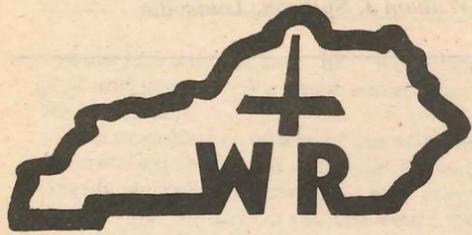




When Southern Seminary trustees met earlier this week to elect a new president, speculation centered on a Louisvillian, p. 2 . . . If D. M. Aldridge isn't paying you a visit this spring, he encourages you to drop in on Clear Creek, p. 3 . . . Lots and lots of Kentucky Baptist names and churches make the news, pp. 4-5.



WESTERN RECORDER

VOL. 156, NO. 5, FEBRUARY 3, 1982

KENTUCKY BAPTIST NEWS JOURNAL

Issues of life

Louisville church's newspaper adds impetus to peace

by Larry Chesser

In a nuclear age when peace is imperative, Southern Baptists are showing signs of a renewed commitment to peacemaking.

Through sermons from Baptist pulpits to editorials in Baptist publications to resolutions from Baptist meetings, growing numbers within America's largest Protestant denomination are declaring peace is not only a requirement for survival but also a central part of their biblical heritage.

Another important indication of increased Baptist peace emphasis is the favorable response by Baptists throughout the world to the emergence of a quarterly news publication focusing on peacemaking.

The Baptist Peacemaker, begun a year ago as a ministry of Deer Park Baptist Church, Louisville, has received hundreds of letters with written and financial support. Operating only on contributions, the publication's mailing list jumped from 6200 to 23,000 between the first and third issues.

Coordinating editors C. Carman Sharp and E. Glenn Hinson are pleased but not surprised by the enthusiastic reception many Southern Baptists are giving the newspaper.

"The Baptist Peacemaker has spoken to the concerns, the hopes and dreams of many people," said Sharp, pastor of Deer Park. "People are indicating they have been waiting for something like this."

"We're tapping into something that is a very deep concern," agreed Hinson, a church history professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, who indicated the concern is global.

The Baptist Peacemaker offers its readers sermons, prayers, worship outlines, articles and practical helps on peacemaking. The first four issues contained lead articles by Sen. Mark O. Hatfield, R-Ore.; Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of the SBC's Womans Missionary Union; and former U. S. ambassador to Russia George F. Keenan.

Sharp said the Louisville group hopes to expand its peace ministry in several ways, ranging from more frequent publication of the newspaper to local and state peace convocations around the country.

Hinson admits that targeting a sympathetic audience partially accounts for the positive response to the Baptist Peacemaker, but he contends there is a current revival of peace concern among Baptists which "is in line with what has happened in Baptist history."

"In times of danger, Southern Baptists have emphasized peacemaking as a good thing," he said. "But in time of war, we've joined the fray with a 'my country, right or wrong' approach. Then, after a war, we've recovered some of the Christian perspective about establishing a stable peace."

Today, Hinson added, "We are doing more to implement peace than any generation of Baptists." He cited an activism seen in peace emphasis in local congregations and efforts to influence the peace process in the political arena as evidence Baptists are going beyond issuing statements.

Sharp predicted as more Southern Baptists become informed on peace issues, more will become involved.

"We simply need to awaken people to what the Bible teaches about peace and awaken people to what would happen in an all-out atomic war," he said, adding it would be extremely difficult to support war-making from a biblical perspective.

The Baptist Peacemaker began as the idea of a Deer Park member, Robert Broome, who believed Baptists needed a national peace newspaper. With some money left over from a 1979 peace convocation

hosted by the church, Broome and others pushed that belief into reality. As letters poured in, it became evident many other Baptists wanted that reality to grow.

As one Baptist—former U. S. Sen. Ralph W. Yarborough of Texas—put it in a letter to the editors: "Giant oaks from little acorns grow. This world, this nation, needs yours to grow fast."

Knife-wielding 'Baptist' abducts family

A man, who said he was a Baptist, abducted the wife of a Belmont College administrator and her two young children at knife point Jan. 27, holding them nearly four hours before releasing them unharmed.

During the ordeal the young man, John Lumley, told Carole Troutt he had escaped from a Mississippi prison and was enroute to see his mother, who was ill with cancer, in Boston.

He also told the young mother he was a Baptist. "We were driving by Belmont College, and the kinds said that was where their daddy works. He wanted to know what it was and I told him it was a Baptist college," she said.

"I asked him if he went to church and he said he 'used to.' When I asked him what church, he told me he was a Baptist," she added.

Mrs. Troutt told Baptist Press she had been to a downtown Nashville department store to pick up some packages and had returned to the parking lot with her children, Carole Ann, 6, and Jack, 4, when the man jerked open the car door, displayed a knife and told her: "Get over, lady, and I won't hurt you."

"The children started crying a little and I told them to calm down, that he was not going to hurt us. He told us nothing would happen if we did everything he said. They quieted down. I thank God for such calm children," Mrs. Troutt added.

The abduction occurred about 3:15 p.m. The mother and her children were released about 7 p.m.

In between, they were driven through East Nashville to a bank where Mrs. Troutt was forced to withdraw \$65, along backroads in the Mt. Juliet area and back to Nashville.

During the ordeal, Mrs. Troutt said Lumley was "pretty calm . . . pretty much together," although he did "mention the children" in a threatening way.

Mrs. Troutt said he drove to a rural area east of Mt. Juliet and sat alongside a country road. "I was worrying about our safety all along, but especially then," she said. "It was secluded and beginning to get dark. Then Lumley said, 'Let's go back to Nashville'."

As abruptly as the ordeal began it ended. Lumley drove back to Nashville, pulled up alongside a main street, got out of the car and "disappeared into the darkness between two buildings."

Meanwhile, her husband, Bill, executive vice president at Belmont College, a Tennessee Baptist institution, had gone to church, thinking the family might have gone directly there. Not finding them he started telephoning: the college, the hospitals, the highway patrol, the police. He got no word.

By 7:30 p.m., however, they were reunited.

Lumley was later caught and charged with the abduction as well as the armed robbery of a Nashville convenience store. He confessed to both crimes, according to Nashville police. He is being held without bond.

