



## Fireworks unexpected when state's Baptists convene in Lexington

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

They don't anticipate any fireworks at the annual meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention next month in Lexington.

They never do.

Fortunately, they are nearly always right.

The meeting Nov. 12-14 is not expected to be any different.

KBC president James B. Lewis, pastor of Louisville's Westport Road Baptist Church, is having "extremely positive" feelings about the convention.

While he doesn't "anticipate surprises," Lewis is mindful there are "always a few things we disagree about."

He cites Kentucky Baptists' differences regionally, culturally and theologically. But he's quick to observe "we

### Stanley ill; cancels appearance in state

Southern Baptist Convention president Charles F. Stanley has canceled appearances outside regular church responsibilities until Jan. 1.

Stanley, pastor of First Baptist Church, Atlanta, said he "picked up a little something" when he drank river water during a hunting trip to Alaska.

"I am feeling fine, but the doctor suggested I curtail my activities until the end of the year," Stanley said, adding the cancelations included "two or three" state convention sermons.

He was to have been the closing speaker at the Kentucky Baptist Pastors' Conference Nov. 11 in Lexington. He had not been invited to appear at the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

He indicated he will continue to preach and conduct his television ministries. "I plan to fulfill my obligations at evangelism conferences in January and February," he added.

have decided we are brothers and sisters in Christ" and that "we love one another."

The convention's theme in Lexington goes along with that statement. It is "Cooperation: The Baptist Way to a Lost World."

Six speakers will touch on that subject in major addresses.

They include Lewis, who will deliver the president's address during the opening session at 9:15 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 12; a Tuesday evening "Good News America" message by Harper Shannon, of Montgomery, Ala.; the convention sermon Wednesday morning by Glenn Armstrong, pastor of Beaver Dam (Ky.) Baptist Church; the traditional message on Christian education, Wednesday afternoon by W. Morgan Patterson, president of Georgetown (Ky.) College; a missions address that night by R. Keith Parks, of Richmond, Va.; and a closing message Thursday morning by Cecil Ray, of Raleigh, N. C.

Shannon is associate to the executive secretary-treasurer and director of evangelism for the Alabama Baptist State Convention.

Parks is president of the SBC Foreign Mission Board.

Ray is director of National Planned Growth in Giving, SBC.

Highlights of the convention in Lexington include the adoption of a proposed \$19 million budget for 1986-87, election of convention officers, adoption of resolutions and a myriad of reports from its executive board, agencies and institutions.

The complete convention agenda, along with agendas of other groups meeting in conjunction with the convention, is included in Western Recorder's Oct. 15 edition.



Lewis



Shannon



Armstrong



Patterson



Parks



Ray

## Convention calendar: there's plenty to satisfy every taste at Lexington

The annual meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention (Nov. 12-14 at Lexington's Immanuel Baptist Church this year) may be the principal attraction of KBC week each year, but it doesn't stand alone by any stretch of the imagination. Immediately before it, as well as during the convention itself, a host of auxiliary groups will be sharing common purposes unique unto themselves.

Here is a listing of these activities as reported in advance to Western Recorder.

### Monday, Nov. 11

10 a.m. Credentials Committee Luncheon Meeting, Cambridge Room, Ramada Inn Imperial, 525 Waller Ave.

11:30 a.m. Kentucky Baptist Music Association Officers' Luncheon, Darryl's Restaurant & Tavern, 3292 Nicholasville Rd.

12:30 p.m. Registration opens, Kentucky Baptist Music Association, Central Baptist Church, 1664 S. Limestone

12:55 p.m. Kentucky Baptist Music Association, Central Baptist Church, 1664 S. Limestone

1 p.m. KBC Executive Board Meeting, Chapel, Immanuel Baptist Church, 3100 Tates Creek Rd.

1 p.m. Registration opens, Kentucky Baptist Convention, Reception Hall, Immanuel Baptist Church, 3100 Tates Creek Rd.

1 p.m. Registration opens, Kentucky Baptist Religious Education Association, Third Floor, Calvary Baptist Church, 150 High St.

1:30 p.m. Kentucky Baptist Pastor's Conference, Sanctuary, Immanuel Baptist Church, 3100 Tates Creek Rd.

2 p.m. Kentucky Baptist Religious Education Association, Third Floor, Calvary Baptist Church, 150 High St.

5 p.m. Committee on Nominations Dinner Meeting, The Springs, 2020 Harrodsburg Rd.

5 p.m. Western Recorder Press Dinner, The Springs, 2020 Harrodsburg Rd.

5:30 p.m. Kentucky Baptist Music Association Banquet, Central Baptist Church, 1664 S. Limestone

6 p.m. Directors of Missions Fellowship Dinner, Cralle Student Center, Georgetown (Ky.) College

6:30 p.m. Kentucky Baptist Pastor's Conference, Sanctuary, Immanuel Baptist Church, 3100 Tates Creek Rd.

6:30 p.m. Kentucky Baptist Religious Education Association Banquet, Calvary Baptist Church, 150 High St.

7 p.m. Kentucky Baptist Chorale Rehearsal, Central Baptist Church, 1664 S. Limestone

### Tuesday, Nov. 12

7:30 a.m. Committee on Arrangements Breakfast, Ramada Inn Imperial, 525 Waller Ave.

9:15 a.m. Kentucky Baptist Convention, Sanctuary, Immanuel Baptist Church, 3100 Tates Creek Rd.

12 noon Kentucky Baptist Directors of Missions Luncheon with Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, The Springs, 2020 Harrodsburg Rd.

12:15 p.m. Annuitants' Luncheon, The Springs, 2020 Harrodsburg Rd.

12:30 p.m. Women in Ministry Luncheon, Baptist Student Union Center, University of Kentucky, 429 Columbia

1:30 p.m. Kentucky Baptist Convention, Immanuel Baptist Church

4:40 p.m. Buses depart from Immanuel Baptist Church for Ministers' Wives Fellowship Dinner

5 p.m. Ministers' Wives Fellowship Dinner, Gymnasium, Porter Memorial Baptist Church, 4300 Nicholasville Rd. (Tickets at \$3.50 available Monday, Nov. 11—musical program featuring Jeff and Sandra Carter)

5:15 p.m. Kenya Volunteers' Dinner, Central Baptist Hospital, 1740 S. Limestone

5:30 p.m. Kentucky Baptist Historical Society Dinner, Ramada Inn Imperial, 525 Waller Ave.

6:45 p.m. Kentucky Baptist Convention, Immanuel Baptist Church, 3100 Tates Creek Rd.

### Wednesday, Nov. 13

7 a.m. Clear Creek Baptist School Breakfast, Ramada Inn Imperial, 525 Waller Ave.

7:15 a.m. Georgetown College Breakfast, Hyatt Regency Hotel, 400 W. Vine St.

7:30 a.m. Campbellsville College Breakfast, Hyatt Regency Hotel, 400 W. Vine St.

7:30 a.m. Cumberland College Breakfast, Hyatt Regency Hotel, 400 W. Vine St.

9:30 a.m. Kentucky Baptist Convention, Immanuel Baptist Church, 3100 Tates Creek Rd.

12 noon Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary Luncheon, The Springs, 2020 Harrodsburg Rd.

12 noon New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Luncheon, Porter Memorial Baptist Church, 4300 Nicholasville Rd.

12:15 p.m. Southern Baptist Theological Seminary Luncheon, The Springs, 2020 Harrodsburg Rd.

12:30 p.m. Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary Luncheon, Parkway Baptist Church, 1914 N. Broadway

2 p.m. Kentucky Baptist Convention, Immanuel Baptist Church, 3100 Tates Creek Rd.

6:45 p.m. Kentucky Baptist Convention, Immanuel Baptist Church, 3100 Tates Creek Rd.

### Thursday, Nov. 14

9 a.m. Kentucky Baptist Convention, Immanuel Baptist Church, 3100 Tates Creek Rd. (adjourns 11:15 a.m.)

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Oct. 22, 1985

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# sanford's perspectives



Jack D. Sanford

## Relationship between pastor and church

It is a sacred relationship in the life of a church and the life of a minister.

A congregation has met to vote on the calling of a new pastor. They have heard about him—and they have heard from him in a “trial sermon.”

After sincere prayer for God's will, the congregation votes on a recommendation from the Pastor Search Committee. The ballots are collected and counted, and the call is extended.

The prospective pastor has learned about the church from the committee and his visit to the church field. He has given the committee his consent to present his name to the church.

After sincere prayer for God's will, he accepts the call to become pastor of that church.

With excitement and the assurance of God's leadership—by both the pastor and the church—a long, fruitful pastor/church relationship begins.

However . . . if this is an average Southern Baptist church, less than two years from this day, the church will be going through the same procedure to fill its vacant pulpit. The “former” pastor will be gone—either by his own choice or the choice of the church. The joy of a pastor/church relationship has ended—often with bitterness, hostility and permanent scars.

What happened? Why? What really is the relationship between a church and its pastor?

**PASTOR'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CHURCH.** Usually it is the pastor who dissolves this relationship, although we will admit that frequently in many churches today his resignation is demanded or at least “encouraged.”

Basically, there are two reasons why a minister chooses to move from his present position.

(1) The pastor moves to a “greater challenge” which usually means he goes to a larger church with a larger salary; to a bigger membership with a bigger parsonage.

We sometimes hear the reason given that the “pastor has outgrown the church.”

We accept the fact that God often uses a smaller church to train a pastor for a greater responsibility—but no pastor should see his present pastorate as merely a “stepping stone” to a larger church.

(2) The second reason for a pastor's departure is that he comes face-to-face with the problems of the church.

The first year is the “honeymoon” period for a new pastor. Gradually, he is asked to solve the church's problems—huge church debt, indifference, lack of trained leadership, inadequate financial resources, strife among the membership, crises in members' lives.

As he works with these and other problems, it is likely that he will encounter discouragements and disappointments.

So, the pastor has a choice.

Now that he knows the problems he must face, he can either determine to have an effective ministry by working out, working under, or working in spite of these problems—OR he can leave and go to another

church, where he will doubtless encounter similar problems.

Tragically, too many pastors are unwilling to stick it out, so they choose to leave.

**CHURCH'S RELATIONSHIP TO THE PASTOR.** Until recent years it was a rare occasion for a congregation to vote out its pastor. Such votes came when the pastor was accused of gross immorality or of extreme heresy—after the pastor had been given the opportunity to resign.

Now, however, we hear of an increasing number of churches who, seemingly without serious charges, bring the pastor to the congregation for a so-called “vote of confidence.”

Some congregations seem to be more honest—and heartless—in actually voting to fire the pastor, without regard to the feelings and future of the pastor and his family.

When the pastor was called by the congregation, the members had by majority vote expressed their convictions that it was God's will for him to be their pastor.

But before too many months have passed some members discover that the new pastor has no miracles to offer. If the church is to be the church there must be visitation, prayer meetings, teacher training, stewardship programs, budget planning, Saturday work days, etc.

The problems and discouragements which existed in the church before he came will not disappear quickly—if at all.

So, some of the members begin to talk about his “lack of leadership” or that he “doesn't fit in” or that the church has “outgrown the pastor” or that his methods are too old or too advanced.

A solution is offered: “We need a new pastor.”

Rather than give support to the pastor by faithful attendance, by encouragement and by prayers for him, some members prefer to move him out and to get a “better” pastor.

Even if the pastor survives the “vote of confidence,” it is doubtful he can regain a position of strong leadership within the church.

**THE PASTOR/CHURCH RELATIONSHIP** is in some ways like a marriage.

It should not be entered into lightly.

It must be based upon a strong conviction that God's will is being followed.

It must recognize there will be periods of “better, worse; richer, poorer; sickness, health.”

It should be entered into with an overwhelming desire for permanency—even “till death (or retirement) do we part.”

The relationship between a church and its pastor is a sacred God-given bond. Neither that pastor nor that church should tamper with this bond without anticipating God's judgment.

*The above appeared as an editorial by Al Shackelford, Tennessee Baptist and Reflector, in the Oct. 2, 1985 issue of that state paper.*

## western recorder

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**JAMES H. COX, Associate Editor**  
**C. R. DALEY, Editor Emeritus**

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

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by Bettie Crosson

# Profiles from my old Kentucky home

## J. M. DOWNING

J. M. Downing, a former school teacher and dentist, retired three years ago, but he continues to be a very busy man.

Downing began his teaching career after graduating from Western Kentucky University in 1938. He taught several years in a one-room school house. No doubt, 70 children in different grade levels was a challenge.

After nine years of teaching, Downing went to dental school at University of Louisville and began a 36-year practice in 1946. He practiced dentistry in the Air Force two of these years.

As a member of First Baptist Church, Tompkinsville, Downing has had the opportunity to use his talent approximately 43 years as the music director. He organized a couples Sunday school class and has taught it 13 years. He was moderator of Monroe Association two years and



chairman of the search committee for a director of missions in Allen and Monroe associations. Downing was a delegate to the American Dental Association and president of Kentucky Dental Association, 1969-70.

Two of Downing's hobbies are farming and fishing and he enjoys traveling. In 1922 he toured the Holy Land. A Caribbean cruise, sightseeing trips in Hawaii, Alaska and other states have added pleasure to his life.

Downing and his wife, Isabel Wallace, celebrated their golden anniversary last August. They have two children. John, an ophthalmologist, lives in Bowling Green and Jane, a nurse, lives in Tompkinsville.

A friend of many years described the influence of Downing's life. She wrote, "There are so many words to describe J. M. Downing. A man without partiality, kind, modest, dependable. A man of many talents which become gifts for God because he never hesitates to use them to help his fellow man.

"Because of this, a lot of demands are made on his life but he will go to any length to accomplish what is asked of him—because he cares. He is not a lazy man. He puts his hand to the plow and does a job worth doing until it is finished," she states.

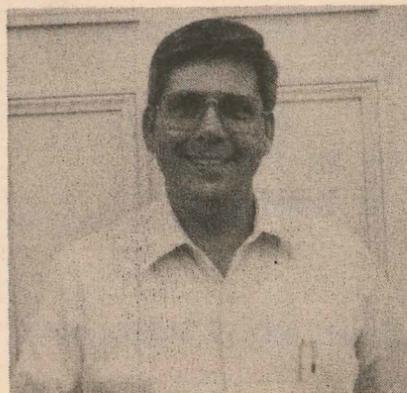
"If I had only one word to describe this man's friendship, it would be 'love' and love is of God."

