



Colvin



Harris



Lowrie



Pleitz



Poe



Sanders



Shelton



Taylor

Evangelism conference set at E'town Feb. 23-24

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

Program personalities for the state evangelism conference were announced this week by Jay Brown, director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Evangelism Department.

Theme of the meeting is "Enriched by Heritage, Encouraged by Hope."

The two-day event will be held Feb. 23-24 at Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown.

Sessions are set for Monday at 2 and 7 p.m. and Tuesday at 9 a.m., 2 and 7 p.m.

Three speakers will address the conference at four of the sessions, with four speakers Tuesday morning. The speakers will rotate among the various sessions, several of them delivering two or three addresses.

They include A. B. Colvin, Richard Harris, D. L. Lowrie, James Pleitz, Hal Poe, Perry Sanders, T. Hicks Shelton and Eldred M. Taylor.

Colvin, Louisville, currently Kentucky Baptist Convention president, is retired from a career spanning nearly three decades as a denominational servant. He was executive associate of the KBC upon retirement in summer 1985. He had also been director of the Missions and Evangelism Department. Earlier, he filled Kentucky pastorates in Williamstown, Covington and Lebanon. Born in Grant County, Ky., he is a graduate of the University of Kentucky, Lexington, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

Harris is director of the Mass Evangelism Department, Home Mission Board, Atlanta. A native of Somerset, Ky., he is a graduate of Cumberland College, Williamsburg; Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond; and Southwest-

ern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex. He was pastor of Maxey Baptist Church, Paris, Tex., 1973-77, and Burgin (Ky.) Baptist Church, 1977-81, before becoming associate director of the department he now leads, 1981-82.

Lowrie was born at Bluff City, Tenn., and holds degrees from East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, and Southwestern Seminary. Since 1980 he has been pastor of First Baptist Church, Lubbock, Tex., having served six previous pastorates in Tennessee and Texas.

Pleitz, pastor of Park Cities Baptist Church, Dallas, Tex., graduated from Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark., and Southern Seminary. His pastorates include First Baptist Church, Bentonville, Ark., 1953-55; Grandvenue Baptist Church, Ft. Smith, Ark., 1955-59; and First Baptist Church, Pensacola, Fla., 1959-77.

Poe is associate in the KBC's Evangelism Department, Middletown. The Greenville, S. C. native holds degrees from the University of South Carolina, Columbia, and Southern Seminary. A former prison chaplain at the Kentucky State Reformatory, LaGrange, Poe pastored Simpsonville (Ky.) Baptist Church, 1982-86.

Sanders is also a South Carolinian by birth, from Allendale. Now pastor of First Baptist Church, Lafayette, La., which he has served since 1959, he earlier filled five other pulpits in Alabama and Louisiana Baptist churches. Sanders is a graduate of Bob Jones College, Cleveland, Tenn., and New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary.

Shelton retired in 1976 after an 11-year career as director of the KBC Evangelism Department. His pastorates include First Baptist Church, Ludlow, 1946-50, and Latonia Baptist Church,

Covington, 1950-65, and several churches in western Kentucky and around Louisville. He was born at Murray and educated at Georgetown (Ky.) College and Southern Seminary.

Taylor is executive director of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, Middletown. He pastored First Baptist Church, Somerset, 23 years, after earlier being director of the KBC Missions and Evangelism Department. He is a native of Daviess County and a graduate of Eastern Kentucky University and Southern Seminary.

Several musicians will be featured during the two-day evangelism conference, according to Brown. They include Jenny Tanner, Nashville; the Cobb Family, Louisville; Kentucky Baptist Men's Chorale; Duane Fitzpatrick, Louisville; Julie Eaton, Campbellsville; Dana Davidson, Lexington; and Mr. and Mrs. Allen Case, Elizabethtown.

Conservatives start missions entity

by Marv Knox

A group of conservative Southern Baptists has created a missions organization designed to start churches. Chartered by two pastors and a layman, the Genesis Commission will recruit and finance like-minded pastors, who will plant Baptist churches, primarily in foreign countries.

Commission leaders are Bill Darnell, formerly pastor of Kirby Woods Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., and now executive director of the commission; John Morgan, pastor of Sagemont Baptist Church, Houston; and Randy Best, lay member of Second Baptist Church, Houston.

Also on the board of the new organization, which had its first board meeting in November, is Paige Patterson, president of Criswell Center for Biblical Studies, Dallas.

Both Darnell and Patterson declined to name other board members. Patterson commented it is "very premature to say very much about it since it is in such an infant stage."

"Now we're targeting Mexico for

church planting work, using national pastors indigenous to their areas," Darnell explained, noting the Genesis Commission hopes to launch between 20 and 30 new churches in 1987. "We'd like to start thousands of churches (in a variety of countries). But we want 30 this year," he said.

Patterson told Baptist Press: "I think the general disposition of the guys on the board is that while we will have certain specific interest areas, we wouldn't say no to funding anybody who wants to start a church anywhere. I don't really see any limitations as far as where we will work."

The organization will be headquartered in Houston when Darnell moves his family there after the school year ends next summer, he said.

"We have targeted all the theological schools in Mexico," he said. "We will fly in and visit with the administrative staffs and get some of their best graduates, and we hope to use those guys. We'll help them financially and we'll have a weaning process so they'll be on their own in four or five years."

All preachers will be Baptists, Darnell said. He noted the "weaning process"—similar to the Baptist Home Mission Board's church pastoral aid program, in which a church gets a decreased pastoral supplement each year as its ability to support a minister increases—as well as small staff will enable the commission to support a maximum number of mission pastors.

To ensure its stability, the commission has received "a pledge of a certain amount of money to run our organization for 10 years," Darnell said, declining to cite the specific source or sources of the money and its exact amount. He said it is "around" \$2 million, "maybe a little more."

"That amount will run the organiza-

tion for 10 years so any other money we raise can go directly to starting churches," he noted. "That money (for starting other churches) will be secured in other ways."

Some observers have warned the new mission effort might conflict with the Baptist Foreign Mission Board, as well as the board's Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions and the Southern Baptist Convention's Cooperative Program.

Darnell denied such an interpretation of the commission's activity: "We're not in competition with the Foreign Mission Board. That's false. We just want to win people to Jesus. We're all Southern Baptists, and we're all excited."

Patterson expressed concern about the FMB's "restrictive regulations" about the appointment of persons who have graduated from schools other than the six Southern Baptist seminaries. Currently, the FMB requires persons desiring appointment who have not graduated from one of the SBC schools but who have graduate degrees to spend a year at one of the SBC institutions prior to appointment.

"If they (the FMB) persist in the present policy they had better get ready for a proliferation of organizations for appointing and sustaining missionaries because if a man is called to foreign missions and the Foreign Mission Board says no, folks are going to find a way to go. We do not, however, see Genesis as doing that (appointing and supporting missionaries)," Patterson added.

Foreign Mission Board president R. Keith Parks has said he would like to visit with Genesis Commission leaders, and Darnell said he would welcome such a meeting. "We're very open," Darnell said, acknowledging they have had difficulty finding a suitable date for both sides to come together but adding, "That would be an exciting meeting." (BP)

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January 13, 1987

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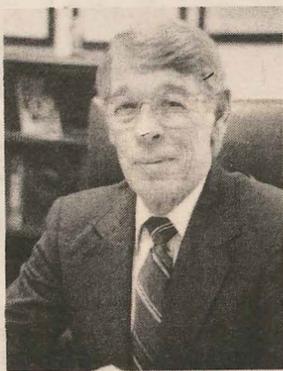
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Honeycutt, Sr. Dies

Roy L. Honeycutt, Sr., 83, father of Roy L. Honeycutt, Jr., president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, died Monday, Jan. 5 in Grenada, Miss. following an illness of several months. Funeral services were held Wednesday, Jan. 7 in Grenada.

A retired farmer and businessman, Honeycutt was a member of First Baptist Church, Grenada.

He is also survived by his wife, the former Gladys Carpenter, and another son, John Honeycutt, Huntsville, Ala.



Jack D. Sanford

sanford's perspectives

Western Recorder asked Barry G. Allen, acting executive secretary-treasurer of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation to write the following editorial to call attention to the denominational emphasis on will making during January.

Every Christian Should Have a Christian Will

Every attorney and financial advisor you ask will advise you without hesitation you should have a will.

Perhaps you have put it off or you had one drawn up years ago and have not thought much of it since. January is Make Your Will Month on the denominational calendar. Why not take the opportunity now to make a will or review your existing one? The Kentucky Baptist Foundation encourages every Kentucky Baptist, whatever your age or financial status, to make a will without delay. Furthermore, the Foundation suggests you make a Christian will, a will that goes beyond the usual distribution of property.

Since the purpose of a Christian will is to make provision for those you love and those who love you, then it must make some provision for Christ and his work. This does not mean you should neglect your family. In a Christian will there is no conflict between providing for your family and for your Lord.

As Christians we understand everything belongs to God and we are simply managers/stewards of all we possess. Many Christians are amazed

to find they can do far more in stewardship after death than they have ever been able to do during a lifetime. Making a Christian will is a blessed opportunity with exciting possibilities and in a strange way you will be the first beneficiary. Then there are many Baptist causes in Kentucky and around the world that can benefit from your generosity.

Since a will is a legal document it should be prepared by a qualified and competent attorney. The Foundation can assist you by helping you work through the important decisions involved in your will. While we do not prepare wills we will work with your attorney or recommend one to you. Feel free to contact us at Box 43433, Middletown, 40243 (502-245-4101).

Every Christian family needs to seriously consider the Lord's claim and the Lord's blessings to them, including their accumulated estate. Consider prayerfully what God would have you do. Don't put it off. Decide to make or amend your will to provide for your favorite Baptist cause(s). Let the Lord be among the loved ones you remember.

—Barry G. Allen

A Good Beginning

It was a thrilling moment on the first Sunday of the new year to hear our pastor announce our church had gone over our Lottie Moon offering goal.

Real progress has been made by our church these past three years in mission giving. We had a \$17,000 goal in 1984, a \$25,000 goal in 1985 and a \$35,000 goal in 1986. We missed the 1984 goal but have exceeded the 1986 goal which is reason to shout in praise and gladness.

All of us present last Sunday felt the joy of being a Baptist and sharing with millions of our fellow Christians in the selfless act of giving for the salvation of lost men and women around the world. Across the Southern Baptist Convention a strong commitment to foreign missions has continued to be the hallmark of our denomination. This in itself is reason to be happy in the Lord, for missions is at the very heart of God.

We hear so much negative grumbling and so much criticism of what is happening in the churches these days that it is like a fresh breeze of hope to learn we are doing some things right. Our gifts to missions, the hundreds of thousands of volunteers who give time each week and the continuing support of the church by scores of otherwise unknown people make us pause and

thank God we are part of the Baptist family. These good things are happening all the time, but little attention is paid this part of our life in Christ.

