

\$18.2 million adopted at 'quiet' state convention; Westport Road's Jim Lewis is new KBC president

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

They approved an \$18.2 million budget for 1985-86 last week in Louisville.

Not a question was asked about the budget projects and goals when presented as part of a package proposal to the annual meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention by the KBC executive board. In some recent years this

item would have provoked numerous questions, or—at best—explanations and clarifications.

But the 1985-86 proposal, along with a revised 1984-85 projection, was adopted "without discussion" by 1412 messengers to the 147th meeting of the Baptist Church in Louisville's Walnut Street Baptist Church.

The convention became so quiet, in fact, that presiding officer Willis Henson said privately on the second day that "anybody who doesn't have the spirit of brotherly love" in there has "surely come to the wrong place."

Henson said he was admittedly "apprehensive" that "divisive issues" would disrupt the spirit of harmony in the convention, based on some things he had heard a few days before the meeting. But none of it materialized, and he termed it "a great convention."

The resolutions were "tame," the motions were "mild" and even in the election of officers, messengers had little to disagree with. Four of the five newly elected officers—a first and second vice presidents and the secretary and assistant secretary—were the only nominees for their offices. Each was elected by acclamation.

In a spirited contest for the presidency three pastors split the vote, creating a runoff between James B. Lewis of Louisville's Westport Road Baptist Church and Don R. Mathis of Corbin's Central Baptist Church. John T. Wallace Jr. of Parkway Baptist Church, Lexington, was eliminated from the

runoff.

Final totals gave Lewis 430 votes to 330 for Mathis.

A motion by convention executive secretary-treasurer William W. Marshall called for a seven-member committee to study "relationship documents" of KBC agencies and institutions. Adopted by the messengers without dissent, the motion allows for review of ascending and descending liability including ownership and dissolution provisions.

The committee will report to the 1985 convention meeting Nov. 12-14 at Lexington's Immanuel Baptist Church.

The revised budget for the current year calls for a basic operating budget of \$14,445,000, of which 36.25 percent will go to SBC causes and the remainder staying in the state. An additional \$1.3 million bold mission challenge section, with 37 percent going to the SBC, presents a total Cooperative Program goal of \$15,745,000 for the current year. With estimated additional income the present budget totals \$17,008,157.

For 1985-86, 36.875 percent of the \$15,600,600 basic operating budget goes to SBC causes. There is a \$1.3 million bold mission challenge section with 37 percent of that going to SBC. The total Cooperative Program goal for 1985-86 is \$16,900,600. With other estimated income, the projection that year is for \$18,200,600.

In sweeping action with long-range implications, the convention:

- Voted to extend its three-year

partnership plan with Ohio Baptists an additional three years, to end Dec. 31, 1987

- Underscored its commitment to a partnership plan adopted in 1983 with Baptists of Kenya, during the calendar years 1985-87

- Approved full participation in the New Church Annuity Plan effective Jan. 1, 1988 offered by the Southern Baptist Annuity Board

- Recognized retiring long term KBC staffers James H. Whaley, executive assistant, executive office, and Byrd R. Ison, director, Annuity Department

- Adopted resolutions against a state lottery, called for public school officials to schedule activities at times which do not interfere with Sunday worship experiences, reaffirmed their commitment to mission causes and against Sunday horse racing.

The convention voted to ask Glenn Armstrong, pastor, Beaver Dam (Ky.) Baptist Church, to preach the annual sermon in 1985. William E. Crosby, pastor, Erlanger (Ky.) Baptist Church, will be the alternate.

The 1985 session, previously scheduled at Lexington's Calvary Baptist Church, was moved to Immanuel Church due to anticipated renovation planned at Calvary. The 1986 session is scheduled Nov. 11-13 at Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown. Messengers to the Louisville meeting designated Walnut Street Church, Louisville, to again host the convention Nov. 10-12, 1987, the 150th anniversary of the convention.

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sanford's perspective

Beautiful convention

In his presidential address Willis Henson sounded the positive note all Kentucky Baptists need to hear.

Henson declared a trumpet call from God has been sounded "to get our eyes off the current problems and get back to basics." The basics he listed were to stand on the side of the local church; to stand on why we have the Bible, not how we got it; to stand on the side of evangelism; to stand on the side of the Cooperative Program.

Henson laid out in clear, positive terms the kind of program all Baptists can accept. He declared the local church is central to our concern and cannot be replaced nor circumvented. When power rests in the denomination rather than the local church corruption follows. This emphasis on the local church is solid Baptist doctrine embraced by all true believers in Baptist heritage.

Henson proclaimed his belief that the good news revivals set for 1986 "just might be our last opportunity to reach the United States for Christ." He can speak with authority about the primacy of evangelism in light of the great revival experienced by his own church in recent days.

Willis Henson proved himself a capable, fair and gifted leader for our convention. He did a superb job not only as presiding officer but as a tireless, unselfish servant throughout the year. His great spirit of positive goodwill set the pattern for the entire convention.

The positive note sounded by our president was carried through in all sessions of the convention. A great spirit of unity, so essential to progress in winning lost people, was seen in the election of officers and in the business sessions. These places of potential conflict and tension were smooth and peaceful.

James B. Lewis, pastor of Westport Road Baptist Church, Louisville, was elected president in a runoff with Don R. Mathis, pastor of Central Baptist Church, Corbin. Both these men are seasoned, dedicated pastors who have "paid their dues" in KBC life. Either of these good men would serve us well, and we pray for James Lewis upon whom the mantle has fallen.

J. Howard Cobble, pastor of Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown, and Keith Rogers, pastor of First Baptist Church, Loyall, were both elected by acclamation. The spirit of unity and goodwill continued with election by a standing vote of acclamation of Leo T. Crismon and G. Allen West as convention secretaries. One messenger wanted to elect Crismon "forever," but one year at a time seemed to please the messengers.

Howard Cobble's annual sermon on missions was appropriate and fitting at a time when mission giving is so important. Cobble's message had true authenticity because it came from the man whose church consistently leads KBC in dollar gifts through the Cooperative Program.

James Taylor, president of Cumberland College, spoke for all our schools when he reminded us "God does not call us to be successful, he calls us to be faithful." Taylor emphasized what Christian education is all about when he said, "There is a call to service above self. Education for service is what we are about."

Tal Bonham and Landrum P. Leavell brought stirring, challenging sermons in the special evening sessions. The music at every session was inspiring and done with style and grace. Any messenger who did not get a cup filled to overflowing simply spent too much time in the hallways or exhibit area.

The climax came with a great message by H. Franklin Paschall. He called the convention to "gather 'round the altar, kneel before the Lord and seek grace to be reconciling forces in our troubled world."

It was indeed a beautiful convention which saw us adopt a budget goal of \$18.2 million; change the way we organize the important committee on committees; put in place a three-year extension of our link with Ohio; honor two faithful, long time employees who retire in December, Byrd Ison and James Whaley; pass without opposition a statement which said, "We affirm the role of women in the total service of the Kingdom"; and welcome a new WMU executive director, Delores Gilliland.

This was my introduction to our convention in my new role as editor of the state paper. I am humbled at the affirmation I have received from people all over Kentucky. The road ahead is full of rocks and holes, but the spirit of acceptance you have shown me makes me believe I will not fall into too many of those holes; but, if I do, I know some of you will be there to offer a helping hand. The reception you gave for Margaret and me and the Gillilands made all of us feel we were part of a loving family of pilgrims on mission for Christ.

It was a beautiful convention and I say praise God for the joy of fellowship and peace among Christians.

An alert missions director

Leslie M. Huff, director of missions for Green Valley Association, has sounded a note of praise for small churches which is seldom proclaimed. In his newsletter to the churches in the Henderson area Huff made the following remarks which are important enough to share with our readers. Huff stated, "When reports come out about 'Top 100' churches, I have a strong feeling the other churches feel a little less than significant."

He went on to say Green Valley had 28 important churches with a "significant 10." The 10 churches he called "significant" had less than 200 members each, and five of them had less than 100 members. However, Huff declared, they "provide worship, Bible study, training, music, evangelism, property, and multiple ministries." Associational figures reveal the "significant 10" were "responsible for 63 baptisms; average of 430 in Bible study; \$22,291 gifts through the Cooperative Program; \$9519 gifts to the association."

Huff is correct when he reminds us how important all our churches are to the work God has given us. Reporting the top 100 is never intended to put down any other church, but to congratulate and recognize those of our people who have made a certain mark. Nevertheless, it is good to remind ourselves that the small church is important and essential to God's work. We thank Leslie Huff for the reminder.



Jack D. Sanford

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

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One named, two retire from executive board staff

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor



Strader

The executive board of the Kentucky Baptist Convention elected a new staff member, accepted the resignations of two others, voted to recommend extending the state's partnership with Ohio an additional three years and endorsed a motion to the convention by its executive secretary-treasurer during its pre-convention session last week in Louisville.

Douglas T. Strader, 44, pastor of Beacon Hill Baptist Church, Somerset, was elected director of the Church Training, Church Recreation and Special Ministries Department of the executive board, effective Dec. 1.

