

## Baker succeeds Valentine as CLC director

by David Wilkinson

Baptist educator and ethicist Larry Baker was elected executive director of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission Jan. 15 in a called meeting of the agency's trustees.

Baker, vice president for academic affairs and dean of the faculty at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, was elected by a 16-13 majority vote in a secret ballot vote. The election followed 90 minutes of intense questioning from trustees on controversial issues such as abortion, capital punishment and women in ministry.

Baker, 49, will begin work March 15 as the fourth executive director of the national moral concerns agency. He succeeds Foy Valentine, who will move into a developmental position with the CLC effective April 15 after a month's overlap with Baker.

A contractual agreement spelling out Valentine's new responsibilities and compensation was approved by a 17-11 vote after debate. Valentine will be executive officer for development until July 1988, when he reaches age 65.

In the midst of open divisiveness that has marked the last two meetings of the agency's trustees, Baker pledged to be a "team player."

Asked how he "proposed to work with a divided board," Baker said, "My judgment is that you may be more united than divided. As executive director, I would attempt to lead this body. I have never claimed to have all the wisdom on all the issues."

Throughout the question and answer session, trustees repeatedly returned to the abortion issue in a discussion mirroring the commission's annual meeting last September. In that meeting, trustees by a one vote margin rejected a recommendation which would have instructed the staff to produce materials allowing for the possibility of abortion only when the physical life of the mother is endangered.

Baker told trustees "the widespread practice of abortion in this society has become a national tragedy and a national disgrace." When questioned about permissible exceptions to moral and legal prohibitions against abortion,

he stressed that "exceptions are just that. They are rare in occurrence and few in number. But I think there are exceptional occasions when, while abortion may not be justified, it may be excused. Because we live in a broken and sinful world . . . , there may be occasions when the exception needs at least to be an option."

Baker spelled out "four cases" where he believes abortion "may be allowed as an exception"—threat to the life of the mother, rape, incest and "perhaps in the case where traumatic and severe deformity to the fetus is involved."

Rudolph Yakym, a layman from South Bend, Ind., pressed Baker about "when an unborn child becomes a person or a human being."

"I don't know," said Baker. "That's why I hold such a strong line with reference to the sanctity of human life. I do know that life is a gift from God, and he has given us the privilege of being co-creators with him and we ought to be good stewards of it."

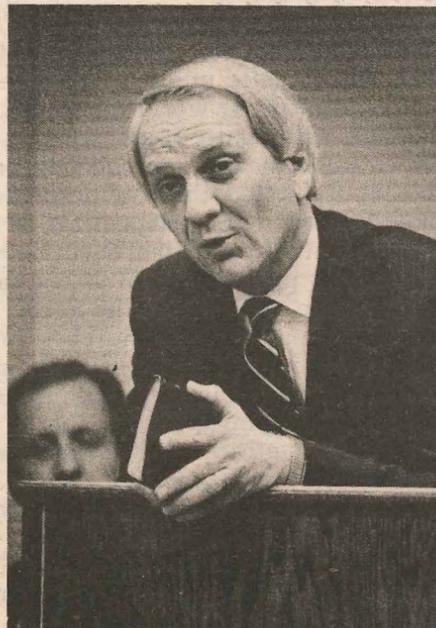
After a series of questions about his stance on "exceptions," Baker told Gary Crum, a layman from Washington, that "we are faced with the limitations of human language. You want me to put more precision into my answer at that point, and I can't. The exceptions are few and rare in occurrence, and that's what I want to emphasize."

Alma Ruth Morgan, from Bartlettville, Okla., asked Baker to "give me some of the moral courage we've heard about" and "just tell us whether you're for or against" issues such as women in ministry, capital punishment, secular humanism and the sanctuary movement.

On the role of women, Baker told trustees "God calls women to serve him in ministry as he calls men to serve him in ministry." Questioned by Crum as to whether he would agree that the Bible specifically prohibits women from serving as pastors, Baker said, "No, I do not agree with that position."

Baker also stated his personal opposition to capital punishment. "I believe capital punishment runs counter to the

Christian ethic and the Christian gospel," he said. "I am also aware that Christians of conscience hold a different opinion."



Baker

In discussion before the vote, several trustees questioned Baker's ability to lead without consensus on the board, expressed opposition to Baker's views on several issues and voiced disappointment in the composition of the search committee which brought the recommendation.

"The committee is monolithic," said Alabama pastor Fred Lackey. "I feel my point of view at least was not represented."

The diversity on the board is not represented in the committee," added Arkansas director of missions Joe Atchison. "It immediately makes us suspicious. It would have helped if you could have added just one or two from our side of the aisle."

Hal Lane, pastor from Eutawville, S. C., said he feared a split vote would bring "extreme division. If a church gives me a 60/40 vote, I would not

move."

Richard Elkins, a layman from Albuquerque, N. M., voiced a "practical question" about "what happens to Baker and to the commission in September (at the next annual meeting). We're dealing with a human being here. What kind of assurances can we give him?"

Commission chairman Lynn Clayton, editor of the Louisiana Baptist Message, said Baker "is not operating under any illusions or delusions. He understands the situation. If he feels God's call then he'll deal with whatever eventualities may come."

At the end of the meeting trustees approved unanimously a recommendation from the commission's executive committee "to pray for and work with" the new executive director.

Baker, a native of Louisiana, has been dean at Midwestern Seminary since 1982. He holds three degrees, including a doctorate in theology, from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has taught Christian ethics at both seminaries and was chairman of the Missouri Baptist Christian Life Committee. He also has been pastor of churches in Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas. He and his wife, Wanda, have three children.(BP)

## Cooperative Program stabilizes in December

Southern Baptists' national Cooperative Program reached an even keel at the end of the first quarter of its fiscal year, reported Harold C. Bennett, president and treasurer of the convention's Executive Committee.

Receipts of \$10,376,194 reflect an increase of 11.8 percent, or almost \$1.1 million, over December 1985. It is the best December total in Cooperative Program history.

The 1986-87 CP, which began Oct. 1, is targeted to raise \$136 million for SBC world-wide causes.

Only three months into its fiscal year, the program has experienced a roller coaster ride. October was the program's best first month, and its \$10.9 million in receipts was 21 percent higher than the previous October's. But November's total, almost \$9.7 million, was 10.2 percent behind November 1985. However, December's income brought the three-month total to \$30,985,922 and a more balanced 6.51 percent ahead of the first quarter last year.

Looking at the Cooperative Program picture for the entire quarter, Bennett was upbeat: "I'm pleased with the Cooperative Program receipts for December, which are above average. And the year-to-date figures reveal we are beginning to level off. A first quarter increase of 6.51 percent is what I had anticipated, and it speaks well of Southern Baptists. The Cooperative Program continues to outpace the cost of living."

Southern Baptists continue to make gains, despite financial difficulties in states whose economy is based on agricultural and/or petrochemical industries, Bennett noted. He attributed some of the success to Planned Growth in Giving, the SBC's spiritual and financial growth campaign.(BP)

## Parks says Genesis not fully aware

Leaders of the Genesis Commission, an independent foreign missionary organization, are not fully aware of the scope and program of Foreign Mission Board work, board president R. Keith Parks said recently.

His comments came in response to questions following a FMB presentation to Woman's Missionary Union leaders during their executive board meeting in Birmingham, Ala.

Parks said he believes the Genesis Commission leaders "got excited about witnessing and starting churches" without fully understanding the extent of work already being done by the board.

Foreign Mission Board and Genesis Commission plan for leaders to meet and discuss the purpose and work of both organizations, Parks said.

One concern of board leaders is how the Genesis Commission will affect work currently being done by the board representatives in Mexico, he said. Genesis Commission leaders have proposed Mexico as their first field of work.

Almost 185,000 baptisms on Southern Baptist foreign mission fields last year

give evidence of the effectiveness of FMB work, Parks told the WMU leaders.

"That means every three minutes last year someone was being baptized on your foreign mission fields, related to your foreign missions work," he said.

Last year, 411 new Southern Baptist missionaries were sent out through the board, the second largest number of missionaries ever sent out in a year. The board also sent out more than 6000 volunteers to work on foreign fields.

Although recent statistics are encouraging, Parks said the board must adapt the way it is doing missions if Southern Baptists are to fulfill Christ's Great Commission to spread the Christian gospel around the world.

Adapting means planning a "global" strategy for foreign missions, including countries where the board is not allowed to send missionaries, he said.

Out of about 250 nations, the board plans to have missionaries in 125 before the year 2000. About half of the remaining nations do not allow missionaries. (BP)

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January 27, 1987

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Jack D. Sanford

## sanford's perspectives

### Concert of Prayer is Timely and Appropriate

The December meeting of the Foreign Mission Board produced an item all Southern Baptists must support because of its importance for world missions advancement.

A special committee of the board, chaired by Barbara Cunningham, proposed a Concert of Prayer which calls upon all Southern Baptist churches to pray for world missions on the first Sunday of each month, starting Feb. 1, 1987. The board enthusiastically approved the concept.

The report stated that "widespread spiritual awakening and world evangelization will never take place without a united, sustained concert of extraordinary prayer." All of us can say Amen to that as did the members of the FMB.