Our church is not alone in reaching worthy mission goals nor is our church alone in counting many honest, sincere people who do the work of Christ without thought of reward week by week. We share these good qualities with thousands of other churches in Kentucky and across the land. But it makes you feel good and stirs you to do even more for Christ when your pastor happily announces achievement in an important area of ministry and you know you had a part in that work of faith.

Perhaps we could all resolve during 1987 to be more alert to the good things we are doing in our churches and talk about them rather than the negative. If we would make as much of the good as we do of the bad we would see less of the bad and reflect more of the Christ whom we profess to follow.

May the good news of victory and achievement increase for all of us as this new year unfolds. We have had a good beginning in the new year in our church and we pray that good beginning continues, not only for us, but for all our Baptist brothers and sisters.

western recorder

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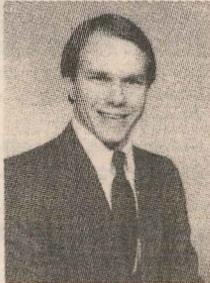
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mountains to the mississippi



Booth



Jimmerson

personnel

Bobby Jackson Jr. has accepted the call to pastor Sulphur Springs Baptist Church, Ohio River Association.

James Oates has resigned at Carrsville Baptist Church, Ohio River Association.

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

J. Spurgeon Hays has been called as pastor of Central Baptist Church, Lexington, Elkhorn Association.

Steve Cook has resigned the pastorate of Franklin Street Baptist Church, Long Run Association.

Kenneth Hollis has been called as pastor of Plum Creek Baptist Church, Long Run Association.

Herbert Booth, (see picture) is chairman of the northern area of the North Central Region in Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children's Beyond This Time endowment campaign.

He will work with Eldred Taylor and Mike Bryant, statewide campaign chairman. The northern area campaign will be conducted Jan. 19 to Mar. 27, 1987.

Eddie Doty has accepted the call to pastor Browder's Chapel, Liberty Association.

Russell Lievers is the new pastor of Horse Cave Baptist Church, Liberty Association.

C. W. Barnhill Jr. has been called as pastor of Antioch Baptist Church, West Kentucky Association.

Tony Harrison is interim pastor of Liberty Baptist Church, West Kentucky Association.

Scott Wilson has resigned the pastorate of Sassafras Ridge Baptist Church, West Kentucky Association.

Bob and Joyce Kersey have celebrated 20 years of service to First Baptist Church, Paducah, West Union Association.

He has been there in several capacities, currently associate pastor.

Robin L. Jimmerson (see picture) has become pastor of Campbellsburg (Ky.) Baptist Church. He goes to Campbellsburg from First Baptist Church, Chamblee in Atlanta, Ga., where he was associate pastor.

A graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Jimmerson has pastored churches in Alabama, Kentucky, Indiana and Georgia. He is married to the former Sharon Connors of Jefferson-town, Ky.

William Carter began duties as pastor of Memorial Baptist Church, Frankfort, Franklin Association, Jan. 11. He was a pastor in Indianapolis, Ind.

Carter is a native of Sturgis, Ky. and a graduate of Georgetown (Ky.) College and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville. He will receive the DMin degree from Luther Rice Seminary in May.

Lewis Jennings, pastor of Poplar Grove Baptist Church, Russell Springs, has accepted the pastorate of Potecasi (N. C.) Baptist Church. He was formerly a staff member of Clear Creek Baptist School 19½ years.

Buron L. Richardson will retire Jan. 31 as pastor of Trenton Baptist Church, Bethel Association. He pastored First Baptist Church, Hazard, Calvert City, and LaCenter, spending more than 43 years in the ministry.

He will be living in Murray and will be available for interim work and pulpit supply.

Douglas Bunch is the new pastor of Oakland Avenue Baptist Church, Covington, Northern Kentucky Association. He began Jan. 1.

Jackie Thomason has been called as pastor by Saloma Baptist Church, Taylor County Association. He and his wife June are from Sims, Ill.

Thomason is attending Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, and his wife is a student at Campbellsville College. Their first Sunday at Saloma was Dec. 14.

congregations

West Pineville Baptist Church, Bell Association, recently celebrated its 50th anniversary.

Organized in 1936 as a mission of Pineville First Baptist, the church has weathered several floods and is now awaiting construction of the floodwall in Pineville.

Bruce Wilmoth is pastor.

Grant's Lick Baptist Church, Northern Kentucky Baptist Association, marked 15 years of tenure for pastor Bill Barnard with a dinner Dec. 7.

The Baptist Young Women sponsored the pot luck meal and the congregation presented Barnard with some new clothes.



The first southern Kentucky handbell festival was held Nov. 14 at First Baptist Church, Bowling Green. The festival attracted 12 handbell choirs from across the region. Dean Gray, minister of music at Hartford Baptist Church directed the massed group in rehearsal and ringing of four selections, using an organ, a brass group and congregational singing. The program climaxed with the "Hallelujah Chorus."

'Til He Comes

cates we have responsibilities to be carried out until our Lord's return. In Luke 19 is recorded the parable of the pounds. The nobleman delivered to his servants 10 pounds and said, "Occupy 'til I come." This means responsibility is given. They were stewards of his business. Likewise, we are stewards of our Lord and are to be about his business " 'til he comes."

There are many facets of God's work. Whether it is missions, education or benevolence, such as the care of dependent/neglected children, the purpose is the same—to present the claims of Jesus Christ and advance his kingdom. We are to occupy this responsibility 'til he comes. There is no letup. We will not be finished until our Lord returns and says, "It is enough."

This current year offers two points of excitement and opportunity for Kentucky Baptists and all who care about children who are in need. First, we can be justly proud of our ministry to dependent/neglected children through Baptist Homes for Children. Your prayer and

ordinations

Charles David Ransdell was ordained to the ministry Nov. 16 by Westview Baptist Church, Frankfort, Franklin Association.

Nancy Carruthers, Ted Carruthers, Mike McCormick, Doyle Walls and Jerry Walls were ordained as deacons of Finchville Baptist Church, Shelby Association Nov. 16.

Clay Smith is pastor.

Edward Garrett, Carlos Jennings, Leon Jessie and George Shipley were ordained as deacons Dec. 7 at Grace Union Baptist Church, Liberty Association.

Larry Noe is pastor.

Malcolm Gardner and Leland Hogue were ordained as deacons at Little Bethel Baptist Church, Liberty Association.

Gary Talley is pastor.

Mike Barnes, Barry Holder Jr. and Kelly Oliver were ordained as deacons Nov. 30 at Crestwood Baptist Church, Frankfort, Franklin Association.

Bob Brown and Ronnie Skaggs were ordained as deacons by Kosmosdale Baptist Church, Long Run Association, Nov. 30.

George H. Martin is pastor.



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

homes for children

In Paul's letter to the Corinthians he wrote concerning the Lord's Supper. In chapter 11, verse 26 he wrote: "For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death 'til he come."

This is not only a remembrance of the sacrificial death of Jesus, but it indi-

financial support of this work is indeed a blessing to great numbers of hurting children. Let us thank God for what is being done.

But what about tomorrow? Who will support this ministry after we are gone? To be sure, the needs of children who are neglected/deserted/dependent will be with us until Jesus returns. Therefore, Baptist Homes for Children is offering a second point of opportunity for all who love and care for children. To insure a strong ministry for these children tomorrow requires an increased endowment. To accomplish this we are entering a Beyond This Time campaign to raise a minimum of three million dollars for endowment. Gifts for endowment will remain intact, occupying and working until Jesus comes. Each year the earnings from endowment will help support this ministry of caring for children " 'til he comes."

Please join us in prayer for this campaign and watch for further information about how you can be a part of this ministry Beyond This Time.

christian education

Golden Gate holds commencement for 68

In its annual mid-session commencement on Dec. 16, Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary conferred degrees upon 68 students. The graduation ceremony included awarding the seminary's first doctor of philosophy degree and Golden Gate's first doctor of ministry degree conferred upon a woman. One Kentuckian, Paula McCain Dickson of Owensboro, received an associate of divinity degree.

Searcy receives NOBTS diploma

Timothy Lewis Searcy, Winchester, Ky., received the MRE degree Dec. 20 at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Searcy, minister of education at St. Bernard Baptist Church, Chelmette, La., is married to Brenda Barrett, Winchester, Ky. He is the son of Mrs. Lewis Searcy, Washington, Ky.

Searcy's home church is Corinth Baptist, Winchester, Ky. He holds the BA degree from Lincoln Memorial University, Harrogate, Tenn. and the BTh degree from Pineville, Ky.

Book is first for Southern Baptists

When Tim Lines' **Systemic Religious Education** is released this year, Lines will become the first Southern Baptist to have a book published by Religious Education Press, a prestigious house that targets a scholarly readership among educators from a variety of backgrounds and religious affiliations.

Lines, assistant to the dean and assistant professor of Christian education at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, has set out to "reinvent the wheel," or as he says, "to redo the way we understand religious education."

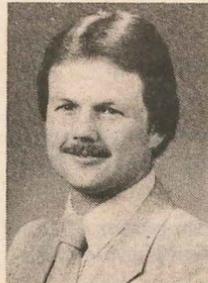
Lines, a Missouri native who holds the MDiv degree from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, the MS degree from University of Louisville, and the EdD degree from Southern Seminary,



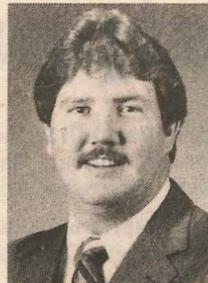
Searcy



Robertson



Sandlin



Sheilley

has pursued a solution to problems in religious education for a number of years now.

Lines says he was attempting to put theoretical foundations under religious education practice, because he had found "the theoretical work in religious education was inadequate."

SBTS offers variety of Monday classes

Several Monday-only courses will be offered by Southern Baptist Theological Seminary for the spring semester of 1987, which begins Feb. 2.

Courses offered during the spring will be:

10:00 am: Jeremiah; Survey of Christian Ethics; Preaching Practicum/ Formation for Christian Ministry; Church Music Literature; Supervised Ministry Experience: Pastoral Care; Education of the School Age Child: Grades 1-6; Christian Heritage and the Practice of Ministry;

12:00 Noon: Music Bibliography; Doctoral Colloquium;

1:00 pm: Personal Counseling Class Lab; Philosophy of the Music Ministry;

2:00 pm: Introduction to Old Testament II; Contemporary American Religion; Preaching Practicum; Church Recreation Leadership; Supervised Ministry Experience: Pastoral Care;

4:00 pm: Children's Choir Lab; Brass Choir;

6:30 pm: Psychology of Religious Experience; Social Work Concentration: Practice with Individuals, Families, and Groups; Social Work Concentration: Program Director II;



Lines



Dickson

7:00 pm: Oratorio Chorus; Seminary Orchestra.

For more information, contact the seminary's Academic Services office at (800) 626-5525; in Kentucky call (502) 897-4209.