## TIM O'DELL

For 11 years Tim O'Dell was a law enforcement officer who put law-breakers in jail. Now, as chaplain to Barren County Correctional Center, Glasgow, he spends many hours each week in jail introducing men and women to Jesus Christ. O'Dell is no longer a witness against them but a witness to them of the love of God, the saving power of Jesus Christ and new life in him.

In less than a year O'Dell has often seen metamorphosis—the transformation of a life—as approximately 36 inmates have invited Jesus into their hearts. Four of these young men were baptized July 31, 1985 at Glasgow Baptist Church, Liberty Association, where O'Dell is a member.

O'Dell attended Eastern and Western Kentucky universities majoring in law enforcement and minoring in psychology. He has had training in various in-service and vo-



ational schools related to law enforcement. He attended Boyce Bible School in Louisville one year.

For two years O'Dell pastored Hardyville Baptist Church. Presently, he is employed as an inspector with the Department of Mines and minerals, oil and Gas Division.

Since becoming a chaplain O'Dell has learned that a ministry to prisoners is many-sided. He said, "Although I share the gospel one-to-one and in small groups, sometimes I am a hand-holder and counselor. Other times, I am breaking up a fight or helping a man sober up.

"Sometimes, I sit down beside a prisoner to give him encouragement and hope or to listen to his family problems—just being there when he needs someone, letting him know somebody cares. Many think nobody really cares and often this is true."

O'Dell is president of Metanoia Ministries Inc., a non-profit corporation. It is an interfaith ministry. At the present time, Metanoia is an in-house program with plans to provide follow-up once the individual leaves the facility. It will also provide a full time program, with a range of ministry services in Barren County and the state corrections system.

"With my law enforcement background, I never thought I would be ministering to people in jail but the Lord changes a person's thinking," stated O'Dell.

## BESS BARDIN

Mrs. Elwin Bardin, a native of Barren County, lives on a beautiful farm in Cave City. The farm not only provides her livelihood but serenity and enjoyment for others.

Bess Bardin is known for being a gracious hostess and her hobby, cooking, has brought pleasure to countless friends and acquaintances. Her speciality is country ham and her guests look forward to Mrs. Bardin's home cooked meals.

The old cliché, "The way to a man's (or anyone's) heart is through his stomach," holds a lot of truth. One of Mrs. Bardin's ways of loving folks has been through countless hours of preparing and serving food. As a farmer's wife, she prepared the noon meals for the farm hands.

Mrs. Bardin was saved in a tent revival in Glasgow and has been a member of Cave City Baptist Church 55 years. She has served the Lord in several capacities in the church. The



preschool Sunday school department was her ministry 22 years. Because of her love for children, she worked in her vacation Bible school. A "behind the scene" task has been the preparation for the communion services.

The Baptist Young Women's organization began a senior adult coffee club for fellowship and ministry opportunities. Mrs. Bardin is a member of this group. The Mary and Martha Bible study class is one she speaks of fondly.

Like many, Mrs. Bardin has known tragedy and heartache. Both her only child, a son, and her husband died within a short period of time. Her husband was a deacon.

Her friends call her a "faithful Christian." Her pastor, Wayne Hayes, calls Bess Bardin "a pastor's friend." The words Jesus spoke of Mary seem fitting also for Mrs. Bardin: "She hath done what she could."

## W. O. MERS

W. O. Mers, a versatile man, is considered by his friends in Cumberland County as "an unsung hero."

Mers has spent most of his life building churches both physically and spiritually. Evidence of his handiwork are three edifices that will stand to glorify God. He built Branham Grove, Burkesville First Baptist and First Baptist, Albany during 17 of his 50 years of ministry.

Mers has been a member of Branham Grove 32 years. He designed the 28 pews in this building out of a 100-ft. sweet gum tree, not only for beauty but also comfort.

Mers' goal as a young person was to become a professional baseball player and in the minor league he was known for his "throwing arm." When God called him to be a pastor he also gave Mers new goals—preaching and building. First Baptist Church, Silver Lake, Kan., was his



first pastorate. Next, he went to Foxport Baptist in Fleming County for seven years. In 1945 he moved to Cumberland County to build churches and do mission work and has enjoyed a fruitful ministry.

Born during the depression, the third child of 12, Mers' opportunity for formal education was limited. Mostly a self-educated man, he said, "The Lord gave me the ability to learn easily with average intelligence and I've tried to polish it."

His library consists of several hundred volumes. Many of these books were given to him by M. B. Adams, former president of Georgetown College. "Adams' influenced my life more than anyone," reflected Mers. Then he added, "I had the privilege of sending two sisters to college."

Retired from building and pastoring, he is quite active for a man well past the promised age, but then his father lived to be 99 and his mother was 93. He continues to be creative in his woodworking shop, supply preaches for churches, and is moderator for Freedom Association.

Mers married late in life. He and his wife, Vicie, have one son, a freshman in high school.

He is a lefthand shaker due to severely damaged fingers. He limps because of an accident with a cement mixer. His heart beats a little more slowly, but Mers says, "We're not put here to live forever. I thank God for a long life. I have had the satisfaction of doing a little something in the Lord's vineyard."



**Leon Simpson**  
President  
Clear Creek Baptist School  
Pineville, KY 40977

## clear creek comment

### Greatness through service

In Luke 22 our Lord said, "He that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve. For whether is greater, he that sitteth at meat or he that serveth?" (vs. 26-27).

I think of these verses when I think of the life of Cecil Yeary, a trustee of Clear Creek at whose memorial service I assisted a few days ago. He was the son of the late Lawrence W. and Minnie Moyers Yeary and was born in Middlesboro, Ky. on Mar. 27, 1912. He was united in marriage to a sweet school-teacher, Miss Daisy Engle, in 1937.

He owned and operated the London Insurance Agency for many years and was a faithful member of First Baptist Church, London. He served as a deacon and as the church treasurer for 30 years. He was a veteran of World War II and a Mason. He passed on to glory Sept. 19, 1985.

Cecil and Daisy Yeary believed in serving the Lord and helping people. Their life together expressed itself in loving and helpful ways to each other and to their friends and others. They both have served as trustees of Clear Creek Baptist School. Cecil is the only trustee to have served with all three Clear Creek presidents. They were especially close to R. P. Mahon, who taught at Clear Creek from 1926 until he retired in 1949.

One of the greatest honors I have ever been accorded was to be accepted by the Yearys as their friend when I came as the third president of Clear Creek in 1982. I was welcome in their home and helped in any way possible. They will never know what this meant to me.

As we begin our trustees meeting Thursday, we will sorely miss Cecil. He served Clear Creek faithfully and well and represents a vanishing breed of people whose word is their bond. May God raise up others to follow in his train!

#### "THE RIDICULOUS OPTIMIST"

There was once a man who smiled/  
Because the day was bright,  
Because he slept at night,/Because God  
gave him sight/He smiled because  
the sky/Was high above his head,  
Because the rose was red/Because the  
past was dead!/He toiled, and still was  
glad/Because the air was free,/Because  
he loved, and she/That claimed his love  
and he/Shared all the joys they  
had!/And people called him mad/For  
being always glad/With such things as  
he had,/And shook their heads and  
smiled." — Samuel Ellsworth Kiser

## Friends help family after house is destroyed

by Susan Shaw, State Correspondent

"Within an hour's time my whole world was upside down. I didn't know what was going to become of us next. It's a strange feeling to know you have nothing left."

Sixteen-year-old Christine Stanford described her feelings after discovering her house had exploded due to a gas leak.

"The Lord was watching out for us when he had all of us out of the house," she asserted.

Rarely are all seven family members away from the house at the same time, according to Linda Stanford, Chris'

mother. In fact, John Stanford and three of his sons left the house only 10 minutes before the explosion.

John, Linda, and their five children—Chris, 16, John, 14, Jason, 11, Jeremy, 9, and Jimmy, 8—came to Kentucky from Illinois four years ago for John to attend Boyce Bible School at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

Stanford is now assistant pastor of Wakefield Baptist Church in Taylorsville. He also works in the department of defense police for the Naval Ordnance Station in Louisville.

Mrs. Stanford is a nurse's aide at the Old Mason's Home in Shelbyville.

Looking around the hotel room where the family is now staying, one finds evidence that many, many people are trying to help the Stanford family put their lives back together.

Monetary donations have come in as word of the tragedy has spread.

Both Chris and her mother cited example after example of people who have pitched in to help them recover some of their loss.

"So many people have done so much. You don't know where to start to say thank you to people you don't even know," Mrs. Stanford observed.

She affirmed, "We've lost a lot, but the Lord still has his hand in it."

# MAYBE.

If you're considering the Church Insurance Program for the first time, the time has never been better.

This year, the Southern Baptist life and medical plan is better than ever before. So if you thought about enrolling in the past and didn't, now is the time. Or if you've ever been denied coverage, now you can get full life and medical benefits, no questions asked, except for health conditions diagnosed or treated within six months prior to your date of coverage.

To make it as easy as possible for you and your family to sign up for this excellent protection plan, we're having a special enrollment period from October 1-November 30.

You'll find that life rates have been reduced up to 30% for some age groups. Also, if you're enrolled in the plan from January to November next year, you won't be billed for your December medical premium—which means you get 1 month's medical insurance absolutely free!

The Church Insurance Program. The insurance protection you need at a price you can afford during our special 2-month Open Enrollment Period ending November 30. Call your Annuity Board at 1-800-262-0511, or call or visit your state annuity representative.



"Serving those who serve the Lord."

## The church that keeps on giving

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

For years, the mission giving records of Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown, had intrigued me.

• What persuades one congregation to consistently outgive all 2200-plus others in the state year after year, now virtually leaping ahead of all the others by as much as \$100,000?

• Are there hidden economic factors operating behind-the-scenes which are not readily apparent?

• Has this church experienced unusual blessings which allow it to share its receipts far out of proportion?

To find answers, I turned to J. Howard Cobble, pastor of this 2940-member congregation the last four years. He was willing to talk with me, but absolutely insisted the church not be glorified in the process.

He suggested that he could arrange a gathering of some of the members and let me put my questions to them.

Participating in the session were two women—Mrs. Roy Keith, director of the WMU Week of Prayer emphasis, and Mrs. Tim Davis, a first grade Sunday school teacher; and three men—Carl Isham, deacon chairman and newly elected Sunday school director; Lennie Jagers, Sunday school classification director; and Al Rider, budget chairman. All have been Severns Valley members many years.

Asked why Severns Valley maintained an 18-year lead across the state in mission giving, Susan Keith was first to answer. She referred to a "habit" established in the congregation years ago. "We've been made aware," she surmised, "that we get more from the Cooperative Program dollar than perhaps any other dollar we give."

"But you don't hear 'We're Number One' here," Isham chimed in.

Jagers recalled he was chairman of the committee that brought Verlin C. Kruschwitz to the Severns Valley pastorate in the early 50s. Cobble succeeded Kruschwitz.

"Krusch started preaching and teaching missions when he moved in," Jagers remembers. "He never quit."

Jagers cited that kind of preaching, plus the fact that every church family receives Western Recorder each week, as factors "which have done it." Sunday school leaders have contributed "in a big way, too," he allowed.

Rider interjected that it had been a "blessing" to the congregation that "we've not withheld mission money as a result of our building programs."

Terri Davis observed that the

church's latest structural addition, its Christian life center, had been paid off "without cutting back on increasing giving" to missions.

"Our members have simply learned you cannot outgive God," Isham contributed. "We've been blessed abundantly as a result of raising gifts to missions."

Mrs. Davis referred again to the "habit" of giving.

Having grown up in the church she doesn't "remember a time" she did not hear about the Cooperative Program. Today, she has a part in emphasizing it by teaching youngsters in Sunday school and vacation Bible school.

While E'town is "not a rich community," Jagers observed, local churches have "profited" on the strength of industry locating there. He called the city a "church-going town," where it is still popular "to attend and participate actively in churches."

Rider expressed the feeling of the group: "Say all this as humbly as you can. We can't take credit, and we don't want to take credit, for the good things that have happened." The others nodded approval.

Howard Cobble had purposely remained out of the room. Later he privately referred to a long history of "strong denominational interest" experienced by the church. "Our heritage gives us a denominational awareness," he said. The church has concluded that a cooperative effort is the "most effective way" to carry on "its Christian mission," he surmised.

The church has "opted to be generous to that belief," Cobble continued. It has chosen "to look out instead of looking in."

While he had found devotion to the Cooperative Program in previous pastorates, "I had not experienced it with this intensity," he allowed.

In four years he has seen Cooperative Program giving grow from \$150,527 to \$245,950, the Lottie Moon offering quadruple, the Annie Armstrong offering triple and the state missions offering double. In this time, Severns Valley's number of church missions has doubled, too, to four.

"We're not a fabulously wealthy community," he underscored.

Associate pastor Bill Ray verified the bulk of the church's gifts come from those who give "week by week"—not big givers, but consistent givers, who "follow biblical injunctions."

"It's a matter of heart," Cobble concluded. "When you've got that in the right place, there's no limit to what a church can do."

## Cooperative Program Associational Report

The following list of Cooperative Program giving by churches in each of the 79 associations shows both the 1984 and 1985 reports with a comparison of dollar and percent changes. The largest dollar increase was recorded by the churches of Long Run Association with \$117,233. The largest percentage change was recorded by the churches in Mt. Zion Association with 19.7 percent. The list also includes **Other/Non Church** contributions and **Non Association** church contribution categories. The total shows a \$700,813 increase for a 5.2 percent increase over last year.