So let us gear up our churches for a united prayer effort to support the task of world evangelization. We have in place in our churches, through the WMU, an organization capable of leading us in this united effort. If deacons, Brotherhood members and Sunday school leaders joined the effort a Concert of Prayer would become a reality across the land.

We know the power of prayer, for all of us have felt it in our own families. We know the power of

prayer, for all of us have seen its accomplishments in our churches. With this universal experience of the power of prayer there is no doubt every Southern Baptist would be willing to spend time in concentrated prayer for more power and wisdom in world evangelization.

Now let us bend our knees together and beseech the heavenly father to open doors of opportunity and supply spirit-filled men and women for the task of proclaiming the gospel of Christ around the world. That surely should be the object of our prayers.

Nothing will strengthen our churches more than such a Concert of Prayer and nothing will undergird the Foreign Mission Board more than the same concentration on prayer by millions of Southern Baptists. The Concert of Prayer could be a healing power among us as we join together in support of this effort.

The idea of a Concert of Prayer in all our churches is excellent and we commend the FMB for the challenge they have set before us and call upon all Kentucky Baptist churches to join in the movement.

### New Historical Material Available

The Historical Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, under the leadership of Lynn E. May Jr., has prepared for distribution a series of pamphlets called Shapers of Southern Baptist Heritage.

These pamphlets feature 10 key persons who made an extraordinary impact in 10 important areas of Southern Baptist life. They cover such subjects as Baptist origins, music, ethics, evangelism, missions, New Testament studies, preaching, public affairs, religious education and theology.

People in focus in the series include William B. Johnson, I. E. Reynolds, T. B. Maston, L. R. Scarborough, Annie Armstrong, A. T. Robertson, John A. Broadus, J. M. Dawson, Gaines S. Dobbins and

E. Y. Mullins. Each of these Baptist leaders made significant contributions to our way of life and are worthy of our attention.

During this sesquicentennial year in the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Church Training sessions centering on these pioneers and shapers of Southern Baptist life would be in order as we celebrate the origin and development of our own state convention.

The pamphlets are concise, easy to read and lend themselves to discussion group activity. The important thing about the pamphlets is their historical accuracy. They tell us how we came to be what we are and show us how strong men and women with spiritual insight helped forge the faith we embrace today.

### Special Conferences a Must for Church Leaders

Two identical conferences are scheduled at Cedarmore and Kentucky Dam village which focus on a continuing area of ministry which needs careful attention.

The Deacon, Pastor, Spouse conferences are set for Cedarmore Feb. 20-21 and Kentucky Dam Village Feb. 27-28. John Lepper, director of the Family Ministry Department of the KBC, has enlisted A. B. Colvin as main speaker at Kentucky Dam Village and Gary Coltharp for the same position at Cedarmore.

The purpose of these conferences is to affirm deacon ministries in the past and equip deacons for more significant ministry with pastors in the future.

Conference leaders include Frank Dorris, Jim

Hightower, Bill Rogers, Gerard Howell and Chip Miller.

Wives will be offered opportunity for study and reflection under the leadership of Nancy Futral.

The partnership between pastors and deacons is critical to success in the work of the church. No less important is the support of the spouse in this partnership. Thus the conference Lepper has arranged should be high on the agenda of pastors and deacons across the state.

Costs are low and results could be beyond measure. Take advantage of this opportunity to hear a word of affirmation about deacon-pastor teamwork and a good word about what that team can produce in the future.

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# christian education

## Coleman, 84, dies after long illness

Former Georgetown College English department chairman John Coleman Arnold, 84, died Thursday, Jan. 8, at his home at 210 Military Street after a long illness.

Arnold began his teaching career at Georgetown in 1946. He stopped teaching full time in 1972, but continued to work for the college on a part time basis until 1976. He was chairman of the English department from 1954 to 1972.

Arnold, who particularly enjoyed teaching Shakespearean drama, was twice voted the college's most popular professor.

He was faculty advisor to the Georgetown College newspaper and annual for a number of years. He had been a member of the school's curriculum committee, and was its Rhodes Scholarship representative.

## Blincoe joins staff at Campbellsville

Linda Blincoe is assistant director of admissions at Campbellsville College, according to an announcement from W. R. Davenport, president of the college.

She has joined the admissions staff which is directed by Philip Hanna.

Miss Blincoe will be covering primarily the central section of the state.

She is a 1971 graduate of Daviess County High School, Owensboro; a 1975 graduate of Belmont College, Nashville, where she received a BA degree in religion; and graduated from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary with a MRE in 1980.

## Craddock to deliver preaching lectures

Fred B. Craddock, Bandy professor of preaching and New Testament at Candler School of Theology, Emory University, will deliver the E. Y. Mullins Lectures in Preaching at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary March 3-6 at 10 a.m. in Alumni Chapel. The lectures will be held in conjunction with the national conference on biblical preaching.

Craddock is a graduate of Johnson Bible College, Phillips University and Vanderbilt University. He has done post-doctoral study at Tubingen, Germany and Yale University.

An ordained minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Craddock has served pastorates in Tennessee and Oklahoma. He is the author of seven books and numerous journal articles, and he is on the editorial board of *Quarterly Review* and on the advisory board of *Interpretation*.

The Mullins Lectures were established by Edgar Young and Isal May Mullins to focus on preaching. Mullins succeeded W. H. Whitsitt as president of Southern Seminary in 1899.

## SBTS holds March preaching conference

"Preaching in a Pastoral Context" is theme for the second annual Conference on Preaching, March 2-6, sponsored by the National Center for Preaching at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Program personalities will include: Fred B. Craddock, Bandy professor of



Coleman



Blincoe

preaching and new Testament at the Candler School of Theology; Richard Jackson, pastor of North Phoenix Baptist Church; Warren Hultgren, pastor of First Baptist Church of Tulsa, Okla.; Daniel Vestal, pastor of First Baptist Church of Midland, Tex.; and Southern Seminary professors Raymond Bailey, David Garland, Gerald Keown, Gerald Borchert and Molly Marshall-Green.

Cost for the conference is \$50. For more information, contact Ross Brummett, Continuing Education, 2825 Lexington Rd., Louisville, KY 40280 or call (800) 626-5525 (in Kentucky call 502-897-4315).

## Campbellsville hosts four RTA seminars

Campbellsville College is hosting a series of four seminars on the Tax Reform Act of 1986, according to W. R. Davenport, president of the college. The first seminar begins Jan. 29.

The four different seminars will each be presented twice: on Thursday evenings and Friday afternoons. Conducting the seminars will be Kenneth Pope, vice president for advancement, and president of Touchstone Financial Services Inc., co-sponsor of the series, and Jay Orr, director of financial development at the College. Touchstone is a registered investment advisor.

The topics, times and dates of the presentations are as follows:

"TRA '86: an overview,"—Jan. 29, 7 p.m., and Jan 30, 2 p.m.; "Business planning and TRA '86,"—Feb. 5, 7 p.m., and Feb. 6, 2 p.m.; "Investing under TRA '86,"—Feb. 12, 7 p.m., and Feb. 13, 2 p.m.; "Limited partnerships under TRA '86,"—Feb. 19, 7 p.m., and Feb. 20, 2 p.m.



Leon Simpson  
President  
Clear Creek Baptist School  
Pineville, KY 40977

# clear creek comment

## I shall die soon

In reading Psalm 49 recently I was gripped by a phrase in verse 14 which talks about all mankind, "Like sheep they are laid in the grave; death shall feed on them." (The New American Standard Bible says, "Death shall be their shepherd.") In this brief Psalm it is stated and implied at least five times that death is inevitable for all of us.

How many times in my ministry I have heard the words "I'm going to die," "I'll die soon," "I don't have long." People facing death have a need for guidelines and reassurance. Let me share with you four attitudes I have found to be useful over the years as one faces death.

**I'm going to die soon—but God will not!**

It fortifies my soul to know/ that though I perish, God is so./ That how soe'er I stray and range/ whate'er I do he does not change/ I steadier step when I recall/ That if I slip, he does not fall!

There is a bright future after death for God's child. He is a wonderful, loving Lord who will be with us and also be waiting on the other side.

**I'm going to die soon—I can accept it!** God loves me, Jesus died for me and he promised me a home in heaven with him. Through my life God has proven to me many times his word is true and his promises can be trusted. Until our Lord returns everyone must die—I can accept it.

**I'm going to die soon—I'd better prepare!** Fighting it is futile, refusing to face it is foolish and self pity is a waste of time. I want to live for the Lord until the last day of my life, and I must prepare for death for the good of my loved ones. Also, I want to support the causes in which I believe after I am gone.

**I will die soon—I must prepare my will!** I must arrange it so I can serve the Lord with my estate forever. I must realize the strength and power there is in committing my resources, small though they may be, to accomplish great things for God through outstanding ministries like Clear Creek.

I will die soon—but God will not, I can accept it, I must prepare for it and I must prepare my will. Psalm 49:15 includes these blessed words, "But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave." Hallelujah! What a saviour!

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The Propes family of Buffalo Baptist Church, Severns Valley Association, was recognized recently for outstanding perfect attendance records in Sunday school. Back row (l to r): Donnie, 30 years; Donald, 29; Geneva, 29; and Janet, 14. Front row (l Kyle, 6 years, and Kevin, 10. David Beeler is pastor at Buffalo Baptist Church.

