

ACTS preaching team discusses new program lineup. Joel Gregory, second from left, pastor, Travis Avenue Baptist Church, Ft. Worth; James Flamming, pastor, First Baptist Church, Richmond, Va.; John Bisagno, Phoenix Baptist Church, Phoenix, discuss with Jimmy Allen, left, Radio and Television Commission president, the new programs. Jackson begins the "Baptist Hour" program Mar. 2; Gregory begins Bible study Apr. 1; Bisagno continues with "Invitation to Life"; and Flamming will be on the "Baptist Hour" program beginning in September. Charles Stanley, pastor, First Baptist Church, Atlanta, whose "In Touch" program premieres on ACTS in March was ill and unable to be present.

Countdown to revival underway across state

by Jack Sanford, Editor

The most momentous period in Kentucky Baptist history during the past decade is just around the corner. That period is Apr. 6-27, the dates for simultaneous revivals in the state.

In an informal survey of selected missions directors across Kentucky, Western Recorder learned that approximately 70 percent of the churches in the KBC plan to participate in the simultaneous revivals. The rural associations report about a 35-50 percent participation rate while the urban centers report as much as 95 percent participation in the simultaneous effort.

Jay Brown, evangelism director for the Kentucky Baptist Convention, has said the calendar developed by evangelism departments in the various SBC states offers a good tool for organizing and preparing the local church for revival. That calendar is offered to all who are willing to use it, making whatever adaptations they feel necessary. The countdown calendar is listed below.

Six weeks before the revival: write evangelists and musicians; secure biographical sketches and pictures for publicity; begin leading the church to pray for revival; choir begins to practice special music to be used in revival; plan prospect discovery and visitation effort; plan counseling and follow-up activities and begin to secure volunteer counselors for revival meetings.

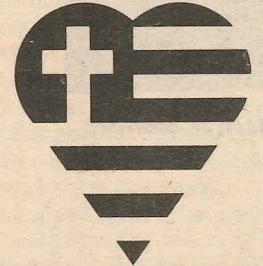


Jay Brown,
Director, KBC
Evangelism
Department

Five weeks before the revival: complete enlistment of counselors for revival meeting and follow-up; schedule people to give testimonies and conduct revival prayer meetings; begin implementing publicity plans; conduct an "inside the church" survey using the "I Know a Prospect" card.

Four weeks before the revival: begin testimonies in Sunday school, Church Training and all worship services; conduct an "outside the church" survey, people search, etc.; continue publicity/media blitz; conduct home prayer

GOOD NEWS AMERICA



GOD LOVES YOU.

meetings for various age groups.

Three weeks before the revival: promote churchwide revival visitation during the two weeks prior to the revival; continue special prayer meetings and testimonies; continue publicity; make assignments for all church members to be contacted by phone about the revival.

Two weeks before the revival: continue publicity; conduct churchwide visitation; pastor prepares a letter to all church members and prospects to be mailed next week.

One week before the revival: continue prayer meetings and testimonies; continue publicity; conduct churchwide visitation; pastor sends letters to church members and prospects.

The latest report on the work of Southern Baptists would make even the most callous admit the need for revival is urgent. Those statistics reveal that baptisms dropped by 5.6 percent. That means Southern Baptists baptized only 351,071 in 1985, a decline of 20,957 from the previous year. Those figures translate into a ratio of 43.1 to 1. Expressed another way, the statistics tell us it took 43.1 Southern Baptists one entire year to win one person to Christ and church membership.

The first revival efforts will begin in the western part of the state during the period Apr. 6-13; followed by the central section of Kentucky during Apr. 13-20; concluding with the eastern region during Apr. 20-27.

Seven weeks from now the revivals begin and the expectation is high that this could be a time of return to the first love of Southern Baptists. Concentration on evangelism, church renewal and spiritual growth are the first things among Baptists and the simultaneous revivals may be the vehicle God uses to bring us back to our most cherished work.

Most churches grow because of transfers of memberships

by Jim Newton

If it were not for transfers of church memberships 70 percent of the churches in the Southern Baptist Convention would not be growing, a church growth consultant told a conference on "Doing Church in the 80's."

"In 92 percent of your churches the only real growth you've had in the last five years has been from baptizing the children of your members and from transfers of members from other churches," said Ron Lewis of Nashville, Tenn.

Lewis, a former staff member of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board and Illinois Baptist State Association, was the opening speaker for a two-day conference on church growth sponsored by Wieuca Road Baptist Church, Atlanta.

Lewis listed six factors which will determine whether a church will grow in the 1980's. They were population,

parking, property, preschoolers, singles and a commitment to reaching all people.

"If you want to stop past trends and do church (growth) in the 80's you've got to have a deep conviction that all people everywhere need the gospel," Lewis said. "And if you do that, you're going to have to change your approach."

Lewis said the churches that are growing fastest are located in key areas where the population is booming. "It's a lot easier to grow a church where the population is growing than it is in a place where the population is stagnant."

Parking space is essential if a church is going to grow, he said, adding this is a factor most people take for granted. Churches need one parking place, which costs an average of \$268, for every two members.

If a church is going to grow it has to become "receiver-oriented" by focusing its ministries on the needs of people outside the church, not on the needs of church members, he said.

Churches that are growing provide the best, most expensive facilities for preschoolers, not for adults, and put strong emphasis on reaching singles, he said.

"Very few churches can survive affluence," Lewis added. "They become too proud to cry."

T. L. McSwain accepts pastorate in Georgia

T. L. McSwain has resigned as pastor of Hurstbourne Baptist Church, Louisville, after a nine year ministry. He has accepted the call to serve as pastor of Warren Baptist Church, Augusta, Ga.

During his nine years at Hurstbourne membership has tripled. The budget has gone from \$130,000 to \$750,000. Hurstbourne has become the leading giver in Louisville to both the Long Run Association and the Cooperative Program and was 16th in Kentucky in Cooperative Program gifts last year.

Under McSwain's leadership, Hurstbourne has gone through two building programs, an educational wing and a new 1200 seat sanctuary which was dedicated in March 1983. The church service is also on delayed cable television. He will again be building since Warren Church has voted to build a Christian Life



McSwain

Center and plans are being formulated for a new sanctuary in the near future.

