

# WESTERN RECORDER

KENTUCKY BAPTIST NEWS JOURNAL

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## Mormons contest missionary Baptists

by Mike Creswell

As La Hacienda Baptist Church began one worship service in a crowded second floor apartment of a high rise building, two young men in dark suits walked briskly past the apartment's open front door and headed up the stairs.

They were Mormon missionaries. While Baptists were witnessing on one floor Mormons worked equally hard on another.

The scene is becoming increasingly common as Southern Baptist and Mormon missionaries work the same mission fields.

Undoubtedly the most active and successful group of this sort is the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints—the Mormons.

They now have work in 83 countries and are the fastest growing church in the United States of those having more than one million members. Membership in the LDS church is 4.6 million with about one million of those members overseas. In 1980 they baptized 275,777 persons. Of this number only about 65,000 were children baptized at eight years of age; the rest were converts.

For comparison 13.5 million Southern Baptists in the United States baptized 429,742 persons during 1980, and Baptist churches overseas with whom Southern Baptist missionaries work baptized another 110,032. To have matched the Mormons in growth the combined total would have to have been well over 800,000.

Over the past five years Mormon

membership has increased 93 percent in South America, 98 percent in Mexico and 42 percent in Africa (though the numbers are relatively small). In the same five years Baptists increased by 34.5 percent in South America, 9.2 percent in Mexico and 79.2 percent in Africa.

The real foot soldier underneath the glittering Mormon growth is the Mormon missionary. There are now about 30,000 of them worldwide, an impressive number, though short of church hopes. About 30 percent of 19-year-old Mormon men in North America volunteer to serve two years. Women may volunteer at age 21.

They are supervised closely (they must account for every hour) on the field by zone leaders and ultimately a mission leader who is himself a layman serving a three-year volunteer term. Only nine of every 1000 homes visited will admit Mormon missionaries.

One mission leader who just completed an assignment in South Carolina was a Nevada dentist who returned home grumbling that Southern Baptists had not been responsive to Mormon proselyting efforts because "they believe the Bible is the only Word of God."

In the United States only a handful of informed church members have recognized the Mormons are non-Christian.

While a nationwide survey on religion showed most Southern Baptists give Sun Myung Moon (head of the Unification Church) uniformly negative ratings because of his strange teachings, they give Mormons uniformly positive ratings—this despite the fact

that Mormon theology is as strange and non-Christian as "Moonie" theology.

Within the Southern Baptist Convention the Home Mission Board has been charged with the task of helping Southern Baptists relate to Mormons. Department workers hold many training sessions and awareness conferences each year to help Baptists witness to Mormons without becoming "Mormonized" themselves.

Interesting things sometimes happen because of Mormonism's generally favorable public image. The Radio and Television Commission interviewed Donnie and Marie Osmond—undoubtedly America's two best-know Mormons—on MasterControl in 1976. Immediately after its airing Paul M. Stevens, commission president at the time, ordered the segment not to be used again.

The Baptist Sunday School Board announced Feb. 26 it would no longer market two Mormon-produced nondoc-trinal films, "John Baker's Last Race" and "Cipher in the Snow."

The Foreign Mission Board, also

moving in recent years to meet the challenge of Mormonism, added courses on Mormonism and Jehovah's Witnesses to orientation provided new missionaries.

Southern Baptist missionaries report a variety of experiences with Mormons. Though missionaries maintain friendly relations with a wide range of evangelical groups, and in some cases Catholics, they generally classify Mormons as non-Christian in terms of theology.

Because of Mormonism's incredibly complex system of beliefs and because the group has given new definitions to every theological word used by Baptists (such as grace, salvation, God, born again, and more) and other words unique to them, study is required before even a seminary professor can witness effectively to Mormons.

"The basic problem with Mormon theology," says Bartley, is that Mormons have a "very deficient and false concept of Christ. To the Mormons, Jesus is 'one of the prophets' but so was Joseph Smith Jr."

## Inner city "refugees" challenge to churches

Middle class "refugees" fleeing the central cities present major challenges to Southern Baptist churches, a researcher told a symposium at the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Dorrian D. Morris, HMB research division director, told a group of rural Baptist leaders that the decades ahead will be characterized by flight from large cities by middle class whites, blacks, hispanics and Asians.

The big city refugees present major challenges to Southern Baptist churches, Morris said, warning that rural churches must be prepared to deal with the former urbanites' resentment toward being "forced" from the cities as well as with their disillusionment that rural America is not the "utopia" they had expected.

Morris told the symposium assembled by the HMB's rural urban missions department that few established churches will assimilate the metropolitan immigrants. He predicted middle

