

Harold G. Polk, executive director of Elkhorn Baptist Association, Lexington, was honored at the annual Home Mission Conference at Ridgecrest, N. C. earlier this month with the designation 'outstanding missionary in a metropolitan association.'

Elkhorn director Polk tapped SBC 'outstanding missionary'

Harold G. Polk, executive director of Elkhorn Baptist Association, has been named by the Home Mission Board as outstanding missionary in a metropolitan association.

Polk, 63, has been at his present position since 1970. A native of Monticello, Ga., Polk is a graduate of East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C.

Before going to the Elkhorn post Polk was pastor of Millville Baptist Church, Frankfort.

Since Polk's arrival at Elkhorn, the association has grown from 57 to 68 churches with membership climbing from 38,453 to 42,105. The budget has increased from \$26,088 annually to \$132,765.

He has been instrumental in developing a pastoral support program.

Continuing education, support groups, vocational counseling and search committee assistance are available on the associational level.

At the same time Polk has been assisting pastors he has been encouraging laymen to take active roles in associational life. He led a campaign soon after taking the job to train laymen to speak in churches on behalf of associational missions. Since 1973 the association has never failed to exceed its budget.

The association was the first in Kentucky to subscribe to Baptist Telecommunication Network, the satellite network of the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Other accomplishments include the construction of a new office building and the addition of a social ministries director.



McCall



Williams



Sheppard



Ham

BSU convention Sept. 27-29 at First, Richmond

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

With the theme "Jesus Said, 'Follow Me!'" Baptist students from college campuses across Kentucky will gather in Richmond Sept. 27-29 for the 1985 Baptist student convention.

Meeting with Richmond's First Baptist Church the annual event will be hosted by BSU members at Eastern Kentucky University.

Principal speakers include Emmanuel L. McCall, director, Black Church Relations Department, Home Mission Board, Atlanta, Ga., and C. Benton Williams, director, Missions and Church Services Division, Kentucky Baptist Convention, Middletown.

McCall will be Bible study leader in three of the sessions. Williams will be inspirational speaker in the first session, Friday evening.

Saturday evening Tim Sheppard, a Christian concert artist, will perform a 75-minute Christian contemporary music program. Sheppard annually performs more than 100 such concerts. He has appeared in more than 40 states and several countries.

Students will select from nearly 20 seminars in interest areas of their choice Saturday morning. Each seminar will be offered twice so a student may make two choices.

Music for the convention will be directed by Richard Ham, minister of music at the host church. Host pastor is Curtis Warf, who will preach Sunday morning during the church's worship hour, final service of the student convention.

Special music will be provided during the convention by the BSU choir of Georgetown (Ky.) College and a BSU ensemble from Centre College, Danville.

The weekend also includes student missions testimonies, theme interpretations by various campus groups, a fellowship at the ECU BSU student center, a business session, invitation service and campus prayer group meetings.

Don Blaylock is director of the state Student Department in Middletown. The current president of the state BSU, who will preside in Richmond, is Angela Perkins of the University of Louisville.

Three named Recorder stringers in south, west and east regions

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

Three women have been appointed state correspondents by Western Recorder this summer. A fourth has been reassigned to new territory as a reporter.

The three new stringers include Mrs. Bettie W. Crosson, 137 Hi-Haven Ct., Glasgow, KY 42141; Mrs. Glenda W. Garrison, Rte. 1, Box 328, West Paducah, KY 42086; and Mrs. Cindy C. Stepp, Alice Lloyd College, Pippa Passes, KY 41844.

Mrs. Kima Jude, formerly of Campbellsville, has moved to Harrodsburg. Her previous territory has been increased by the addition of Mercer Association.

The state correspondents or stringers prepare copy on assignment for publication in the pages of Western Recorder.

er, often submitting their own story ideas to editors for possible development. The commonwealth is divided into 16 regions, each consisting of two to 10 Baptist associations. The stringers live in the territories for which they write.

The program was begun in 1981 as an effort to take Western Recorder near the people it most represents. Literally scores, perhaps hundreds of stringer-produced articles have appeared in the publication since the program's inception.

Mrs. Crosson, 49, is an author, popular women's conference leader and retreat speaker and Christian homemaker.

A native of Ringgold, Ga., she is a graduate of Tennessee Temple University, Chattanooga, and did graduate work at Xavier University, Cincinnati, Oh., and Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green. She is married to Merrill R. Crosson, minister of visitation and organist at Glasgow Baptist Church. They are parents of a daughter, 21, and a son, 10.

Mrs. Crosson has written *Beware! Be Wise* and is presently at work on her second book. She is a Sunday school teacher in her church and conducts a Bible class for women each week.

She is responsible for reporting in Western Recorder on activities in these associations: Allen, Freedom, Liberty, Lynn, Monroe.

Mrs. Garrison, 40, is a church



Mrs. Crosson



Mrs. Stepp

secretary and Christian homemaker.

A native of Paducah, she lived there and in Michigan and Benton, Ky. as a child. Married to evangelist Donald Ray Garrison, she is the mother of three children, boys 16 and 14 and a girl, 11.

Mrs. Garrison is assistant teacher in an adult department and a Girls in Action leader at Paducah's First Baptist Church. She is on the staff of Baptist Tabernacle, Paducah.

She is responsible for reporting on these associations: Fulton, Graves County, West Kentucky, West Union.

Mrs. Stepp, 26, is an admissions officer at Alice Lloyd College and a Christian homemaker.

A native of Hopkinsville, she is a graduate of Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, where she completed journalism courses and was a contributor to the school yearbook and newspaper. She also does public relations writing for the college which employs her.

She is married to Joseph A. Stepp, a college coach and instructor. They have no children.

Mrs. Stepp is a Sunday school teacher in the youth division of Caney Baptist Church, Pippa Passes.

She is responsible for reporting on these associations: Middle Fork, Pine Mountain, Three Forks, Upper Cumberland.

Others presently serving in Western Recorder's stringer program are:

Mrs. Pauline Stegall, Salem, Bob C. Hardison, Sebree; Mrs. Betty Anderson, Livermore; Richard F. Hale, Bowling Green; Susan M. Shaw, Louisville; Robin Oldham, Georgetown; Mrs. Suzanne Darland, Independence; Joseph A. Stephenson Sr., Stanton; Glenn Mollette, Pikeville; Mrs. Beth Wyatt, London; Mrs. Denise Spencer, Somerset.

There is presently one vacancy to be filled in the roster, with an announcement expected soon concerning that appointment.

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Aug. 27, 1985

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sanford's perspectives



Jack D. Sanford

Satisfying the critics

Three incidents in these days of late summer deserve serious consideration by all Southern Baptists.