Kentuckian graduates from Southeastern

Anita Gwynne Robertson of Crestwood, Ky. received the MDiv degree from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary during commencement exercises on December 13, 1986. Miss Robertson is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Robertson, Crestwood, Ky. Miss Robertson, is a graduate of Oldham County senior high school and University of Louisville.

SWBTS has historic December graduation

The world's largest theological school graduated its 25,000th student Dec. 19 in a class that included two Kentuckians. Rickey Dale Sandlin received the MARE degree. Sandlin is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Sandlin of Leitchfield. Kenneth Edward Sheilley received the MARE degree. Sheilley is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland E. Sheilley of Louisville, Ky.

The 975 degrees awarded in 1986 represent Southwestern's highest number ever for a calendar year.

Hinson honored with Hungarian award

Maurice Hinson, professor of church music at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, was awarded the Franz Liszt Commemorative Medal by the Hungarian Ministry of Culture in Washington, D. C. Dec. 19.

Hinson was among 15 individuals and one corporation to be awarded the medal.

Hinson has edited the Journal of the American Liszt Society for 10 years, although he is voluntarily giving up the editorship after this year.

Other recipients of the award included pianist Valdimir Horowitz, conductor and composer Leonard Bernstein, and Alan Walker, Liszt's principal American biographer.



Leon Simpson
President
Clear Creek Baptist School
Pineville, KY 40977

clear creek comment

What 1987 Holds

L. C. Kelly, Clear Creek's founder, was fond of applying I Cor. 16:9 to the ministry of our great school, "A great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries." It seems each year of Clear Creek's existence great doors have been open and, of course, there have always been problems.

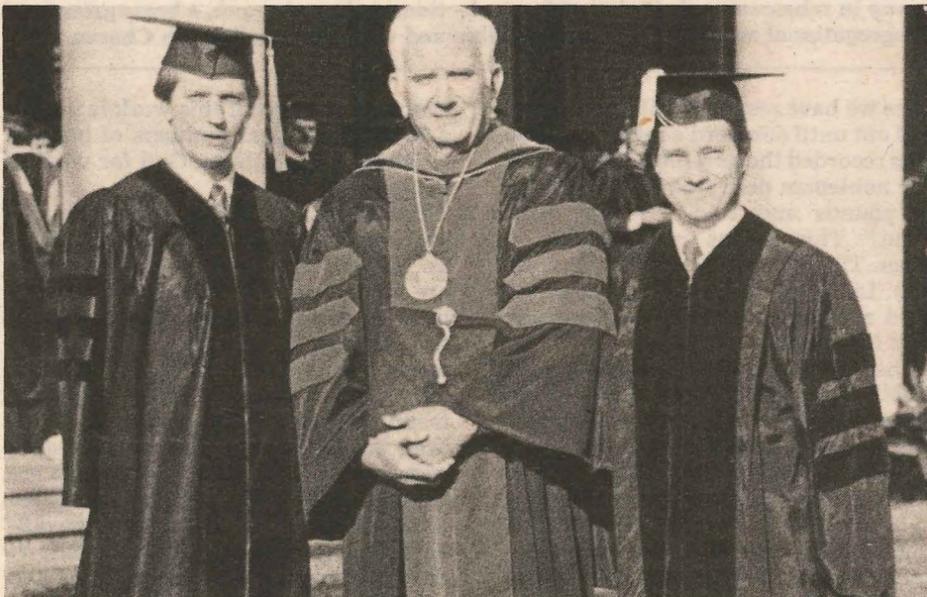
As we begin our seventh decade we praise the Lord for the ministry he has set before us. To help and prepare those whom God has called for the ministry is a privilege beyond compare. We look forward to another year of fruitfulness and usefulness in 1987. What does 1987 hold for us at Clear Creek?

I believe 1987 will be a year of change at Clear Creek. Someone recently said to me, "I hear that you have changed Clear Creek's name." I immediately responded, "We've changed our name but not our ministry!" We are pleased to report that our trustees unanimously approved a revision of our charter this past fall which included a new name—CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE. This is in keeping with the fact that we have been conferring the four-year degree for the last 10 years and also in conjunction with the fact we are a newly accredited Bible college.

However, some things will never change at Clear Creek. Any man who is called of God is welcome to prepare for the ministry here. We will never turn down someone because he does not have a high school diploma. We will continue to be true to this original purpose.

1987 will also demonstrate our need for continuing support from our friends. W. B. Bingham, an outstanding Clear Creek alumnus, touched my heart with the following poem in his church paper recently. May the Lord continue to give Clear Creek friends this year as we serve him.

Dear Lord, please give me/A few friends who understand me and remain my friends;/A work to do which has real value, without which the world would be poorer;/A mind unafraid to travel even though the trail be not blazed;/An understanding heart;/A sense of humor;/Time for quiet, a silent meditation;/A feeling of the presence of God;/The patience to wait for the coming of these things;/With the wisdom to recognize them when they do come.



New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary conferred doctorate degrees on two former residents of Kentucky during December commencement exercises. Pictured, left to right, are: Don M. Aycock, Th.D., of Franklinton, La.; Landrum P. Leavell II, seminary president; and Roger W. Sullivan, Th.D., of Clinton, La. Aycock attended Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, where he earned the MDiv and MTh degrees. Sullivan was formerly assistant pastor of Porter Memorial Baptist Church, Lexington.

baptist forum

Board invites help in search

The president search committee of the Home Mission Board wishes to thank the readers of Western Recorder for their prayers, suggestions and recommendations as we search for a president of the board. We have been overwhelmed by the prayerful support of the people as we have faced this tremendous assignment. We believe strongly God will answer those prayers, and are encouraged by the spirit within the committee.

The committee is continuing to receive recommendations of persons for consideration as president of the Home Mission Board. We would invite your readers to submit recommendations in writing, accompanied by a resume. Recommendations should be sent as soon as possible to:

Troy L. Morrison, Chairman
HMB President Search Committee
P. O. Box 11870
Montgomery, AL 36111
Troy L. Morrison
Montgomery, Ala.

Christ is our common goal

The most interesting section of Western Recorder is what your readers write on such a wide variety of subjects.

However, when you consider how many readers write such opposite viewpoints on so many issues, one must wonder: Are there two Baptists anywhere who share exactly the same beliefs?

To the best of my knowledge, we all do share at least one basic belief: Jesus Christ, the sSon of God, is our savior.

Sometimes we get so bogged down in peripheral disagreements we lose sight of our common anchor.

Marshall Hacker
Covington

Word of thanks for recognition

I was shocked to see your article on the editorial page of Western Recorder! Thank you for your concern for the church secretary. I have worked for eight years in a position as church secretary and it has been the most meaningful job of my life. I work harder than I have ever worked before, but I believe God put me here for a purpose and that makes it all worthwhile.

It is very encouraging to me to see someone come forth on behalf of the church secretary. Perhaps this will help churches see the church secretary is an important part of the church staff and deserves some financial recognition.

Pat Wallace
Cadiz

Home board should refuse funds

The recent decision by the Home Mission Board not to grant aid to churches having women pastors appears to be a lack of integrity of the board. I find it to be a strange twist for the board to interpret the leadership of the Holy Spirit in this matter by implying a woman cannot serve the Lord as a pastor in a Baptist church setting and refuse to aid her work and yet at the same time accept with immense gratitude the funds coming from churches with women pastors. Is this shallow hypocrisy or a lack of self honesty that fellow Baptists see coming from one of our denomination's treasured institutions? We simply cannot have it both ways!

If we as brothers and sisters in Christ have to accept the decision by this

agency, then it would make much better sense for Southern Baptists, and would give the HMB a greater sense of integrity for both, to move not to accept contributions from churches with women pastors for the denominational work of spreading the good news. If, by refusing to aid these churches, the HMB has gone ahead and chosen what to do with our Annie Armstrong offerings, then it can also move to disassociate itself from these churches, even to the point of not accepting their funds to support other denominational work. Of course, this would be costly, both financially and in relationships; however, the only other alternative is to embrace them as fellow workers of the gospel of our Lord and savior, Jesus Christ, as in reality they are.

Bobby J. Touchton
Louisville

Pastor addresses HMB, peace committee

I have two concerns regarding the Home Mission Board and peace committee expressed in the letters below, which I would like to share as "open letters."

Dear Home Mission Board trustees:

Your decision not to fund women in pastoral ministry is a "grieving of the Holy Spirit" (Ephesians 4:30) who is calling women into such ministry, and it is a grieving of my own heart.

I ask you in the name and spirit of Jesus Christ to rescind your decision.

Dear SBC peace committee:

The SBC seminary presidents have come forward with a Glorieta Statement that is a good faith peace offering, an olive branch, not a white flag. This is a significant action to answer the theological concerns of fundamental-conservatives.

I call you the peace committee to respond seriously to the political concerns of the moderate-conservatives as expressed in James Slatton's proposals. If

these concerns are not seriously dealt with you may cry "peace" but there will be no "peace."

H. Stephen Shoemaker
Crescent Hill Baptist Church
Louisville

HMB's bond series a success

You are aware the Home Mission Board has been issuing bonds to secure funds with which to make loans to churches.

During 1986 we were authorized to start issuing these bonds. The board was given this authority by the SBC executive committee and 1986 became our "pilot project." Through the issuing of two series we issued \$7,350,000 in bonds. The bond issues were completely sold out.

We advertised these bonds in 16 states through the Baptist papers. Other than by word of mouth, this was our only advertising outlet. We had over 5000 individuals to respond to request a copy of the prospectus.

In every respect we have considered this bond program to be successful. While the two series of bonds issued in 1986 were the pilot projects, this procedure will probably become a permanent part of Home Mission Board's Division of Church Loans.

Let me thank you for your assistance in helping HMB to develop this program. These additional funds assisted us in making loans to new churches throughout the SBC in keeping with Bold Mission Thrust.

Robert H. Kilgore
Atlanta, Ga.

Letters for baptist forum: maximum length, 300 words. Longer letters will be edited for space or returned for revision. Writer's signature, address, phone number and church affiliation required. No form letters will be printed. Letters must deal with issues and not make personal attacks.



James H. Cox
Associate Editor

fourth estate

For the press

If an extra dollar were placed in the offering plate every time I have been asked the meaning of "fourth estate," some church building programs would have reached debt retirement.

What seemed to be a rather common expression is not that well known, I found out.

My research on the subject goes back to 19th century England. Fourth estate as applied to journalists or journalism seems to have surfaced in the House of Commons. Three classes (or estates) held specific political powers during the era of feudalism.

The Lords Spiritual, or clergy, was known as the first estate.

The Lords Temporal, or nobility, was the second.

The Common, including the bourgeoisie, was third.

The original application of fourth estate to the press supposedly came in 1841 from Thomas Carlyle. The monicker stuck, and infrequently scribes have been called the fourth estate in this nation, too.

The media is called lots of other things, of course. I am sensitive to it just as politicians are when their profession is questioned. Ours certainly comes under fire often enough. Some of it is, of course, well deserved.

The religious journalist is a special breed. There have been lots of jokes about us for sure.