## missions

**Wayne and Mary Emanuel**, missionaries to Japan, have completed furlough and returned to the field (1-2 Chome, Umegaoka, Nagaokakyo-shi, Kyoto-fu 617, Japan). He was born in Tulsa, Okla., and she is the former Mary Lou Massengill of Middlesboro, Ky. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1958.

**Philip and Sheila Duncan**, missionaries to Ecuador, have completed language study in Costa Rica and arrived on their field of service (Casilla 140, Portoviejo, Ecuador). They are natives of Kentucky. He was born in Louisville and considers Hopkinsville his home town. She is the former Sheila Foster of Owensboro. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1985.

**David and Jean Dorris**, Baptist representatives to Israel, have completed furlough and returned to the field (Baptist Village, Mobile Post, Central Sharon, Israel). He is a native of Springfield, Tenn. The former Jean Moreland, she was born in Mayfield, Ky. and lived in Springfield and McMinnville, Tenn. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1974.

**Kenneth and Divina Park**, missionaries to Chile, have completed furlough and returned to the field (Casilla 460, Copiapo, Chile). They are natives of Paducah, Ky.; she is the former Divina

Key. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1964.

**Edward and Sue Oliver**, missionaries to Japan, have completed furlough and returned to the field (2-6-4 Musashinodai, Fussa-shi, Tokyo 197, Japan). He is a native of Tampa, Fla., and she is the former Susan Pyles of Louisville. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1950.

## congregations

**John Brooks**, associated director for Camp Rockmont for boys will speak Feb. 4 at 7:30 p.m. at **Crescent Hill Baptist Church's** chapel. He will give a presentation on Rockmont and Camp Holymont for girls, two interdenominational Christian camps for children age 7 and up.

Parents and children are invited to attend. For more information contact Frank Brooks, 228-4008 after 5 p.m.

**Burlington Baptist Church**, Northern Kentucky Association, marked a day of celebration and thanksgiving Jan. 11 when the church reached the retirement of its indebtedness. Eight years ago a new building was constructed and a program of renovation was accomplished. Total expenditures for the program surpassed \$700,000.

Pastor Paul Godsey says the church has recently purchased additional property at a cost of \$135,000 and will consider the next phase of church growth.

# mountains to the mississippi

**First Baptist Church, Pikeville**, Pike Association, averaged 392 in Sunday school during December. This reflected an increase of 136 over December 1985.

Pastor Glenn Mollette attributes the growth to an enlarging of the Sunday school organization by adding two classes, a renewed emphasis on personal contacts with an average of 224 contacts per week, and the enthusiastic direction of the church education director, Rebecca Martin.

**First Baptist Church, Whitesburg**, Three Forks Association, experienced a great revival with more than 66 professions of faith and 200 other decisions. Evangelist for the revival was Felix Snipes, who used magic to proclaim the gospel.

Tom Stokes is pastor of the Whitesburg church.

**Parkville Baptist Church**, South District Association, conducted a note-burning ceremony Jan. 4.

The congregation retired a four-year-old debt on its parsonage, new roof on the educational building, new pavilion and improvements to the church parking lot. Pastor Cecil Fuitz said improvements totaled about \$142,000.

Guest speaker was W. O. Willham, director of missions for South District Association. The church presented a plaque to the widow of the late Bill Noe, a trustee of the church who worked on the project. Other trustees and members of the building committee recognized include Dexter Beicher, Thomas Burger and Duana Beicher.

**First Baptist Church, Owensboro**, Daviess-McLean Association, recently honored David Nelson on the occasion of his 25th anniversary as pastor.



Nelson

He has been active in community affairs and in the Kentucky Baptist Con-

vention, having been president of the KBC in 1966.

**St. Matthew Baptist Church**, Long Run Association, will offer an eight week class called "Strengthening Your Step-family," led by Tom Bloxam.

Class will begin Feb. 3 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Matthews. Cost is \$15 per session for couples.

Reservations should be made through the church office (896-8882) by Friday, Jan. 30.

## personnel

**Dale Thompson** has been called to pastor Yorktown Baptist Church, Long Run Association.

**J. D. Herndon** has forsaken retirement once again to take up an active ministry. Herndon began as director of missions for Henry County Association Jan. 1, 1987. He retired as director of Kentucky Baptist Children's Home in 1972. He became DOM in Christian County Association and retired a second time.



Herndon

In 1976 he became DOM in Nelson Association and retired a third time.

**Kenneth Hollis** has accepted the pastorate of Plum Creek Baptist Church, Long Run Association.

**Scott Sterling** has resigned as pastor of Westside-Portland Baptist Church, Long Run Association.

**Chris Carroll** resigned the pastorate of New Prospect Church, Booneville Association.

**Ray Wilson Sr.** has resigned as pastor of Wolf Creek Church, South Union Association.

**Arthur Benge** resigned his position as pastor at Emmanuel Baptist Church, Laurel River Association.

**Cecil Mullins** has accepted the pastorate of Augusta Baptist Church, Bracken Association.



James H. Cox  
Associate Editor

## fourth estate

### Having my moments

I've always liked the story I heard years ago about an unnamed friar out in the farm belt. He was not a frivolous person, but a holy man. Yet, he also understood that God wants his children to enjoy life. Here is what he wrote:

"If I had my life to live over, I'd try to make more mistakes next time. I would relax. I would limber up, I would be sillier than I have been this trip. I know of a very few things I would take seriously. I would be less hygienic. I would take more chances. I would take more trips. I would climb more mountains, swim more rivers and watch more sunsets. I would eat more ice cream. I would have actual troubles and fewer

imaginary ones.

"You see, I am one of those people who lives sensibly and sanely, hour after hour, day after day. Oh, I have had my moments and, if I had it to do over again I'd have more of them. In fact, I'd try to have nothing else. Just moments, one after another, instead of living so many years ahead each day. I have been one of those people who never go anywhere without a thermometer, a hot water bottle, a gargle, a raincoat and a parachute. If I had it to do over again, I would go places and do things and travel lighter than I have.

"If I had my life to live over again, I would start barefooted earlier in the spring and stay that way later in the fall. I would play hooky more. I wouldn't make such good grades except by accident. I would ride on more merry-go-rounds. I would pick more daisies."

Some of us live in an awfully regimented world. The clock tells us when to get up, when to go to bed and when to do everything in between. We find

ourselves seldom varying our routines because, as the saying goes, "we've never done it another way."

We've insured ourselves against disaster, whether we go on living or we don't. We've tried to plan for most conceivable emergencies. We've become straightlaced and businesslike even in dealing with associates, family and friends.

And in truth, what has it bought us? Perhaps a little peace of mind. But that may be all. It seems to me, in living like that, real security has eluded us, and life may have become drudgery rather than joy.

I'm writing all of this to myself as much as I am to anyone. If you see yourself in it, you too can take heed.

I'm going to try to limber up, to be sillier, to watch more sunsets, eat more ice cream, travel lighter and pick more daisies.

For after all, "This is the day which the Lord hath made;...rejoice and be glad in it" (Ps.118:24).

# baptist forum

## HMB correct in refusing funds

We the Eddy Creek Baptist Church believing ordination to be a local church issue and believing in the autonomy of the local church believe that the directors of the Home Mission Board did *not* violate our individual rights as a local church by stopping funds for women pastors.

We believe they were correct in trying to fulfill the desires of our Convention as voiced by the 1984 Kansas City resolution stating that we interpret the Bible to say that women should not fulfill a pastoral or deacon leadership role.

We believe a resolution *not* to be binding on a local church, but should be considered by boards, agencies, and committees in shaping denominational policy. We believe the issue of women receiving funds is a denominational issue and *not* a local church issue.

We commend the directors of the Home Mission Board for their honest efforts to fulfill the desires of our convention.

Michael Hail, Pastor  
Eddy Creek Church, Princeton

## Unusual address change requested

This is to inform you of an address change—perhaps more unusual than many such letters you get. We have enjoyed so much Western Recorder for the 13 years we have been in Georgetown. Our new address is **Darrell Cruse, Truinfo, Pe. 56980 Brazil.** We are not sure of any arrangements for foreign missionaries to receive Western Record-

er, but if possible, we would love it.

After 16 years service in the states, we are going to serve as a pastor, field evangelist in a small town about six hours northwest of Recife, Pernambuco, Brazil. We eagerly are waiting for visas and hope to be in Brazil early in February.

We are very grateful to our church, Gano Ave. Baptist, and to our many friends in Kentucky who have blessed us through these years. We thank you at Western Recorder for a faithful ministry!

Please pray for us and our families as we go. We are learning to lean more and more on the Lord and prayer. It is exciting to be able to ask you to change our address.

Betty and Darrell Cruse  
Georgetown

## Missionaries grateful for prayers

I happen to be one of those fortunate home missionaries born during the month of December. In the divine providence of God, he led leaders in our Southern Baptist Convention to focus my wife and myself in a number of the mission periodicals for December, 1986. God had his reason for doing this.