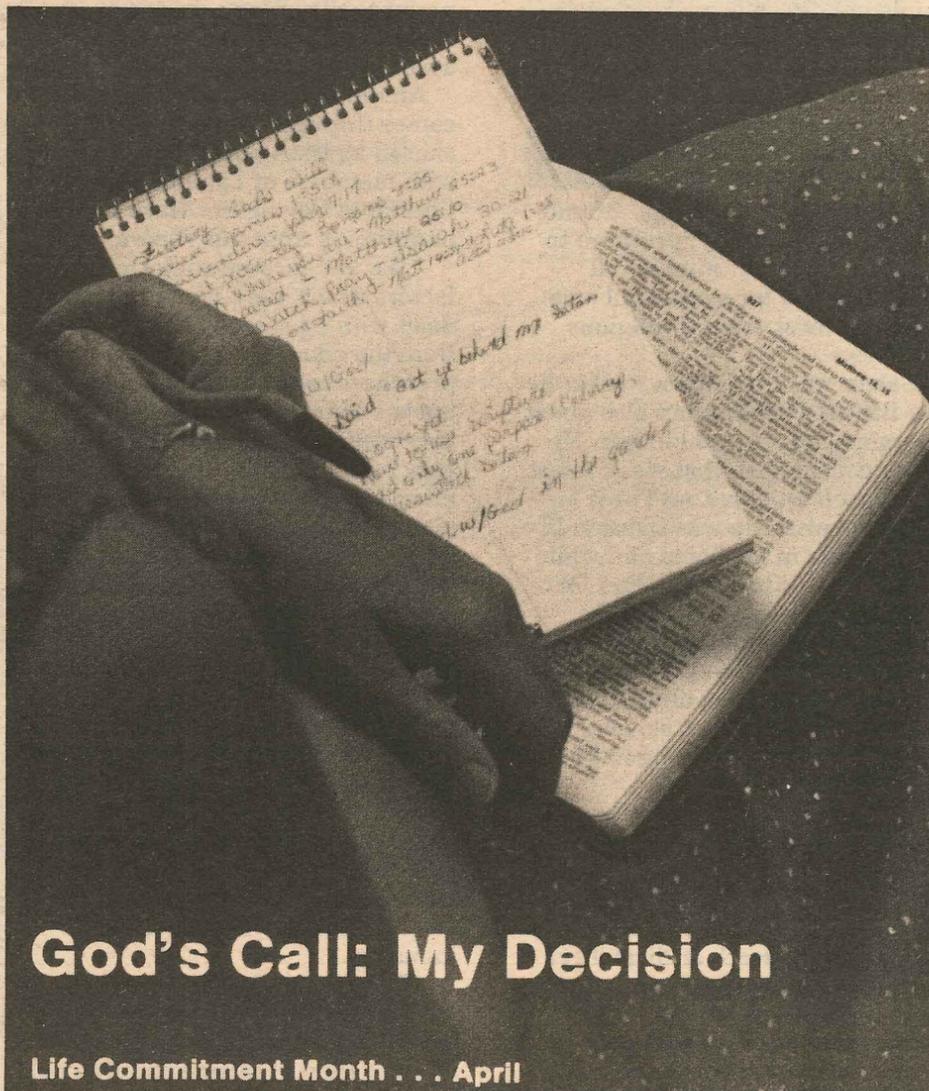
class flight will offer the greatest opportunities for new church growth in the rural areas.

He said that in the decade of the 1970s rural areas grew by 15.4 percent while metropolitan areas grew by only 9.1 percent and predicted the stream of big city "refugees" probably will increase during the 1980s.

Two other speakers also told symposium participants of the challenges facing Southern Baptists as a result of the flight.

Gary Farley, sociology professor at Oklahoma Baptist University (OBU) in Shawnee, said that as more urbanites move to rural areas, Southern Baptists must be ready to help mold rapidly changing communities.

"The great challenge for a growing community is to bond the old and new into a cooperating whole," Farley said, urging that Baptist churches be among the first to demonstrate that by working together the "gospel is made available to everyone."



### God's Call: My Decision

Life Commitment Month . . . April

Life Commitment Month, observed annually in April by Southern Baptist churches, will focus this year on "God's Call: My Decision." Life Commitment and Church Vocations Sunday, Apr. 25, is set aside to emphasize the importance of commitment to a church vocation if God calls. The church administration department at the Sunday School Board sponsors the annual emphasis.

# WESTERN RECORDER

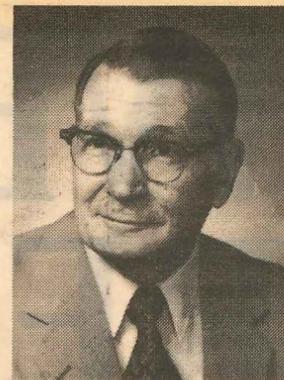
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—Jude 3



C. R. Daley

## DALEY OBSERVATIONS

### It's time for a check-up

The leading killer of preachers is heart disease. This goes for preachers in denominational work as well as those in pastorates. We were shockingly reminded of this tragic truth by the completely unexpected fatal heart attack of Calvin Fields.

Calvin is the fifth heart disease victim in the Baptist Building family in recent years. Herman Ihley, Chester Durham, G. R. Pendergraph and Robert Pogue preceded Calvin by only a few years. Four of these including Fields died before reaching retirement age.

Such a high percentage of heart fatalities in the Baptist Building is surprising to some because it is generally considered that denominational workers minister under less tension than pastors. This is true in some instances but cannot be taken as a general rule because the degree of stress experienced by ministers depends more upon the person than upon the situation.

Actually, there's little difference in the stress of denominational work and the pastorate. Crowded daily schedules that often run into the night, irregular hours for eating, sleeping and resting, around-the-clock availability, pressure to succeed and other ministerial hazards make for a stressful existence for most sincere religious workers.

Calvin was the jolliest worker in the Baptist Building but also about the most sincere and busiest. He never considered what was easiest for himself but what was best for everyone else. He was stricken literally while in his boots and while on the go seeking counselors for Royal Ambassador camps this summer. It is doubtful if he would change his life style if he had life to live over and it's needless to speculate on whether or not slowing down would have prolonged life for him.

Nevertheless his relatively early homegoing should lead all of us to reexamine our own life styles. How many of us are ignoring basic health rules? How many of us are inviting early death or disability? How many of us justify an irresponsible life style by saying, "I'd rather wear out than rust out?"

Several state conventions have become concerned enough about the health of their workers that annual physical examinations are required and paid for by the con-

vention. Some churches do the same for their pastors and staff members. This kind of preventive medicine might be appropriate for Kentucky Baptist Convention denominational workers in light of the toll of recent years. In the meantime all of us should be better stewards of God's gift of physical health.

### A new day for search committees

To serve on the search committee for a pastor of a Baptist church today is an enlightening experience. First time search committee members are intrigued with what they learn and veteran search committee members are amazed at how things have changed.

