



Ministry requires vision, mission directors told

by Kathy Palen

Ministry without vision never accomplishes all God has intended.

That was the message members of the Southern Baptist Convention directors of missions were told throughout their two-day meeting in Atlanta.

A vision of God embracing all the people of the world will make a church what it was intended to be, said Keith Parks, president of the Southern Baptist Convention Foreign Mission Board.

"You have a responsibility heavier than any other single group I know in the Southern Baptist Convention to keep before the churches this vision of reaching out, whether it is next door or around the world," Parks declared.

Urging associational leaders to grasp God's vision Parks warned God never wastes spiritual visions. He explained one reason some people never see visions from God is because God senses their unwillingness to accept those visions.

A vision also will provide a sense of direction, said Frank Pollard,

pastor of First Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss. "There has never been a denomination that has gone down because of false doctrine," he said, "but rather because of lost purpose." Without that sense of purpose ministries can become guilty of "the sin of our age," which he described as a "mild, lifeless kind of religion."

A vision also is needed to provide a steering force in a minister's or church's life, said Robert Dale, professor of pastoral leadership and church ministries at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C. For Jesus, he added, that steering current was the kingdom of God.

"A legitimate Christian vision isn't just positive thinking, a fuzzy guess," Dale said. "Real vision grows out of Jesus' kingdom dream and steers us into profound and practical ministries."

"There can be a great deal of pain," said Everett Anthony of the Chicago Metro Association. "They can ridicule you by saying, 'He really isn't a Southern Baptist because he doesn't do things the way we always have.' The ridicule and pressure can be tremendous," he asserted.

"The authenticity of our relationship with Christ will be seen in what we will do for those people who have absolutely nothing to give in return," said Melvin Hall of the Blue Ridge-Kansas City Baptist Association.

New officers for the conference are Carl Duck, Nashville, Tenn., president; Mack Smoke, Baytown, Tex., first vice president; Paul Camp, Macon, Ga., second vice president; Maurice Flowers, Laurel, Miss., secretary; Robert Wainwright, Oxford, N. C., treasurer; Everett Anthony, Oak Park, Ill., editor; and Preston Denton, St. Louis, Mo., host for the 1987 meeting. (BP)



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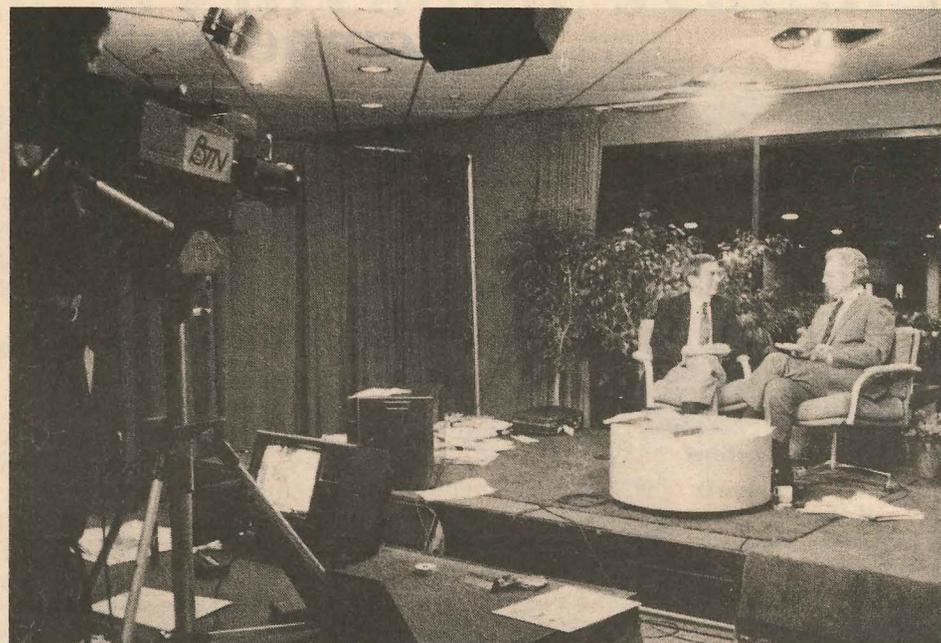
by Jim Newton

A Virginia sociology professor has urged Southern Baptists to oppose legislation which would legalize kidnapping of young people involved in cult groups so their parents can have them deprogrammed.

David Bromley, chairman of the Department of Sociology and anthropology at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, said such laws, if passed, could be used against Baptists and people of other religions and are dangerous to society.

Bromley, author of several books and a nationally-recognized expert on cults, made the statements during a national conference sponsored by the Interfaith Witness Department of the SBC Home Mission Board.

Several state legislatures, Bromley said, are considering legislation passed in 1981 by New York but vetoed by the governor which would, in effect, legalize kidnapping. Such laws use "guardianship and conservatorship" provisions allowing parents to get a court order declaring their adult sons or daughters



Southern Baptists from across the country saw the 129th annual meeting of their convention, thanks to the gavel-to-gavel coverage provided by the SBC Sunday School Board's Baptist Telecommunication Network. An estimated 60,000 Baptists tuned in to the programming June 10-12.

Kentuckian to lead ministers' wives

by Jack Sanford, Editor

Mrs. Ted Sisk, wife of the pastor of Lexington's Immanuel Baptist



Mrs. Sisk

Church, was elected president of the Southern Baptist Convention ministers' wives organization at the annual meeting in Atlanta.

Mrs. Sisk, known affectionately as Ginny, has served Kentucky Baptists in many capacities. She has been vice president of Woman's Missionary Union and currently represents the North Central region on the WMU executive board. She is also chairman of the WMU scholarship committee. She has made a mission tour to Kenya as part of the Kentucky-Kenya link up.

Elected to serve with her in direction of the ministers' wives organization for the coming year were Mrs. Steve Bonenberger, St. Louis, Mo., vice president; Mrs. Jerry Hayner, Cary, N. C., secretary-treasurer; and Mrs. Don Moore, Little Rock, Ark., corresponding secretary.

Baptists urged to oppose deprogramming law

psychologically incompetent. With such a court order a "cult deprogrammer" may legally kidnap the youth and force him or her to undergo psychological "treatment."

Bromley said such laws are dangerous to all religions because laws passed to be used against one religious group can be used against another group. If anybody should oppose such legislation it should be Baptists because of their historic stand on religious freedom, said Bromley.

Bromley debunked the myth that religious cults "brainwash" their converts and force them against their will to accept a religious lifestyle. He said such a view is the result of a "conspiracy theory" promoted by former members of cults and anti-cult groups which depend on this kind of scare tactic for their financial support.

Gary Leazer, associate director of the Home Mission Board's Interfaith Witness Department, responded to Bromley's address by pointing out already the American government has used similar techniques against both Baptists and cults.

Pointing out that after the Internal

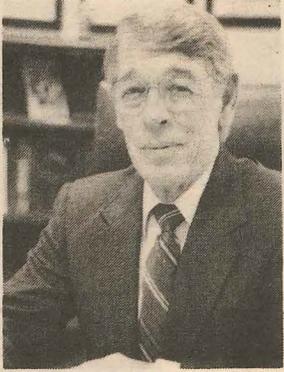
Revenue Service withdrew the tax exempt status of The Way International, several Baptist churches in Jackson, Tenn. faced possible loss of their tax exempt status, and actually went to court after they fought legalized liquor-by-the-drink in a local-option election. (BP)

Hospitalization report needs clarification

Western Recorder reported a change in the Annuity Board's hospitalization plan beginning July 1. We reported the need for a second opinion on hospitalization. **That is correct only for agency and institution personnel.** Church employes, except those with large staffs under a "true group" plan, are not required to seek a second opinion, neither are retirees required to seek a second opinion. Any questions about the second opinion requirement from agency or institutional personnel may be directed to the person who handles insurance claims for the agency or institution.

sanford's perspectives

Compensation study deserves attention



Jack D. Sanford

Donald A. Spencer and Guy C. Futral Jr. deserve a word of praise for the compensation study they have just completed among Kentucky ministers.

Spencer, director of the Annuity Department, and Futral, consultant in the Minister/Church Relations Department, received responses from 670 ministers across the state which reveal some interesting facts.

For example we have heard for years tenure among Baptist ministers is somewhere in the neighborhood of two to three years. This survey indicates a much longer tenure in Kentucky. To quote the survey, "The 408 full time pastors included in this survey have been at their current church an average of 6.1 years," and "The 127 part time pastors (including both bivocational and student) in this survey have been at their current church an average of 5.2 years."

That seems to be good news to me, especially in light of the need for longer tenure if progress is made in building a church.

The survey gives information about average salary and benefit packages for full time and part time ministers in various size churches located in large cities, medium cities, small cities, towns and rural areas.

The survey is available from the Annuity Department or the Minister/Church Relations Department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention upon request. Directors of missions have also been sent copies of the survey.

Budget preparation committees should have a copy of this survey well in advance of planning for next year's budget. It will supply needed information about salary and benefits offered by churches of comparable size and location.

Many churches will be surprised to discover they have not been doing as well by their staff members as they thought. Others will discover they are ahead of the game and should feel proud that they take care of the needs of those who serve the Lord by serving the needs of his church.

For example the survey indicates full time pastors in the 408 churches represented received a total pay package of \$27,263, plus \$3265 for ministry-related expense, such as car, conventions, etc. Simple arithmetic will tell the church budget committee how well they compare with sister churches in the state.

Get the survey. Study this document carefully and use it as a guide in preparing the salary and benefit items in your next budget.

They have the power if...

There are 1.2 million women enrolled in the various programs and ministry efforts of Woman's Missionary Union. These people have the power to turn the Southern Baptist Convention toward effective, Christ-like work if they choose to do so.