During the month of December thousands and thousands of Southern Baptists began praying for Joy and me and our work in the Puget Sound Baptist Association. We received hundreds of birthday and Christmas cards from young R.A.'s and G.A.'s, some who could barely print their names, Acteens, Baptist Young women, WMU groups and

Baptist Men's groups. God so chose, in his infinite wisdom, to have them pray for us at a very crucial time in my life. On the 15th of December I went into the hospital and had open heart surgery. I was not aware of this problem until a few days prior to that time. I had experienced pains in my chest but I was determined to wait until after the holidays before I had them looked at seriously. God gave me some indicators and I saw a doctor who said if I had not had the surgery I probably would not be around to continue my missionary service.

My wife and I express our sincere appreciation for the prayers of thousands of Southern Baptists who pray on a regular basis for their missionaries. Most of the time they do not hear how God answers those prayers or how he works in the lives of their missionaries. I thank God for churches who on a weekly or monthly basis pray for their missionaries and send out cards expressing these seasons of prayer for them.

Keep on praying, Southern Baptists! You don't know how much good you're doing!

David & Joy Holden  
Director of Missions  
Puget Sound Baptist Association

## Baptists should support FMB

For 142 years Southern Baptists have been effective in foreign mission programs and efficient in operation. Now a new organization—the Genesis Commission—has emerged as a competitor to our world mission program.

What prompted the Genesis Commission? The public statement was that this is another effort by concerned people to help win the world to Christ. The desire of mission involvement is worthy, but is a competing organization necessary? Bill Darnell, executive director of the Genesis Commission, denies any effort to compete with the Foreign Mission Board. He said, "I think there is so much money in this world we're petty and little when we think this way."

Is the desire to win the world the compelling motive for the Genesis Commission or is there something more behind the scenes? Could it be that some of the theological questions have flowed over

into our mission effort as a result of questions (unjustified) about doctrinal positions of some of the missionaries, as well as resentment of Keith Parks' statement regarding the current controversy? Could it be this alternative mission board is a result of Paige Patterson's concern about the "restrictive regulations" by the FMB in appointing missionaries from other than Southern Baptist seminaries? Could this also be a reaction to the view held by some that our mission program should only consist of evangelism and church planting areas, not agricultural, medical or educational ministries?

If the aim is to open the door to appointments from Mid America or Criswell Institute or Luther Rice, then would it be or could it be restricted to these or opened to Dallas Seminary, Fuller, Liberty and other seminary graduates?

The formation of the Genesis Commission raises an additional question. How concerned are we about creating a basis for peace within the Southern Baptist Convention? This does not make for peace, but creates the basis for further division. If this group creates an alternative to our foreign mission program, then with the concern by many of this same group about the Sunday School Board, will the next approach be an alternative publishing company?

I do not believe Southern Baptist churches will rally to this group. I believe we have too much prayer, too much money, too much love invested in our mission program.

I believe we need to join with those 21 South Carolina Baptist pastors and oppose this unnecessary splintering of our mission and evangelistic program.

John Dunaway  
Corbin

## Declaration challenges Baptists to win justice for oppressed

Newspaper headlines about the growing number of organized hate groups in this country are an ugly reminder that the battle against prejudice, racism and injustice has not been won. The need for more tangible progress in the area of social and economic justice is painfully evident. Even the progress that has been made in improved race relations must be fortified lest it be forfeited.

Christ began his earthly ministry by declaring a special concern for "the poor," "the broken-hearted," "the captives" and the "bruised" (Luke 4:18). While these categories are not limited to any one segment of American society, it is true ethnic minorities continue to have a significantly higher proportion of persons who are socially and economically disadvantaged.

Southern Baptists several years ago made a strong and eloquent stand for dignity, worth and equality of all people. The Declaration of Human Rights, presented by the Christian Life Commission, and approved by the 1978 Southern Baptist Convention in Atlanta, included the following statements:

"Let Southern Baptist citizens be committed to political action on behalf of human rights at home and abroad, responsibly involving ourselves as God's salt, God's light, and God's leaven in the whole political process...Let Southern Baptist churches be boldly involved in championing justice for the oppressed, providing food for the hungry, supporting changes in those laws and systems which abuse the poor while providing loopholes for the rich, doing the things

that make for peace, and effecting change where change is needed to support basic human rights."

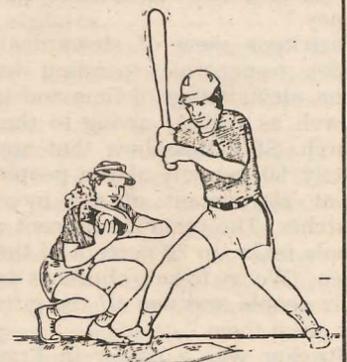
Race Relations Sunday is an appropriate occasion to consider the challenge of this declaration and to pray to the Lord who loves justice that our lofty words will find expression in living deeds.

## Make plans to attend!

### Recreation Mini-Lab

March 13 & 14, 1987

### Immanuel Baptist Church Lexington, Ky



#### Conferences:

Youth ministry	Jim Blakeney
Retreats	"Pogo" Smith
Fitness	Dean Hartzell
Drama	Ev Robinson
Rec. without a facility	Freddy Morris
Children's camps	Dennis Sills
Evangelism & Rec.	Jim McGee
Starting a Rec. program	Bob Farmer
Senior Adult ministry	Tom Baker
Sports & Outreach	Robby Speer

#### Schedule

##### Friday Evening

6:30-7:00	Registration
7:00-7:30	Introduction, announcements beginnings
7:30-8:45	Conference Time I
8:45-10:00	Refreshments/fellowship

##### Saturday morning

8:30-9:00	Coffee, juice, doughnuts
9:00-10:15	Conference Time II
10:15-10:30	Break
10:30-11:45	Conference Time III
11:45-12:00	Closing Time

For more information call: 1-606-269-5715

# Worthy laborers: your Baptist Building staff

## Weightlifter, helper describe Cathi Roy

Catherine S. Roy knew she wanted to work in accounting from the time she was a junior in high school. To pursue her career she earned a BA in accounting at Bellarmine College and is now working on her MBA there.

Miss Roy is director of Accounting Services Department for the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Before coming aboard Jan. 1, 1985, she worked at Southern Seminary, Louisville, as accounting supervisor of purchasing services. Previous to her time at Southern she was an auditor.

"In my early 20s I felt a call to use my gifts in a Christian vocation," she explains.

"I consider my work at the KBC to be a ministry. It requires the use of the gifts of administration."

Miss Roy is a native of Jeffersonville, Indiana where her family still resides.

Her work at the KBC is time consuming, she admits, but she has outside interests. Her class work, time with friends and contributions to her church, Walnut Street, are important.

"And when I'm not involved with that I'm trying to take care of my home and my cat, K. C.," she says, smiling.

Miss Roy has volunteered at Walnut Street in many capacities. She works with the single adult group, is on the budget planning and Sunday school

nominating committees and was on the pastor's search committee. She was recently named a deacon.

Miss Roy also enjoys lifting weights. "People look surprised when I tell them that," she admits.

Two years ago she visited a health club that was opening in St. Matthews. The Nautilus machine appealed to her for some reason.

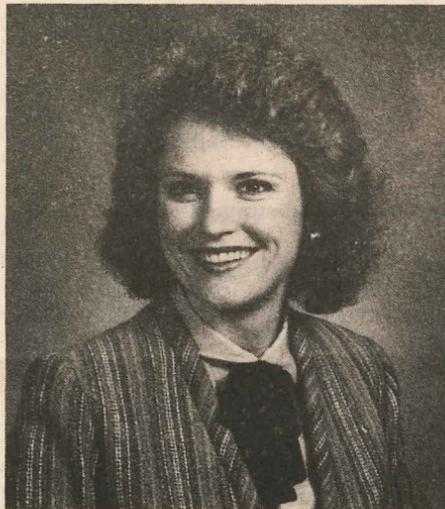
"It's a good way to relieve stress and maintain fitness," she explains.

"It's different. Everybody jogs but not everybody lifts weights."

After earning her MBA Miss Roy has no formalized goals for her immediate future, but she does have a goal for her life.

"My life goal is to be the best person I can be in view of what God wants me to be and aim toward that."

—Cathy Butler



Roy

## Tennis anyone? Quinn has the swing

Besides his full time work as director of the Church Music Department, Eugene Quinn has several hobbies which are related to his work. He distributes copies of a hymnal concordance which he has published and which took him three years to compile. Now, probably thousands of people across the convention use Quinn's concordance to help them locate particular words in the Baptist Hymnal.

He has also compiled a list of anthems based on particular scriptures. He makes available copies of these lists to ministers of music across Kentucky and sells them to people outside the state.

Some Sunday mornings when he is not singing with the adult choir at Lyndon Baptist Church where he is a member,

he does supply work for churches in Kentucky.

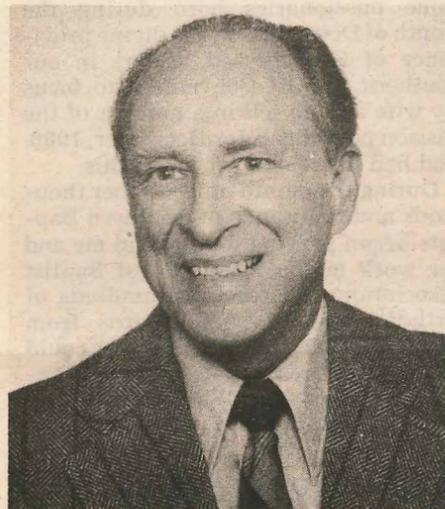
Quinn is able to continue at such a pace, no doubt, partly because of his exceptional health. He comments on his excellent blood pressure, adding, "Of course, I don't know what else is wrong with me. I feel great." Quinn's good physical condition results in part from his regular tennis and racquetball games. "Every day possible" after work he plays tennis with church members, friends or his children.