The disturbing incidents are first, the Home Mission Board's discussion and action on support for Janet Fuller for a position at Yale and four other Connecticut campuses. The second incident is the recent removal of Howard Bramlette as editor of *The Student*, which led to his resignation from BSSB employment. The final incident is the action of the BSSB concerning errors in the July 7 Sunday school lesson on Job.

What is clear from the news releases is that Janet Fuller's status as an ordained minister angered some members of the HMB.

Bramlette's removal was apparently prompted by recent criticism of two articles in *The Student*, one on ordination of women, the other on political religion in America.

The Job lesson drew an expression of regret from members of the BSSB for errors in that lesson. Attention was called to the errors after 155 letters and telephone calls were made to the BSSB to object to the lesson content.

What are we to make of all this? First, the matter of Sunday school lessons demands serious, reflective writers who are in touch with main stream Baptist life as that life is lived by thousands of people who study the lesson material.

Job is filled with pitfalls for those who want simplistic answers to the great dilemmas of life. The book is also treacherous terrain for scholars who seek to give answers to complex problems in a Sunday school quarterly. Questions about authorship, date, location, purpose, even the identification of the main characters pose serious, difficult problems which cannot be answered fully in the format of a Sunday school quarterly.

The average Baptist is not asking those questions anyway. He is asking for help in dealing with the problems of life, not who wrote Job, what year it was written, who is the character who appears with the sons of God in the prologue. The average Baptist believes that character was the Devil, period. This average Baptist has a right to receive a straight forward response from lesson writers, not speculation about theological questions that tantalize scholars but answer none of life's problems. I congratulate the BSSB for prompt attention to this matter and their willingness to accept blame. It is unfortunate this incident ever happened, but all of us are human.

Questions raised about support for Janet Fuller because she was an ordained minister are no concern of the HMB. Ordination has never been a requirement among Baptists for appointment to any position. Ordination has always been considered a local church matter. Any denominational agency which imposes itself into that process, either by judging for or against merit because of ordination, is out of line. I congratulate the slim majority (37-34) who saw the right and prevailed.

The case of Howard Bramlette is not as clear. The implication is that criticism of certain materials in *The Student* were found objectionable, but by whom? Were there 155 calls and letters? 250? 10? perhaps just one?

I read and re-read the articles in question and believe they were not inappropriate in a magazine for college students. Both articles raised provocative questions, but addressing provocative questions is what being a student is all about.

You can be sure students are aware of the political nature of some religious expression in America. They also are aware of the struggle by women to gain more prominence in church life. To ignore those issues in a Baptist student magazine is to make Baptists irrelevant to real life.

If printing those two stories is all that prompted Bramlette's removal, then somebody at the BSSB made a sad mistake and whoever supports that decision is wrong.

I suspect there is more to the story, but the BSSB policy of "not releasing detailed information about personnel matters" is both a safeguard for employees and a deterrent to full information. That policy leaves questions unanswered in the matter of editor Bramlette.

What is clear is that pressure was put on the BSSB. What bothers me is that pressure from persons who disagree puts into jeopardy the professional lives of competent, dedicated Christians. Should our agencies and institutions run scared? How can any progress in spreading the gospel be made if every action must be universally accepted by such a diverse body as the SBC?

Agency heads and institutional directors have a responsibility to express their gifts in leadership and make decisions. That is why they were elected to head up the organization in the first place. They also have a responsibility to stay in step with their constituency and reflect what is generally acceptable to that group. This is a road with many pot holes, some of which are deep and dangerous. Though the road is rough, people whom we ask to lead us must never be intimidated into cowardice or capitulation.

No pastor submits his sermons to anyone for approval. He presents his work to God as an act of service in the firm belief that he is doing right by his congregation. Even so must the people who staff our agencies and institutions do their work as a ministry to God in the firm belief they are doing right in the eyes of most supporters. Pastors and denominational workers may discover they were out of step and must adjust or move on. This is rare because most pastors and denominational workers try to stay in touch with their people and accomplish this more often than not.

If objections and criticism determined the direction to be taken, then not a single Baptist state paper would be on the scene today. It is not unusual for the same mail to bring criticism and praise for the same item. The editor makes choices and writes as an act of service to God and firmly believes he is doing what is right in the eyes of most of the people. Sometimes he is right, sometimes he is wrong. But he cannot be a slave to criticism. The same is true with our agencies and institutions.

I applaud our trustees for the hard decisions they make. I pledge my prayers for them. I pray they will not be bulldozed by criticism from a few, but that they will know when to act in the best interest of all Baptists.

I also pray they will hear when people speak and take seriously the needs of all the constituency, not just those who always object. Yet they must hear the objections, because sometimes the objections are legitimate and the criticisms reflect a situation which needs correcting. I do not think this was the case with Bramlett, and thus the full story is not known.

It is not easy to be in a position of responsibility in Baptist life today. Our leaders need our support, our prayers and our gentle reminders whenever they make mistakes.

western recorder

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

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baptist news in brief

Kentucky pastor dies in Herrington Lake

Odell Leigh, 57, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, South District Association, took his own life this past week.

According to friends, Leigh was despondent over recent financial matters. It was apparently this despondency which prompted Leigh to jump from the Kennedy Bridge into Herrington Lake. The body was recovered several hours later.

Leigh was a graduate of Georgetown College and Southern Seminary. His career included successful pastorates in the following Kentucky Baptist churches: Locust Grove, Carlisle; Ewing, Ewing; Bullitt Lick, Shepherdsville; Second Baptist, Greenville; and First Baptist, Danville. Following his Danville pastorate, he served as financial development director for Campbellsville College.

Funeral services were held for the Eubanks, Ky. native at First Baptist Church, Danville, Friday, Aug. 23.

Leigh is survived by his wife, Virginia, and four children: Norman, Iris, Dana and Kenwyn.



Leigh

Involuntary termination is topic of conference

The Family Ministry and Church Administration Department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention is sponsoring a conference Sept. 23-25 for ministers who have been involuntarily terminated.

The conference will identify factors that lead to the involuntary termination of pastors and church staff members.

Other issues to be covered include unresolved anger and hurt, assessment of ministerial strengths and weaknesses, impact on the minister's family, financial resources and assessing strengths and weaknesses of churches.

The KBC will pay for the conferees' meals, lodging and travel expenses. Spouses of those who have been involuntarily terminated are also encouraged to attend.

"This (conference) is being provided because there is the strong desire to learn what brings about such circumstances and to minister to those experiencing termination," said C. Vernon Cole, director of the Family Ministry and Church Administration Dept.

If you know ministers who could benefit from this conference, you can refer their names by writing to the Family Ministry and Church Administration Dept., Box 43433, Middletown, KY 40243-0433 or by calling 502-245-4101.

Schools of Discipleship scheduled next month

Two area Schools of Discipleship will be held in western Kentucky next month.