McSwain is a native of North Carolina and a graduate of Wake Forest University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville. In Kentucky he has been pastor of Southside, Louisville; Third Baptist, Owensboro; Immanuel, Paducah and First Baptist, Richmond. He has also been president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

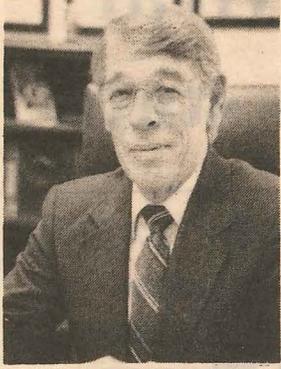
Mrs. McSwain is the former Bettye Mulloy. The McSwains have three sons.

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sanford's perspectives



Jack D. Sanford

Southern Baptist step-child

Southern Baptists have been in love with foreign missions since the first days of the convention in 1845. This passionate love affair is deeply rooted in our commitment to the great commission which calls disciples to go into all the world. That passion is further reinforced by the last recorded words of the resurrected Christ in Acts 1:8 which sends his followers on a world-wide quest for believers. We have acted out our passion by sending thousands and thousands of young men and women around the world as missionaries.

We interpret our mandate to be a world-wide mandate to teach and preach the gospel in every nation. All of us would agree this is a proper interpretation of the missionary message of the Bible and a proper response from people who claim to believe the Bible.

But it is only part of the missionary message of the Bible and we tend to forget there is more to the world than a foreign field. There is also a compelling home field which we often neglect to see as clearly as we should. America, and particularly the great urban centers of our nation, is a case in point.

America is the missionary step-child of Southern Baptists because we expend much more of our energy, on missions at home. This in light of the fact that there are more lost people in the United States than there are people in 104 of the 106 countries where we have missionaries. Only two countries—India and Indonesia—have total populations greater than the 160 million

“lost” people in the United States, according to William Tanner, president of the SBC Home Mission Board.

We view the rest of the world as “non-Christian” while we view America as a Christian nation. Not so by a long shot. Research from the HMB states that two-thirds of the population of the United States does not “have a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.” That means more than 160 million people in our own country are lost.

Here then is our mission field. America is lost and opportunity is on our own door step, as well as across the world. We must sense the need around us and be responsive, else our foreign missionary efforts will be weakened.

Our chance for action is now through the Week of Prayer for Home Missions, the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering and the Good News America, God Loves You revivals this spring.

This concentrated effort could produce funds for missionary advance, create a spiritual climate for church renewal and produce a great harvest of souls won to Jesus. And all of it in America where the need is so great and the interest so weak.

May the Lord help us see the harvest field which is our beloved country and may that vision spur us to renewed efforts to win America to Christ through the Annie Armstrong Offering and through an unconditional commitment to be used of God in the spring revivals across our land this year.

From the pew side

Everything looks different from the pew. That is, it looks different than it does from the pulpit, where I have been standing most of my adult life. Only recently have I assumed the role of a member of the church and only recently have I spent a lot of time in the pew, listening, reflecting and trying to assimilate what is being said to me.

It is a gross understatement to say the view is different. It is like being on another planet. That was graphically illustrated last night as I sat with the deacons in our church and heard a young man whom our pastor search committee is going to recommend as our next pastor. The preacher was in town to look us over, and to allow us to look at him. It was a strange, rewarding experience to see that drama unfold from the pew side.

For more than 30 years I was the one on the spot in such a meeting, answering questions, trying to be honest and open, but nervous and tense, trying to determine what was going through the minds of those who were popping the questions. Last night I was on the other side of that fence and I believe I learned something important about Baptist people that I should have known all my life. It took the different point of view to make it come alive for me. Perhaps like Ezekiel, I sat where they sat and learned something good.

First of all, I learned what it means to need a pastor. Never before have I fully comprehended this. Now I know. There is a deep hungering in the heart of people for a shepherd, someone to be there when they need some word from the Lord. I felt this and it helped me have an open, sensitive mind toward the pastor-candidate who stood before us.

Another thing I learned is most laypeople want to

trust and love the pastor. Sometimes, when the going has been rough, I have felt the congregation did not really care. I do not feel that way now, because I am part of the congregation and I know I care and want to have a shepherd whom I can respect and love. I need a pastor and those who met with me last night conveyed the same sense of need.

Finally, I learned how the other side struggles to be fair and generous with a person whom they hardly know, but with whom they are willing to share their substance. The discussions and the attitude of the laypeople present last night convinced me most Baptists want to be fair and generous with the pastor and are willing to take a chance on a person whom they feel God is sending their way.

I have no idea what my new pastor will think of me as a church member. I am away from the church a lot, preaching all over the state, but I am in my church whenever I am in town. This much I do know, I will try to be a good member, supportive of the pastor and staff, ready to do what I can to advance the cause of Christ and the church. I am prepared to go a second mile in friendship and love for the person whom the Lord sends our way. I am ready to do this because I saw this attitude modeled before me last night by a group of concerned church members whose whole attitude was: we are ready to accept and love this man and follow him.

I had always hoped the people felt this way, but last night I learned they do. From this side of the pew it looks different, but it is a good view and I thank God I have been honored to sit here for a while among the saints who make things happen in the Lord's church.

western recorder

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JACK D. SANFORD, Editor
JAMES H. COX, Associate Editor
RAY L. HAYES, Business Manager
C. R. DALEY, Editor Emeritus

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

homes for children

The day of the child

Everywhere we turn we are reminded of the plight of children. The word comes to us on television, in the newspapers and through magazines. We are reminded of the plight of children in poverty.

Pictures of ill clad children living in ghettos and in shanties, searching through garbage for a morsel of bread, graphically depict how many children are caught in the web of poverty without hope of breaking the cycle. Furthermore, the number of children living below the poverty line in the United States is increasing rather than diminishing.

Then there are the missing children. Some are runaways, but many have been snatched away for evil purposes. The number of missing children is now so great that their pictures are displayed on television. Grocery stores sack groceries in bags that display the picture of a missing child. A few of these children are found, but the majority are never heard from again.