	1984-1985 Coop. Prog.	1983-1984 Coop. Prog.	Dollar Change	Percent Change
1. Allen	43,751	41,155	2,596	6.3
2. Anderson	80,287	85,509	-5,222	-6.1
3. Bell	64,002	62,291	1,711	2.7
4. Bethel	230,496	224,311	6,185	2.8
5. Blackford	114,946	108,655	6,291	5.8
6. Blood River	478,254	463,173	15,081	3.3
7. Boones Creek	186,475	183,327	3,148	1.7
8. Booneville	86,817	76,245	10,572	13.9
9. Bracken	66,891	56,908	9,983	17.5
10. Breckinridge	40,980	38,951	2,029	5.2
11. Caldwell-Lyon	244,302	238,683	5,619	2.4
12. Casey	13,338	13,974	-636	-4.6
13. Central	92,762	91,045	1,717	1.9
14. Christian	329,720	302,098	27,622	9.1
15. Crittenden	92,048	93,694	-1,646	-1.8
16. Daviess-McLean	805,956	808,938	-2,982	-0.4
17. East Lynn	7,127	7,359	-232	-3.2
18. East Union	1,573	1,596	-23	-1.4
19. Elkhorn	890,565	827,188	63,377	7.7
20. Enterprise	67,169	65,844	1,325	2.0
21. Franklin	228,916	219,934	8,982	4.1
22. Freedom	22,463	23,043	-580	-2.5
23. Fulton	53,103	53,448	-345	-0.6
24. Gasper River	38,213	35,523	2,690	7.6
25. Goshen	494	610	-116	-19.0
26. Graves	196,751	196,067	684	0.3
27. Grayson	81,031	81,406	-375	-0.5
28. Green Valley	222,124	206,629	15,495	7.5
29. Greenup	290,316	314,264	-23,948	-7.6
30. Henry	70,701	59,701	11,000	18.4
31. Irvine	13,658	13,389	269	2.0
32. Jackson	0	0	0	0
33. Laurel River	126,167	122,779	3,388	2.8
34. Liberty	137,948	124,466	13,482	10.8
35. Lincoln	51,688	77,047	-25,359	-32.9
36. Little Bethel	402,997	358,244	44,753	12.5
37. Little River	97,401	93,946	3,455	3.7
38. Logan	82,798	81,340	1,458	1.8
39. Long Run	1,519,996	1,402,763	117,233	8.4
40. Lynn	72,421	68,330	4,091	6.0
41. Lynn Camp	30,774	30,200	574	1.9
42. McCreary	29,649	34,947	-5,298	-15.2
43. Mercer	282,776	259,299	23,477	9.1
44. Middle Fork	0	0	0	0
45. Monroe	28,677	28,047	630	2.2
46. Mt. Zion	215,571	180,117	35,454	19.7
47. Muhlenberg	431,703	382,644	49,059	12.8
48. Nelson	248,854	237,697	11,157	4.7
49. Northern Kentucky	568,065	547,664	20,401	3.7
50. North Concord	54,704	62,774	-8,070	-12.9
51. Ohio County	179,533	173,745	5,788	3.3
52. Ohio River	135,918	132,802	3,116	2.3
53. Ohio Valley	137,059	144,335	-7,276	-5.0
54. Owen	92,649	89,062	3,587	4.0
55. Pike	195,212	174,088	21,124	12.1
56. Pine Mountain	19,840	33,581	-13,741	-40.9
57. Pulaski County	411,536	411,692	-156	0.0
58. Red River	36,011	34,908	1,103	3.2
59. Rockcastle	36,176	35,003	1,173	3.4
60. Russell County	28,900	28,557	343	1.2
61. Russell Creek	71,238	71,759	-521	-0.7
62. Salem	91,703	82,344	9,359	11.4
63. Severns Valley	549,637	505,542	44,095	8.7
64. Shelby County	203,138	175,824	27,314	15.5
65. Simpson	109,208	106,502	2,706	2.5
66. South District	240,955	225,242	15,713	7.0
67. South Union	9,406	9,100	-306	-3.3
68. Sulphur Fork	138,938	139,503	-565	-0.4
69. Tates Creek	163,242	150,461	12,781	8.5
70. Taylor County	274,198	279,561	-5,363	-1.9
71. Ten Mile	81,913	88,309	-6,396	-7.2
72. Three Forks	149,202	140,472	8,730	6.2
73. Union	60,836	64,807	-3,971	-6.1
74. Upper Cumberland	62,620	61,311	1,309	2.1
75. Warren	288,392	247,624	40,768	16.5
76. Wayne	35,792	33,796	1,996	5.9
77. West Kentucky	101,678	94,782	6,896	7.3
78. West Union	475,881	431,097	44,784	10.4
79. Whites Run	28,128	26,941	1,187	4.4
80. Other/Non Church	223,544	237,592	-14,048	-5.9
81. Non Assoc. Churches	105,457	56,581	48,876	86.4
TOTAL	14,274,998	13,574,185	700,813	5.2



Standing with Severns Valley pastor J. Howard Cobble is Terri Davis. Seated, l-r: Al Rider, Susan Keith holding granddaughter Katie Hall, Carl Isham, Lennie Jagers.

# mountains to the mississippi

## personnel

Susan Wren Shelton (see photo) has been called as minister of children's work by First Baptist Church, Wetumpka, Ala.

Miss Shelton is a graduate of Murray (Ky.) State University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Hicks Shelton of Princeton.



Miss Shelton



Crabb

R. Don Whitehead has resigned as associate minister at First Baptist Church, Somerset, Pulaski Association, to enter private practice as a pastoral counselor in that city.

Forest Harrison has been called as pastor of Beech Grove Baptist Church, Boone's Creek Association.

John B. Moore assumed the pastorate at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, Ohio County Association Oct. 13. Moore had been pastor of Nebo (Ky.) Baptist Church, Little Bethel Association.

Al Hickman was called as pastor of Oak Grove Baptist Church, Wayne County Association.

Mike Ash began duties as minister of music at Youngers Creek Baptist Church, Severns Valley Association.

Darrel Williams has been called as minister of youth and church activities at Third Baptist Church, Owensboro, Daviess-McLean Association.

He is a recent graduate of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Cal.

Paul Welch is pastor at Third Street.

Lloyd Senters has resigned as pastor of Licking River Baptist Church, Salyersville, Enterprise Association to become pastor at Pleasant Run Baptist Church, Manchester, Booneville Association.

Ferrill Gardner, pastor of Carlisle Avenue Baptist Church, Louisville, Long Run Association, was honored by the congregation Sept. 1 for his 10 years as pastor. A native of Kentucky, Gardner has pastored in the commonwealth 31 years.

Lucille Crupper began her 50th year as youth teacher at Mussel Shoals Baptist Church, Owen County Association.

Thomas E. Baker is pastor of Mussel Shoals.

Daryl and Bobbi Varble joined the staff of First Baptist Church, Whitley City, McCreary Association.

Vicky Brunson, a 1985 graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, and a member of Deer Park Baptist Church, Louisville, is a Home Mission Board Mission Service Corps volunteer in Boston, Mass.

She is working with ethnic churches helping to develop leadership training and starting conversational English classes.

Beth Harrison, a student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, has been appointed chaplain at Masonic Widows and Orphans Home, Louisville.

## missions

Two Kentucky natives have been appointed by the Home Mission Board as US-2 missionaries.

James Dean, 21, of Erlanger will be

developing ministries in two resort settings in western North Carolina along the Nanthahala River and in ski resort areas.

Kim Williams, 25, of Springfield will be office manager for Christian Ministries to the United Nations and will assist with Bible studies and teach English as a second language.

Dean received the BA degree from Georgetown (Ky.) College with a major in physical education and a minor in religion.

Miss Williams is a graduate of Campbellsville (Ky.) College and Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, where she earned the MEd degree in music. For the past three years she has been a music instructor at St. Catharine College, Springfield.

The US-2 program provides an opportunity for college graduates younger than 27 to devote two years to home missions.

Stanley Crabb Jr. (see photo), a Southern Baptist missionary who has directed the radio and television ministry of Italian Baptists since 1970, has been named to succeed John Wilkes as director of European Baptist Press Service, Ruschlikon, Switzerland. Wilkes is joining the Baptist World Alliance staff in Washington, D. C.

Crabb is a native of Louisville and a graduate of the University of Louisville and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

European Press Service is the news agency of the European Baptist Federation which encompasses 25 Baptist bodies in 22 European countries.

Crabb will assume his position Jan. 1. He and his wife, the former Patricia Maddux of Hopkinsville, are in the states on furlough (1402 Old Mill Rd., Louisville, KY 40206).

Two Kentucky couples have been appointed church starting missionaries by the Home Mission Board.

Bruce and Donna Brinkman, formerly of Covington, were appointed for Marietta, Ga., and Joseph and Sharon Garland of Pineville were appointed for Tug Valley, W. Va.

Brinkman, 42, has been minister of education/administration at Noonday Baptist Church, Marietta, Ga. the past year. Earlier he was minister of education at Ormsby Heights Baptist Church, Louisville.

He is a graduate of Georgetown (Ky.) College and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

Mrs. Brinkman was appointed for church and family work. She is a secretary in the Associational Missions Division of the Home Mission Board and is director of preschool ministries for Noonday Baptist Church. She attended Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights. She formerly was a secretary in the Brotherhood Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Garland, 41, a native of Fonde, Ky., has been pastor of Bethlehem Baptist Church, Pineville, since 1980.

He is a graduate of Clear Creek Baptist School, Pineville.



The Garlands



The Brinkmans

Mrs. Garland, a native of Ohio, was appointed for church and family work. She is employed by Kroger Co., Middlesboro.

## congregations

Highview Baptist Church, Louisville, Long Run Association, honored Angel Martinez for his 50 years in evangelism.

Martinez preached at Highview in a one-day revival as part of the celebration. There were 17 professions of faith, three additions by letter and several rededications.

William L. Hancock is pastor at Highview.

First Baptist Church, Lewisport, Blackford Association, reported 200 public commitments, four professions of faith, several rededications and one addition by letter during a "Super September" campaign.

The church also had a record Sunday school attendance with 106 present Sept. 29.

Randy Stallings is pastor.

Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, Ohio County Association, had its youth group organize a food round up in the community around the church. The group went door to door asking each family to donate a can of food for Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children.

Temple Baptist Church, Owensboro, Daviess-McLean Association, celebrated its 30th anniversary Sept. 29. The church recognized Mary Branson, a Bible teacher since 1951 and Harry Thixton, the church clerk since 1955.

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**FOR SALE:** Multilith Off-set Printer - Model 1250. Needs minor repairs. Make reasonable offer. Contact Rev. Bob White, Harrodsburg, KY. Phone 606-734-3546 (church office) or 606-734-2500 (home). 10-15-4t

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Former pastors present were Franklin Skaggs, William Roberts, Joe Prater and Ronnie Forrest.

Michael Cain is the current pastor.

Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Mt. Zion Association, celebrated its centennial Sept. 1. Leon Simpson, president of Clear Creek Baptist School, Pineville, was guest speaker. The church also dedicated an addition to its building with director of missions Janus Jones leading the ceremony.

Bethlehem Baptist Church, Mt. Zion Association, celebrated its 150th anniversary Aug. 25. Tony Jackson was guest speaker.

Woodbine Baptist Church, Mt. Zion Association, celebrated its centennial Aug. 11 with Janus Jones, director of missions, as guest speaker.

## revivals

Glasgow Baptist Church, Liberty Association, reported 31 decisions during a one-day revival Sept. 15.

Rick Scarborough of Mobile, Ala., was guest evangelist.

Delton M. Beall is pastor.

Bandana Baptist Church, West Union Association, had three professions of faith and one person joining by letter during a recent revival.

Roy Jerrell Jr., pastor of First Baptist Church, Camdenton, Mo., was guest evangelist.

Frank Queen is pastor.

Liberty Baptist Church, Laurel River Association, had three professions of faith and five rededications during a recent revival.

Central Baptist Church, Corbin, Mt. Zion Association, reported 16 professions of faith and eight additions by letter during a revival Sept. 22-26. Pastor Don R. Mathis was evangelist.

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## 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

**Ormsby Heights Baptist Church**  
212 Lower Hunters Trace Road  
Louisville, Kentucky 40216  
November 3, 1985

### SPECIAL SPEAKERS

9:30 a.m. Rev. Bobby Wilburn  
10:45 a.m. Rev. Harry Wilburn  
7:00 p.m. Rev. Ricky Wilburn  
7:45 p.m. Rev. Ronnie Wilburn

*Special Music by Karen Dale Riley  
Dinner in Fellowship Hall at noon*

A newly commissioned history including both Ormsby Avenue Baptist Church and Ormsby Heights Baptist Church will be available for \$4.00.

## deaths

**Robert Donald Crutcher, 50**, died Aug. 23. A native of Elizabethtown, Crutcher was minister of education and administration at First Baptist Church, Starkville, Miss.

**James B. Sawyer, 81**, founding pastor of Beechwood Baptist Church and former staff member of Highland Baptist Church, both in Louisville, died Sept. 6 at his home in Mt. Pleasant, S. C.

## ordinations

**Gary Cobb** was ordained to the ministry by Zion Baptist Church, Green Valley Association, Sept. 22.

Dan J. Garland is pastor.

**Tommy Craft, Jerry Davis, Bill McCann, Steve Patterson and Ken Zellich** were ordained as deacons at First Baptist Church, Madisonville, Little Bethel Association.

H. Gary Coltharp is pastor.

**Jackie Cardwell** was ordained to the ministry by Dedicated Baptist Church, Warren Association, Oct. 13. The church has called him as pastor.

**Gary Gentry** was ordained as a deacon by First Baptist Church, Dawson Springs, Little Bethel Association, Sept. 29.

Lawson Williams is pastor.

**Paul Gardner Jr.** was ordained as a deacon by Cerulean Baptist Church, Little River Association.

Joe Pat Winchester is pastor.

**Hiram Knight and Brad Harrison** were ordained as deacons Sept. 29 at Zion Baptist Church, Green Valley Association.

Dan J. Garland is pastor.

**Beechridge Baptist Church, Shelby Association**, ordained Darryl T. Deners as a deacon Sept. 29.

J. E. Hail Jr. is pastor.

**Denise Bourne** was ordained to the ministry Aug. 25 by St. Matthews Baptist Church, Louisville, Long Run Association.

William P. Tuck is pastor at St. Matthews.

**Jim Griffin, Adrienne Kendall, Jewell Strange, Peggy Prevost, Ron Prevost and Tom Rector Sr.** were ordained as deacons by Fern Creek Baptist Church, Long Run Association, Sept. 29.

Mark Hopper is pastor at Fern Creek.

## associations

West Kentucky Association's children's choir and youth choir gave a concert Sept. 13.

The choirs are directed by Dorothy Terry (youth choir) and Kathy Larkins (children's choir).

The associational children's choir began seven years ago. The youth choir started four years later when members of the children's choir wanted to continue singing after they became youth. Each choir has 45 members.

The associational music director for West Kentucky Association is Rod Martin.

Davies-McLean Association through its Christian social ministries committee conducted two conferences last month.

A senior adult conference was held Sept. 5 at Buena Vista Baptist Church, Owensboro. Jack D. Sanford, editor of Western Recorder, was speaker.

Leslie Withers, educational director of SEEDS hunger ministry, Decatur, Ga., was speaker for a World Hunger action awareness workshop Sept. 16 at Walnut Street Baptist Church, Owensboro.