Sponsored by the Church Training Department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and local associations, the schools will be held Sept. 3 at First Baptist Church, Paducah, and Sept. 5 at Second Baptist Church, Greenville. The schools will feature a doctrinal

study and an overview of several Equipping Center modules.

The doctrinal topic of the Paducah school will be "The Doctrine of the Laity." Sessions will be from 9:15 a.m.-12 noon and from 7-9:15 p.m. Further information can be obtained by contacting the West Union Association office.

The Greenville school will study "The Doctrine of Christ." The session will be from 7-9:15 p.m. More details can be obtained by contacting the Muhlenberg Association office.

Three join faculty at Southwestern Seminary

James L. Heflin, Penrose St. Amant and James D. Crane have been named to teaching posts at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex.

Heflin, 42, will be associate professor of preaching. He moves from a similar position at New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary, where he has taught since 1982.

Heflin was pastor of churches in Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas and Mississippi. He is a former trustee of Southwestern. Heflin holds a degree in history from University of Arkansas at Monticello, in addition to MDiv and ThD degrees from Southwestern.

He and his wife, Wilma, have one son, James David, 16.

St. Amant, senior professor of church history at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., will be guest professor in church history. He has earned degrees, including two doctorates, from Louisiana College, Pineville, La., and New Orleans Seminary. He also studied at Union Theological Seminary and Columbia University, New York, the University of Paris and Zurich University.

St. Amant, 70, has taught at Hannibal LaGrange College, Hannibal, Mo., New Orleans Seminary and Southern Seminary, where he was formerly dean of the School of Theology. His works include two books and numerous articles and pamphlets. He and his wife, Jessie, reside in Bay St. Louis, Miss.

Crane, 68, will be guest professor in missions. He and his wife, Edith, are former missionaries to Mexico. They previously served English and Spanish-speaking churches in Texas, including First Mexican Baptist Church, Ft. Worth. Crane has taught at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Cal. and at Southwestern Seminary. The Ft. Worth resident holds degrees from the University of Texas and Southwestern Seminary. (BP)

Better counseling needed at church decision time

One reason Southern Baptist churches are losing so many converts to other religions or to inactivity is that they received inadequate counseling at the time they made public decisions, according to Roy Edgemon.

Edgemon, director of the Baptist Sunday School Board's Church Training Department, said during Church Training Leadership Conference at Glorieta, N. M., "We are not growing because we are losing so many people we baptize. I think we're losing most of them at the altar."

Edgemon believes people respond to the invitation at the end of the worship service in genuine awareness of their need for salvation. However, they don't receive adequate information to understand the implications of their decision

or their need for further study in order to grow in their faith.

He advocates training laypersons to counsel persons making professions of faith, rededications, vocational decisions or others. After the pastor talks briefly with each person, a trained counselor takes the person to another room to talk about the decision.

Edgemon cited a study showing that 87 percent of persons received for membership in Southern Baptist churches between 1969 and 1980 received no member training. "We must come to a point where we're sure people are saved," said Edgemon. "Then we must do all we can to help them get started in becoming grounded in their faith." (BP)

Struggling church willed gift of new parsonage

A loyal housekeeper and Sunday morning radio broadcasts combined to change the life of an invalid millionaire. Her will changed the economic future of a struggling church in Hood River, Ore.

In 1983 Celia Dexter, the mother of 12 and grandmother of 30, needed a job after her husband died. She went to work as a live-in housekeeper for Louise Down, a prominent citizen of the community whose family had considerable real estate holdings.

Mrs. Down, at age 88, was still making money in the stock market, Mrs. Dexter said, and handling all of her own accounts. Every day she would read the Wall Street Journal and on Friday nights she would always listen to the Dow Jones stock report.

But there was another program she always listened to. Tucker Road Baptist Church, where Mrs. Dexter was a long time and regular member, broadcasts its Sunday morning worship service each week on a local radio station and Mrs. Down never missed it.

Last fall Mrs. Down began to write once a month to pastor Maury Houghland and send a "tithing" to the church, Mrs. Dexter said. In December Houghland received a letter that disturbed him. "She said she wanted me to pray for her when she died and that bothered me. I sensed she was lost and that I needed to go visit her."

He did and came to the conclusion Mrs. Down thought she could work or buy her way into heaven. She had been a good person, he explained, and had given generously to several churches and organizations around town. But Houghland shared that it was by grace and not works that you are saved and in the month to follow Mrs. Down became a Christian. Houghland believes "It was Celia ministering to her every day and living out the Christian life before Mrs. Down that reached her."

Then illness struck. In February of this year, Mrs. Down became sick with a tumor on her brain. In May she died. In her will she left nearly \$2 million to the county to build a retirement center with nursing facilities for Hood River citizens and she left her home and its contents to the Tucker Road Baptist Church for a parsonage. Interestingly, the bequest came shortly after Houghland had been notified he must move from the house he had been renting because it had been sold.

To a church averaging 45 to 55 in Sunday school, such a generous gift was quite a boost. "I feel like God really provided for our church," Houghland said. "We will always be able to provide a place for the pastor whether it's me or someone else to stay. And that's important when you can't afford a big salary." (BP)



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

homes for children

School days

Very often I see a truck by the roadside with fruits and vegetables for sale. Today I saw a truck by the roadside selling school supplies. I do not need to remind you that "school days" are here again. Advertisements are everywhere telling of back-to-school bargains. Parents have been trying to get their children ready for school, shopping both for school clothes and school supplies. Concerned people have formed groups to help those who do not have the money to buy basic school supplies.

Baptist Homes for Children serves as parent to the many boys and girls in our care. These young people are experiencing school days again, too. We have the responsibility of providing school clothes, pencils, paper, notebooks, etc., as well as the school fees for each one. This is expensive for a family with two or three children in school. But with Baptist Homes for Children the cost is multiplied many times and is a tremendous amount.

Have you wondered how we meet this added expense? We are able to meet it because of our many friends who care about dependent children. Such friends in support make it possible to send the children in our care to school properly dressed and with sufficient supplies.

A "back-to-school" letter has been sent to our many friends and the response is very encouraging. While circumstances make it impossible for some to send money, yet they join in special prayer for this ministry. God is answering their prayers as people who can send us gifts for those extra school expenses. The gifts come in all sizes, from one dollar to hundreds of dollars. When these gifts are put together, they make a mighty stream of support for which we are most thankful.

Another source of help is our Women's Advisory Board and their network of Child Care Representatives all across Kentucky. These helpers promote an on-going plan of gathering supplies for children in our care. These items, which include school supplies as well as personal supplies, are collected and either delivered to Spring Meadows or Glen Dale or one of the temporary shelters at Dixon or Elizabethtown. All of this makes it possible for us to provide the needs of children in our care.

With school days here and the return to a regular schedule, we can say "goodbye" to the summer slump and rejoice in the fall harvest.



