylor, *State Correspondent*

Twenty years ago Bruce Johnson was starring in a weekly children's television program. Dodging fans on the streets was never a problem because the children didn't recognize him without his big, red clown nose and brightly colored makeup.

After his days of celebrity clowning Johnson worked for the Miami and Dade County, Fla. departments of recreation. He didn't realize it then, but God was carefully putting the pieces of his life together.

At the height of Johnson's career in secular recreation his home church, Central Baptist Church, Miami, began the search for a full time director of outreach and evangelism. He was approached about the positions because of his active involvement in the visitation and witnessing program of the church. The decision was difficult for the tall, lanky father of two.

"Giving up 20 years of civil service wasn't easy," Johnson recalls. "I had worked my way up to a high ranking position, but I wasn't happy.

"I put the decision off as long as I could," he confessed, "and then I resigned with a deep, inner peace. I knew God was calling me into full time Christian work."

For the next two-and-a-half years Johnson worked on the Central staff. During that time the minister of youth resigned and Johnson inherited his responsibilities. It was then he began to utilize his impressive background in recreation.

It wasn't long before Central Baptist, Winchester, Ky. heard about Johnson's thriving ministry and invited him to become its first minister of activities. For three years he worked in the Christian Life Center and laid the foundation for a vital ministry of recreation.

Four years ago Lexington's Immanuel Baptist Church called Johnson as minister of Christian life

activities and he dove head first into a massive recreational ministry.

Part of the success of Immanuel's recreation program is due to Johnson's uncompromising philosophy of church recreation.

"A program of recreation is a valuable tool for outreach," vows the 50-year-old minister. "Some people come into the Christian Life Center before they ever feel comfortable enough to enter the sanctuary.

"My job is basically threefold—to teach a Christian lifestyle, promote fitness and win others to Christ.

"We have the chance to share Christ through sports and classes. Coaches and teachers accept their positions with the clear understanding we are here to promote witnessing and Christ."

At Immanuel Johnson ministers to preschoolers, children, youth, college students, singles, adults and senior adults.

One of Johnson's main concerns is providing evangelism and a discipleship lifestyle for youth. Five of the senior high boys at Immanuel expressed a desire to grow deeper spiritually. Johnson provided a discipleship Bible study and stressed missions and the giving of themselves.

As a result all six traveled to a small Florida church this past summer to survey, lead prayer services, work with the youth and share testimonies.

Johnson's versatile ministry has reached senior adults, too. XYZ, the senior adult club, is an active, growing ministry. Last year the group went to Ridgecrest; this year they traveled to Cedarmore. Forty-five XYZ members meet monthly for a fellowship luncheon and trip. They write and publish their own monthly newsletter and attempt to reach other senior adults in the community.

Johnson coordinates the typical areas of recreation such as basketball, volleyball and softball. He plans six or seven retreats a year and provides part of the leadership for the annual junior camp for children in grades three through six. He even utilizes talented people to teach ceramics, macrame, photography,

calligraphy and African violet classes. But very few folks realize Johnson is one of the leading Southern Baptist authorities in the ministry of clowning. During the past year he has led clowning conferences in Birmingham, Knoxville and Nashville.

"Clowning is another form of ministry. We take people with talent in drama and provide opportunities to use that talent," Johnson explains. "It's outreach—a touching, caring ministry."

One asset of the clown ministry is the opportunity it provides for people who are afraid to perform in public. With a little makeup, a funny costume and a great big smile, they can touch others with the love of Jesus. Three of Immanuel's deaf members are among those involved in the ministry of clowning.

The clowns visit nursing homes and hospitals and march in community parades. They entertain at churchwide fellowships, vacation Bible school and kindergarten at Immanuel. They also promote church activities and organizations. They reach out and touch people of whom most others think little: children, senior adults, the retarded and minority groups.

Johnson is content and fulfilled in the direction church recreation is taking at the present, but what about future trends in the ministry of recreation?

"I see more family recreation on the way. We need to keep families together. Family retreats are needed to get families away from the world and into God's word. Families are being blown apart by the world," Johnson observes, "but God can put them back together."