There's a boldness and frankness on the part of pastoral prospects which would have been shocking a few years ago. Thus, a church which has not been through the experience of calling a pastor in a number of years is in for an awakening.

An illustration of the new order comes through a report recently shared by the search committee with members of Latonia Baptist Church in Covington. Here's three paragraphs from this report:

"We are encountering three new factors which were never before dealt with by search committees from the church. First, many preachers today own houses, and houses are not currently selling very well. Also, interest rates are very high just now. The pastor we interviewed had a nice home with eight and one-fourth percent mortgage. Getting his family into comparable housing here would have required a house payment of \$800.00-900.00 per month.

"Second, many preachers today have respectable incomes. The pastor we interviewed has a total package of \$36,000 per year. An equivalent life style, here with the extra cost of housing, would require \$42,000 per year. We must get accustomed to the fact that high calibre men are compensated on a level with junior executives in industry.

"Third, many preachers today have working wives. These well educated spouses no longer devote all their time to raising children and attending to WMU and other church activities. So we will be hearing more and more such questions as, 'Is there a good school

teaching position open in Northern Kentucky for my wife?' or 'Do you think my wife could get a position with the accounting department of P & G?'"

This is telling it like it is and a search committee is wise to share its findings with the congregation. In this way the congregation will be better prepared to consider the recommendation finally brought by the search committee.

I cannot but recall my own experience with the Harrodsburg Baptist search committee 28 years ago. This committee was as enlightened and considerate as any pulpit committee of that era but likely would have been turned off completely by the experience of the Latonia committee.

In the conversation with the pulpit committee as it was then called there was no discussion of the salary as I remember. Of course I knew the salary range of their pastor and was confident the church would do right in regard to this. Fringes weren't discussed. I knew the church had a pastorium and that the pastor paid the utilities. There was no car allowance in those days, no medical insurance paid by the church and no library allowance. The church, however, was as generous as any I ever knew. Convention expenses were paid, there was no limit on revivals and retirement benefits were given without being asked for.

Were the old methods of search committees more spiritual than the present methods? I doubt it. The frankness and openness of today's methods might be even better than those of other days.

The miracle is that the Lord works his will in regard to pastors and churches in spite of whatever methods search committees use.

### Great possibilities for cable television

Ninth and O and Highview Baptist churches in Louisville are to be commended for the 46-month leasing of a 24-hour-a-day cable television channel with which to communicate the gospel. Other Kentucky Baptist churches are also deeply committed to the use of television for gospel communication but few have the resources needed for such an extensive financial and programming commitment.

There's a lot to be considered in such a commitment. One concern is that such a project not require such

a large portion of a church's resources that the rest of its outreach responsibilities goes begging. Surely Louisville and other communities in Kentucky and America need the gospel but not to the neglect of all nations. Churches which decrease world mission gifts in order to televise worship services are short sighted.

Probably of more concern than the money involved is the provision of quality programing all the hours of every day of every month, year after year. Christian television should exalt Jesus Christ instead of some television personality and should serve viewers rather than bleeding them. We already have enough gospel stars who outshine the Christ they present and who spend as much time begging for money as pleading for souls.

Highview pastor Bill Hancock is to be commended for planning no appeals on the air for contributions. Funding will come from the Highview and Ninth and O congregations, from other churches which might use the channel and probably from individuals interested in the project.

Hancock is interested in sharing time on this cable channel with other churches, with denominational groups and others who have something to share. Time will be sold on a cost basis and no one will be making a profit except the cable company. This is the kind of integrity that enhances the gospel as it is communicated.

Some might expect preaching for 24 hours a day on this cable channel. Hardly. In fact, the first programing announced by Hancock does not include preaching. It will include model creative kindergarten instruction, a Sunday school lesson discussion and help from a Christian psychologist on stress. More and more creative ways to communicate the good news should be developed and utilized.

The potential of cable television for use by churches and the denomination is almost unlimited. With a statewide hookup which is almost certain within a short time, think of what a state convention or a state paper could do with several hours a week television visits in homes of Kentucky Baptists.

Christians of the 20th century should be as alert as those of the first century. Paul and other Christian communicators made full use of the latest travel and communication facilities of their day to take the gospel to the world. Should we do less?

# MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

## CONGREGATIONS

Whittaker has work published  
Bill D. Whittaker, immediate past president of Kentucky Baptist Convention, has writing scheduled for publication.

Whittaker just had published an article, "People on Pilgrimage, Proclaiming the Book of Numbers," in Proclaim, January 1982. He now adds "A Nation's Chronic Illness, Preaching from the Books of 1 and 2 Chronicles" in Proclaim, April 1982.

Zondervan Pastor's Annual, 1983 will feature nine messages by Whittaker who also has 12 illustrations in a Broadman Press release, *Illustrating the Gospel of Matthew*.

**Gift at Fulton benefits missions**  
The estate of Mrs. H. L. Hardy presented a gift of church bonds and cash to First Baptist Church, Fulton, Fulton Association.

Church bonds worth \$20,000 were given to the church to hold until maturity in 1985. Principal of \$15,000 will be used in an interest bearing account to provide funds for foreign missions through the Lottie Moon Christmas offering.

Michael Adams is pastor.

**Middletown First has Family Day**  
Family Day was celebrated by First Baptist Church, Middletown, Long Run Association, to promote family unity through family activities. The church welcomed members and guests for Sunday school and worship services and then had activities and a meal in the afternoon.

Charles R. White is pastor.

**Evergreen triples Christmas offering**  
Evergreen Baptist Church, Franklin Association, exceeded the 1981 Lottie Moon Christmas offering goal by giving \$4705.

This amount more than triples any amount ever given by Evergreen.

Jeffrey L. Naylor is pastor.

