

## Global strategy plan alters FMB methods, name

President R. Keith Parks has recommended major administrative reorganization of the Foreign Mission Board staff to "lift Southern Baptists to a whole new level of involvement in global evangelism."

His proposals, presented to the board's trustees Dec. 9, call for a new top-level international strategy group with the expertise and authority to plan and carry out a more effective global strategy.

He also recommended the board's name be changed to International Board of the Southern Baptist Convention to allow greater freedom of operation. The new name, he said, avoids the "considerable disadvantage" which the words "foreign" and "mission" have in the modern world.

Parks said he hopes the change in the board's name, which would have to be done in consultation with the Southern Baptist Convention, could be made without changing titles on mission properties the board owns overseas.

The reorganization, if approved by the board in February, would take effect March 1.

Parks would chair the new strategy group, with William R. O'Brien, the board's executive vice president, as chairman.

Four new vice presidents representing the major continents where Southern Baptists have work would be members of the group. Also on the group would be a vice president for Cooperative Services International, the entity through which Southern Baptists with specific expertise can respond to requests from countries where missionaries cannot work.

Other members of the strategy group would include:

—A vice president for administration and human resources, who would be responsible for worldwide policies relating to missionaries as well as those responsibilities already carried in the office of human resources.

—A director of research related directly to the president who would pull together all research activities now being carried out in various parts of the board.

—A vice president for finance, who

would be a resource member at meetings where his expertise is needed.

As part of the plan, the board would set up a well-equipped strategy room, Parks said.

Area directors, now located in Richmond, Va., would live overseas in their geographic areas and have increased authority to make more decisions closer to the scene of the actual work. In addition to their field staff the directors would maintain an associate area director in Richmond as both a channel and contact point for the home office but would return to Richmond for three of the board's six meetings each year.

"For the whole concept to work, the area director must be given full authority to act in those areas that have administrative definition," Parks explained, "and must take and exercise leadership in the application and implementation of global strategy concepts that will emerge from the strategy group."

Trustees approved a special transitional committee to work with a similar group from the staff in more specific and detailed planning for the reorganization.

Parks estimated it would take most of 1987 to implement the new plan and said 1988 likely would be the first productive year under the new structure.

As key concepts in the reorganization, Parks listed the need to define the denomination's Bold Mission Thrust campaign in measurable terms, develop strategies that would allow maximum use of available resources, free key administrators to concentrate on these strategy concerns and delegate authority to the fields to put decision-making as close to the action as possible.

He also pointed up the need for realignment to "emphasize the cohesiveness of the entire task while providing more appropriate participation in strategic decisions by those with hands-on overseas participation."

At the special session where Parks presented the plan, trustees responded enthusiastically. Jim Henry, pastor of First Baptist Church, Orlando, Fla., said he was "thrilled and pleased . . . and would like to say thank you" for the proposals.

Harmon Moore, retired state executive director for Indiana Baptists, said the reorganization would enable the board to look more closely at the 130-140 nations where a traditional missionary approach is not possible. He called the plan "the greatest thing that has come down the pike in a long time."

Parks' announcement came 10 months after he told the board last February that Southern Baptists must be willing to face a new and changing reality and make necessary adjustments in their mission efforts if Bold Mission Thrust is to be accomplished. The convention in 1976 adopted Bold Mission thrust objectives, including an overarching goal of sharing the gospel with all people of the world by the year 2000.

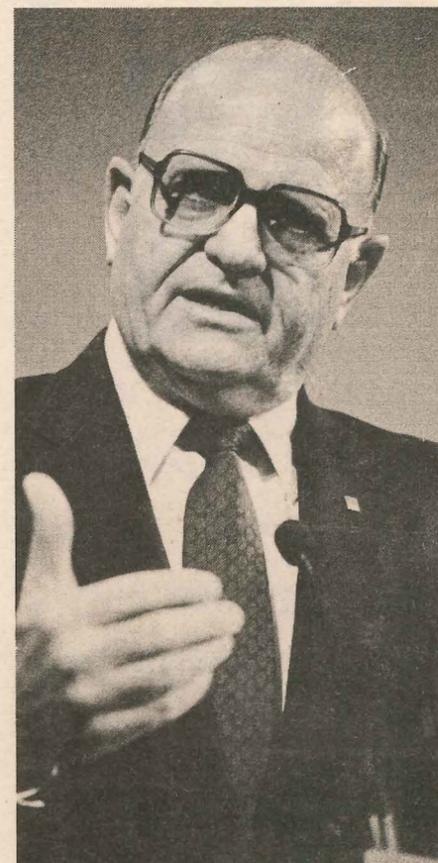
He said it is providential that the denomination is at the mid-point of the 25-year bold missions effort. "Frankly," he said, "I would see a strong effort to challenge Southern Baptists to gear up, and I expect us to

come up with some more exact definition on what it would cost us."

Parks said he is praying that God would use the plan to "lift Southern Baptists to a whole new level of involvement in world evangelism that would impact what is happening in our churches and in our convention."

He expects some staff members approaching retirement in 1987-88 to have a significant role for the next year or two. He mentioned Winston Crawley, vice president for planning, who already has announced plans to retire in mid-1987 and has accepted a teaching assignment at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and Charles Bryan, senior vice president for overseas operations, who plans to retire in January 1988.

**R. Keith Parks, president of the Foreign Mission Board, tells the board Dec. 9 he has been gripped by a vision that won't let go. It's a vision of helping Southern Baptists move to a new level of involvement in winning the world for Christ. At the meeting he recommended major reorganization of the board's staff to develop and carry out a more effective global strategy.**



## Christmas spirit pervades executive board meeting

by Jack Sanford, Editor

In a jovial atmosphere reminiscent of a local associational meeting the Executive Board of the Kentucky Baptist Convention met last week in Middletown.

Under the sesquicentennial theme, "Enriched by Heritage, Encouraged by Hope," the 169-member board heard reports of progress in all the KBC institutions, especially the colleges where enrollment and finances are up from previous years.

KBC president A. B. Colvin presided and reminded board members that the 780,000 Kentucky Baptists in our convention baptized only 17,000 new converts last year, a record we must improve in future years.

The latest edition of "SBC Report: Kentucky Edition" was presented. The video cassette tells the story of witnessing efforts by various Kentuckians within the state, across the state line into Ohio and across the sea into Kenya.

In his annual address to the board, Executive Secretary-Treasurer William Marshall declared there "is reason for rejoicing" in our work for Christ. He used the analogy of his own 30 year marriage to stress the need to persevere in a spirit of love. "We are together in love in our life together. That is worth a lot," he affirmed.

Claiming we are now in the midst of the most comprehensive, sustained evangelistic effort Kentucky Baptists have ever seen, Marshall declared that "never have so many of our people gone outside our state" to witness for the Lord.

"There is reason for rejoicing," he said. "If we could measure all Kentucky Baptists have done in Kentucky, Ohio and Kenya it would be the best

year we have ever had."

In specific actions, the board:

- Approved a revised budget goal for 1986-87 which cut \$324,000 to a final goal of \$17,002,357.
  - Extended the time for the Clarification Committee in its effort to restructure the Foundation. Approval was given that the committee meet with Foundation directors to clarify some areas of concern.
  - Approved \$1 million for a "Mission Kentucky Loan Fund" to be managed under the same type arrangement as the Church Building Loan Fund.
  - Approved changes in the Expanded Church Annuity Plan which would require those churches which elect to participate in the plan to also make certain contributions through the Cooperative Program.
  - Approved \$47,690 from surplus reserve funds for the Kenya partnership.
  - Approved purchase of a piece of property adjacent to the Student Center at Kentucky State College. A gift of \$8000 was made by a layman and the additional \$4500 to purchase and improve the land will be taken from the Student Center Capital Fund.
  - Welcomed furloughing foreign missionaries from Kentucky, Mr. and Mrs. David Graham and Mr. and Mrs. Ken Parks.
  - Heard an inspiring report from James and Wilma Whaley concerning the Kenya partnership. Whaley reminded board members that 680 requests for volunteers have already been received for 1987.
- The meeting came to a fitting climax as Betty Jean Chatham, Shelbyville, presented a piano concert of Christmas music.
- Next meeting of the board will be May 4-5, 1987 at Cedarmore.

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December 16, 1986

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# sanford's perspectives

## Peace: The elusive dream



Jack D. Sanford

He is called "The Prince of Peace," and the angelic announcement of the birth of Jesus declared, "Peace on earth..." The peace promised so long ago remains an elusive dream for all the earth's people to this day.

Even among that segment of God's people called Southern Baptists the dream is far from fulfilled. In fact Southern Baptists are perhaps more at war with each other than any other segment of the Christian community.

We have been rocked for more than seven years with controversy that has been ugly, mean and vindictive, with brother slashing brother and pain felt in every quarter of our denominational family.

The Advent season finds us in a state of tentative truce. Does this mean we Southern Baptists are on the verge of peace? Many hope and pray that is the case and they point to some encouraging signs that the warfare may be ending.

First among the encouraging signs is the Glorieta Statement issued by the presidents of our six seminaries. That statement offered major concessions, a vital ingredient in any peace effort. It was embraced by the peace committee and praised by Adrian Rogers, leading spokesman for fundamental conservatives in the SBC. This endorsement alone is grounds for hope among many people who know Southern Baptists well.

A second encouraging sign is the announcement by SBC president Rogers that he welcomes suggestions from all Southern Baptists to assist him in selecting the best people available for positions on the important committees of the

convention. If balance can be found here a giant step toward defusing the anger among us will have been taken since committee selection has been the center piece in the struggle for control.

All of us want to believe the seminary presidents made their statement in good faith, honestly seeking to heal the hurts that have ripped us apart. These are honorable men who have served our Lord with distinction for many years and we hope they are once again acting under the Spirit's control to bring warfare to an end.