**Eldred M. Taylor**  
Executive Director  
10901 Shelbyville Road  
Middletown, KY 40243

# homes for children

## October in Kentucky

I happen to think it is extremely important to say "hello" to Kentucky Baptists. With more than 2200 Baptist churches with over 758,826 members it is not easy to say "hello" to all of them. I want Baptist Homes for Children to be in contact with Baptists throughout the state because every Baptist needs to hear of the needs of children right here in Kentucky. They also need to know what Baptist Homes is doing to minister to children who hurt so badly.

There are many ways to say "hello" to Baptists and tell of this work with children. We publish a paper, Baptist Children's Messenger, about six times each year and mail it to thousands of people. It carries news about our ministry. Pamphlets are given out in meetings and through the mail, telling the story of our work. Western Recorder and other media are used to share about child care.

During October many Baptist associations hold their annual meetings. Such meetings give us an opportunity to shake hands with and speak personally with a lot of Baptists. I enjoy these meetings immensely and count it a great privilege to bring greetings from Baptist Homes for Children and speak briefly about this important work.

Attending the associations in October is a special treat because of the unusual beauty of Kentucky. Last week my wife and I traveled from near Benton, Ky. in the west to London, Ky. The beauty of the trees was breathtaking and awe inspiring. The kaleidoscopic view made the hillsides look like giant bouquets of fiery red, green, yellow, brown and all colors between.

Bliss Carman says it poetically in "A Vagabond Song:"

There is something in the Autumn that  
is native to my blood—  
Touch of manner, hint of mood;  
And my heart is like a rhyme,  
With the yellow and the purple and the  
crimson keeping time.

There is something in October sets the  
gypsy blood astir;  
We must rise and follow her,  
When from every hill of flame  
She calls and calls each vagabond by  
name.

To see such beauty is to thank God  
for his handiwork and rejoice in serving  
him.

# viewpoint

## Involuntarily terminated ministers find support

by Byron N. Songer  
Louisville

Monday, Sept. 23 was a pleasant day for a drive to Cedarmore Baptist Assembly. Cedarmore, to Kentucky Baptists, is a place where those attending conferences and retreats can really "get away" from the normal activities of life. On this day, five ministers, who had not met each other but had much in common, were to meet for a significant conference led by Vernon Cole and other members of the Kentucky Baptist Convention staff. It was a time to "get away" and a time to look at much of the past as well.

What was this important conference, this time of retreating, the ministers were to attend? It was a conference for those who had been involuntarily terminated, forced out, fired from churches they had been called to serve. It was the second such conference to be conducted under the auspices of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Who were these ministers?

They were pastors, a minister of education, and a minister of music. They represented no less than one-sixth of the ministers in Kentucky who had shared in the frightening and defacing experience in the past year. Two of them were relatively fortunate for they had accepted the call to serve other churches in a relatively short period of time. Three were still searching for employment after being estranged for months from the service to which God had called them.

As the conference began, the ministers (along with two wives) and leaders gathered in a room with more than enough chairs. There were vacant chairs between the members of the group in the semi-circle because the unacquainted conferees were afraid to get close to each other. There was a feeling of greater than normal tenseness in the air. There was no joking around or sharing of humor as one might expect. These people knew that the subject of the conference was one of

grave importance.

Everyone talked politely and pleasantly as the first portion of the program was conducted on charting a minister's relationship with a church. All present reflected on the information sharing stage of the relationship, when a church first makes contact with a prospective minister. There were discussions of the courtship stage, the time of issuing and responding to a call, the honeymoon period and the time of meeting reality. Some discussion of the lessons to be learned resulted. All was still rather formal and polite.

Then it finally came. The segment of the program when the emotional temperature was at its highest. The participants' response sheets were referred to. Each person was to complete it before going on. Three questions that leaped off of the page:

What would you say is the dominant cause that brought about the termination; in a few words, describe your dominant feelings; what effect has the involuntary termination had on your family?

This turned out to be the pivotal time in the conference for it was the point at which each person could open himself up and show his deep wounds. At first there was hesitancy.

The first one to speak said, "Normally I have been a trusting person, now I am finding it hard to trust other people. Some of the church members who romanced me into going to the church were the very ones that set the fire for my leaving."

Then other comments came. "I did all I could to fill in while the church was without a pastor and then the new pastor said he didn't want me." "I feel betrayed by my best friends." "I have lost the joy of my salvation." "These people don't want a pastor with moral convictions and doctrinal integrity. They want an 'ear tickler'." "The church had grown steadily but a little group within the congregation wanted their own way. There was no great majority." And finally, "I'm angry and

hurt with no one to turn to. I feel stranded. I'm alone and feeling like a loser."

Tears came. There were deep sighs. The hurt was real.

Suddenly, the small group of individuals moved together to form a company of caring humanity. Finally, after days and weeks and months, each person present found others who cared and who truly shared the sense of loss and grief. No one was alone anymore. All in a short span of time had become friends, real friends, Christian friends. The emotional strain had been lifted and there was a healthy, warm glow of love in the room.

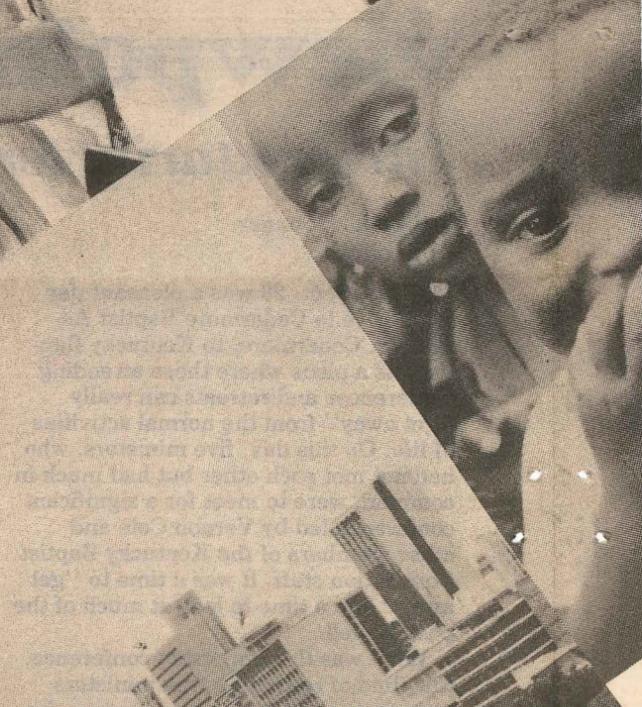
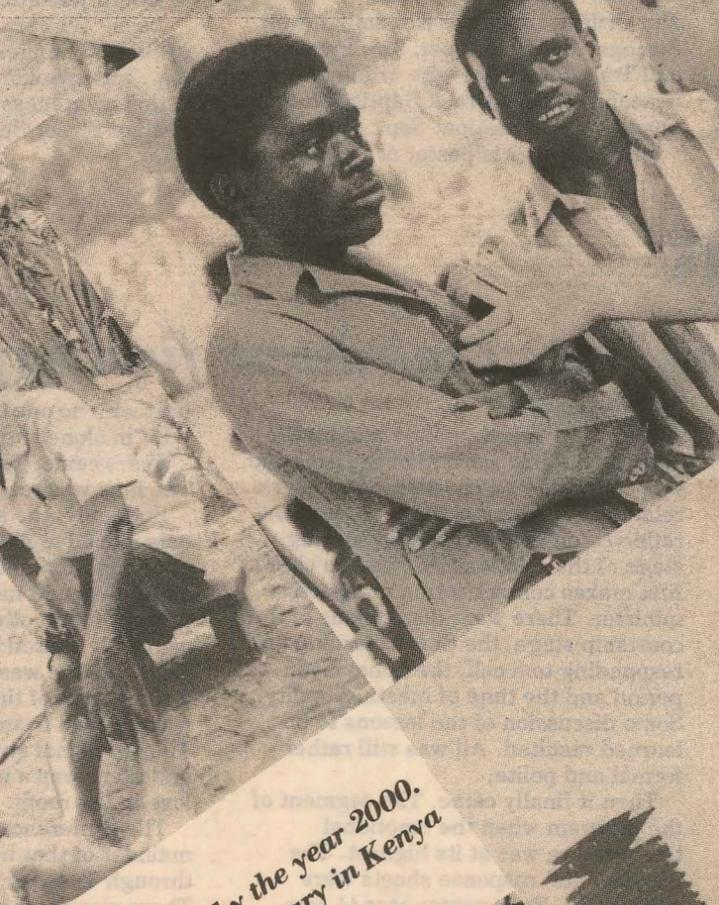
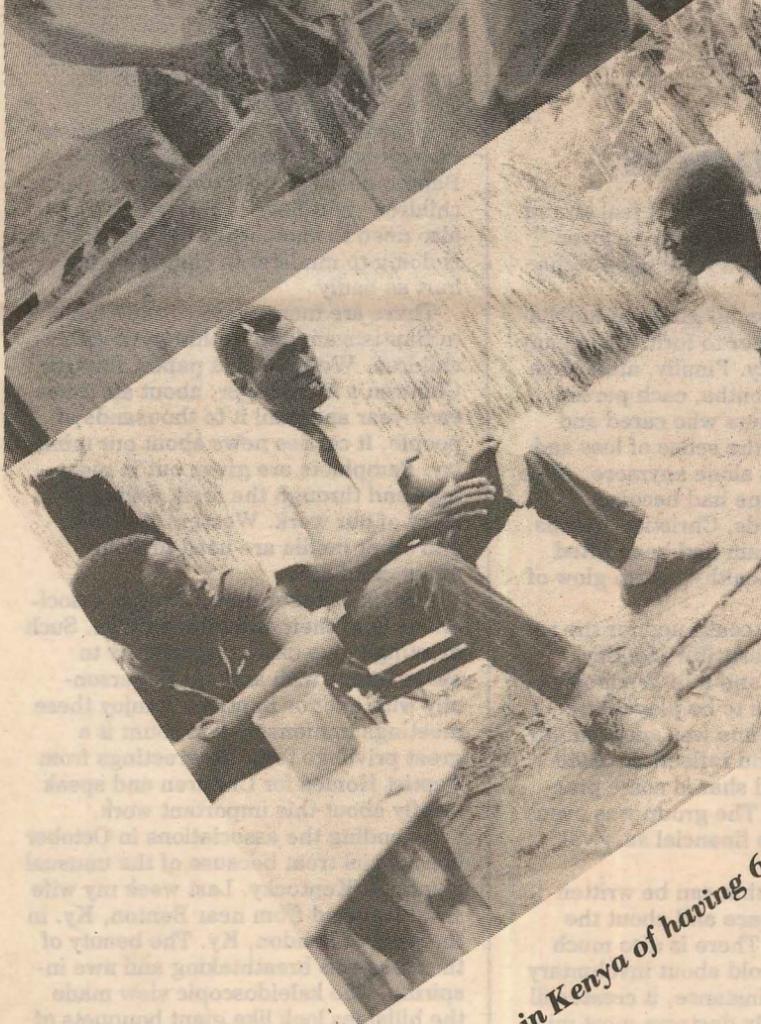
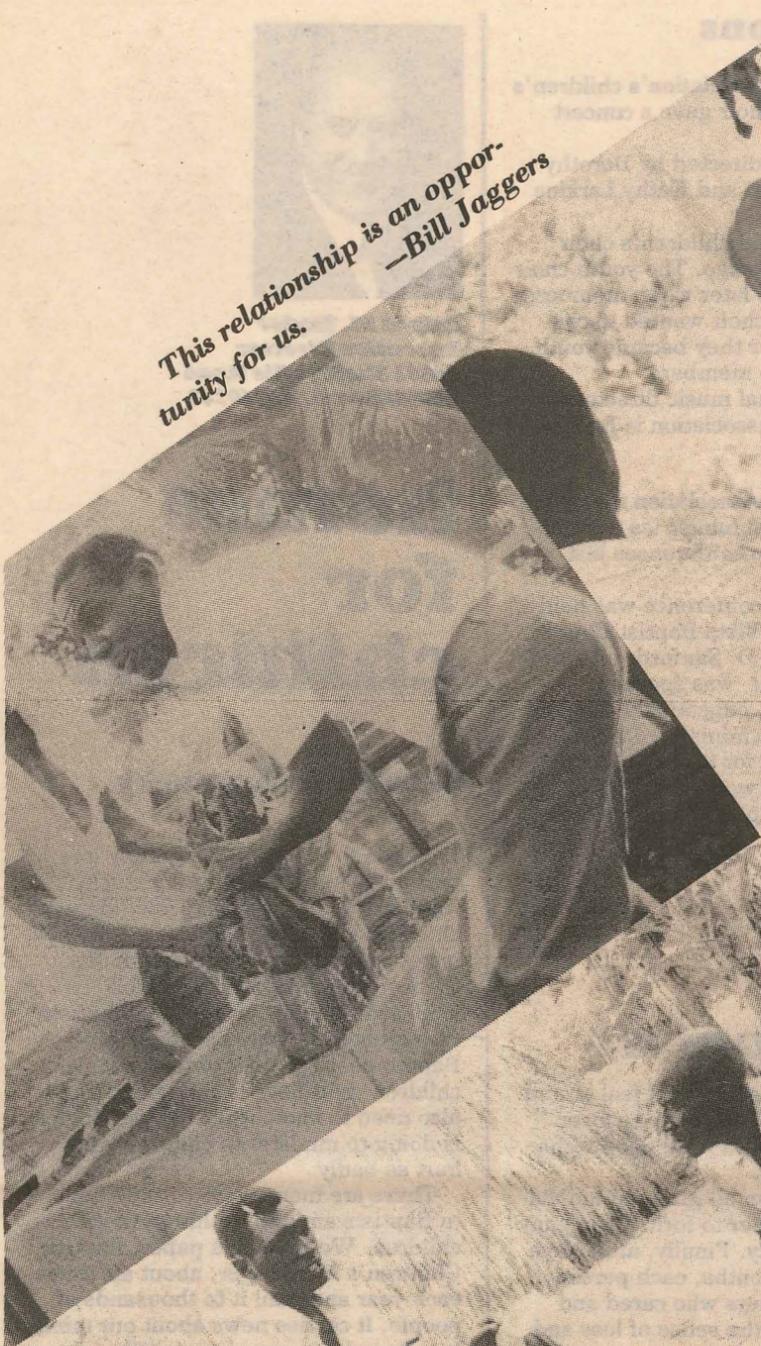
The conference continued for the remainder of that beautiful Monday through Tuesday and into Wednesday. There were games to be played together at night. Time was spent in personal discovery and reflection. State workers came and shared some practical information. The group was even guided to develop financial survival strategies.