And does he regret his years of recreation in the secular world? "No," he vows, "I'm so glad to be called into ministry after secular work. So many youth are disillusioned with church life when they leave the seminary. I'm able to blend my secular experience with my ministry."

And if he had to sum up the ministry of recreation in one word?

"That's simple," he grins. "Church recreation is evangelism."

trations for personal application of its truths come readily as she smoothly weaves them through each passage of scripture.

In recalling one of her most discouraging experiences in teaching she told of one girl who was not saved. Try as she may Mrs. Alderson was not able to bring the girl to a sense of need for salvation because "her grandmother told her she wasn't accountable for her sins until she was 12 years old," Mrs. Alderson said.

"But to this day, now married with children of her own, she is still unsaved. I continue to pray for her that I may yet have an opportunity to lead her to the Lord."

Perhaps one of her most unusual teaching experiences, according to Mrs. Alderson, occurred in vacation Bible school. One little boy had come under conviction during his Bible school experience. He regularly attended another church in the community, a church in revival at the time.

At the close of the vacation Bible school day the boy came to her requesting she come to the services at his church that evening to "watch him be saved." She honored his request and shared in the joy of his decision.

Mrs. Alderson's early church experiences were not always pleasant.

The little church building housed a Church of God congregation as well as her own Baptist group. Visiting preachers were invited to speak regardless of doctrinal position. Since preachers were scarce in the area any preaching available was generally accepted.

During World War I the church was closed for some time because of insufficient leadership coupled with the arising conflict concerning mixed preaching.

Her future father-in-law was the guiding voice in developing the Baptist witness, Mrs. Alderson said, which continues in Rowan County to this day. Her husband Bert tells how his father "locked the church doors and declared that when it was opened again

there would be a Baptist preaching, because that's what the building was built for."

Over the years this gentle couple, Bert and Bernice, have been a stabilizing unit in the life of Slaty Point Baptist Church. Their eight children have grown up in the Sunday school, each one at some time having been taught by their mother.

The Aldersons have 19 grandchildren.

With a broad smile on her face Mrs. Alderson volunteered, "Teaching has been one of the greatest blessings I have ever had."

She indicated that many, many times she prepared much of her lesson material while preparing a meal.

On Bernice Alderson Appreciation Day Mrs. Alderson received an engraved silver tray from the Slaty Point congregation, presented by pastor Emery Fields. It said, in effect, the church is grateful for her 50 years of faithful service as a teacher in Sunday school, vacation Bible school, or any other teaching place in which the church needed her.

Temporary ministry

by Susan K. Taylor, Staff Writer

According to a conservative estimate more than 50 pastors in Kentucky each year become unemployed—not an alarming number until you consider the circumstances.

They have been fired or asked to submit resignations. They are left without salary, a place to live, unemployment or severance pay, church home or pastor. They are left with bills, families to care for and one other thing—the call of God to preach.

Whether a termination was justified “a man shouldn’t have to reject his call,” Bill Hancock said. Hancock is pastor of Louisville’s Highview Baptist Church which has developed a unique ministry to ministers.

When a worker in the public sector is fired or laid off “some financial support comes either from their union or unemployment insurance,” Hancock said, “but preachers have that (support) cut out from under them immediately and they’re out on the street begging.

“These guys are embarrassed to go to another pastor to ask for help, and I don’t think they ought to have to go begging. When people are hungry and people are hurting they need help.”

But resources for that help virtually do not exist. Caldwell-Lyon is the only association developing a financial assistance program for its pastor. The remainder of Kentucky associations have no money to offer them. Neither do the state or national conventions.

“Union people take care of their own; they have some provisions. I don’t want to put us on the same level with the unions but our convention leadership, national and state, has neglected what we ought to be doing in this particular area,” Hancock asserted.

He believes so strongly in the necessity of filling the “void” of help for terminated pastors he began a special ministries program at Highview 10 years ago, two years after he became its pastor.

Highview offers part time ministry positions with appropriate salary, additional financial and housing help if necessary, and exposure to ministry opportunities. In addition Hancock counsels with pastors going through the “grief and readjustment” period and personal reevaluation of “vocational responsibilities” and abilities.

Sam Smith is one of more than a dozen men who have received financial, spiritual and career assistance from Highview.