Quinn has enjoyed mission work through the years in connection with his work. He participated in mission trips to Japan and the Philippines and taught at the Philippine Baptist Seminary for four weeks in 1978. He has also toured with the Kentucky Baptist Chorale in Europe and Canada. He has traveled through Japan, the Philippines and on around the world singing gospel concerts in Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand, and visited the Baptist work in Bangladesh and Europe. This world tour he considers "probably the most enjoyable" of his travels.

A humble man, Quinn comments that he sings "an acceptable solo. My solo work has been satisfying because people have gotten a blessing from it." He also has received gratification in his choral work and supply work in churches, knowing that he has helped to "advance God's program through music."

His main goal for the future is to "keep serving and growing" in his "music contribution to the kingdom of God wherever he leads."

—Beth Warf



Quinn

## Stricker: giving concept important

The biblical concept of stewardship encompassed a great deal more than many people think. Jesse Stricker, director of the Stewardship Department, knows that better than most.

"The area of stewardship is very misunderstood," he insists. "It's not only money."

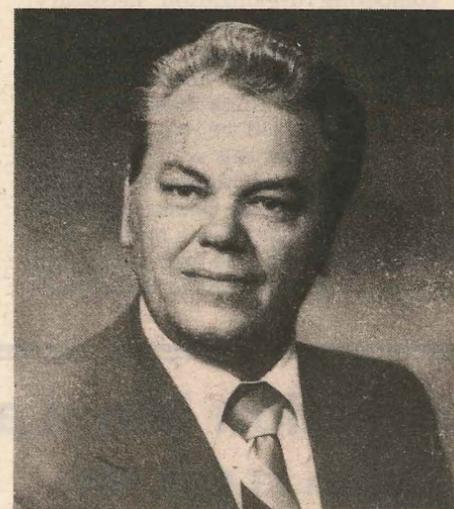
Stricker's view of stewardship includes responsible spending for the home, stewardship of time and talents as well as regular giving to the local church. Statistics show that approximately 80 percent of the people give about 20 percent of the money to churches. The other 20 percent of the people make up 80 percent of the total given. "We try to help churches develop their people and use all the gifts God has given them."

Stricker was a pastor in Frankfort when invited to become an associate in the KBC Sunday School Department.

"I had never thought of myself as a denominational worker," Stricker confesses, although he was already a special worker in Sunday school and in Church Training. He accepted and two years later became director of the Stewardship Department.

"It's very rewarding," Stricker says simply.

A photography buff, Stricker and his family travel quite a bit. "We were a camping family when the kids were



Stricker

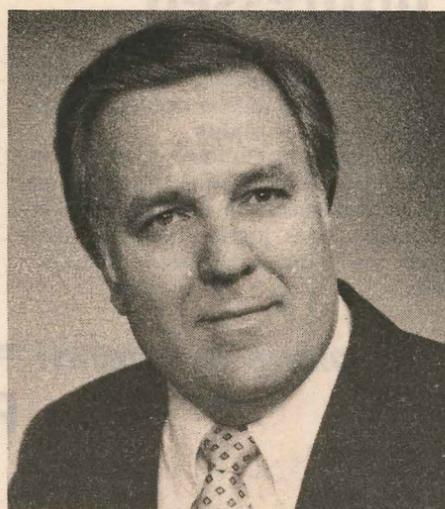
younger," he admits, "and we have quite a collection of slides." In 1974 the Strickers went on a mission tour.

"I tried to understand, as we traveled, how the Cooperative Program dollars are used on the field. It was such a rewarding experience."

Part of Stricker's job is trying to involve associations in stewardship. "When you have 2200 churches, you can't possibly visit each one personally," he explains. "We train associational leaders in the various facets of stewardship: budgeting, Christian money management. Then the associations can equip the churches."

Stricker is satisfied with his work and his life. "Happiness," according to Jesse Stricker, "is being fulfilled by doing what God wants you to do."

—Catherine Edwards



Strader

## Product of system, Strader advocates it

Doug Strader, director of the Church Training Department, believes in the program he promotes. And he should, for he is a product of it.

"I really believe that the Lord used Baptist Training Union (BTU) to call me into the ministry. He began sowing the seeds while I was attending East Union Baptist Church in Muhlenberg County," Strader says.

"Church Training was different from the other ministry formats," he explains. "It gave hands-on experience by studying and developing practical theology for coping with everyday life."

That's why Strader is busy trying to

revive interest in church discipleship training today. "Only about 50 percent of Kentucky Baptist churches have any form of Church Training. So, if the Lord wanted to use Church Training to call a young man like he did with me, he could only send the Spirit to about half of our churches."

Strader, a graduate of Campbellsville College and Southern Seminary, is a thoroughbred Kentuckian. Before working for the state convention he pastored 25 years in three churches: Beacon Hill, Somerset; Little Flock, Louisville; and Junction City, Danville.

At first he was hesitant about leaving the pastorate. But when he saw his influence could have a greater dimension and a wider range, he became excited about this opportunity.

"It's always been a favorite task of mine to enhance a church's training program during my ministry. The challenge of doing this on a broader scale sold me on working for the convention," Strader claims.

His enthusiasm is contagious and has led the department to set high aims for this year. "Our goal is to try to reestablish and start Church Training programs in Kentucky churches," he states. "We hope to raise the number involved in discipleship to at least 65 percent, matching the present SBC level."

Strader's strategy calls for more traveling each week to "challenge pastors and church staff to take seriously the Great Commission of discipling the people of God. If we can do a better job training the new church members we will do better retaining them after the first six months."

—Todd Deaton

## 'Not too serious,' Lepper says of self

"Bill Rogers was my Doctor of Ministry department supervisor in the pastor track at Southern. My specific interest was in counseling and family and family ministry," John Lepper mused slowly. "I didn't really know what the job required, but he knew me. And he was right."

Lepper is director of Family Ministry and Church Administration, where the primary emphasis is on singles, senior citizens and family enrichment ministries. "Everything I'm doing here I tried to do in my church. We reached a lot of young families and ministered to their needs," Lepper says.

"I, myself, am a family person," Lepper affirms with conviction. The bulletin board behind his door is covered with drawings and other creations of his three daughters and he is quick to wave pictures. "I think my belief in the family stems out of that."

One of the most attractive things about the job, in Lepper's opinion, is the chance to be helping other ministers like himself. "Bill (Rogers) said I would simply be 'enlarging my parish.' I liked that idea," he admitted with a smile.

"My work is a natural outgrowth of my belief in the family," Lepper emphasizes. "I had always had the privilege of growing up in a stable Christian home—that's part of who I am."

## Small churches interest Palmer

Jack Palmer is "very excited" about his work as associate director in the Sunday School Department.

"I'm real excited because a lot of things are beginning to happen these days that show the direction we're taking is right." Palmer sees the Sunday school as the "arm of the church that will help the church to grow and reach people... as well as to teach the Bible."

Although his ministry often involves long hours on the road and being away from home, Palmer believes the experience of "seeing churches wake up" compensates for any inconvenience. To "see these young pastors catch the gleam of Sunday school as the catalyst in this whole process of helping the church... reaching people for Christ... really keeps you going."

His particular interest lies in assisting small churches. Palmer is now working on a doctoral program with the goal of producing a "process" to help small churches begin to grow and reach people through Sunday school.

When Palmer began his career as an electronic engineer in the Navy (1945), he had planned to continue this career—until he responded to God's call. His "pastor back home" kept in touch with him and at one time wrote him, "I think you've got a call you need to listen to." He did listen to that call.

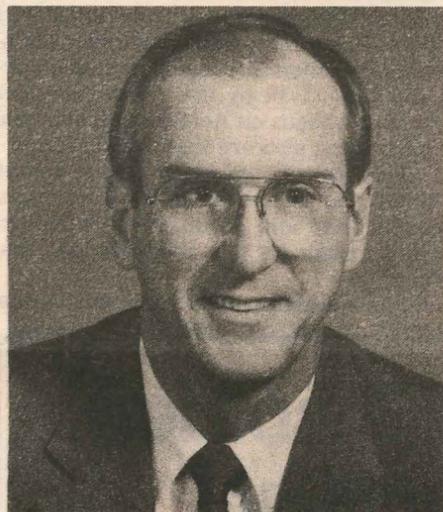
"I finally let the Lord lead me and I decided, it's going to be now or never." Palmer canceled plans to continue education at Georgia Tech and enrolled at Stetson, where he did ministerial training.

Lepper describes himself as a "wood butcher" who enjoys reading in his free time and bicycling with his daughters. He writes and derives a great deal of satisfaction from exercising that gift.