In their annual meeting in Atlanta Marjorie Jones McCullough, widow of former Brotherhood president Glendon McCullough, was elected national president. Her remarks can be the trumpet call to a new and more significant battle among Southern Baptists. Mrs. McCullough said, "Southern Baptists began because of missions. Any time we get away from missions and the Cooperative Program, then we've hurt ourselves."

There is no question we have gotten away from missions and the Cooperative Program as our first agenda item, and there is no question we have thrown a shadow over our credibility as God's people on mission for Christ.

A former national president of WMU, Christine Gregory of Danville, Va., called upon all Baptists to adopt a specific time of daily intercessory prayer. She called upon Baptists to "put a governor on all our tongues. Whenever we are tempted to talk about someone else...let's decide instead to talk about Jesus...."

The kind of vision which has sustained WMU throughout its long history is still there among the women who make up the majority of our church members. If women with world-wide missionary concern and constant attention to intercessory prayer were of a mind to do so, they could turn this convention from its political suicide and set us on our way to real progress in world evangelism.

Not many macho men, not many politically minded men, not many power hungry men are going to surrender anything to women in this day. But the women have the power, if....

Baptist Press again pressured

Baptist Press, the news agency of the Southern Baptist Convention, has been under constant pressure from certain groups within the SBC for its reporting of controversial matters in convention life.

Most of the criticism comes because Baptist Press (BP) tries to tell all the story. However critics claim BP is biased, distorts facts and does not tell all the story.

In the short time I have been in this office I have discovered there is no way a story can be told and please all the people. Even if we stay with bare facts, which we try to do with all news items, someone will insist we have been biased. Even the headlines we print have come under attack.

Again this year, the SBC asked "that Baptist Press, state Baptist newspapers, and the 'autonomous independent journals be especially careful to be fair and accurate in reporting events in the convention and refrain from labeling and attributing improper motives...'"

That seems a fair request and Western Recorder intends to stay by the spirit of fairness called for by the Peace Committee. However, it must be clear to all parties in our convention that no matter how we report an event, nor how we editorialize, there will be differences of opinion. To some people we are never right nor ever fair no matter what we say or report.

All we ask is that our critics try to be as fair as we try to be.

western recorder

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

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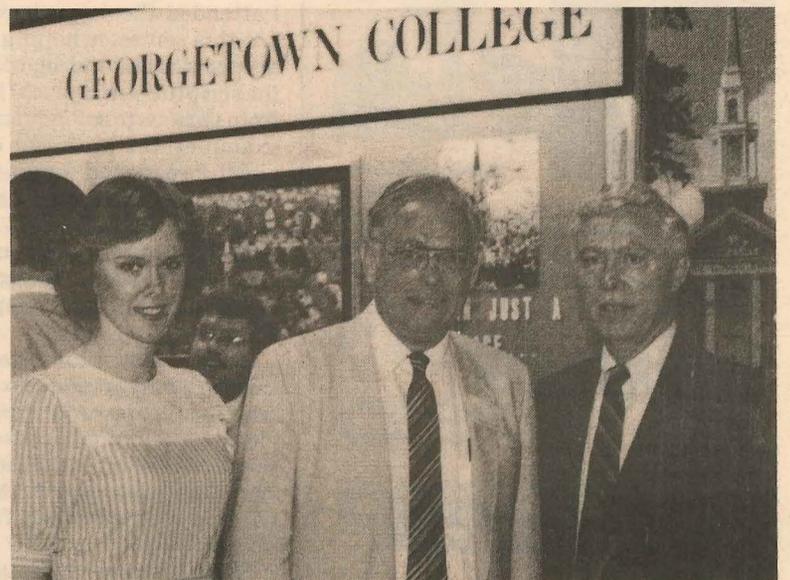
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Kentuckians in Atlanta



Clockwise:

Henry Huff, 1st vice presidential candidate and Louisville layman; Wyman Copass, new pastor at Farmdale Baptist Church, Long Run Association; Don Cottrell, pastor of Three Springs Baptist Church, Liberty Association; and Tim Waits, Popular Grove Baptist Church, Ten Mile Association, (l to r) renew friendships as they discuss the week's events in the convention hall.

W. Morgan Patterson (r), president of Georgetown College, Bob Jones, pastor of First Baptist Church, Lawrenceburg, Anderson Association and his daughter, Edna Marie, welcome people to the school's exhibit.

Unable to find a seat in the crowded main hall of the SBC, Terry Wilder, pastor of Sand Spring Baptist Church, Anderson Association, and minister of education and youth, Dave Choulton, (center) rest on stacks of newspapers along the wall.

Center: Clay Smith, pastor of Finchville Baptist Church, Shelby County Association, and messenger Gina Watson explore the booths of SBC agencies and colleges in the exhibit hall at the Georgia World Congress Center.



Left: Campbellsville College president Randy Davenport (center) and Jim Hawkins (left), executive associate, KBC, talk with Ohio alumni Bill Hounshell.

Bottom: Gary Coltharp, pastor, and messengers from First Baptist Church, Madisonville attend the Wednesday session and hear Adrian Rogers deliver his convention sermon. Pictured are (row 1) Hughlan Richey, Martha Nell Richey and Desmond Hargis; (row 2) Coltharp, Bill Heaton and Bill McCann.

Above: Willis Henson, pastor of Lone Oak Baptist Church, West Union Association; Colburn Hooten, pastor of Hickory Grove Baptist Church, Northern Kentucky Association; and Gayle Toole, pastor of Nicholasville Baptist Church, Elkhorn Association (l to r), select commentaries to aid in sermon preparation in the Baptist Bookstore in the convention.

SBC 1986



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

homes for children

Servants

Beyond doubt the local Baptist association is the most important denominational unit in Baptist life. It is a creation of the churches, designed to serve the churches and is directed by the churches. The Baptist association has been and is a strong facilitator of fellowship among the churches and serves as a channel of sharing information, giving encouragement and promoting missions and evangelism.

Many associations have called a person known as their director of missions. These dedicated persons work with the officers of the associations to promote the work the churches decide to do together. In this way the churches help and encourage each other to do and be their best. Directors of missions not only provide information about various denominational programs, but give much needed help to churches. These dedicated servants also are great friends to pastors. They very often are a pastor to pastors, listening to their heartaches, praying with them and giving needed assistance to help lead his church through difficult times.

Just recently it has been my privilege to be in touch with most of our associational directors of missions in Kentucky. I am truly impressed with the dedication of these servants and their genuine concern for missions and evangelism. Whether I spoke with directors of missions in a small group or one at a time, I found them eager to hear about Baptist Homes for Children and the ministry we provide. Each one of them has a real concern to impart information about the child care ministry to the churches.

Telling the story of our ministry to the churches is easier now than it has ever been. We have just produced a brief video tape entitled, **Hearing the Cries of Our Children**. This film tells who we are and what we are doing about the cries of children. This video tape has been given to our associational directors of missions. It can be secured from the associational office for showing in the churches.

It is my hope and prayer that at least a thousand of our Baptist churches will see this video by November.

baptist forum

Layman dares to embrace truth

I attended theology classes at Southern this semester hoping to gain a deeper understanding of God. Using the scriptures, historical facts, quotes from various theologians and personal examples, the professor offered ideas which broadened my knowledge of God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit and the church. This professor's devotion to God, the church, missions and the students urged me toward a greater commitment to and a deeper relationship with God.

As I reviewed the benefits of my class sessions I realized some Baptists fear this professor's views and would choose to eliminate these views at Southern. What a rich treasure of Christian witness and theological wisdom would be lost if this should occur.

Students come to Southern, hear various views about theology and are then encouraged to "work out their own salvation." They are not required to adopt for themselves any professor's personal theological perspective.

No one, limited view can possibly convey the fullness of God. It is only as a corporate body, utilizing our various gifts and diverse ways of understanding, that we can begin to perceive the vastness of our divine father. As Dale Moody relates, "The source of Christian faith is one, but springs burst forth in many places through many persons."

Let us not put on blinders that limit

our sight. Let us instead open our eyes and reach out—to the right and to the left—in order that we may dare to embrace more of the truth of our Lord.

C. L. Penick
Louisville

Exterminate the president, editor

Our convention is at the brink at which many of our fellow protestant churches have essentially perished. **The Unholy Alliance** is called the definitive history of the National Council of Churches since 1908. It details the leftist principles with heavy communist infiltration and humanism.

Humanism is a form of atheism in which the belief that man is his own God. It is the one final world religion as proposed by the liberals (like to call themselves moderates) or fellow travelers and communists.

Informed Christians have voted at the SBC for seven years to correct many errors in the deteriorating framework of our seminaries. The latter have chosen to ignore or override the majority vote of our denomination. They are now scared and propose to escape by proposing reconciliation or compromise without changing—as silly as Satan wanting to compromise with Jesus.

If the liberals fail to deceive us they will ask to split off or become free to continue with the physical plants. These institutions have been built at great expense with tithes given under

great principles that would be betrayal of the contributors and misappropriation of their gifts—transferral to the devil of gifts to Jesus.

There can be no excuse for confusion by Jack Sanford and Roy Honeycutt. The seminaries has deteriorated under the guidance of Honeycutt or lack of guidance or disregard of SBC votes for the past seven years. Sanford's Perspectives, by failing to bring the full story, appears to me to lack much of any perspective.

We need to buy a lot of brooms and extermination supplies. We must have a thorough sweepout of our seminaries and Western Recorder before it is too late to help our children and innocent laymen know the truth.

I am an elderly country surgeon. I will be glad to operate or to administer some anesthetics to salvageable cases.

Louis Aaron
Columbia

Women support Cooperative Program

When our Baptist Women's group studied the Cooperative Program we came to realize more fully the extent of its ministry.