Another point of focus on children is babies having babies. Today one of every five births in this country are to unwed mothers and by far the majority of these mothers are children in their teens. Although many fine married couples without children would like to adopt a baby, the prospects for adoption are slim because most young girls giving birth are opting to keep their babies rather than give them up for adoption.

Finally, there is a heightened awareness of another type of child also. It is the dependent, neglected, abused or unwanted child. This child does not know where to turn and often has no one to help. Many of these children and poverty children are the same.

I am glad we have come to the day of the child. Jesus said, "Allow little children to come unto me and forbid them not for of such is the kingdom of heaven." He also said that it would be better for one that a millstone were hanged about his neck and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea than to offend a child.

Youth support of Baptist Homes for Children through your prayers and gifts makes it possible to respond to many children in need. We can't minister to all in need. But because of you we are reaching all we can. When they live with us, they will also hear the message of Jesus Christ.

baptist forum

Reader challenges arms expert

I resent Western Recorder, a Baptist paper, being used to promote the Soviet idea of peace. I am referring to the article in the Jan. 28 issue in which retired Rear Admiral Eugene Carroll, an "alleged" arms expert, stated the first step toward arms control is to demand an immediate end to the testing of nuclear weapons. This also would include a refusal by Congress to fund the Reagan administration proposal for a nuclear defense system in space.

He stated one of the great myths today is the only thing that keeps the great Soviet bear in his den is U.S. nuclear deterrents. Unfortunately this absurd statement is not true as this great Soviet bear has left his alleged den and is now trampling on and killing people of unarmed nations by the millions.

He also stated Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) as an absolute disaster. SDI will end all arms control agreements because of Soviet fear. This alleged expert is absolutely wrong as the SDI is not an offensive weapon. It is defensive. What the experts did not tell us is that the Soviets are racing ahead with their own SDI.

The Soviet aim is to dominate every nation in the entire world. Our complete freedom of government could erode overnight. We would be their slaves in every respect in which millions of us would be imprisoned, tortured, starved and murdered.

I urge you to give this matter serious thought and write members in Congress to greatly increase our nuclear weapons, build more submarines, fighter planes, tanks and to finance immediately the SDI system.

P. Lloyd Dawson Jr., Louisville

Editor's note: Western Recorder resents Mr. Dawson's charge that we are being used to promote anything from the Soviet Union. We are reporting news, good, bad, acceptable and unacceptable. We try to inform and baptists needed to hear what the arms expert said.

Baptist disputes arms expert

This letter is written in response to an article in the Jan. 28 issue headed, Arms Expert Demands Ban On Nuclear Arms.

I supposed everyone knew the communist record pertaining to Christi-

anity, Christians and the freedom of the individual anywhere they are in control, or trying to control. They don't fear God. To them there is no God. So all they fear is man-made weapons, big and strong.

It's unbelievable not to do all within our power to protect the lives and freedom of human beings from Godless communism. Not to do so is un-Christian and un-American.

Leonard Whitis, Eubank

One person rule not good

One pastor said he would demand his congregation vote his way. When a church is dominated and ruled by one person, and that person exerts too much influence in a church, whether pastor or layman, the result is the same: there is trouble ahead. When the Lord removes that person it leaves the church disorganized and helpless. This writer has seen it happen both ways, with a pastor or layman. A church which has one person who exerts too much influence will all but die when that person leaves.

This writer has known many ministers and the majority of them have no interest in being church dictators. They have one idea and one aim in mind and that is to build an organization from which anyone can step out and someone else will step in and the church will go right on. A church with a good substantial organization organized the Bible way can withstand any loss of personnel.

In the New Testament we find it is doctrines, doctrines and more doctrines. There is a widespread idea that doctrines are unimportant. The men who wrote the New Testament did not have that attitude. They would never take the position that doctrines are unimportant. A church organized and run on a biblical basis is a church which will grow and be strong. The Bible definitely teaches that a pastor has certain prerogatives of leadership, but God never intended any church to be a one-man church. There is a widespread tendency to go by personal opinion, instead of asking "What saith the scriptures?"

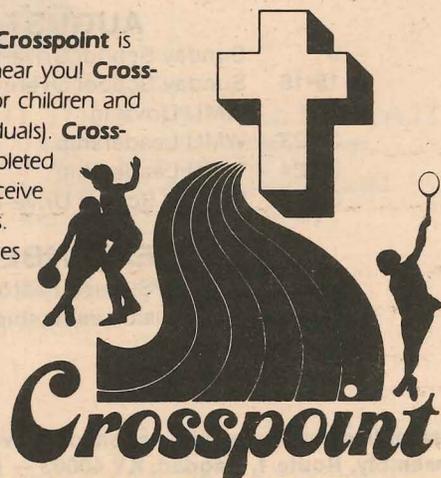
Walter M. Averett, Lexington

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PROGRAM



From the creators of Centrifuge, **Crosspoint** is coming this summer to a college near you! **Crosspoint** is a Christian sports camp for children and early adolescents (groups or individuals). **Crosspoint** participants must have completed the 4th-8th grade and desire to receive training in one of six specific sports. Youth will participate in: Bible studies

- fellowships • swimming • films
- group recreation • worship. For more information contact Church Recreation Dept., MSN 166, Nashville, TN 37234. Phone (615) 251-2711



James H. Cox
Associate Editor

fourth estate

God is love

J. Winston Pearce, who passed away last Thanksgiving day at Buie's Creek, N. C. was a favorite author and lecturer of mine for years. Not many others approached him in devotional style, clarity and illustrative thought.

Winnie Pearce, his devoted companion, was perhaps as widely known on the Southern Baptist speaking circuit in the 50s, 60s and 70s as he was.

Together, they have probably traveled hundreds of thousands of miles talking to our denomination, particularly to youth groups. I first heard them at such a meeting at Ridgecrest three decades ago. I got to know them when they later accepted an invitation to speak to a youth gathering in Florida. Their popularity with such audiences never seemed to wane.

Dr. Pearce was as prolific with his pen as with his tongue. His books—**The Window Sill of Heaven, I Believe, Come Let Us Worship, Planning Your Preaching, We Covenant Together** and others—have been among Broadman's best sellers. With Winnie he collaborated on **A Window on the Mountain**.