Kentucky teenager will serve on Acteens' panel



Susan Ellen Ballou of Corbin has been selected to the sixth Acteens National Advisory Panel. The advisory panel consists of six Acteens from across the Southern Baptist Convention. They are chosen and sponsored by Woman's Missionary Union, Auxiliary to SBC. Miss Ballou was selected from approximately 125 teenage girls nationwide who applied to serve on the 1982 panel.

Miss Ballou, 17, is a member of Central Baptist Church in Corbin. She has been a member of Acteens for six years and has achieved the level of Queen Regent in Service in Stuidact: An Individual Achievement Plan. She feels Acteens is a very important part of her life. "Acteens takes the energy, excitement and vitality of my teen years and puts them to work for the Lord."

A high school senior, Miss Ballou is a member of Beta Club, Journalism Club and serves on the staff of her school's newspaper and yearbook.

While serving as a panelist, Susan will write for Accent and appear at state and associational WMU related meetings. She will also serve as a page at the WMU annual meeting and the Southern Baptist Convention, June 13-17, in New Orleans, La.

Two other Kentucky teens were chosen as Top Teens by the WMU staff in Birmingham, Ala. Top Teens are girls who are highly qualified but all could not be on the panel. These girls are Tracy Webb from Lexington and Ramona Reynolds from Whitesburg.

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

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C. R. Daley Jr., Editor
James H. Cox, Associate Editor



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C. R. Daley

Daley Observations

Stiffer laws against drunken drivers are long overdue

Congratulations to Governor John Y. Brown Jr. for agreeing with Kentucky members of Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD) that Kentucky needs stronger penalties for drunken drivers. The Governor promises to have legislative proposals ready for Kentucky legislators in 30 days.

No injustice cries louder for redress than the leniency with which drunken drivers are generally treated. No other diabolical killer gets by with such little blame and penalty and future generations will be puzzled over this generation's efforts to find a cure for deadly diseases and other kinds of killers while treating so lightly murderous drunken drivers.

The facts are indisputable. Half of all highway accidental deaths in the United States involve drunken drivers and countless more innocent people are maimed for life every year by drinking drivers. According to Kentucky State Police records 20 of the 21 fatalities in traffic accidents last year in four counties—Boyd, Carter, Greenup and Lawrence—were alcohol related.

Kentucky laws are overly lenient for drinking drivers. On first conviction in Kentucky a drunken driver may be fined no less than \$100 and no more than \$500 plus six months revocation of operator's license. He or she may be sent to jail for the first offense but usually isn't. A second conviction carries the same fine plus a jail term from three days to six months and a third conviction up to 12 months in jail.

The severest penalty in Kentucky for a drunken driver conviction is the suspension of his or her operator's license but because the defendant often needs to drive to work or makes another plea, drunken driving charges are often amended to a lesser charge putting the potential murderer right back on the road.

A drunken driver should receive no more consideration than another willing murderer. If a person willingly drinks in excess and willingly drives, then potentially he or she is a willing murderer. The driver's license of such a person should be suspended on the first offense and not restored until substantial proof of sobriety. Family members, public transportation or some other provision can be made for getting such a person to work.

Four separate bills dealing with drunken drivers have already been introduced in the 1980 General Assembly. All call for stiffer penalties than present provisions. Legislators should be encouraged to adopt the stiffest of these proposals because there will be resistance to making any changes.

Once the stiffer penalties have been enacted, law enforcement officials should be mandated to enforce them rigidly. There is no place for leniency or a second chance for a drunken driver.

Women aroused over the killing and maiming of their family members by drunken drivers may be providing the long needed stimulus for public opinion on this shameful toleration of murderers on highways. Lois Windhorst, president of the Louisville chapter of MADD, and those who accompanied her to Frankfort to make their views known to Governor Brown and the legislators are to be commended and joined by all others sharing their concern.

Roy Honeycutt is the new seminary president

While the final decision has not been made at press time (Monday), the search for a Southern Baptist Theological Seminary president to succeed Duke K. McCall has apparently ended. All indications point to Roy Lee Honeycutt as the new seminary president.

The search committee settled on Honeycutt before Christmas but made no announcement because the seminary trustees actually elect the president. The trustees met Monday of this week after press time for this Western Recorder issue and if everything went as planned, Dr. Honeycutt was elected and presented to the faculty and student body in chapel services on Tuesday.

Honeycutt has been one of the likely presidential prospects since the retirement announcement of president McCall last June. He served as acting president during McCall's recovery from heart surgery and while McCall was occupied with his duties as president of the Baptist World Alliance.

His choice will be generally popular with the faculty members and students. The faculty regards him as a proven administrator and respects him as a scholar. He has always been a popular teacher and personality with students.

Kentucky Baptists have a stake in the new president. Not only is he a Southern Baptist Theological Seminary graduate but was pastor of the First Baptist Church in Princeton in his earlier ministry.

Among his valuable assets is a most charming and gracious wife. June Honeycutt will grace any occasion or function which includes the president's wife.

Congratulations, President Honeycutt. Our efforts and prayers in this critical ministry are yours.

Pension planners will welcome suggestions

Annuity Board president Darold Morgan, his staff members and Annuity Board trustees rightly recognized and wisely turned to the Baptist process when they were faced with how to find a better plan for providing more adequate retirement benefits for local Baptist church personnel. They realized the Baptist process always begins with the grass roots instead of professional denominational leadership.

So instead of merely employing their own expertise along with the best available professional consultation to come up with a model plan to offer churches and church employes, they sought first to find what those expected to buy the plan wanted and would accept.

This called for a study committee which would be representative of all levels and groups of Southern Baptists as well as those most responsible for the success of any new plan. So the committee is composed of state executive secretaries, state annuity directors, Annuity Board members and at large representatives of pastors, church staff members and other groups in Southern Baptist life.

Realizing any plan they recommend must meet wide acceptance, these committee members are anxious to have input from every Southern Baptist interested in more adequate retirement provisions for those giving their lives in service to Baptist churches. The study is still in the preliminary stages and every serious observation and suggestion from any source will be looked at by the committee.

Annuity Board leaders have always been sensitive and receptive to input from Baptist grass roots but now is an unusual opportunity for all who choose to influence present and future programs. It can be done through study committee members selected for that purpose and who are not timid in talking to Annuity Board professionals.