Remember the little man, Zacchaeus, in the Bible? He climbed a tree for a better view of Jesus as he passed by. How many people have reminded me that poor Zacchaeus couldn't see Jesus "for the press?" (Lk. 19:3)

I've heard lots of speakers tell this story before audiences filled with my colleagues:

A preacher died, went to heaven and was welcomed by St. Peter and assigned to his station. Presently, a Baptist editor arrived. Upon identifying himself, chimes rang, bells clanged, people shouted, angels sang "hallelujahs," an orchestra struck up and the editor was ferried into his new home in a Rolls Royce. The preacher was confused. Approaching St. Peter, he inquired, "Why the difference?" To which the gatekeeper replied, "We get lots of preachers here, but few editors."

I watched a sly grin cross the face of Franklin Owen as he mischievously referred to those of us at Western Recorder as "that bunch of internal Philistines" on occasion. I took it as a high compliment, for we are friends.

I'm proud of what we do. I was called to it. It is my pulpit. There are lots of things I can't do, but I'm glad to be doing what I can. It's an honor to be part of the fourth estate, in the service of the Lord.

Parks would welcome meeting with Genesis group

The Genesis Commission, an organization founded by conservative Southern Baptists to help start new churches, deals "with the very heart of who we are as Southern Baptists," the denomination's foreign missions leader says.

R. Keith Parks, president of the Baptist Foreign Mission Board, said he would welcome an opportunity to meet with Genesis Commission leaders and share with them the nature and scope of the board's work.

Some observers have seen the Genesis Commission as potentially in opposition to the Foreign Mission Board in two areas. First is competition for funds from supporting Southern Baptists. The board receives support from the convention's Cooperative Program unified budget and from the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Second is a perceived disparagement of the board's broader ministries—such as agricultural expertise, medical aid and education—

by Genesis Commission leaders, who have designed their organization strictly to start churches.

Parks said he particularly feels a conference between commission leaders and board officials is in order. He explained he wants "them to get a little clearer understanding about what we do. I don't think they fully appreciate the focus we're making on evangelism and the starting of churches."

Parks pointed out the ratio of baptisms to church members in overseas churches related to the board runs 12 to 1, far better than the 42 to 1 ratio in the Southern Baptist Convention.

In 1985, overseas churches baptized 158,626 people, an average of 435 per day. Membership in those churches surpassed two million, and the number of churches increased to 15,635, a gain of almost six percent over 1984. Counting chapels and preaching points, which are the churches of the future, the total was almost 33,000.

Worthy laborers: your Baptist Building staff

Carnes gets a bang from KBC bucks

Granted, Richard Carnes may have a fascination for ducks, but he's no quack when it comes to accounting.

"Ducks are bright, colorful and festive," explains Carnes, who loves collecting duck decoys and paintings.

"What fascinates me is how ducks often appear calm as the water's surface, but underneath they're paddling for dear life and getting ready to fly," he claims.

Anyone who has met Carnes, director of Administrative Services Department for the KBC, knows that description also fits him.

"My greatest joy comes from assisting the KBC executive staff in long term financial security and growth," he comments. "I do my part so they can concentrate on their specialized ministries."

"My task is to make sure the maximum amount of the Cooperative Program dollar goes to missions and ministry efforts. In short, I help the KBC get the biggest bang out of its bucks," Carnes says.

But Carnes hasn't always been this calm and collected about his work. Only a few years ago, he was a stock broker for Merrill Lynch.

"Sept. 8, 1980 was probably the most pivotal day in my arriving where I am today," he asserts.

"I had been in the investment career three years and had realized the pressures of dealing with clients who were depending on my professional counseling," Carnes continues. "My stomach stayed in knots because of the unforeseen factors that affect investments."

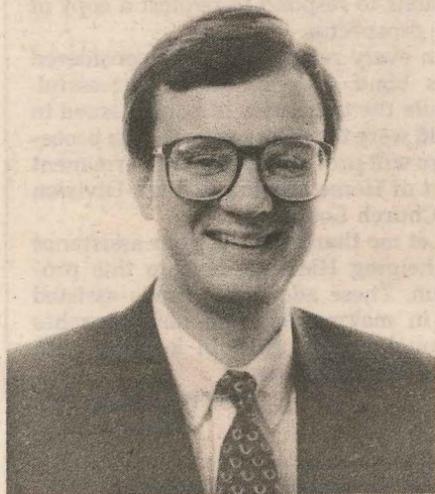
"As I was driving to work that morning I broke under the strain and prayed, 'Lord, please release this burden and use

my talents elsewhere.'"

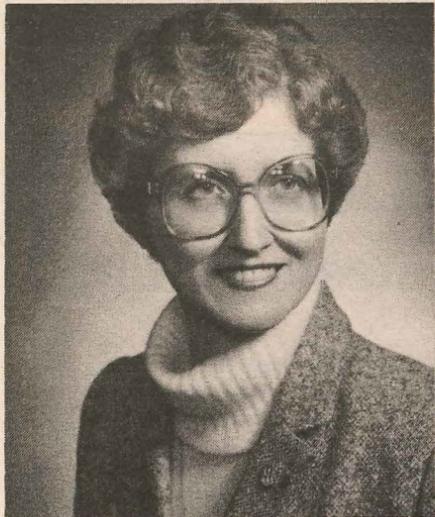
The Lord took that prayer seriously and Carnes found himself at Southern Seminary, where he worked part time at the KBC as an accounting intern.

Now he uses his talents to handle risk management loans and property and casualty insurance for KBC personnel. But, Carnes still enjoys watching the market. "It's exciting to observe human psychology and how people are affected emotionally by losses or gains. As a spin off, I study about money management from a Christian perspective."

—Todd Deaton



Carnes



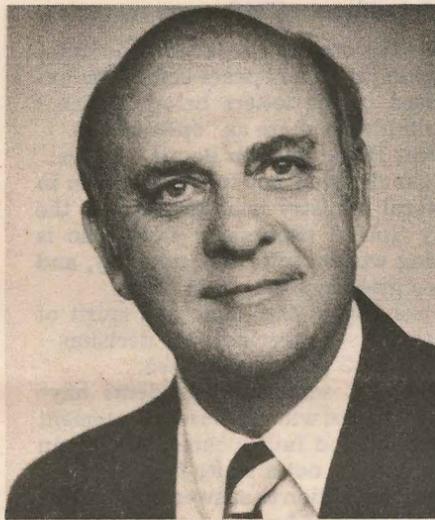
Price

400 new missions? Easy, says Jagers

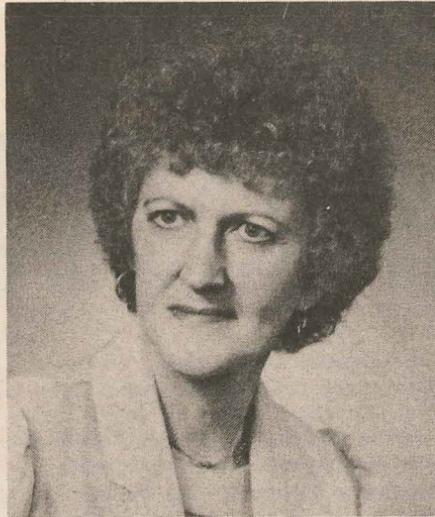
William D. Jagers, associate in the Direct Missions Department and former president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, grew up in Buffalo, Ky., near Abraham Lincoln's birthplace. He likes to tell people, "Old Abe and I drank from the same spring—but not at the same time," he adds, laughing.

Jagers' delightful sense of humor crops up quite often when discussing his personal life. "Don't tell anybody," he teases, "but we live in a city called Wildwood. When you're a denominational worker, Wildwood sounds pretty bad, but it's a quiet neighborhood."

Jagers may retire in about 10 years



Jagers



Nelson

Jewell Nelson to be recalled as writer

"I am a real people person," bubbles Jewell Nelson, preschool and children's consultant for the Sunday School Department.

Though her work consumes a great deal of her time, Mrs. Nelson spends her free hours entertaining and being with friends.

"My husband Paul and I like to have small groups of people over. Since I love the outdoors I also entertain outdoors," she says.

She still corresponds with friends from high school and college. "I've always kept a lot of friends," she says.

She and her husband enjoy going to the theater, and she is an avid reader.

and when he does, he hopes "to do some very serious fishing. Someone said a bad day fishing is better than a good day at most anything else. I believe that!"

When it comes to discussing his work, however, Jagers' sincerity takes precedence and it is clear that he takes his Christian ministry most seriously. During his 30 years of pastoring he never anticipated a position at KBC. "Only when the challenge of Mission Kentucky was presented to me did I really begin to have interest in coming," he explains. He does not hesitate to show enthusiasm about this mission endeavor: "I'm just thrilled to death that we're involved in this." Jagers believes the work of Mission Kentucky will make a profound difference in reaching people for Christ in Kentucky.

The goal of Mission Kentucky is to start 400 new preaching points, missions and churches by 1990. Jagers believes not only that Kentucky Baptists will reach this goal but that they will surpass it.

Jagers' interest in missions began when he graduated from seminary. He considered foreign missions but the Foreign Mission Board recommended he first have more experience full time in a church with missions. The Lord then opened a church in the mountains of eastern Kentucky where he did end up in mission involvement.

Although Jagers admits he does not enjoy the administrative aspect of his work, he says, "I know it's necessary in order to serve people."

—Beth Warf

Brenda Price loves children and dogs

Brenda Price loves children. She left her job as an elementary school teacher to become Mission Friends, Girls in Action consultant for Woman's Missionary Union at the Kentucky Baptist Building.

Miss Price has missed at her job four years and while she misses the constant contact with children, she enjoys the chance to work with leaders of children.

"I can never remember not wanting to be a teacher," she says.

She works with associational and church leaders, helps plan and program GA camps and directs mother-daughter overnight events at the camps.

She enjoys the traveling aspect of her job, but it has required her to leave her cocker spaniel, Diamond, with her parents in Bowling Green.

"I've loved cocker spaniels ever since I can remember," she said. She trades dog stories with Carol Noffsinger, who works next door, and is also a dog owner.

Miss Price taught school in Bullitt County and Bowling Green. Though moving to Louisville when she started her job with WMU was not a difficult feat, there have been adjustments to be made.

"Getting around in traffic can be bad, but there are opportunities here the

small town doesn't offer," she points out.

When she is not working Brenda enjoys crafts, such as decorating hats and baskets and making wreaths. "I'm not much of a needle person," she confides.

She also enjoys being outdoors and working with flowers, though she notes ruefully that apartment living limits her activities in that area.

When asked what her goals in life are she quipped, "You mean besides being independently wealthy?" Seriously, she said her goal is to equip others, whether children or adults, to help them become more of what God wants them to be.

"I would like to be remembered as a loving, caring person," she notes. "I love children and being a part of their lives is my greatest joy."

—Cathy Butler

Her favorite material is autobiographies and humor. "I also like to write, and I hope to write more in the future. I've always liked journalism," she notes.