Smith is pastor of Stevens Memorial Baptist Church, Newport News, Va., but less than one year ago the Louisville native was asked to resign a hometown pastorate because of a conflict with a small group within the congregation.

“I was kind of numb because of what had occurred,” Smith recalled. “We went to Highview looking for spiritual support. I wasn’t looking for a staff position at all.” But when Smith told Hancock why he was moving his membership Hancock responded “on the spot” with an offer of a place of service.

Smith began work immediately “in an informal way.” In the special ministry program Smith taught nursing home Bible studies, made hospital visits and church contacts and participated in other outreach ministries for nine months.

Hancock explained the temporary ministers are assigned to work with staff persons in the area of

Shock, hurt pale as pastors with nowhere to go discover love, care of Samaritans

their primary skill and interest. Highview has 12 full time staff members and about 75 other positions, including bus drivers, custodians and teachers in the kindergarten, day care and elementary school programs.

For part time work as a special minister, Highview pays about \$300 a month depending on need, Hancock said. The church’s food closet is open to their families and the family of one minister who lost his pastorate lives rent free in the house the church owns for furloughing missionaries.

Hancock estimated more than \$15,000 is spent annually to support these ministers.

Although not a member at Highview, a Louisville Christian contractor allowed Smith, his wife and two daughters, to live in a house the contractor was unable to sell at the time. Highview paid their moving expenses.

Smith credits the church with saving him from bankruptcy by paying the \$2000 required by the IRS.

Most importantly to Smith he was allowed “a place to belong when I needed it most” and “a ministry to perform which continued my calling.”

“I am convinced I would have left the ministry without the help from Highview,” Smith observed, “not because I threw up my hands and rejected it, but because I didn’t have the contacts.” Hancock was able to connect Smith with several churches, one of which called him as pastor.

Hancock said he creates interview opportunities by contacting associational missionaries and pulpit committees about the available ministers. Pulpit committees can hear their prospects preach at Highview on Wednesday or Sunday nights.

As Smith listed the ways Highview had helped him recover from the “shock, hurt and disillusionment” he experienced when he lost his pastorate, he added, “And that’s just the tangible things. The intangible things I can’t even describe.

“I’ve never seen a Christ-like love like I’ve seen in Bill Hancock, and the church is loving and accepting as they follow his example. We had to have unconditional acceptance because we had had conditional rejection.”

Hancock is frustrated with the inability of a single church to help the many ministers facing termination and its consequences.

“I feel like there’s a void here that ought to be performed by the state,” he said.

A. B. Colvin, director of direct missions for Kentucky Baptists, is the state contact for pastors searching for new churches. He agrees the need is overwhelming, but says the magnitude of the problem has been the greatest stumbling block to its solution.

It is difficult to accept financial responsibility for a pastor cut off by a church, Colvin said, because it appears, at least from the church’s perspective, the state convention is undermining its autonomy.

He said another reason no program has been established in Kentucky or by any other state convention to his knowledge, is “we don’t think we’re wise enough to make all the decisions. Who are we going to help and how long are we going to help them and how much are we going to help them?”

Another major problem is that Colvin has about 35 pastors’ names for each Kentucky church without a pastor.

Colvin concurred with Hancock’s statement:

“Churches don’t want you if you’ve been fired. If you’ve been terminated you are immediately stigmatized.”

Finding a church position when one is unemployed

or in a secular job is also more difficult than moving from one church to another.

Relocation, pay cuts, living from the wages of spouse or teenage children and secular work become necessary in many cases.

One of Highview’s special ministers who lost his pastorate more than eight months ago said he has applied for secular work “but the Lord has closed those doors hard. It’s an assuring thing really. It lets me know the Lord still wants me to preach.”

Reevaluation of his call and commitment to the ministry have been a struggle for this man, who asked that his name not be used. “If the Lord’s called a person to the ministry then it’s the Lord who’s responsible for where he’s at and what he’s doing,” the pastor of 26 years’ experience said. “The Lord’s brought us here we know, but there are periods of doubt and questioning.

“I just want to serve the Lord,” he continued, emphasizing that his greatest frustration has been his inability to become involved in church activities in order to remain available to preach or accept a call.