**FBC, London, receives \$100,000**  
First Baptist Church, London, received a \$100,000 gift specified to draw interest designated for the building of the new sanctuary.

J. Bill Jones is pastor.

**Joint choir concert set for Lancaster**  
The Lancaster community choir and the Centre College orchestra will present a new musical, "Joy Comes in the Morning," at 3 p.m. Apr. 25 at the Garrard County Auditorium in Lancaster. The production will be under the direction of Randal Bratcher, minister of music at Lancaster Baptist Church.

## DEATHS

**Ward, member 72 years, dies**  
Funeral services for John D. Ward, 93, were conducted at Pleasant Point Baptist Church, Booneville Association, Feb. 20.

Ward had been a member of that church for 72 years. He served 20 years as trustee.

Ward is survived by two children.

Robert Wyatt is pastor at Pleasant Point.

## ORDINATIONS

**Fellowship ordains two deacons**  
Thomas Sanders and James L. Raley were ordained to the diaconate by Fellowship Baptist Church, Harrodsburg, Mercer Association.

The pastor is James Hardey.

**Three ordained at Vicco**  
Tommy McCol, Manuel Salley and Charles Green were ordained as deacons by Vicco Baptist Church, Three Forks Association.

The pastor is Lovel Combs.

**Franks ordained for pastorate**  
Jack Franks was ordained at Marrowbone Baptist Church, Pike Association, Jan. 24.

Franks is pastor of Marrowbone.

Bob Bozarth preached the ordination

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sermon and John Pate was moderator.

Four persons were baptized in the morning and the Lord's Supper was observed in the evening for the all day program.

Franks is joined by his wife Linda Myers Franks, Havelock, N. C.

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## Meet Cumberland College Student...



Dianna Caldwell

Dianna Caldwell, Cumberland College freshman, awakes before the sun each morning in order to be at her tutoring job in the Cumberland College reading study center by 8 a.m. Her eyes are electric with enthusiasm as she tells of her tutoring experiences and her love of teaching.

Dianna, 17 year-old from the mountain community of Mt. Vernon, Ky., plans to become a teacher in order to "...work with people, primarily children." Her job as a tutor of English, math, and history is well preparing her for this profession.

Dianna, daughter of a Baptist minister, is a hard worker. To finance her education, she has worked as a waitress at a small drive-in restaurant, as a babysitter, and as a church janitor.

Despite her heavy work load and diligent study habits, she still finds time to remain active in extra-curricular activities, participating in Baptist Student Union activities and women's intramurals. Additionally, she is becoming involved in Mountain Outreach, a unique program that provides many services to the deserving mountain people.

Dianna came to Cumberland College primarily because it is a Southern Baptist college and because of the prevailing Christian atmosphere. "I visited other schools, larger schools and state schools. None of them had the type of Christian fellowship that Cumberland has. The people here are open, friendly, and loving."

Only a first semester freshman, Dianna has not yet compiled a grade point average. However, her high school grades were mostly "A's". Her college English teacher describes her as "...bright, capable, articulate..."

Dianna says, "I believe that I have the qualities of a teacher. I love working with people, especially children. I have a sociable personality and a lot of patience. My tutoring here is enabling me to learn skills that will be useful to me as a teacher."

Dianna's smile is warm and contagious. She is happy, content, and optimistic. At Cumberland College we are optimistic for her and for others like her.

President Taylor,

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

# BAPTIST NEWS IN BRIEF

**High court decides.** Changing courses, the Reagan administration asked the Supreme Court Feb. 25 to decide if religious schools practicing race discrimination are entitled to tax-exemption.

This latest action apparently means the high court will decide the cases of Bob Jones University, Greenville, S. C., and Goldsboro (N. C.) Christian Schools despite a Jan. 8 motion by the government that it be allowed to withdraw from the case.

The motion noted the Justice Department had decided an Internal Revenue Service practice which denied tax exemption had not been authorized by Congress and such schools should be reinstated as tax exempt.

**Films withdrawn.** Citing concern about potential damage to the ministries of Southern Baptist churches, Sunday School Board president Grady Cothen announced Baptist Film Centers will no longer distribute two films produced by Brigham Young University, an institution of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormons).

The films, "Cipher in the Snow" and "John Baker's Last Race," have been available through Broadman Films and Baptist Film Centers since 1975 and 1977 respectively. Cothen said the films were inspirational, not doctrinal in nature, but "responsible pastors" have written complaining that "identification with sects is detrimental."

## St. Matthews ministers through alternate facilities

by David Smith, Staff Writer

Pastor J. Altus Newell refers to his church as the "Nomadic Baptist Church," "because we are meeting in so many places."

After St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville was set fire by arsonists Jan. 10 the congregation began holding its main worship service in Alumni Chapel at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. In order to accommodate the church's various programs several other facilities have since been secured.

"We now have activities at Beechwood Baptist, St. Matthews Episcopal, Beargrass Christian, Harvey Browne Presbyterian, Southern Seminary and the house (owned by the church and previously used as a Sunday school class building) which we use for office space," explained Paul Robinson, St. Matthews minister of education.

While the former church building was still aflame members of the semi-

nary community offered the use of seminary facilities to the St. Matthews congregation, Robinson said.

"We met with their administration, went over a diagram of all the buildings and they marked out the rooms we could use. I had a list of the units (classes) of our Sunday school and our desire was to keep the classes as much as they were in terms of organization. We hoped this would minimize the shock of the transition from our place to theirs (the seminary)," Robinson said.

"We reached an understanding with them in terms of what kind of sum we would pay them to defer utility costs. We are also paying someone who they designated as a custodian for Sundays."

All arrangements between the seminary and St. Matthews are made through Davis Byrd, director of the seminary's facilities planning and management office. "We're operating on a good faith relationship," according to Byrd. "We've met two or three times and indicated our areas of concern but both Paul (Robinson) and I feel if we need to meet we'll call each other up and get together."