All of us want to believe the announcement by the SBC president was a good faith gesture, given honestly to help heal the hurts which have deterred us from the task of advancing the Kingdom of God. He too is a man of God whose pastoral career is a model of evangelistic fervor and personal commitment to the Lordship of Christ. If any one person can open the door to peace in our convention, Rogers is the man.

Now we wait to see how these two encouraging signs will be implemented, for the measure of truth is action, not words alone.

Will the seminary presidents seek theological balance in faculty appointments and classroom presentation?

Will president Rogers actually listen to recommendations from both sides of the controversy and make committee appointments which represent those different points of view, thus reducing the power of the office he holds?

The answer will determine whether or not our dreams for peace remain elusive or finally come to fulfillment.

## A personal word from us to you

This will be the last issue of Western Recorder you receive before Christmas, so we who work here as your fellow servants want to express our deepest thanks for your good will and wish you a Spirit-filled Christmas season.

All of you who know what is happening in Baptist life these days surely know we have taken our share of knocks because of the Catch 22 situation in which news people find themselves in time of controversy. We report the bad stuff and catch sharp criticism for doing our job. That is the nature of the game and we are not complaining. On the contrary, we are grateful to God for the opportunity to serve in important places, even in bad times.

In spite of the criticism which has come our way we have been affirmed by you much more than we have been maligned. For this we are truly grateful and express our love for you and our thanksgiving for your support.

If we could see our wishes come true, this is what we wish for every Kentucky Baptist:

We wish for you the joy known to those who serve Christ without thought of reward.

We wish for you the peace which comes to

those who have given all to Christ and serve him out of gratitude for life itself.

We wish for you and your church the best year yet in evangelism, with professions of faith coming weekly in your worshipping community.

We wish for you and your family health and prosperity so that you may give even more to the Lord of life.

We wish for you the wisdom which comes from above so that you will have insight into what needs to be done in our world to make it a better place for all God's children.

We wish for you a year of cooperative effort in winning our state to the Lord through the ministries of our churches and our convention leaders.

As we move into the 150th year of our Kentucky Baptist Convention we at Western Recorder pledge our best efforts to make the new year a time of peace, a time of growth in spirit and size and a time of brotherhood and fellowship in our family.

God's best to each of you, and thank you again for your love and affirmation of us.

**western recorder**

(ISSN 0043-4132)

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Western Recorder is published by Western Recorder, Inc., Box 43401, Middletown, Ky., except for one week in July and December. Second class postage paid at Louisville, Ky.

**Postmaster:** Send address changes to Western Recorder, Box 43401, Middletown, KY 40243.

**Subscriptions:** Single, \$7.35; foreign, \$8.00; church budget, \$5.50. Payable in advance, except church accounts, which require tax exemption number.

**Advertising:** Rates available upon request. Institutional columns on an inside page are paid space.

**Directors:** H. Gary Coltharp, Madisonville, Chairman; Jerry Davis, Pippa Passes, Vice Chairman; Clarence Benedict, Highland Heights, Secretary; Richard Bridges, Bowling Green; John Christian, Hopkinsville; W. Robert DeFoor, Harrodsburg; Greg Earwood, Murray; Paul Godsey, Burlington; Garnett Hulette, Frankfort; Alan Jolly, Louisville; Glenn Mollette, Pikeville; George Smith, Leitchfield.

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## Next year promises significant anniversaries for Kentucky churches

Wendell H. Rone delivered to the KBC Executive Board a list of churches in which have significant anniversaries in 1987. Listed below is a summary of these churches:

*Celebrating 200 years: East Hickman, Elkhorn Association.*

*Celebrating 175 years: Panola, Boone's Creek Association; New Bethel, Caldwell-Lyon Association; Buck Creek, Daviess-McLean Association; Three Forks-Bacon Creek, Lynn Association; Unity, Muhlenberg Association; Newport First, Northern Kentucky Association; Beech Ridge and Dover, Shelby Association; Lake Spring, Simpson Association; Union City, Tate's Creek Association; Iva and Smith's Grove, Warren Association; and Goshen, Anderson Association.*

*Celebrating 150 years: Unity, Greenup Association; Richland and Providence First, Little Bethel Association; Shepherdsville First, Nelson Association; and Hopewell, West Kentucky Association.*

*Celebrating 125 years: Bay's Fork, Allen Association; Green Grove, Freedom Association; and Antioch, West Union Association.*

*Celebrating 100 years: Poplar Spring, Blood River Association; Allansville, Boone's Creek Association; New Boones, Boone Association; Turner's Station, Henry County Association; Beechland, Logan County Association; 23rd and Broadway, Long Run Association; Carter's Creek and Cherry Hill, Muhlenberg Association; New Haven, Nelson Association; Union, Northern Kentucky Association; Smithland First and Blackford, Ohio River Association; Fairview and Mt. Vernon First, Rockcastle Association; Gradyville, Russell Creek Association; Stithton, Severn's Valley Association; Piney Grove, South Union Association; and New Bethel, West Union Association.*

## Tax law brings loss to non-itemizers

After long deliberation the Congress passed, and President Reagan signed, the Tax Reform Act of 1986. It changes individual and corporate tax structure.

The new law could change the after-tax cost of gifts to Southern Baptist churches. For most people, the tax deduction would be greater if the gift is made Dec. 31, 1986 than it would be on Jan. 1, 1987.

The three most significant tax implications in the Reform Act for Christians are loss of deductions for non-itemizers, lowered tax rates in 1987 and years following and elimination of the capital gains exclusion.

After 1986 the non-itemizer cannot deduct charitable contributions. After-tax cost for giving is 100 percent. Persons contemplating a large gift should consult a tax adviser about the timing of the gift for maximum advantage.

The taxation of capital gains at regular income tax levels after 1986 will make future gifts of appreciated property an even better charitable gift than they are now. But, given lower marginal tax rates after 1986, it may still net a better deduction to give appreciated property in 1986. (BP)



# Second Glances

**Ken Perkins**  
Missionary to Transkei

## Ignorance helpful in name game

I now have my very own tribal name—pastor Umgandaganda.

In English it means earthmover or bulldozer. Have you ever seen a 140-pound bulldozer? How I love my new name. It conjures up visions of power, the ability to move things, to get things accomplished.

And to be the first white kid on the block to have his own descriptive Xhosa name makes my less-than-bulldozer-size chest expand—and head swell.

Everywhere, everyone knows me as pastor Umgandaganda. When I went to the eastern region of Transkei, hundreds of kilometers into the bush to a church I had never visited, having never met a person there, I was greeted by my new name.

Billy Graham may speak to millions and others may have their own television or radio shows—but I would imagine none have their own private, tribal, known-nationwide Xhosa name.

But the air has been let out of my sails.

Dejection set in when I overheard a

pastor explain the logic behind my naming. It seems the very first bulldozers and earthmovers in this land had a Perkins brand of engine. It was cute and easy to associate my name with the brand of most of the huge road equipment over here.

Besides, compared to Umgandaganda, Perkins is so hard to say. Our Xhosa friends regularly call us Pekins, Purkins, Parkins and, my favorite, Pelkins. Why twist your tongue when there is such an easy name as Umgandaganda you can stick on a fellow.

And my church family probably thinks it quite funny to call a six-foot razor thin missionary (who regularly gets his vehicle all but buried in the mud) by the name of a bulldozer.

But it's my name and I sort of like it, no matter what origin. After all, there are still many places I have not been and when I go to such a place and they call me Umgandaganda, I will humbly lower my eyes and whisper about power, ability to move things and get things done.

If you don't tell them the difference, I won't.



**Eldred M. Taylor**  
Executive Director  
10501 Shelbyville Road  
Middletown, KY 40243

## homes for children

### Isn't It Wonderful!

Isn't it wonderful to be a Christian and experience the joys of belonging to the Lord! Although I think often of the blessed privileges of being a child of the king, it all came home to me in a special way last Sunday.

My wife, Marjorie, and I made our way to church as usual. We enjoyed the Bible study period. The lesson focused on the building of the tower of Babel and the trouble that came because of human pride. I left the Sunday school class thinking about the importance of seeking God's will rather than doing one's own desire.

In the worship service that followed our pastor brought a fine biblical message on "The Gospel According to Mary." Without lifting Mary to a pedestal of divinity, he pointed out her faith and yieldedness to the will of God. It was a timely message as we approach the Christmas season. I came away thankful for God's great love and his marvelous provision for our redemption through his son, Jesus.

On Sunday afternoon Marjorie and I went to hear a wonderful presentation of Messiah, an oratorio by Handel. As we followed the scripture texts and listened to the music and words of the chorus and soloists, we were carried along with the majesty and grandeur of it all. Each time we hear the Messiah we are amazed at the tremendous knowledge and grasp George Frederick Handel had of God's sweeping plan of redemption. We listened to the unfolding of the prophecy, were moved by the sacrificial death and rejoiced in the resurrection and promised return of our Lord.

After standing for the Hallelujah Chorus, listening to "I know that my Redeemer liveth" and finally the closing with the chorus singing, "Worthy is the Lamb," I found my heart saying, "My, what a God we have," and "Isn't it wonderful to be a Christian, a child of the king."

At church on Sunday night we enjoyed beautiful Christmas music, appropriate scriptures and the message of Christmas. Marjorie and I had enjoyed a wonderful Lord's day and were saying, "Isn't it wonderful to be a Christian."

As a Christian it is also wonderful to be involved in the special care of children through Baptist churches for children. Our goal is to help them know our wonderful savior. You are a significant part of this ministry through prayer and financial gifts.



Retiring chairman T. A. Prickett, Owensboro, leads the opening prayer at the December meeting of the Board of Directors of Western Recorder.