She speaks with great warmth of her two sons. Jay, 21, is a senior at Georgetown and very involved in drama. "He's quiet, but a different person on stage," Mrs. Nelson explains. She adds with a grin, "The house is full of our projects."

"My son Scott is the outgoing one—blonde, blue-eyed and effervescent. He's a swimmer and diver."

She and Paul, an attorney, are involved in activities at Walnut Street Baptist Church, where they have been for 16 years.

Mrs. Nelson's goals are to keep her mind and body strong and active. She and her husband walk a lot together.

"My goals usually encompass other people," she says. She would like to travel extensively some day, and she has a great desire to help churches.

Traveling is now a part of her job, but she has a team which helps her reach all the places she cannot go.

"I can't be everywhere," she sighs.

Though she thinks she will probably be remembered for her writing, Mrs. Nelson says the thing she takes the most pride in is her "good husband and two sons."

"I've been married 23 years," she beams. "And I think I was pretty smart to have selected Paul."

—Cathy Butler

Hawkins focuses on motivation

Jim Hawkins, executive associate of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, was destined for more responsibility in Christian service than he bargained for from the start.

As a college student Hawkins was chosen as a summer missionary to the island of Maui in an area populated primarily by Japanese. Two weeks after his arrival on the field the missionary he was to assist left his congregation. Hawkins was left as sole pastor for the church.

"Although this summer was a challenge, it gave me an appreciation for ministry and a new vision of how Christ is truly our common denominator," he explains, "To this day I have a love for oriental people nourished by a strong faith I discovered in their faces and hearts."

Since that summer, Hawkins has been active in the local church. During five years in the furniture business, 21 years as a college administrator and dean and a stint as a management consultant, he has been a deacon, directed Sunday school and Church Training, and served on numerous committees.

Hawkins, who unlike most department heads is not an ordained minister, is also a pace setter in his role as administrative coordinator at the KBC. He puts together three executive board meetings each year, does the logistic work for state convention meetings and provides the staff support for most of the convention's committees.

Another of his duties is improving the

job skills of KBC secretaries and department directors. Hawkins, who during the summer enjoys spending hours on his sailboat at Lake Dean in Indiana, arranges the staff retreats each September, emphasizing vocational and spiritual objectives.

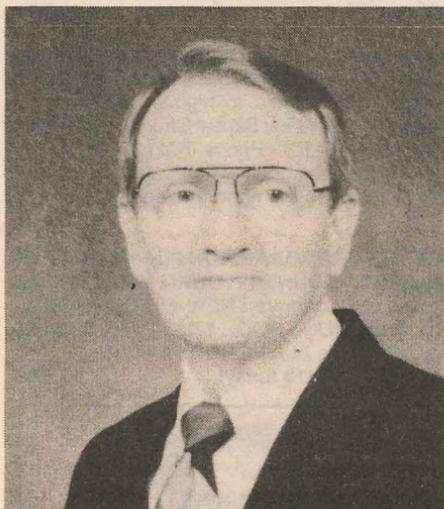
"My primary task is to keep people motivated, to help them find personal satisfaction and growth in their jobs," claims Hawkins. "I'm also concerned with 'administratrivia'—a paper pusher for details necessary to start projects.

"My satisfaction comes from the sense of ministry a layman can do."

—Todd Deaton



Hawkins



Rogers

Rogers: wallflower, listener and helper

Bill Rogers has a subdued but sincere personality. He does not consider himself a social person. "At a party, I stand around and wait for people to talk to me" while Martha (his wife) is "flitting around talking to everybody. As I kid her, I say 'you're the party person and I'm the flower on the wall.'"

Nevertheless, Rogers takes his ministry and the people seriously. "I tend to make deep friendships, deep relationships," he says. "I'm a good listener... I care about people and their hurts." This attitude fits the particular program Rogers leads—the Minister/Church Support Division, which gives support to ministers all across the state.

When asked how he feels about his work with KBC, he responds quickly, "Love it! I love working for Kentucky Baptists. I love the assignment I have."

Rogers has only been with KBC 15 years. When he first felt a call into the ministry, he owned and ran a construction business in Russellville. "When I say owned, I ran it. There wasn't much to own," he explains with a chuckle. Rogers responded to his call, leaving the construction business to begin a 24-year ministry as a Kentucky pastor. During this time, he pastored churches in Butler, Warren and Jefferson counties.

In 1971 Rogers "refocused" his life when he joined the KBC staff. "I had to make adjustments," he says, for he "discovered that the convention was a level away from the people," unlike the close relationship maintained by the pastor with his congregation.

He became the first director of the Minister/Church Support Division and actually developed this division himself at the request of the KBC executive secretary-treasurer. "That's been a very exciting and rewarding experience," he says.

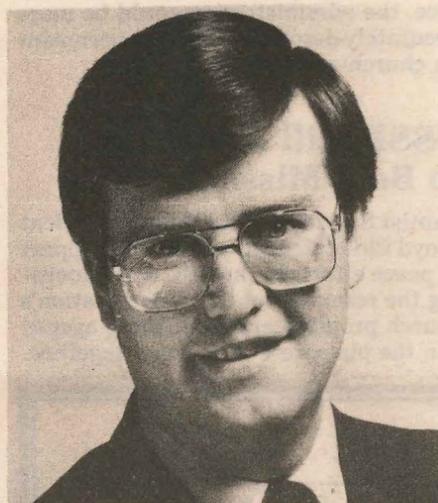
The help he provides ministers across Kentucky result from his willingness to serve. His personal goals reflect that willingness: "To be the best servant I can be and to continue to develop the program of support."

—Beth Warf

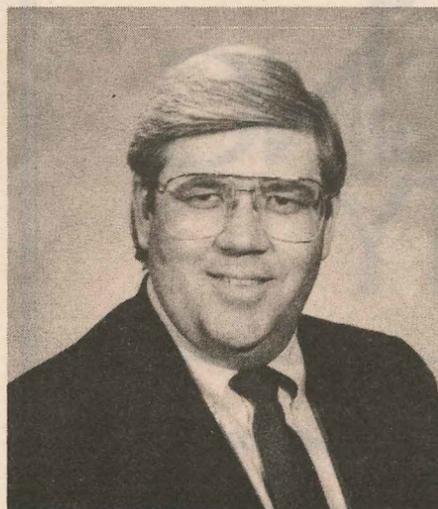
Carr tried to fill the boots of a legend

"It was a real challenge for me," Rob Carr admitted. "I kept asking myself, 'Could I fill his boots?'" Carr accepted the position of associate director of Brotherhood in March 1982, a position previously held by Calvin Fields. When Forrest Sawyer retired from the position of director, Fields was promoted to director and recommended Carr for his former position. Fields died of a heart attack less than a month before Carr actually began his work.

"It was a terrible blow to Kentucky Baptists," Carr said. "Calvin was liked and respected by all who knew him. Following Calvin was a real challenge."



Carr



McNorrill

Products/sermons? McNorrill's view

Every church, whether they know it or not, is involved in media. Showing them how to use media to reach the people is a large part of Lonnie McNorrill's job. As assistant, Media Department, McNorrill hopes to see the department become "the model for Kentucky Baptist churches and associations to follow in the area of media ministry."

"Our ministry is still relatively new as a professional ministry," McNorrill explains. "In Kentucky, there is only a handful of full time media ministers." Churches and associations are encouraged to use the resources available through the department, like the Video Tape Service and information about

Carr received his AB degree in social science from Southern Illinois University in 1973 and his BS degree in elementary education in 1974. He graduated from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1977 with an MRE degree with a major in missions.

He works primarily with Royal Ambassadors throughout the state, programming RA congresses, RA camps and working with the Women's Missionary Union on Youth Missions Week.

"I went to the Brotherhood department when I went to the seminary," Carr said with conviction. "I wanted to work in Brotherhood. I feel very affirmed in it right now—I feel good about where I am."

Carr pauses for a moment, tapping his fingertips together absently.

"Most of all," he says slowly, "I would like to thank Kentucky Baptists for giving me a chance."

Camping, backpacking and "other outdoor stuff" keep the associate director in shape for his summer camp work. To keep his mind sharp, he is following up an interest in computers. His top priority, however, is his family.

There is a reorganization in the works for the RA grade divisions and it is time to think about RA summer camps already. Carr has even managed to participate in the Kentucky/Kenya project over the Christmas holidays.

Giving Rob Carr a chance to be himself may have been one of the better choices Kentucky Baptists have made.

—Catherine Edwards

ACTS and BTN. "I'd love to see the VTS double in the next year—it is a free service that can bring missionaries straight into the heart of any church." Media is also involved with audiovisual consultation, helping churches determine their media needs.

One of the major responsibilities McNorrill faces is producing videotape programs like Southern Baptist Report: Kentucky Edition and promotional pieces for other KBC departments.

"I see our products as sermons," McNorrill says with conviction. "We put a lot of preparation into these 'sermons.' When I realize that they can be shown in 2300 Kentucky Baptist churches it makes me realize how important everything we do really is." He pauses for a moment. "I take very seriously the responsibility," he adds.

"I'm really grateful to Kentucky Baptists for the opportunity here. I've had the chance to put my ministry into action. I feel equipped as a media minister—that's what I am first and foremost."

McNorrill has high praise for those he works with. "Scotti White, who does our VTS, is just great. We are so lucky to have her. And Mark (Borchert, intern) is a fantastic worker—very enthusiastic."

"We want to do the best we can with the resources at hand," he says with conviction. "We want Kentucky Baptists to do nothing less than the best they can with what's available."

McNorrill is a 1986 graduate of SBTS. —Catherine Edwards

baptist news in brief

Supreme Court hears Adventist's plea

Paula A. Hobbie, a Seventh-day Adventist fired from her job in a jewelry store for refusing to work on the Sabbath and then denied unemployment compensation by the state of Florida, had her day at the nation's highest court Dec. 10, as her attorney argued she was denied the constitutionally protected right of free exercise of religion.

Attorney Walter E. Carson of Washington told Supreme Court justices the decision in Hobbie's case will have "a profound effect on the free exercise rights of all Americans." Hobbie, he argued, "was forced to choose between her religion and her work."

After she refused on religious grounds to work on Saturdays, she was dismissed from her job at Lawton and Co. Florida's Department of Labor and Employment Security subsequently rejected Hobbie's application for unemployment benefits compensation.

After exhausting all possible administrative appeals, the Florida woman filed suit against the state agency in a state court. But the panel also agreed with the state's position. The U. S. Supreme Court agreed last April to review Hobbie's case.

The federal government has filed a friend-of-the-court brief asking the court to reject Hobbie's claim.

The move recently prompted a strong

reply from 15 religious and other organizations, including the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs. In a letter to Attorney General Edwin Meese III, attorneys for the groups said, "We are hard pressed to identify any interest of the United States which justifies the taking of such a position." Among those signing the letter was Oliver S. Thomas, general counsel of the Washington-based Baptist Joint Committee.