Strader succeeds C. Vernon Cole, who became director of the newly formed Family Ministry and Church Administration Department last Jan. 1. With the recent resignation of Mike King, associate in the Church Training, Church Recreation and Special Ministries Department, that department is currently without professional staff.

The executive board also accepted the resignation of two long time Baptist Building staffers.

James H. Whaley will retire in January as executive associate. He has been on the KBC staff 31 years. Byrd R. Ison retires at the end of December from the Annuity Department, which he has directed almost 13 years.

After brief discussion the executive board voted to recommend to messengers at this convention continuation of the partnership plan with Ohio Baptists through Dec. 31, 1987. The plan has been in effect for three years already. (The recommendation was subsequent-

ly approved by convention messengers later in the week.)

In the only matter to generate considerable discussion, executive secretary-treasurer William W. Marshall presented a motion which he said he would personally take to convention messengers the following day. Its subject was ascending and descending liability as it relates to the agencies and institutions of the convention. Marshall asked for and received endorsement by the board for his motion.

Marshall declared that only a matter of "serious concern" would bring him to the motion "this early in my tenure."

He said, "We do not have any kind of adequate information to answer, 'Are we liable?'"

Marshall acknowledged that his motion was prompted "at this time" by the fact that trustees of Kentucky Baptist Hospitals Inc. took action in late August to amend their constitution "without the approval of the convention, believing they were right." He said the "possible implications" must be "seriously considered."

Marshall added that the potential for a liability disaster is "financially frightening." He pointed out that the floor of the convention "is not the place" to discuss or debate "some of the related issues."

After more than 30 minutes of clarification the board gave overwhelming endorsement to Marshall's motion. (The motion was subsequently approved by the convention without debate.)

The motion, as approved, called for outgoing convention president Willis Henson to appoint a committee of seven, including himself as chairman, to "review relationship documents" of KBC agencies and institutions with particular attention given to ascending and descending liability including ownership and dissolution provisions.

Trustees and officers of the institutions were requested to assist the committee as needed, and were instructed to make "no further changes in their constitutions" until this committee makes its report to the 1985 Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Strader, the new executive board staff member, is a native of Graham, Ky. He holds the BS degree from Campbellsville (Ky.) College; MDiv from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville; and the DMin degree from Luther Rice Seminary, Jacksonville, Fla.

Married to the former Esther Cavanaugh of Nortonville, Ky., Strader is the father of three children—Mark, 21; Stan, 18; and Lisa, 16.

He has pastored several Kentucky Baptist congregations, including Independence, McHenry, 1960-61; New Cypress, Greenville, 1961-64; Benton, Harrodsburg, 1964-66; First, Junction City, 1966-71; Little Flock, Shepherdsville, 1971-77; and Beacon Hill, Somerset, since 1977.

No stranger to denominational life, Strader has been a member of the KBC executive board and its administrative committee, first vice president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention (1982-83) and a trustee of Campbellsville College.

In several housekeeping matters, the executive board:

- Restructured the communications function of the executive board staff to provide for a communications division

Annuitants cite Ison, soon to be 'one of us'

by Virginia Flanagan

It was a sharing of food, love and appreciation for Byrd R. Ison, Kentucky Baptist Convention Annuity Department director.

Ison, coordinating the annuitants' luncheon for his last time as director of the department, was the focus of praise from those on the program as well as about 250 people present during the annuitants' luncheon Nov. 13 at Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville.

Ison shared some of his most gratifying experiences of holding the luncheon have been the warm responses of those who were unable to attend and to observe how much the annuitants enjoyed the luncheon.

In bringing greetings from the KBC, executive secretary William W. Marshall indicated he had learned to appreciate Ison in both a personal and professional way.

Harold Wainscott, Covington, who presided and R. G. Shelton, Princeton, a member of the annuitants' arrangement committee, presented Ison with gifts in honor of his retirement.

Forty-eight new annuitants were recognized and presented with a pen by Archie Allison, Elizabethtown. Ed Perry, retired Baptist pastor, led the group in a memorial for deceased annuitants.

Gene Daniels, SBC Annuity Department, greeted the annuitants, announced there would be a 13th check issued again and brought special greetings and congratulations to Ison on his retirement.

Entertainment was provided by a KBC staff quartet consisting of Gene Quinn, Don Blaylock, Wally Miller and Jack Palmer with Don Spencer, pianist.

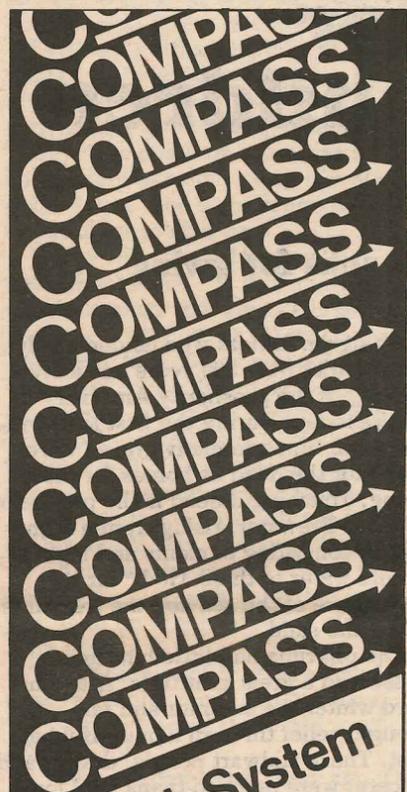


Above, Kentucky Baptists join hands in singing at convention's close. Below, retiring KBC staffer Byrd R. Ison [second from left] is flanked by Barry G. Allen [l], Elnora Ison and Bill Rogers [r].



- Revised the employe vacation policy to offer three weeks of vacation for professional employes after two years' service, formerly two weeks
- Heard an analysis of Cooperative Program giving for the last five years, presented by convention Business Division director Barry G. Allen. The report showed that, among other items, October 1984 receipts were the highest ever for any October, coming on the heels of the "leanest September" in five years.

The executive board will convene again at the Baptist Building in Middletown Dec. 10-11.



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homes for children

Thanks for giving

The pilgrim fathers who landed at Plymouth Rock over 300 years ago knew nothing of the prosperity America enjoys today. During the first long winter seven times as many graves were made for the dead as homes for the living. Touching indeed is the picture of William Brewster, rising from a scanty dinner consisting of clams and a glass of cold water to thank God "for the abundance of the sea and the treasures hid in the sand."

The pilgrims had little but they possessed a great gratitude. After that hard winter the summer and fall brought relief through a bountiful harvest. These stalwart people, devout and sincere, were quick to thank God for what he had given.

From that beginning Thanksgiving grew into a strong and beautiful tradition in America. This week families, relatives and friends will gather for a time of joy and Thanksgiving. Although Thanksgiving has been an integral part of the history of our nation for 300 years, it has been an integral part of Christianity for 2000 years.

In recent days I have written and spoken much about the annual Thanksgiving offering for your Baptist Homes for Children. I have written letters to pastors and Sunday school directors concerning the vital importance of this offering. Thanksgiving offering posters, bulletin inserts and offering envelopes have been sent to each church. If you have been to your church, I am sure you have seen the materials and heard announcements urging you to give a sacrificial offering.

Most Kentucky Baptist churches began receiving the Thanksgiving offering last Sunday and will complete it next Sunday. Many have already given. Therefore, it is a joy for me to say, "thanks for giving."

Our goal for this offering is \$685,000. Please know that every dollar is needed to continue this ministry to hurting children. We could not continue without the Thanksgiving offering.

Although we will not know the total given for a while, I am confident of the strong support from God through Kentucky Baptists. Because you care about children, you will give sacrificially and generously. On behalf of children, staff and board I say, "thanks for giving" at this Thanksgiving time. May children be blessed and God be praised!

Jim Lewis: home town boy does well

by Greg L. Hancock

Jim Lewis, the new president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, says the most important job in the world is "being pastor of Westport Road Baptist Church." Not that he won't do a good job in the convention presidency; he just has his priorities.

Lewis has pastored the Westport Road congregation since 1968 and confesses, "I hope I have the privilege of retiring there."

One of his members suggests the desire is mutual: "He has a pastor's heart. He's a pastor, through and through."

Not often does one find a Louisville native residing in Louisville. Less often can a home town boy find happiness as the pastor of three separate home town churches. But Jim Lewis has beaten the odds. Born and reared in the river city, he has been at Westport Road 16 years; before that, at Rockford Lane nine years; and, allowing space for a stint with First Church, Corbin, before that at Ormsby Avenue (now Ormsby Heights) Church three years. Thirty-four years in the pastorate and 28 of them in the same city!

Those who try to reason such phenomenon point to Lewis' philosophy of pastoring: He sees the church as an extension of, "not a substitute for," the kind of family that has tended to get lost in the highly mobile world of today. "Family is important to me," he declares. "The local church ought to support a family type sense of belonging."

"We may not be able to advertise that we have the biggest building or the largest number of people or that we send out the greatest number of missionaries but we can be great in our feelings for and appreciation of each other."

"I would wish for every minister the opportunity to pastor a church like Westport Road."

For young men aspiring to be good pastors, Lewis suggests only two things: "get to know your people and convey to them that they are persons of worth."