New officers of the Board of Directors of Western Recorder are (L) Jerry Davis, Pippa Passes, vice chairman; H. Garrison Coltharp, Madisonville, Chairman; Clarence Benedict, Highland Heights, secretary.

# Teenagers share Christ across country

by Pauline Stegall,  
State Correspondent

"Go and tell." "The only thing they see of Jesus is what you are." "You are their only contact with Jesus." "You can help."

Many Western Kentucky young people have had these concepts reinforced through actual hands-on experience in mission trips this summer.

The youth choir, Princeton First Baptist, Caldwell-Lyon Association, spent 10 days at Lake Placid Baptist Church, Lake Placid, N. Y., organizing and administering Christian day camping and backyard Bible schools.

"Summer Fun Clubs, we called them," Wayne Causey, minister of music, said. "Our young people had an invaluable 'hands-on' experience with missions."

Causey thinks some important relationships were built and some important insights gained.

"Three of our girls had worked with some underprivileged children on Monday. One of the little boys came back the next morning with bruises. He was not there on Wednesday. We found he had been abused by his parents and had been taken away to a foster home. We had been his only contact with Jesus."

Lake Placid Church is the only Southern Baptist work in town. It has several ministries, including three AA groups and daycare. Even though it is located in a resort area, the church can use outside help in special ministries.

Bill Tichenor, pastor of Princeton First, held revival services at night.

In a sharing service afterwards, Randy Bruce, a popular Caldwell County football player, said, "During the last two weeks I was on top of the Empire State Building, saw the Statue of Liberty, saw New York City, but the most impressive thing I experienced was hearing a four-year-old boy tell me he loved me."

Murray First, Blood River Association, sponsors a trip to Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation in Lame Duck, Mont., every year. This was started as a youth activity, but now, 10 years later, adults also participate.

The success of their work is evidenced by the way they are received by the Indians.

G. T. Moody, assistant pastor of Murray First, says their group is welcome because they do not go to take

from the Indians or exploit, only to help.

The youth choir from Immanuel Baptist Church, Paducah, West Union Association, were trained and utilized during vacation Bible school in their home church for mission work. Their mission was First Baptist Church, Destin, Fla.

"Since all choir members did not go, we went as a mission team, not a performing group," Bill Cubine, pastor of Immanuel, explained. "First Baptist at Destin is a small church whose members nearly all work. There are not enough people to staff a VBS. We had mornings of Bible school and included clowning and puppetry in our ministry."

The young people distributed tracts on the beach in the afternoon. Cubine had trained the young people in witnessing and soul winning at home. He made up "secret order" packages and distributed them every day of the trip. Each choir member received one and would open it to know his orders for the day. The packages contained prayer suggestions, tracts, and devotional thoughts.

David Childres, minister of music, and Cubine believe the trip contributed to a stronger core group. The youngsters became more unified in their relationship with each other.

That they were asked back to Destin for 1987 attests to the success of the trip.

Jack Gordon, minister of music, Hopkinsville Second, Christian County association, has led his youth choir on trips for the last five years.

"Our main goal is to do outreach where Baptist work is weak. We want to do something more than the usual concert tour," Gordon stated.

Even though they give concerts, including singing and handbells, in several churches each year they feel they accomplish something more worthwhile by helping the underprivileged.

This year they spent a week at Woodman Baptist Church, Hammond, Ind. Since this church did not have enough adults to staff a VBS, the Hopkinsville group, consisting of 28 people, organized one.

The young people, from 13-18 years of age, were divided into departmentalized working groups, with each group under the leadership of a Hopkinsville adult.

The group made their first mission trip to the Knoxville World's Fair where



The Hopkinsville Second Baptist Church youth sing at Black Oak Church.

they held backyard Bible schools in the campgrounds. They have also assisted in area crusades in Dayton, Oh.; Indianapolis, Ind.; and Bryan, ,Oh.

Choir members must have a 75 percent attendance record to qualify for a mission trip.

Paducah's First Baptist, West Union association, has been sending groups on mission trips for 15 years. There are usually 35 or 40 senior youth and singles

tries."

The group stopped at a Memphis, Tenn. church on the return trip. Karen Thomas, organist, tells of being stopped by a teenage girl as she was going across the gym floor.

Karen relates, "Her father, an alcoholic truck driver, had left her mother and taken (the girl) along. She ran away to the Florida beaches and lived there as a prostitute. She was into drugs and



Teens on mission enjoy working with local children in VBS.

of mixed ages participating. They have ministered in Harlan, Ky.; Wounded Knee, S. D.; Champaign, Ill.; Boulder, Colo.; Connecticut and Massachusetts.

"One year we helped build a Southern Baptist mission in Springfield, Mass.; we worked with Puerto Ricans in that area," reminisced Bob Kersey, assistant pastor. "This year we went to Virginia. We had Bible schools at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church in Keokee; at Roda Mission at Appalachia and at Artesian Baptist Church at Big Stone Gap."

There were 350-360 enrolled in the schools. In spite of the difficulties there were 18 professions of faith. We were able to reach people who had never been reached before, even though we had severe opposition in some cases."

The youth choir of First Baptist went to the Dallas-Ft. Worth area this summer.

"We didn't do a lot of mission work," said Kent Jackson, minister of music, "because I was new on the field and there was little time to organize the trip. We sang with several resident youth choirs, then we visited Southwestern Seminary. And some very positive relationships were formed. The trip helped to open doors to other minis-

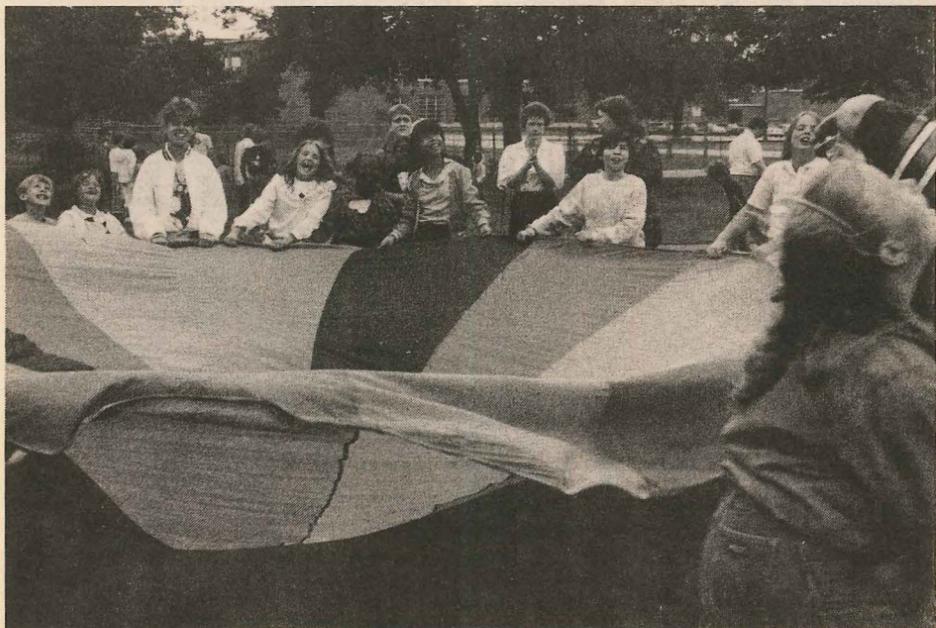
alcohol. One day she decided to turn her back on the scene, so she went to social services. They told her she had a choice of going back to her grandmother's in New Jersey or to a Baptist home in Memphis. She chose the home. Now she has reached the age when she must leave the home.

"I asked her if she knew the Lord and she said with tears in her eyes, 'I met him two weeks ago.'"

Karen and her husband have been counseling through letters and have even offered their home to her during her transition period.

Karen continues, "When the kids got back they were so full of the Lord in their lives they wanted to give a concert at the park. The park had become an unhealthy hot-spot for teens. The result was a park ministry which was joined by other churches. Taped Christian music was presented on Friday nights and live music on Saturday nights. Some of those youth had never heard Christian music. And then the kids would witness.

"They wanted to do more, so five or six of them visit the jail every Sunday afternoon. That's just another out-growth of the trip."



Recreation time was an enjoyable part of VBS for the choir members.



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

## clear creek comment

### "Christmas Gifts"

Matthew records that the wise men "fell down and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts . . ." (Matthew 2:11). Christmas has always been a time for giving of gifts.

The most precious verse in the entire word of God records that "God so loved the world that He gave . . ." (John 3:16). God is the source of true gift-giving at Christmas, for James tells us "that every good gift and every perfect gift is from above and cometh down from the father" (James 1:17).

Gift-giving at Christmas has become very commercialized. Someone has said that Christmas is the season when you buy this year's gifts with next year's money! We live in a day in which the emphasis is on the act rather than the meaning. Christmas is less than it should be when gifts are given grudgingly and received without appreciation.

The best Christmas gifts center around the sharing of love. I am not sure about the wisdom of sending a partridge in a pear tree, but the recipient did speak of the sender as "my true love." Walt Whitman said, "When I give, I give myself," and Emerson asserted, "The only gift is a portion of thyself . . . the poet brings his poem; the shepherd his lamb . . . the girl, a handkerchief of her own sewing." Giving ultimately consists not in what is done or given but in the intention of the giver or doer.

The best Christmas gifts have a 'human touch.' This is why "A Hail and the Night Visitors" and "The Little Drummer Boy" are so popular.

In 1974 my wife and I approached Christmas with nervous anticipation. We wanted a girl so badly but were braced for our third son. When the baby finally arrived on New Year's Eve it was normal, healthy and . . . a girl! What a Christmas gift we received in Noelle Lynn that year. I thank the Lord each Christmas for Marilyn, my life's partner, and for all three precious babies he has given to us (now grown to be teenagers!). These are the gifts that count in life. The rich and precious gifts in life are made possible through God's gift of a baby so long ago. Art Fettig expressed it for all of us when he said, "Some businessmen are saying that this could be the greatest Christmas ever. I always thought the first one was!"