There is much that can be written about the conference and about the topics discussed. There is also much that needs to be told about involuntary termination. For instance, it creates ill feelings and nearly destroys most ministers because the social, occupational and worship center has been removed. There is only a small amount of financial help available from the state convention if churches don't give the minister sufficient support past the time of active service. The churches also suffer because members are often put at odds with each other.

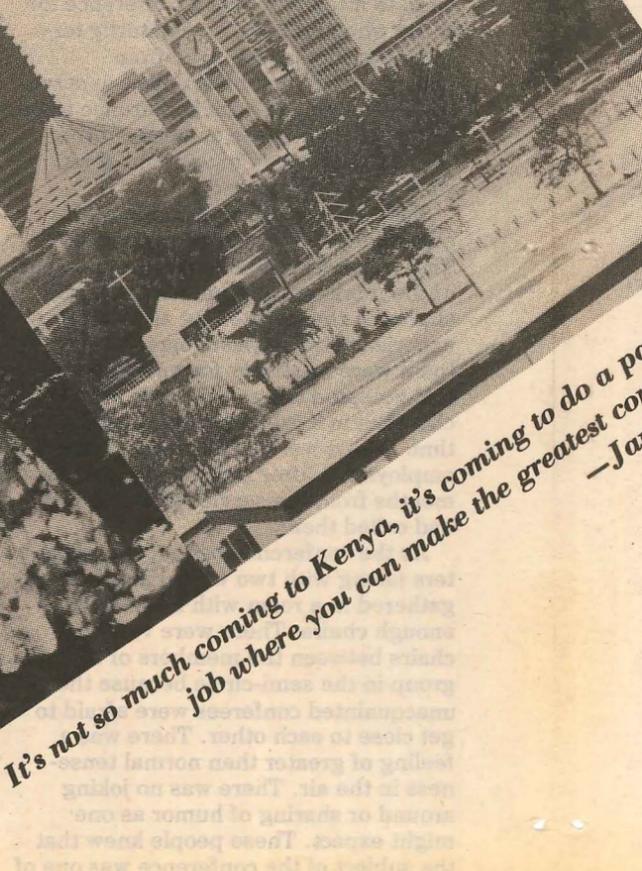
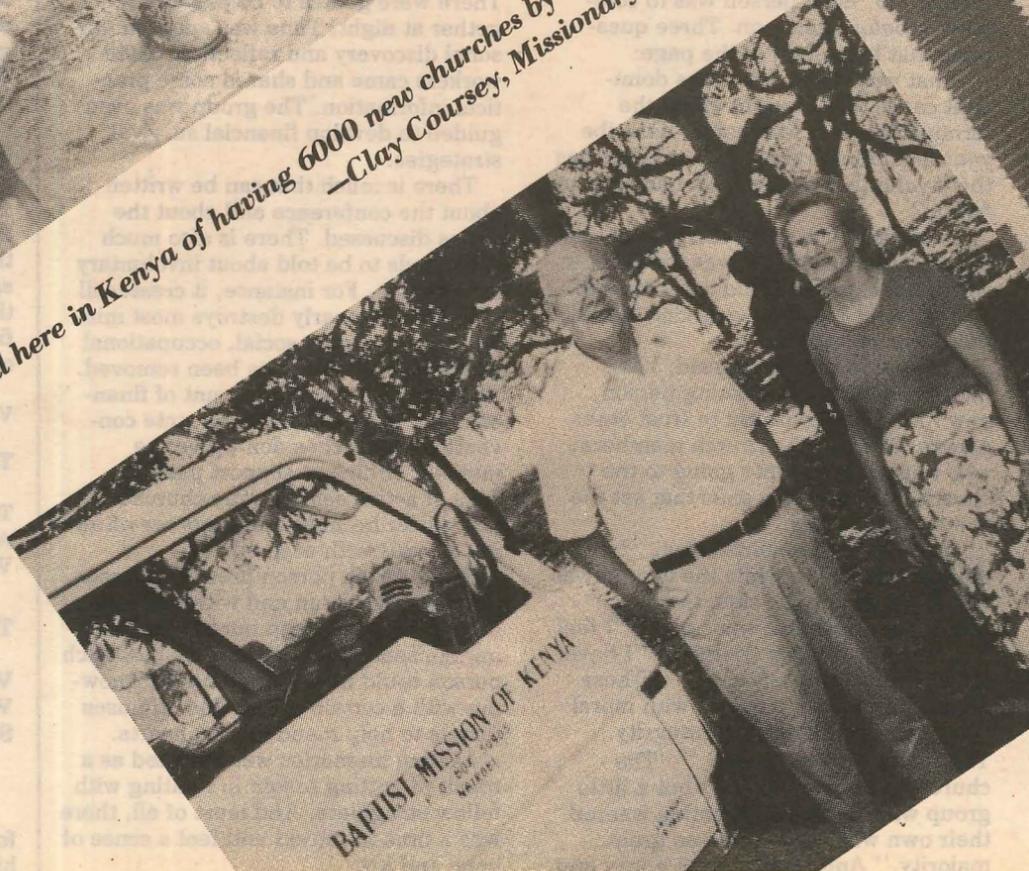
But for each person present the conference came to an end with each one having shared a deep burden and feeling the sense of relief that results. Each person could now go on with life knowing with a certainty that God still uses people to help mend broken hearts.

Lasting memories were created as a result of getting to join in relating with fellow strugglers. And most of all, there was a time to retreat and feel a sense of hope and joy.

*This relationship is an opportunity for us.*  
—Bill Jaggers

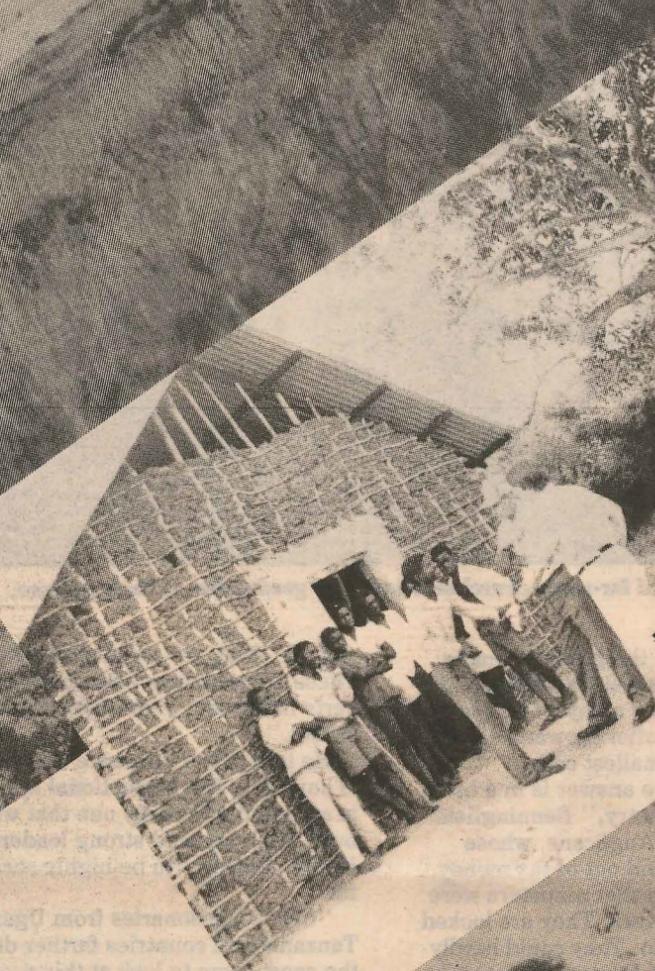
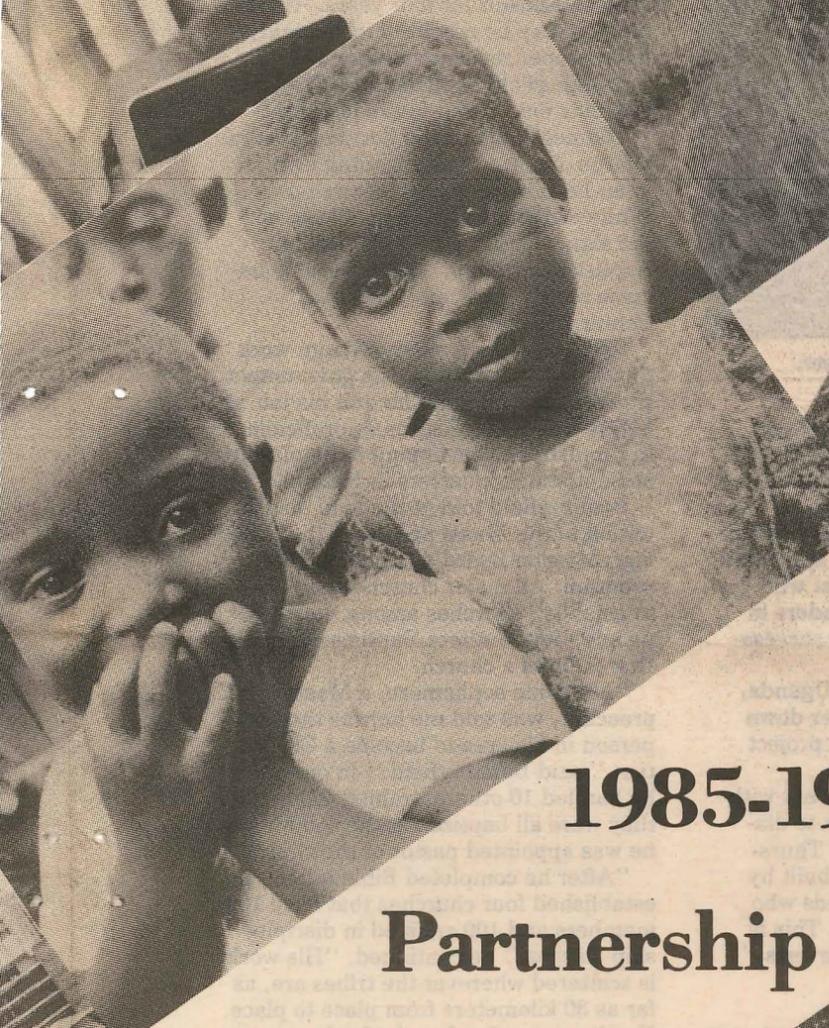
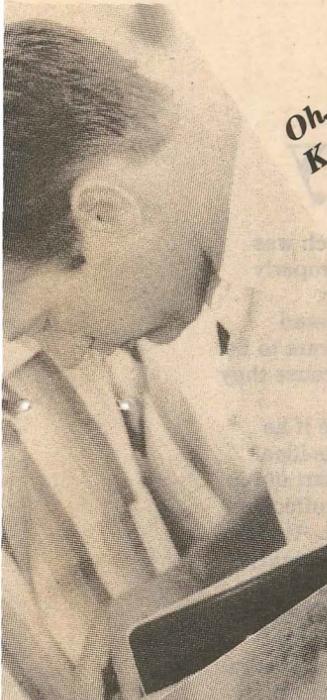
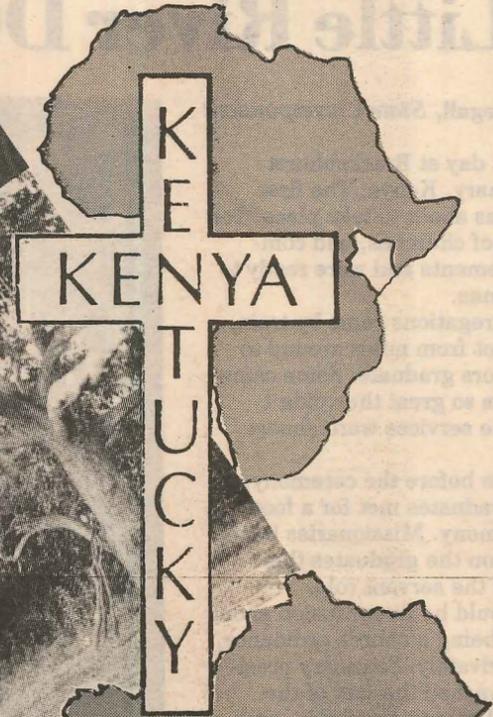
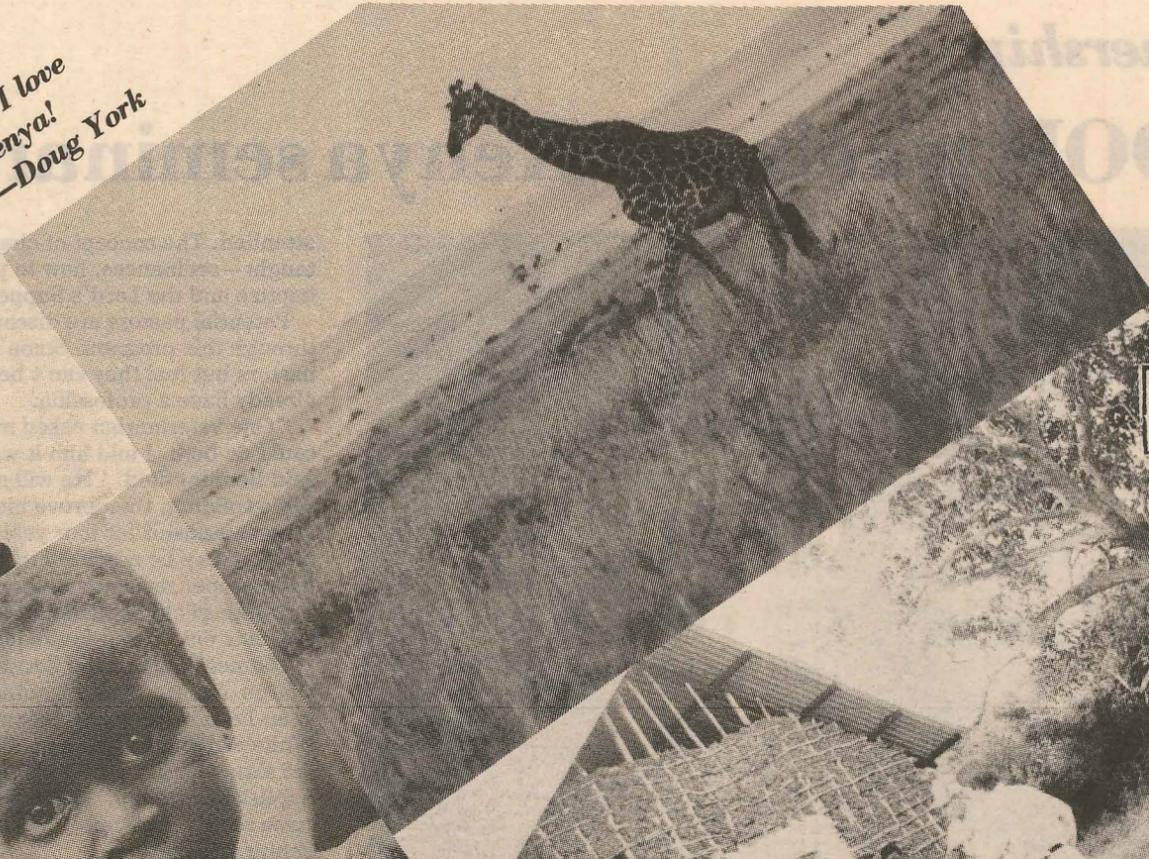


*We have a goal here in Kenya of having 6000 new churches by the year 2000.*  
—Clay Coursey, Missionary in Kenya



*It's not so much coming to Kenya, it's coming to do a job where you can make the greatest contribution.*  
—James

*Oh, I love Kenya!  
—Doug York*



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*ing to do a particular  
he greatest contribution.  
—James Whaley*



*The needs are so great. The people are so open.  
—Doug Strader*



## Kentucky-Kenya Partnership

# Little River DOM teaches at Kenya seminary

by Pauline Stegall, State Correspondent

It was a great day at Brackenhurst Baptist Seminary, Kenya. The first graduation was about to take place. Ten men, pastors of churches, had completed requirements and were ready to receive diplomas.