It is apparent the Cooperative Program has had a dramatic impact on the lives of tens of thousands and no doubt millions of individuals throughout its history. It has obviously brought many people into a saving relationship with Jesus Christ, which is our priority and is of course our denomination's as well.

We Southern Baptists are at a critical point in our history. Unfortunately many seem to focus on those issues which divide us and separate us as opposed to those which unify us. We believe the Cooperative Program is an example to all Southern Baptists and to all Christians of what can be done when people with like-minded goals work together.

It is God's intention for us as a denomination to work together in cooperation with a unified goal and purpose reaching others for Christ. Together our money can accomplish more than when churches work individually.

As caring and concerned Southern Baptists we urge you and those whom you influence to preserve the Cooperative Program and its emphasis on missions and reaching others with the gospel. Let us prove to the world and to our God that our first priority is sharing Christ and making disciples of all nations.

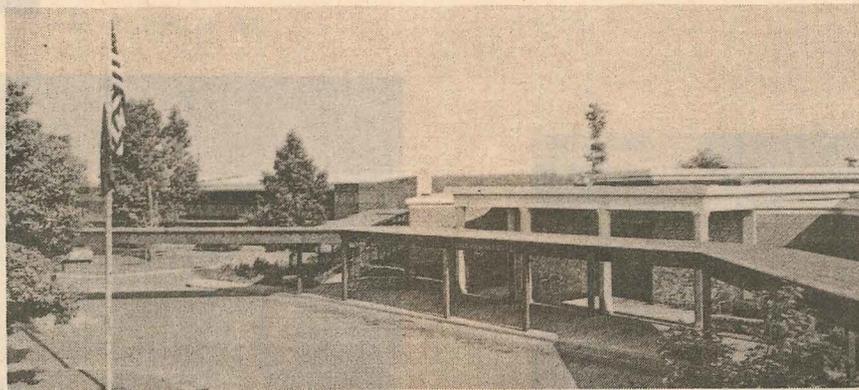
Jean Janes Baptist Women
Highland Baptist Church
Louisville

Louisvillian opposes homosexual law

The Louisville Human Relations Commission has for months held hearings and has now recommended to the Louisville Board of Aldermen and Jefferson County Fiscal Court the passage of a "gay rights" ordinance. This ordinance, if passed, would make it illegal to discriminate against homosexuals in housing, employment, etc.

Before I go any further let me state I believe the Bible clearly teaches homosexuality is an abomination. Further I believe the Bible also teaches that as a Christian I am to love the person and hate the sin. I believe the Bible teaches Christ died for us all, including homosexuals, but that the active homosexual is lost, doomed for an eternity in hell unless he repents of his homosexual lifestyle of sin and

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turns to the salvation of Christ.

I have some questions to ask. Where has Western Recorder been for the last few months? Where has the Kentucky Baptist Convention been? Where has Southern Seminary been? Where has our leadership been?

Surely we are not quibbling theology about the morality of homosexuality. Surely we are not so caught up in convention back-stabbing to see the gross evil facing our community...or are we?

Imagine an active, avowed homosexual applying for the position of family counselor at a local church or as ethics professor at Southern Seminary and the local government saying the fact of his homosexuality cannot affect our hiring decision.

Why have we not, why cannot we, visibly, vocally, militantly cooperate in our opposition to this legalized abomination of homosexual rights?

Only our active opposition will stop it. Our apathy will only bring homosexual P. E. teachers to high school boys. Think about it.

William O. Brooks
Louisville

Minority speaks out for freedom

In my 1986 SBC report I had the unpleasant task of informing my fellow church members that we of Stanford Baptist Church, in our willingness to allow one another diversity of biblical interpretation, apparently are in a minority among Southern Baptists.

This is what seems to be indicated by the fact approximately 55 percent of messengers to the convention voted to continue our journey into suppressive fundamentalism by electing Adrian Rogers SBC president. Rogers has been quoted that he believes our convention is divided 90-10 rather than 55-45. If he is right our church is in a small minority indeed.

However I continue to hope and believe the vote of our last convention gathering is not an accurate depiction of overall Southern Baptist life, but rather the recently released survey by Wilkerson and Associates is more truly indicative of our denomination. If so, then more than 70 percent, not 10 percent or 45 percent, of our members "...believe diversity of opinion...should continue."

As a third generation Baptist pastor I have had instilled within me the great truth that to be a Southern Baptist is to be free to interpret scripture as an individual directed by God's Holy Spirit. I will continue to pray and work for the continuation of this great aspect of our denominational heritage.

Larry S. Burcham
Stanford

Kentucky pastor writes to Stanley

After hearing your convention sermon I was greatly disappointed. You had an excellent opportunity to set an example of following the guidelines that were proposed for all of us by the Peace Committee (of which you are a member). Instead of building bridges of unity and brotherhood you divided us even further by preaching a nomination sermon. You did everything but call Adrian Rogers by name and directly refer to the presidential election which followed your sermon.

I am not suggesting your right to free speech be taken away. However I am questioning your judgment and the concern you claim to have for unifying Southern Baptists in missions and evangelism. I am amazed that a man of your caliber and calling would stoop so low as to use a sermon to campaign for someone else to be elected to office.

Mark F. Boes
Cecilia

The forum was a mistake

Moderates made a grave mistake when they started the Forum three years ago. It was nothing less than a full-fledged surrender of the convention.

The group that stirs the crowd at the pastor's conference is the group who will get their man elected. Since 1979 when fundamentalist proponents took over the pastor's conference platform they have yearly and with ease elected their men.

This past convention Ed Young, Jerry Vines and Adrian Rogers all had the platform and preached slick, soul searching sermons. These men are hard to beat when it comes to election time.

Forum attendees have resigned themselves to one of two conclusions.

Number one, reducing the chances of electing their president to almost zero. Or, the eventual beginning of a new Baptist convention.

Glenn Mollette
Pikeville

Convention vote not representative

Words fail in an effort to express the anguish I feel on behalf of Southern Baptist home and foreign missionaries. The 1986 SBC saw the messengers debate and vote so closely that balloting was required on an amendment to a resolution that would do nothing more forceful than encourage our churches to give at least 10 percent to world evangelization through the Cooperative Program. Ten years ago a resolution encouraging 10 percent Cooperative Program giving would probably have been approved unanimously.

The messengers also failed to enact a motion to give world missions reports priority program time. There were 40,000 messengers present to vote for president, but only 10,000 on Tuesday and Wednesday evening to hear the reports of the mission boards.

I express my opinion (with the bias of a former missionary) that this attitude toward missions does not reflect how most Southern Baptists feel about our missionaries and their work. Fewer than 10,000 of the 14.4 million Southern Baptists were present when these decisions were made.

I appeal to all Southern Baptists to find ways to express to our missionaries that we love them, support them and believe the Cooperative Program is their lifeline and we will not fail them.

In the longer perspective of history these days will be recorded as a period when Southern Baptists' cooperative missions philosophy was tested but not defeated.

Robert L. Perry
Kansas City, Mo.

Committee member clarifies report

I wish to thank you for the opportunity to explain the appointments by the Committee on Boards in response to John Dunaway's challenge. You were very fair in your article.

In the basic information provided by Baptist Press two words were inadvertently left out of the statement, "...we did not get one recommendation from eastern Kentucky." That should have read, "...we did not get one recommendation from that area of eastern Kentucky."

Then in response to Malcolm Lunceford's letter of last week raising the question concerning who was appointed from Frankfort. While Ron Burdon was pastor of Memorial Baptist Church in Frankfort he was nominated by our committee to the Home Mission Board. Before the convention in Atlanta he was called to a church in Louisville, a fact Malcolm Lunceford was well aware of when he wrote his letter.

Allen F. Harrod
Bellevue

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mountains to the mississippi

revivals

Waco Baptist Church, Tates Creek Association: 13 professions of faith; 9 rededications; 1 addition by letter; Ray Cummins, evangelist; Fred Livin-good, pastor.

First Baptist Church, Lawrenceburg, Anderson Association: 18 additions; 11 rededications; Vince Cervera, evangelist; Bob C. Jones, pastor.

Brush Grove Baptist Church, Central Association: 4 professions of faith; 1 addition by letter; 10 rededications; Don Jones, evangelist; William Lloyd Turner, pastor.

Victory Baptist Church, Crittenden Association: 2 professions of faith; 3 additions by letter; 5 rededications; Mike Jones, evangelist; Allen McQueen, pastor.

First Baptist Church, Burkesville, Freedom Association: 28 professions of faith; 12 rededications.

Pikeview Baptist Church, Freedom Association: 3 professions of faith.

missions

Karen Thomas (see picture) of Owensboro was accepted as a missionary journeyman by the Foreign Mission Board. She has been assigned as a student worker in Ouagadougou, Burkino Faso.

A 1986 graduate of Georgetown College, she was active in the school's Baptist Student Union. While in BSU she was secretary, social action chairman and missions chairman. She was on the executive council and was involved in revival teams, multi-media ministry and a nursing home ministry.

She has been a summer missionary at Cedar Crest Baptist Camp and in Canada. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe T. Thomas and is a member of Dawson Baptist Church, Philpot, where her father is pastor.

Indonesia missionaries are seeking 11 Southern Baptist pastors and 25-30 laypeople to help Baptist churches throughout the country this summer.

The volunteers will form pastor-led teams and go with Indonesian Baptists to witness in homes, businesses and schools.

Teams are needed for crusades July 7-22, July 28-Aug. 12 or Sept. 1-16. Men and women and youth in 11th grade and older may participate. Volunteers pay their own expenses.

Interested persons should contact the Foreign Mission Board at (804) 353-0151 and ask for the Volunteer Enlistment Department.

congregations

The Hispanic ministry of St. Matthews Baptist Church, Long Run Association, is changing the time of its weekly service and adding a Sunday school program.