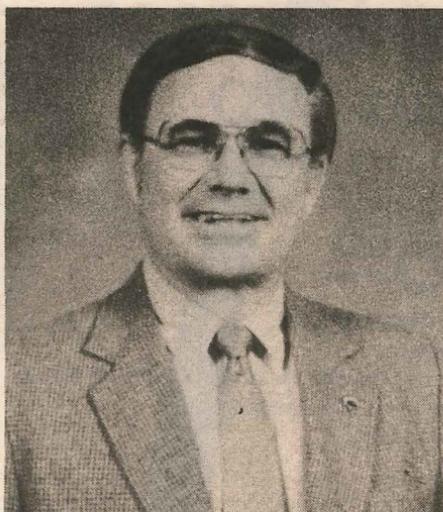
"I want to help preachers update their skills," adds Lepper. "That's one of the newer things we are trying to do in this department." Family Ministry and Church Administration sponsors conferences and retreats for those interested in sharpening their skills in preaching, being a deacon and some fellowship and growth retreats for singles and senior adults.

"Something about me I didn't say," Lepper added sheepishly, "is that I try very hard not to take myself seriously, but I take my work very seriously. I believe in it."

—Catherine Edwards



Lepper



Palmer

Throughout his years of college and seminary, Palmer's wife, Gloria, "trailed around after me around the country." They have been together since their high school days in St. Petersburg, Fla. when they began dating and married after World War II. They celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary in December. The Palmers have four sons scattered from New York City to Ft. Myers and they enjoy traveling to visit them as well as seeing movies together.

Palmer does not have too many years before retirement and he expects to be working toward his goal of Sunday school growth until that time. "If I can accomplish this (goal) before then, I'll be very happy."

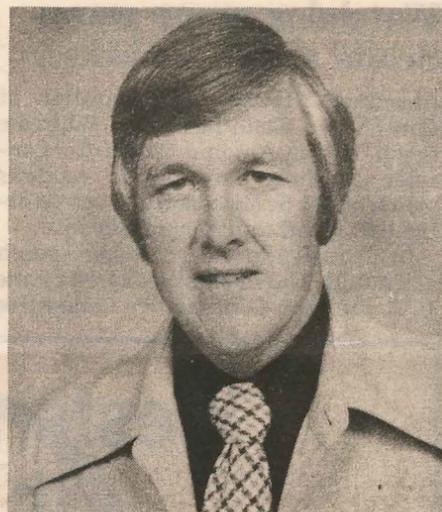
—Beth Warf

## Hopkins: the greens to student ministry

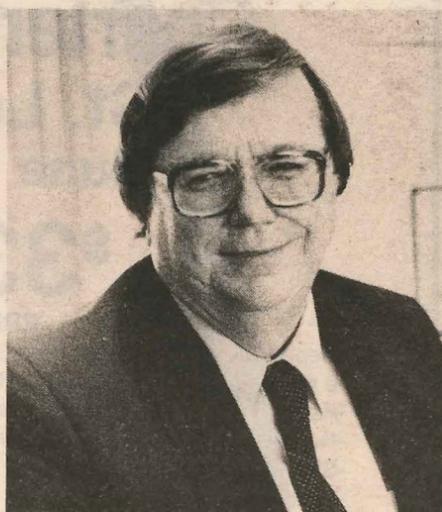
"How does your spiritual life relate to a house or to a position on a football team?" is just one of the challenging questions Ralph Hopkins may ask a perplexed college student.

Each summer Hopkins, associate director of the Student Department, looks for people with the right dynamics for summer missions and camp staffs. He wants thoroughbreds who are "hard working, imaginative, will stick with the challenge and go for the win."

"I never planned on being in student work," Hopkins admits. "As a teenager I felt a call to foreign missions. I corresponded with the Foreign Mission Board and was licensed as a minister at age 17."



Hopkins



Hays

## A computer wizard, Hays also musician

Douglas Hays feels a definite calling into his job as director of the Computer Services Department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

"I've been a Baptist all my life but was a little naive about what went on out here (at the KBC Building). I called out here 20 years ago and asked Mr. Morton, then the business manager, if they had an accounting department. I really didn't know," Hays says, laughing at the memory.

After some interviews he came to work as an assistant accountant, leaving his job as office manager for a Louisville

While attending Cumberland College, he supplied for Pleasant View Baptist Church, just five miles away. After his freshman year the church called him as pastor.

The Cumberland faculty encouraged him to consider teaching Bible. So, he entered the PhD program at Baylor University, where he also pastored a nearby church.

"Higher education and the pastorate were two separate but parallel drives," Hopkins comments. "After Baylor I returned to Cumberland College as a dean for two years."

That's when Jim Highland, then chairman of the KBC's executive board student work committee, came seeking Hopkins as campus minister at Northern Kentucky University.

"What attracted me most was that the university allowed the chaplain to teach credit courses. Here was a way I could put both interests into one vocation," Hopkins says.

But he did much more than teach while at NKU. "The school was considering dropping the golf program due to a lack of supervision. So, I volunteered to coach the team.

"One of my biggest thrills was coaching two students who qualified for the NCAA golf tournament," he confides.

Hopkins went to Middletown as associate in the Student Department in 1980. His duties include selecting the staff and pastors for the summer camps at Cedarmore and Jonathan Creek attended by more than 2100 youth each year. He also directs the summer missions programs in music, drama, evangelism and creative ministries.

—Todd Deaton

printing company.

Through the years the computers and the needs of the KBC have increased, and his job responsibilities have enlarged with them.

The Computer Services Department was created Jan. 1, 1985 and he became director then. He feels God has directed him along his career path.

"When I came here I was able to bring all my experience with me. I had worked in two banks previous to coming to the KBC," he explains.

Before he became interested in business Hays dreamed of being a school teacher, but after a short stint decided it was not the career for him.

He has pursued a long-time love of music. In his free hours he plays the piano and organ, and has been a church organist and chairman of deacons.

"The office of deacon has always meant a lot to me," he explains. Hays also loves to read, and he works on computer programs constantly.

"I'll be eating or lying in bed and the answer to a problem will suddenly come to me," he says.

He also visits his mother, who is confined to a nursing home, almost every day.

"It takes time to be with her and assure her she's loved," he says.

Hays would like to travel to Egypt and China some day. He would also like to see his department continue to prove its service to other KBC departments, and one day "down the road" have a larger system.

—Cathy Butler



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

## homes for children

### Endowment and trust

Beyond This Time is a theme that causes one to look beyond today. It calls for vision. It is a look to the future. Such is certainly in keeping with the ministry of Baptist Homes for Children. Our daily task and challenge is to lead dependent/neglected children to look up and out. We want to help them meet our loving Lord and look beyond the difficulties of the present and see what they can be. Through good choices, proper goals and clearer vision these troubled youth can grow into successful, productive adults, bring glory to God and blessings to others beyond this time.

Beyond This Time is the theme chosen for our three million dollar endowment campaign. This campaign, which began January 19, is to reach into all regions of Kentucky, challenging Kentucky Baptists and all friends of children to invest in children Beyond This Time. This worthy effort will bear fruit in the lives of children throughout all the years beyond this time.

Investing in children through endowment is a wonderful way to make your gift work over and over again. Endowment carries two very important ideas. One is trust and the other is permanence. When one makes a gift and that gift is placed in an endowment fund, then that gift is kept in trust permanently. The gift itself can never be spent. Endowment funds are invested so they will earn money each year. These earnings provide valuable funds to help pay the costs of caring for children. In this way endowment gifts give and keep on giving.

Baptist Homes for Children is very careful in how endowment money is protected and managed. First, endowment money is protected legally so it cannot be used for any other purpose. Second, endowment money is wisely invested and managed. Our first concern is security, our second concern is to earn as much as possible, our third concern is growth. You can trust Baptist Homes for Children to faithfully hold in trust your endowment gifts. You can also rest assured the earnings from your gifts will be faithfully used to bless children year after year beyond this time.

Remember, you can give to Baptist Homes for Children with cash, stocks and bonds, real estate, insurance policies and through your will. Pray about how you can invest in children Beyond This Time. Call on us if you have a question.

# baptist news in brief

## Retreat encourages deacons' ministry

A. B. Colvin will be the featured speaker at a deacon, pastor, spouse retreat at Kentucky Dam Village Feb. 27-28. Gary Coltharp will fill that role at an identical conference at Cedarmore Feb. 20-21.

The retreat will help participants affirm the heritage of deacons and look to the future of deacon ministry. Theme for the conference is, "Deacon ministry: enriched by heritage—encouraged by hope."

For programming information contact John Lepper, director, Family Ministry and Church Administration Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, P.O. Box 43433, Middletown, KY 40243, (502) 245-4101.

To make reservations contact Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park, Gilbertsville, KY 42044, (502)362-4271.

## Watchdog group warns Scalia about remarks

Americans United for Separation of Church and State has asked Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia to "consider carefully any public remarks which might be misconstrued" as favoring public aid to parochial schools.

In a little-noticed December speech at Catholic University sponsored by the U. S. Catholic Conference's Committee

on Education, Scalia praised Catholic parochial schools, said parochial school teachers are underpaid, and asserted that in his experience parochial schools are more diverse than public schools in social, ethnic and economic makeup.

The high court justice said "society as a whole is indebted" to parochial schools. He added: "[Society] is indebted because—as I have tried to suggest in my remarks—the formation of a good Christian helps in the formation of a good citizen."