Although public education is one of Jim Lewis' darlings ("There's nothing wrong with the public school system that disciplined parenting wouldn't turn around!") he has lost neither ear nor heart for Kentucky Baptist colleges.

Admitting the existence with student population and money, he insists, "If a cause is worthy of our dedication, it will survive. I am of the opinion that as long as there are men and women who strongly believe in Christian education, our colleges will stay alive. We'll never reach that utopia where it doesn't cost us, out of pocket, to keep them, though."

"We need a new vision of how to upgrade our people's commitment in the local church. I think Planned Growth in Giving is one of the tools that will work. But things are going to continue in the same way. You may be getting more bucks but, because of the increase in things, tuition's going to have to go up, and it's going to be more money out of my pocket if I want the program to go on."

"You know and I know we're getting hardly a third of the tithe (at the local church level). Planned Growth In Giving is a tool that will help us raise the level of commitment at the local level."

"There is a move back to the idea that losing our liberal arts colleges will

cost us a very vital ingredient in the higher education process. If people get behind that and believe the idea is worthy, we'll be much further down the road to keeping our Baptist colleges."

Westport Road Church gives 15 percent of its undesignated receipts through the Cooperative Program and another five percent to Long Run Baptist Association. Lewis considers such generosity imperative among those who aspire to convention leadership.

"I struggle with the idea of people in leadership who do not seek to be an example," he affirms. "All my life I've heard 'put your money where your mouth is.' That's the terminology of the street that translates 'support what you believe in'."

"If I believe in my church I'm going to work to support it. If I got up in my pulpit and preached on tithing when I didn't tithe, I don't think I would be a good model at all."

"The way I see it, the local church is where it all begins. Frankly, I think we've got a good thing going in Kentucky. I think Bill Marshall's giving us the kind of leadership we need. I like his idea of local churches being 'on mission' together."

Is Lewis a passive pastor? Do his people take advantage of him because they know he loves them? He says it works the other way.

"Because you have this intertwining of relationships, you can say some pretty frank things. I have, at times, gotten pretty blunt with people who have been upset and they have later said, 'Well, Jim is pretty straight forward with us,' but they take it because of the relationship."

"I don't whip my people from the pulpit. I'm confrontive from the pulpit, but I see preaching as the opportunity to talk about Jesus and to encourage people to see Jesus and then to conform to what Christ has in mind for them."

The new president refuses to accept the stigma of a "political" label with regard to his denominational leanings. "I don't like to be put in any category," he argues. "You may hear me speak, today, and say, 'he's a conservative'; he argues. "You may hear me and say, 'he's a liberal.' You can decide what you think I am, but I reject the concepts of all labels beyond that I am a Christian, first of all: a saved sinner."



"I'm a Baptist by choice. God called me to be a pastor in a local Baptist church. I know God called me. I feel being a pastor in a local Baptist church is about the best thing that could happen to you."

Lewis tries to inform his people as to what is going on in the Southern Baptist Convention but he firmly believes, "the rank and file church member is not overly concerned about (convention issues)."

"The rank and file church member is struggling with the day to day process of 'putting it together,' paying the bills, handling the family. And the things that he hears from time to time, are things that he has some interest in but is not overwhelmed by. I try not to give my church a steady diet of it."

"I'm proud to be a Southern Baptist. I'm not proud of everything we do and say. When I talk about (current controversies) with my people, I talk about the priesthood of the believer and my understanding that Christ set me free. One of the reasons I'm a Baptist is because of the strong emphasis we have on the priesthood of the believer."

"I see what's happening now, in the convention, to a large degree defying some of that which I cherish."

"What has happened, in the politicizing process, is that we have met those who want to make us a legislative body concerned with all kinds of items that undercut our strong heritage of concern for the lost people of the world."

"I did not grow up a Southern Baptist. I became a Southern Baptist by choice: because of certain principles that I believe in. If we are to protect those principles—principles that have been so important to us and have helped make us what we are—then the pew has got to become aware of what's happening. I think it is because of a lack of awareness, on the part of the people in the pew, that many have been able to manipulate them."

Confronted with the idea of being personal spokesman for the Kentucky Baptist Convention for a full year, Lewis admits, "I do represent the convention and I feel the burden of that. I look back at convention presidents I have known and, as far as I'm concerned, they stand real tall. I would like to be able to move in the directions that these men have moved in: cooperation, working together, keeping missions paramount."

"When your denomination elects you to a position, you have an obligation. I can't talk, now, as just Jim Lewis. I've got to realize that I am a representative of the Kentucky Baptist Convention."

"My hope is that when I'm gone people will say, 'Jim kept our thoughts on the importance of missions, the importance of cooperation and the importance of fellowship together for the Lord. Jesus Christ.'"

"I owe Kentucky Baptists so very, very much. I came to know the Lord through a local Baptist church. My pastor was in Southern Seminary. I went to Georgetown under the GI bill, then on to Southern Seminary. Look at the money that has been invested in me!"

"I think about some of the people that have gone to be with the Lord—people that influenced my life—and I feel that, in fairness to their witness, I have an obligation to perpetuate the love I felt from them; and the desire to be the kind of minister God wants me to be."

Convention sermon

Around or into

These are excerpts from the message delivered to the 147th annual meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention last week in Louisville by J. Howard Cobble, pastor, Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown.

A new sun arose over the religious horizon of the United States of America in 1845. That sun has not lost its brightness. It will not as long as the source of its energies remains unchanged.

The establishment of the Southern Baptist Convention was in response to complex issues. Certainly, there was the matter of slavery which was dividing all Americans, Baptists included. Northerner and Southerner were forced to choose sides. Slavery was a burning concern, but there were other issues.

The late W. O. Carver saw the issues pushing this new sun upward. He wrote, "The Baptist denomination was a direct product of the missionary interest. . . ."

The Triennial Convention was the first effort of American Baptists to present an organized missions program to its people. Within 30 years of its founding, the Triennial Convention was in the tension of divisive issues. The convention had been organized to promote foreign missions, but its scope had been since enlarged to include home missions. From around the South came complaints that the various places where home missions work was to be done were being neglected. A third factor entered into the problem. The Triennial Convention refused to appoint slaveholders as missionaries.

The organizational meeting for the new convention was held in Augusta, Ga. May 9-10, 1845. Its first act was the establishment of both foreign and home missions work. The first footsteps taken by Southern Baptists were on the soil of missions work.

Today I call you to remember our heritage. The missions message has long been the theme which has quickened the heartbeats of Southern Baptists and has energized our churches. Missions is the rhythm of the symphony of Southern Baptist life.

God's plan dictates that some things must never cease. One is the work of missions.

You may ask, if missions is such an integral part of Southern Baptist life, why a sermon at a Baptist meeting about missions? Is that not like carrying coal to Newcastle or, to be biblical, salt to the Dead Sea? Preaching to this audience about missions is like lecturing Einstein on physics or Lansing on heart surgery.

I proclaim this theme from the heart of the scriptures because some remain unconvinced that the work of missions deserves our earnest prayer and our generous support. Southern Baptists who do not enthusiastically support our denomination's program of world missions are not dishonest people; they are mistaken people.

If you are unconvinced about the necessity for cooperative denominational missions work, I pray you will leave this place determined to lead your church to higher levels of mission support. If your conviction is that missions is a priority work for Southern Baptists, I pray you will leave this place knowing you are not alone in your belief that you

will be energized by a renewed commitment to the support of Southern Baptist missions work.

The message of missions is the theme of the Bible. You cannot preach the Bible without preaching missions. If you are true to the scriptures, you are true to missions. Missions is not just a message of the Bible; it is the message. All major doctrines, themes and stories in the Bible have missionary dimensions.

Move more and more toward the word of God, and you move more and more toward missions. An excellent measure of your commitment to the Bible is your generous support of missions.

The message of missions was born in the mind of Christ. The closer you are to the heart of Christ, the closer you are to missions. You cannot be wrong with missions and right with God. "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 2:5).

The message of missions is gospel. The good news proclaims that in Christ we are redeemed—freed from the bondage of slavery to sin. In Christ we are reconciled to God—the middle wall of partition has been broken down so that every person on the face of this earth can be at one with God. In Christ we enter into the experience of an abundant, everlasting life. We are delivered from the horrors of bondage, guilt and servitude by that one who lived like a man and died like a God.

The message of missions is that the gift of salvation is for all. He "is rich unto all that call upon him . . ." (Rom. 10:12).

God's plan for bringing peace to this agonizing planet is not through nuclear weapons and the maintenance of military might. In a world like ours where evil is rampant and Satan arrays his forces of evil, military preparedness is a necessity. But there is a better way. There is a way that will lead us to that day when swords are converted to plowshares. There is a way that will lead us to that day when spears are converted into pruninghooks. There is a way that will lead us to that day when enemies like the lion and the lamb will lie down together. That way is salvation.

Southern Baptists long ago concluded that the cooperative approach to sending missionaries is the most satisfactory method of assuring them that their financial needs will be met. Missionary energies can be totally directed toward their work without being sapped by the necessity for obtaining adequate personal financial support.