So have your say through one of the committee members listed below:

Dr. Herbert H. Reynolds, Union Bldg., Box 365, Waco, TX 76703; Dr. George E. Bagley, Box 11870, Montgomery, AL 36198; Mr. Harold Bailey, 511 N. Akard Bldg., Room 519, Dallas, TX 75201; Dr. T. L. Cashwell Jr., Hayes Barton Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC 27608; Dr. J. Howard Cobble, Box 448, Elizabethtown, KY 42701; Dr. C. R. Daley, Kentucky Baptist Building, Box 43401, Louisville, KY 40243; Mrs. A. Harrison Gregory, 1840 Franklin Tpke, Danville, VA 24541; Mr. J. Cecil Hamiter, Annuity Board trustee and president, Baptist Memorial Hospital, 1007 Goodyear Ave., Gadsden, AL 35999; Mrs. James W. Harrison Jr., 511 N. Akard Bldg., Room 225, Dallas, TX 75201.

Dr. Joe L. Ingram, 1141 N. Robinson, Oklahoma City, OK 73103; Mr. Pat McDaniel, 511 N. Akard Bldg., Room 503, Dallas, TX 75201; Dr. Tom J. Madden, Box 347, Brentwood, TN 37027; Mr. I. Doyle Maricle, 511 N. Akard Bldg., Room 235, Dallas, TX 75201; Dr. Ernest E. Mosley, Box 3486, Springfield, IL 62708; Mr. Gary S. Nash, 511 N. Akard Bldg., Room 311, Dallas, TX 75201; Dr. David A. Nelson, Box 904, Owensboro, KY 42301; Dr. Chester O'Brien, Box 485, Albuquerque, NM 87103; Dr. H. Franklin Paschall, First Baptist Church, Seventh and Broadway, Nashville, TN 37201;

Miss Peggy Coldwell, 511 N. Akard Bldg., Room 233, Dallas, TX 75201; Dr. Charles L. Holland Jr., 209 E. South Street, Longview, TX 75601; Dr. Darold H. Morgan, 511 N. Akard Bldg., Room 535, Dallas, TX 75204; Rev. Vern B. Powers, Box 347, Brentwood, TN 37207; Rev. Harvey J. Wright, 400 E. High-Baptist Bldg., Jefferson City, MO 65101; Dr. Daniel J. Rivera, 8019 Panam Expy S., San Antonio, TX 78224; Rev. Milton L. Wood, 2692 N. Dettman Road, Jackson, MI 49201.

'A most worthy cause'

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



I wrote last week of the "lift" we get in hearing from loved ones of our students—past and present. We share some other recent letters trusting you will be blessed as we have been.

The grandfather of one of our students who lives in Michigan writes and sends a concrete expression of appreciation and support: "It has been my privilege to visit Oneida Baptist Institute and I was very impressed with what you are doing for so many of our youth. On my last visit I noticed a new dorm under construction. Please accept my gift of one thousand dollars to help in its completion."

A mother of a son with whom I worked 18 years ago, writes from Hamilton: "I wish I could give monthly but it is impossible at age 71 on a fixed income when I'm much more than tithing already. But I like to help you when I can because I know Oneida is a most worthy cause. I rejoice to hear of young men like Duane, as I do about my own son who 'didn't make it' at Oneida or for a long time thereafter, but who has now recommitted his life to the Lord. He is very active in the church, working with the young people, trying to help them stay out of some of the pitfalls he fell into. He is now 35, and the Lord has done more than I could ask or think."

A mother writes: "Thank you so much for Susie's report card. It was beautiful. At the old school it was D and F. I praise the Lord for Oneida, and I pray every night that she might continue to behave and do well, and pray for God to bless each one of you."

From Tennessee comes this word: "Our nephew is doing well. He is continuing his education. His father left home one year ago and Wayne has had to take the leadership position in the family due to the chronic illness of his mother. We are proud of how much your school influenced his life when he was about to get in trouble due to problems he didn't fully understand. He is a fine looking young man and was elected vice president of his class. Enclosed is our gift of \$100 which Alcoa Foundation will double if you will fill out the enclosed form."

A mother whose daughter came to us from Paducah writes: "This is my state missions offering a little late. My heart is in Oneida mission work. We need Christian leaders for tomorrow and I think Oneida is turning out worthy leaders."

"Our son Lloyd Jr. learned many things while he lived at Oneida. He loved the mountain people and told us so many things about them. We lost our dear son in an auto accident, but he still lives on with us in our memories. Everyday we think of him. We think of the trips to Oneida and how good you folks were to us. We are so thankful for the help you gave us. In the near future we plan a trip back to visit with you and all our wonderful memories of Oneida."

From Louisville: "Weldon is in the army, stationed at Fort Carson, Col., married to a very nice young girl, and they gave me a new granddaughter on Christmas day. Hope all goes well with Oneida. It sure was good for my son. I often think of what you said to Weldon the day we came to Oneida. 'We share the same name, so don't abuse it.' I think you would be proud to see what a fine young man he is now."

A father writes from Illinois: "Find enclosed a check for \$500 as a donation to Oneida. I will try to send more as I can afford it, but with a son in college and a retarded daughter in a special place, money is a little tight."

Clear Creek Comments

The Clear Creek story

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



In this column last week I told of telling the story, of how the students serve in small churches throughout this area. One thing I did not mention was that our faculty and staff are also out in the field each week.

Classroom responsibilities take a major portion of the faculty's time and they must devote a segment of time to appointments with the students. Staff members have their responsibilities also but they, along with the faculty, touch the lives of untold numbers of persons in many other ways.

They serve churches on a part time basis, occasionally represent the school in World Mission Conferences, help alumni with Clear Creek Day activities, write articles for our periodical, The Mountain Voice, and serve in civic clubs and school organizations.

This makes for a crowded calendar, but I never hear any of them complain. Life is busy at Clear Creek School for faculty, staff and students.

For the next few months I will be spending a lot of time on the road seeing many of you. I hope when I am in your church you will introduce yourself. I remember many of your names from correspondence reaching my desk, and I would like to meet you personally. Your support over the years has helped us continue the tradition of offering theological training second to none. You have heard of L. C. Kelly and others who made this school what it is—through the leadership of the Holy Spirit. You have read our letters and The Mountain Voice. And thousands of you have visited our campus. One of the television stations in Knoxville, Tenn., about 80 miles south of us, is planning a program about the ministry of the school. I hope you will have the opportunity to view the program. Let us know if you see it.