# mountains to the mississippi

## personnel

**Lawrence Spears** has been called as pastor of Cedar Grove Community Church, Pulaski County Association.

**Owen Edwards** has accepted the pastorate at Flat Lick Baptist Church, Pulaski County Association.

**James Blackerby** has resigned as pastor at Immanuel Baptist Church, Pulaski County Association.

**Bill Scott** has been called as pastor of Pleasant Run Baptist Church, Pulaski County Association.

**Jewell Hail Sr.** has resigned the pastorate of Bronston Baptist Church, Pulaski County Association.

**Grover Craft**, former pastor of Salyersville Baptist Church, Enterprise Association, has retired. His successor is **Luther Edwards**.

**Ronnie Hooks** is pastor of Dycusburg Baptist Church, Ohio River Association.

**Larry Koch** has been called as pastor of Lowell Avenue Baptist Church, Taylor County Association.

**Robert L. Craig** has been called as pastor of Providence Baptist Church, Ohio County Association.

**Harry Hoover** has accepted the call to pastor Beech Grove Baptist Church, Boone's Creek Association.

**Joel N. Marshall** has resigned as minister of music and education, Hazelwood Baptist Church, Long Run Association, to become full time minister of music at First Baptist Church, Burlington, N. C.

**Rick White** has resigned as pastor of First Baptist Church, Lebanon Junction, Nelson Association, to accept the pastorate of Midlane Park Baptist Church, Long Run Association.

**Janus Jones** has written a history of Mount Zion Association of Missionary Baptists 1885-1985, called *Standing in Liberty*.

Copies are \$5 each and are sold at the Baptist Associational Office, 225 Main St., Williamsburg. Telephone orders will be accepted with a postal charge of \$1, at 549-4497.

**Robert Oldham** has joined the faculty of Clear Creek Baptist School after teaching at Moody Bible Institute for more than 15 years.

Oldham is a graduate of Southern Seminary, Campbellsville College and Western Kentucky University. He has pastored several churches in Kentucky.

**Richerd Summers** has begun his duties as minister of music at First Baptist Church, Greenville, Muhlenberg Association.

**Danny Mullins** has resigned the pastorate of Colson Mission to accept a full time pastorate near Madison, Tenn.

**Ed Taylor** has been called as pastor of Berean Baptist Church, Three Forks Association.

**Steve Hamlin** has been called as

associate pastor/minister of music at Whitesburg First Church, Three Forks Association.

**Bob Bunch** has accepted the call to pastor Northside Baptist Church, North Concord Association.

**Tilmon Bargo** is pastoring River Baptist Church, North Concord Association.

**James Lawson** will be pastor of Green Road Baptist Church, North Concord Association.

**Marvin Cress** has accepted the pastorate of Garrard Baptist Church, Booneville Association.

**Roy Lyttle** has been called as pastor of Lily Grove Baptist Church, Booneville Association.

**Denny McCowan** resigned as pastor of Laurel River Baptist Church, Laurel River Association.

**Terry Elsner** resigned as pastor of Augusta Baptist Church, Bracken Association.

**Cleon Webb** has been called as interim pastor of Germantown Baptist Church, Bracken Association.

**Joe Coleman** resigned as pastor of Maysville Baptist Church, Bracken Association.

**Don Hiles** has been recalled as pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Bracken Association.

**Carl Evans** resigned as pastor of Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church, Bracken Association.

**David Highsmith** has accepted the position of minister of youth and education at Parkland Baptist Church, Long Run Association.

**Ricky Lovingood** has resigned as pastor at New Life Baptist Church, Long Run Association. The church has called **Herchel Fugate** as pastor.

**Larry Lindsey** has been called as pastor of New Hope Baptist Church, Graves County Association.

**Bob Blankenship** has resigned as minister of music and senior adults at Harrodsburg Baptist Church, Mercer

Association, to become associate pastor at Gapway Baptist Church, Lakeland, Fla.

**Arthur Bengue** has resigned the pastorate of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Laurel River Association.

**Rod Ellis**, a student at Georgetown College, has accepted the position of part time minister of music and youth at Elsmere Baptist Church, Northern Kentucky Association.

**Ira McMillen Jr.** has been called as interim pastor at New Bethel Baptist Church, Ten Mile Association.

**Randy Stallings**, pastor of First Baptist Church, Lewisport, Blackford Association, was honored for five years of service at the church. He was presented with a plaque during Sunday morning worship.

**Lowell McNaney** has been called as minister of youth at David's Fork Baptist Church, Lexington, Elkhorn Association.

**Charles Wade Moore** has been called as pastor of Riverview Baptist Church, Calvin, Bell Association. He was ordained to the ministry on Nov. 16 at West End Baptist Church, Hampton, S. C.

## ordinations

**Kent Krumm** was ordained to the ministry by First Creek Church, Three Forks Association, Nov. 14.

**Jeff Hicks** was ordained to the ministry Nov. 30 at Grant's Lick Baptist Church, Northern Kentucky Association.

**Melvin Graham** was ordained a deacon at Loyall First Baptist Church, Upper Cumberland Association, Oct. 26.

**William L. Holbrook II** and **James Lambert** were ordained as deacons by First Baptist Church, Ashland, Greenup Association, Oct. 26. Bill Messer is pastor.

**Jim McConnell** was ordained at Hebron Baptist Church, Northern Kentucky Association, Nov. 9.



Green Acres Baptist Church held a note-burning service Nov. 23. Pictured left to right are: Pastor Daniel Powell, Lewis Jones, Garland Lewis and Charlie Brutscher, present and former trustees.

**Wilbur McClary, Joe Hinton, Melvin Jones and Ricky Parrish** were ordained Nov. 30 at Trammel Fork Baptist Church, Allen Association.

**Lloyd Gray** was ordained as deacon at Smithfield Baptist Church, Henry County Association, Oct. 19. Larry Wetherington is pastor.

**David Redding** was ordained to the ministry Sept. 21 at 18th Street Baptist Church, Long Run Association. His father, George Redding, preached the ordination sermon. David Redding is pastor of Wyandotte Baptist Church in Indiana.

**Richard Aylor** was ordained to the ministry at Walnut Street Baptist Church, Long Run Association, Sept. 21.

**Ed Spurlock and David Roop** were ordained as deacons by Rockport Baptist Church, Ohio County Association.

**Roger Norris** was ordained a deacon by Immanuel Baptist Church, West Union Association.

**Harold Peeler and E. E. Buster Bear-den** were ordained as deacons at Mt. Zion Baptist Church, West Union Association, Nov. 2. Larry Davidson is pastor.

**Teddy Holt and Lonnie McReynolds** were ordained deacons at Rosebower Baptist Church, West Union Association, Nov. 16.

**John Davidson** was ordained a deacon by Broadway Baptist Church, Elkhorn Association.

**Len Bauer, Ken Cornett, Jack Kuhn-hein, Bob Rose and Al Schrader** were ordained as deacons by First Baptist Church, Ft. Thomas, Northern Kentucky Association.

**Leroy Rearden** was ordained to the ministry by Zion Baptist Church, Ohio County Association.

## congregations

**Liberty Baptist Church**, Russell County Association, has experienced great growth since moving to their new location on the corner of Lakeway and Wilson streets in Russell Springs.

Sixty-three have been added to the church and Sunday school attendance has been record high. Jerry Howerton is pastor.

**Danleyton Baptist Church**, Greenup Association, dedicated a 200-seat sanctuary, complete with new choir robes and hymnals.

Bi-vocational pastor Mike Saunders declared it to be "a day we will always remember. Words don't permit us to say thank you as we feel in our hearts."

An acre of land for the building was donated to the church by Harvey Hutchinson. Help in the work came from Bob Simpkins and Greenup Associational Brotherhood. Charles S. Young is director of missions for the association.

Guest speaker for the dedication was Thomas Halsell, retired executive secretary of the West Virginia Baptist Convention, now the dean of students at Boyce Bible School. Halsell af-

firmed, "The fellowship and excitement here speak of the great victory of the Lord."

**Cold Spring Baptist Church**, Salem Association, held a note-burning ceremony Nov. 23. They paid off their mortgage 17 months early. Guy Thomas is pastor.

**Hindman Baptist Church**, Three Forks Association, had 67 decisions during their Backyard Bible Clubs and crusade.

Their pastor, Odell Beauchamp, is pastor of the Vest Baptist Mission, which they sponsor.

**Fairview Baptist Church**, Russell County Association, held revival and reports six professions and three letters. Since the revival there have been 2 more professions and 5 more have come by letter.

Bill Howard is pastor.

**Lewisport Baptist Church**, Blackford Association, held revival meetings Nov. 3-9, and had record breaking attendance. The goal for Friend Day, Nov. 9 was 400. Actual attendance was 502.

Ron Williams was evangelist, Mark Hendricks was minister of music, and Derek Staples was youth minister. Randall Stallings is pastor.

**Beechwood Baptist Church**, Louisville, Long Run Association, reported three generations of the same family made public professions of faith in the Sunday morning service Nov. 16. A grandfather, father and son presented themselves as candidates for baptism. Joseph R. Estes is pastor.

**Immanuel Baptist Church**, Somerset, Pulaski County Association, ranked third among the top 25 churches in the SBC receiving study course awards during 1985-86.

Among Kentucky churches, Immanuel ranked first with 1168 awards. James Blackerby is pastor.