The Spanish language Sunday school will be held each Sunday beginning June 1 at 6 p.m., with classes planned for adults and children.

At 7 p.m. each Sunday the Spanish language worship will be in the chapel of St. Matthews Baptist Church. A nursery will be provided.

The Hispanic Ministry also holds a Bible study and fellowship on Friday at 7:30 p.m. at the church.

Ludwing Villamizar who pastors



Miss Thomas



Turner



Pierce



Jones



Storment



Copass

the Hispanic Ministry says he hopes the change in time for the Sunday activities will make it easier for Spanish speaking people in the Louisville area to attend. Villamizar estimates there are more than 4000 Spanish speaking people in Louisville.

St. Matthews is located at 3515 Grandview Avenue between Cannons Lane and Breckenridge Lane. Those wanting further information may call either the church at 897-8882, or Villamizar at 897-7018.

First Baptist Church, London, Laurel River Association, conducted a Sunday school attendance campaign during March called Five Fabulous Sundays.

The objective of the attendance campaign was to get as many of the Sunday school enrollees as possible to commit themselves to being present in Sunday school each Sunday during March.

First Baptist, London, has a Sunday school enrolment of 625. The average attendance hovers at about 300. During the Five Fabulous Sundays the attendances were 424, 408, 394, 407 and 480 for an average of 423. That was the highest monthly average in over 19 years.

During the month First Baptist also had an Adult Growth Week study led by Jack Palmer. He led the church's adults in a study of Sunday school growth principles. As a result several units will be started in the near future.

First Baptist, London, is pastored by J. W. Jones. Minister of education is Jerry Wright, and Sunday school director is Cordell Huff.

deaths

George Bagby Cowsert, a Southern Baptist missionary in Brazil 34 years, died unexpectedly while exercising in his home June 6.

Death was caused by a hemorrhage in the pancreas.

Cowsert was director of religious education and stewardship for

the Expirito Santo State Baptist Convention.

Ira Prosser died Mar. 31. He had been secretary in the Church Music Department of the Oklahoma Baptist Convention. He was also Brotherhood director for the Louisiana Baptist Convention, but is best remembered for his work in Kentucky as associate pastor of Calvary Baptist Church and Gardenside Baptist Church, both in Lexington.

Prosser was a graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Brewton-Parker College, Oklahoma Baptist University and did graduate work at the Julliard School in New York.

He established the Department of

Church Music at Oklahoma Baptist University, developed the original curriculum and taught the first classes in church music in the 1920s.

personnel

Billy J. Turner (see picture) announced his retirement as pastor of First Baptist Church, Stearns, effective July 15.

In the 11 years Turner has pastored the church the most significant ministry has been in evangelism and missions. The church now gives more than 24 percent through the Cooperative Program and 36 percent to all mission causes.

Under Turner's leadership the Stearns congregation was at work in Kenya about four years before the formal Kentucky-Kenya partnership and has been at work in an Ohio Valley partnership with First Baptist Church, Convoy, Oh. for several years.

Turner is a graduate of Union University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville. He has been active in both the Tennessee Baptist Convention and the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

His other Kentucky pastorates include Mt. Pleasant, Owen County; Dallasburg, Wheatley; High Street, Somerset; and First, Morganfield.

Turner will make his home in Somerset where he will be available for interim pastorates, Bible conferences and evangelistic meetings.

James K. Pierce III (see picture) became pastor of Latonia Baptist Church, Covington, Northern Kentucky Association, May 6.

Pierce comes to Covington from Chalmette, La. He pastored two mission churches in Kentucky while doing his undergraduate work at the University of Kentucky: Porter Memorial and Riverview, both in Lexington. During Pierce's pastorate Riverview petitioned to join the Elkhorn Association.

He has completed his MDiv degree and is currently pursuing a ThD degree from New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary.

Allen Case was recognized by Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown, for 15 years as minister of music.

Howard Cobble is pastor of Severns Valley.

Houston Hall resigned as minister of youth at First Baptist Church, Hodgenville to accept a similar position at Black Mountain, N. C.

Issac McDonald is pastor.

Steve Baker has resigned as pastor of Baxter Avenue Baptist Church, Long Run Association to accept a pastorate in Chattanooga, Tenn.

David Rock has been called as minister of music at Locust Grove Baptist Church, Severns Valley Association. He is a graduate of Campbellsville College.

J. William Jones, (see picture) pastor of First Baptist Church, London has announced his plans to retire from full time pastoral duties June 30.

Jones is a native of Murray and is married to the former Virginia Denney. He is a graduate of Baylor University, Waco, Tex. and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

Jones has been pastor of the following Kentucky Baptist churches: Graefenburg, Waddy; Central Paris; Central, Corbin; First, Princeton; Florence, Florence; and his present pastorate First, London.

In his retirement announcement Jones said, "I want to stress that I am not retiring from the ministry. I feel God is calling me to a part time ministry of working with pastors, churches and associations in the 'Mission Kentucky 1985-90' emphasis."

Jones has been active in Kentucky Baptist life, having been on the state executive board several terms as well as a director of Western Recorder, Clear Creek Baptist School and South-eastern Kentucky Baptist Hospital.

His last Sunday in the London pulpit will be June 22.

Lloyd Storment, (see picture) pastor of Bethany Baptist Church, Long Run Association, has announced his retirement effective July 1. His last Sunday at Bethany was June 15.

Jimmy Gibbs has accepted the call to the pastorate of Hopewell Baptist Church, Caldwell-Lyon Association. Gibbs is a student at Mid Continent Baptist College, Mayfield.

C. Wyman Copass, (see picture) pastor of First Baptist Church, Venice, Fla., has been called as pastor of Farmdale Baptist Church, Long Run Association. Copass will begin his work at Farmdale July 20.

He has been pastor of several Kentucky churches, including Reidland, Paducah; Hillvue Heights, Bowling Green; Park City, Park City; Gamaliel, Gamaliel; and First, Fountain Run. Copass also pastored First Baptist Church, Bellevue, Neb. Copass is a graduate of Campbellsville College and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Paul Duke has resigned as pastor of Highland Baptist Church, Long Run Association, to accept the pastorate of Kirkwood Baptist Church, St. Louis, Mo. His last Sunday at Highland will be June 29.

Roy Lee Honeycutt, president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, recently received an honorary doctorate at William Carey College, Hattiesburg, Miss. Honeycutt was guest speaker for the school's graduation ceremonies.

Honeycutt, author of 10 books and seven journal articles, was presented the doctor of letters for his leadership in Southern Seminary, his exposition of Biblical scripture and for his con-

tributions in defining and maintaining the denomination's historic concept of soul freedom.

Chip Pendleton began duties as pastor of Buckner Baptist Church, Sulphur Fork Association, May 25.

Pendleton was reared in Oldham County and attended the University of Louisville. He continued his education at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, where he received an MDiv degree in December 1984.

He comes to Buckner from Antioch Baptist Church, Sulphur Fork Association, where he was pastor four years.

Henry T. Parrott, director of missions for Taylor County Association, has asked all pastors in the association to appoint a Western Recorder reporter for their church. The purpose is to supply current news about the local churches to the association and then to Western Recorder to share with all Kentucky Baptists. A tip of the hat to Parrott and a request other DOMs consider the same idea.

Kenneth Kerr has been called as pastor of Allendale Baptist Church, East Lynn Association.

Dale Kinnis has been called as pastor of Dycusburg Baptist Church, Ohio River Association.

Ray Skyles has resigned as pastor of Garfield Avenue Baptist Church, Long Run Association.

Rolfe Dorsey has resigned as pastor of Rockford Lane Baptist Church, Long Run Association.

James Robert Armstrong has accepted the call to pastor Sand Run Baptist Church, Northern Kentucky Association. Armstrong returns to Kentucky from Seneca Baptist Church, Tiffin, Oh. He was pastor of Grant's Lick and Big Bone churches in Kentucky before going to Ohio.

Ricky Hatley has been called by First Baptist Church, Marion, Ill. to be the associate pastor in education and youth. He is finishing his MaCE degree at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

Hatley has served in Kentucky churches at High Point, Mayfield and Park Avenue, Madisonville. He is a

native of Dawson Springs and is married to Carol Sears of Murray.

Bruce F. Wills was honored by First Baptist Church, Wickliffe, West Union Association. Wills was pastor of the church on three different occasions: 1947-50, 1950-53, 1974-1986.

Wickliffe mayor Keith Kelly proclaimed June 1 as "Bruce Wills Day." West Union Association's director of missions Tom Lewis, former KBC executive director Franklin Owen and Judge William L. Shadoan spoke in praise of Wills.

Other honors included induction into the Order of Kentucky Colonels. Wills and his wife Rachael were made Duke and Duchess of Paducah and Admirals of the Waterwaves of Kentucky. Wills has retired to Ft. Worth, Tex.

Warren Robards, former pastor of Lewisport Baptist Church, Blackford Association, was named pastor emeritus by the church, where he pastored for 13 1/2 years before retiring Dec. 31, 1985.

Robards received the honor at a special service Apr. 6 while he was filling in for the present interim pastor, Wendell Rone. The congregation presented him with a laminated plaque expressing their appreciation for his dedicated ministry to the church.

During Robard's pastorate, the resident membership grew from 372 to 531. A total of 296 were baptized and 218 were received by letter. Sunday school enrolment leaped from 367 to 609, while average attendance ranged from 135 to 251.

Robard's, 65, along with his wife Charley, resides in Lewisport and is available as a supply pastor.

Alan Watts, a native of Owensboro, has been called as minister of youth at Campbellsville. He began his work May 19.

Paul Swafford, former pastor of Kensee Baptist Church, East Union Association, has been called to pastor High Cliff Baptist Church, South Union Association.