Something he said years ago has stuck with me: "The best thing a father can do for his children is to love their mother." That's sound advice.

I heard Winnie Pearce tell this story one summer at Ridgecrest:

One Easter time, in our home, when our two girls were quite small, our Patricia was a Primary and she had been asked to read the Easter story on Easter Sunday morning.

We came to the bedroom upstairs, and her father said with gentleness, "Let's read it, because of all the things I'd like you to do, I'd like you to read God's word beautifully."

And so she read the Easter story. And then she read it again. And Paula, who was only three, sat beside her with her Bible in her hand. After Patricia had finished, Paula asked, "May I read?" And we said, "Of course."

Paula stood up and opened her Bible and began to read. This is what she turned to: "God is love." And then she turned a few pages and read again, "God is love." Again she read, "God is love."

Patricia was very impatient. She looked at Paula and said, "Paula, it doesn't say 'God is love' on every page!"

But Paula would not be stopped—she kept on reading. And after she had finished turning, she turned the book back over to the front and said, "God is love." Then she looked at me and said, "Mother, it does say that on every page, doesn't it?"

And I looked into her deep blue eyes, and said, "Yes, my love, I think it does . . . and I do."

baptist news in brief

Georgia pastor sentenced for stealing from church

A former Southern Baptist pastor and Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee member has been sentenced to six years in prison for stealing from his church.

During his trial last November, C. Michael Blizzard entered guilty pleas to five counts of theft from Tabernacle Baptist Church one of the largest churches in Macon, Ga.

In exchange for the guilty pleas, prosecutors agreed to drop 40 other counts against Blizzard, who resigned as pastor of Tabernacle in January 1985. Blizzard served on the SBC Executive Committee from 1979-83 and declined a second term.

Blizzard was accused of stealing more than \$58,000—including \$522 donated by a church member to buy Christmas turkeys for the poor.

He is a graduate of Mercer University, Southwestern Seminary and received the DMin degree from Emory University, Atlanta. (BP)

Nine Kentuckians attend senior adult workshop

Nine persons from Kentucky participated in January in a Senior Adult Special Consultant's Workshop and Leadership Lab at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, according to Horace L. Kerr, supervisor of the Sunday School Board's Senior Adult Section, who was responsible for planning the

program.

The following senior adult leaders from Kentucky were registered participants: Jim Cobban and Pat Cole of Louisville; Larry R. Cook, Frankfort; Nancy W. Futral, Pewee Valley; Mary Ann Perry, Prospect; Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Thacker, Owensboro; George Thompson, Greenville; and Tom Baker, Bowling Green.

This training program which attracted 178 registrants from 21 states was designed as a dual-track event (1) to train persons to serve as consultants in field service leadership training programs and (2) to provide a forum for the sharing of program concepts and ideas for persons who had previously been involved in basic leadership training.

Eight points of departure featured in WR SBC tour

The Western Recorder Chartered Express, the newspaper's sixth annual tour to the Southern Baptist Convention, will have the added dimension of allowing passengers to depart from eight Kentucky cities this year.

This year's trip to Atlanta, the site of the 1986 SBC, will be via two chartered Greyhound buses with passengers boarding each bus in four cities.

One bus will depart from Louisville and will also pick up passengers in Elizabethtown, Cave City and Bowling Green. The other bus will leave from northern Kentucky and make stops in Lexington, Richmond and Corbin.

The tour will travel to the convention

city Saturday, June 7, in order that tour members will be able to attend pre-convention meetings which begin the following day. The tour will return Friday, June 13, the day following the last convention session.

The cost of the tour is \$325 per person double occupancy. The price includes transportation, lodging, three daily shuttles to the convention hall, travel insurance, a tour of Atlanta and baggage handling.

The tour will stay at the Ramada Inn Central, 1630 Peachtree St.

"Those people who would like to go need to make their reservations as soon as possible," said Ray Hayes, business manager of Western Recorder. "We are already about half full."

"If you're planning to attend the SBC, you'll not find a better deal," he added.

Persons interested in the Western Recorder tour should contact Hayes at Western Recorder, Box 43401, Middletown, KY 40243, (502) 245-4101. A \$75 per person deposit is required.

Deacon conference planned for April

A weekend National Deacon Ministry Conference will be held Apr. 25-27 at Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center.

Bob Sheffield, deacon ministry consultant in the church administration department at the Sunday School Board, will be the director of the conference and a similar deacon conference at Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference

Center, Apr. 11-13.

Ridgecrest program features include conferences on the ministering couple, confronting conflict, the person and work of deacons, and deacons—partners in caring.

The preacher for the week will be Bob Simmons, associate professor of missions at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Music and fellowships for the deacon ministry weekend will be directed by Phil Briggs, youth education professor at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex., and Rosemary Hoover, homemaker and musician from Kansas City, Mo.

Cost to attend the National Deacon Ministry Conference is \$97.50 per person with one in a room or \$74.50 per person with two in a room. To obtain a registration form, write to Bob Sheffield, Deacon Ministry, 127 Ninth Ave., North, Nashville, TN 37234.

Florida group counters 'conservative' actions

Vowing they will not be forced out of the Southern Baptist Convention, a group of Florida Baptists who are opposed to recent actions by "conservatives" in the state have met for the first time to map their own strategy.

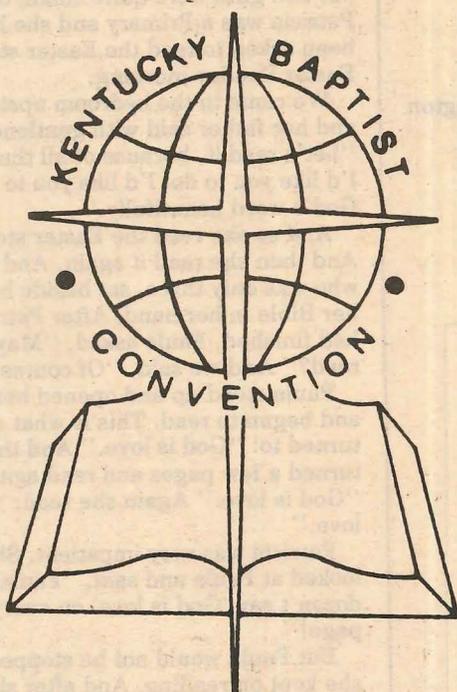
Thirty-five people, many of them laypersons, gathered at First Baptist Church, DeLand, Feb. 4 and agreed to hold several rallies in the coming months to encourage and organize like-minded Baptists in Florida.