Proud congregations came by train, bus and on foot from miles around to see their pastors graduate. Some came from distances so great they didn't arrive until the services were almost over.

A short time before the ceremony, faculty and graduates met for a foot washing ceremony. Missionaries hoped to impress upon the graduates the importance of the servant role.

So there would be no confusion about foot washing being a church ordinance, it was done privately. Seminary president Turner washed the feet of the graduates. Later, as a reminder, each person received a towel with his diploma.

Later, students, faculty and visitors shared a meal on campus. For this joyous occasion a two-year-old bull had been killed.

"It was the greatest experience of my life, avowed Ralph Benningfield, director of missions, Little River Association, referring to the entire Kenya experience. He had guided the graduates through some of their final classes. He also gave the dedicatory prayer at the graduation.

Benningfield, with his wife Norma, and Don Phelps, pastor of Locust Grove Baptist Church, Cadiz, was in Kenya five weeks this summer on a mission tour. He preached and taught in addition to his seminary duties.

Don Phelps contributed his carpenter skills. With help from the nationals, he began and almost completed a faculty house for Joe, a language teacher.

The nationals were impressed that a Baptist preacher from America would work with them instead of just supervising. They were inspired to work unusually hard.

"I'm sure Joe is in his house by now," Benningfield smiled. "He had been teaching at Brackenhurst without his family and was excited because he was going to move his family down there."

Mrs. Benningfield worked in the library, but spent much of her time in marketing, cooking, cleaning and doing laundry for the two men.

"The meat was poor and the chicken was high," Norma said. "But we could get good cheese, vegetables and fruits in the market.

"I tried to bake cakes, but they fluctuated with the altitude," she laughed.

Lack of books is one of the big problems in the seminary, Benningfield explained. "We took some texts with us and left them at the seminary. But the students need books for reference at home. That's why we had each student make a notebook."

The seminary is involved in an experimental bivocational approach with the students. Previously, pastors left their homes, churches and culture for four years to attend school. Few returned to active pastorates because they would be offered government jobs or teaching positions with good salaries.

There is little monetary support from



Members of far-away churches attend the graduation of their pastors.

the churches and the pastors usually can't make ends meet (the average day laborer earns \$1.20 a day.) One pastor said his average offering was one 10-cent piece, the smallest coin.

"Obviously, the answer is in a bivocational type ministry," Benningfield stated. "But the Anglicans, whose ministers were paid out of tax money, left an impression that ministers were not supposed to work. They are looked down on if they do. They could hardly believe that many Baptist ministers in the United States were bivocational.

"So in the new approach, missionaries are trying to impress upon the pastors the importance of the servant role, that there is dignity in work, and that each needs to find work to help support himself and his church.

"We tried to teach the pastors that tithing could be taught in the Old Testament manner—a 10th of a crop, herd or flock be brought in and the preacher live off that."

Under the new program, the missionaries go out and meet with four or five pastors in their setting, give them work assignments and supervise them. Four times a year the pastor comes in for intensive training on campus. Correspondence courses are also available.

"Before, probably one would have remained in the pastorate," Benningfield commented. "This way, all 10 will

remain. They are serious Christians. These 10 graduates had won 1000 converts in the four years they were in school."

He told of the influence the program is having. "The bivocational approach is apparently the only one that will build churches and strong leaders in Kenya. It seems to be highly successful.

"Other missionaries from Uganda, Tanzania and countries farther down the coast came to look at this project and were impressed.

"The Kentucky ministers went with missionary Vance Kirkpatrick to discipleship training class every Thursday night. These groups are built by Christians inviting their friends who have no knowledge of Christ. This is the best way to make new converts," according to Benningfield.

When a person makes a profession of faith, he understands he must try to live a Christian life. If after a year he has given up drinking, gambling and other bad habits and remained faithful, he is baptized into the church.

Benningfield was involved in the Institute of Church during the last week of his stay. Financed by a doctor from Mississippi, this project lasted from eight in the morning until nine at night.

Both pastors and lay people

attended. The concept of church was taught—ordinances, how to properly baptize and the Lord's Supper.

Potential pastors are discovered through this program. Some want to be pastors but feel they can't because they already have a profession.

"One veterinarian asked me if he could do both. I told him it was ideal," said Benningfield. "He will start out in Bible training, then prove his effectiveness as a pastor for four years. At that time he may be admitted to seminary upon proper recommendation."

Benningfield explained that lay leadership is discovered in the institute.

"James Alego, head horticulturist in a large orchard, was a leading layman in an English speaking fellowship. While walking by one day, Alego saw the sign, 'Limuri English Speaking Baptist Fellowship.' From there he became highly involved," recalled Benningfield.

"He asked for a week off from work to attend the institute. The government wouldn't permit it, so he quit his job. A highly trained professional, proficient in English, he was hoping to be placed at Baptist headquarters in Nairobi."

Benningfield told of the food distribution to the Masai people by the Foreign Mission Board's Hunger Relief program. All major churches had tried to establish churches among these people, but Southern Baptists were the first to build a church.

"I had one sophomore, a Masai preacher, who told me he was the first person in his area to become a Christian," said Benningfield. "In one year, he had led 10 others, trained them, and they were all baptized at the same time he was appointed pastor of the church.

"After he completed Bible school, he established four churches that have 100 members and 100 enlisted in discipleship classes," he continued. "His work is scattered wherever the tribes are, as far as 30 kilometers from place to place. He alternates Sundays in the four areas where he preaches."

Benningfield spoke of the quality and commitment of Baptist missionaries.

"I was impressed by their dedication. And the great love the nationals have for them. People like Sam Turner, Vance Kirkpatrick and Lavell Seats. They keep up an amazing pace seven days a week, many hours a day, amid the poverty and disease, to become totally accepted by the nationals.

"These highly trained people are well known and respected everywhere they go. This trip gave me greater insight into what the Foreign Mission Board is doing.

"The Kentucky-Kenya program is a good program," he continued. "It is hoped that all expenses will be taken care of without taking from our mission money.

"There is so much that can be done to help. Churches could sponsor a pastor or a student. Books, the only thing that can be sent in without duty, can be donated.

"The need for workers is tremendous," declared Benningfield. "If anyone is willing to get his hands dirty for the Lord's work, then it is the greatest opportunity that I know. The people are hungry for the gospel."

"My life will never be the same," reflected Benningfield. And you see it in his face and hear it in his voice.

*"There is much more that can be done to help. Churches could sponsor a pastor or student. Books, the only thing that can be sent into the country without duty, can be donated."*

## Six with Kentucky ties to be foreign missionaries

Six people with Kentucky ties were recently named missionaries by the Foreign Mission Board, SBC.

Among the 40 people appointed as missionaries Oct. 8 at Derbyshire Baptist Church, Richmond, Va., were Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Lee Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. John S. Conrad, and Mr. and Mrs. L. Stephen Cate.

The Taylors will work in Argentina, where he will be a general evangelist and she will be a church and home worker. He is pastor of River View, Cox's Creek, Ky.

He received the AA degree from Brewton-Parker College, Mt. Vernon, Ga.; the BA degree from Mercer University, Macon, Ga.; and the MDiv degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

He has served as minister of music and youth at Sandy Valley, Warner Robins, Ga. and pastor of Liberty, Prospect, Ky.

Mrs. Taylor attended Mercer University and Elizabethtown (Ky.) Community College. She has been a secretary in Louisville and a library computer operator of cataloging at Southern Seminary.

Both Taylor and Mrs. Taylor were reared in Waycross, Ga. They have two children, Joseph Lee III, 4, and Marie Elizabeth, 2.

The Conrads will work in South Korea, where he will be a music consultant and she will be a church and home worker.



The Taylors

Born and reared in Falmouth, Ky. Conrad is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Orman W. Conrad. He received the BME degree from Morehead (Ky.) State University, and the MCM degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

He has been a teacher in Oneida, Ky. He also has been a Baptist Student Union summer missionary in the Philippines; minister of music and youth at First, Mt. Repose, Milford, Oh. and First, Morehead, Ky.; and minister of music at First, Floyds Knobs, Ind.

More recently Conrad was associate pastor at First, Brooksville, Fla. He is



The Conrads

attending Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex.

Born in Louisville, Mrs. Conrad, the former Vivian Coleman, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lucien E. Coleman Jr. of Ft. Worth, Tex. Her father is professor of adult education at Southwestern Seminary. While growing up she also lived in Tompkinsville, Ky.

She attended Morehead State University. She has worked as a secretary in Louisville and Oneida. She also has been a BSU summer missionary in Oregon; minister of music at First, Olive Hill, Ky., and First, Mt. Olivet, Ky.; and organist at First, Morehead, and First, Mt. Repose.

The Conrads have four children, Joy Elizabeth, 9, Robert Jeremy, 7, Jonathan Edwin, 5, and Joshua David, 3.

The Cates will work in Uruguay,



The Cates

where he will be the mission business manager and she will be a church and home worker. He attends Southern Seminary, and they are members of Highview Baptist Church, Louisville.

He received the BS degree in business administration from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. He has been a marketing consultant for Southern Central Bell Telephone Co., Knoxville.

Mrs. Cate is the former Sharon Stallings of Strawberry Plains, Tenn. She received the AS degree in science from Walters State Community College, Morristown, Tenn.

The Cates have three children, Stephanie Cheyenne, 5, Matthew Stephen Lee, 4, and Amy Elizabeth, 1.

Each of these families will go to Rockfille, Va., in January for an eight-week orientation before leaving for the field.

### State music rallies

## Good News arrives in Bluegrass State

by Todd Deaton, Staff Writer

Thursday, Oct. 4, "Good News" arrived at Highview Baptist Church, Louisville.

Highview was one of 11 churches to participate in the state "Good News America" music rallies occurring Sept. 30-Oct. 17.

"The Good News America rallies are unique to Kentucky," claims Eugene Quinn, KBC Church Music Department director. The rallies are a kickoff to the April 1986 simultaneous Good News America revivals.

"Music is so closely connected with successful revivals it seems only natural to use church choirs to promote awareness among church constituents of the upcoming revivals," explains Quinn.

More than 100 Baptists gathered for the music rally at Highview Church, a site selected for Louisville area churches by Quinn and Jay Brown, KBC Evangelism Department director.

Among the churches of Long Run Association represented at the rally were Hillview, Farmdale, Eastwood First, Little Flock, Bethlehem, Jeffersonstown and Hillcrest.

Other churches in attendance were Mt. Washington, Nelson Association; Cox's Creek, Nelson Association; Milton, Sulphur Fork Association; Ekron, Salem Association; Salem, Salem Association; and Shepherdsville, Nelson Association.

The Good News America rallies fea-

tured theme songs of the 1986 revivals "I've Got Good News" and "Good News America, God Loves You" sung by rally mass choirs from local churches. The program also included hymns and medleys arranged around the words love, honor, glory and power.

The Highview rally highlighted Hugh McElrath, professor of church music at Southern Seminary, Louisville. McElrath led the congregational singing and music liturgy.

Each rally included a short inspirational message central to the Good News revival theme. Larry Orange, guest speaker at Highview, claimed, "Next year we as Southern Baptists have the opportunity to say 'Good News America, God Loves You.' There's another part of that slogan: 'We do too!'"

"I hope when you go back to your home church," he concluded, "you will reach out to those around you and let others know you love them, too."

Sites selected for music rallies included First Baptist, Barbourville; First, Bowling Green; Florence; First, Grayson; Second, Hopkinsville; Gardenside, Lexington; First, Madisonville; First, Paducah; First, Prestonsburg; and First, Somerset.

The music rallies are not the only programs planned to promote the Good News revivals in April. According to Brown, Kentucky Baptists are also participating in prayer convocations, evangelistic people search, scripture distribution and prospect cultivation.



## Alone!

When Charles A. Lindbergh piloted The Spirit of St. Louis from New York to Paris in 1927, he was the first person to fly nonstop across the Atlantic Ocean. Right? You're wrong!

Lowell Thomas points out that Lindbergh was **not** the first adventurer to fly the Atlantic. Instead, he was the 77th person. Why, then, is Lindbergh so famous? Because he was the first to fly those 3,610 miles alone—all by himself!

We admire persons who function as a team, who know how to achieve through committees and partnerships. But there's also a place for "alone-manship," both in church and secular life. Spiritual growth is one example. We grow one by one—not as groups. In a family, brothers and sisters may gain weight and height simultaneously. But the growth occurs on an individual basis: each youngster matures and develops as a unit.

This is certainly true in Christian stewardship. As a church body, we may pledge a challenging budget of X-number of dollars. But unless personalized growth takes place, the dollars have little meaning.

That's why—by Convention action—we've blocked out 15 years to help our people, one by one, grow in their commitment at the same time they grow in their giving. This emphasis, which lasts from 1985-2000 A.D., will enrich your church in many ways other than financial. Your members will be the better. Try it. Your state stewardship director has details.