The bold adventure of cooperative missions is an expensive undertaking. Spreading the gospel is not a cheap task, but it is worth the investment because of the one who died for us.



J. Howard Cobble [l], KBC executive secretary-treasurer William W. Marshall and Eldred M. Taylor [r], executive director of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children.

The church is God's organization for taking the gospel into the whole world. Churches must be found faithful in paying the price. Since the method of missions is a cooperative partnership, every church should be involved without reservation. The Cooperative Program is Southern Baptists' plan for paying the price. If the proof of spiritual validity is in the results, as the New Testament suggests, the seal of God's blessing is on the Cooperative Program. The Southern Baptist Convention's greatest growth began with the adoption of the Cooperative Program in 1925.

Be faithful to the support of the Cooperative Program ministries. The New Testament teaches it. Your church's nature requires it. A New Testament church is always involved in missions. If a church is not involved in missions, there is not reason for God to give power to her.

Churches find their greatest strength through reaching out, not turning in. A church that turns in will die. The church in Antioch, a people of action, reached out (Acts 15) and sent Paul and Barnabas to Jerusalem to carry on the work of missions. Paul may have reflected on that congregation as the prototype for his describing the church as a body and not as plant life like a tree or a flower. Why this analogy of the body? A plant is not on the move. A body is alive, active, alert and on the move. Let your church be on the move with missions.

The 40th anniversary of D-Day was celebrated in June. People of the free world gratefully remember the men who stormed Normandy beaches to defeat Hitler's Nazi regime.

The Allied commanders considered the invasion at Normandy to be a key to defeating the enemy. Whoever controlled Normandy controlled the future of Europe. All available men, machines and brainpower were committed to places with names like Cherbourg and Utah.

The invasion battle savagely killed and maimed. German gun emplacements faced the invaders at ground level. Military aircraft struck from above. Corpses of fighting men sprawled along the stretch of sand.

All seemed to come apart at D-Day,

but the day carried the hope of victory. Victory lingered on the horizon. Between D-Day and V-Day hard, destructive, frightening combat occurred. Some historians evaluate that period as the most harrowing time in the European theatre. Terror stalked through the Battle of the Bulge and other bloody spots. The Allies never lost sight of the fact that the victory would be theirs. D-Day was a fountain of hope, even in desperate times. Finally, V-Day arrived; hostilities officially ceased.

Oscar Cullman noted that Christians are between D-Day and V-Day. D-Day was when the hangman's noose seemed to hold Christ in its death grip. His friends concluded that all was lost. A Golgotha passersby decided that another Jewish man had been unlucky enough to be cross with the Roman occupational forces and bite the dust.

God had a different view. Even though he covered earth with a blanket of darkness to spare himself the sight of man having gone wrong, God saw V-Day. The death of Jesus was neither an accident nor the victory of evil over good. It was God's challenge to Satan to put up or to shut up.

V-Day will come. The day ". . . every knee should bow . . . and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord . . ." (Phil. 2:10,11) will come. There will be a V-Day when Satan waves the white flag of total and unconditional surrender. There will be a V-Day when the heavens will open, the trumpet will blow and Jesus will for the second time stand on this earth.

The fighting is most intense between D-Day and V-Day. V-Day will come if we fight the enemy now. V-Day will come—". . . greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world" (1 John 4:4).

The dynamics of Southern Baptist missions is the command of Jesus, ". . . Go ye into all the world . . ." (Mk. 16:15).

I visited Japan a few years ago. One of the tour features was a visit to Baptist mission work. While in the old city of Kyoto we visited the Baptist hospital, a monument to Christ in that city of Shinto shrines and Buddhist temples. The cordial hospital staff and missionaries directed the group into an assembly room with the word that a missionary would join us momentarily to discuss the mission work and to answer questions. In a few minutes into the room came a missionary whom I did not recognize and was confident that I had never seen. Introductions were made. I should have recognized him because he and I had been seminary classmates. He seemed tired and carried a look older than his years. An expression of concern was etched into his face. It finally came to me why I did not recognize a classmate. I had been around Japan, but he had been into Japan.

Our history and the Bible command us to go into the world. The message of missions necessitates that we go into the world. The method of missions carries us into the world. The moment of missions leads us into the world.

Three billion people have not experienced the hope that comes to a believer in Jesus Christ. Each is unique in God's sight. Each is worth saving. Go into the world for each one. Begin the going in your community. Proceed through Kentucky, across America and around the globe. Obedience to God's will comes only when you finish the process. Be committed to Kentucky Baptist and Southern Baptist missions work. Pray fervently; give generously. Pay the price. Go into the world.

Pastors exhorted to care

by Patrick Cole, Staff Writer

Kentucky Baptist pastors were exhorted to incorporate a sense of caring in their ministries during the 1984 Kentucky Baptist Pastor's Conference.

Sermons from Kentucky pastors instructed those attending the conference to exercise caring in various ministerial situations.

Don Mathis, pastor of Central Baptist Church, Corbin, emphasized the local church as an outlet of caring. Although he praised Southern Baptists' mission efforts, Mathis warned that the church must "be reminded the work must begin in our congregation."

The need for the pastor to be a caring member of his family was the topic addressed by James E. Jones, pastor of Campbellsville (Ky.) Baptist Church. "It is impossible to walk in the sunlight in our church and community if we're living in an emotional shadow at home," he declared.

Wendell Romans, pastor of Boone's

Creek Baptist Church, Elkhorn Association, spoke on the pastor's role in crises situations. "God's approval is based on the help we give to people when they hurt and walk through the valleys" rather than a pastor's prestige, he said.

Concern for the unchurched should be a driving force for churches to stop their infighting, admonished William L. Hancock, pastor of Louisville's Highview Baptist Church. "We are surrounded by people who are drowning and dying, and we're spending our time discussing whether we're going to throw a life preserver to them overhanded, underhanded or side armed."

Hancock was elected president for next year's conference. Also elected were J. William Hall, pastor of Gethsemane Baptist Church, Danville, vice president, and Ernest Boggs, Sunshine Baptist Church, Harlan, secretary-treasurer.

Richard Bridges, pastor of First Baptist, Bowling Green, said pastors have a duty to be effective Bible teachers.

"There are many pastors who are concerned with an unregenerate church membership and so am I," he declared, "but I'm equally concerned for an un-instructed church membership."

Caring for the growing number of Southern Baptist ministers who are forced to leave their churches was the



[Left] John Christian [r] of Second Church, Hopkinsville, passes the gavel to Bill Hancock, Highview Church, Louisville, at the close of the Kentucky Baptist Pastor's Conference. [Below], State WMU executive director Dee Gilliland prepares to present her first report to Kentucky Baptists.



Women in ministry hold first luncheon

by Janis Whipple, Staff Writer

Aimed at energizing the formation of state and local groups for women, Kentucky Baptists held their first Women in Ministry luncheon Nov. 13 at Master-son's Restaurant in Louisville.

According to Reba Cobb, minister of youth, Crescent Hill Baptist Church, Louisville, purposes for the meeting—which had 44 in attendance—were to help develop a network support and contact system, raise the visibility of women in ministry, and identify women who are working in churches.

Personalities on the program in addition to Mrs. Cobb were Mrs. Lynda Weaver-Williams, pastor, Goshen Baptist Church; Carol Noffsinger, Baptist Young Women director, KBC Woman's Missionary Union; Doris Yeiser, administrative assistant, executive office, KBC; speaker Linda McKinnish Bridges, former missionary to Taiwan and PhD candidate, Southern Seminary; and entertainer Darrell Adams, interpreter of songs.

Drawing from the story of the Samaritan woman, Mrs. Bridges pointed out how Jesus related to women giving them challenge and encouragement despite the racial and gender tensions of his time.

In fact, she shared, Jesus first admitted to being the messiah to a woman and then commissioned her to be a missionary.

Immediately, the woman left her waterpot—her past—in the excitement of divine encounter. Real spiritual worship creates the desire to give to Christ and to give Christ (to others)," she added. "We give him ourselves, all we have in pure reverence and spontaneity, willing to do and go anywhere."

Mrs. Bridges admonished her listeners to not allow judgmental attitudes to cause them to run for refuge. The Samaritan woman's ministry was not hindered "in spite of the opposing disciples."

In conclusion, Mrs. Bridges encouraged her peers, "May you, whatever your locale and service, have the boldness and courage to accept the task and leave behind the waterpot and run into the city to tell others about Jesus Christ."

Be it resolved

State affirms church autonomy, opposes gambling

by Virginia Flanagan

Six resolutions were presented Tuesday Nov. 13 during the afternoon business session of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Floyd Price, Buck Grove Baptist Church, Salem Association, presented a resolution in response to a resolution presented at the SBC in Kansas City last June pertaining to support for women workers, such as missionaries, Sunday school teachers and workers in the church.

Truett Cocanougher, Central Baptist Church, Bracken Association, presented a resolution concerning the scheduling of public school events on Sunday, while Mickey Hanks, First Baptist Church, Hickman, Fulton County Association, presented a resolution concerning voluntary school prayer.

Noble Cobb, Victory Baptist Church, Little Bethel Association, presented a resolution concerning the "Holy War" and John Dunaway, First Baptist Church, Corbin, Mt. Zion Association, asked for a resolution in response to a lottery in Kentucky.