Scott Wilkins, minister of activities and youth at Campbellsville Baptist Church, Taylor County Association, has resigned to become camp pastor

of Centrifuge at Ridgecrest, N. C. He will enter Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in the fall.

associations

East Lynn Association has experienced the hand of God on the churches in the past five years.

In 1981 the association was composed of 10 small rural churches in five different counties of central Kentucky. These 10 churches had a combined membership of 1291 with a Sunday school enrolment of 482. They gave \$5076 through the Cooperative Program.

In 1985 the association was composed of 13 churches with a total membership of 1624 and a Sunday school enrolment of 764. Cooperative Program giving reached \$7342.

Baptisms increased from 11 in 1981 to 58 in 1985. Last year the churches gave \$1000 to build two churches in Kenya.

James E. Casey is director of missions for East Lynn Association.

Upper Cumberland Association elected Millard Huff, a layman from Evarts Baptist Church, as moderator at its first semi-annual meeting.

Mathias Williams, pastor of Huff Settlement Baptist Church, was elected assistant moderator; Keith Rogers, pastor of First Baptist Church, Loyal, clerk; and Bruce Waltzer, pastor of Central Baptist Church, treasurer.

ordinations

Jake Sandlin and **Jim Wilson** were recently ordained as deacons by Pleasant Point Baptist Church, Booneville Association. Both men have active roles in the church and are officers in the association.

Robert Wyatt is pastor.

Anthony Capps, **Eddie Gray**, **Jerry Jarvis** and **A. O. Shelton** were ordained as deacons Mar. 23 at New Harmony Baptist Church, Muhlenberg Association.

Fred E. Richardson is pastor.

George Akers was ordained to the ministry Apr. 13 by First Baptist Church, Martin, Enterprise Association.

The charge to the candidate was brought by James H. Grayson, pastor of Warfield Missionary Baptist Church, where Akers was a member prior to accepting the pastorate of First Baptist Church, Martin. Charles Milam, pastor of Central Baptist Church, Ashland, brought the charge to the church.

Fred "K. J." Miller was ordained to the ministry May 11 at Lowell Avenue Baptist Church, Taylor County Association. Miller has been minister of youth and recreation at the church since Mar. 1985. He is a 1986 graduate of Campbellsville College with a BA degree in church recreation.

Miller will also work with the Social Development Staff at Wesley Community House in Louisville.

Roy Lyttle was ordained to the ministry at Lilly Grove Baptist Church, Booneville Association, May 25. He is associate pastor of the church and is the first black man ever to be ordained in the association.

Once known to spend his weekends in the county jail, Lyttle was saved during a 1971 revival service when Horse Creek Baptist Church undertook the mission project of reopening Lilly Grove. After being saved he immediately became active as a deacon, Sunday school director and now associate pastor. For a number of years, Lyttle was Brotherhood director for the association.

Dennis Rush is pastor of Lilly Grove in addition to his pastoral duties at Horse Creek.

Jerry P. Wright, minister of music and youth at First Baptist Church, London, Laurel River Association was ordained to the ministry by the church May 11.

J. William Jones is pastor.

Richard Livingood was ordained to the ministry June 1 by Immanuel Baptist Church, Northern Kentucky Association. He has been associate pastor of the church since May 4.

Livingood is the son of Rev. and Mrs. Gene Livingood, pastor of Decoursey Baptist Church, Covington.

John Pettyjohn was ordained to the ministry by Sunrise Baptist Church, Pulaski County Association. He is pastor there.

Connie Keene and **James Brown Jr.** were ordained as deacons by Columbus Baptist Church, West Kentucky Association.

Bill Burns was ordained to the ministry by Barnett's Creek Baptist Church, Ohio County Association. He is pastor at Olaton Baptist Church, Ohio County Association.

Scott Casebier was ordained by Calvary Baptist Church, Central City, Muhlenberg Association.

He is pastor of Zion Baptist Church, Ohio County Association.

James Wagster was licensed to the ministry by Northside Baptist Church, Princeton, Caldwell-Lyon Association.

David Royalty is pastor at Northside.

Jim Brewer and **David Miller** were ordained as deacons June 8 at Oak Ridge Baptist Church, Covington, Northern Kentucky Association. Randy Wallace is pastor.



Two of the best-known among 40,000-plus messengers to the 1986 Southern Baptist Convention in Atlanta were Robert and Julia Crowder of Birmingham, Ala. The Crowders have been involved in a federal lawsuit protesting the way the 1985 convention in Dallas was conducted.



James H. Cox
Associate Editor

fourth estate

A funny thing happened

Funny things happen in church. And to church-going people. Perhaps, after the storms of crisis raging in the SBC, we need to smile a little. Maybe the following will help us do that.

A few years ago at a meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, a run-off election was being held for the presidency. The candidates were Curtis Warf, then of Pikeville, and Don Mathis, of Corbin. When the ballots were tallied, "Curtis Mathes" received three votes. Warf was elected that year, and Mathis is now president.

A retired denominational servant running late to a preaching engagement didn't have his mind on his assignment and arrived at the wrong church to preach for a pastor he thought was away. When he dashed in and sat down on the front row he discovered that the church had a pastor on the premises. It dawned on him what he had done. By the time he got across town to the church where he was supposed to be, it was after 11:30 and the poor deacon in charge was stammering at the podium. He looked up and saw my friend enter the back of the auditorium. Wiping the sweat from his brow, he declared, "Boy, I never was so glad to see anybody in my whole life!"

Don Blaylock, director of Kentucky Baptists' Student Department, recalls the man who was making announcements and referred to those parishioners who were "sick in the bulletin today."

Then Don remembers the music leader who often asked his listeners to "turn over in your songbooks."

In the decade of the 60s and early 70s the Baptist Sunday School Board's telephones in Nashville were answered with a recording after working hours, on weekends and holidays. Some of us dialed the number at odd hours just to hear our friend Gomer Lesch's voice tell us that the board was closed, and if we had a question about a church literature order we should leave precise information "at the sound of the tone" and it would be promptly handled when the board reopened.

Several of us memorized Lesch's oft repeated lines, which told callers to be specific in leaving messages, and included the phrase, "Please spell difficult names." Can you imagine what we repeated into the board's recorder on scores of occasions?

"D-I-F-F-I-C-U-L-T N-A-M-E-S."

Funny things also have a way of happening at summer assemblies.

I vividly recall hearing of the Ridgecrest guest who dashed up to the Annuity Board's office in the lobby of the old Pritchell Hall and asked, "Is the loan arranger in?"

"No," replied the quick witted employe on duty. "But Tonto's here. Can I help?"

baptist news in brief

Education commission sets \$535,000 budget

Members of the Southern Baptist Education Commission approved a record budget of \$535,200 for 1986-87 during the agency's meeting in Gatlinburg, Tenn. The amount is an increase of \$17,535 over the previous year's total.

Arthur L. Walker, executive director of the commission, told commissioners of plans for staff reorganization due to the upcoming retirements of two longtime employees.

Majorie Howard will retire as director of administrative services after more than 33 years service. Howard Kirksey joined the staff as placement consultant in 1975 and will retire Sept. 30.

John E. Johns, president of Furman University, was elected chairman of the commission for 1986-87. Also elected were Bob R. Agee, president of Oklahoma Baptist University, vice chairman and D. Jack Nicholas, president of Southern Baptist College, secretary. (BP)

B. B. McKinney's legacy still lingers with Baptists

Although 34 years have passed since B. B. McKinney died tragically as the result of an automobile accident in western North Carolina, the mention of "B. B. McKinney" still evokes strong name recognition.

In an informal survey of messengers attending the Southern Baptist Convention, June 10-12, 19 of 20 people indicated they knew who McKinney was or "had heard the name."

McKinney, who was the first secretary of the Church Music Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn., was highly respected during his day. And that popularity has continued as Southern Baptists celebrate the 100th anniversary of his birth July 22.

According to W. Hines Sims, retired secretary of the Church Music Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, McKinney was "a man for the time in which he lived." Joining the BSSB in 1935, McKinney played a major role in developing church music as it exists today.

"This constitutes a legacy that will live in the lives of thousands who knew him, who sang under his direction, who sing his songs today and who, because he lived, have the eternal song of redemption in their hearts."

McKinney's legacy includes such classic Southern Baptist hymns as "Glorious Is Thy Name," "Have Faith In God," "The Nail-Scarred Hand," "Let Others See Jesus In You," "Wherever He Leads I'll Go," and numerous others. (BP)

Campus ministers seek hope of calling

Campus ministers must find the hope of their calling and transmit that hope to students, speakers told about 100 people attending the annual meeting of the Association of Southern Baptist Campus Ministers.

From the keynote address by seminarian Bill Clemmons to the final message by pastor Peter Rhea Jones, campus ministers were encouraged to celebrate the good things happening

in Baptist student work.

Clemmons, professor of spiritual formation at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, told the group to look beyond their busy schedules to find the "deep center" of ministry. He credited student ministries with being on the "cutting edge" of Southern Baptist work.

Officers elected include Robert Ford Jr., of Jacksonville, Fla., president; Arliss Dickerson, Jonesboro, Ark., president-elect; Sylvan Knobloch, Charleston, Ill., administration vice president; Adam Hall, Martin, Tenn., membership vice president; Pam Taylor, Denton, Tex., program vice president and Stephen Holloway, New York City, publications vice president. (BP)

SBC controversy felt worldwide

The current controversy within the Southern Baptist Convention creates reverberations that are felt worldwide, Noel Vose, president of the Baptist World Alliance, said in a news conference at Georgia World Congress Center. He pleaded to Southern Baptists to "keep their eyes up" above denominational matters and sectarian issues and gain a worldwide vision.

Because of Southern Baptists' high profile and the news coverage their actions receive, any significant event within the denomination affects Baptists around the globe, Vose said, echoing an earlier statement he made at the Southern Baptist Convention Forum that "it gives us a cold when you sneeze."