### PLANNED GROWTH IN GIVING

"More than a slogan — bigger than a program"

# baptist news in brief



**James H. Cox**  
Associate Editor

## fourth estate

### Bionic boy

The call came early on a Saturday morning. I was 350 miles from home. Our 17-year-old Jimmy, our only son, had been in a car crash. He was in a hospital, and had been in the operating room seven hours. Could I hurry? That was the longest, loneliest drive of my life. I did not know what to expect. I recalled so many good times. And I pondered this: Have we enjoyed the last of them?

Twenty-four hours after the crash, at a brief family visiting period, I was reunited with my son. It was difficult to see him that way, so many tubes in his body, so much suffering on his face.

From the beginning, the doctors told us there was every chance Jimmy's right hand would be amputated. That message must have gone far and wide, for we soon began hearing from people across our state, our nation and on at least four other continents who were praying for us. Never have we felt so overwhelmed by the power of prayer!

Not only was Jimmy's life spared, he was protected from paralysis. After a fourth surgery it was clear—despite four broken bones there—that beautiful hand would be saved! Could we stand more miracles? God kept sending them.

Thankfully, the boy who was driving the car in which Jimmy was an only passenger was practically unharmed.

Jimmy's fifth surgery included placing a metal plate in his arm and straightening an unbroken "bowed" bone in that arm. The surgeons told us in advance there was a good chance they would accidentally break the unbroken bone. But the bone neatly popped into place, without breaking. They expected to graft bone onto his shattered elbow, but found that unnecessary.

A physician on the trauma team told us later that when Jimmy was brought in his right arm was so badly crushed, "We were certain he would lose it." He added, "We are now absolutely amazed!"

The night Jimmy was admitted, a specialist in hand surgery from Duke University "on loan" to Louisville's Jewish Hospital was in University Hospital (where Jimmy was taken). He told my wife afterwards, "I don't even know why I was at University (several blocks from Jewish) at that hour of the night." My wife replied, "I do."

If you knew of our crisis and prayed for us, we appreciate you more than words convey. As recipients, we will never underestimate what prayer can do.

A few hours before the crash, Jimmy opened a letter from me in which I told him I believed God was preparing him for a special purpose in life. Now I feel it more than ever, and think Jimmy needed a whole body to carry it out.

Our bionic boy may be held together with metal and wires and pins and screws but to us, he is a miracle. How else could you describe him?

### Baptist leader murdered in Mexico City encounter

Southern Baptist representative James Philpot was shot and killed in his car Oct. 11 by two men in another car which sideswiped him in traffic.

Philpot, who was shot in the head, died immediately. An electrician in the car with him was hospitalized with gunshot wounds in the abdomen. As of Oct. 14 no arrests had been made.

Philpot, a native of Polk County, Ark., was chairman of the organization of 102 Southern Baptist representatives in Mexico. He and his wife, the former Jurhee Sheffield of Childress, Tex., had been in Mexico since 1967. He was 46.

Southern Baptist representative Guy Williamson, who arrived at the scene soon after the shooting, said witnesses told police they saw a gray or light blue Volkswagen attempt to pass Philpot on the right at high speed. There wasn't enough room between the right curb and the car Philpot was driving, so the two cars scraped.

Police reports said the two cars stopped and the two men in the Volkswagen got out. One of them approached the right side of the car Philpot was driving and fired through the window. The Mexican electrician was struck twice in the stomach. A single bullet entered Philpot's jaw and came out through his neck.

Medical personnel said Philpot "died immediately," Williamson said, and "perhaps never knew what happened." Empty shell casings and bullet holes in the car roof indicate five or more shots were fired. The two men in the Volkswagen left before police arrived.

Neither Southern Baptist officials nor the police were prepared to suggest any motive for the killing beyond anger surrounding the car accident. Shootings following traffic accidents are common in Mexico. "As far as we know right now it was not premeditated," Williamson said.

Besides his wife, Philpot is survived by three daughters: Jill, who lived at home, Jodi of Ft. Worth, Tex., and Jennifer, a senior at Baylor University, Waco, Tex.; his mother, Mrs. Odis Philpot of Mena, Ark.; two brothers, Nelson Philpot of Homer, La., and Larry Philpot of Heidelberg, Germany; and a sister, Odessa Dann of Livermore, Cal. (BP)

### FMB sets banner year with 3587 missionaries

Southern Baptists' overseas missionary force reached a record 3587 as the Foreign Mission Board named 40 new missionaries and reappointed eight former missionaries at its October meeting.

To support work in 106 countries the board approved a record \$162.3 million budget for 1986, earmarked \$6 million in current funds to help provide for missionary housing and other urgent capital needs overseas, and continued to sharpen the focus of its home staff.

Johnni Johnson Scofield, vice president for communications, was named assistant to the president. The Office of Communications, which she has headed since 1980, will become the Office of Communications and Public Relations. The office will have broader functions and will be added to responsibilities of William R. O'Brien, executive vice president. The changes take place Jan. 1.

O'Brien will be assisted by an administrative team of Sam Pittman, who

will be associate executive vice president; Bob Shoemaker, assistant to the executive vice president; and Bob Desbien, assistant vice president. Their expanded roles will include previous responsibilities.

The Office of Communications and Public Relations will include news and information services, The Commission magazine and two new departments, Audiovisual and Print, to be formed from what is now the Product Development Department. Bob Ethridge, media designer in project development, will direct Audiovisuals. The print director has not been named.

Ken Lawson, formerly director of product development, will take on officewide responsibilities as research and production consultant in an executive producer type role. (BP)

### Sunday school meeting to be at Campbellsville

"Strengthening the Small Sunday School" is the theme of a small Sunday school conference at Campbellsville College Oct. 25-26.

Daryl Heath, small Sunday school worker with the Baptist Sunday School Board, will lead the conference. Topics for the conference include: "The New Testament plan for a Sunday school," "Organizing for Bible study in the small Sunday school" and "Outreach and evangelism in the small Sunday school."

The sessions begin at 7 p.m. Friday and conclude at noon Saturday. Rooms are being provided, without charge by the college for those who wish to stay overnight. Requests for rooms should be sent to Jerry Kibbons, Campbellsville College, 200 College St., Campbellsville, KY 42718, (502) 465-8158.

The conference is a product of the Center for Small Church Ministries at Campbellsville College. The objective of the center is to help pastors and other leaders of small churches in equipping the members to be more effective in Christian discipleship and service.

### Dallas First Church gives record offering

A record \$1.85 million offering was given by members of First Baptist Church, Dallas, on pastor W. A. Criswell's 41st anniversary at the church Oct. 6, in what was thought to be the largest one-day cash offering ever taken by a church.

Criswell had appealed to the congregation for a \$1 million offering to enable the church to meet its budget requirements, noting that "we are behind in the payment of our local program." The church's recently adopted 1986 budget totals about \$11.2 million.

After receiving offerings during both morning services the church's financial officers spent at least six hours counting \$1.8 million in checks and cash. Approximately \$50,000 was collected at the evening service.

Of the total \$1,857,453.44, undesignated budget offerings totaled \$795,165.16. (BP)

### HMB appoints 123 in joint service

The Home Mission Board commissioned 97 missionaries and 26 chaplains—including the director of HMB's

chaplains division—in the largest ever joint commissioning service.

Carl Hart, director of the HMB chaplaincy division who retires in January, presented the certificates to the chaplains and in a surprise move, was commissioned himself. After retirement he will become an industrial chaplain for Motor Convoy Inc., in Decatur, Ga., a suburb of Atlanta.

Chaplains were sent to 17 states and missionaries to 24 states plus Puerto Rico and Canada at the service. All the 97 missionaries and 26 chaplains already are working in their positions, having been appointed or endorsed earlier this year by the board. Most of the missionaries are joint employees with Baptist state conventions and/or associations. (BP)

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## Peace committee tackles diversity

The question of how theologically diverse can the Southern Baptist Convention be and still maintain itself as a cooperative fellowship was tackled by the SBC peace committee during its second meeting Oct. 8-9.

Chairman Charles Fuller, pastor of First Baptist Church, Roanoke, Va., told Baptist Press: "That Southern Baptists have been, and are, theologically diverse is undebatable. That we will continue to be diverse is predictable, and no biblically-sound, thinking Southern Baptist would attempt to prohibit that diversity. It is simply consistent with the nature of personal conversion and the individual indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

"The issue is not, 'Shall Southern Baptists be theologically diverse?' it is rather, 'How diverse can we be and maintain a legitimate denominational fellowship and a trustworthy base upon which to combine our support for mutual ministries?'"

"The Baptist Faith and Message statement is a central item in our assignment," Fuller said, noting the convention directed the committee "to follow the Baptist Faith and Message in theological matters."

Fuller added he believes if the group is to use the statement as a point of reference in theological matters "and to determine if there has been a drift," the committee "must understand what was done, why it was done, what preceded it and what caused it to come

about."

"Group discussions focused not just on whether there is a diversity of ideas about the origin of the scriptures, but on what the impact such diversity would have" in such places as seminary classrooms, preparations of lessons and places of denominational leadership.

He said such efforts to define the limits of diversity are not aimed at Southern Baptists in general, but at those who are employed by denominational agencies and institutions. "This is not a matter of a dual standard, but it is a recognition of the fact that when someone works for Southern Baptists, they in a sense do represent them." (BP)

## Baptist secretaries meet in Lexington Nov. 12

A steering committee for a proposed association of Baptist secretaries in Kentucky will meet Tuesday, Nov. 12, in Lexington, according to Jennie Smither, interim chairman.

The purpose of the new association is "to provide fellowship and encouragement, to foster individual growth and professional excellence, and to provide continuing training opportunities and spiritual enrichment for its members."

Membership is to be "open to secretaries, and other interested office workers by whatever title, in churches, institutions and other agencies and organizations owned by or affiliated with the Kentucky Baptist Convention, or in Southern Baptist related agencies located in Kentucky." Annual dues are \$10 for regular members and \$5 for

associate members.

Interested secretaries are asked to contact one of the following immediately with their suggestions, questions, comments or dues: Mrs. Jennie Smither (interim chairman), First Baptist Church, Drawer Q, Frankfort 40602; phone 502-227-4526 (office), 502-223-0367 (home); or Mrs. Paula Collingwood (interim treasurer), Kentucky Baptist Building, Box 43433, Middletown 40243; phone 502-245-4101.

## Baptists serve 150,000 before leaving Mexico

After providing more than 150,000 meals for the earthquake-stricken residents of Mexico City, seeing at least 4000 persons make first time professions of faith in Christ and setting up four field kitchens for earthquake victims, Baptist disaster relief teams from Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Oklahoma left Mexico City Oct. 11.

During their final week in Mexico City, the disaster relief teams built new field kitchens in front of each of their 18-wheel mobile units.

Three of the field kitchens, with stoves, pots, pans, tables and other utensils, will be given to the National Baptist Convention of Mexico. The fourth will serve as model for the Mexican government. The government plans to build 10 modular kitchens alongside temporary hospitals established in Mexico City.

Eighty Spanish-speaking Texas Baptist pastors and deacons had been assigned to the four disaster relief units to act as counselors and interpreters.

About 40 will remain in Mexico City. (BP)

## Ridgecrest, Glorieta seeking 1986 staffers

Ridgecrest and Glorieta Baptist Conference Centers are accepting applications for employment on the 1986 summer staffs.

According to George Boswell, Ridgecrest personnel services administrator, applicants for the Ridgecrest staff must be between 17 and 70 years of age and be available to work from May 25 through Aug. 17 with the possibility of working through Labor Day. Some staff persons will be chosen to work for a shorter term or to arrive after the starting date, said Boswell.

At Glorieta, applicants must be between 17 and 70 years of age and be available to work from May 25 through Aug. 17 with the possibility of working through Labor Day, according to Rusty Fulks, personnel services coordinator. Also, some late arrivals who can work through Labor Day will be accepted, Fulks said.

Available positions at both conference centers include food service, day camp, preschool, recreation, house-keeping, registration, business offices and auditorium and conference room operations.

Information may be obtained by writing to Summer Employment, Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Box 128, Ridgecrest, NC 28770; or to Summer Employment, Glorieta Baptist Conference Center, Box 8, Glorieta, NM 87535-0008.

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# Youth Choir Day

Saturday, November 2, 1985

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- ✓ Musical selections:\*
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  - Gloria
  - Stand in Awe
  - Glorious in Holiness
- ✓ Hear the Georgetown College Chorale in concert. This fifty-voice ensemble recently toured Europe and will return to the continent in 1987.
- ✓ Picnic lunch provided all participants by the college.
- ✓ Contact: Steve Cook
  - Youth Choir Day Coordinator
  - Georgetown College
  - Georgetown, Kentucky 40324
  - Phone (502) 863-8041

\*Available at the Baptist Book Store, Louisville, Kentucky.



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

## oneida journal

### The good side of the story

When Lee (not his real name) was six years old his father left home, abandoning his wife and four children of whom Lee was the oldest. The father has not been heard from since.

A year later Lee's mother was in a car accident and has been in a coma for 10 years.

The maternal grandparents took over the care of their grandchildren. They have done their best. But no one can fully replace a father's and mother's love and daily care.

Lee, like thousands of others who have lost one or both parents through death, divorce, illness or abandonment, drifted into trouble. His offenses became increasingly serious. Ultimately he was sent by a court in his home state to a boys detention camp for a long period of confinement.

While there, through the efforts of a dedicated volunteer chaplain, Lee heard the good news of a heavenly father who loves him so. He accepted that love and forgiveness and found himself with new purpose in life and with new goals.

One of these goals was to finish his education. However, public schools do not accept boys under 18 years of age who have been out of school for years and in trouble. The change of spiritual status is irrelevant to the admission

policies of a public school.

But Oneida is a Christian school where boys and girls seeking our help and/or a quality Christian education are accepted as long as there is a bed or a place to put a bed. How our hearts are thrilled so many times in doing so. Just a year ago we gave a young man who had been in several boys camp a similar chance. He is a wonderful Christian young man today, age 20, in the ninth grade and academically one of the top five students of our more than 400. Praise God.

The chaplain told Lee of Oneida and personally brought him here. Prior to his coming Lee had sent me a completed application and a short letter that spoke volumes. He wrote, "I've been in trouble in school for skipping out and for causing disturbances in class. Also, I've been in trouble with the law as you know. But Titus 3:1-7 can explain the good side of the story."