St. Matthews has a committee of the deacons called the clean-up committee. It checks after services on Sunday to insure the church leaves the seminary

spaces in proper order. "The chairman of that committee checks with Davis Byrd each week so there is a lay person who has a responsibility to make decisions and take action," Robinson added.

Robinson also said the St. Matthews staff has urged its congregation to abide by seminary regulations and requests of church committees such as the parking committee.

"I generally am the liaison between the church and the seminary so when we have groups in our church that want to use the (seminary) facilities, they contact me to arrange it. This cuts down on the number of calls the seminary gets and gives us some control over whether the group ought to meet there or at some other place," Robinson suggested.

Since the seminary cannot be used for weekday programs such as the Kindergarten and Mother's Day Out programs, the St. Matthews staff had to find other locations to house these. The two determining criteria for this effort were size and facilities.

Once a location was found Robinson worked with each church on a one-to-one basis concerning payment for custodial help and utilities.

Because St. Matthews will meet in some of the alternate facilities for up to two years Robinson asks, "After the honeymoon is over how do you live the realities of being guests in someone else's home? How do you keep your people from thinking, 'This is our church,' or taking it over or intimidating those who are making the

facility available?"

Robinson felt the only place where intimidation might be a problem would be during Wednesday night suppers at Harvey Browne Presbyterian. This would be due to "the sheer numbers. We feed 350 people; they have less than 100. They may think 'Those Baptists are coming over here and taking our place over'."

In order to alleviate that potential problem Robinson said St. Matthews plans to make efforts to help the congregations become better acquainted. These plans include some joint fellowships and worship services.

"We're also buying some things (teaching aids, sheets for baby beds) that we'll use together and when we leave we'll just leave it there and say, 'This is yours'."

For the seminary this will include more hymnals for the chapel.

Robinson agrees not all the concerns of the St. Matthews staff have been of a structural nature. To maintain the fellowship of the church the staff has worked hard to make the worship services more informal. "It gives our folks a much better chance to see one another; we take some time out in the service to speak to each other.

"The selection of music and the messages have all been aimed toward building the warmth, the care and the love of the fellowship. The music has had more of an emotional impact than what we have been doing and that has been on purpose."

Robinson concluded, "I think we'll have some time to reexamine ourselves, who and what we are, and see if that's an adequate base for what the Lord wants us to do in the future. It can be an exciting experience and one of the most helpful, renewing experiences a church congregation can have."



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**Fewer missionaries resign.** A smaller percentage of foreign missionaries resigned in 1981. Foreign Mission Board officials hope they are seeing a downturn in the resignation rate which climbed above four percent in the early 1970's.

In 1981, 114 missionaries resigned, or about 3.7 percent of the force of 3123 under board appointment.

Still some missionaries resign and return home. Some hear God calling them back to ministry in the states. Others return to care for aging parents or children with special needs. Others simply buckle under the pressure of living, working and rearing a family in an alien culture.

**Debatable.** A debate between representatives of the scientific creationism and the evolutionary views of the universe has been arranged by Moral Majority leaders in Kentucky. The debate will be held at 7 p.m. Mar. 18 at Memorial Auditorium, Fourth and Kentucky Streets, Louisville.

Craig Nelson, professor of biology at Indiana University, Bloomington, will present the view of evolution and Duane Gish, associate director of the Institute for Creation Research, will represent the view of scientific creationism.

This discussion has widespread interest nationally. Legislation in some form which seeks to have the creationist view

presented in public school science courses where evolution is presented is pending in about 30 states. An Arkansas law calling for this was recently declared unconstitutional.

Tickets for the debate are \$3 in advance and \$5 at the door. Tickets are available at some churches. Further ticket information is available by calling (502) 937-5234 or (502) 937-1881.

**Former editor dies.** James A. Lester, public relations secretary for the Georgia Baptist Convention and former editor of the Tennessee Baptist newspaper, the Baptist and Reflector, died Mar. 2 at his home in Stone Mountain,

Ga., of a heart attack. He was 53.

Lester was on the staff of the New Orleans Times-Picayune newspaper before he became public relations secretary for the Georgia Baptist Convention in 1957, a position he held until becoming editor of the Baptist and Reflector in 1968.

Lester resigned as editor in 1973 and in 1974 he returned to the Georgia Baptist Convention office as public relations secretary and Baptist Center manager.

He is survived by his wife, Lynn; four children, Earl of Nashville, Tenn., Edwin of Franklin, Tenn., and Brian and Jenna who live at home in Stone Mountain; one grandchild, his mother, one brother and two sisters.

**Commendations to an editor**

The Christian life committee and Elkhorn Association have asked me to write you a letter of commendation and appreciation for your recent editorial on the problem of drunken drivers and Gov. Brown's pending legislative move to help with a solution to the problem.

We feel your editorials on this and other issues keep us alive and informed, and stimulate action such as the letter to Gov. Brown and our state legislators and urging our churches to write cards of support to all concerned about this issue.

Bill Treadwell, Georgetown

**Let the fire fall!**

I became alarmed because of the large number of church fires in recent months and pondered about any aid I could offer to my fellow pastors who experienced church fires. Some had lost an entire library.

I thought of the loss of valuable books, the out of print volumes and the expense involved. I looked at my library and thought: "Why not share?"

Now upon hearing or reading of a fire in a church, I choose a good book from my library and mail it to my preacher brother with a note of encouragement.

We all can spare a few of our books. Let them form a nuclei for a pastor's new library.

Dan D. Bryson, Clinton, Mo.

# FORUM

**Poor business sense?**

I read, with my interest, the article "Stealing Churches" by Richard McCartney in the Feb. 3rd copy of Western Recorder.