In a separate statement following the oral arguments, Thomas told Baptist Press, "It's fascinating the Reagan administration is perceived as being pro-religion when here it is asking the Supreme Court to throw out the most important safeguard for religious exercise of the last 25 years." Referring to the longstanding Supreme Court test that government must prove a compelling state interest in such cases, Thomas added, "When you look beneath the surface, the administration could be more accurately described as pro-government on church-related matters." (BP)

BSSB still committed to Bold Mission Thrust

Baptist Sunday School Board president Lloyd Elder pledged continuing support of peace efforts in the SBC while focusing the resources of the denomination's church program and publishing agency "on the purpose that joins us together.

"Bold Mission Thrust is our commitment as we walk in the spirit of God," Elder said in an address to state convention program leaders and board staff members attending annual planning meetings in Nashville in mid-December.

In response to 1986 SBC statistical projections showing relatively small gains in baptisms and church membership, he said: "What we do not yet have is a breakthrough in Bold Mission Thrust. As we labor toward a breakthrough, anticipate it and strategize for it, we must be utterly dependent on God."

He cited several projects underway within the board—Bold Mission Thrust planning, a marketing/ministry study, space study and reorganization—which he said are designed to support churches in their mission of reaching people and developing believers. (BP)

Three leave Board for career changes

Three Baptist Home Mission Board employees have resigned to pursue personal career opportunities.

Bob Duvall, who has been employed by the agency for the past six years as director of hospital chaplaincy, has become the director of chaplaincy with the Gwinnett Hospital System in Lawrenceville, Ga.

He began his denominational career in 1978 when he became chaplain to hospitals affiliated with the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. He served in that po-

sition under missionary appointment by the Home Mission Board.

Loretta Hays, who has been director of employment services for the Atlanta-based missions agency since 1982, resigned to accompany her husband to a new pastorate in Lexington, Ky.

Ron Loftis, who joined the board as assistant director of the church and community ministries department in 1985, has become director of missions for Roberson Baptist Association in Lumberton, N. C.

Loftis began his denominational service in 1977 as a home missionary, director of Christian social ministries in New South River Association in Fayetteville, N. C. He previously was pastor of churches in that state. (BP)

BSSB introduces its Genevox Music Group

Genevox Music Group was unveiled as the new name for the Baptist Sunday School Board's music publishing department during a national church music planning meeting in Nashville in early December.

Genevox director Fes Robertson told church music leaders from across the United States the name comes from the words "genesis," Greek for creation, and "vox," Latin for voice.

Robertson said Genevox will produce music products primarily for church use at the present time but expects to provide items for school, home and personal use as the group develops.

Genevox will work cooperatively with the existing church music department, directed by Wesley Forbis, with Genevox publishing products to support and complement the church music program, Robertson said. (BP)

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Pastor's tenure helps church grow stronger

by Glen Mollette
State Correspondent

Between Ashland and Southshore you can pass by all kinds of churches in many different communities journeying north on route 23. The Ohio River flows alongside and is an ever picturesque site. But one person and church not bypassed on this excursion is the ever loved Jim McKenzie and the First Baptist Church he pastors in Russell.

Russell is part of a conglomerate of towns and communities that border along the river with its nearest neighbor being Ironton, Ohio.

McKenzie is one of several pastors who is "changing Southern Baptists' statistics. The statistics are those as recent as two years ago that reported the average tenure for a Southern Baptist pastor was 2.4 years. The new average tenure is closer to four years and the reason for this higher average is surely due to pastors like McKenzie.

McKenzie came to the church 14 years ago as interim pastor while a student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville. After serving as interim for five months he was called full time with the stipulation he would be allowed to finish his seminary training.

McKenzie's 14 year tenure is the second longest of any pastor in the history of the Russell church, organized in 1894. How has he done this while still maintaining an effective ministry? He offered the following observations.

"My people have been extremely gracious to me. Even while in the seminary they paid me more than the previous full time pastor and still allowed me to go to school. They have treated me well financially," he said.

Second, "I like the Ashland area. I grew up in Ashland and graduated from Ashland Senior High School."

Third, "Our church has tended to attract a very stable congregation. We have not had a lot of controversy over the years."

Fourth, "My type of ministry lends itself to a longer tenure. I am more oriented to discipleship than just evangelism. I don't get excited just about big numbers. I am more of a pastor than an evangelist."

Fifth, "Our church has good strong lay leadership. We have a couple of men who could pass for seminary professors. They are excellent teachers. We have men with strong administrative skills who can take hold and direct a committee or organization."

While any church will have its moments of disagreement, McKenzie notes, "We've always been able to disagree agreeably. We've had very few to leave the church over controversy."

McKenzie's personality most likely has contributed to this stable situation attesting, "I am not easily upset. I always try to look at any problem or matter of conflict over the long haul instead of the immediate results. I feel comfortable dealing with people on a personal level, working out any problems before they get out of hand."

As in most all long tenures McKenzie spends a portion of every day in his study. "I do most of my studying at home in the afternoons. My children are in school and my wife works, so it is quiet and conducive to reading and sermon preparation."

One of the exciting avenues the Russell church is getting ready to pursue is relocating their church. The church has purchased five beautiful acres of land across the street from Ashland Oil's corporate offices and nearby Bellefonte Hospital. The move would certainly be a strategic location making the church very accessible to the cities of Ashland, Flatwoods, Russell and Bellefonte.

"Our present facility is inadequate and was not built well. Renovation would be wasteful. Besides, expansion is impossible in our present location," he explained.

"Relocating is not a frictional mat-

ter," cites McKenzie, "It has been a long term consideration and it is assumed we will eventually relocate. The land is paid for and our building committee is in the process of selecting an architect."

McKenzie observed several achievements of which he is proud concerning the Russell church.

They are debt-free, ready to relocate, have strengthened their programs and increased mission support.

With a heart for his people and a heart for the work, the future seems to be bright for this church and pastor.



Jim McKenzie points with pride to the land where his church will relocate.

Blind pastor still preaches

by Beth Wyatt,
State Correspondent

Ronnie (Butch) Pennington, is a normal, run-of-the-mill pastor on sight.

A native Tennessean, he was saved in 1972 and called to preach the following year. The next year he left his full time job, family and friends to move to Kentucky and attend Clear Creek School. He held part time employment and after finishing his studies was called to Hays Fork Baptist Church, Bates Creek Association, and remained there for nine years.

Ronnie was diagnosed to have histoplasmosis, a serious eye disease, and found real problems with the ailment while in school. He had been told some cases can be aided by laser surgery and assumed he was one of the cases. He sought the best specialist in the field and traveled to Indianapolis, Ind. for treatment and evaluation. It was there he learned he was one of 8000 who have this disease in both eyes and surgery could not help his situation. According to doctors there, he would be totally blind in two years.

Pennington and his wife were devastated but immediately began making plans for the future. He completed the school for blind adults at Frazier Rehabilitation Center in Louisville. "I shared the total problem with Hays Fork and told them that even though I was going blind I was not going to stop preaching," Pennington said. They vowed to stand by him.

According to Pennington, he had been a "text book case" for about 12 years. But almost three years have passed and he is not totally blind. "I am blind in one eye and can't see well out of the other one. Really, I am 75 percent blind," he smiled.

Pennington shared his frustration and how he became angry at God and had a hopeless feeling about the situation. Finally one day he "bottomed out" and lashed out at God to either make him blind or heal the problem. He immediately felt the seriousness of what

he had done and fell to his knees asking forgiveness. He recalls how he asked God if it could be in his will to stop the problem where it was. But most of all he wanted God's will in his life. From that day things have been moving positively for the ministry. Hays Fork remodeled their building and added educational facilities. Their attendance grew and 16 percent of their offerings were going to the Cooperative Program.

In October 1984 tragedy struck again. He began having severe pain in his back and was unable to walk. Doctors and many more tests revealed he had an incurable back problem and losing some of the excess pounds he was carrying would help. He sought assistance from a dietitian and has lost 116 pounds.

December 1985 brought a new challenge to his ministry. A pulpit committee from Wooton Church, Three Forks Association, sought him out as pastor. It was hard to leave and many people talked to him about a step down. The Hays Fork Church had been easily accessible to I-75 and all the Lexington doctors, hospitals, shopping, etc.

Butch felt a real call of God to go to Wooton and left the human securities he had and moved to the mountains in February. Since that time 23 persons have been baptized; the Cooperative Program gifts have increased by six percent with a vote to increase such gifts a percent a year, raising the Cooperative Program giving to 20 percent by 1996. Extensive remodeling has been done to their building.

With the massive lay-off at the Blue Diamond mines, an exodus from the area caused neighboring Leatherwood Church's attendance to drop drastically. Director of Missions Phillip Rosenbaum invited the Wooton pastor and people to assist this group. Each Sunday at 2:00 p.m., 10 Sunday school workers and the pastor travel over the mountain to Leatherwood.

In addition to the two churches, he is Church Training director for the association and serves on the evangelism committee and the Assist Team.

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Barkley Moore
President
Oneida Baptist Institute
Oneida, KY 40972

oneida journal

"Off and running"

Our students and staff are back from Christmas "break" and the new semester has begun. We hit the ground running.

Our 60-member academic staff and houseparents returned on New Year's Day. The following afternoon we had a seven hour meeting in which the name of each student in the school was read, and many were discussed in detail. We have such a meeting twice a year. Then on Saturday morning we met for more than two hours to review the previous semester and plan for the upcoming one.

At least 20 of our staff were busy on any given day during the break. A tremendous amount of work was accomplished in our computer lab where up to 200 students can work "hands on" with our computers on a daily basis. The lab is kept open until 8 p.m. daily, and sometimes later. During the break the room was repainted, the 10-year-old carpet was replaced with beautiful new carpet, and 20 new computer desks were assembled and located in the room. Recently we designed and handbuilt two large sections of cabinets for the lab for storage. We added more disk drives and printers. We are constantly adding software.

We have an outstanding computer teacher, which makes for an outstanding computer program. I am sure there is no computer lab in the state more used because it is open to every student enrolled at OBI from the smallest 6th grader. Also it is open for use about 12 hours daily. We also have some faithful and efficient student lab aides who assist others and are constantly learning

themselves.

Major work was also done during the break in reorganizing our office space. Though our over-all physical plant has more than tripled in the past 10 years, many new buildings and an increase in staff housing, we have not added one inch for office space. Aside from the physical growth of our work, the program growth has been tremendous. The doubling of student enrolment and staff during that period made more office staff and new equipment necessary.

For example, we now have our mailing list computerized. Our staff salary checks are done by computer, most of our bills are paid by computer written checks, and student accounts are also kept on computer.

Our volume of mail is 12-fold what it was just 10 years ago. Many days it takes me at least 1½ hours just signing my name to outgoing mail. People keep urging me to get a signature stamp or have it done by machine, but I will never willingly do that. I want to see what is being mailed in my name, check it over, and occasionally add a postscript.