Although it doesn't seem that close, spring will soon be upon us and it will be an excellent time to plan a trip to Pineville. Why not arrange a trip with your Sunday school class or other church organization? You can see the model of Jerusalem, attend a chapel service and have lunch in historic Kelly Hall. Simply let us know in advance when to expect you and we will plan an enjoyable experience for your group.



Ministering to the children of the 80's



'Warmth'

Eldred M. Taylor,
Executive Director

In the midst of winter we desire and need warmth. When the temperature not only falls below freezing but plunges below zero, about all one can think about is how to keep warm.

While the winter cold rivets our attention on keeping warm, I call your attention to a different kind of warmth—emotional warmth. Emotional warmth is quite as necessary for one's well-being as physical warmth.

Although a number of words convey the idea of emotional warmth, I want to suggest the word HOME. This word brings to one a comfortable, warm feeling because it provides so many things that meet both our physical and emotional needs. Why is the word HOME such a warm word? Perhaps it is because HOME is a place of refuge. HOME is where one finds love, trust, cooperation, support and safety. In the environment of HOME, one finds the kind of understanding that binds up the wounds inflicted by thoughtless society. HOME is a kind of security blanket that makes a warm glow inside one's very being.

But what if one does not have a HOME to provide emotional warmth and support? Jesus understood what this was like; you can hear the pathos in his voice when he said, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man has nowhere to lay his head" (Matt. 8:20).

Today there are many children without a home and family. While often there is part of a family, all the emotional warmth of home is gone. Your Child Care Ministry is in the business of providing HOMES FOR CHILDREN. We provide homes that not only meet the physical needs of warmth, but that provide emotional and spiritual warmth. We have group homes at Glen Dale and Spring Meadows, foster homes, emergency homes, a home for unwed mothers and adoptive homes. In all of these homes there is the warmth of love, compassion and understanding, given in the name of our Lord.

Does the fact that you help make these KENTUCKY BAPTIST HOMES FOR CHILDREN possible provide a warm glow in your heart?

The columns on this page are paid space.

Meet Cumberland

College Student

Kime Espich-Murphy



Two minutes with Kime Espich-Murphy, and you know you're with an exceptional person.

Kime is the spark plug for many different Christian outreach programs at Cumberland College. She has been Vice President, Fellowship Director, and Social Activities Chairman of the Baptist Student Union. She served on the Campus Activity Board as Publicity Chairman and Special Events Chairman.

More importantly, Kime devoted three of her spring vacations as a volunteer spring missionary, serving from Connecticut to Georgia. For two years, she has been director of the Cumberland College American Cancer Society telethon and is a passionate member of Cumberland's crusade against world hunger. She served in summer missions and last summer, she and husband Mark, a member of the contemporary Christian singing group "Sunesis", served as co-youth directors of a church in Pikeville, Kentucky.

Admittedly, Kime was a teenager unsure of herself. "I wanted to attend college, but I thought that I didn't have the ability. My pastor kept encouraging me, and several Cumberland College alumni in my church told me that at Cumberland, I could find what I needed."

At Cumberland, Kime quickly "... fell in love with the school, the Christian people, the instructors. Cumberland gave me something I'd never had, faith in me as a capable person and the opportunity to get involved with ministering to others. I have seen God in so many people here that I now know that I can do whatever God has in store for me."

Kime and Mark have applied to the two-year Journeymen's Missions Program through the Southern Baptist Convention.

Eventually, she would like to minister to inner city youth and do what she can to help alleviate world hunger.

Kime concludes, "I'm no one special. If I can do, so can others. Life is what you let God make it."

Cumberland College offers that opportunity. We are looking for others who are seeking opportunity through Christ.

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

Name: _____

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

Mountains to the Mississippi

Personnel

Fountain Run FBC calls Rott
Mike Rott has accepted the call as pastor of First Baptist Church, Fountain Run. Rott is moving from Memphis, Tenn. where he attends school.

Kingrey begins Trammel Fork ministry
Earl Kingrey has begun as pastor of Trammel Fork Baptist Church, Allen Association.

He moved from the pastorate of Poplar Spring Baptist Church, Liberty Association.

Lewis Lane calls Cooley as pastor
Phillip A. Cooley began as pastor of Lewis Lane Baptist Church, Daviess-McLean Association, Jan. 11.

A native of Spartanburg, S. C., Cooley received the PhD from Southern Seminary in December 1981.

Former Kentuckian teaches in Calif.
Donald J. Burke, former pastor of Louisville's Highland Baptist Church and now pastor of Greenwich (Conn.) Baptist Church, taught a course in Baptist worship during the month of January at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif.

Burke also will be devotional speaker for the 1982 Southern Baptist Church

Music Conference in New Orleans in June.

Sherouse moves to Florida pastorate
Craig A. Sherouse has resigned as interim pastor of the Rock Haven Community Baptist Church near Brandenburg to become pastor of First Baptist Church, Seminole, Fla.

Sherouse is a graduate of Southern Seminary and served in several capacities in the work of Salem Association.

Adairville pastor moves to Tennessee
Randall Rogers has resigned the pastorate of Adairville (Ky.) Baptist Church. His six years of ministry ended Dec. 27.

Rogers moved to the pastorate of Pleasant View Baptist Church, Clarksville, Tenn.

Mathis earns membership in ACHA
Bill W. Mathis, senior vice president of Health Data Network, a division of Baptist Hospitals Inc., advanced from nominee to membership status in the American College of Hospital Administrators (ACHA).

Mathis became a member by successfully completing a comprehensive eight-hour examination on health care law, regulation and management given by the 15,000-member national professional society.

Mathis has the MBA from the University of Louisville, MDiv from Southern Seminary and BA from Samford University. He has worked with Baptist hospitals 12 years.

Homer D. Coggins, president of Baptist Hospitals Inc., and Ben R. Brewer, executive vice president of Louisville Baptist Hospitals, are fellows in the college. Fellowship is the highest status conferred by ACHA.

Simmonds joins Crescent Hill staff
Randy Simmonds, a PhD student at Southern Seminary, recently became Youth II coordinator at Crescent Hill Baptist Church.

Simmonds worked with the church's youth several years earlier while earning the MDiv at Southern.