LaVerne Butler, Ninth and O Baptist Church, Louisville, presented the sixth resolution to seek an appeal to the Kentucky State Racing Commission to deny permission for Sunday racing dates.

Members of the resolutions committee were Willis Henson, Paducah; John Kruschwitz, Ft. Thomas; Billy Hurt, Frankfort; and David Q. Byrd, Louisville. A final report by the committee was made and approved the

subject addressed by Bruce Grubbs, a consultant with the Sunday School Board. He urged the pastors to aid those who find themselves with nowhere to minister. "We can care by not dealing with one another as something flawed or marked," he shared, and encouraged pastors to consider displaced

ministers for temporary staff assignments.

J. Robert White, pastor of Paducah's First Baptist Church, said ministers should take seriously their call from God to be pastors. "He has no hands to minister but ours, and he has no mouth but ours to proclaim," he remarked.

following day, Wednesday, Nov. 14, stating:

- Resolution I: "RESOLVED that we express to pastor Wayne Dehoney and request him to share with his gracious host our deepest appreciation for every effort made and every kindness extended to us.

"Further resolved, that we express our deep gratitude to our president."

Also included in the first resolution was appreciation to Bill Marshall, Kentucky Baptist Convention executive secretary-treasurer, the KBC staff and representatives of the media.

The final portion of Resolution I resolved that "we humbly offer fervent and earnest gratitude to God and that we praise his glorious name for all his marvelous blessings upon us." Resolution I passed.

- Action on Resolution II concerning a state lottery stated, "We recommend that the KBC strongly reaffirm the very excellent resolution which was adopted in the 1983 meeting of the KBC in Paducah (see page 157, 1983 Annual); and that we request that public hearings be held before a final decision is made." Resolution II passed.

- Action on Resolution III concerning the scheduling of school activities on Sunday passed as follows: "Therefore be it resolved that the Kentucky Baptist Convention in its 147th annual session respectfully urge the Kentucky State Board of Education and the boards of all local school districts within the Commonwealth of Kentucky to develop a policy to protect the right and the opportunity for all

students to worship according to their personal beliefs on Sunday without the interference of school related activities."

- Resolution IV concerning the mission of the church and the denomination reads: "Therefore, be it resolved that we as Kentucky Baptists reaffirm our historic and biblical commitment to our mission causes and evangelism at home and abroad; and be it further resolved that we urge Kentucky Baptists to get on with this task which God has called us to do."

- Resolution V on the autonomy of the local church regarding the ordination of women declares: "Whereas the resolution has basically to do with the historic Baptist position and basic belief in the autonomy of the local church be it therefore resolved that we reaffirm this position concerning the complete autonomy of the local church."

- Resolution VI concerning voluntary prayer in the public schools was unnecessary, the committee reported, since voluntary prayer has never been prohibited by a ruling of the U. S. Supreme Court.

- Resolution VII on horse racing states, "Be it therefore resolved that the Kentucky Baptist Convention in annual meeting, Nov. 14, 1984; appeal to the Racing Commission to deny permission for Sunday racing dates."

- Resolution VIII states the Kentucky Baptist Convention respectfully requests that the executive board assume responsibility for communicating these resolutions to the appropriate places.



The William W. Marshalls [backs to camera] greet Margaret and Jack Sanford at a reception honoring the Sanfords.

KBMA hears Landgrave composition

by Janis Whipple, Staff Writer

"At the Right Time," a musical composed and directed by Phillip Landgrave, professor of church music at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, highlighted the annual session of the Kentucky Baptist Music Association on the eve of the Kentucky Baptist Convention Nov. 12.

The piece was presented by the Seminary Vocal Ensemble and the Youth II choir of Hurstbourne Baptist Church, Louisville.

Other highlights of the session included an afternoon concert by the Seminary Winds, conducted by Douglas Smith, professor of church music, and an evening performance by the Semi-

Kenya, Ohio links seen in media shows

by Robin Oldham

Benton Williams, director of the Missions and Church Services Division of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, updated KBC messengers on the Kentucky-Kenya partnership. He introduced a five minute audiovisual presentation highlighting the Kentucky-Ohio partnership which began in 1982.

Shown at the Tuesday evening session, the Kentucky-Ohio program featured Bill Jaggars, associate in the KBC Direct Missions Department. Jaggars reported that in Kentucky one person in four is a Baptist while the number in Ohio is one in 13. There are seven million unchurched people living in Ohio.

Also featured in the film Tal Bonham, executive secretary of the Ohio Baptist Convention, expressed words of appreciation to Kentucky Baptists for accepting the challenge of starting new churches in Ohio.

The presentation emphasized that the partnership allows Baptists to reach goals impossible before the arrangement was begun.

Emphasizing the Kentucky-Kenya venture, Williams noted the partnership provides an opportunity for Kentucky Baptists to become more directly involved in foreign missions. He said more than 1000 Kentucky Baptists may participate in the partnership between now and 1987.

A brief audiovisual presentation encouraged messengers to consider participating in the project by using individual talents to reach the world for Christ.

nary Orchestra, under the direction of Lloyd Mims, minister of music, Highland Baptist Church, Louisville.

The 55 attendees also received instruction in "Practical Ideas for Congregational Singing" from guest speaker Hugh McElrath, professor of church music at Southern.

Outgoing president Mike Tichenor, Crestwood Church, Frankfort, presided during the session and relinquished the gavel of leadership to Randal Bratcher, Lancaster Baptist Church.

Elected were vice president/president elect John Cashion, Beaver Dam Baptist Church, and secretary-treasurer, Steve O'Neil, Walnut Street Baptist Church, Owensboro.

In other business the KBMA appointed a committee to study its election and nomination processes and report on any changes at the 1985 meeting in Lexington.

The Chorale's invitation to present a concert for the 200th anniversary of Boone's Creek Baptist Church, Elkhorn Association, Feb. 26, was announced during Chorale committee business. The Chorale will also perform at the 1985 state evangelism conference in Lexington Feb. 25-26.

The possibility of giving a joint concert with the Southern Seminary Male Chorale was discussed also. The two groups are being considered for the premiere of a new musical work during the Southern Baptist Church Music Conference's preconvention meeting in Dallas in June 1985.



Hundreds of messengers fell to their knees to pray for a troubled Southern Baptist Convention. H. Franklin Paschall of Nashville led the mammoth prayer meeting.

Lewis to head KBC, Cobble, Rogers named

by Robin Oldham

James B. Lewis, pastor of Westport Road Church, Louisville, was elected convention president during the Tuesday evening session of the KBC.

Lewis topped Don Mathis, pastor, Central Church, Corbin, in a runoff ballot, 430 to 330. John Wallace, pastor, Parkway Church, Lexington, was also on the first ballot.

Other convention officers were elected without opposition during the Wednesday morning session. Elected first vice president was J. Howard Cobble, pastor, Severns Valley Church, Elizabethtown. Keith Rogers, pastor, First Church, Loyall, was elected second vice president.

Leo T. Crismon of Louisville was re-elected convention secretary while G. Allen West of Louisville was reelected assistant secretary.

Ministers' wives are likened to magicians

by Janis Whipple, Staff Writer

After appetizers and a tour of the home of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary president and Mrs. Roy L. Honeycutt, more than 100 Kentucky Baptist ministers' wives gathered for fellowship and their annual KBC dinner meeting Nov. 13.

Mrs. Doris Mullendore, Kentucky state Woman's Missionary Union president, and Dee Gilliland, executive director of Kentucky Baptist Convention's WMU since Oct. 1, were honored guests at the Nov. 13 event.

David Garrard, professional magician and minister to children at St. Matthews Baptist Church, provided after dinner entertainment. In introducing him, Emily Tuck, 1983-84 program chairman, joked, "If you are a minister's wife, you are a magician—able to be two places at once, able to stretch a budget and able to juggle six things at once."

Officers elected for the 1984-85 year are Lexingtonians Peggy Justus, president, Porter Memorial Baptist Church; Anna White, vice president, Hillcrest Baptist Church; Mary Wallace, secretary-treasurer, Parkway Baptist Church; and Barbara Simmons, program chairman, Calvary Baptist Church.



Willis Henson [r], outgoing president, hands the gavel to new officers [l-r] Keith Rogers, second vice president; J. Howard Cobble, first vice president; and James B. Lewis, president.

Bingham, Snowden challenge educators

by Janis Whipple, Staff Writer

Featured guest Robert Bingham, director, Associational Administration Department, Home Mission Board, challenged the 50 persons at the annual Kentucky Baptist Religious Education Association's meeting to keep missions a part of their total church education program.

Later, Mark Snowden, Media Department director, Kentucky Baptist Convention, challenged and instructed the religious educators on use of media in the church. He presented information and guidance about ACTS (American Christian Television System) and BTN (Baptist Telecommunications Network) as tools for the education ministry.

In business, the association elected as officers for 1984-85: Bob Bailey, president, Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville; Bill Dick, president-elect, First Baptist Church, Bowling Green; and Paul Robinson, secretary-treasurer (a two-year position), St. Matthews Baptist Church, Louisville.