We added four staff members with the new semester. We had a total of 11 on our staff making housing moves during the break. Construction was completed on a new apartment on Little Bullskin Creek where the school owns 80 acres in various coves and hollows three miles from our main campus. That was the ancestral home area of our founder.

In the past three years we have added three places of housing in that area. During the holidays our computer teacher-business manager moved into a house behind our church that we have totally renovated and nearly doubled in recent months. Our own staff men do all of this construction work with volunteer help.

As I write this, our men are hard at work on the 3000 square feet addition to our craft house. As we have time and cooperative weather, we will proceed with building the 3000 square feet farm shop. The framework and roof trusses of that building are up. In bad weather, we will finish the inside work for our new 3-chair barber-beauty shop to serve our campus community as well as our local village. Presently it is a 34-mile round trip to get to a barber or beauty shop.

As we enter upon the New Year, we are thankful for the blessings of God. We are mindful of the truth of the text of the first sermon preached on the Oneida campus New Year's Day, 1900: "Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it."



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

sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR JANUARY 18, 1987

Life and Work Series

Relating in love

Luke 6:27-38 The Christian life is a rebuke to the sins of others and frequently provokes jest, sarcasm and sneers.

Luke 6:27-30 "Love your enemies." Christ loved his enemies and commands his followers to love theirs.

"Do good to them which hate you." By returning good for evil a Christian can prove his Christlikeness.

"Bless them that curse you." While they were stoning him to death, Stephen asked God to bless his enemies.

"Pray for them which despitefully use you." It is best to leave those who abuse you in the hands of God, for he can deal more effectively with them.

"Unto him that smiteth thee on the one cheek offer also the other." It is better to suffer insult and injury than to do wrong.

"Give to every man that asketh of thee." Christ did not command us to give exactly what we are asked to give, but what is needed.

Luke 6:31-34 Christ stated the rule of Christian love: "As ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them."

Note this rule is positive. We should act toward others as we wish they would act toward us.

Luke 6:34-38 God will measure out to us in proportion as we measure out to others. Experience will teach you you cannot outgive God.

International Series

Lord of life

When the messenger approached Christ at Bethabara, he said: "Lord, behold, he whom thou lovest is sick." Christ continued his activities for two more days before leaving for Bethany, to allow death to have its full sway, so his victory over it would be all the more convincing.

John 11:17-27 As Christ approached her home, Martha went out to meet him. Her statement to him indicated that if he had arrived before the death of her brother, Lazarus would not have died. She did not see in Christ the same sovereignty over death which he held over disease.

Martha interpreted Christ's declaration, "Thy brother shall rise again," to mean Lazarus would rise on the resurrection day. She and Mary did not know Christ had power to raise the dead then and there. So, Christ uttered those matchless words, "I am the resurrection, and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." How comforting it is to every believer to know he, too, can know he shall experience physical death and resurrection, and live eternally.

John 11:38-44 Christ, the sorrowing relatives and some friends went to the tomb. Upon their arrival Christ instructed the friends to remove the stone from the tomb entrance, whereupon Martha remonstrated with her Lord, reminding him Lazarus had been dead for four days, and by this time, the body would be decomposing.

The men removed the stone and there lay the body of Lazarus in full view. Christ lifted his voice in thanksgiving to God, expressing appreciation for answering his prayers, and then, in a loud voice, said: "Lazarus, come forth," restoring him to life. When Lazarus came forth from the tomb he was still bound in grave garments, so Christ commanded them to "Loose him, and let him go."

Christ's raising of Lazarus was a splendid demonstration of his power to give life to souls dead in trespasses and sins. Christ's raising of Lazarus should assure us Christ is indeed the resurrection and the life.



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

on mission together

Celebrating in the midst of uncertainty

For many Americans and Southern Baptists, the year 1987 foreshadows a year of **uncertainty**. There are some legitimate reasons for that **uncertainty**:

The Iranian mess, as yet untangled, has fanned to a high level the ever-burning flames of national **uncertainty** about governmental leadership and bureaucracy.

The continuing and more specific speculation that as the world's number one debtor, our nation's huge deficit is far more dangerous than we, the people, have been led to believe.

The **uncertain** oil situation, with its deep implications upon employment. The vacillation of the price at the pump

creates consumer **uncertainty** every day.

The newly-adopted tax-revision which takes effect this year stimulates frustration as well as **uncertainty**. One writer has characterized it as a large, new dam, very hurriedly planned and built, without adequate attention to all aspects. When it begins to "fill up" with water (when the tax bill is put into practice), it will create an endless task of plugging holes and building smaller dams upstream.

The continuing mixed-signals on unemployment, revisions of economic forecasts, and future interest rate projections all contribute to the sounds of **uncertainty**.

Even the Vatican reported a deficit of \$56.2 million this past year, virtually doubling their previous year's deficit of \$27.5 million.

Closer to "Baptistland," **uncertainty** is one of the dominant sounds of many persons on both sides of the controversy:

Who will be elected to direct (1) Home Mission Board, (2) Christian Life Com-

mission, and (3) Baptist Press?

What will be the future relationship of the Southern Baptist Convention to the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs?

What will be the ultimate response of Southern Baptist churches to the Home Mission Board's recent decision to deny funding for ordained women pastors?

What will the very recent creation in Texas of the Genesis Commission mean to our denominational approach to foreign missions?

What will be the outcome of the Peace Committee's strategic work?

There is much **uncertainty** in 1987. But in the midst of it all, Kentucky Baptists will celebrate the **certainty** of our fellowship for 150 years.

Through years of peaceful progress, laced and often strengthened with struggle and debate, Kentucky Baptists have stayed on their mission together. A 150-year-old marriage deserves a **celebration** . . . even in the midst of **uncertainty**.

Kenyan president sends regards to Kentuckians

Volunteers help spread gospel in an eager Kenya

by Craig Bird

An "active" ingredient has been added to Baptist efforts to tell Kenya about Jesus Christ.

And with the help of that element—Kentucky Baptist volunteers who pay their own expenses to participate in short-term projects—Kenyan Baptist Convention leaders expect 100,000 Kenyans to become Christians during 1987 and hope 400 new churches will be organized.

The Kentucky-Kenya partnership is just one example of the Foreign Mission Board's effort to link Baptist state conventions and associations with individual countries for long-term evangelism projects.

Because national Christian leaders and career Southern Baptist missionaries who live in the countries are involved in planning and coordination, the enthusiasm and skills of short-term volunteers can be used in the most productive ways possible.

"If we are moving in Mombasa or Nairobi or anywhere, we are moving together," Arthur Kinyanjui, chairman (president) of the Kenya Baptist Convention, explained during a recent visit to Richmond.

The partnership has allowed Baptists to take advantage of a responsiveness which is sweeping the eastern Africa country. "Kenya is so open now," Kinyanjui said. "People are coming to accept Christ without so many excuses."

One example is the proud Masai. For decades, career missionaries have worked with the pastoral cattlemen but recorded few conversions. But recently the years of preparation began to bear fruit and entire families and tribes became Christians.

Many Kentucky volunteers are working with the Masai—and leading them to Christ. "The first group of Kentucky Baptists which went out to witness to the Masai made them angry—the Masai got upset when it was time for the team to move on to the next group," Kinyanjui explained. "they wanted the whole team to stay with them permanently."

In Mombasa, a heavy Muslim area, evangelistic teams reported more than 4000 professions of faith in just two weeks.

Volunteers also are carrying the gospel into "frontier work," or pioneer areas. They form teams with Kenyan pastors and laymen and/or career missionaries to go into targeted villages or rural areas. Over three or four days, team members witness "door-to-door," conduct revival services and often perform services according to the volunteers' skills.

Veterinarians treat sick animals, dentists pull teeth, nurses hold clinics—and almost everyone pitches in with manual labor to help build churches. In fact, Kentucky Baptists not only are building numerous churches but they also are paying for the materials used in the buildings.

Such success stories have been reproduced throughout the country. And the bluegrass Baptists have not gone unnoticed.

"Wherever there are people that's where we're going—we even intend to witness to the unsaved Americans in Kenya and win them to Christ."

Arthur Kinyanjui
Chairman
Kenya Baptist Convention

His remarks were reported nationwide on both television and in newspapers.

During 1987, the third and final year of the partnership, another 600-700 Kentucky Baptists are expected to provide their own expenses and come to Kenya to share their witness.

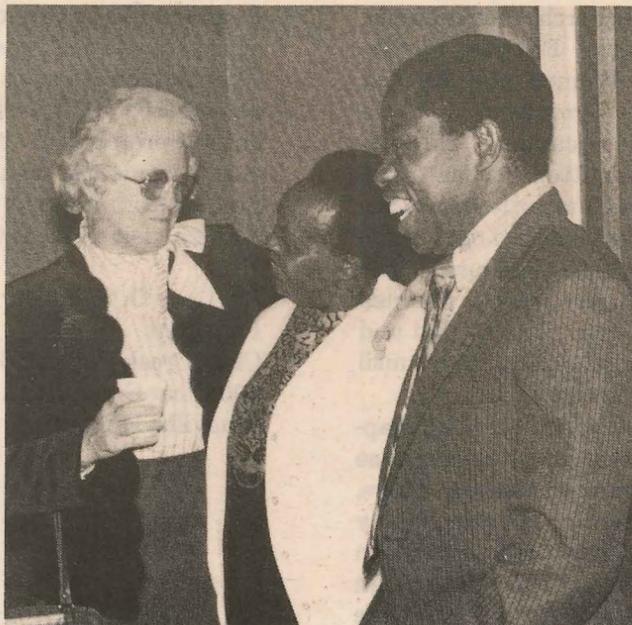
By year's end, the gospel will have been preached in every geographic subdivision of Kenya. "We'll meet in local Baptist churches where we can and where we can't we'll find another building or preach in the open air," Kinyanjui said. "Wherever there are people that's where we're going—we even intend to witness to the unsaved Americans in Kenya and win them to Christ."

Southern Baptist missionaries have been in Kenya since 1956 and the Kenyan Baptist Convention was formed in 1971. In 1985, when the partnership began, the convention had approximately 750 churches. Two years later the count is 1050.

The convention, the missionaries and the Kentucky volunteers intend to start another 400 churches in 1987.

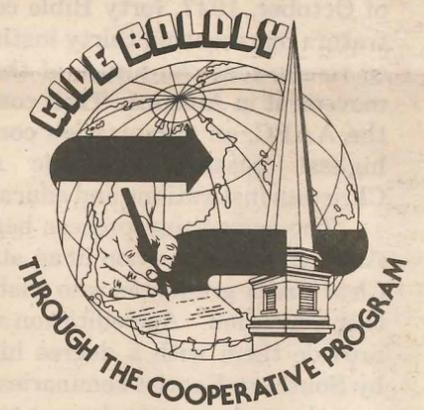
Kinyanjui has an additional timetable, however. "As far as I'm concerned, Kentucky Baptists can keep coming to Kenya until Jesus comes again!"