He may know a lot about what he is talking about but this one thing I know: Not all pastors who suggest designating mission money are what he calls independent.

I happen to be a Southern Baptist. I always have been and plan to always

be. I am also thinking about suggesting to Second Baptist Church that they designate their mission money. Why?

If the offerings run over the budget then why not send it to the mission

fields?

How can I or any pastor be expected to ask our people to give more when we are not even using what we have?

George F. Fournier, Marion

## STATE LITERACY CONFERENCE

Mill Creek Baptist Church  
Radcliff, Ky.

March 20, 1982  
12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. EDT

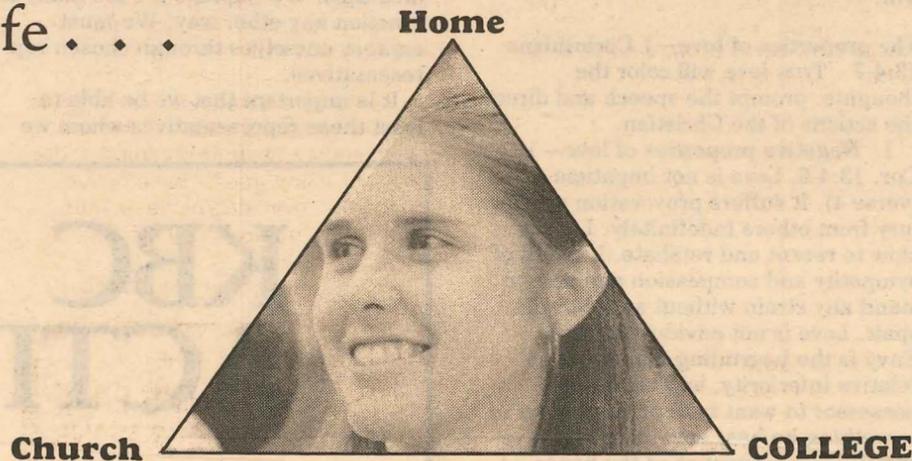
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**CAMPBELLVILLE . . .**  
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**MKs receive award.** Three sons of Southern Baptist missionaries will receive the 1981 Elizabeth Lowndes Award, given annually by Woman's Missionary Union to outstanding college graduate chosen from among children of Southern Baptist missionaries.

Timothy Wayne Randolph, Ft. Worth, Tex.; George Douglas Pringle Jr., Las Vegas, N. M.; and David James Roper, Chicago, Ill., will receive cash awards in recognition of their scholarship, leadership and character.

Nominations are by the Home and Foreign Mission Boards. The award was established in 1936 as a tribute to Mrs. W. C. Lowndes, WMU treasurer.

### International Series TWO MIRACLES FOR A PARALYTIC

**Mark 2:1-12** Christ and his disciples ended his first tour of Galilee with his return to Capernaum, the place he resided after his rejection by the residents of Nazareth. As soon as it was broadcast he was at a certain house a great crowd assembled to see and hear him, expecting to witness more of his mighty works.

**The paralyzed sinner.** There was one man who could not come to the house where Christ was because he was a victim of palsy. Powerless to move, the man had to be carried by loved ones or kind friends wherever he went. He was truly in a pitiable condition.

**The persistent saints.** Four men decided to take this paralytic to Christ. With implicit confidence in the ability and willingness of Christ to cure their friend, they lovingly carried him on a pallet to the house where Christ was preaching. Their inventive genius and energetic faith were evidenced by their persistence in overcoming all obstacles, even to the opening of the roof to let the man down into the presence of the great physician. They manifested their faith by their works.

**The powerful savior.** Impressed with the faith of the four in his power to heal their friend and because of the faith of the paralytic Christ bestowed upon him that priceless blessing, the forgiveness of his sins. When our Lord uttered those life-giving words, "Son, thy sins be forgiven thee," Christ spoke home to the deepest needs of that man and of every other person. That Christ forgave his sins and saved his soul before he healed his body proves that the soul is of greater importance and value than the body.

**The protesting scribes.** As soon as the scribes and Pharisees heard Christ's words of forgiveness they began to reason within themselves and to accuse him of blasphemy. They did

## SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS

MAR. 14, 1982



H. C. Chiles

**Evangelistic layman dies.** George E. Hays Jr., 71, a prominent Louisville Baptist layman, died unexpectedly of a heart attack on Mar. 3. Memorial services were conducted in Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville, on Mar. 6 with burial in Buck Grove Baptist Cemetery in Meade County.

Hays was widely known for his evangelistic efforts through a Walnut Street Baptist Church Sunday school class. He was also a member of American Association of Jewish Evangelism, Christian Businessmen's Club and Gideon International. He was president of Louisville Seed Company.

He is survived by his wife, the former Margaret Morland; two sons, Judon L. Hays of Hixson, Tenn., and George E. Hays III of Louisville; four daughters, Pauline Routh, missionary in the Philippines, Nancy Curtis of Covina, Calif., Peggy Walker of Oak Grove, Ky. and Barbara Evans of Louisville.

not express their hostility in words but Christ read their thoughts and rebuked them. They were right in their contention that only God could forgive sins but they were wrong in assuming that Christ was not God. The reason for their doing so was that their minds were closed and their hearts were hardened. When Christ said to the paralytic: "Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house," the critics were amazed and extremely resentful as they saw the man immediately obey Christ.

### Life and Work Series THE WAY OF LOVE

**The preeminence of love—1 Corinthians 13:1-3** True eloquence is the language, logic and loftiness of speech set on fire by love. Prophecy, the ability to interpret and declare the will of God, is not worth anything unless it is exercised in love. To understand mysteries—things once unknown but now revealed—means to have wisdom, but to have love is more important. Knowledge, or the acquisition of information, is good but love is better. Charity, or benevolence, is profitless unless the gifts are the outflow of love. Only love gives meaning and merit to martyrdom. Love makes life noble and sweet, so let it master your thoughts, feelings and will.