David Medley, pastor of Stetson

KENTUCKY BAPTIST CONVENTION

AT CEDARMORE

SCHEDULED EVENTS



FEBRUARY
28-MARCH 1 Deacon/Spouse-Pastor/Wife Retreat

MARCH
17-18 Student Summer Missions Supervisors
21-22 Youth Bible Drill & Speakers Tournament

APRIL
4-6 State Singles

MAY
7-9 Directors of Missions
9-10 WMU Associational Officers
9-10 R A Track Meet & Conclave
12-14 Senior Adults

JULY
11-12 Brotherhood Steering Committee

AUGUST
9 Sunday School Drive-In
15-16 Sunday School Overnight
21 WMU Drive-In
22-23 WMU Leadership
23-24 WMU Leadership
30 Sunday School Drive-In

SEPTEMBER
12-13 Deacon/Spouse-Pastor/Wife Retreat
18-20 KBC Music Leadership

OCTOBER
3-4 Young Black Women's Conference
6-7 Haworth Conference
8-10 WMU Executive Board
10-11 Baptist Women & Young Women
13-15 Forced Termination
24-25 Associational Officers Briefing

AT JONATHAN CREEK

MARCH
7-8 Youth Missions Workshop
10-12 Forced Termination
14-15 Church Media Library
21-22 State Singles

MAY
16-17 WMU Associational Officers
19-21 Senior Adults
22-24 Campus Ministers & Presidents

JULY
14-16 Pendergraph Conference

AUGUST
23 Sunday School Drive-In

SEPTEMBER
5 WMU Drive-In
6 WMU Drive-In
13 Church Training Leadership

OCTOBER
17-18 Baptist Women & Young Women
31-Nov. 1 Associational Officers Briefing

Both Cedarmore and Jonathan Creek Baptist Assemblies have convention sponsored events during 1986... Perhaps you or your church may want to participate... For reservations, contact, Cedarmore Baptist Assembly, Route 1, Bagdad, KY 40003 — (502) 747-8911; or Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly, Route 1, Hardin, KY 42048 — (502) 354-8355.

Baptist Church, DeLand, organized the meeting, which he said was prompted by recent rallies headed by Jacksonville pastor Homer Lindsay Jr. Lindsay, of First Baptist Church, Jacksonville, has sponsored several meetings in the state as part of what he said is a nationwide effort to control the election of the SBC president and rid the denomination of "liberalism."

"In light of what has been happening, we felt the real conservatives in Florida needed a voice," said Medley, one of two pastors to address the two-hour meeting, which was spent primarily in open discussion about what action the group would take.

In discussion, several participants said they felt excluded by other Baptists who take the "conservative" label for themselves while condemning all others as "liberals." "I'm a little weary of fundamentalists being called conservatives," said Bryan Robinson, pastor of First Baptist Church, Ft. Myers. "The conservatives are right here in this room. Baptists historically have insisted on freedom and missions, but neither of these concerns are being touched by those who are mislabeled (as conservatives)."

"I'm not leaving this convention, and nobody is going to drive me from it," vowed Medley. He said he felt hopeful after the 1985 SBC meeting at which a Peace Committee was established to try to ease tensions in the denomination but added the political activity in recent months "shattered that confidence."

Dixon Free, pastor of First Baptist Church, Ormond Beach, distributed copies of a two-page article by Thomas E. Rush, pastor of Lake Park Baptist Church, Lake Park, Ga., which cited examples of alleged liberalism at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C.

Contacted after the meeting, Rush said he stood by the allegations. "There was not a single conservative (professor) at Southeastern," he added. "I don't know any of them who believe the substitutionary atonement of Christ."

Rush said Southeastern students who

disagree with his assessment of the school have a different "presupposition" about the Bible. "I am an inerrantist," he said. "It's pretty difficult to be a conservative and not believe in inerrancy." (BP)

Home movies needed for heritage video tapes

Plans are underway for a third Baptist heritage video tape series, according to A. Ronald Tonks, assistant executive director for the Historical Commission, SBC.

This series produced by the Historical Commission will contain a significant amount of old film footage. Tonks is seeking pre-1950 film or motion pictures that depict Baptist church leaders and life to borrow and copy for use in the video tapes.

"We are looking for old 'home movies'," said Tonks. "We know where to find the professional footage, but we are looking for 8mm, 16mm or 35mm film that illustrate tent revivals, worship services, creek baptisms, Lord's suppers, Sunday schools, vacation Bible schools, preachers, evangelists, convention meetings, pastor's conferences and WMU activities."

Individuals with such films or motion pictures should contact A. Ronald Tonks, Historical Commission, 901 Commerce St., Suite 400, Nashville, TN 37203.

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Baptist workers safe in Haiti

In the wake of Haitian dictator Jean-Claude Duvalier's fall from power, Southern Baptist missionaries Jack and Doris Hancox were following U.S. embassy advice by staying at home.

Also safe are Southern Baptist volunteers Dan and Freddie Peters and their two teen-age daughters.

All schools, including about 140 operated in the Baptist Convention of Haiti, were ordered closed by Duvalier Jan. 6. Hancox hopes the schools will reopen, but no specific date has been set by the new six-man council ruling the nation.

Hancox worked in late January to distribute food to 60 schools where nutrition programs are operated with Southern Baptist relief funds.

"There has been enormous frustration that the schools were shut down," and it probably fueled the revolt," Hancox said. "Even the poorest peasant prides himself that his kid can go to the Baptist or Methodist school and learn to read and write and have a better chance than he did," he added. (BP)



Leon Simpson
President
Clear Creek Baptist School
Pineville, KY 40977

clear creek comment

The honest preacher

The winter is a time for thinking and meditation, judging and evaluation, searching and introspection. How I am enjoying the time I am spending in thinking about 1986 as "The Year of the Preacher."