Outgoing president Glen Cummins, First Baptist Church, Mayfield, expressed his appreciation to Bailey and to Mike Harmon, Broadway Baptist Church, Lexington, for their work as 1983-84 president-elect and secretary-treasurer, respectively.

In addition, the group mentioned its spring retreat, to be held May 9-10 at Rough River State Park, and entertained adding a position to coordinate mission action involvement.

A motion was made and passed to raise annual membership dues in the association from \$5 to \$10 a year.

KBREA activities ended with a banquet held at the host church. David Garrard, professional magician and minister to children, St. Matthews Baptist Church, Louisville, provided entertainment for the banquet.

Convention personnel

Presidential appointments

The following chairmen of committees of the convention were named by newly elected KBC president James B. Lewis.

Committee on committees: Colbert E. Hooten, Independence
Committee on order of business: Verlin C. Kruschwitz, Louisville
Committee on credentials: Anna White, Lexington
Committee on arrangements: Dixie Mylum, Berea
Committee on resolutions: John Kruschwitz, Highland Heights
Committee on public affairs: Malcolm G. Lunceford, Frankfort
Committee on obituaries: Harold G. Polk, Lexington
Committee on constitution and bylaws: James Jones, Campbellsville
Committee on nominations: J. William Jones, London

Committee on nominations

Preacher of annual sermon for 1985: Glenn Armstrong, Beaver Dam
Alternate preacher for annual sermon: William E. Crosby, Erlanger

Executive Board

Association; Name, Home; Term ends
 Allen; Ron Bradley, Scottsville; 1986
 Bethel; Douglas Downing, Adams, Tenn.; 1985
 Boones Creek; James Smith, Irvine; 1986
 Bracken; Truett Cocanougher, Maysville; 1987
 Breckinridge; John Mark Gibson, Garfield; 1986
 Caldwell-Lyon; Steve R. Baker, Kuttawa; 1985
 Central; David Simpson, Springfield; 1986
 Christian County; E. D. Helton, Hopkinsville; 1987
 Daviess-McLean; Douglas Anderson, Livermore; 1987
 East Lynn; James R. Hagan, Campbellsville; 1987
 East Union; E. L. Alder Jr., Williamsburg; 1986
 Elkhorn; Richard T. Wilkins, Lexington; 1987
 Mary Wallace, Lexington; 1987
 James E. Heard, Lexington; 1987
 Enterprise; William R. Spradlin Jr., Auxier; 1987
 Franklin; Billy Hurt, Frankfort; 1987
 Anthony Dale Roberts, Frankfort; 1987
 Freedom; Lawrence Gardner, Burkesville; 1987
 Fulton; Mickey Hanks, Hickman; 1987
 Gasper River; Joe Bunch, Rochester; 1987
 Goshen; Walter Lay, Elizabethtown; 1987
 Graves County; Al Cobb, Mayfield; 1987
 Ken Abbott, Wingo; 1987
 Green Valley; Lester Nash, Henderson; 1987
 Henry County; Michael R. Duncan, Eminence; 1987
 Irvine; H. B. Edwards, Manchester; 1987
 Jackson County; -----; 1986

Laurel River; James L. Murphy Jr., London; 1987
 Liberty; Omar L. Barbour, Glasgow; 1987
 Lincoln County; Morris Trayner, Danville; 1987
 Lewis Walter, Stanford; 1987
 Little Bethel; H. Garrison Coltharp, Madisonville; 1987
 H. Guy Gordon, Earlington; 1987
 Logan; Ronnie R. Forrest, Lewisburg; 1985
 Long Run; Oscar Ray Roach, Louisville; 1987
 Daniel Powell, Louisville; 1987
 Wayne Padgett, Taylorsville; 1987
 Ron Yankey, Louisville; 1987
 Geoffrey Lacefield, Louisville; 1987
 Lynn Camp; Carl T. Evans, Corbin; 1987
 Mercer; Robert M. White, Harrodsburg; 1987
 Middle Fork; -----; 1986
 Mt. Zion; Don R. Mathis, Corbin; 1987
 Nelson; Dowling Runner, Shepherdsville; 1987
 E. T. Wright, Shepherdsville; 1987
 Northern Kentucky; John W. Kruschwitz, Highland Heights; 1986
 Ohio County; W. Leroy Dillehay, Fordsville; 1987
 Ohio River; Ray Cummins, Marion; 1985
 Pine Mountain; Donald R. Yeager, Cumberland; 1987
 Pulaski County; James E. Simpson, Pulaski; 1987
 Severns Valley; Earl Jones, Hodgenville; 1986
 Harmon Popham, Elizabethtown; 1987
 South Union; W. Bennie Bush, Williamsburg; 1985
 Taylor County; Howard Beauman, Campbellsville; 1987
 Three Forks; Ronald R. Sholar, Hazard; 1987
 Upper Cumberland; C. Keith Rogers, Loyall; 1987
 Robert Burkhart, Harlan; 1987
 Warren; Ronald Williams, Bowling Green; 1987
 Wayne County; Kendall Ramsey, Monticello; 1985

Western Recorder

Terms ending 1987:
 John Christian, Hopkinsville
 Clarence Benedict, Ft. Thomas
 H. Gary Coltharp, Madisonville
 George Smith, Leitchfield

Kentucky Baptist Foundation

Terms ending 1987:
 J. Paul Nelson, Louisville
 P. A. Stevens, Louisville
 Charles L. Westray, Louisville

Baptist Homes for Children

Term ending 1985:
 Lindsey Horn, Richmond

Terms ending 1988:
 B. H. Haile, Hopkinsville
 Mrs. Lillian Brown, Louisville
 Kenneth James, London
 Harold Skaggs, Cadiz
 R. Dwayne Conner, Mt. Washington
 Terrance Freeman, Lexington

Georgetown College

Terms ending 1988:
 Susan Carrington, Mt. Sterling
 Paul Parks, Bowling Green
 Phillip A. Cooley, Owensboro
 John Farmer, Louisville
 J. Robert White, Paducah
 Frances Woods, Paint Lick
 Leroy Highbaugh Jr., Louisville
 Minona McCall, Louisville
 Badgett Dillard, Louisville

Campbellsville College

Term ending 1987:
 Bruce Rendleman, Perryville

Terms ending 1988:
 Larry W. Brown, Winchester
 J. C. Riley, Lebanon
 C. Michael Watts, Columbia
 Dan C. McCubbins, Louisville
 Clay Simpson, Bowling Green
 Hunter Durham, Columbia
 Marilyn Sanders, Owensboro
 R. E. Blevins, Campbellsville
 Colburn Hooten, Hickory Grove

Cumberland College

Terms ending 1988:
 Jim C. Oakes, Corbin
 Paul Estes, Williamsburg
 Eugene Siler Jr., Williamsburg
 Herman Leick, Corbin

Clear Creek Baptist School

Terms ending 1987:
 Archie Oliver, Bremen
 Roy L. Carlton, Harlan
 G. T. Moody, Murray
 Roy S. Faulkner, Evarts
 Cecil Yeary, London
 Paul Parker, Corbin

Oneida Baptist Institute

Terms ending 1988:
 Harold Mauney, Williamsburg
 Denvis Rush, Manchester
 John Holloway, Alexandria
 Donald F. Coleman, Valley Station

Historical Commission

Term ending 1985:
 Julia Neal, Bowling Green

Terms ending 1987:
 Wendell Rone Sr., Owensboro
 Jewel Barrett, Paducah
 Larry Smith, Louisville

Baptist Hospitals Inc.

Terms ending 1988:
 Franklin Owen, Middletown
 James B. Lewis, Louisville
 James Wieland, Lexington
 Leonard V. Hardin, Louisville
 G. Stanton Marcum, Keene
 John Cook, Mayfield

Temperance League of Kentucky

Terms ending 1987:
 Roy Lewis, Ashland
 Mike Franklin, Princeton
 E. C. Dockery, Allensville
 Charles Hedrick, Mt. Vernon
 Carl Gray, Cadiz

Committee on committees

Committee on order of business

Terms ending 1986:
 Leon Greer, Louisa
 Herschel D. Morgan, Benton

Committee on credentials

Terms ending 1986:
 J. Chester Badgett, Campbellsville
 Lee Molloy, Paducah
 Anna White, Lexington

Committee on arrangements

Terms ending 1986:
 Ronald L. Burdon, Frankfort
 Deward Hurst, Paducah

Committee on resolutions

Terms ending 1986:
 H. Gary Coltharp, Madisonville
 Curtis H. Warf, Richmond

Committee on public affairs

Terms ending 1986:
 John E. Dunn, Owensboro
 Ronald W. Higdon, Louisville

Committee on obituaries

Terms ending 1985:
 Omar L. Barbour, Glasgow
 Mrs. Wilbur Hutchinson, Dry Ridge
 Harold G. Polk, Lexington
 Terry Sills, Hardin
 Franklin Skaggs, Princeton

Committee on constitution and bylaws

Terms ending 1987:
 J. Howard Cobble, Elizabethtown
 James Jones, Campbellsville
 Ernest Martin, Danville