**Zion Baptist Church**, Green Valley Association, began their church year Oct. 5 with a "Ministry Expo" and Harvest Banquet at Henderson County High School. Booths and exhibits of all the ministries of the church were displayed in numerous ways.

The musical "2000 A.D." was presented by the adult and youth choirs, and the Singles Department drama team.

Dan Garland is pastor.

**Dry Ridge Baptist Church**, Crittenden Association, dedicated their remodeled sanctuary on Homecoming Day, Oct. 12.

Former pastor Phil Majors brought the dedication message and Phil Quinn, former music director led the music program.

Tom Moore is interim pastor.

**Lexington Avenue Baptist Church**, Danville, South District Association, has approved a major renovation program of their facilities at a cost of \$600,000. The project, to begin in spring 1987, will include a 37-rank pipe organ, chapel, an elevator, renovated educational space and expanded music facilities.

Tied in with the plans is a tithe of \$60,000 to be designated toward a



The Filipino Baptist Church was recently constituted through Mission Kentucky efforts. It grew out of a Filipino fellowship sponsored by the Lyndon Baptist Church, Long Run Association, and now has 15 members. The pastor, Bernie Monteclaro, is a student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. (KBC)

mission project. The church will begin the Together We Build program in January to raise the money for the renovation.

Robert Baker is pastor.

**Midway Baptist Church**, Elkhorn Association, passed a resolution in honor of the faithful service of Mrs. Ila Wash who died Sept. 26. Mrs. Wash had been a member of the Midway church more than 50 years and had been active in many church ministries as well as service in Elkhorn Association WMU activities.

James F. Broome is pastor.

**Second Baptist Church**, Greenville, Muhlenberg Association, celebrated the burning of a 20-year-old note on the sanctuary. Alfred London and Nat Nofsinger, co-chairmen of the building committee at the time the mortgage was made, burned the note. The church has had significant growth in its 37-year existence, now averaging more than 300 in Sunday school.

The congregation has recently purchased 18 acres for future expansion.

Rich Shannon is pastor.

**Walnut Street Baptist Church**, Owensboro, Daviess-McLean Association, celebrated its 110th anniversary Nov. 2. H. Lloyd Storment, former pastor, preached and Richard Ham, former minister of music, led

singing for the celebration. The church began in 1876 as the Ash Valley Baptist Church under the leadership of pastor D. E. Yeiser. In 1878 the congregation merged with a group which had been organized by J. S. Coleman and J. M. Peay and selected the name Walnut Street Baptist Church.

Present pastor is Carson D. Bevil.

**First Baptist Church**, Wickliffe, West Union Association, has presented Mrs. Callie Pollock with a 51-year pin and a plaque for her faithful Sunday school attendance.

Mrs. Pollock is 95 years old and the oldest member of the church.

Frank Scott is interim pastor.

## missions

**Paula Settle** (Mission Baptiste, BP 1353, Lome Togo) will arrive in Togo Dec. 20. A native of Owensboro, she is the first women's worker appointed in that country.

**J. C. and Kathy Harville**, missionaries to Bolivia, have arrived on the field (Casilla 2568, Santa Cruz, Bolivia).

A native of Ohio, he was born in Dayton and considers Carlisle his home town.

She is the former Kathy Korek of Louisville. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1985.

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# baptist news in brief

## Training crucial to church growth

Teaching church members about basic biblical and Baptist beliefs is the number one task of church training and what is needed to keep churches alive and growing, said Roy Edgemon, director of Baptist Sunday School Board's Church Training Department.

Speaking to 300 persons attending Tuckasee Baptist Association's "M" Night in Sylva, N. C., Edgemon said he believes Baptist churches have not properly trained their new members in intrinsic Baptist beliefs.

"We have taken new members into our church without offering them any training," he said. "We must learn how to evangelize our people in modern ways. If we don't learn to disciple (teach biblical beliefs), our winning will be fruitless. There will be no church left if we do not train our people."

"M" Night, or Mobilization Night, is an effort by associations of the Southern Baptist Convention to inspire, motivate and inform church members that church training is alive and well, Edgemon said, noting, "Church training is uniquely a Baptist concept."

New members must be trained in biblical beliefs for churches to survive, he emphasized. Baptists "need to get

a program of discipleship and train boys and girls and other generations. We cannot continue to take members into our churches without training.(BP)

## Laity are keys to urban evangelism

Church leaders should not be afraid to release their lay members to perform 'marketplace evangelism,' they will be amazed at how effectively the Holy Spirit will use them to reach non-Christians, a Southern Baptist lay leader told a Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary audience.

Reid D. Hardin, director of the Evangelism Support Department of the Baptist Home Mission Board, challenged Southeastern Seminary students and spouses to consider the cities and careers in urban evangelism. Hardin was the guest speaker for Southeastern's Urban Evangelism Banquet at the Wake Forest, N. C., campus.

Hardin calls these ministries "marketplace mission fields" and adds the cities are the major mission fields of the world. "The cities are pools of Bethesda, where the hurting of our world, the wounded and broken-hearted await a healing touch," he explained.

The Home Mission Board will

promote "The Year of the Laity" in 1989, announced Hardin, adding the board is beginning now to plan ahead for that year by also promoting lay awakenings in all Southern Baptist churches. "Ultimately," he said, "we hope to emphasize the laos, or the whole people of God, including both clergy and laity in united ministry."

Hardin emphasized two ways in which local churches can help mobilize their own laity. He urged all churches to have weekly "missionary report, sharing times" when all members of the church can give testimonies and receive feedback on one another's ministries in the marketplace. Additionally, Hardin encouraged all churches to release their laity to go out to mission fields elsewhere and in this way free them up to God's service with power.

"This call to ministry for both clergy and laity in urban evangelism is a call to excitement on the cutting edge," he insisted. "God's power and promise are there to meet the challenges before us. Find out what the Holy Spirit is saying to you and your laity and do what God is telling you to do. Don't leave God alone out on the street corners of our cities while untold millions walk by daily."(BP)

## Caring church blooms despite rough times

Mobridge Southern Baptist Church is increasing in membership, Sunday school enrolment and attendance despite a sagging economy, critical unemployment, a declining population and established religious traditions in the South Dakota community.

Meeting the needs of people and involving church members in ministry have been key factors in the church's growth, even as it has sponsored four missions amid difficult circumstances, explains pastor Bill Agee.

When Agee moved to Mobridge from Oklahoma 10 years ago, he and his wife were the only ones who attended church services for several months. When people began to join the church, Agee immediately began to share leadership responsibilities. The church now averages 160 in Sunday school and had 31 baptisms last year.

Meeting immediate needs also is a primary focus of a mission started last February in Wakpala, a Sioux Indian reservation community about 10 miles from town.

Vital industries have closed recently, and the community's population has declined from 4500 just a few years ago to 3800. Agee estimates six out of 10 church members are without jobs. Even though the church is seeing financial difficulties as the economy falters, the ministry is growing. "We're

reaching three times as many people with half the money we had three years ago because our people are committed and they follow the Lord's guidance," he explains.(BP)

## Conferences focus on discipleship

Discipleship will be theme of Church Training Leadership Conferences and Summer Youth Celebrations slated for Glorieta (N. M.) and Ridgecrest (N. C.) Baptist conference centers next summer.

Leadership conferences will be July 4-10 at Glorieta and July 18-24 at Ridgecrest while youth celebrations will be June 6-12 at Glorieta and June 13-19 at Ridgecrest.

At both leadership conferences, T. W. Hunt, professor of church music at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex., and a nationally-recognized prayer conference leader, will lead sessions on the doctrine of prayer.

Wayne Bristow, director of evangelism, Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, will be the featured speaker at the Glorieta leadership conference while Landrum Leavell III, president of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, will speak at Ridgecrest.

All four conferences are sponsored by the Church Training Department of the Sunday School Board. Registration for summer conferences begins February 1.

## Northwest looks to year 2000

The 39th annual Northwest Baptist Convention focused on the need for new churches and a greater commitment to evangelism as 460 messengers and 69 guests gathered at the Ridpath Hotel in Spokane, Wash., Nov. 18-20.

"Vision Northwest 2000" was the theme which provided an emphasis on expanding Baptist work in the two-state organization. Convention staff members and other leaders urged churches to begin developing strategies for making their dreams for the year 2000 come true.

Participants signed pledge cards to indicate their willingness to pray for spiritual renewal among the convention's churches and to support the beginning of a new ministry at their own local church level through prayer, financial support and/or personal involvement.

Gene Dempsey, pastor of Pinehurst Baptist Church, Everett, Wash., was re-elected to a second one-year term as convention president. Other officers are Allen Elston, pastor, Warm Springs (Ore.) Baptist Church, first vice president; and Lee Kem, laywoman and member of Kitsap Lake Baptist Church, Bremerton, Wash., second vice president.(BP)

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## Committee invites testimony on BJCPA

Southern Baptists who wish to comment on the work of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs may do so in an open meeting in Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 20, 1987.

A study committee, named by the SBC executive committee invited persons who wish to comment on BJCPA to its next meeting, to be held in the SBC building at 901 Commerce.

Gary F. Young, chairman of the nine-member committee, said a time block from 1 to 9 p.m. has been set aside to hear from people who wish to have input in the committee's ultimate decision.

Young, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, Phoenix, Ariz., said people who wish to appear must notify him in writing of their intention by Jan. 5. He can be addressed at First Southern Baptist Church, 3100 W. Camelback Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85017.

Presenters will be limited to 15 minutes but do not necessarily need to take all the time, Young said.(BP)

## Liberians remember slain missionary

Thousands of Liberians streamed into Yekepa, Liberia, three days after the

murder of Libby Senter to tell each other why they felt the Southern Baptist missionary was one of their own.