Leon Simpson
President
Clear Creek Baptist School
Pineville, KY 40977

clear creek comment

'Why not the best?'

Today is the day for President's Chapel, the first chapel of the fall semester at Clear Creek Baptist School. I want to share with you the excerpts from my message to our faculty, staff and students. I entitled my message, "Why Not The Best?", taken from the title of former President Carter's autobiography.

Heb. 1:1-4 gives a description of Christ which is unparalleled in its majesty and grandeur. There is a sense in which all the message we have to give to the world is the superiority of Christ our savior. He is better than angels (v. 4), but also better than any philosophy or system devised by men. His one solitary life has more influenced world history than all the lives of myriads of great leaders down through the centuries. He is not only better, he is the best!

Christ is the best work God ever spoke (v. 2). Our sovereign Lord has revealed himself to many people using many methods. But Jesus more fully communicates all we need to know about God than any other revelation in history.

Christ is the best picture of what God is like (v. 3). No one has ever seen the eternal God, but Jesus came to show us what he is like (John 1:18). He is of like character and essence with the Father, as you could expect the son of God to be. You can trust the message and picture our Lord gives us of the Father. He is the express image of his person.

Christ also has the best name known to man (v. 4). He has a glorious name (v. 3a), a powerful name (v. 3b) and a forgiving name (v. 3b). His name is sovereign (v. 3b) and someday every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that he is king of kings and Lord of lords (Phil. 2:9-10).

Since he is heir of all things (vs. 2, 4b), he is the best Lord, the best savior and the best master a man could have. The over all theme of Hebrews is the "superiority of Christ." Let us give him our best who is the best and let us live the best, witness the best and serve our best for him!

"For the suffering, dying Jesus/Is the Christ upon the throne./And the travail of our spirit/Is the travail of his own./He is breaking down the barriers,/He is casting up the way;/He is calling for his angels/To build up the gates of day." — Henry Burton



Harville



Mrs. Harville



Tucker



Mrs. Tucker



Dyer



Mrs. Dyer



Duncan



Mrs. Duncan



Spivey



Mrs. Spivey



Lawson



Mrs. Lawson

Kentuckians go to overseas service

Six couples with Kentucky ties were among 63 people named missionaries by the Foreign Mission Board Aug. 11 at Glorieta (N. M.) Baptist Conference Center.

Those with Kentucky connections are Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Harville Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Phillip P. Duncan, Mr. and Mrs. Dale Tucker, Mr. and Mrs. C. Marvin Spivey, Mr. and Mrs. W. Glenn Dyer and Mr. and Mrs. William H. Lawson.

All will go to Rockford, Va. in October for an eight-week orientation before leaving for the field.

The Harvilles will work in Bolivia, where he will be a religious education consultant and she will be a church and home worker. He is minister of education and youth at First Baptist Church, Heath, Oh.

Born in Dayton, Oh., Harville also lived in Franklin and Carlisle, Oh. while growing up. He considers Carlisle his hometown and Hill Crest Baptist Church there his home church.

He received the BS degree from Cumberland College, Williamsburg, and the MRE degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

He has been minister of youth at Parkland Avenue Baptist Church and minister of education and youth at Rockford Lane Baptist Church, both in Louisville.

Mrs. Harville, the former Kathy Korek, was born and reared in Louisville. She considers Lynn Acres Baptist Church, Louisville, her home church.

She received the BS degree from Cumberland College, Williamsburg. She also attended the University of Louisville. She has been a teacher in Shepherdsville, Ky.

The Duncans will work in Ecuador, where he will be a religious education consultant and she will be a church and home worker. He is minister of education at Oakland Avenue Baptist Church, Catlettsburg.

Born in Louisville, Duncan also lived in Catlettsburg and Hopkinsville while growing up. He considers Hopkinsville his hometown and Oakland Avenue Baptist Church his home church.

He received the BS and MS degrees from Murray (Ky.) State University, and the MDiv from Southern Seminary.

Mrs. Duncan, the former Sheila Foster, was born and reared in Owensboro. She considers Sugar Grove Baptist Church her home church.

She received the BA from Murray

State University. She has been activity director for a health agency in Louisville.

The Tuckers will work in Argentina, where he will be a social worker and she will be a church and home worker. He is executive director of Wayside Christian Mission, Louisville. They are members of Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville.

Born in Jackson, Miss., Tucker also lived in Mississippi and Arkansas while growing up. He considers Louisville his hometown and Walnut Street his home church.

He received the BA degree from Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark. and the MDiv degree from Southern Seminary.

Born in Paris, Tenn., Mrs. Tucker, the former Gail Atchison, grew up in Louisville and considers it her hometown and Walnut Street her home church.

She received the BA degree from the University of Kentucky, Lexington. She is self employed as a media consultant.

The Spiveys will be missionary associates and will work in Hong Kong, where he will be an English-language pastor and she will be a church and home worker.

Born in Homosassa, Fla., Spivey grew up in Plant City, Fla. and considers it his hometown.

He received the BA degree from Stetson University, Deland, Fla., and the MDiv degree from Southern Seminary.

He has been pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Dry Ridge; First Baptist Church, Tompkinsville; and Cave City (Ky.) Baptist Church.

Mrs. Spivey, the former Lynnette Cotten, was born and raised in Plant City. She received the BA degree from Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights, and the MA degree from Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green. She has been a teacher in Bradenton, Fla.

The Dyers will work in West Ger-

many, where he will be a youth worker and she will be a church and home worker. He is minister of education at First Baptist Church, Paducah.

Born in Knoxville, Tenn., Dyer also lived in Rossville and Carrollton, Ga. while growing up. He considers First Baptist Church, Paducah, and Tabernacle Baptist Church, Carrollton, Ga., his home churches.

He received the AA degree from Reinhardt College, Waleska, Ga., the BS from West Georgia College, Carrollton, and the MRE degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex.

Born in Royston, Ga., Mrs. Dyer, the former Camilla Jordan, grew up in Bowman, Ga. She considers First Baptist Church, Paducah, and Bowman Baptist Church her home churches.

She received the AA degree from Reinhardt College, and the BS degree from West Georgia College. She is a sales representative and needlecraft instructor for Creative Circle, Paducah.

The Lawsons will work in Malaysia, where he will be a seminary teacher and she will be a church and home worker. He is an adjunct professor at Southern Seminary.

Born in Santa Cruz, Cal., Lawson also lived in Salinas, Castroville and Watsonville, Cal. while growing up. He considers Salinas his hometown and Bethel Southern Baptist Church there his home church.

He received the BA degree from California Baptist College, Riverside, the MDiv degree from Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Cal., and the PhD degree from Southern Seminary.

Born in Weatherford, Tex., Mrs. Lawson, the former Marsha Noe, also lived in Anaheim, Cal. while growing up and considers that city her hometown. She considers St. Matthews Baptist Church, Louisville, her home church.