Committee on nominations

Terms ending 1986:
North Central Region
 G. Truett Cocanougher, Maysville
Northeastern Region
 Ronald H. Barnett, Meta
 Carl D. Mullins, West Liberty
Southeastern Region
 Ben Baird, Hazard
 Denvis Rush, Manchester
Southern Region
 Ronald H. Bradley, Scottsville
South Central Region
 Kay Trisler, Harrodsburg
Southwestern Region
 William P. Cubine, Paducah
Western Region
 Carson D. Bevil, Owensboro
 Archie Oliver, Bremen
Central Region
 Alan Jolly, Louisville
 William Earl Pike, Bloomfield

Special reports

Cooperative Program:
 Bill Messer, Ashland
 Alternate Emery Gullion, Glencoe
Home Missions:
 Harold Greenfield, Princeton
 Alternate Wendell Romans, Lexington
Foreign Missions:
 R. Donald Mantooth, Morehead
 Alternate Peggy Hicks, Louisville
Conventionwide Education:
 Badgett Dillard, Louisville
 Alternate Dudley Thomas Pomeroy, Pineville

KBC speakers call for missions emphasis

'Divided SBC needs mind of Christ'

by Janis Whipple, Staff Writer

"In a day of division and an hour of hostility in the Southern Baptist Convention it is imperative that every Southern Baptist seek to know and have the mind of Christ," H. Franklin Paschall declared in the closing moments of the 1984 Kentucky Baptist Convention.

His message, "Having the mind of Christ," was the final address of the annual meeting.

Paschall, who retired last year as pastor of First Baptist Church, Nashville, related the mind of Christ to "great condescension." Jesus came "down from heaven to earth, from glory to shame, from holiness to sin; down from God to man, from man to servant man, from servant man to death, from death to the death of the cross . . ."

"The death of our Lord Jesus Christ at the cross shows how much he loves us and how much he will do to help us," Paschall explained. "This was and is the mind of Christ."

Paschall then went on to ask, "How can we have the mind of Christ? 'One, we must forsake selfish ambition. A person who is set on self service cannot be trusted to do good for others.'"

"Second, we must serve others . . . from sheer love which is unselfish, unconditional and eternal."

The third way to have the mind of Christ, Paschall stated, is to "serve others even if it means sacrifice."

"We have forgotten the servant image of the man of God, the church of God and the denomination of God," he charged.

He asked Southern Baptists to recapitulate the mind of Christ in this time of polarization.

"No church can do its work well when it is divided and groups growl and

factions fight. Neither can the Southern Baptist Convention serve well in its present divided state," Paschall exclaimed. "A split or splintering is not only possible but inevitable unless we mend our ways. I know we can and I believe we will mend our ways."

He suggested that "the Baptist Faith and Message is a good and acceptable basis for our fellowship and the solution to our problems. With this basis let those who have sharp differences talk and pray, pray and talk until a way is found for us to be one people once more in faith and mission."

"Then we can have an open convention, letting the Lord lead us in all matters, including the election of the president, trusting one another to do what is right before God."

Pursuant to his remarks, Paschall recommended "that the Southern Baptist Convention authorize the appointment of a committee which would include representatives of our agencies and leaders of the conservative group who feel there has been a departure from what is commonly believed among us . . . This committee would report to the Southern Baptist Convention as soon as possible on specific ways to effect reconciliation, strengthen unity and equip us to meet the awesome challenge of today's world with the glorious gospel of Christ."

Along the same lines of Southern Baptists' missions imperative, Landrum P. Leavell, president, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, challenged messengers to consider their role in Bold Mission Thrust. "It (Bold Mission Thrust) captivates the imagination and stirs the soul of everyone who is a believer of Jesus as Lord."

Leavell concluded, "What we need is revival and revival can start in our hearts right now."

In Tuesday evening's address, lis-

teners were challenged to actively take their dreams of Bold Mission Thrust and turn them into reality through missions involvement in the Kentucky-Ohio partnership.

Tal D. Bonham, executive secretary, Ohio Baptist Convention, remarked, "The image of Southern Baptists is merely a reflection of our priorities—missions and evangelism based on a strong view of the lordship of Jesus Christ and the Bible as the inspired word of God."

"It is in the context of those priorities," he continued, "that Kentucky and Ohio joined in a mission partnership to help evangelize Ohio."

As many as 250 to 300 Kentucky churches have helped Ohio churches in the past 34 months, Bonham reported.

"We dreamed a good dream. A part of that dream has become reality," Bonham concluded. "We now ask you to help us dream our dream in Ohio."

Messengers attending Thursday's session also heard James H. Taylor, president, Cumberland College, who spoke on the place of Christian higher education in today's society. He emphasized society's move toward "the false god of materialism and technology . . . More and more we hear the gospel of success and less and less the gospel of sacrifice, service and faithfulness."

"But," he continued, "there is an alternative found at the cross at Calvary where the incentive for wealth and power and position is balanced with compassion and concern and commitment . . . Man's nature must be changed and the church-related college can help do it through showing the redemptiveness of Christ's love."

"Our colleges all serve the convention," Taylor continued, "but we serve in different ways. . . . We are all children of the convention. . . . And our colleges help the convention through our alumni, through our friends, through our commitment."

Taylor thanked Kentucky Baptists for their support of Christian higher education. He concluded, "I believe it is imperative that our denomination have colleges with which to relate, to criticize, to cajole, to compliment, but most importantly, to love and to call our own. Our colleges bring rewards and disappointments, laughter and tears, but they also bring hope for the future and a chance for upward mobility and Christian leadership."



Leon Simpson
President
Clear Creek Baptist School
Pineville, KY 40977

clear creek comment

Burying unthankfulness

I was reading in Paul's second letter to Timothy recently and a word leaped out and grabbed me. In speaking of the perilous times in the last days, Paul stated, "Men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful . . ." (2 Tim. 3:2).

This word "unthankful" touched a responsive chord in my heart for I am convinced that we live in an unthankful age. Man's tendency toward cultivating an unthankful spirit is a principle found down through the ages of history. In Rom. 1:21 as the downward path of mankind is charted, we are told men "when they knew God . . . glorified him not as God, neither were thankful."

I am convinced the devil wants to lead all mankind deeper and deeper into a snarling, biting, fighting, unthankful state. And I am equally convinced our mighty savior through his Spirit is working to develop thankfulness and a thankful spirit in his people.

How can I develop a more thankful spirit in my life? Let me share just one principle which has been helpful to me in my pilgrimage through life.

I have learned (perhaps I should say I am beginning to learn) to jettison unwelcome baggage of the past in my life. "Backward, turn backward, O time in your flight; make me a child again just for tonight" is a wonderful experience occasionally for one night. It is an unhealthy exercise for every night.

We should learn to say (or sing with Bob Hope), "thanks for the memories," then turn to the present to live. Dwelling constantly with memories can lead to self-pity and discouragement that 'things aren't like they used to be.' The resulting depression and despair makes us unhappy and ineffectual Christians. Memories make wonderful foundations but we must build houses of the present on these foundations in which to live.

My failures are also part of my unwelcome baggage of the past. I have never met a man who was a total object of failure in life, but I have encountered some men who thought they were. I can confess my sins and failures to God, accept his forgiveness and face the world as one of God's clean and happy children.

During this thanksgiving season I am grateful I do not have to carry the unwelcome baggage of the past. I am thankful I can bury the unthankful spirit which threatens my happy Christian life.



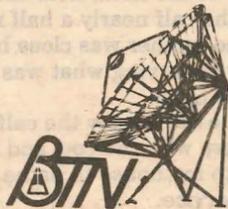
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Barkley Moore
President
Oneida Baptist Institute
Oneida, KY 40972

oneida journal

A mother's plea

A Catholic mother brought her two sons to Oneida one August from a large Kentucky city. The boys had been raised without a father, victims of divorce. The older boy, Jim, was 14 years old, six feet tall, wore a size 14 shoe, and was an eighth grader. Chris was one year younger, a little over four feet tall, and a sixth grader.

Both boys, fine young men, were rather homesick those first weeks. This is very normal and I had warned them and their mother this would happen. Several weeks after their arrival their mother came unexpectedly one morning to take them from the school. Asked why, she replied, "They are so unhappy. They telephone crying."

I lost my temper and told her in the strongest terms of the mistake she was about to make. I asked her if she were prepared for her boys, perhaps, to become "dropouts" in a few more years, running the streets of her city on "pot" or drunk and undisciplined. Such is the story of thousands of young teenagers raised without a man's discipline, mother having to work and be father and mother.

I told her not to give in to the temporary weakness of her sons and herself, thus depriving her children of what Oneida could give them. I asked her to get back in her car and go home where she belonged. She listened and

left her boys with us.

The boys had a most happy and successful year. Chris made great progress. Jim ranked highest academically in our eighth grade that year.

The following letter came from their mother.

"I lost my job in January. That came as quite a shock. Then, in February, I went through a terrifying cancer scare. My parents are dead. Ours is not a close family. The boy's father thinks only of himself. Since November, the support checks have been very sporadic. All this is to let you know I will eventually pay all bills incurred.