"If people outside not only Baptist churches but outside the church at large see any factions, any spirit of controversy, among us, it causes them to narrow their eyes and say with a sneer, 'See how these Christians love one another,'" he said.

He encouraged Southern Baptists to "swim against the current" of insecurity and polarization, noting that God is "in the business of reconciliation." Vose viewed as hopeful signs the reports of the Peace Committee and statements by newly elected Southern Baptist president Adrian Rogers of Memphis, Tenn., and defeated moderate conservative candidate Winfred Moore of Amarillo, Tex., in post-election press conferences. (BP)

Lottie Moon totals almost \$67 million

Southern Baptists contributed \$66,862,113.65 to the 1985 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions.

The offering, Southern Baptists largest ever, will help support nearly 3700 Southern Baptist missionaries overseas. It totaled 95.5 percent of the 1985 goal of \$70 million.

The shortfall of \$3.1 million was less than anticipated. Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board analysts had feared final receipts, calculated May 31, might come up as much as \$3.6 million short.

Mission planners budgeted the entire \$70 million goal last year, but the shortfall will not affect personal missionary support. It will require cuts in overseas capital budgets, which fund missionary housing and

cars, church construction and other needs.

The 1981 offering was the last to surpass its goal. The 1986 goal will be \$75 million. (BP)

Sunday school meets outreach responsibility

Leaders at one of the largest churches in the SBC believe the Sunday school is the only outreach organization the church needs.

"Outreach is one of the primary purposes of the Sunday school. You don't need any other organization to get the job done," says Richard Jackson, senior pastor of the 16,000-member North Phoenix (Ariz.) Baptist Church.

More than 700 Sunday school members participate in the weekly visitation which was part of the church organization when Jackson came as pastor 19 years ago.

The Sunday school is the focus for visitation because it is the most effective organization for outreach. "Outreach, teaching and discipleship are the primary responsibilities of the church and Sunday school does those," Jackson explains.

Even before a Sunday school member knocks on a prospect's door that person likely has already received a phone call from a staff member or one of the 180 deacons. Visitor cards are divided among staff members and deacons after Sunday morning services and calls are made that afternoon.

On Monday night Sunday school members have a soup-and-salad supper and take assignments for visitation.

When Jackson came to the church attendance was about 200. Now the Sunday school has 10,000 enrolled and an average attendance of more than 4300. (BP)

Baptists shelter youths in South Africa

Southern Baptist missionaries and the Baptist Union of South Africa have begun sheltering homeless black African youths near the violence-stricken area around Cape Town, South Africa.

Using relief funds from Southern Baptists and donations from within the Baptist union, workers at the home are preparing for the influx of refugees fleeing battles between rival blacks in the sprawling shanty settlement of Crossroads. Up to 70,000 people are said to be without homes—some wandering about looking for places to stay.

Trouble in Crossroads erupted when Black Africans who fled their homelands began fighting each other in the squatter region. One group was said to be trying to win favor with government by driving out groups heavily opposing South Africa's policy of apartheid.

A request for \$13,000 to feed and shelter up to 50orphans whose parents have been killed at Crossroads was sent to the SBC Foreign Mission Board June 11. The money will be released only after missionaries receive written confirmation the Western Province Baptist Association will take over operations of the home after a year. That confirmation was expected any day. (BP)

Scottsville, Crestwood

Kentucky churches unite for revival efforts

by Susan Shaw,
State Correspondent

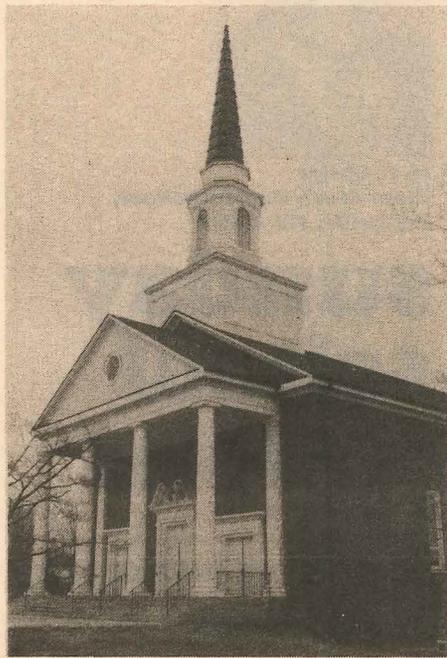
What do two Kentucky churches 150 miles apart have in common? Basketball and revivals!

Tom Kinman, pastor of Crestwood Baptist Church in Sulphur Fork Association, and Ron Bradley, pastor of Scottsville Baptist Church in Allen Association, became fast friends on the basketball court, not at the University of Louisville or the University of Kentucky, but at Southern Seminary. When not studying for classes in their MDiv degree programs in the early 1970s, the two men were playing basketball together for the seminary team, the Saints.

Their friendship has lasted throughout the years since graduation (during which both have also completed DMin degrees from Southern), and recently in conversation the two pastors came up with the idea of having their churches share Good News America revival efforts.

Before the revival services, each church began prospect searches, visits and prayer for the campaign. The joint project was kicked off at Crestwood with Bradley preaching and Scottsville minister of music Ken Goforth leading music for the services.

The next week Kinman and Jim Abernathy, Crestwood associate pastor in charge of music, led services



Scottsville Baptist Church

in the Scottsville church.

According to Kinman, a native of Williamstown, the same spirit of excitement continued throughout both weeks of revival in both churches. "God's people were doing the work," he said, "and God blessed that."

Between the two weeks of revival, 28 professions of faith were made, eight transfers of letters and 16 rede-

dications.

"What this sharing of revivals did," Kinman said, "was to unite two churches in prayer, purpose and ministry."

Kinman, who was pastor of Indian Fork Baptist Church in Bagdad and then Simpsonville Baptist Church before going to Crestwood, said he would urge other churches to consider trying joint efforts. This approach, he said, "gets two churches rather than one excited and involved in revival efforts. We're not only gearing up for ours, but we're praying for them too. And knowing the staffs is enough to connect the two churches."

Bradley agreed with Kinman's assessment. He added that the joint revivals made the two churches feel even more deeply the impact of simultaneous revivals. "Our people felt a part of the results at Crestwood," he said, noting that the experience also made his church more aware of the significance of the nationwide effort at revival.

Bradley, who was formerly pastor of Graefenburg Baptist Church, Shelby County, and St. John's Baptist Church, Frankfort, compared the effort to the Kentucky-Ohio or Kentucky-Kenya partnerships. "We had partnership in revival," he said.



Leon Simpson
President
Clear Creek Baptist School
Pineville, KY 40977

clear creek comment

Our blessed hope

We believe the Bible at Clear Creek. If there is any promise in the word more precious and blessed than the hope of Jesus' coming again, I can't imagine what it could be.

"Twas the Night Before Jesus Came"

"Twas the night before Jesus came and all through the house,/Not a creature was praying, not one in the house;/Their Bibles were lain on the shelf without care,/In hopes that Jesus would not come there./The children were dressing to crawl into bed,/Not once ever kneeling or bowing a head;/ And mom in her rocker with the baby on her lap,/Was watching the late show while I took a nap./When out of the east there arose such a clatter,/I sprang to my feet to see what was the matter./Away to the window I flew like a flash,/Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash;/When what to my wondering eyes should appear,/ But angels proclaiming the Jesus was here!/With a light like the sun sending forth a bright ray,/I knew in a moment this must be the day!/The light of his face made me cover my head,/It was Jesus—returning, just like he said!/ And though I possessed worldly wisdom and wealth,/I cried when I saw him in spite of myself./In the Book of Life which he held in his hand,/Was written the name of every saved man./He spoke not a word as he searched for my name;/When he said, 'It's not here,' my head hung in shame./ The people whose names had been written with love,/He gathered to take to his father above./With those who were ready he rose without a sound,/ While all the rest were left standing around./I fell to my knees—but it was too late;/I had waited too long, and thus sealed my fate./I stood and I cried as they rose out of sight;/Oh, if only I had been ready tonight./In the words of this poem the meaning is clear./The coming of Christ Jesus is drawing near./There's only one life and when comes the last call,/We'll find that the Bible was true after all."

Anonymous

The promise of Christ's coming is thrilling and trustworthy. For the Christian it is a blessed hope. Our Lord said he would return and he will. Though he may tarry, his promise is sure. We must 'occupy' by preaching the gospel in all the world ere he comes. Perhaps we will realize the fulfillment of our blessed hope this year!

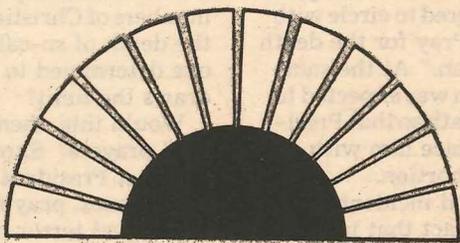
And He Who Gives A Child A Home Builds Palaces in Kingdom Come

John Masefield

A gift in honor or memory of a loved one to Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children will be an investment in the life of a child.