**The properties of love—1 Corinthians 13:4-7** True love will color the thoughts, prompt the speech and direct the actions of the Christian.

1. Negative properties of love—1 Cor. 13:4-6. Love is not impatient (verse 4). It suffers provocation and injury from others indefinitely. Love is slow to resent and retaliate. It is full of sympathy and compassion and able to stand any strain without anger or despair. Love is not envious (verse 4). Envy is the begrudging admission of relative inferiority, and causes its possessor to want to deprive another of something he has. Love does not have any ill feeling because of the honor, success or prosperity of others. Love is not boastful (verse 4). Love is not rude (verse 4). Love is not selfish (verse 5). Love is not easily provoked (verse 5). Love is not resentful (verse 5). Love does not take pleasure in evil (verse 6).

2. Positive properties of love—1 Cor. 13:6-7. Love rejoices in the truth (verse 6b)—its propagation, progress and triumph. Love bears all things silently (verse 7). Love believes (verse 7). Love is hopeful (verse 7). Love endures (verse 7).

**The permanence of love—1 Cor. 13:8-13** Love is permanent and imperishable. The heart and climax of this sublime chapter are found in the statement, "Love never faileth." The time will never come when love will give way to some higher quality. Love will never cease to be. It is eternal. Greater than faith or hope, love survives danger, disaster and death.

## FRANK OWEN

Executive Secretary-Treasurer, KBC  
Box 43433, Middletown, KY 40243



### TRUST THE TRUSTEES

Approximately 739,000 Baptists in about 2250 Churches affiliate with the Kentucky Baptist Convention. We are a democracy, but we can't all meet. No place is large enough to seat us. Every one of 80 associations is represented on our Board of about 170 members. The Board and its Committees meet regularly to handle Convention matters.

In addition to the above central Board, our 145 year old operation has devised special Boards (again chosen by representative and democratic process) for each of our Agencies; like Schools, Child Care, Western Recorder, Hospitals, etc.

When these representative Board members meet, their discussions bring out far greater knowledge of matters under consideration than is possible for Baptists who are not involved in the meetings. We Baptists are too many to function any other way. We must express ourselves through chosen representatives.

It is important that we be able to trust these representatives whom we

elect. It was Southern Baptist night when seven radio programs produced by the denomination's Radio and Television Commission won top honors in the national Angel awards sponsored by Religion in Media.

Religion in Media is a worldwide interreligious, non-profit organization. The Angel awards annually recognize excellence in religious radio, television, film, records and books. Seven RTVC programs were nominated for awards. Five of them won Silver Angel, the top award in a category. The other two won certificates of excellence, runnerup awards.

Award presenters called the Feb. 18 ceremonies "Southern Baptist night."

to their two hour decisions on the basis of limited, second hand information, we may unintentionally weaken or destroy confidence in all our work.

We cannot all meet to hear every detail. We need to trust our elected representatives as far as possible.

Negative criticism is the right of every constituent in a democracy, but we need to exercise it with a mindfulness that honest, trustworthy people who represent us on the Committees and Boards are capable of intelligent decisions on things we can't judge accurately if we are not at the meetings. They serve without pay and deserve our understanding and appreciation.

Note: Each of the foregone six fiscal year months has broken the previous record. Each of the last three months has exceeded a million dollars for the Cooperative Program. There have now been five million dollar months in our history. Two of them were fiscal year-end months (August). The other three in succession have been December, January and February.

## KBC ACTIVITIES

### MARCH

- 12 Adult/Youth Regional Church Music Festival. Bellevue, First Baptist Church. Register with Larry Cook, Drawer Q, Frankfort 40601
- 12-13 Youth Missions Retreat. Cedarmore. For 9-12 grades. Youth interested in mission vocation or summer missions workshops. Register with Cedarmore.
- 13 Children's Regional Church Music Festival. Bellevue, First Baptist Church. Register with Larry Cook, Drawer Q, Frankfort 40601
- 14 Home Missions Day in Sunday School
- 14-21 Youth Week in Churches
- 15-17 Senior Adult Leadership Workshop, Middletown, Kentucky Baptist Building. Information from Church Services Division
- 15-19 Masterlife Leader Workshop. Owensboro, Third Street Baptist

- Church. 2 PM Monday to noon Friday. \$50 registration fee. Information from Church Training Dept., KBC
- 19 Adult/Youth Regional Church Music Festival, Lexington, Porter Memorial Baptist Church
- 20 Children's Regional Church Music Festival, Lexington, Porter Memorial Baptist Church

- 22 Area Vacation Bible School Clinic for Associational VBS teams. Benton, First Missionary Baptist Church and Madisonville, First Baptist Church
- 23 Area Vacation Bible School Clinic for Associational VBS teams. Bowling Green, First Baptist Church
- 26 All Ages Regional Church Music Festival. Somerset, Beacon Hill Baptist Church
- 26-27 Youth Bible Drill and Speakers' Tournament
- 26-28 National BSU Retreat

WMU witness. The Southern Baptist Convention's Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) 1.1 million-member auxiliary will meet June 13-14 in New Orleans with the theme "Witnessing Women."

The traditional general mass meetings begins with dramatic features on world missions. New features will include prayer groups, missions issues conferences and banquets.

Dorothy Elliott Sample, WMU president from Flint, Mich., said, "Our meetings have been famous for their missions inspiration."

The program theme features 14 women who give personal testimonies about work in evangelism.

Orientation manager. Frank S. Wells, former Indonesia missionary, was named manager of career missionary orientation by the Foreign Mission Board.

Wells, 49, will direct the training of new missionaries in Pine Mountain, Ga. and later at a new orientation center near Richmond, Va.