Mrs. Senter, Shelby, N. C., and her daughter, Rachel, 10, were stabbed to death in their Yekepa home Wednesday morning, Nov. 26. A Liberian, Benjamin M. Morris, 32, admitted to the murders two days later.

The Liberians paid tribute to Mrs. Senter during a wake, funeral and burial on the grounds of Mount Nimba Baptist Church Nov. 29 and 30. They told of her willingness to identify with them by learning their language and staying overnight in their homes as she worked with her husband in surrounding village churches.

Liberians started arriving at the church from throughout Nimba County for a wake lasting from 7:30 p.m. Nov. 29 until about 4 the next morning. About 3000 people attended the funeral service from 2:30 to nearly 5 p.m. Nov. 30.

Forgiveness was one topic the Liberians discussed widely among themselves. They were stunned as word got around that George Senter had placed his hand on Morris' shoulder, looked the accused murderer in the eyes and told him he forgave Morris for killing his wife and daughter.

One contributor to the wake spoke

of the daughter, Rachel, noting in her tribute Rachel's identification with the country. A teacher at the African Bible academy Rachel attended in Yekepa told about Rachel's answer to an assigned question, "How do you know you are a Christian?" Rachel answered that as she believed in Jesus Christ as her savior, her "heart felt satisfied"—a phrase typical of Liberian speech.(BP)

## NY court rejects church's appeal

The Supreme Court has rejected the claim of a United Methodist church in New York City that a municipal commission violated its religious freedom by designating it an official landmark subject to the panel's jurisdiction.

In a one-line order handed down Dec. 1, the high court upheld rulings by three New York state courts that the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission acted within the law in 1981 when it designated the Church of St. Paul and St. Andrew a landmark to be preserved. As such, the once thriving—but now impoverished—congregation came under the commission's authority.

Throughout an unsuccessful five-year challenge to its unwelcomed

status as an official landmark, attorneys for the church argued the New York City Landmarks Preservation Law—enacted in 1965—violated the U. S. Constitution's guarantee of free exercise of religion by subjecting the church to "immediate, criminally enforceable governmental restrictions" for refusing to repair the church.

By refusing to hear the church's case, the high court let stand the lower panels' rulings—including a 4-3 decision by New York's highest court—that the dispute was not "ripe" for judicial review because the landmarks commission had yet to attempt enforcement of the law on the church. Further, the lower courts held, the church had bypassed appealing application of the law to the commission itself by choosing instead to take the matter to court.

The Church of St. Paul and St. Andrew, located at West 86th Street and West End Avenue, was constructed in 1897. Although it once boasted a membership of 3000, current membership is 250, with a Sunday attendance of about 100. Throughout its dispute with the landmarks commission, the congregation has insisted it wishes to remain at the current site but is unable to raise the estimated \$350,000 needed to make the repairs required by the landmarks law.(BP)

# Peace group 'hammers out' reconciliation statements

Two "foundational" statements, a transitional statement and eight recommendations have been adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention peace committee during its 10th meeting in early December.

Chairman Charles Fuller said the two foundational statements "form the basis for reconciliation."

Fuller, pastor of First Baptist Church, Roanoke, Va., said the two statements were "hammered out" by the 22-member group during an "intense" meeting. He added they will form the basic foundation for the committee's report, which is expected to be unveiled in preliminary form at the Feb. 16-18 meeting of the SBC Executive Committee in Nashville, Tenn.

The foundational statements are: "It is the unanimous conclusion of the peace committee that the cause of peace within the Southern Baptist Convention will be greatly enhanced by the affirmation of the whole Bible as being 'not errant in any area of reality.'

"Therefore, we exhort the trustees and administrators of our seminaries and other agencies affiliated with or supported by the Southern Baptist Convention to faithfully discharge their responsibility to carefully preserve the doctrinal integrity of our institutions receiving our support, and only employ professional staff who believe in the divine inspiration of the whole Bible and that the Bible is 'truth without any mixture of error.'

"It is the unanimous conclusion of the peace committee that fairness in the appointive process will contribute to peace.

"Therefore, we exhort the present and future presidents of the Southern Baptist Convention, the committee on committees and the committee on boards to select nominees who endorse the Baptist Faith and Message state-

ment and are drawn in balanced fashion from the broad spectrum of loyal, cooperative Southern Baptists, representative of the diversity of our denomination."

The transitional statement says:

"We believe the beginning and continuation of a process which hopefully will resolve theological issues will diminish undesirable political activity.

"In order to minimize as much undesirable political activity as possible during this process, we recommend the following: . . ."

The group, by common consent, agreed to include in the final report a comment to "let the Bible speak for itself" on its nature, and cited the words of Moses (Deut. 4:2), David (Psalm 119:160), Jesus (Matt. 5:18), Paul (II Tim. 3:16) and John (Rev. 22:19).

Nine recommendations were presented for discussion by the peace committee's political activities subcommittee. Eight were adopted and one was referred back to the subcommittee "for further work." One other recommendation, which arose from the floor, was referred to the subcommittee.

The adopted recommendations are:

—**Recommendation One:** "That the members of the peace committee commit themselves to abstain from all overt political activities. We further request all political constituencies cease sending emissaries to instigate overt political activities in the Southern Baptist Convention.

"That we further request the leadership of all political constituencies to respond in writing to this recommendation of the SBC peace committee and that they abide by the report adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention in Atlanta, Ga., 1986, as follows:

"That the convention respectfully

request there be a one-year moratorium on theological/political position meetings and a deceleration, if not a dismantling, of the political power structures, allowing the peace committee and SBC agency leadership to work without distraction on the theological and political problems before us during the year 1986-87.

"That the convention deplore the use of the type of intemperate, inflammatory and unguarded language used by some spokesmen on both sides of the political spectrum."

—**Recommendation Two:** "We believe Baptist Press has sought to abide by the report of the SBC peace committee, adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention in Atlanta, 1986, and should be commended.

"We encourage the autonomous independent journals to abide by the report of the SBC peace committee . . . as follows:

"That the convention urge Baptist Press, the state Baptist papers and the independent journals to be especially careful to be fair and accurate in reporting events in the convention and refrain from labeling and attributing improper motives."

"We further encourage them to aid the peace committee in the peace process by positive and accurate reporting to their constituencies."

—**Recommendation Three:** "That the peace committee invite the editors of the state Baptist papers and Baptist Press to meet with the peace committee Wednesday afternoon, Feb. 18, 1987 . . ."

Fuller told Baptist Press the meeting will give the editors of the 37 state Baptist newspapers an opportunity for a "question and answer session. We will be looking for reaction to the preliminary report, inquiry. At that point, their input could be very helpful to us in working through our report, drafting and finalizing it."

—**Recommendation Four:** "That the peace committee request the executive committee of the Southern Baptist Convention to set a time in their agenda on Wednesday morning, Feb. 18, 1987, for the preliminary report of the peace committee and response by executive committee members."

—**Recommendation Five:** "In view of the fact that the Cooperative Program is the lifeline of all that we are doing as Southern Baptists, we commend our churches and state conventions for their increased giving to the Cooperative Program, and we encourage our people to continue their strong support of the Cooperative Program and urge that this trend continue."

—**Recommendation Six:** "That the SBC peace committee request the SBC resolutions committee to continue its policy of not presenting resolutions that are divisive in Southern Baptist life."

—**Recommendation Seven:** "We recommend that the president of the Pastor's Conference and the chairman of the Forum enter into a discussion concerning getting back together."

—**Recommendation Eight:** "That the peace committee commend the SBC president as he continues to seek input from all constituencies in the Southern Baptist convention and exercises fairness in naming members of the SBC committee on committees."

The recommendations which were referred back to the political activities subcommittee were proposals having to do with the nomination of the SBC president and a suggestion on how to move the convention back to a more open nomination process without political party-style endorsements of candidates.

The committee also asked the subcommittee to look into suggestions determining how "fairness" can be obtained in appointments and nominations.(BP)



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

## oneida journal

### "The devil's workshop"

It is an absolutely beautiful sunny Saturday morning as I write this column.

Oneida students are off in many directions this weekend morning. The first bus load out were a number of our top students to take the important national SAT exam, so important in the college application process. Our group had to go to the Berea College campus.

Supervising these students today is our outstanding guidance counselor, Myrtle Cooke. A student here three years, Myrtle was our 1960 valedictorian.

Next out were two excited bus loads of our marching band to march in the Lexington Christmas parade this afternoon. Tomorrow afternoon they will march in the Clay County parade. Several weeks ago they marched in the Eastern Kentucky University Homecoming parade and were spotlighted on the evening TV news. We have been so very proud of them since their first wonderful marching performance at our homecoming in early October.

Then off went a bus load of our wrestlers for their first meet of the season with Danville. I have never seen such workouts as they have done in preparation. Co-captains are Paul Brewer and Tre Lundquist. Paul has previously qualified for state championship meets in Alaska and Kentucky as his father has moved about with the Air

Force. Paul was a key member of our academic team that received the "best delegation" award at the 42nd annual Kentucky Youth Assembly. Tre has been with us three years from Orlando, Florida. Coach of the team is Darrell Hensley, a 1979 OBI graduate who went on to graduate from Cumberland and finished a three-year Army tour with the rank of First Lieutenant. Darrell is an outstanding Christian young man who made his profession of faith here as a boy. Raised in New York state, his is a Kentucky mountain heritage as both his father and grandfather and many other relatives attended Oneida. His youngest brother, whose home is now in Montana, is an OBI senior and a part of the wrestling program.

Bryan Station of Lexington is bringing their junior varsity and varsity girls basketball teams here today. We have an excellent girls team coached by Margaret Adkins, teaching with us now for three years. Margaret's father and mother met and married on the OBI campus when I was a freshman student here. Her mother was my English teacher and her father was dean of boys. Now another generation serves the Lord at Oneida.