She received the BS degree from California Baptist College.

PLANNED GROWTH IN GIVING AND YOU

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mountains to the mississippi

personnel

Lawrence E. Palmer (see photo) has accepted the call as pastor of First Baptist Church, Prospect, Long Run Association. He goes to the church from the pastorate of Cardinal Hill Baptist, Louisville, Long Run Association.

He received the BA from the University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, and will receive the MDiv degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, in December.

Les Fox (see photo) began duties Aug. 4 as minister of music and education at Oak Ridge Baptist Church, Covington, Northern Kentucky Association.

A native of Tampa, Fla., Fox is a graduate of the University of South Florida, Tampa, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville. He had been minister of music at Garfield Avenue Baptist Church, Louisville, Long Run Association.

Dannie Nelson has been called as pastor of Greensburg Baptist Church, Russell Creek Association.

James Robinson resigned as pastor of Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church, Graves County Association.

Jim Dant, a student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, will assume duties Sept. 1 as pastor of Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, Willisburg, Central Association.

Darrel Williams has been called as minister of youth and church activities of Third Baptist Church, Owensboro, Daviess-McLean Association. Paul M. Welch is pastor.

Tommie James Gleeson resigned as pastor of Grace Baptist Church, Paducah, West Union Association, to become pastor of Strathmoor Baptist Church, Paducah.

Wade and Melissa Bibb became youth ministers at New Brandenburg Baptist Church, Salem Association. Bibb is attending Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, and Mrs. Bibb is a public school teacher. Both are natives of Columbia, Tenn.

Tom Bridge is pastor of New Brandenburg.

Byron Simmons, former pastor of Gardnersville Baptist Church, Crittenden Association, will be commissioned as a chaplain in the United States Army Sept. 9.

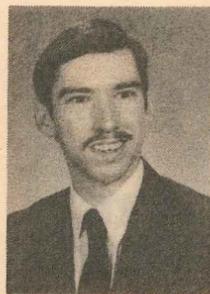
Simmons goes to the military chaplaincy from the pastorate of Zion Baptist Church, Aurora, Ill. He is a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

John Johnson was called as pastor of Hurricane Baptist Church, Little River Association.

Nicky Knight began duties as pastor of South Union Baptist Church, Little River Association.



Palmer



Fox

Wayne Riley resigned as pastor of Oak Grove Baptist Church, Lake Cumberland Association, to accept a church in northern Indiana.

Tom Coffey has been called as pastor of Corinth Baptist Church, East Lynn Association.

Mike Routt resigned as pastor of First Baptist Church, Fountain Run, to accept the pastorate of Eastern Gate Baptist Church, Long Run Association.

ordinations

Jack Smith was licensed to the ministry by Seven Hills Baptist Church, Owensboro, Daviess-McLean Association.

Jerry Gregory was ordained as a deacon Aug. 25 by Henderson Memorial Baptist Church, Hopkinsville, Christian County Association.

Barry N. Turner was ordained as a deacon by Shady Grove Baptist Church, Franklin, Simpson Association.

missions

Jennifer Johnson, journeyman to Japan, has completed her two-year term of service as a Baptist center worker in Nagasaki, Japan, and returned to the states (138 Preston Ct., Versailles, KY 40383), and her hometown. Before she was employed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1983 she was an advertising account executive at WFKY radio in Frankfort.

Mr. and Mrs. Kurt A. Lawrence, missionaries to Thailand, report a change of address (Box 24, Sakao Prachinburi, Thailand 25170). He was born in Portland, Ore. and she is the former Judy Johnson of Lexington. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1981.

Mr. and Mrs. Takahiro Oue, missionaries to Japan, have completed fur-



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lough and returned to the field (1-16-2 Sakuragaoka, Yokosuka-shi 239, Japan).

Born in Kochi, Japan, he came to the states as a teenager. He lived in several Kentucky towns while a high school student. The former Lana O'Banion of Kentucky, she was born in Larue County and grew up there in nearby Meade County. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1981.

congregations

Immanuel Baptist Church, Elizabethtown, Severns Valley Association, celebrated its 30th anniversary/homecoming Aug. 11.

Robert Wayne, the church's first pastor, spoke at the morning worship service. **Jeff Day** is the current pastor of Immanuel.

Buck Grove Baptist Church, Ekron, Salem Association, broke ground for an addition to its building Aug. 4.

The addition will include new fellowship and educational space, and the sanctuary will be expanded with seating for an additional 150 people. The building will also be made more accessible for the handicapped. **Floyd Price** is pastor of Buck Grove.

Hites Run Baptist Church, Hardinsburg, Breckenridge Association, will celebrate homecoming Sept. 29. Dinner on the grounds will be served and a song service will be held in the afternoon.

revivals

First Baptist Church, Paris, Elkhorn Association, had five professions of faith during a revival Apr. 5-7. There were also five additions by letter and 10 rededications. **Bill Carter**, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, Indianapolis, Ind., was the evangelist. **Bob Wallace** is pastor of First Church, Paris.

Ridgecrest Baptist Church, Beaver Dam, Ohio County Association, had 48 decisions during a revival held last month. Of this number, 12 were baptized in toto the church and one joined by letter. **Clyde Chiles** of St. Louis, Mo., was guest evangelist.

Jesse Tichenor is pastor.



James H. Cox
Associate Editor

fourth estate

Dearest Joann

I've written letters like this one to your sister and brother when they reached milestones in their lives. Now, I think it's your turn for your Dad to say some things to you that have been on his mind for awhile.

From your earliest days of infancy, you have been a special person in my life—in the life of your Mother and in the life of our family. Daddies are supposed to have soft spots in their hearts for little girls. But I've also observed that you have the ability to win hearts of people who are totally unrelated to you, even strangers. Am I being prejudiced? Perhaps.

Can 11 years come and go this quickly? Wasn't it only yesterday that our family was photographed on Baby Dedication Day at church? A few years later, you were toddling by my side at the zoo. Remember? I recall the day your Mom and I visited your first grade class, and what insights we gained!

Now you're off on a new journey as you enter sixth grade—middle school. Sixth grade was in elementary school when we were your age.

Technology has changed a lot. We never studied foreign language before high school—you've been in it for years. Computers are commonplace to you; we had probably never heard of them in sixth grade. While we had to figure our math in our heads, you have a pocket calculator to do it for you.

That's not all that's different. There are some aspects of life that are truly frightening to those of us who are parents now. Crime of every description is rampant, and more and more children are the objects of perverted minds. One of the most frightening forces to us is the drug culture which has targeted the youth market, now invading even our elementary schools. You have already been bombarded with the breakdown in the language barrier, which suggests that anything and everything is OK to hear and say. Sexual freedom is lurking just ahead.