Colvin and Hancock also agree on a possible means of assistance, but the idea has not been seriously investigated.

A respected Baptist layperson from each of the eight Kentucky regions would comprise a committee to make decisions concerning terminated pastors and to channel support to them and their families. Although this plan would remove responsibility from the state convention the problem remains overwhelming.

“Nobody’s been sold yet on the fact that something should or can be done,” Colvin said.

In the meantime Highview Baptist Church continues to be the good Samaritan in this story. Hancock related the scripture this way:

“When he came along and found the Jew in the ditch he didn’t ask him how he got there. He helped him out.”

Hancock said, and Smith confirmed, the church’s help is not contingent on the circumstances of dismissal. “We don’t ask how they got where they are,” Hancock said, “but in the process of trying to reorient them, trying to get them back into the ministry,” the ministers are led to evaluate themselves and the causes of their situations.

Continuing the good Samaritan story, Hancock said. “He helped him to a point in time. He didn’t say, ‘I’m going to follow him down the road to make sure he doesn’t get into another ditch.’”

Highview’s assistance has limits, particularly on the length of time someone can stay on its special ministries staff. Limits are necessary, Hancock said, “to give them motivation to get out and find another job in secular work. If the Lord does not provide them a place in a church within a reasonable amount of time then they’ve got to be practical. They’ve got to earn.”

Christian responsibility to help terminated ministers cannot, however, be overlooked, Hancock said.

Referring to a man whom Highview was able to help indirectly, Hancock said, “If he deserved to be terminated he didn’t deserve the kind of treatment he got. As far as I’m concerned we are unchristian in our treatment of our Christian brothers.”

Hancock and Highview Baptist Church continue to play the good Samaritan who asks no questions and doesn’t assume lifetime responsibility but, Hancock added, ending his tale, the Samaritan said, “I’m going to help him until he’s able to get out of the hospital’.”

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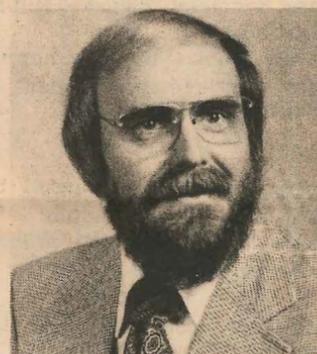
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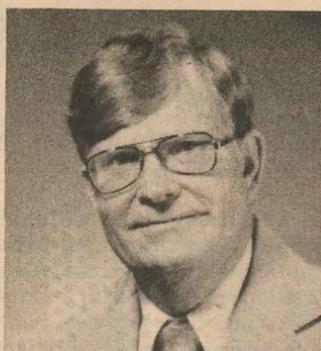
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KBC Activities

Here and now

JANUARY

29-30 Deacons, Pastors and Wives State Conference. Kentucky Dam Village, Gilbertsville. Evening meal 29th through lunch 30th. Register with Kentucky Dam Village

FEBRUARY

- 1-3 Preaching Seminar at Lexington cancelled
1,2 Area Evangelism Conferences for pastors, church leadership and laymen
7 p.m. 1—Mayfield, High Point Baptist Church; 2—Hopkinsville, Hillcrest Baptist Church

Looking Ahead

- 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
9 Regional Royal Ambassador Congress. London, Corinth Baptist Church and Owensboro, Third Baptist Church
9 Area Evangelism Conference. Allen (Ky.) Baptist Church
11 Regional Royal Ambassador Congress. Somerset, Pleasant Hill Baptist Church and Glasgow, Calvary Baptist Church
11 Area Evangelism Conference. Maysville, Central Baptist Church
12 Regional Royal Ambassador Congress. Georgetown (Ky.) Baptist Church and Louisville, Hazelwood Baptist Church
14 Race Relations Sunday
14-20 WMU Focus Week
15 Area Evangelism Conference. Pineville, First Baptist Church
16 Area Evangelism Conference. Hazard, First Baptist Church
18 Area Evangelism Conference. Florence, Florence Baptist Church
21 Baptist Seminaries, Colleges and Schools Day
21-24 Home Mission Study Week
22-23 State Evangelism Conference. Elizabethtown, Severns Valley Baptist Church
26-27 Recreation Mini-Lab. Bowling Green, First Baptist Church

Frank Owen



Largest December in history

We announced in this column last week my interim assumption of responsibility for keeping the state missionary transportation matter on hold. Since that time at its regular meeting the Administrative Committee has supported me in that announcement and the matter remains in suspension.