Wells was the first full time student worker assigned to Indonesia. He began Baptist student centers in Yogyakarta and Semarang. He was formerly treasurer of the Indonesian Baptist Mission. He helped design, remodel or build two student unions, missionary homes and a mission office building.

He is a Southern Seminary graduate.

## HOMES FOR CHILDREN

Eldred M. Taylor, Executive Director  
10801 Shelbyville Road, Middletown, KY 40243



### "THE BOTTOM LINE"

When making a presentation today those listening often say, "What is the bottom line?" This question is actually calling for the whole thing to be summarized into a concise statement. Often it means "how much will it cost?" or "what does it require of me?"

A few days ago I attended the Kentucky Baptist Evangelism Conference at Elizabethtown. These conferences have been held annually in Kentucky since 1948 and I have been privileged to attend all 35 of them. As inspiring as they always are I felt this year's inspired me more than any other. God spoke to me through the great music and great biblical preaching. I came back to my task challenged to give my best and convinced of the victory we have in the work of our Lord.

"The bottom line" at such a conference is evangelism and witness. "The bottom line" for a New Testament church is evangelism and witness. "The bottom line" for each of us as Christians is evangelism and witness. "The bottom line" for a Christian insti-

tution such as Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, is evangelism and witness.

We are committed to serve dependent/neglected children by providing for their physical, mental and emotional needs. However, if we stop there we have done no more than the state or even a non-Christian benevolent organization could do.

"The bottom line" for our ministry to children must coincide with that of our Baptist churches and Christians as individuals. Our "bottom line" is that we exist for the purpose of witnessing to children in our care that they may come to know Christ and the true life he gives. The other types of ministry are necessary and make it possible to get to "the bottom line."

We make no apology for the fact that every child in our care will attend a Baptist church. Devotions, Bible study and prayers at mealtime are regular parts of life with us, and all staff are Christians, attempting to model Jesus Christ. Pray for us. Our "bottom line" is that we serve to witness for Jesus Christ.

## CLEAR CREEK COMMENTS

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



### "I DO CARE"

A letter was received recently from a student who graduated from Clear Creek School in 1955. He was explaining why he has been unable to give financial support to the school. He had given up his job to attend Clear Creek School for three years which brought heavy financial burdens and the churches he has served since graduation have paid inadequate salaries. When his wife died the cost of her funeral stripped him of all money. He went on to say he will now be able to make some contributions.

What leaps out at the reader is not this alumnus' lack of financial support, but that he is the kind of person this school was founded to serve.

"I do care about the school for it has meant so much to me. I was an old

nobody who spent the best years of my life for the Devil. God was merciful and saved me just before I became 39 and called me to preach when I was almost 48 years of age. I had quit grade school before completing the 8th grade and was out of school some 33 years without trying to improve my education. Clear Creek School took me as I was and was very patient with me, helping me prepare to serve my Lord better."

This pastor has faithfully served smaller churches, leading them in evangelism and other Southern Baptist Convention programs that have brought blessings to many people. We salute this man as a faithful servant of Jesus Christ and an alumnus of whom we can be proud.

## ONEIDA JOURNAL

Barkley Moore, President  
Oneida Baptist Institute, Oneida, KY 40972

### "PA GRITTON"



O. H. Gritton Sr. was the patriarch of a remarkable Anderson County family when he died of a heart attack last September. His widow, seven children, 21 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren and at least 1500 friends expressed their love by their presence, flowers and in memorial gifts. Many Anderson County natives said they had never seen such an outpouring in their lifetimes.

"Pa" Gritton was a simple man who lived a Christian life each day. As a farmer, storekeeper, school bus driver, truck driver, toll attendant, funeral home worker, school custodian and cemetery superintendent, he was one of the "least" that Jesus said would be the "greatest." Pa knew no strangers. He could talk with anyone, everyone and did. He loved people. People loved him.

He loved Oneida and our boys and

girls. He knew many of them by name. He visited us at least six times a year. He not only gave us his love, he gave of what money he could. Every neighbor on his street made a donation to Oneida when he died because they knew that is what "Pa" would have wanted. But there were more than 400 floral offerings too.

He dedicated many of his family to the Lord's service at Oneida. His youngest child, Larry, and daughter-in-law Linda have served and taught here for nine years. Larry is our French teacher, athletic director, and is the boys varsity basketball coach. He has a win-loss record of 181-101. More importantly he has helped lead many of our young people to the Lord.

Also a granddaughter taught and coached here three years, a grandson and his wife have taught here four years and two other grandsons have at-

tended school here.

One of these grandsons, Kelly, came to us five years ago, as so many students have, to take advantage of Oneida's unique "Special Help" program which has been directed by a cousin of NBC's John Chancellor for the past six years, Floy DeJarnette. We have normally had a 1-5 teacher-student ratio in that program but with 12 adults working in it this year, we have a 1-3 ratio. Kelly was years behind in his reading, but after two years of individualized tutoring, he proceeded with normal school work.

Recently I had the privilege of reading a schoolboy composition by Kelly entitled "My Grandfather." It is impressive that he is able to so express himself, reflecting the remarkable progress he has made. Kelly writes:

"My Grandfather was a very special man in my life. He was one-of-a-kind.

Everyone that ever knew him would say that, too. He was not only my grandfather, he was a very close friend. I could talk to him easily. He understood anything I had to talk about. He inspired my life so much, and when he died I realized just how great a man he really was.

"Pa had a great personality. He would take his shirt off his back to help someone in need. He would never do anything wrong. He was a very honest man and every man or woman that knew Pa trusted him.

"Anyone who never met my grandfather really missed a fun time. I can see him now in heaven. He's probably got everyone rolling in laughter with his jokes.

"Pa always had the respect of the people who knew him. He stood his ground and he stood it big and strong for everything in which he believed."

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