I'm not trying to scare you. I'm expressing my concerns. Your Mother and I have attempted to instill values in you which we believe are important. You will apply them as you choose. We cannot protect you from every force which would harm you. But we will pray for your safekeeping. And we will continue to pray that God will help you make choices that will please him, and which will cause you to feel good about them years from now.

God honored us when he brought you to our home to live. I shall be thankful every day of my life that I was privileged to be your father.

With love,
Dad



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Barkley Moore
President
Oneida Baptist Institute
Oneida, KY 40972

oneida journal

On the frontline

With nearly 500 students and slightly over 100 staff we believe Oneida has about the ideal number for a truly quality program.

It is the growing word-of-mouth reputation of our quality program that brings so many to our campus. Hearing of what is happening from someone who knows firsthand is the most convincing type of information. Though we are 40 miles from the nearest bus station or airport, we currently have students from more than 30 states and 34 nations have been represented in our student body in the past 12 years.

The number of Oneida's students and staff has increased approximately five fold in the past 12 years.

Ours has been a response to a genuine need, a felt need, not an artificially created one. We have no recruiters, no field offices. We have not gone out to find students. They have found us. It takes about every ounce of energy, every moment of time to deal with the ever increasing number of boys and girls seeking admission and to minister to the hundreds taken in. Ours is a day and night, year round ministry.

During the past year we have had to consciously come to grips with our growing numbers. We have decided to add no more beds. This decision will, of necessity, limit our student enrolment near the 500 mark.

Schools can be too big. Most schools today in the U. S. are many times larger than they should be. Over a cer-

tain number, the bigger the school, the less opportunity for the individual girl or boy. In most American schools today, the sense of community has been lost. There is a notable lack of effective discipline. A proper learning atmosphere has been lost in large measure.

Also schools can be too small. A school must have a sufficient number of students and teachers to make possible a comprehensive range of courses and number of classes to provide flexibility in scheduling and a solid educational preparation. Also, the level of enrolment must be sufficiently large to make possible a truly competitive athletic program, strong music and drama programs and a broad range of extracurricular programs making possible an "involved" student body. The goal should be participation of every child in more than the classroom routine.

The whole program must be so structured as to make every boy and girl feel each is a somebody.

Unfortunately, most of American education at the elementary and secondary level is so structured today as to make the average student feel like he or she is a "nobody." Sheer numbers force most young people to be spectators, not participants. The great majority of American teenagers are simply bored to death at school and after school. Unable to do more than attend class, they make their own excitement. They are turning increasingly to 'pot,' hard drugs, alcohol and promiscuous sex. The "dropout" rate steadily increases.

Big foundations and corporations give most of their educational money to colleges. But students who have finished high school and had the motivation and ability to get into college are already 90 percent successful. A much greater percentage of our national treasure needs to be devoted at the elementary and high school level. It is this age group in such great trouble today. It is at this level that hundreds of thousands are being lost through the cracks annually. Kids who don't finish high school aren't going to college.

Oneida is on the frontline of the battle. We are on the cutting edge of the educational and social problems of our nation. Each life salvaged, each soul won to the Lord, each is important, each is precious. But there are millions who need our help. We can only minister to a few hundred at a time. But we are a lighthouse, a beacon of what can be, should be.

Reprinted from Feb. 14, 1984



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

sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR SEPT. 1, 1985

Life and Work Series

Christ's ambassadors

2 Corinthians 5:11-21 There were those in Corinth who tried to discredit Paul by denying his apostleship and declaring he was out of his mind. Paul resolved that he would continue his ministry of reconciliation with the utmost faithfulness. He cherished the hope that his critics and his friends would come to understand that his real purpose was to persuade people to be reconciled to God.

Paul told the Corinthians that it was the love of Christ for him which inspired, motivated and impelled him to do the things which he did. Christ's love for Paul held him to his task regardless of what the Corinthians thought, said or did. The love of Christ constrained Paul so that he no longer lived to or for himself. Christ's love for Paul restrained him from evil habits, impelled him to think and talk about Christ, live for him and die in his service. Christ's constraining love grasped Paul's mind, captivated his thoughts, supplied his motives, controlled his emotions, engaged his affections, commanded his will, formed his character, directed his conduct and molded his life.

Every Christian is commissioned to bear the word of reconciliation to lost men everywhere, and to beseech them to be reconciled to God and to assume the right attitude toward him. The im-

portant work of being an ambassador for Christ requires dedication, tact and diligence. Effective ambassadors for Christ must be devoted, faithful and zealous Christians.

Verse 21 sets forth three tremendous wonders, namely: The first is the sinless savior—not a one of his critics was ever able to point out a single flaw in his life; the second is a substitutionary sacrifice—"For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin." The third is that of a saved sinner—Christ was made to be sin for us in order "that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." For the righteousness of God to become the possession of the sinner, he must accept the substitutionary work of Christ by faith and reckon his righteousness to be his.

International Series

Christ, fullness of God

Colossians 1:15-20 One enjoys a new throb of assurance and satisfaction when he reads Paul's recognition of Christ as the visible representation of the invisible God. Truly, Christ is the correct answer to humanity's cry, "What is God like?" As Christ went about blessing the children, feeding the hungry, healing the sick, comforting the heartbroken, lifting the fallen, quickening the dead and saving the lost, by his actions he was saying, "God is like this. He that hath seen me hath seen the Father."

Christ is preeminent in creation. He was first in the purpose, the promotion, the power and the preservation of all creation. Out of nothing he created all that is. In Christ alone all things find their orderly arrangement.

Christ is preeminent in redemption. For Christ who "died for our sins," there is no substitute, nor will he ever have a successor.

Christ is preeminent in the church. Paul says, "And he is the head of the body, the church." Because he is the mighty source of its life, the bond of its fellowship and the one for whom it bears witness, Christ should be given his rightful place in all its activities.

Christ must be preeminent in our lives.

Colossians 2:8-10 Paul warned his readers against the perils of rationalism and urged them to refuse to be taken captive by the false ideas of the deceitful and dangerous philosophers who leave God out of their reckoning.



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

on mission together

Into the sunset— on a motorcycle

July 31 one of Kentucky Baptists' best loved leaders retired from full time denominational service.

Of all the "goodby" kinds of things people have said or written to or about A. B. Colvin, the salute given by Ross Figart, director of mountain missions, best exemplifies the man and his spirit:

"I was a part of the state missions force when A. B. came to be secretary of the Missions and Evangelism Department, as it was known then. One of the early things he did was to see the need for a wage program and to work to make it a reality. There was great in-

equality in the way state missionaries were paid.

"He's been on our fields, met our people and probably left more footprints around the state of Kentucky than any other person who has ever been a part of Kentucky Baptist life. He's always had a sympathetic ear and an understanding heart.

"We have found him to be a peerless preacher of God's Word who was ready to come to small churches and out-of-the-way places to do revivals, or speak at dedication services, or whatever.