If you would like to make such an investment, please clip and mail the form below to:

Rev. Tom Moore
Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children
10801 Shelbyville Road
Middletown, Kentucky 40243



I have enclosed \$ _____ as a gift in memory of: _____

Name (please print) _____

Address _____

State _____ Zip _____

Please send a memorial or honor letter to:

Name _____

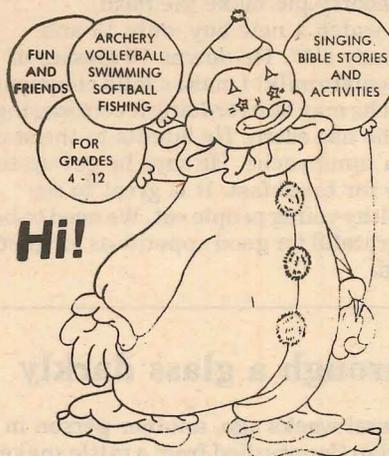
Address _____

State _____ Zip _____

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at

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June 23-27	Grades 4 thru 12
June 30-July 3	Grades 7, 8 & 9
July 7-11	Grades 4, 5 & 6
July 14-18	Acteens/G.A. Camp
July 21-25	R.A. Camp (Grades 1-6)
July 28-Aug. 1	Grades 4, 5 & 6
August 4-8	Grades 4 - 12

For further information call or write:

Laurel Lake Baptist Camp
P. O. Box 432
Williamsburg, KY 40769
Phone: (606) 549-4497 (office)
If no answer call: 549-2251



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

oneida journal

Ten glasses of milk

Father's Day morning 8:55 a.m. The phone is ringing. There have already been three calls. This time I hear the broken voice of a young man. "Hello, Mr. Moore. Do you know me?" I do not recognize the voice. "No, who is this?" He tells me. It has been many months since I've last seen him or heard his voice.

He shares with me personal things. Several times he pauses between choked words. I can hear him sniffing from time to time. I visualize the husky young man on the phone. He so often seemed so self assured, the body of a man, yet just a confused young boy. His mother has never married. He has no brothers or sisters. Suddenly he reminds me that this is Father's Day. "You know Mr. Moore, I've never had a father. I am told he is a school principal in...but I've never seen him in my life. He has never written or called me. I don't know what he looks like. But he must be a good man to be a principal."

As I consider that, he continues, "Mr. Moore you are the nearest to a father I've had." I am a little startled. He goes on to relate to me a conversation I had with him once in the laundry room as he washed his clothes. I don't remember that particular conversation, but he says, "You'll never know just how much that meant to me." I don't tell him I don't remember. He cries some more.

We never know when we are saying something that sticks with someone a lifetime. Sometimes it is for good, other times for ill. I am reminded of what Brooks Adams wrote a century ago: "A

teacher affects eternity; he never knows where his influence stops." That is true, of course, of every teacher. How much truer it is of the Christian teacher, how much greater even is our challenge, our responsibility, our opportunity.

I remember my own father. I have two gifts chosen from our craft house, student made, and I go to give them to him and a card. It is church time.

It is a beautiful service. It is the first Sunday service since the start of summer school. We have over 80 new students, worshiping with us for the first time at our local church. We are reminded that with the start of each session, we are starting over in many ways.

Joel Rackley, our pastor, preaches a powerful message on love and God's forgiveness. He reminds us of Peter's thrice denial of Christ in the courtyard. Later Jesus asks by the shore of Galilee, "Peter, do you love me?" Three times he avers his love. Then Jesus said, "If you love me, feed my sheep."

Teachers and staff at OBI have been trying to do that with greater or lesser success for 87 years. It is invitation time. A young man goes forward. He has been with us two years, under the preaching of the gospel. He will finish his work with this summer session. He makes his profession of faith, but says he wishes to return to his home church to be baptized. We rejoice with him.

I watch another young man. I am six rows behind him. He clutches the back of the pew. Several nights ago he talked to me about accepting the Lord publicly. I remember his being so belligerent when he first came to us. He asks for baptism and it is scheduled for the evening service along with some others.

Standing on the church porch with our farm manager, I idly watch a car pull to a stop. A young man strides toward me. I suddenly realize who he is. I last saw him three years ago in a Marine Corps uniform.

It is lunch time. Beef from our farm, smothered in gravy, boiled potatoes from last year's crop, cooked carrots, lettuce and other vegetables on the salad bar which we have daily, noon and night. Hot rolls and freshly baked blueberry pie make the meal.

I watch a new boy, only 13 and already 6'3". He downs 10 glasses of chocolate milk! I make a mild comment that he may be overdoing it considering all he has eaten. He admits to the start of a tummyache. He says he got up too late for breakfast. It is great to see healthy young people eat. We need to be as grateful for good appetite as for good food.



H. C. Chiles
Clear Creek Baptist School,
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sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR JUNE 29, 1986

Life and Work Series

Victory in Jesus

II Thessalonians 2:1-8 The Thessalonians had not been Christians very long, and they were in need of instruction in the Lord. Paul rejoiced that God had given him the privilege. However, he was greatly disappointed on account of their instability and gullibility. He reproved his readers for allowing false teachers to lead them astray.

Under divine inspiration, the apostle urged not to be upset or confused by dogmatic assertions of those who had either been misinformed or had spoken with finality concerning things which they were not qualified to speak. He sought to convince them they were not then in the day of the Lord. They had not missed the rapture and they had no cause for being unstable in the Christian faith or their continuance in believing what he had taught them.

II Thessalonians 2:13-15 Paul admonished them to remain steadfast in their beliefs, knowing well that such perseverance would result in right conduct. Christian conduct will inevitably result in strength and consolation as the need arises. For this reason Christians must never cease proving their faith by their works. According to the purpose of God, their salvation was to manifest in their sanctification.

As time draws nearer for the return of Christ, the dissemination of false

doctrines and defection from the Christian faith will become more prevalent. We should remain firmly grounded in the Word of God, refuse to be moved from the truth by the wiles of Satan and the influence of his emissaries, and be faithful in sharing God's truth with all.

International Series

God's test of a true prophet

Jeremiah 23:16-17, 21-22 Knowing well they had not been divinely appointed to be God's messengers, they had not been in conference with God, they did not have a clear understanding of the will and purposes of God, and that they did not have any intention or expectation of getting people to repent, the false prophets still claimed divine authority. The message of those who pretended they were divinely appointed was characterized by a shallow, superficial optimism for which there was no basis.

These false prophets were to be ignored for four reasons. They misled the people by filling them with a false hope; they spoke their own words rather than God's Word; they approved those who rejected God's Word; and they had not "stood in the council of the Lord." God commanded the people not to listen to false prophets, who spoke only the imaginations, visions and dreams of their own minds. These false prophets promised peace when war was imminent, and predicted there would not be trouble when in reality judgment was at hand.

Jeremiah 28:5-9, 15-16 The 28th chapter of Jeremiah contains an account of a personal clash between Jeremiah, the true prophet of God, and Hananiah, a false prophet. God made known to Jeremiah that he had not sent forth Hananiah as a prophet, and that he had misled the people. Jeremiah did not hesitate to denounce Hananiah. Speaking in a manner which was contrary to the prophets who had preceded him and Jeremiah, Hananiah boldly insisted Judah would continue to live under Babylonian domination and Babylon's power would be broken within two years.

Jeremiah replied to Hananiah's prediction that within two years Judah would again be resting on its old foundations by saying he only wished his words might come to pass.

Time revealed Hananiah's optimistic prediction was false. Guilty of advocating rebellion against Jehovah, Hananiah was sentenced to death.



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on mission together

Through a glass darkly

Several weeks ago, another person in Harlan County died from a rattlesnake bite. The victim, a 38-year-old woman from Ohio, was not wandering in the mountains when she was bitten. She was attending a wake for her uncle, which included snake handling.

Though handling snakes during religious services is illegal in Kentucky, it is estimated that as many as 10 to 15 churches continue the practice in that county alone.

When the pastor was asked about it following the incident, he replied that "the Bible directs church members to handle snakes." He cited Mark 16:18 as the basis.

Just three weeks ago in Los Angeles, a Baptist minister exhorted his congregation to pray for the death of Supreme Court Justice William J. Brennan Jr.

Brennan, one of the seven justices who supported the 1973 *Roe v. Wade*

decision, legalizing abortion, has become the target of the prayers of this 400 member, Independent Baptist congregation.

During the time Brennan was scheduled to speak at Loyola University, a plane was to be chartered to circle with a sign which read: "Pray for the death of baby-killer Brennan." At the same time, the congregation was expected to pray for Brennan's death so that President Reagan can replace him with a judge who opposes abortion.

These two unrelated incidents are tied together by the fact that in both cases the churches and the minister involved derive their positions from their interpretation of the Bible.

In the case of snake handling, only a few hundred among millions of Evangelical Christians interpret the passage in Mark as **binding** for today. A different interpretation of the same scripture frees the rest of us from such a practice.

In the case of praying for the death

of an enemy, one would have to find support for that in the Old Testament. Jesus' life, death, teaching and recorded prayers certainly provide no basis for such. Quite the contrary!

Could a society survive when large numbers of Christians were praying for the death of so-called enemies? How is one determined to be an enemy? Who draws the limit?

Would this, then, call for "retaliatory" prayers? Should Christians who feel that President Reagan is wrong on some issues, pray for his death?

The real terror of such thinking is that it could originate from one's own interpretation of the Bible.

Jesus promised and provided the presence of the Holy Spirit following his departure. It is through that Spirit that we may most accurately interpret God's Word.

Even so, such examples as these should remind us all of another humbling statement found in God's Word: "Now we see through a glass darkly."

Sacrifices, sickness secondary to couple's calling

by Art Toalston

"You couldn't buy this experience with money," says Southern Baptist volunteer Linda Barnett.

But who'd want to buy a near-fatal case of typhus?

For Linda, a close call with death hasn't tarnished her experience as a volunteer nurse in Ethiopia.

She and her husband, Clyde, of Owensboro, Ky., work at the Southern Baptist feeding center at Meragna, a remote village overlooking vast canyons north of Addis Ababa. Linda, who left a job as a pediatrician's nurse to take the volunteer assignment, sees as many as 130 patients a day, six days a week, in the feeding station's clinic. Clyde a former fireman who also owned a used car lot, does much of the administrative work.