I have thought of asking you to let the boys stay this summer to work for part of their room and board. It has been such a relief knowing they have been well taken care of. I pray you will not refuse the boys at least for the next school year.

"Who would have thought that things would progress to this point? When I came to take them that day you didn't realize the tremendous pressure I was under. Not only were the boys homesick, but many people felt I had made a very bad decision. I was told I was not a fit mother, some people see this as 'sending' them away, not loving them. However, my children ARE the most important things in my life and I've got to do all I can to give them the very best life has to offer and I'm convinced that is Oneida for now.

"I'm not afraid of your turning them into Baptists. If they told me that is what they want, I know they would be saved. It happens to be a family joke that Chris will be a Baptist minister. I really wouldn't mind if it will keep him out of jail someday! Knowing the agony of some parents whose sons are in prison makes it all very real to me. My goal is not to keep them from becoming Baptists but to save them and turn them to Jesus.

"Your school and faculty are fantastic. You have given my sons hope and pride in themselves. Thank you again for your tremendous effort to save all our young people. I recommend you to all the parents I know and many wish they had heard of your school years ago before it was too late for their young ones."

Reprinted from May 20, 1981



H. C. Chiles
Clear Creek Baptist School,
Pineville, KY 40977

sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR NOV. 25, 1984

Life and Work Series

Through the church

Acts 20:18-28 Wanting to arrive in Jerusalem for the feast of Pentecost but unwilling to go without some word with the Ephesian Christians, Paul sent an invitation to their leaders to meet him in Miletus. When they met he reminded them of the spirit and character of his ministry in their church and challenged them to mention one thing about it that was subject to suspicion.

There was no arrogance or self-assertiveness in Paul. Instead of being self-seeking, he served the Lord with humility. Paul publicly and sincerely proclaimed the necessity of repentance toward God and faith in Christ. Day and night he prayed, preached, pleaded and persuaded to the best of his ability, sincerely hoping his listeners would believe on Christ.

Paul's ministry in Ephesus had been characterized by humility, earnestness, patience, boldness, zeal and faithfulness. Because of his Christlike actions, his kind words and his love during his tenure in their church, Paul was very dear to these leaders. Reminding them that quite likely they would not see him again on earth, Paul challenged them to be faithful to Christ, to be zealous in their work for their Lord, to guard their church from the intrusion of the wrong, and to build upon the word of God through the enabling power of God.

With Paul, the matter of supreme importance was the will of God in any and all matters—first, discovering it and, second, doing it.

Believing the Lord wanted him to go to Jerusalem, he resolved to do so, even though he did not have any idea of the hardships he might encounter. Expecting difficulties and likely imprisonment, the apostle fully intended to make the trip through the enabling power of the Holy Spirit regardless of the consequences. He was determined to proclaim the gospel of Christ and to testify for him regardless of the consequences to himself, firmly believing that any service rendered for the Lord would be rewarded in God's own time and manner. None of his friends or admirers could have persuaded Paul to stay away from Jerusalem.

International Series

Holding on to the truth

2 Thessalonians 2:1-15 The Thessalonian believers had not been Christians very long so they were in need of instruction in the things of the Lord. Paul was convinced that eventually they would be saved from the presence of sin. Without hesitation the apostle expressed genuine thanks to God through whose grace they had been saved.

In the two epistles he wrote to them, Paul answered various questions which had arisen. He reproved the Thessalonians for allowing certain false teachers and deceivers to lead them astray from the truth. Paul exhorted them to hold fast and live by the truths of the Christian faith which had been taught by him, which glorious truths had been proved repeatedly to the complete satisfaction of their fathers. He admonished them to remain steadfast in their beliefs, knowing full well such perseverance would result in right conduct in their lives.

We need to be reminded that as the time draws nearer for the return of Christ the dissemination of false doctrines and defection from the Christian faith will become more prevalent and widespread than they were in Paul's day. For this reason we should remain firmly grounded in the word of God, refuse to be moved from the truth by the wiles of Satan, and be faithful in sharing God's truth with all who are on the earthly scene. Then when the Lord removes us from the presence of sin we shall share in his glory.



William W. (Bill) Marshall
Executive Secretary-Treasurer, KBC
Box 43433,
Middletown, KY 40243

on mission together

For your enjoyment I share with you this writing of R. Gene Puckett, editor of Biblical Recorder, North Carolina:

"Thanksgiving eve was the time for the annual dinner and worship service in the village church of my ancestors. That Wednesday evening service was anticipated and planned for weeks in advance.

"Crowds were always large, the food supply and quality unsurpassed. From the fellowship hall, everyone went to the sanctuary. What follows took place 35 years ago.

"My maternal grandfather, the greatest human influence in my life, gave me opportunities to work on his farm and raise cattle and cash-producing crops. Because he loved me so much and was so generous with me, I loved and respected him more than words can express.

"We were at the barn doing chores early so we could get to church for that special evening of fellowship and

worship. 'Pap,' as I affectionately called my grandfather, commented to me as we were milking that one of the cows had given birth to a calf that afternoon in the back pasture. Already well into years, he admitted he did not feel up to carrying the young calf to the barn. As though he were assuring himself, he said, 'It's near the timber and the mother will stay with it until tomorrow. It will be alright!'

"We finished our work and he headed to the white farmhouse in which I was born to cleanup for church.

"I headed for the back pasture. In the crisp November night I found the shivering calf and its bawling mother at the edge of the field, near the trees. I carried the calf nearly a half mile to the barn. The mother was close behind, carefully observing what was happening to her baby.

"At the barn I saw the calf was warm and secure with the cow and then headed to my house to bathe and dress for the service.

"Hours later as we came out of the

sanctuary we discovered an early snow had covered the earth while we were inside. My tall, lean grandfather looked up in the darkness of the sky with huge snowflakes falling into his face and mumbled, 'Well, I guess I lost a calf tonight.'

"I said softly to Pap: 'No, the calf is in the barn. I brought it in before I came to church.' His only answer was, 'I'm glad you did.'

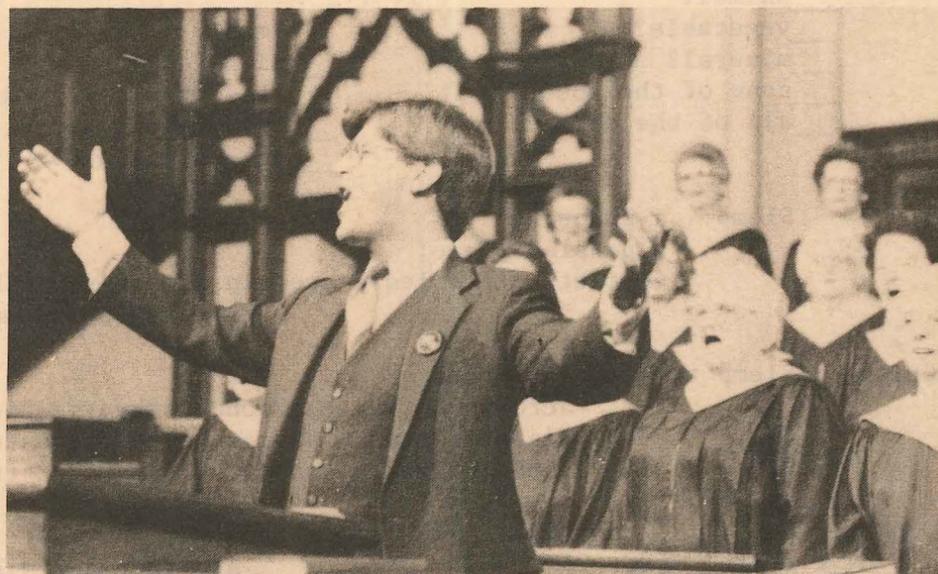
"Months passed and the calf was ready for market. As the beeves were prodded into the truck Pap pointed to the Thanksgiving eve calf and said, 'He is yours. If it had not been for you he would not be here.'

"No single experience in my life has made such a profound impression of the worth of reciprocal gratitude. At 16, I learned when you do the right thing for the people you love, someday they will let you know they appreciate what you have done and what you are.

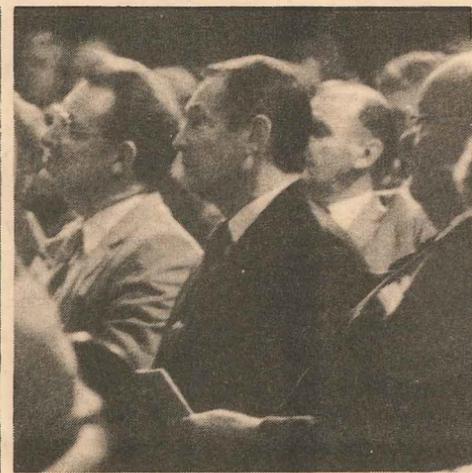
"You understand why I love Thanksgiving. May yours be blessed by God and man."



KENTUCKY



Keenager choir from Latonia church, Covington, leads Wednesday's theme interpretation.



Randy Bratcher [l] helps accompany the music of the Kentucky Baptist Chorale while convention leaders look on.



Tellers count the ballots in Tuesday's presidential runoff.



Willis Henson offers the presidential address.