"A part of A. B.'s ministry has been Irene. She has shared his ministry through all these years, taught at the Mountain Missions Conferences, and headed the seminary's preschool program for a long time. She has matched his wit and caring.

"The best thing about A. B. Colvin's retirement is that he is becoming even more a part of our area in eastern Kentucky. He will be starting an association

with Oneida Baptist Institute as an assistant to Barkley Moore, and will be representing Oneida all over our state. That means many of us will still see him often, and his influence will be planted even deeper here in the mountains."

When Walter Cronkite retired from his national news spot, it took the general public awhile to get accustomed to his not being there.

It will take awhile for the many Kentucky Baptists who know A. B. Colvin to get used to his not being at the Baptist Building. But, from the sound of his schedule, the Baptist Building will be the only place he won't be.

So, if you happen to see a Honda motorcycle parked in the front of an associational meeting, don't be surprised if the owner and driver is Brother A. B. Colvin. He's probably the only denominational employe in the SBC who "drove off into the sunset" on a motorcycle.

Baptist optometrist needs a miracle

by Frank W. White

Bruce Schaeffer is looking for a miracle in his life.

He's a deacon in his church, past chairman of deacons and director of the children's division. He conducts children's church and operates a bus ministry.

But Bruce Schaeffer, a member of First Baptist Church, Machesney Park, Rockford, Ill., is looking for a miracle because he has Hodgkins disease, a cancer that attacks the lymph nodes.

The disease has been a recurring problem for nine years, and doctors recently told his wife, Shelley, they consider his case terminal. Neither he nor his wife asked how long the doctors expect him to live, because "We don't want to know," she said.

Schaeffer, a 32-year-old optometrist, spends his free time with his church and family. Four years ago when they thought he was cured, the Schaeffers adopted two boys, James, now 11, and Kelly, 7.

"I want to spend all the time I can being a dad because I don't know how much longer I'll be around," Schaeffer said.

His positive outlook on life has helped keep most people in his church from knowing he is terminally ill. "I'm close to my church family. They help me a lot, but I'm not honest when I say I'm fine because I really am not," he explained, adding he is not ashamed of his illness, but he isn't interested in advertising it either.

"I really want to use this to the Lord's advantage. There is a reason I'm sick. I want something to come of it," he said.

Schaeffer hasn't always been actively involved in a church. Raised in a Jewish family, he professed atheism for many years. "We were married in a park with a justice of the peace, because I didn't want anything to do with a church," he said. At the time the Schaeffers were married, he thought he was cured of the disease. That was the first of many times doctors have told him he was cured, only to have the disease show up again.

In April 1979, at a time when Schaeffer again thought the disease was gone, he became a Christian.

"Shelley went to church and accepted Christ. She talked with me about it. I couldn't believe how bold she was about it even though she knew how I felt. I began studying. It was a slow process, but I accepted Christ, too."

Two weeks later, the Schaeffers were teaching a preschool class at their new-found church.

"I don't believe anything halfway. If I'm going to do it, it's all the way," he



Bruce Schaeffer feeds the ducks along with his wife, Shelley, and sons, James and Kelly, during a Sunday School Leadership Conference in Winona Lake, Ind.

explained.

Schaeffer said he and his wife have accepted his situation. They also have discussed it with the boys.

"Much greater men than I have died," he said. "God knows what he is doing. My outlook is a super-strong part of my witness. If people see that I have a peace in the face of death, it may help them. The Lord is helping me."

But, according to his doctors, Schaeffer is getting worse. He attended a Sunday School Leadership Conference at Winona Lake, Ind. with 18 others from his church. Before making the trip he needed three units of blood since blood loss is a particular problem with the disease. The disease and the resulting loss of blood cause fatigue and difficulty in breathing. Schaeffer recently started a different chemotherapy treatment and doesn't yet know the possible side effects.

But, the disease hasn't interfered much with his involvement in church activities.

"I'd like to do more," he admitted. "But, if you can't visit, you can make phone calls. There are a lot of things you can do."

Schaeffer realizes that it is easier for him and others to accept his condition now because he is so active.

"If you look healthy others don't think about what's happening. I always try to have the front that everything is OK even though I know it isn't," he said. "When I start looking sick it will be a burden to others."

Schaeffer said that like others, when he was healthy he saw people with illnesses but never thought it would happen to him.

Shelley said dealing with her husband's illness before they were Christians was difficult. "I feel sorry for people who go through these things without Christ," she said.

Shelley and Bruce are both optimistic about his condition. They are praying and hoping for a miracle in his life but they say they are willing to accept what happens.

Seminarian puts classroom learning to use this summer

by Susan Shaw

Evansville, Ind. native Gloria Johnson has spent her summer putting into practice what she has been learning in Christian education classes at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

Miss Johnson has been doing a summer field education placement as lead staff person at Louisville's Crescent Hill Baptist Church child care center. Her responsibilities have included teaching kindergarten and taking charge of administrative duties when the director has been away.

While the primary goal of the kindergarten program is not directly Christian education, Miss Johnson explains the child care center attempts to provide a context for faith development. The majority of the parents are not churchgoers, and last year many of them even

complained that the center was telling their children too many Bible stories! She is focusing on loving and nurturing the children so they can relate church to a happy place.

She feels the program has also helped the children, many of whom come from broken homes, build self-esteem.

Miss Johnson believes her summer field experience has helped to prepare her for a career in children's ministry. While she sees herself working in a child care center or a local church after graduation, she hopes eventually to work with children on the mission field.

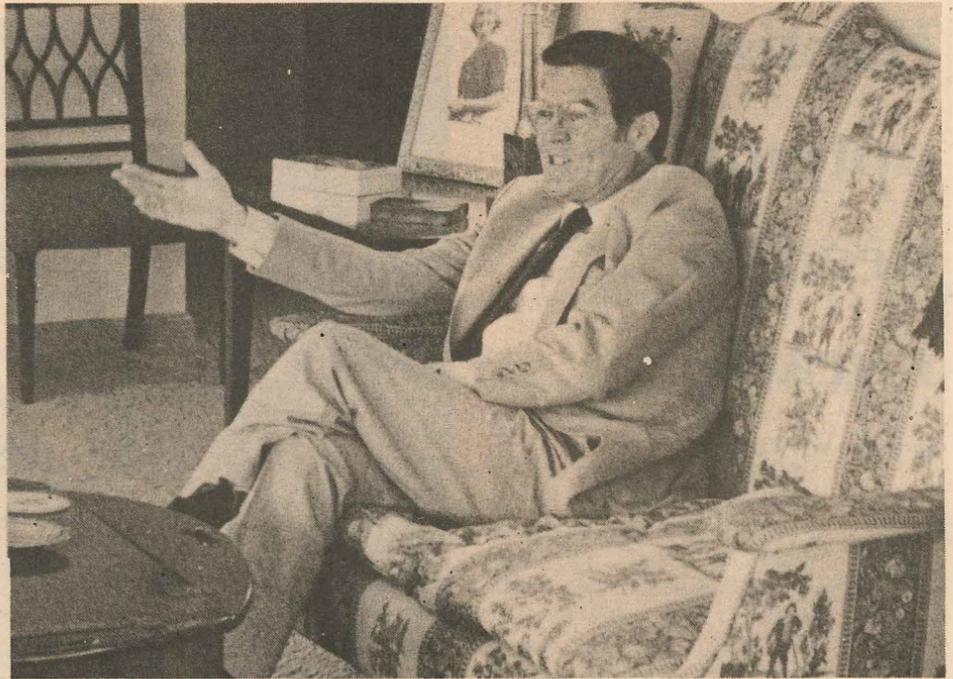
She says through the experience she has learned a lot about what goes into a day care program. "It has taught me to be more assertive and to be a better leader," she concludes.