Morgantown, according to association director Bill Wells.

Cecilia deacons 'train' nine weeks
Deacons of Cecilia Baptist Church, Severns Valley Association, recently completed a nine-week training period for the Deacon Family Ministry Plan. Cecilia pastor Terry Wilder led the training sessions.

Liberty parsonage debt note burned
Liberty Baptist Church, Allen Association, had a note burning service Dec. 6 to celebrate the end of its debt on the parsonage purchased in 1978.

Farrell Isenberg is pastor.



Comparing notes at the recent dedication services for the new facilities of LaGrange Heights Baptist Church, Sulphur Fork Association, are [l to r] Sulphur Fork Association director of missions A. W. Walker, LaGrange Heights pastor Henry Beach and pastor of Ballardsville Baptist Church Robert Dozier. The two-year-old church was sponsored by the Dehaven Memorial congregation in LaGrange. Western Recorder editor C. R. Daley was speaker in the service.

Congregations

Dripping Spring parsonage debt ended
Dripping Spring Baptist Church, Bethel Association, burned the note on its parsonage debt in a service Dec. 13.

Note on pastor's car burned
Gamaliel (Ky.) Baptist Church had a "note burning" service Dec. 6 to celebrate the retirement of its debt on the car of pastor Jerry Anderson.

Decade of debt over in Leitchfield
First Baptist Church, Leitchfield, burned its debt note Jan. 31, signifying the final payment on the church's 1971 sanctuary renovation.
George W. Smith is pastor.

Mrs. Warren honored by Monticello
Mrs. Don Warren recently received a plaque of appreciation for her service as teacher and organist at Monticello Baptist Church, Gasper River Association.

Gasper River Association office moves
Gasper River Baptist Association has moved into a larger and better equipped office on Butler Street in

Baptisms await Marrowbone baptistry
Marrowbone Baptist Church, Pike Association, installed a baptistry just before its use Jan. 10. Several persons had postponed their baptisms to have the service at Marrowbone.
Jack Franks is pastor.

Berean Chapel celebrates 5th year
Berean Baptist Chapel celebrated its fifth anniversary Jan. 24 with a luncheon and an afternoon of services.

Verlin C. Kruschwitz, former pastor of the chapel's mother church, Severns Valley Baptist, Elizabethtown, preached during the morning worship hour. Steve Hadden, a former Berean Chapel pastor, spoke in the afternoon.

Stanford opposes alcohol sales in parks
Stanford Baptist Church has passed a resolution in opposition to the sale of alcoholic beverages in Kentucky state parks and the naming of ski slopes at General Butler State Resort Park after brands of whiskey manufactured in Kentucky.

The resolution says the sale of alcoholic beverages in state parks would cause diminished use of the state park

Employment
Preschool Development
Home Repair
Handicapped Children
Christmas Baskets

Summer Camps
Homes for the Elderly
Group Homes for Boys
Family Enrichment Center
Secondhand Stores



Rev. Ralph W. Beiting
President

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Please send information about your work
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WESTERN RECORDER

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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system by both citizens of Kentucky and visitors and that the naming of ski slopes after brands of whiskey is offensive to skiers who do not drink and is also unfair promotion of one traditional Kentucky industry over many others.

Gregory L. Hancock, a former staff writer at Western Recorder, is the Stanford pastor.

Nelson marks 20 years at Owensboro First Baptist Church, Owensboro, celebrated David Nelson's 20th anniversary as its pastor Jan. 3.

During those 20 years 2006 persons joined the church and more than \$1 million was given to the Cooperative Program. The church budget has grown from \$203,000 to \$656,000.

When Nelson began his Owensboro ministry the church had a \$700,000 debt. That debt has been retired and a major remodeling of the sanctuary was completed in 1974 at a cost of \$650,000. In addition, the church plans to build a Christian life center on the one-fourth block behind the church it has acquired. A corner lot by the sanctuary has also been purchased and landscaped.

Nelson was honored at a reception and presented with a gift from the church.

Ordinations

Paducah church ordains pair of deacons Oaklawn Baptist Church, Paducah, ordained Vernon Hudson and LeRoy Tucker as deacons Dec. 6.

Marrowbone ordains its pastor Jack Franks, pastor of Marrowbone Baptist Church, Pike Association, was ordained to the ministry Jan. 24.

Ramsey becomes New Charity deacon New Charity Baptist Church, Wayne County Association, ordained Kelly Ramsey as deacon Nov. 15. Koger Ramsey is pastor.

Little Clifty ordains minister Little Clifty Baptist Church, Leitchfield, ordained Richard Jones to the ministry Nov. 29. Merle Ford, pastor, delivered the ordination sermon.

Northside ordains pair of deacons Gerald Board and Jim Martin were ordained Sunday, Jan. 3 as deacons of Northside Baptist Church, Princeton.

Westport Road ordains two deacons Bob Robinson and Morris Yocum were recently ordained deacons of Westport Road Baptist Church, Louisville.

The church's pastor is James B. Lewis.

North Benson gives Redding license Larry Redding, a sophomore at Kentucky State University, recently received a license to the ministry at North Benson Baptist Church, Franklin Association. Steve Baker is pastor.

McGrady pastor ordained Richard Jones, pastor of McGrady Creek Baptist Church, Ohio County Association, was ordained by his home church, Little Clifty Baptist Church in Grayson County. The ordination was Sunday, Nov. 29.

Living Hope ordains four, installs two Living Hope Baptist Church, Warren Association, ordained four deacons and installed two others Jan. 3.

Layne Johnson, Lloyd Kemp, Bob Kerley and Steve Willoughby were ordained. Jim Dinning and Darrell Martin were installed.

Billy Compton is pastor of the Bowling Green church.

Farmdale ordains two to ministry Farmdale Baptist Church, Louisville, recently ordained John Meadors and Edgar Frank Lumpkins Jr. to the ministry.

Meadors is director of freedom ministries in Louisville and has been called to be pastor of English Baptist Church, Stephensport.

Lumpkins has been called to the pastorate of Hillsdale Baptist Church, Louisville.

Bill Sullivan is pastor of Farmdale.

Missions

Walkers in Ohio for Home board David M. and Tena Walker have been appointed to the Greater Cleveland (Ohio) Baptist Association by the Home Mission Board.