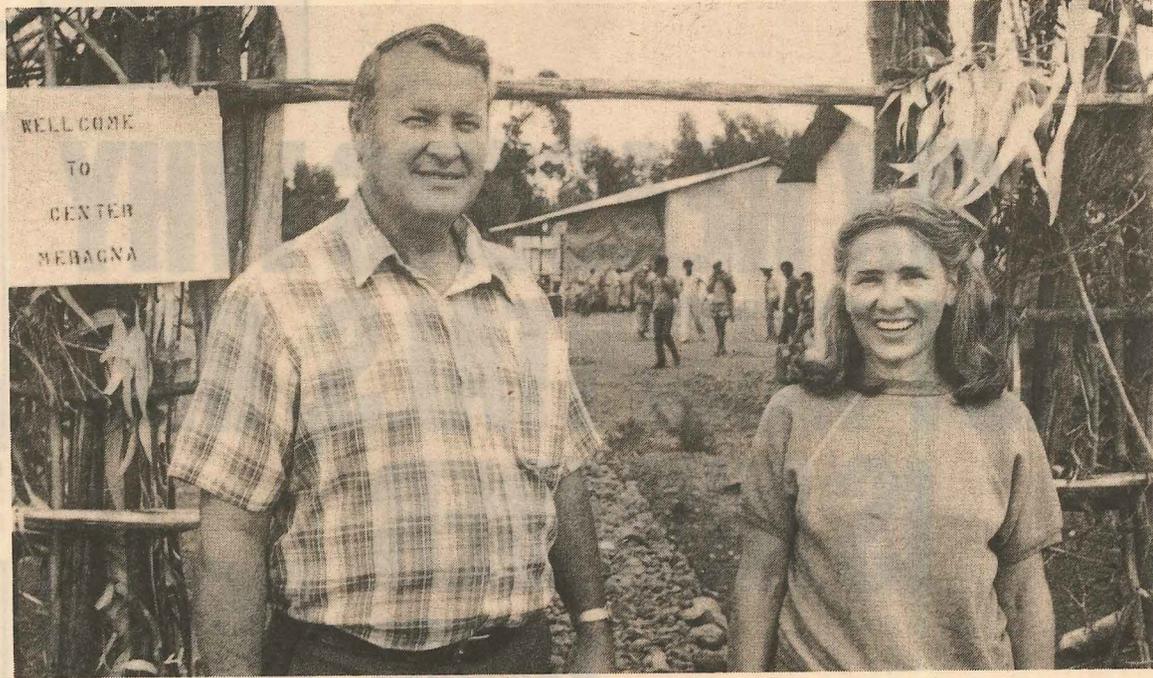
Parents of three grown children, they had been in Ethiopia six months when their third grandchild was born in March.

"I don't guess you're ever in the center of the Lord's will on this earth. There's always something you could do," Linda says. "But I feel I'm as near to the center of the Lord's will as I'll ever be in this life.

"At home you always have this nagging feeling that, no matter how much you go to church or what you do it's never enough. That feeling's not here. What you do makes a difference."

Linda's bout with typhus, several weeks after they opened Meragna's feeding station last October, pushed her temperature to 105 degrees. For nine days she was in bed and didn't eat. Deciding something had to be done, Clyde sent an Ethiopian worker on horseback on a six-hour ride just to make contact with missionaries.

She was airlifted to a hospital in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia's capital, and



Living in primitive conditions and working among hungry Ethiopians is "a once-in-a-lifetime privilege" for Linda Barnett and her husband, Clyde, of Owensboro. Soon after arriving in Ethiopia Linda contracted typhus and nearly died. Even so, they have no second thoughts and have volunteered for a second year.

after a day and a half, to a hospital in Nairobi, Kenya. For three days doctors doubted she would survive.

"We just prayed and that was all," Clyde says.

As nine more days passed, Linda gained strength. "Five days are blank to me," she says. "I think I'm alive today because many, many prayers were answered. The Lord isn't finished with me yet." After several weeks of recovery in Addis Ababa, she returned to Meragna.

At Meragna, the Barnetts and a team of six Ethiopian Christians provide rations of grain, milk powder and cooking oil to about 25,000 subsistence farmers and their families anxiously waiting to see whether summer rains will nurture an ample late-fall harvest.

The Barnetts are concerned half the

children they've examined in recent weeks have shown a weight loss or no weight gain.

The grip of drought "is not as severe as it was but most of them still need help," Linda says.

Until April 1985 the Barnetts never talked about or considered missions-related work. They had seen many news reports about the Ethiopian famine, but one Saturday just before bedtime, they watched a segment about a teenager whose mother had died from starvation and whose father was near death. The youth was seeking help for a brother just a few months old.

The next day, after returning from church, Linda leveled with him: "I need to go to Ethiopia."

During church all she had thought about was that young man in Ethiopia.

Clyde laughed and Linda was perplexed. "He's usually more sensitive than that," she says. But he had felt the same need.

"I'd stayed awake most of that night," he recounts. "Just couldn't get it off my mind. It just seemed like the Lord kept dealing with me: 'This is something that you need to do.'"

"It was like there wasn't any choice about what we were to do," Linda says. "There was never any question from that moment on."

They sold their home and business. "It just seemed like they didn't matter anymore," Clyde says.

Within three months they were in volunteer orientation at the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's Missionary Learning Center near Richmond, Va., preparing for their stay in Ethiopia.

Student not bugged by flea market church

In most places, it would be a pastor's nightmare.

All the church members work on Sunday, there is no budget or baptistry and there will never be a building fund.

But Southwestern Baptist Theolog-

ical Seminary students Alan and Raetta Daws have committed to shepherd such a flock at Trader's Village, a 140-acre flea market in Grand Prairie, Tex. They minister to traders, visitors and the folks who stay at the adjacent campground.

Daws, a MDiv student, has been chaplain at Trader's Village since August 1985. Almost every Saturday he and his wife wander up and down the shopping lanes, visiting with the 30-40 "regulars" and meeting others. Any free time is spent knocking on doors in the RV park.

On Sundays they lead early-morning worship services in a building provided by the flea market.

"Most of the 1600 dealers live in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area, but they work on Sunday and are just as hindered from going to church as the dealers who come from 200 miles away," Daws said. "Those who are Christians want—and need—the growth opportunities and fellowship a church can provide.

"And those who aren't Christians certainly need a witness. They have the same problems and battles as everyone else," he said.

Last summer, after accepting the invitation from the six-person group to become chaplain, Daws began praying to have 15 regular attendees within a year. By April, attendance averaged 50. And on Easter more than 80 people crowded the meeting room.

Monthly Saturday night fellowships attract even larger crowds.

In between services and fellowships, Daws counsels traders on everything from cancer to marital conflicts.

And Daws is committed to continue his ministry as long as he is in seminary, which could be another three years. "I decided if the Lord wanted me here he wanted me for more than a few months," Daws said.

Daws was told up front his salary would be whatever was in the offering plate. Instead of pocketing the whole amount, however, Daws enlisted fellow students Joe and Katie Young to lead music. He also bought a portable sound system and a coffee pot for the congregation. Each Sunday he

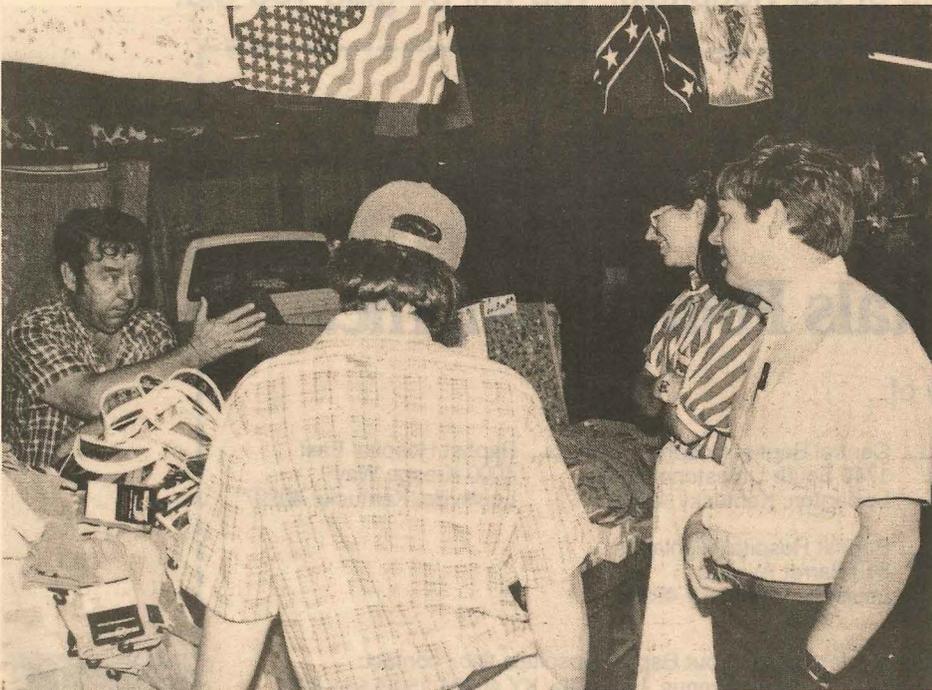
Alan and Raetta Daws hold Sunday services in a building provided by the flea market.

provides donuts and coffee.

Despite the diversity of the congregation, no one has complained about Daws' admitted Southern Baptist perspective. "In fact two of our regulars are Catholic ladies," Daws said. "Last week they told Raetta they had enjoyed the Father's sermon."

Daws feels he is growing as a pastor and Christian in his chaplain's role.

"There is a place of ministry here, and God is blessing us," he said. What pastor could ask for more than that?"



Alan and Raetta Daws visit with one of the merchants at Trader's Village, a 140-acre flea market in Grand Prairie, Tex.



Peg Richardson
Baptist Hospital Highlands
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