Gloria Johnson works with children at Crescent Hill Baptist Church's child care center as part of her summer field education at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Miss Johnson, now a member of Highview Baptist Church, Louisville, teaches kindergarten at the center.

Campbellsville College's first summer missionary

With a determined spirit and a firm faith, Jim Yates began his ministerial training at Campbellsville College.



by Virginia Flanagan

It was late summer 1944. The young man had graduated from Calhoun High School that spring. The Lord was working in his life, but he didn't know just what direction to take or how to take it when he found it.

Money was tight.

His pastor spoke to him about college and preparing for the ministry, but how could he pay the tuition, much less the living expenses?

Yet, he had to follow God's call.

So with faith as his only collateral and youth and inexperience his background, Jim Yates borrowed \$50 from his sister, put all his belongings in a cardboard suitcase and enroled at Campbellsville (Ky.) College.

Warren Jones was Campbellsville's president in 1944.

Jones sensed the determination and courage in the young man; and as he had with so many others, helped him to find employment so that he could, just barely, pay his bills.

Jim Yates swept the gym floor.

He also sat with president Jones' elderly parents. He studied hard and worked hard, and he could sing.

Following Jones' advice, Yates began to study music. This led to a position at Willisburg (Ky.) Baptist Church.

Yates was the music director. He rode the bus to Willisburg from Campbellsville and back every weekend in order to carry out his responsibilities.

Yates also preached his first sermon at Willisburg. He asked Campbellsville College's dean, Howard S. Higdon, for advice on preaching. Higdon told him, "When you're through—quit."

He was answering God's call, he was paying his bills, and . . . he was sweeping the gym floor.

Yates was licensed to preach the gospel by Campbellsville Baptist Church in 1944.

The next semester at Campbellsville, Yates had another new experience. It was also a new experience for Campbellsville College. Jim Yates became Campbellsville College's first Baptist Student Union summer missionary. He became a member of one of three revival teams that traveled the state during the summer of 1945.

The teams traveled by bus or train. The team Yates was on mostly traveled in eastern Kentucky to coal and mountain towns. They worked hard for God,

and money wasn't their reward. They were not allowed love offerings and were paid \$15 each for the summer's work.

And it was a wonderful experience.

God opens doors.

Yates was able to work out the rest of his education. He attended Centre College, Danville, because a full time music director position at Lexington Avenue Baptist Church, Danville, was opened for him through chapel at Campbellsville College.

The pastor of one of the churches Yates had been at as a BSU summer missionary went to a Louisville church and helped him to establish a position in Louisville.

He was ordained to the ministry in

her again when he was called back as pastor of the Brownsville church. Mrs. Yates said she had a new husband, a new house, new furniture and a new dog, who didn't like her.

Mrs. Yates' grandmother lived in Louisville, the seminary was in Louisville, and Yates was in Brownsville, Tenn. with a full time church and a new wife.

There were also trains.

Jim Yates finished his seminary degree by riding the train from Brownsville to Louisville and staying with his wife's grandmother during the week and then riding back to Brownsville for the weekend. The Yates will always be in-

Yates now pastors First Baptist Church, Yazoo City, Miss., where prominent Southern Baptists Owen Cooper, Gene Triggs and Jerry Clower are in his congregation.

1948 by Highland Baptist Church, Louisville. He completed one year at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's School of Music and two years at the School of Theology, but he needed a college degree to obtain his seminary degree.

President Jones went to Union University, Jackson, Tenn., and helped Yates to follow the Lord's leadership in supplying at the First Baptist Church, Milan, Tenn., and for the ill pastor of Brownsville (Tenn.) Baptist Church. He got his BA degree from Union.

Along the way, Yates married Joy Wirotzious.

He met her in Louisville, although she is from Memphis, Tenn. He met

debted to the people of the Brownsville Baptist Church, Mrs. Yates' grandmother and, of course, the train.

The year after Yates received his degree from the seminary his wife's grandmother died and the train company stopped that run from Memphis to Louisville.

God sometimes closes doors.

From Brownsville, the Yates went to the First Baptist Church, Paragould, Ark., and then in 1961 to the First Baptist Church, Yazoo City, Miss., where they are today.

The couple has four children who have inherited their father and

mother's musical abilities.

Both mother and father Yates beam when they talk about Carol, John, Jim and Jeff.

Yates has served God and his church by giving to others who need "open doors" as he did. He has served as a member of the board of trustees of the Mississippi Baptist Medical Center and as a member of the executive committee of the Medical Center.

He is on the board of trustees of Mississippi College. He has served two terms as president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. He has worked with the American Red Cross, Yazoo Arts Council, Chamber of Commerce, United Givers and Friend of Public Schools in Yazoo City.

This past June in Dallas, Yates was elected to the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Jim Yates has tried to help.

Yates has been named as one of Yazoo County's "Most Admired Citizens"; he has received Yazoo City's "Citizen of the Year Award"; he was honored with the "Service to Humanity Award" from Mississippi College; he has been named twice to "Personalities of the South"; and he was named "Outstanding Christian Humanitarian" by the Christian Endowment Foundation Inc. in 1983.

He has been honored.

Yates loves Yazoo City's First Baptist Church. He speaks proudly of its strong lay leadership, of its support to the Cooperative Program, of men like Owen Cooper, Gene Triggs, past chairman of the Foreign Mission Board, and, yes, Jerry Clower, who help to make the church strong.

Mrs. Yates speaks lovingly of a church that has allowed her children to grow up and be individuals, and of church members who have been good role models to them.

It has been a happy experience.

Yates will always be indebted to Campbellsville College. Campbellsville College gave him a chance to follow God's leadership. It gave him a chance to develop his talents; it gave him a chance to meet others and open new vistas; it gave him a chance to be a BSU summer missionary. And Campbellsville College gave him a chance . . . to sweep the gym floor.