Beulah Hooper, who spent more than a quarter of a century in Kenya as a Southern Baptist missionary, hugs her old friend, Mrs. Arthur Kinyanjui, during a recent visit to the Foreign Mission Board by Kenyan Baptist leaders. Samson Kasia, director of the Baptist encampment at Limuru, Kenya, watched the reunion. Not pictured is Arthur Kinyanjui, chairman of the Kenyan Baptist Convention.



Kenyan president Daniel arap Moi several times has expressed his appreciation for Baptist work, especially the relief project coordinated by the career missionaries, and the trans-tribal appeal of the gospel as presented by the Baptists. Such an approach makes the Kenya Baptist Convention one of the true "national" bodies since membership cuts across ethnic, geographic and economic lines.

In October, while attending Kinyanjui's church in Nairobi, Moi publicly asked Kinyanjui to "go take my regards to the people of Kentucky" for what they have done and will do for Kenya.



SWBTS missions professor says Baptist missionaries in Lebanon know God hasn't abandoned them

Most people are looking for a way out of Beirut, Lebanon. Earl Martin found a way in.

Martin, professor of missions and world religions at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, spent three days in the war-torn city this summer. He went at the request of Southern Baptist missionaries serving in Beirut.

The trip was part of a three-month tour of Europe and the Middle East in preparation for a class Martin will teach at Southwestern in the spring.

"I was very much aware of the fact that four days after I left Beirut, intensive shelling occurred," Martin said. The shelling was followed by a car bomb killing nine and wounding 85.

But Martin didn't step in harm's way seeking accolades. And he said Southern Baptist missionaries in Lebanon don't either.

One missionary told him, "We are neither cowards nor heroes."

"They are mindful of the dangers and aware that the Lord has not abandoned them, so they're staying and going about their work," Martin said.

"These missionaries are spending careers in a hot spot and in isolation," he said. "They wanted someone to come in and minister to them. I couldn't refuse."

Martin also spoke at the Beirut Baptist seminary. A student there told him "I'm going to stay right here and minister. I love these people and this country."

The student taught the missions professor the importance of faithful mission service.

"We must be faithful in the difficult, no-progress areas because you don't know when a situation will open up," Martin said. "The churches are vibrant and growing."

"The war has made a lot of people open to the gospel."

Witnessing is test for students

Normally, an oral Spanish final wouldn't intimidate students at Hispanic Baptist Theological Seminary.

But 17 students witnessing on the streets of Guadalajara, Mexico, this summer were English-speaking pastors and church staff members who had just learned Spanish.

Rev. and Mrs. Ruben Machado directed the seminary's 10th annual Spanish Language School in June. Hispanic Seminary is Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary's Spanish-language component in San Antonio.

Students spent five weeks studying Spanish language and culture. During the sixth week, they witnessed in Guadalajara—in Spanish.

While in Mexico, the group distributed more than 500 Bibles to local churches and handed out gospel tracts.

Daniel Rivera, Hispanic seminary president, said the language school teaches conversational Spanish with an emphasis on Christian context and vocabulary. Students may study at either an intermediate or beginner pace.

"They can actually explain the plan of salvation in Spanish," Rivera said. He said the trip was successful this summer because of the needs of Mexicans. "Mexico is especially ripe for witnessing and the gospel," Rivera said. Last year's earthquake and the economy have many people searching.

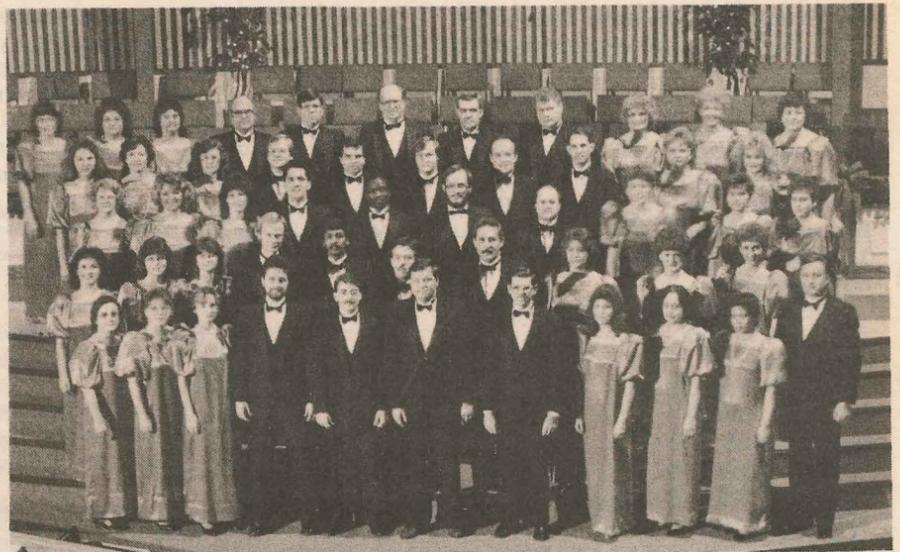


“BEGINNING OUR SEVENTH DECADE”

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE, KENTUCKY BAPTISTS' ONLY
FULLY ACCREDITED ADULT BIBLE COLLEGE.



Clear Creek President, Dr. Leon Simpson (extreme left) rejoices with faculty and staff over the AABC Accreditation.



THE CLEAR CREEK CHOIR
Ron Goodwin, Director

Excitement is the key word at Clear Creek in 1987! Perhaps the most thrilling new feature of Clear Creek Baptist School is our receipt of full accreditation by the American Association of Bible Colleges in October of 1986. This prestigious organization began forty years ago in a conference room of the Westminster Hotel in Winona Lake, Indiana. There, on the fourteenth of October, 1947, forty Bible college administrators representing thirty institutions gathered to consider the future of the Bible college movement in America. Their conference birthed the AABC, an organization committed to the highest possible academic standards for Christian institutions and educators.

The accrediting process began during the Aldridge administration in an attempt to assist Clear Creek graduates who wished to seek further education. Accreditation would not only provide them with a degree highly respected by Southern Baptist seminaries, but would assure them of our commitment to keeping stride with the best efforts of theological training nationwide. The achievement represented in accreditation fulfills the mission and vision of Dr. L. C. Kelly, founder of Clear Creek Baptist School.

There is more good news for Clear Creek's future with the establishment of The L. C. Kelly Chair of Bible Interpretation. This endowed chair, the first of its kind in Clear Creek history, is made possible through the gifts of family, friends and former students of Dr. Kelly. Clear Creek's president, Dr. Leon D. Simpson, will formally establish the chair at a spring Founder's Day celebration. At that time, Dr. Jackson R. Robertson, professor of theology at Clear Creek, will be installed as the first occupant of this chair.

Dr. Robertson is familiar to many as the "voice of Clear Creek" on our radio programs. His scholarship and gracious personality qualify him to represent the spirit of dedication to the Scriptures which marked both the pastoral and educational ministries of Clear Creek's founder. Robertson's installation in this position will hopefully lead to the establishments of endowed chairs in missions, evangelism, preaching and other areas where Clear Creek is blessed with men whom God gifted and sent our way.

The theme for our coming year is, "Beginning Our Seventh Decade". It is to be a decade of progress and prosperity for Clear Creek. While we remember and remind others of the goodness of God to Clear Creek during this new year, resting on past accomplishments is not the Clear Creek way. As we move into our seventh decade we recommit ourselves to providing quality Christian education to those called into full-time Christian service. We are Kentucky Baptists most unique institution.

Our hearts beat with Kentucky Baptists' for missions and the local church. For example, we have organized Mission Friends, G.A.'s, R.A.'s, Baptist Young Women and Baptist Women and Baptist Men's groups as well as a graded choir program on the campus. Through the efforts of these committed students the largest Lottie Moon Christmas offering in the history of Clear Creek was collected during the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions. The campus goal of \$379.14 was nearly doubled with the first day's offering. The second and third days demonstrated the same love until the final total was over \$1,000!

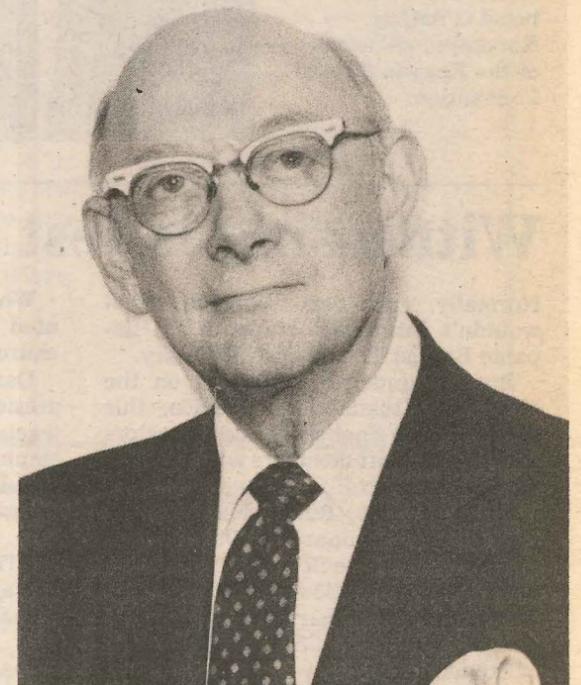
We feel the connection with Kentucky Baptist ever more keenly because of the response given during the recent state convention. There, in the beautiful and historic, Severns Valley church, our choir was received with enthusiasm for its contribution to the convention through music. Many of the students in the choir were first-time "conventioners" and this was the choir's first trip to the convention in our history. Then, less than a month later these students again were reminded of the graciousness of Kentucky Baptists as they participated in the annual Christmas Shopping Spree. There they saw that Christian love abounds among Baptists in Kentucky, for most of the gifts for our students in the Shopping Spree were from Baptist churches and individuals whom they had never seen.

Dr. Kelly's "voice in the mountains" is Kentucky Baptists' voice throughout the state today. The new three-day/two-day schedule is drawing God's men from every area with a firm conviction that a call to preach is a call to prepare. Through this unique, only-one-of-its-kind schedule, God's man can receive up to sixteen hours of fully-accredited work on Mondays,

Tuesdays and Wednesdays or up to twelve hours of fully accredited work on Thursdays and Fridays without giving up his vital, local church ministry. The new schedule reaffirms Clear Creek's commitment to mountain preachers, but makes available the quality spiritual education which the school provides to a larger constituency.

All these marvelous blessings are tied to Clear Creek's connection and commitment to Kentucky Baptists. You have provided us with prayer, funding through the Cooperative Program and private donations, encouragement and a sense of purpose and mission. We say, "Thank You Kentucky Baptists" for allowing us to serve you for six decades. Our seventh decade promises to be our finest. We invite you to come see us and make it a perfect beginning to a blessed future. For information about a visit to Clear Creek simply contact:

Dr. Leon D. Simpson
President
Clear Creek Baptist Bible College
300 Clear Creek Road
Pineville, KY 40977



Dr. Jackson R. Robertson, first professor to occupy The L. C. Kelly Chair of Biblical Interpretation.