I couldn't remember just what Titus 3:1-7 had to say so I turned to the passage and read in The New English Bible this testimony.

"For at one time we ourselves in our folly and obstinacy were all astray. We were slaves to passions and pleasures of every kind. Our days were passed in malice and envy; we were odious ourselves and we hated one another. But when the kindness and generosity of God our savior dawned upon the world, then, not for any good deeds of our own, but because he was merciful, he saved us through the water of rebirth and the renewing power of the Holy Spirit. For he sent down the Spirit upon us plentifully through Jesus Christ our savior, so that, justified by his grace, we might in hope become heirs of eternal life. These are words that you may trust."

Recent letters from parents include, "We are looking forward to our son's visit home very much. He has been able to be truthful and honest much more than before he came to Oneida. We really appreciate what the school has been doing for him."

Another mother writes of a son with us one year and now back in his home school. "He is so greatly improved from the first time you met him. I owe the improvement totally to you, the teacher, to Oneida."

Of course the truth is we here at Oneida could do nothing without God's blessing and the prayers and financial help of people like you. You are our partner in ministry to Lee and others.

Reprint from Apr. 14, 1982



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

## sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR OCT. 27, 1985

Life and Work Series

### Choosing to obey God

**Exodus 24:3-11** Through Moses, God reminded the children of Israel he had provided for them their basic needs, protected them from enemies, delivered them from bondage in Egypt and chosen them for a redemptive ministry in the world.

At the invitation of God, Moses, Aaron and the sons of Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, along with 70 elders as representatives of the children of Israel ascended the mountain for an important meeting with him. God proposed that he and the Israelites enter into a covenant. Moses returned to the people and informed them as to the provisions which God had laid down for the covenant, whereupon they promptly and unanimously responded: "All the words which the Lord hath said we will do." Moses recorded everything the Lord had said. It is noteworthy that when Moses called upon the people to decide whether or not they were willing to ratify the covenant and to submit to God's directions and instructions, they agreed to the terms proposed without any alterations, and without any reservation pledged themselves to do all things God commanded. They did not attempt to deny their obligation to God, but they were not aware of their inability to do what they announced they intended to

do. The law gave them a high standard, but it could not supply them with the ability to realize their aspiration.

Early the next morning Moses erected an altar at the base of Mt. Sinai and around it built 12 pillars as a symbol of the 12 tribes of Israel. Young men were chosen from among the people to make the sacrifices and offer the burnt offerings. Then Moses took the blood of the sacrifices and sprinkled it on the altar and on the people signifying that God and they were bound together in a covenant relationship.

International Series

### True church leaders

**2 Corinthians 4:1-12** Paul never ceased to marvel at the mercy God extended to him. Those who knew him realized that his preaching was supported by a godly life. Some, who disliked Paul, would not accept him as a man sent from God, denied his apostleship, and rejected the gospel which he preached so earnestly and faithfully.

Paul was subjected to suspicion, criticism, malice, slander and persecution. When his enemies accused him of dishonesty, duplicity and deceit, Paul denied it. Knowing he had declared the truth, Paul let the accusers know he fully intended to continue faithfully with the proclamation of the glorious gospel in all sincerity and boldness. Paul was frequently perplexed, pressured and persecuted, but he refused to be discouraged because he knew that God was with him and that the Lord would never forsake him.

Out of the crucible of experience Paul learned how to accept some things he could not understand and explain. As long as God permitted him to remain on earth the apostle wanted to be submissive and obedient to Christ. As he continued to minister, he maintained the confidence and assurance that he would be sustained by the power of God, regardless of what unfavorable and trying circumstances he might face.

From Paul we learn that any devoted Christian can expect to be called upon to suffer for Christ. Those who are faithful and true witnesses for the redeeming Christ will certainly rejoice greatly when they enjoy the blessed reunion with those in heaven whom they had the privilege of introducing to Christ while they were here on earth. In spite of our limitations, our gracious God can accomplish his precious will in and through us, as we follow and obey him.



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## on mission together

### The majority: sometimes wrong

The following historical treatment by Jack Birdwhistell, printed in the July 1, 1976 issue of Western Recorder is a grim reminder of the "darkness" in which even "enlightened" Christians (Baptists, in this case) can walk.

"Query: Is it lawful in the sight of God for a member of Christ's church to keep his fellow creature in perpetual slavery? Answer: 'The Association judges it improper to enter into so important and critical a matter at present.'

"This brief interchange between the Old Rolling Fork Church and Salem Association in 1789 reflects a dilemma which faced Kentucky Baptists from the very beginning: the slavery issue.

"Some simply could not reconcile the practice with Jefferson's words in the Declaration of Independence, 'that all men are created equal . . . endowed with . . . life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.' Three of the six ministers who voted against slavery in the Constitutional Convention of 1792 were Baptists; and in 1807 William Hickman, one of the patriarchs of Kentucky Baptists, resigned his pulpit at Forks of Elkhorn Church on account of the practice of slavery, as being tolerated by the members of the Baptist Society.

"The most outstanding opponents of slavery were Carter Tarrant and David Barrow. Barrow had moved to Kentucky in 1798 because of his hope that slavery would be outlawed here. He spoke often in favor of emancipation, publishing a pamphlet against slavery in 1808.

"But the 'emancipators' were generally unwelcome in Kentucky's associations. In 1805, for example, Elkhorn Association thought 'it improper for

ministers, churches, or associations to meddle with emancipation from slavery or any other political subject, and . . . we advise ministers and churches to have nothing to do therewith in their religious capacities.' The opponents of slavery responded by forming in 1807 the Friends of Human Association, made up of churches from Elkhorn, North District, and Bracken Associations. This group, never numerically large, gradually lost strength as its leaders died, as concern turned to the War of 1812, and as Kentucky Baptists became more prosperous and acquired more slaves."

That kind of slavery is gone from America today because a minority paid a price that took a long time.

Poverty, one of our contemporary forms of slavery, seems to be the concern only of the minority. Our great-grandchildren may look back and wonder how we, their forefathers, could have so easily permitted "poverty" as acceptable.

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*People are important to us*

# College student overcoming disability

## Dyslexia doesn't stop Greg Hall from pursuing Campbellsville degree

by Alice L. Biskey

People come to college for a variety of reasons. For Greg Hall his dreams have become reality by his being at Campbellsville College.

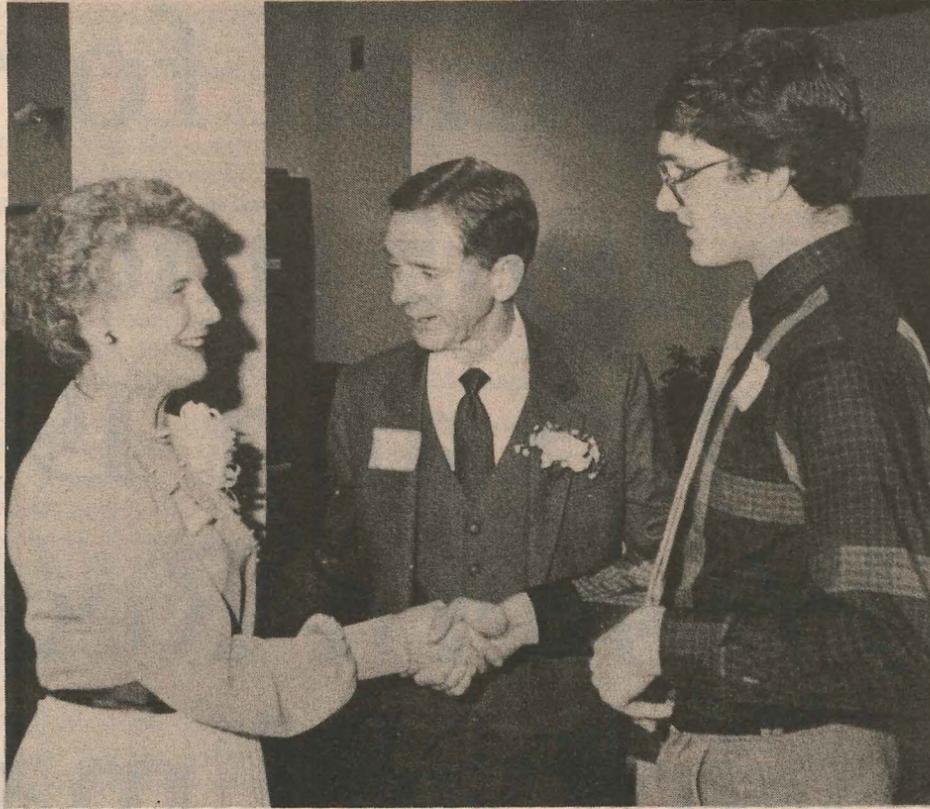
Sports were everything to him during high school. He earned 10 letters in football, baseball and basketball, starting in all three his senior year. His baseball coach called him "Charlie Hustle." Hall was one player who didn't even hate going to practice every day.

Now as a freshman at Campbellsville College, athletics is history for him. Hall has dyslexia and felt he wouldn't be able to keep up with his classes and sports.

Dyslexia cannot be defined by a set listing of characteristics, but Hall deals with such difficulties as mixing up different letter combinations, forgetting how to write particular letters, confusing left- and right-hand coordinations and doing memorization work.

"In football I would get moved from the right side of the line one week to the left side the next week," Hall explained, "and I could run the plays on paper but would run them backward on the field."

He said the coach "chewed him out"



Mr. and Mrs. Randy Davenport greet Greg Hall

extra time for him. He has to have total concentration, so just having someone make noise by moving around in a chair will cause him to have to reread a question.

Hall said he appreciates that Campbellsville is a small college where he can get help if he needs it. He has students help him proofread his English papers before he turns them in to his professor.

His sister Tami graduated from Campbellsville College in 1983, so Hall said she had something to do with his decision to come to the college. But a personal letter of invitation from W. R. Davenport, college president, was also influential. Hall saw that as an indication Campbellsville could be where God wanted him.

Carolyn Garrison, instructor of education at the college, said most dyslexics are of above-average intelligence. Well-knowns such as Albert Einstein, Leonardo da Vinci, George Patton and Hans Christian Andersen are thought to have dealt with dyslexia.

Mrs. Garrison noted that 15 percent of children in the United States have some form of dyslexia, and lots of adults have it and don't know it.

"Most are highly motivated, but made to feel so dumb," she said, adding that attitude has a lot to do with how well they cope with the learning disability.

Hall intends to major in history, with a minor in physical education, with the goal of teaching and coaching at the high school level.

"I'd like to tutor kids with learning problems. I want to help them learn that you have to do it on your own, and

you have to discipline yourself to get what you want out of life."

The diagnosis of the extent of Hall's dyslexia came in 1983 at Jordan Diagnostic Center in Oklahoma City, Okla. There it was recommended that he would benefit from taped reading materials (textbooks) since it is hard for him to do sustained book reading.

Hall has all but one of his textbooks on tape, made available through the Oklahoma Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Hall is from Oklahoma, where his father, Loyd E. Hall, pastors First Baptist Church, Burns Flat.

"I didn't really start reading where I would sit down and read for an hour, until I was 16," Hall said. He didn't learn to tie his shoes until second grade, and couldn't tell time until around the age 10.

His fifth grade teacher noticed that Hall could answer oral test questions with no trouble, but on paper he would write letters backward and misspell easy words.

She also noticed he could use his left and right hands interchangeably. "I would take two pencils and write my name with both at the same time, and they would look the same," Hall said.

That teacher had him tested, and the results showed he had a low level of concentration. The testing done didn't apply the label "dyslexia" to Hall.

"I was told to make one side dominant then," Hall said, "and now I do all of my physical activities right-handed and things like eating and writing with my left hand."

Hall described an experience in eighth grade when he was supposed to memorize the Gettysburg address. The

first time he recited it, he only got through the first paragraph and a half, and the teacher was upset with him. On his next try, he got the first two paragraphs correct, and then said the last paragraph exactly backward, word for word.

He notes his memorization has improved since about the 11th grade, when instead of retaining only sports as his "god," he knew that his grades needed to improve. He knew he wanted to go to college, specifically a Southern Baptist college.

In his junior year of high school, Hall won the history award. He placed fifth out of 72 students in a test for students in southwestern Oklahoma where there was no time limit for the students to complete the test. He was named "All Around Student" in his junior and senior years, and was voted "Most Likely To Succeed" as a senior.

"I hate it when people use a disability as a scapegoat," Hall pointed out, "because then other people look down at them." He dislikes it when people feel sorry for him because of his dyslexia. He also hates it when he's tagged as a "dummy." "I may have given it everything I had and done it wrong."

Hall sees dyslexia as having influ-

*"I'm a little nervous about my grades here, but I know I have to work at them."*

for that, but was later the one who was instrumental in seeing that he got tested and diagnosed. Hall was referred to a doctor who tested his eyes, who found that instead of focusing at one point, Hall's eyes focus at two points, one above the other. Also, his left eye "bounces off every two seconds" from the point of focus, which Hall said causes stress to his eyes and resulting headaches.

Hall now has bifocal lenses in his glasses which contain "a prism liquid-like substance" which brings his eyes to one point of focus, relieving the headaches.

He didn't have very good grades in school, but he was never classified as actually having a problem.

"I'm a little nervous about my grades here, but I know I have to work at them," Hall said. "In a way it's good, it keeps me working hard at it."

He started to tape all of his class lectures but found that having to go back and listen to them was too time consuming. Putting notes down on paper is a problem for him, so he has to rewrite his notes after a class. Sometimes he has written the wrong letters, especially having trouble with long words that have a lot of vowels.

Taking written tests may require

*"Mom and dad never babied me. They went to find help."*

enced his personality. "I've always wanted to succeed with everything, and I feel good about everything I do. If I get a 'C' and know I worked to get it, I'm satisfied."

"God gave me the heart and desire to succeed," Hall said. "I know I have this (dyslexia) for a reason. I don't like having it, but there's nothing I can do about it, but I can keep working at it."

His high school football line coach told him to never be ashamed about having dyslexia. "He means a lot to me because of that," Hall said.

He referred to all of his coaches as having played an important role for him.

Hall has been told that it may take him five to 10 years to complete a college degree, because the most hours he is recommended to carry is 15, which he has this semester. His goal is to finish college in six years.

Dyslexia is believed to be hereditary. Hall's father has it to a degree, and "that's why he went so far to get help for me," Hall said, because of what he had gone through himself.

Greg Hall didn't get "spoon-fed" by his parents because of his dyslexia.

"Mom and Dad never babied me," Hall emphasized. "They went to find help."