Walker, director of Christian ministries to the association since Jan. 7, resigned as associate and interim pastor of First Baptist Church, Winchester, Ky., to accept the Home Mission Board appointment.

Mrs. Walker is a church and home worker on the Ohio field.

The 1982 World's Fair May 1-Oct 31—Knoxville, Tenn. Group housing service, large or small groups, one-half mile of Fair site. Ivory Tours, 1-800-251-9999, P.O. Box 1234, Harriman, Tenn. In Tennessee call 615-882-1234. 2-3-82

Wallaces volunteer for year in Israel David M. Wallace resigned Jan. 3 as minister of education at Louisville's Baptist Tabernacle to serve as a volunteer for the Foreign Mission Board.

Wallace and his wife, formerly Paula Parks, both Bowling Green natives, will begin Mar. 1 at Baptist Village, a camp and conference center near Tel Aviv. Mrs. Wallace will be a bookkeeper; Wallace will work with the local church.

A graduate of Western Kentucky University, Wallace earned both the MDiv and MRE degree at Southern Seminary. Mrs. Wallace is a graduate of Georgetown College.

Revivals

Bethlehem attendance highest ever Bethlehem Baptist Church, Louisville, was led in its Dec. 6-9 revival by evangelist Charles Flener. Lois Jane was guest singer.

The revival resulted in 36 decisions and the largest average attendance for revival services in the church's history.

Flener preaches, sings at Calhoun Charles Flener, chaplain to the Jefferson County police department, was evangelist and singer for the Nov. 15-22 revival at Calhoun (Ky.) Baptist Church.

Twelve professions of faith, four additions by letter and many rededications were reported by Thomas Stokes, Calhoun pastor.

Sowder preaches revival in Haiti Sam Sowder, pastor of Mouthcard Baptist Church, Pike Association, conducted a week of revivals in Haiti at various mission points.

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A second week for an area wide revival was scheduled.

The preaching team was led by Joe Mobley.

Deaths

58-year Dunmor deacon dies Oscar Silvey, 85, a member of Dunmor (Ky.) Baptist Church for 62 years, died in November. Funeral services were Nov. 22 at the church where he was a deacon 58 years and chairman of the deacons about 30 years.

Carl Dugger is pastor of Dunmor.

Ohio convention staffer Stowe dies Darty F. Stowe, former associate executive secretary in Ohio, died Dec. 26 at age 57.

Stowe was a native of Trion, Ga., but spent all of his adult ministry in Ohio except three years when he served as pastor of the Trion, Ga. congregation.

Funeral services were at Parsons Baptist Church, Columbus, where Stowe was a member and burial was in Trion, Ga. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy, and two sets of twins, Dave and Don, and Danny and Dale.

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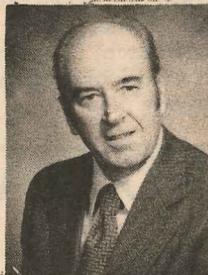
Here and now

- 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

Looking Ahead

- 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



Help for the minister

An increasing awareness of the needs of unemployed Ministers is a healthy sign. Our Board is studying how our state staff missionaries can be yet more helpful. All of us are ever involved in counselling and placement effort situations. One office is heavily dedicated to this.

Our Baptist local congregational autonomy makes it doubly important for the Churches and Ministers to deal ethically and in Christianly manner with each other on the local level. It is very difficult for the more general (powerless) body to work in this realm.

Our Baptist polity is very different in structure. Frequently, in other fellowships the denomination and the Church are one and the same. Their general Churches have organizational units known as Dioceses, Synods, Presbyteries, Conferences, etc.

In fellowships like the above the Church (possibly through one of the above units) is the ordaining authority. But again, the Church is the denomination. The Conference, or whatever unit of the denomination (Church) can limit ordination to the number of Ministers it can deploy. It can and does assume responsibility for those ordained and employed.

In Baptist life the Church is the local congregation, which has final authority and is the ordaining authority. The denomination (which is not Church) has no voice or control over whom and how many are ordained and no power to assign them to Churches. The powerless denomination cannot assume responsibility for the professional livelihood of all whom the Churches may ordain but don't support.

We must face up to the growing problem more helpfully and more realistically. More helpfully in behalf of those who have fallen into misfortune of whatever sort and more realistically as to the number of prospective Ministers we are turning out and where they are going to serve.

TWO IN A ROW: January was another million dollar Cooperative Program month. The fourth time in history to exceed one million and the first time to do it twice in a row. We praise the people of the churches and their pastors and thank God.

Sunday School Lessons



FEBRUARY 7, 1982

H. C. Chiles

QUESTIONS OF CONSCIENCE

Life and Work Series

1 Corinthians 8:9-13 An acute problem which arose among the Corinthian Christians was over the question of whether or not it was right for them to eat meat that had been offered in sacrifice to idols and later sold in the public markets. Whereas the mature and strong Christians were convinced it was not wrong for them to consume the meat to satisfy their hunger since they were not involved in any way with idol worship, some of the more immature and less knowledgeable Christians believed it was wrong to eat such meat.

Attempting to help the Corinthians in the solution of their problem, Paul introduced an important principle and taught them that, in the exercise of their Christian liberties, all believers should be thoughtful and considerate of the welfare of others. No Christian should ever fail to consider how others will be affected by his actions. He should be willing to forego his actual rights rather than to cause others to stumble. If his rights become hindrances to others, he should not exercise them. Christian consideration for others will cause us to refrain from doing the things that would lead others into temptation or cause them to do wrong. A Christian does not have the right to abuse his liberty in any way that might injure a fellow Christian. Out of due consideration for the welfare of others, let us strive to provoke them to good works rather than to cause them to stumble and sin. If necessary, let us make personal sacrifices in order that we may be positively helpful to others.

1 Corinthians 10:23-29a, 31 Our obligation to make right decisions and set the right example is threefold in nature—to God, to others and to ourselves. We must be willing to forego or relinquish our personal liberties for the sake of others and for the glory of God.

By his remark: "All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient," Paul meant they were not appropriate, advisable and helpful. Any Christian should conduct himself in such a manner that he will not give anybody a just cause for offense or cause another to do wrong. In the consideration of the right course of action one may be governed by the law of nature, the law of expediency or the law of love. One should test his contemplated actions by the influences they will have upon others and by the amount of glory they will bring God.