We are glad to report that receipts for the Cooperative Program last month marked the highest December in history at \$1,007,153. This was the third million dollar month in our history and our first time to surpass a million dollars in any month other than August which marks the close of our fiscal year when the books are kept open longer. We are very encouraged by this offering but also mindful that we are running behind the Bold Mission goal to exceed last year by 15 percent. We are mindful of the recession too and therefore grateful to keep in good striking distance of our maximum goal.

We reported in this column two weeks ago how the newly matured Mission Reserve Fund resulted in a new experience, namely a second additional distribution beyond the budget record of last year. That second extra distribution added to the record of the fiscal year which closed August 31 caused our budgeted 35 percent to Southern Convention causes to now read 36.432 percent and our budgeted 31 percent of stateside funds for Christian Education to rise in the final record to 38.763 percent. In the future when speaking of our budgeted percentages, don't forget the year's end extras that should now consistently boost our final record significantly above the publicized budget percentage.

Since a large portion of this second extra round of fund sharing is actually a refund of unspent Baptist Building budget money, it alters considerably the final percentage record of what we have spent on ourselves at the Baptist Building and its statewide programs and operations. Whereas the budget gave our departments and programs 59 percent of stateside funds for use in the 1980-81 budget year we actually used 52 percent and refunded 7 percent to be divided as a second extra among our Kentucky and Southern Baptist Convention agencies.

Sunday School Lessons



JANUARY 31, 1982

H. C. Chiles

JESUS PROCLAIMS A NEW LIFE-STYLE

International Series

Luke 6:27-38 It should not be surprising that the more Christlike one is the more strongly he will be opposed and the more bitterly he will be hated. A genuine Christian life is a constant rebuke to the selfishness and sins of others and frequently provokes brutal jest, biting sarcasm and cruel sneers.

Love's requirements—Luke 6:27-30 "Love your enemies." That is what Christ did and what he commands his followers to do. Whereas unsaved people hate their enemies and try to harm them with their words and deeds, those who have been made partakers of the divine nature through the birth from above love their enemies through the enabling power of the Holy Spirit.

"Do good to them which hate you." A Christian will do good to him who hates him, and by his returning good for evil prove his Christlikeness.

"Bless them that curse you." Christians can ask God to bless those who curse them provided they love them. Stephen did while they were stoning him to death.

"Pray for them which despitefully use you." It is best to leave those who abuse us in the hands of the just and righteous God, for he can deal far more effectively with them than we can.

"Unto him that smiteth thee on the cheek offer also the other." It is far better to suffer insult and injury than it is to do wrong.

"Give to every man that asketh of thee." Christ did not command us to give exactly the thing we are asked to give, but rather what is needed. For example, when one needs food, clothing and the gospel, he should not be given cash with which to buy more liquor.

Love's rule—Luke 6:31-34 Very succinctly Christ stated the rule of Christian love: "Do as you would be done by." No higher rule of conduct toward others has ever been given. Note that it is not a negative exhortation, but a positive one. We should act toward others as we wish they would act toward us. The standard we set up for others must be the measure of our own conduct.

Love's reward—Luke 6:35-38 What we measure out to others we may rightfully expect to receive in return. Therefore, if we want others to be interested in us, then we must manifest an interest in others. If we would like for others to judge us kindly, then we must judge them in like manner. Christ said: "With what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again." God will measure out to us in proportion as we measure out to others. Frequently we get only small blessings from God because we do so little for others. "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." God rewards his children for all the good deeds which they do for him and for others from the day of their regeneration or salvation until they depart this life.

Those Christians who love their enemies, do good to those who hate them, bless those who curse them, pray for those who despitefully use them, give to those who ask them, make the golden rule the standard of their lives, show mercy and kindness to others, and refrain from impugning the motives of others, will be fully rewarded in kind in God's own good time.