Paul announced his conviction and his dedication when he said, (II Cor. 4:1-2 through 'dishonesty'). There is a sense in which the only sermon worth preaching is one we preachers can back up with our lives.

I am myself a preacher of the word and called by the Lord. During my almost 30 year ministry, there have been times I have been ashamed to be a preacher, proud to be God's preacher, humbled as a preacher, etc. I am convinced that, as a preacher, God wants me first to be a good Christian man. Fielding said, "There is not in the universe a more ridiculous nor a more contemptible animal than a proud clergyman."

Cowper stated, "I venerate the man whose heart is warm, whose hands are pure, whose doctrine and whose life coincident, exhibit lucid proof that he is honest in the sacred cause."

Douglas Mallock sarcastically asserts, "We dislike the man who tries to give us title clear to any mansion in the skies and grab our title here!"

We have had enough Elmer Gantroys in the ministry. It is time for Christians, churches (and other preachers also) to insist on a high standard for our preachers. We should make sure the world is scoffing at our message, not our weak and worldly lives.

We preachers are mere mortal men and vessels made of clay. But people should see the power of God in our lives. Goldsmith spoke of the village preacher:

"Remote from towns he ran his godly race, / Nor e'er had changed, nor wished to change, his place. / But in his duty prompt at every call, / He watch'd and wept, he prayed and felt for all. / Truth from his lips prevailed with double sway, / And fools, who came to scoff, remained to pray."

At Clear Creek we spend some time learning how to preach the gospel better. We spend a lot more time trying to help the preacher himself to be all God wants him to be. What I am will ultimately determine what I preach. Lord, do a work of grace in this poor preacher's heart so that I might be more of what you created and redeemed me to be. Make me an honest preacher!

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Barkley Moore
President
Oneida Baptist Institute
Oneida, KY 40972

oneida journal

Goody two-shoes

"I became a Christian at age seven at First Baptist Church, Rogersville, Tenn. It was during revival on a Friday night. All of a sudden I knew I had to talk to my preacher about being saved. As I made my way out of the church pew, I remember someone saying, 'You're going to go up there?' I said 'yes' and kept on walking. I felt great.

"Two years later, in 1977, my family moved to Cheektowaga, N. Y., to help start a new church. My dad was to be the pastor. The church began with only six members. I was very rebellious at first. I couldn't see any use in going to a church with only six members!

"Especially in New York where people made fun of the way I talked. They also made fun of my religion. The city was 95 percent Catholic. They didn't understand or trust Southern Baptist ways. I heard questions like 'Why do you go to church three times a week? Why can't you dance?' I also heard comments like 'Holy Roller!' and 'Goody two-shoes!'

"Because my religion made me different from most of my friends, I pretended I didn't like that Baptist church on French Road. I even went so far as to tell some that the guy who was pastor was my uncle and my family had nothing to do with his family because of their religion. (Shades of the apostle Peter the night before Jesus was killed.)

"I had really fallen down on my commitment to Christ and to my family. As I got older, I realized what I was doing, and how wrong it was. With

God's help, I was able to use people's questions to witness to them.

"While in New York which is missions all year round, our church sponsored eight to 10 Bible schools every summer in parks, people's back yards, or even in a field at the end of a street. I have led the group singing, and also helped teach a few classes.

"In 1980, I went with a group to Wellsville to hold a Bible school for kids who lived in a trailer park.

"For two years, I was involved with a puppet ministry. Our group traveled to other churches, we performed at Bible schools, and even at a Boy Scout dinner.

"I have gone door to door doing the Christian Witness Survey.

"I also taught grades 4-6 in Sunday school while in New York because of a lack of adult teachers.

"It is God's will that we go out to preach his gospel. When I was 13 I dedicated my life to God. To be a summer missionary is a chance God is giving me to prove my promise to him. I am ready to make good on that promise.

"I'm not looking for a summer to be waited on or to be entertained because I'm a summer missionary. While I am ready for fun, it is the fun of being able to bring people to Christ and to know I've pleased God."

The above is the testimony of Oneida senior Rebecca Monday. Becca is a beautiful young lady. She normally has a bright smile. She is near the top of her class academically. She is very active in many differing activities.

For example, she recently sang in the All-State Choir at Lexington at the Kentucky Music Educator's Association meeting. She was one of nine Oneida students chosen by audition by regional judges. Not only is she daily busy with choir practice, she is very active in our band.

Becca has had varying roles in drama, has been a track team member, and a basketball manager. She was one of the finalists this year for Yearbook Queen by vote of our student body. She is active in BSU and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

A large group of our students meet each Wednesday evening for "discipling" sessions, studying the Bible and learning to use it for witnessing.

Becca has had the benefit of these varying opportunities along with our other students. She has been chosen to serve as a summer missionary under the auspices of BSU.



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

sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR FEB. 23, 1986

Life and Work Series

Compassion for the needy

Matthew 15:29-31 After traveling and ministering through Phoenicia, Christ and the disciples returned to Galilee. Tired and desirous of escaping the crowds he and the disciples ascended a mountain overlooking the Sea of Galilee. Ere long the multitudes found Christ. Many brought their loved ones and friends who were "lame, blind, dumb and maimed." They believed the Great Physician could and would heal them. Christ's compassion led him to minister to them so he healed all without turning away a person who was in need.

As the crowds witnessed Christ's demonstration of compassion and his display of power in performing healing miracles, the Gentiles who had exercised faith in Christ "glorified the God of Israel."

Matthew 15:32-34 Because the people kept bringing their sick and afflicted, Christ's healing ministry continued three days. As the heart of Christ went out in compassionate love for the multitude that followed him, heard his words and observed his miracles, and knowing that most had consumed the food which they possessed, Christ instructed the apostles to take an inventory of what they had. They found they had only seven small loaves of bread and a few little fishes.

Matthew 15:35-39 Taking that food, Christ "commanded the multitude to sit down on the ground," gave thanks to God the Father for providing the small amount of food and for the power to make it into much, miraculously multiplied the loaves and the fishes, and then used the disciples to distribute the food to the assembled multitude. Four thousand men, plus women and children, were filled and seven baskets of food remained.