What is meant by the glory of God? It is bringing his attributes into prominence and working out his purposes, and this we do through obedience to his expressed will. In the multitude and complexity of activities—eating, drinking, playing and working—our chief aim should be to glorify God. We should recognize God in all our plans, purposes and pursuits—his ownership of us, his authority over us, his love for us and his provision for our needs. We can live to the glory of God by acknowledging him, by seeking to know him better, by loving him devotedly and by serving him faithfully. Such living will deliver us from self seeking, enable us to overcome temptations, give us wonderful satisfaction, give dignity to our lives and cause us to do our best in service for God.

JESUS REINTERPRETS WORSHIP

International Series

John 4:7-14 On his journey through Samaria Christ and his disciples arrived at Jacob's well, which was about a 10 minute walk from Sychar, or the present town of Nablus. Hot, tired, hungry and thirsty, Christ sat down on the parapet of the well, while his disciples went into the village to buy food.

Before long the reverie of Jesus was disturbed by the coming of a Samaritan woman to draw water from the well for her household needs. She came at that unusual hour to avoid any contact with other women who despised her on account of her sinful life. Embarrassed and disgusted that Christ was sitting there, with a bold and unsympathetic gaze she stared at him. With remarkable wisdom and unusual tact, Christ asked her to give him a drink, which request awakened her surprise, broke down her prejudice and appealed to her sympathy. In the course of the conversation which ensued, Christ told the woman those who drank from Jacob's well would thirst again but there was something far better than the water from the well beside which he sat. He told her the water he gave possessed the quality of satisfying completely all who drank it. His free offer revealed the possibility of her need being met. But suggesting the thirst of her soul might be satisfied thus, Christ aroused her desire for the living water about which he spoke. Obviously Christ was comparing the human desire for inner peace and satisfaction to physical thirst, so that which he was offering to meet the human longings for peace and satisfaction Christ called water.

John 4:19-26 When this sinful woman asked Christ to give her this living water he proceeded to show her more clearly her great need before granting her request. Aware that a knowledge of one's sinful condition must precede salvation, Christ probed into her sinful life and tactfully led her to the realization she was a great sinner and then taught her the necessity of repentance.

When Christ began to talk to the Samaritan woman about her sin she, like most sinners, tried to change the subject, but her refused to be side-tracked or drawn into a religious argument. In their conversation the woman asked Christ for some instruction about worship. Evidently she was under the impression God was restricted to one place and could be worshiped there only. Our Lord proceeded to make it clear to her that spiritual worship is not a question of bodily position or physical location, but rather of heart condition and attitude. God can be worshiped anywhere and anytime, but never with the use of images. Christ taught the woman true worship is not confined to a particular place, but that it must be spiritual and must be done in an understanding manner. Only those who have been regenerated or saved can truly worship God. No other worship than that which is offered by a child of God in spirit and in truth can possibly be acceptable to him.

Stirred in heart and perplexed in mind, the woman said: "I know that Messiah cometh, which is called Christ," and then in substance acknowledged "he will answer all of these perplexing questions and settle all of these controversial matters, and all of us will worship him." Immediately Christ revealed his identity, saying, "I that speak unto thee am he." Upon her acceptance of Christ as her savior, her soul was saved and her life was transformed.

Baptist News in Brief

Building flap restarting?

The North Carolina Baptist Building, center of controversy earlier this year, has been sold to a research firm for \$1.7 million.

At its Jan. 26 meeting the General Board of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina approved without opposing vote the sale as well as construction of a \$1.9 million office complex on a four-acre site in Cary, a southwestern suburb of Raleigh.

Under terms of the sale, the Instrument Society of America will pay the convention \$1.7 for its downtown office building, of which \$1,425,000 will be in cash. A total of \$230,000 will be credited as rent, which the convention will pay to use the building until it vacates it later this year.

The plans for the new building include first floor office space for the Baptist Foundation of North Carolina and for the Biblical Recorder, journal of the convention.

The action may renew the controversy which occurred over the proposed sale and move in May of 1980. Then, the general board voted to sell the building to P & S Investment Co. Inc., of Greenville, N. C., for \$1.7 million, of which \$600,000 would be in the form of a tax-free donation to the convention.

J. Marse Grant, editor of Biblical Recorder, opposed the sale and the move in editorial columns of the 116,500 circulation weekly.

Subsequently, P & S Investment Co. Inc. withdrew its offer. The general board renewed its action that the building was for sale and was affirmed by messengers to the 1981 state convention in Greensboro.

Also, since then, Grant has announced he will take early retirement from the editorship, planning to terminate in September of 1982.

On the evening of the Jan. 26 general board action, trustees of Biblical Recorder, in a telephone conference call meeting, voted to purchase a tract of land in east Raleigh for \$40,000 from the Raleigh Baptist Association.

Grant said a decision has not been made about whether Biblical Recorder will move to the new Baptist Building or will build its own facilities. Recorder officials say purchase of the land does not necessarily mean the newspaper will build and added that trustees will discuss the matter at their March meeting.

While Recorder trustees have not made a decision, foundation directors already have signaled they wish to occupy space in the new complex.

When members of the general board were informed of Biblical Recorder trustees' action—which occurred as they were still in session—they passed a resolution asking for an explanation.

The resolution, proposed by Leon Smith, pastor of First Baptist Church, Goldsboro, noted the board "respects the autonomy of the Biblical Recorder as an agency of the convention" but "expresses . . . our profound interest in the offices of the Recorder being located in the new Baptist building office complex.

"If the Recorder board indicates interest (either short term or long term in being separately housed) . . . we request the Biblical Recorder board to share details of its plans . . . such information being the reason for relocating outside the Baptist building and the method of funding for the purchase of a new building," the resolution said.

Wayne Tuttle, pastor of Pine Grove Baptist Church, Rockingham, who seconded the motion, commented: "We are all in the same ballgame. Let's work together. This building of theirs is ridiculous."

S. C. Baptists oppose bill

A proposed bill in the South Carolina legislature which would automatically exempt ministers from jury service is being opposed by South Carolina Baptists.

The South Carolina Baptist Convention's Christian Life and Public Affairs Committee prepared a statement opposing the bill, currently in the South Carolina Senate's Judiciary Committee, and has written a letter to J. Woodrow Lewis, chief justice of the state's supreme court.