MARRIAGE OR SINGLENESS

Life and Work Series

A sexual revolution is sweeping over our nation and other countries. We encounter it in the mass communications media—television, radio, movies and the printed page. In many circles promiscuity is extolled. Therefore, it is not surprising that we are witnessing a decline in morality.

1 Corinthians 7:1-7 This passage was written by Paul in response to a question from some Christians in Corinth about the advisability of marriage. Undoubtedly their question was prompted by the circumstances prevailing in Corinth, and the fact that Paul had introduced them to an understanding of marriage that required a moral standard much higher than any they had known. In Corinth the masses did not have any scruples whatever against indulgence in immorality. At the temple of Aphrodite were 1000 prostitutes.

Some Corinthians regarded marriage as obligatory and others looked upon it as an evil. With some insisting all should marry, and failure to do so was to sin, and others insisting none should marry, there was a great need for explicit instruction on the subject. Paul did not state any rule as to whether or not Christians should marry. He did not assert that either state, the married or the unmarried, was more holy than the other. He taught them the unmarried state was good and that marriage was honorable. He acknowledged that each state had some advantages over the other and that each was best for some people. Paul made it clear that his inquiring readers did not have to get married, but they certainly were at liberty to do so if they so desired. He taught them that the important thing for each individual was to discover and follow the will of the Lord in that matter.

Marriage is the natural and normal thing for most individuals. While many need a marriage partner, there are those who do not. It is the will of God for all to abstain from immorality. Before marriage God requires all to practice continence, and after marriage all are obligated to be faithful to the one with whom he or she is married until death. The sexual relationship is divinely restricted to those who are married to each other. The obligation of both parties to the marriage covenant is mutual, so husband and wife should find a sense of fulfillment in sharing his or her most inmost self with his or her partner in marriage.

1 Corinthians 7:32-35 At the time Paul wrote these verses he was unmarried. Through the grace of God he possessed the special gift of continence or self-control which enabled him to refrain from indulgence in immorality. Paul readily admitted it was easier for an unmarried person to be concerned about ways and means of pleasing the Lord than it was for the married person who was involved in attempting to please his or her companion.

Christian Education

Boyce boasts book bulk

For the first time in history, Southern Baptists have a 500,000-volume theological library.

The James P. Boyce Centennial Library at Southern Seminary has recorded holdings of 549,045, making it one of the two or three largest such libraries in the world.

In church music collections Southern Seminary heads the list of seminary libraries with 118,978 volumes. It also has the largest collection of Baptist history materials (such as church and associational minutes).

Second in size is the Fleming library at Southwestern Seminary with 475,773 volumes.

Foundation offers \$75,000

Campbellsville College has received a \$75,000 grant from the James Graham Brown Foundation Inc. in Louisville for the purpose of enlarging the college's library building.

According to an announcement by Kenneth Pope, advancement vice president, the grant will assist in funding an addition of over 5000 square feet to the library.

The total goal of the library renovation project is \$300,000.

Campbellsville adds two



Noe

Hodges

Campbellsville College academic dean Robert S. Clark has announced the appointment of two new faculty members in business and music.

Beverly Noe will teach accounting, economics and general business. She has MBA and BS degrees from the University of Kentucky.

Craig Hodges will teach in the music department. He has been instructor of church music at Southern Seminary since 1979. He has a MM degree from Colorado State University and a BA degree from Kalamazoo College. He is a doctor of musical arts candidate at Southern Seminary.

Johnson takes new post

Michael D. Johnson, administrative assistant in the office of the provost at Southern Seminary, has been elected first full time director of a new Seminary Satellite Department.

Johnson will assume that post in the Seminary External Education Division June 1. He was elected by the division's governing board, composed of presidents of the six Southern Baptist seminaries.

His new duties will include processing applications for new satellites to be jointly sponsored by all six seminaries

through the new department.

Johnson has completed course requirements for the EdD degree at Southern Seminary and is currently at work on his dissertation.

Gardner urges missions

David Gardner, pastor of First Baptist Church, Hopkinsville, will keynote a world encounter student missions conference at Midwestern Seminary to acquaint college students with opportunities in missions and ministries.

Theme of the three-day conference, Feb. 19-21 at Midwestern, is "Discovering My Path with God's Guidance."