Normally we take a bus load of students into Manchester on Saturday afternoons to rollerskate. Each pays so much and the money helps fund a summer missionary under the auspices of the Baptist Student Union, which was started on our campus in 1950.

Also on the schedule for today is a movie, the musical "Annie" for the nearly 400 students who aren't off somewhere else.

Normally we have varying middle school, freshman and junior varsity basketball games here or away, as well as boys varsity, but not so today.

Looking across the valley from my office window, I can see the new 3000 square foot farm shop under construction. Also a similar size addition is being made to our Craft House which we have outgrown after only two years.

We are rushing to complete a new apartment on Little Bullskin Creek, three miles from our main campus, for a couple who are coming to join our staff two weeks from now. Four other new staff members, three of them to be married during the Christmas holidays, will join our staff for the new semester.

A lot of cornpicking, much mopping and waxing, some painting, and much other work will get done today. We believe in keeping our girls and boys busy. An idle mind is the devil's workshop.



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

## sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR DEC. 21, 1986

### Life and Work Series

#### A Savior, Christ the Lord

**Luke 1:26-28, 30-31** Mary, a godly Jewish maiden, and Joseph, a young carpenter, were betrothed. Joseph and Mary were looking forward to their coming nuptials.

To the surprise of Mary, the angel suddenly appeared in her presence, while she was yet a virgin, and informed her she had been chosen as the one to conceive and become the mother of a child, whose name would be "Jesus," (Isaiah 7:14).

**Luke 1:38** Convinced, Mary submissively presented herself to God and said: "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word." Mary's response to God's expression will merit our highest commendation. Mary proved she was a woman of great faith, spiritual depth and obedience.

**Luke 2:7** Joseph and Mary went to Bethlehem. Lodging in the inn was not available, so Joseph and Mary were granted permission to stay in the stable. There, Mary "brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn."

**Luke 2:8-11, 16** While the shepherds guarded their sheep, an angel appeared to them, and they were frightened. The angel told the shepherds to stop being

afraid. The angel revealed to them the most wonderful news ever given, the coming of the savior into the world. The angelic hosts sang the praises of God because of his gift of the prince who had come to bring peace. The shepherds went to see the savior, and were filled with awe and joy as they gazed upon him.

### International Series

#### Born to redeem

**Luke 2:6-7** In obedience to the decree of Caesar Augustus, Joseph and Mary went to Bethlehem that the scriptures might be fulfilled with reference to the birth of the savior. While they were still in Bethlehem, "the days were accomplished that she should be delivered." "She brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn." Lack of hospitality was the experience of our Lord throughout his earthly ministry. Every one of us should make room for Christ in our lives no matter who else or what else must go.

**John 1:14-18** When Christ came into the world the masses rejected him, but there were individuals who received him and became the children of God. Christ was both divine and human. He exemplified grace and truth. Among the witnesses that he was "perfect God and perfect man," were John the Baptist and John the writer of the gospel.

**Galatians 4:4-7** These verses announce the birth of Christ or the incarnation of deity. The savior arrived exactly on time.

The time when Christ was born was very much like our own era—people were disillusioned and desperate. They discarded the accredited religion as something that was outworn and of no further use, and readily accepted anything offered to them as substitute.

The real purpose of the incarnation of Christ was to make atonement for sin. When we become the children of God through the redemption in his son, we are the recipients of his love, care and discipline.

**Hebrews 2:14-18** Christ died an ignominious death that every true believer in him might receive forgiveness and salvation from sin. The blessed assurance of admission to heaven, of living with the Lord Jesus who saved us and of enjoying reunion with our loved ones have been made possible for us because of what Christ, our savior and Lord, accomplished for us.



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

## on mission together

### My Christmas Button

It was late Monday night when I left the building following the second session of our Executive Board meeting. I pulled into Super America about 10:30 p.m. for a fill up. The round trip to speak at the First Baptist Church of Whitesburg the day before had left the fuel gauge menacingly near empty. As I walked inside to pay, the two young female attendants were smiling and chatting about Christmas gifts—reminding me, unintentionally, that I still had some shopping to do.

That conversation also reminded me

that I had several Christmas tapes in the car. Driving eastward on U. S. 60, I played the tape that Shawn, our teenage daughter, had lovingly given me as a surprise gift only a few days before. It was waiting by my pillow on an evening that Alice and I came in late.

I must confess that something "happens" to me to begin each Christmas season. I simply can't make myself turn Christmas on. I have a "Christmas button" and something or someone has to punch that button. Since as far back as I can remember it always happens. I always anticipate it, but never know exactly when. I wasn't anticipating it on this particular night, tired as I was.

A number of homes in Shelbyville had weeks before Thanksgiving put lights in the windows. I had been hearing Christmas music now for several weeks. And I had been at home for at least one of our traditional Advent Sunday meals and the lighting of the candles. Still, I was waiting. With the tape playing "The Gift of Love," a number 1 replayed

several times on the way home, I drove up into the driveway. **And it happened.** Our lights were in the windows, the wreath and evergreens were on the door. I marveled at how in the world Alice was able to get it done, having spent more than half a day with me at the board meeting! I cut off the engine but left on the music, sitting there in the night looking at our lighted home.

My mind journeyed through the past and I had visits with some loved ones now long gone—mother and daddy; grandmother and granddaddy; our old home place; granddaddy's store; our first married Christmas in Bethlehem of Judea; three children, once tiny, now grown; and the "memory parade" marched on.

I walked into the house, grabbed Alice and gave her the biggest hug and kiss that I could muster, thanking her for the surprise she didn't know she was preparing for me that night. She had no idea she had just punched my Christmas button.

# BSSB curriculum writer plays part; doesn't look it

by Terri Lackey

It would be easy to mistake Rebecca Saunders Hayes for a model in a Noxzema commercial. She hardly looks the part of a 39-year-old wife of 17 years and the mother of three children.

No, Mrs. Hayes does not model skin

products on television. She writes for Southern Baptists—after she's sent the children off to school, that is.

Mrs. Hayes was at the Baptist Sunday School Board recently for a Church Training youth writers' conference. Approximately 500 Southern Baptists write Sunday school, Church Training

and church music curriculum for the board each year.

A Warrenton, Va. resident, Mrs. Hayes has written for BSSB periodicals for 12 years and is presently writing a unit which will appear in the three youth Church Training periodicals, *Youth Alive*, *Youth Disciple* and *Baptist Youth*. She is also the author of a book to be published in January by Broadman, *Grant Me a Portion: Models in Christian Growth*.

Martha Jo Glazner, coordinating editor in the youth Church Training Department and editor of *Youth Alive*, said Mrs. Hayes is "such a quality writer and she has the time to do it. She feels very committed, very serious about her work. It's her bivocation; her children are her vocation."

When Mrs. Hayes writes for youth Church Training, it is out of personal experience. She has been the Church Training director at Warrenton (Va.) Baptist Church "for the past three or four years." And before that, she led a youth class in Church Training.

A public high school teacher from 1969-74, Mrs. Hayes said, "The reason I got into this (curriculum writing) in part is because I've always had a real interest in education and theology. I wanted to put these two interests together and develop curriculum. But, if I had to support our family with it, we'd all be a lot thinner," Mrs. Hayes quip-

ped.

"In a sense, I really did feel called—because of my strong interest in education and theology, and because I have the economic freedom," she said. Her husband, Troy, is presently the main breadwinner.

*"I've always had a real interest in education and theology. I wanted to put those two interests together and develop curriculum."*

Mrs. Hayes said also she feels curriculum writing is her niche because of the unique guidelines. "There are very definite specifications you have to follow in curriculum writing. You have to write toward learning needs which must be worked into a session," Mrs. Hayes said. "That's what makes curriculum writing different from leisure writing."

Mrs. Hayes said she also enjoys the research that goes into curriculum writing and the opportunity to explore many subjects.

Mrs. Hayes said because she is a "fairly methodical" person, she is able to write three units a year for the board by setting aside three mornings a week.

"I find I go to that time totally uninspired, but I generate inspiration when I get there," she said. "I have this image of a writer bursting with inspiration. To me, a writer is a person who wakes up in the middle of the night and writes everything down."



Martha Jo Glazner (l), coordinating editor in the Baptist Sunday School Board's Church Training Department, and Rebecca Saunders Hayes, youth curriculum writer, discuss guidelines for a specific unit.

## Southwestern students gain experience in summer Gulf Coast ministries

by Mark Wingfield

Bobby Gilstrap and Clark Stricklin struck out for the Gulf Coast this past summer to get ministerial experience.

Gilstrap survived one hurricane, directed five visiting youth groups, worked in 13 churches, preached three tent revivals, taught 40 youth Bible studies, helped with six vacation Bible schools and lived to tell about two Girls in Action camps.

Stricklin's itinerary was similar.

The two Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary students were mission evangelists for Texas' Gulf Coast Baptist Association. They were among hundreds of seminary students who scattered around the nation this summer to gain practical ministry experience.

Jack Chastain, a Southwestern graduate and director of missions for the Gulf Coast association, said he used Southwestern students "almost exclusively" in his summer program.

Chastain's association invites youth groups from other churches to come to south Texas for week-long mission trips throughout the summer. They work in Bible schools, revivals and other evangelism efforts.

The seminary students direct the groups' activities at each church, preach the revivals and stay with the youths at night in church fellowship halls and classrooms.

Hurricane Bonnie greeted Gilstrap and Stricklin in their first weeks on the coast. They immediately began preparations for ministry to those affected by the storm. But at the last minute Bonnie diverted in another direction, missing Galveston.

Because of the two students' work, "many small churches are able to have

vacation Bible school and youth revivals they otherwise would not have," said Elree Smithart, camp administrator for the Texas Baptist Encampment at Palacios.