"The committee believes it would be contradictory to encourage lay persons to be responsible citizens, while asking for ministers to be relieved of citizenship responsibilities," said E. C. Watson, assistant to the state convention's executive secretary-treasurer.

The committee, he stressed, does not believe the withdrawal of ministers from jury duty should be encouraged unless it "seriously conflicts with pastoral responsibilities."

Watson added the committee

believes ministers should serve on juries because their "expertise and training" enhances the judicial process.

The senate bill became an issue for the Baptist committee after it was reported last summer that two pastors in Union, S. C., were required to serve on juries in magistrate court cases involving members of their own congregations.

In light of the two cases the committee noted it intends to make the legislative committee "aware of the fact that some abuse has occurred" and ask corrective action of those abuses, but not the automatic exemption of ministers from jury service.

KBREA going to Ohio

Johnny Taylor, president-elect of Kentucky Baptist Religious Education Association, urges Kentucky religious educators to go to Ohio "on a seven or eight day mission tour and lead conferences in the area of Sunday school."

The tour, May 1-8, would offer conferences in the areas of "efficient Sunday school records, Growth Spiral, space, planning outreach, finding prospects and leadership training.

Participants will pay their own expenses to Ohio and back and will receive no honorarium. Host churches will cover expenses while in Ohio.

Those interested should contact Johnny Taylor before Feb. 15. His address is: Gardenside Baptist Church, 1667 Alexandria Dr., Lexington, KY 40504.

Texans exceed budget

Texas Baptists have surpassed their 1981 Cooperative Program budget of \$37.4 million by \$4.9 million.

Cooperative Program gifts, boosted by record contributions of \$4,247,113 in December, soared to \$42,372,660 for the year.

By state convention action, the \$4.9 million over the budget will be distributed according to the same formula as the basic budget: 35.5 percent, or about \$1.8 million, to worldwide Southern Baptist Convention causes and 64.5 percent, or about \$3.2 million, for Texas causes.

Miss Mann is WMU editor

Anne Leavell Mann of Atlanta, Ga. has been named editor of Royal Service, Woman's Missionary Union's monthly magazine for adult women.

Miss Mann has been Baptist Young Women consultant for the WMU of Georgia. She is a native of Newnan, Ga. and holds degrees from the University of Georgia and Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex.

She assumed her new position Feb. 1.

Prayer law ruled against

Reaffirming a position first announced 20 years ago, the U. S. Supreme Court has held that states and localities may not by law turn public classrooms into worship centers.

The high court unanimously affirmed a decision by the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals striking down a Louisiana law which authorized local school boards to provide for a period of prayer at the beginning of each school day.

Shortly after the state legislature passed the law in 1980 the school board

in Jefferson Parish, in suburban New Orleans, announced it would begin permitting prayer led by students and teachers. It also issued guidelines to govern the one-minute proceeding.

Among the guidelines were rules providing first for a student volunteer to ask to lead in prayer. Only if he orally asked to pray and brought along a written permission slip from his parents, however, was any student to be allowed to lead the class in prayer.

If no student volunteered on a given day, the teacher was authorized under the rules to lead in prayer.

Students who did not wish to participate were to be excused to another school location. After the prayer, however, all students were required to report to their classrooms for a one-minute period of silent meditation before regular classroom instruction was to begin.

IRS wants book look

A Sherman, Tex., bank must produce its records of that city's First Pentecostal Church as ordered by a federal appeals court, following the U. S. Supreme Court's refusal to review the case.

The Grayson County State Bank has refused for more than three years to produce the records as demanded by the Internal Revenue Service in an audit proceeding directed at the congregation's pastor, Charles E. Glass.

Although IRS obtained a summons to examine the record in November 1978, the taxing agency waited until May 1980 to ask a federal district court in Texas to enforce it. That court denied the government's request but the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals reversed the lower court, ordering the bank to comply with the IRS request.

In appealing that decision to the Supreme Court, attorneys for the church labeled the IRS efforts as "clearly an excessive and unnecessary interference" into "internal financial matters." They also cited a portion of the Internal Revenue Code forbidding the IRS from auditing the "books of account" of any congregation, even if it engaged in unrelated business enterprises.

But the government argued that it sought only bank records and not "books of account" kept by the church. It emphasized also that its investigation focused on the pastor, not the congregation. The summons of bank records was issued, the government brief continued, "for the proper and strictly secular" purpose of determining Glass' tax liability.

MK killed in Alaska

Sarah McClendon Demby, 25, daughter of Home Mission Board missionary associates Lewis and Alma McClendon, was killed Jan. 13 when her car collided head-on with a snow plow on the Alaska-Canada Highway near Watson Lake in the Yukon Territory, Canada.

Mrs. Demby and her husband Richard, who was following in another vehicle, were enroute to Portland, Ore., where he was to enrol in the satellite seminary program of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary.

Mrs. Demby's father is director of missions of the Tongass Baptist Association in southeast Alaska. Her mother is president of Alaska Woman's Missionary Union and was attending a WMU meeting in Birmingham, Ala., at the time of her daughter's death.

Baptist Forum

Who are the peacemakers?

Many Baptist leaders and theologians are advocating nuclear and conventional arms control. In their own circles those who support these activities are called "peacemakers." By implication those who believe in a strong military force for the free world are dangerous and immoral.

This bothers me.

Baptists have traditionally defined "peacemakers" as those who bring peace by bringing persons to the Prince of Peace. Those who preach, teach and baptize persons into the church of Jesus Christ are the real peacemakers. To dilute this concept by including political peacemaking is a step in the wrong direction.

I trust our national leaders to better assess our military requirements than our theologians. It bothers me when a church leader declares that we have

"too many missiles" or "too many weapons." It also bothers me when they urge groups of Christians to actively become involved as Christians in efforts to reduce arms and military forces.

Religious leaders are on treacherous ground when they become involved in political issues. Yesterday's theologians hailed Neville Chamberlain as a great peacemaker when he signed his nefarious treaty with Adolf Hitler. He received their support because he was in favor of arms reductions, limited military forces and trusting Hitler to do the same. We have no assurance that today's theologians have better insight than their predecessors.

Those who would involve our church in political issues are not peacemakers. They come much closer to being a part of the Moral Majority.

Frank Tatum, Louisville

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