International Series

Bear your cross

Mark 9:33-37 In the light of what Christ had been saying to the disciples about his own self-abasement and sorrow, it is surprising they kept striving for self-advancement. Selfish ambitions caused them to enter into a dispute as to which of them would have the preeminence in the kingdom of the messiah.

After they entered the house in Capernaum, Christ asked the disciples what they had been arguing about on their journey. They were reluctant to answer Christ, so they "held their peace." Theirs was the silence of shame.

From this Christians should learn they should never cherish an ambition which has its goal in themselves or of which they shall be ashamed in the Lord's presence.

Christ informed the disciples that if they were seeking greatness in his kingdom they would find it through being the servants of all. Using a little child as an object lesson, Christ taught the disciples they should entertain humble and modest opinions of themselves. Christ made it clear that a great person has the characteristics of a little child—trustfulness, dependence, teachableness and humility.

Mark 10:35-45 As Christ and his disciples journeyed toward Jerusalem, for the third time he told them of his approaching death. He enumerated many of the grim and gruesome details of his forthcoming sufferings and death and assured them of his resurrection. Ambitious James and John asked Christ to pledge in advance to give them whatever they might desire in his kingdom.

When Christ asked what it was that they desired, they said: "Grant unto us that we may sit, one on thy right hand, and the other on thy left hand, in thy glory." Christ replied: "Ye know not what ye ask."



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

on mission together

Old fashion but alive and well

In the dead of winter, vacation Bible school may seem a far fetched subject to consider . . . that is, unless one is a pastor, church leader, or someone already elected to direct vacation Bible school this coming year. For these, summer is just around the corner and the VBS is a vital part of it!

Kentucky Baptists will find interesting some VBS statistics shared with the Missions and Church Services Division a few days ago by Chip Miller, associate in the Sunday School Department.

- Kentucky Baptist vacation Bible schools increased from 2071 to 2089 in 1985. With approximately 2240 Kentucky Baptist churches, that means almost 94 percent of KBC churches conducted a vacation Bible school in 1985.

- More than 80,000 church prospects were reported as a result of the 2089 schools. (Churches throughout the Southern Baptist Convention reported 609,533 prospects discovered through vacation Bible schools in 1985.)

- 88 percent conducted schools of at least five days in length.

- 49.6 percent conducted their schools in the evening while 43 percent used the morning approach.

- 24 churches participated in "linking up" with other churches to start new schools (a new program which will likely grow in the future).

- The schools provided offerings totaling \$66,201 for missions through the Cooperative Program and \$86,539 for other mission causes. That's up from \$56,704 and \$76,623, respectively, in 1984.

- Most important, from professions of faith reported from the Kentucky Baptist schools were 2338, up 348 or 17 percent over the previous year. With the total number of baptisms down in

our state convention from last year, this is an encouraging word. If one could assume that all of these professions of faith resulted in baptisms, it would mean that almost 14 percent of all the baptisms reported from our KBC churches in 1985 were a result of vacation Bible schools.

Vacation Bible schools are hard work! And only the non-observer would fail to note that were it not for faithful Kentucky Baptist women, many churches would either need to shut down or seriously curtail their VBS program. (The assistance that "retired" men and women are providing is a growing and grateful reality.)

For some churches, vacation Bible school may yield the only profession(s) of faith for the year.

Year after year, vacation Bible schools do the marvelous work of Christian education and evangelism. Yes, for the most part, they do it "the old fashion way" . . . they earn it. And we can be grateful they do!

Virginia couple named outstanding missionaries

Sam and Grace Faulkenberry, missionaries working in a small coal-mining community near the Virginia-Kentucky border, have been honored as missionaries of the year involved in Christian social ministries through the SBC Home Mission Board.

The Faulkenberrys, who work together in the Clincho (Va.) Baptist Chapel, received the Clovis A. Brantley Memorial Award given in memory of a pioneer Baptist missions worker involved in Christian social ministries.

Paul Adkins, associate director of the missions ministries division of the SBC Home Mission Board, said they were selected from among 12 nominees because of more than 20 years faithful service among the poor people of Virginia and Kentucky.

The Faulkenberrys moved to Clincho in July 1984 after 10 years as director of Christian social ministries for Lynchburg Baptist Association and 13 years as director of a mission center in Bristol, Va. Previously he had been pastor of Marrowbone Baptist Church, Lookout, Ky. They are natives of South Carolina.

In the brief time they have been in Clincho, the Faulkenberrys said they had visited every family in the coal-mining community of about 1000. Last Christmas they made sure every family



Sam and Grace Faulkenberry

had food to eat on Christmas day, and that every child in the community received a toy for Christmas. Two churches in Virginia, Columbia Baptist in Falls Church and First Baptist in Bristol, provided the toys for the children at the Faulkenberry's request.

Adkins said three major factors contributed to their receiving the award: their willingness to go to the small town of Clincho at an age when most missionaries are looking toward retirement, their outstanding relationships with people in the community and their willingness to try innovative methods.

In accepting the award, "Miss Grace" (as she is called by friends) said the publicity in local news media about

the award had affirmed the people of Clincho and made them feel they could be recognized for something besides poverty.

She explained that the Clincho area, hit hard by the closing of the coal mines years ago, is so poor the only news coverage the area ever gets is a degrading description of hardship and suffering that destroys their pride and self-esteem.

"It's really done something for Clincho," Miss Grace added. She said one of the women in the community told her how proud she was because of the award. "As long as we live, you'll always be in our hearts and part of our lives," the Clincho woman told them.

When they first arrived, the people in the community refused to accept them because they were outsiders, she said. But after Sam visited in every home in the community, and they discovered he and Miss Grace had genuine love for them, the attitudes changed, she said.

When they arrived in Clincho, only about 20 people were attending worship services at the Clincho Baptist Chapel. The people were discouraged and disillusioned because of two splits in the church, and because no pastor would stay long with the congregation. The Faulkenberrys assured the people they were there to stay.

Now attendance has doubled to more

than 55, and the people are excited about plans for a revival Mar. 30-Apr. 6. About 75 children and youth are involved in the chapel's weekday ministries, which provides the only organized recreation in town. Last summer Faulkenberry organized the first softball team for kids in the community.