In a Jan. 16 letter to Scalia, Americans United urged the recently appointed justice to refrain from remarks which could be taken by the public to be a departure from impartiality on controversial issues which might come before the court.

## WMU sets agenda of social, moral concerns

Social and moral concerns will headline the agenda of curriculum and activities for the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union in 1989-90 following action Jan. 11-14 by the WMU executive board. A focus on Acteens and personal witnessing also are key agenda items.

The board approved the 1989-90 dated plan, which outlines the activities, curriculum and products for WMU organizations in the churches for that year.

The board also instructed the national

WMU staff to develop guidelines for implementing the base design, interpreting social and moral concerns and issues as they relate to missions. The staff was asked to prepare those guidelines for presentation to the executive board in January 1988.

Board members voted to apply most of the 1985-86 budget surplus to help retire the debt on the WMU headquarters facility in Birmingham, Ala.

A special contribution of \$50,000 to the Baptist World Alliance from the executive board will sponsor the Baptist World Aid office in McLean, Va. The Baptist World Aid office will be named the Martin-Mathis Room in honor of Olive Martin and Marie Mathis, two longtime WMU leaders.

Speaking on behalf of WMU's 1.2-million members, the board resolved by adopting two resolutions to "recommit this organization to our historic purpose" of supporting both the Home and Foreign mission boards as the "denomination's inspired, committed and responsible vehicles" to which the SBC's 14.6 million members may cooperatively join to tell their country and their world about Christ.(BP)

## Baptists set goals for Kenya in 1987

Church developers with the Baptist Mission of Kenya met Dec. 28-30 and discussed the "Good News Kenya" campaign involving Kenyan and Kentucky Baptists.

At the end of 1986, according to Jim Musen, a church developer in Kenya, there were nearly 1000 Baptist churches associated with the Baptist Convention of Kenya.

The goals for 1987 include starting 737 congregations, and recording 27,600 baptisms. This would mean a 400 percent increase in baptisms over 1986, a 50 percent increase in total membership in Baptist churches, and an 80 percent increase in congregations.

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President of Church Ministries, Inc.  
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## Baptists need faith for growth to occur

Prayer, commitment and optimism are among the essential factors needed for Southern Baptists to make a breakthrough toward Bold Mission Thrust and Challenge 10/90 goals, Harry Piland told Sunday school leaders.

Piland, director of the Sunday School Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, outlined eight factors he believes are needed for a breakthrough in Southern Baptist growth. He said Southern Baptists must believe growth can happen, renew commitment to enrollment and evangelism and disciple people who are enrolled.

Bold Mission Thrust is the Southern Baptist goal of sharing the gospel with every person in the world by the year 2000. Challenge 10/90 is a Sunday school support goal of 10 million people enrolled in Sunday school by 1990.

Piland urged Southern Baptists to return to evangelism in the grass roots of America: "We can no longer say we are a denomination of the grass roots. We must return to the blue-collar person and turn to persons living in mobile home parks, housing projects and those society has overlooked to make Christ known to our nation."

He said Southern Baptists must rely on basic principles but be willing to accept new methods, multiply leadership through training, unify to meet the task and support the work with prayer.(BP)

## Women: 'use your gifts,' Weatherford urges

Christian women should use their gifts to become servant leaders despite negative attitudes toward women in ministry that could discourage service, Carolyn Weatherford told a group of Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union leaders.

"I'm not talking about preaching. I'm talking about ministering and serving through mission action," said Miss Weatherford, national WMU executive director. She suggested women be more aggressive in exercising their spiritual gifts.

Women do not just "become" servants, Miss Weatherford said: "We who are leaders in the service of others are children of God. Nobody thrusts us in the servant role, but we choose to take it on."

Miss Weatherford said she sees all Christian women as potential servant leaders if they choose to use their gifts. They must do this by first being obedient to God, and not "cowering in a corner, frightened to serve," she noted.

The motivation for doing God's will and using spiritual gifts comes when Christians have given their hearts to Jesus, she said, admonishing, "Don't neglect the gift that is in you."(BP)

## Strader sees need for doctrinal study

Although participation in Church Training programs has been declining over the past decade, Kentucky Baptists recently received national recognition for involvement in Church Training studies. Kentucky earned the honor by maintaining the largest numerical increase of Baptist doctrine study course awards across the Southern Baptist Convention in 1985-86.

Douglas T. Strader, director of the Church Training Department, KBC, received a plaque in Nashville Dec. 8. The award was presented by Roy T. Edgemon, director of the Church Training Department, Baptist Sunday School Board.

This award is the first the department has received since Strader joined the KBC as director of the Church Training/Special Ministries Department in 1984. Strader feels particularly pleased with the accomplishment for two reasons. First, he believes the doctrine of the laity, the topic of study for the year, is an area needing much attention since

laymen are becoming more involved in ministry. Second, Strader sees extreme importance in doctrinal studies because they help us "to know who we are and what we believe as Baptists."

This increase of study course awards reflects partial achievement of a long range goal for the department—to involve more churches and people in Baptist doctrine studies. Each church participating in the course conducted its own study and each person completing the course was entitled to a study course award.

The Church Training Department conducted two preview clinics in Madisonville and Lexington to promote the course. At the clinics, pastors, staff members and other interested persons received an overview of the study course book.

Three similar preview clinics will be held for this year's study, the doctrine of prayer. Clear Creek Baptist Institute and Central Church, Corbin, will host clinics March 16; First Church, Bowling Green, will host a clinic March 17.

## Americans favor religion in public schools

Three-quarters of the American people favor the study of religion in public schools, a recent Gallup poll shows.

On the question of teaching about the world's major faiths, 79 percent said they would not object, with only 16 percent saying they would. On using the Bible in literature, history and social studies classes, 75 percent answered they would not object, with 20 percent

opposed to the idea. The same margin, 75-20, favored offering elective biblical studies.

Indicating that a large majority of the public favors the concept embodied in the 1984 Equal Access Act, respondents by a 74-21 margin said they do not object to providing student religious groups with use of school facilities after hours.(BP)

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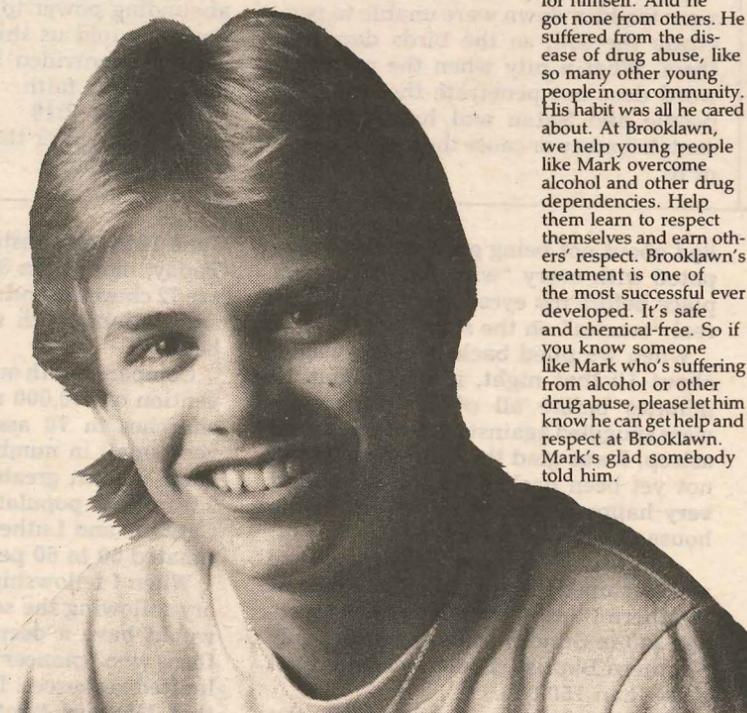
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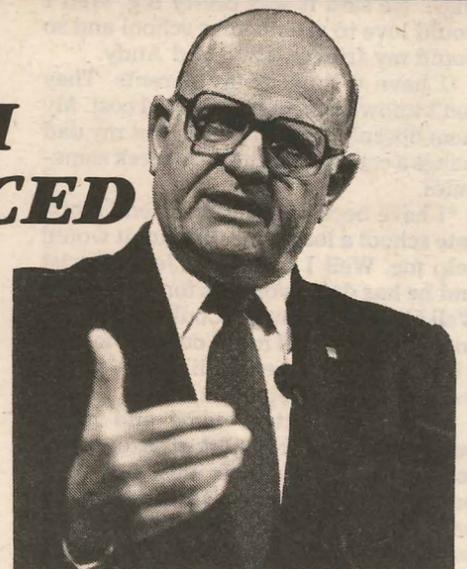
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President, Foreign Mission Board, SBC



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Foreign Mission Board  
of the Southern Baptist Convention



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

## oneida journal

### "Oneida is 'Tops'"

Many touching letters come to us. Some are from donors. Others are from former students. Many are from girls and boys wanting to come to our school. The other day one came from a young man in northern Kentucky:

"Sir, I'm writing because me and my friends heard about your school. I was in school and Dr. \_\_\_\_\_ told us about your school. He said he has been there and he told us it was a very nice place. He said it was pretty big. Well I would love to attend your school and so would my friends Mike and Andy.

"I have to talk to my parents. They don't know how much it would cost. My mom doesn't work no more. But my dad makes a couple of hundred a week sometimes.