Representatives from the Foreign Mission Board, Home Mission Board, Christian High Adventure and Sunday School Board will lead workshops and offer testimonies during the event.

SEBTS awards two Kentuckians MDiv degrees

Two Kentuckians received the MDiv degree from Southeastern Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C. They were Phillip Jay Daley of Louisville and Leonard Charles Robinson of Alexandria.

Daley and Robinson were among the 83 graduates at Southeastern's first mid-year commencement. Western Recorder editor Chauncey R. Daley delivered the commencement address.

SWBTS graduate four Kentuckians among 289



Keith

Wilson

Four graduates from Kentucky were among the record 289 graduates receiving degrees Dec. 18 from Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex.

Receiving the MDiv degree were Johnnie Lynn Holloway and Mark Andrew Keith. Bonita Kay Wilson was granted the MRE degree while Larry



Brandenburg

Holloway

Dale Brandenburg was a MCM degree recipient.

Seminary president Russell H. Dilday Jr. conferred degrees and diplomas on the largest winter graduating class in the seminary's 74-year history. Included in the group was the seminary's 20,000th graduate.

William M. Pinson Jr., president of Golden Gate Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif., was the featured speaker.

organ, is a recording artist, arranger and conductor. He has been team organist for the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association and is a columnist, author of numerous compositions and editor of five hymnals.

SBTS promotes missions

Southern Seminary will host its 26th annual Student Missions Conference Feb. 26-28 on the seminary campus.

The conference will help students as they "struggle with the question of just where we as individuals fit into Bold Mission Thrust," said conference cochairman Charlie Wilson.

Theme for the event will be "Working Together: Realizing God's Will through Missions." Program personalities include Foreign Mission Board president R. Keith Parks, home missionary Mildred McWhorter, foreign missionary Bill Clark Thomas, Southern Seminary professor Bill Leonard and Christian entertainer Darrell Adams.

The conference also will feature small seminars on topics from "How to Know God's Will for My Life" to evangelism on campus, community action ministries and medical missions, Wilson said.

Registration for the conference is \$8, and free housing will be offered on a limited basis. To register, call (800) 626-5525 toll free. In Kentucky call (502) 897-4616.

Campbellsville shows art

The Kentucky Watercolor Society will present an exhibit at the Campbellsville College library during February.

This is a traveling show of about 40 works done in transparent watercolor according to Tommy Clark, instructor of art.

Hager receives award

Wayne Hager, a December theology graduate of Southern Seminary, received the outstanding senior award during recent graduation activities.

Hager, a Lexington native, is also a graduate of the University of Kentucky.

NOBTS extends library

An informal consortium of eight college and university libraries in New Orleans has given New Orleans Seminary students direct access to nearly 4,000,000 volumes of books, according to Paul Gericke, director of the seminary library.

The school's representatives on the Council of Academic Library Liaison (CALL) signed an agreement, effective this month, providing reciprocal library privileges.



Judi Mylin of Millersville, Pa., was hugged by Grady Nutt, television personality and humorist, after she was crowned 1981 homecoming queen at Campbellsville College. Miss Mylin is a sophomore at the college. Nutt was grand marshal and was the speaker at the annual alumni banquet.



Daley

Robinson



Kentucky native Edward Alfred Gray received a doctorate from New Orleans Seminary. He was one of 110 mid-year graduates.

Seminary assists church

Faculty and staff members at Southern Seminary are donating books to staff members of St. Matthews Baptist Church who lost their office libraries in a fire that destroyed the church's sanctuary and church offices Jan. 10.

Richard Cunningham, professor of Christian philosophy at the seminary, said pastors and other church staff members in the state who wish to donate books may send them to the church's temporary office, 3528 Nanz Ave., Louisville, KY 40207.

Profs to lead conference

Donald Hustad and Ron Boud, professors of church music at Southern Seminary, will lead sessions at "Convocation on Congregational Singing," Apr. 26-30 at the Sunday School Board's Church Program Training Center.

Boud, associate professor of church music, is an arranger and composer. He is a former minister of music and has taught at Moody Bible Institute and Philadelphia College of Bible.

Hustad, the V. V. Cooke professor of

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