They discovered one reason many of the people would not attend church was because they were ashamed of their tattered clothes. So Sam and Grace asked for help from Baptist Woman's Missionary Union groups in providing clothes for the people. Several families have started coming to church after receiving new clothes, they said.

Grace, a trained literacy worker, is tutoring a mechanic and teaching him to read and write. "It's amazing how fast Johnny has learned to read," she said. "He's so thrilled."

"We just love these people," she said. "What they need more than anything else is for someone to love them."

Faulkenberry, 64, added they have tried to demonstrate that love by finding out the needs of the people and trying to help them, whatever the needs might be.

They said they plan to stay in Clincho as long as the Home Mission Board will let them before retiring in Kershaw, S.C., where they own property. (BP)

Sen. Weicker applauds legacy of religious freedom

by Tom Miller

The American legacy of religious freedom was neither an automatic nor swift development, U.S. Sen. Lowell Weicker Jr., R-Conn., told a largely Virginia Baptist audience the 200th anniversary of the signing of the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom.

The day of commemoration—Jan. 19—was co-sponsored by the University of Richmond's Departments of History and Religion, Chaplain's Office, T. C. Williams School of Law and the Virginia Baptist Historical Society.

In his speech, the senator paid tribute to Thomas Jefferson who penned the Virginia Statute and to James Madison who saw it through the General Assembly after Jefferson went to Europe as ambassador to France. Jefferson authored the bill which ultimately was the basis of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 1777.

Jefferson's statute ended with the words: "That no man shall be compelled to frequent or support any religious worship, race or ministry whatsoever, nor shall be enforced, restrained, molested, or burthened in his body goods, nor shall otherwise suffer on account of his religious opinions or belief; but that all men shall be free to profess, and by argument to maintain, their opinions in matters of religion, and at the same shall in no wise diminish, enlarge, or affect their civil capacities."

Weicker, who promised to continue his resistance to a constitutional amendment school prayer, declared, "Putting school in front of the word prayer and having children mouth it does not make it any the less government prayer."

"Then," he said, "there is the deceptive magic of the word voluntary as in the phrase 'voluntary school

prayer.' The phrase is, however, a contradiction. Since public education in these United States is mandatory, how can the prayer conceived within it be voluntary?"

Attacking the "religious right" in America, Weicker charged: "A slice of society wants to define national morality in terms of a mandatory group activity for our children called school prayer. I would suggest a better definition of American morality could be found in what all of us, adult and juvenile, do with the hungry, the disenfranchised, the homeless, the ignorant, the diseased, at home and abroad."

In an obvious reference to television preacher Jerry Falwell and his political organizations, Moral Majority and Liberty Federation, Weicker said, "Lately, legislative and political support from the televangelists and their operatives have become the kiss of death for a law or a campaign. And not even a name change can change that." This statement brought applause from the audience.

Weicker, ranking Republican on the Senate Watergate Committee in 1973, recalled the probing questions of committee chairman Sam Ervin who concluded he could understand the laws broken by White House personnel because "I can understand the English tongue. It's my mother tongue."

"There are those (now)," said Weicker, "who claim confusion over the meaning of the two great guarantors of religious freedom in the Constitution of the United States—Article XI and the First Amendment."

"How then do I know 'no religious test' and 'no law respecting the establishment of religion' mean just that? Because, in Chairman Sam's words, 'I understand the English language. It is my mother tongue.'"

Noting the polls show 87 percent of

American adults favor school prayer and 25 percent disfavor separation of church and state, Weicker said, "Such figures, in my opinion, desecrate our national heritage and those who died in the cause of freedom—religious included."

The senator then outlined the history of the First Amendment, giving examples of the persecuted becoming the persecutors when they came into power. Weicker quoted repeated violations of that basic freedom. He said, "History puts the lie to that self-delusion that it can't happen here. It has happened in America."

He then spoke of persecution of Catholics, Jews, Quakers and Mormons, all in America. Quoting the late Walter Stacy, chief justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court in *State v. Beal*, Weicker lamented: "For some

reason, too deep to fathom, men contend more furiously over the road to heaven, which they cannot see, than over their visible walks on earth (and) it would be almost unbelievable, if history did not record the tragic fact, that men have gone to war and cut each other's throats because they could not agree as to what was to become of them after their throats were cut."

Holding that religious freedom and separation of church and state is the only acceptable way, Weicker supported his position with quotations from Madison including, "Who does not see that the same authority which can establish Christianity, in exclusion of all other religions, may establish with the same ease any particular sect of Christians, in exclusion of other sects." (BP)

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Classes underway at Campbellsville College

605 students notice changes in the buildings on campus

Classes are underway for the spring 1986 semester at Campbellsville College.

The 605 students enrolled this semester are noticing several changes in the buildings on campus.

Stapp Hall, the women's residence hall, and North Hall, the college's conference center, have received new venetian blinds in each room. The renovation in North Hall is a gift of alumni from the 1940s classes.

The Recital Hall, a part of the Music Annex, was renovated last year with a new acoustical stage and new carpet, among the improvements.

The band room downstairs in the Music Annex is being remodeled. A new roof is also being installed on

Carter Hall.

Campbellsville College offers 32 major programs and 28 minor programs in its curriculum. There are five areas of concentration in which a student may choose to study.

At Campbellsville College, 80 percent of the students receive some form of financial aid. The average financial package is \$3000 with many receiving full aid.

The college, in seeking to be a Christ-centered, coeducational and comprehensive institution of higher learning, offers 20 clubs and organizations on campus which are open to students.

The college also offers intercollegiate sports with winning teams.



MEAGAN WILSON, left, a freshman from Carthage, Ind., and Judy Woodward, a freshman from Franklin, Ky., renew acquaintances following the Christmas break.



FRESHMEN Stephen Lewis, left, and Kim Reed Powell, both of Campbellsville, talked during registration.



CONNIE COLLINS, a freshman from Campbellsville, registers for classes in Campbellsville College's Administration Building.



KEITH JOHNSON, left, financial aid director at Campbellsville College, and Dotty Benningfield, of the financial aid office, explain to a student exactly what aid she can receive.