By summer's end, Gilstrap said they had witnessed about 175 decisions for salvation and 100 rededications.

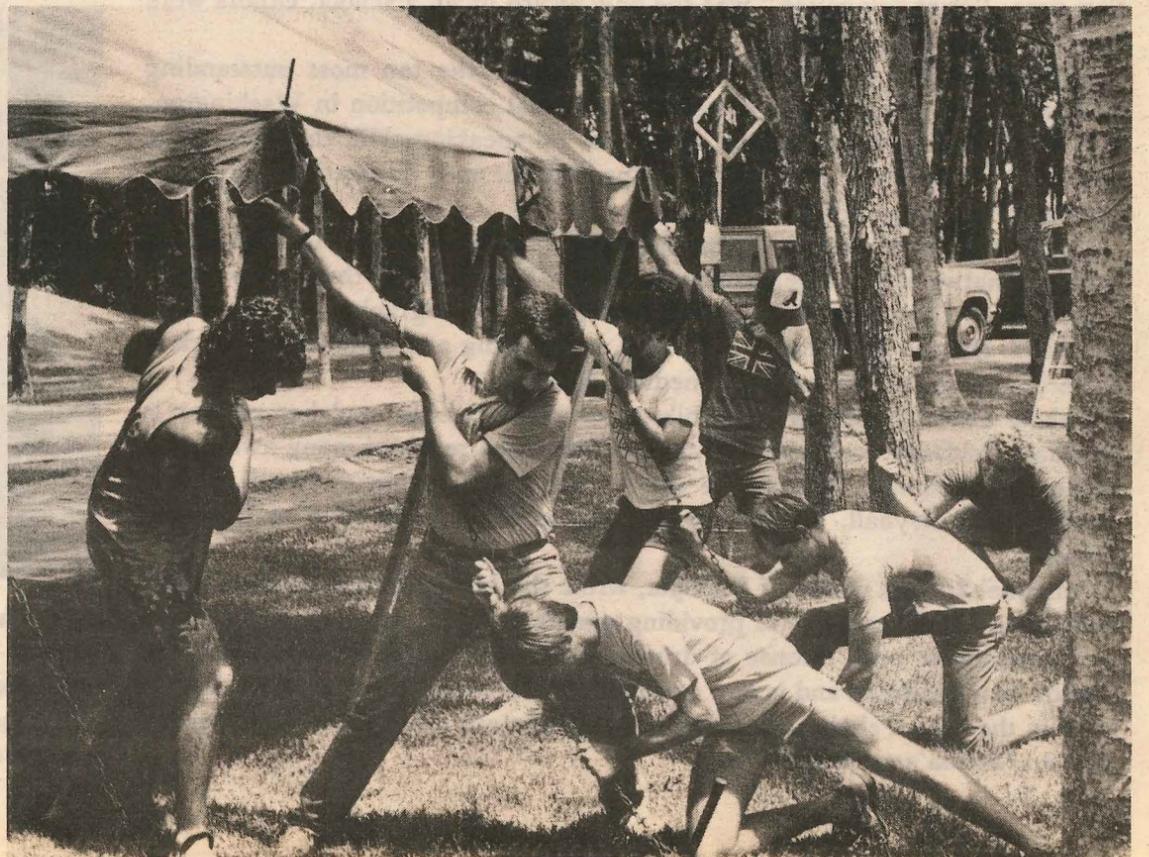
Just as important as their own witness to the lost was the direction Gilstrap and Stricklin gave youths in sharing their faith, Gilstrap said.

"This is the only missions experience many of these kids will ever have," he said. "We work really hard to try to make it a positive mission experience."

In return, the seminary students make a positive learning experience for themselves.

"It is hard work," Chastain said. "But it must be one of the finest on-the-job training programs available."

**Bobby Gilstrap (second from left) and a group of youths raise a tent for revival services near Texas' Gulf Coast this summer. Gilstrap and Clark Stricklin, both students at Southwestern Seminary, worked with the Texas Gulf Coast Baptist Association as evangelists/missionaries this summer. The two also directed visiting church youth groups that volunteered for week-long mission trips in the association.**



# ONEIDA DELEGATION VOTED HIGHEST HONORS AT KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY



Chosen "best delegation" were Oneida students Debbie Cooke, and standing l. to r: Amanuel Sima, Troy Miller, Solomon Makonnen, Neil Thompson, Jay Sanderson and Paul Brewer.

Seven students from Oneida Baptist Institute were voted the "best delegation" award at the 42nd Senior Kentucky Youth Assembly November 20-22.

The annual 3-day assembly sponsored by the Kentucky YMCA is patterned after the General Assembly of Kentucky and meets in the Assembly chambers in the State Capitol. Occupying the same seats recently vacated by adult elected representatives, the students become members of the House, the Senate, and other government representatives. Bills are written by each delegation, debated in Joint Committee, and in the House and Senate.

Over 600 delegates represented the various participating schools of Kentucky. Oneida was the second smallest school and was participating for the first time. "Best delegation" was the only award given a school. Others were individual awards.

OBI senior Neil Thompson was chosen one of the ten most outstanding delegates. Neil will go on to compete in national competition in Washington. Neil was judged, as were all the delegates, on speaking skill, thinking, poise and self confidence, knowledge of procedure and interaction with and consideration of the other delegates.

Neil is captain of Oneida's Academic team and was the Oneida delegation leader. A native of Pikeville, Neil has been an OBI student for three years. He is a member of the school choir and ensemble and photographer for the school yearbook. He also assists with the sound engineering and audio-visual work of the school. His parents are both medical doctors.

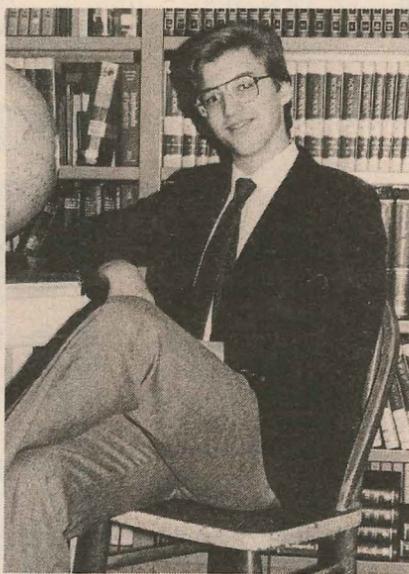
Debbie Cooke's parents met while students at Oneida, and her mother is Oneida's guidance counselor. A junior, Debbie has received many awards for academic excellence. Not only is she on the varsity academic team, she is involved in volleyball, softball, band, choir and the Federation of Christian Athletes.

Amanuel Sima, a native of Ethiopia, wrote the bill presented by the Oneida delegation for the purpose of providing mandatory and ever-increasing stiffer punishments for each offense of driving while intoxicated. Amanuel came to Oneida as a freshman and is now president of the Junior class. A tenor, he has been in the school choir and chosen for the all-state choir. This is his second year on Oneida's academic team.

Troy Miller came to Oneida as a 7th grader and is now a junior. A native of Floyd County he has been the "top" student of his class since enrolling here. Last year he advanced to the state tournament in academic team competition. Troy has been involved in cross-country and basketball for several years, and presently keeps statistics for the varsity basketball team. As an 8th grader he won the Clay County spelling bee.

Solomon Makonnen, a native of Ethiopia, came to Oneida as a seventh grader and is also a junior. His father is an international civil servant, an employee of the United Nations, who has served in the Senegal and is now in the Zambia. Solomon, an outstanding soccer player, received the coach's award this season. He also runs track and competes with our academic team.

Jay Sanderson was an infant when he came to Oneida with his parents, John and Hannah Sanderson, from their work as foreign missionaries in Trinidad. All of Jay's school years have been in the local elementary school and he is in his junior year at Oneida Baptist. Always an honor student, Jay is active on the varsity academic team, runs cross-country and track, and keeps statistics for the varsity basketball team.

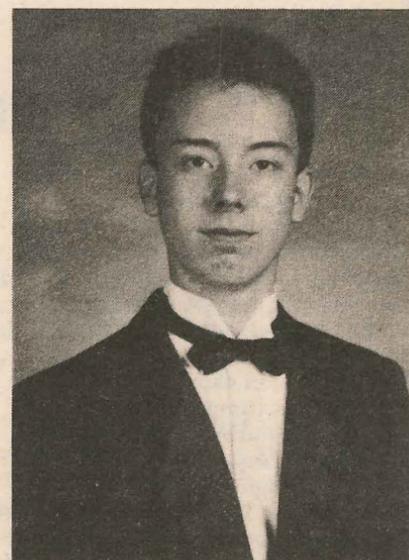


Neil Thompson, Captain of the Oneida Academic Team and one of Kentucky's "top ten" outstanding delegates chosen to compete in Washington, D.C.

Paul Brewer is a senior from London, Kentucky where his father pastors the Mill Street Baptist Church and also attends Clear Creek Baptist School. Paul is captain of Oneida's wrestling team and has qualified for the state championship tournament in prior schools in Kentucky and Alaska where his father finished a 20-year career with the Air Force before being ordained a Baptist minister. He is an outstanding speaker and was a top competitor for outstanding delegate.

## ONEIDA TO BE ON TV

A televised quiz competition between the academic teams of Oneida and Wolfe County will be shown on Sunday, February 1 at 10 a.m. on Lexington station WLEX, channel 18.



## WILLIS SELECTED

Matt Willis, a senior at Oneida Baptist Institute, has been selected by audition for the all-regional band for the 15 county southeastern region.

Matt, a three year OBI student from Central City, is most proficient on the trombone but can play all the varying band instruments. He is also active in the Oneida choir and has traveled over 8,000 miles in concert in the past two years. He has been the stage manager for several Oneida drama productions.