"I have been wanting to attend a private school a long time. I figure it would help me. Well I believe in Jesus Christ and he has done wonders for my family. Well I better let you go. Could you please write back and fill me in on your school. I thank God for people like you trying to help young people out."

Many such letters come and many young people of this caliber enrol in our school. It is their own idea, not their parents'. They, themselves, want to be here. They come for the right reasons, wanting something better. Of course, such young people are of immeasurable

worth in setting the tone and helping to minister, by their attitude and example, to many of their peers who come to us reluctantly. The first group helps the second group to become outstanding young people also.

Sometimes students come here in very difficult situations. With much effort, we get the student onto a differing path, making real headway, and then parents withdraw the child for whatever reason. This is generally done without any request for our opinion or insight. We just ache sometimes as we see tragic mistakes in the making, and are helpless to stop it. Often appeals are made to us to take the child back when things go wrong back in the environment that produced the problems to begin with. Consider this recently received letter:

"Last year I brought my oldest son to you. Oneida helped him more than anything I've ever done for him. Then school started this year. My parents, his father, and everyone close to him wanted him to go to school here. I knew it was a mistake, but I let him stay home. Now, after four months, everyone has decided that something has to be done. His behavior is awful. He has no regard for anyone. He seems so angry at everything. He has been expelled. I don't know how to help him unless you accept him back. I know with your constant guidance and teaching him about the Lord, someday his life may turn around. Help me."

We made a good start with the young man before. But, with the sequence of events since, we may or may not be able to duplicate. How much better had we been allowed to continue what had been started, building on the gains made initially.

Very encouraging is a letter like the following: "I spent 48 years in school work; 24 as a classroom teacher and 24 as a high school principal, all in the same public school system, and where I spent 12 years as a student. I humbly believe I am qualified to recognize a good school program and achievement. I have observed Oneida in action a number of times. I can unreservedly recommend Oneida as "TOPS". You may quote me on this to anybody at any time. Enclosed is a check. I truly wish I were able to write one 100 times that amount. I would consider it one of the best 'investments' I could make."

We invite YOU to decide now, and follow through, on a visit to Oneida. If you are disappointed, we will reimburse you for your gas expense and time. That is no joke. I mean it. *Every day* is "open house" at Oneida.



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

## sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR FEB. 1, 1987

Life and Work Series

### Receiving God's Word

**Luke 8:4-8, 11-15** Through his parables Christ conveyed the truth to his followers in such a way they never forgot it, but, to the unbelieving it did not provide illumination.

In this particular parable Christ employed the figure of a sower scattering seed on different kinds of soil. Interpreters have regarded Christ as the sower. Also, they have thought of the sower as a type of all Christ's servants whom he has chosen to scatter the seed of the word of God.

Verse 11 states "The seed is the word of God." This word is to be sown in the hearts of men wherever they dwell. The word has been committed to our trust that we may share it with all who have never received it. Let us proclaim it far and wide.

As Christ faced the audience he discerned four classes of hearers, typifying the four kinds of soil:

Seed scattered on the pathways which were trodden down were unable to penetrate the soil, so the birds devoured them. What a pity when the preached word does not penetrate the hearts of people and Satan and his emissaries snatch it away or cause the forgetfulness of it!

The seed which fell on bedrock covered with a thin layer of earth sprouted quickly, but soon withered under the heat of the sun. Shallow hearers listen to the word of God with joy, but they do not have any staying power.

Part of the soil on which the seed fell had thorns lurking within. The seed penetrated the soil easily, but, ere long the thorns came up, drew the moisture and fertility from the soil and absorbed them.

Christian fruitfulness is often prevented by carelessness, selfish ambition, etc. Frequently one is present in a worship service, but is plotting, planning or playing, instead of giving heed to the word.

The seed entered the good soil and brought forth fruit in varying degrees. Only in the good soil did the seed bear fruit. The heart which is good soil is one which accepts God's will, walks in his ways, endures affliction for his sake, and awaits his recompense.

International Series

### Saved by grace through faith

**Galatians 2:15-21** Christianity is the only religion which teaches justification by grace through faith in Christ as the way of salvation. Salvation is ours on the basis of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Paul informed the Galatians a great change had been wrought in him, and he was not living as he had lived previously. Christ was living in Paul; and that meant refreshment, enjoyment and abiding strength.

What Christ did for Paul he is willing to do for us. His presence within makes life worth living.

**Ephesians 2:3-10** Verse 3 tells us we were disobedient to God and deserving of wrath.

**Ephesians 2:4-7** After describing our past condition, Paul informed us about our present position. He declared we are saved from sin, raised with Christ, and seated in the heavenlies with Christ.

**Ephesians 2:8-9** Concerning the plan of salvation Paul has told us two things: First, salvation is by grace. Grace represents God's abiding love and abounding power to sinners. Secondly, Paul has told us this salvation, which has been provided by grace, becomes ours through faith.

**Ephesians 2:10** Christ Jesus has saved us in order that we may do good works for him.



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

## on mission together

### Northwest by nine hours

I have never thought of Iowa as being "close." Somehow my American geography has always put that state "way out there" somewhere, maybe even through Death Valley and Grand Canyon. That's hard for a "world traveler" like me to admit.

We found it much closer than that when last weekend, taking advantage of our daughter's Monday holiday, we piled into "old yeller" (our 11-year-old LTD wagon) and headed to Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Northwest by nine hours we finally arrived at the home of our son and daughter-in-law who have lived and worked there since last February.

We spent Saturday at a "ski place" near Dubuque, about an hour from Cedar Rapids. While the kids bounced around on the snow, Alice and I guarded a table with our supper, cameras, purses, and books. As I watched from the windows, whatever subtle regrets I

had about not being good on skis dissipated with every "wipe out" that took place before my eyes. There were some real "crazies" on the slope.

When we piled back into the wagon about 10 that night, it took about 15 minutes before all of my passengers were snuggled against each other, sound asleep. I was glad the falling snow had not yet been packed on the roads and very happy when we pulled up to the house about an hour later.

Immanuel Baptist Church, where we worshiped the next day, is the largest Southern Baptist church in Iowa (average 240 in Sunday school) and the only Southern Baptist church in that city of more than 150,000.

The congregation was obviously delighted when pastor Gregory announced that their Lottie Moon goal of \$5000 had already reached \$6500.

As I worshiped, I felt impressed to learn more of the "struggle" to begin Southern Baptist work in Iowa. Missouri Baptists took initiatives and in

June 1954, established the first church. Today, more than 30 years later, there are 72 churches and chapels within eight associations, with about 10,800 members.

Compared with our 150-year-old convention of 750,000 members, 2240-plus churches in 78 associations, they are very small in number. And their challenge is even greater in a state with a 2.9 million population, predominantly Catholic and Lutheran, but with an estimated 50 to 60 percent unchurched.

When I fellowshipped with Ed Gregory following the service, I knew that I would have a deeper appreciation for those who "pioneer" and who do so with limited resources. It was good to know that Missouri Baptists are their "support group."

I was also happy—perhaps proud—that our children were involved in a church on the cutting edge of "unchurched" America.

Northwest by nine hours will never again seem as far away.

## Illness creates hard choices

# Churches can aid parents of missionaries

A common but serious family problem is causing some Southern Baptist foreign missionaries to return to the United States at least temporarily and to spend emotional energy and personal finances in the process.

The problem is the illness or infirmity brought on by aging that afflicts parents of some missionaries. And because the problem receives little public attention, one source of possible help—U. S. church members—remains largely uninvolved.

When a parent of a missionary becomes seriously ill or handicapped by complications of aging and no other family member is available to meet the need, the missionary faces a wrenching dilemma: How can filial duty and Christian calling be balanced? How can he or she respond to two clear teachings of

scripture: duty to honor parents and supremacy of Christian discipleship over family ties?

"Missionaries with aging or ill parents in the states must deal with a whole range of emotions, as well as face some tough decisions that will impact their lives and careers," summed up Joe Bruce, Foreign Mission Board associate area director for Middle America. He was among more than 50 missionaries who responded to a questionnaire on this problem.

"They become more acutely aware of the geographical distance as their parents become older," he said. They also face guilt, financial hardships and the problem of "dealing with their own mortality."

Because the birth rate in the United States was comparatively low in the

1930-40 period, many veteran missionaries now facing decisions about parents have few or no siblings to help shoulder the load, pointed out Joyce De Ridder, healthcare recruitment consultant at the FMB.

Choices for missionaries facing the difficulty sort out to about three: (1) Stay on the field. Persons able to do this usually have family members in the United States who can handle the situation. A handful of missionaries have stayed at their posts by taking a parent with them to the field for a while. (2) Return to the United States temporarily. A missionary may hastily arrange an early furlough to appraise the need. The next option may be to request a leave of absence, with salary suspended to allow time to choose a course of action. (3) Resign. Seldom an easy decision, resignation may emerge as the option meeting the most needs. For some, early retirement is another option.

Several offered a plea not to judge others for what they decide. "People must be very careful never to pass judgment," warned Dan Cobb, veteran missionary in Thailand. "It is not our place, and we seldom have all the facts. ... Conditions are never 'the same.'"

Many parents are notorious for masking the truth about their health in letters. A missionary thousands of miles away without an objective report feels at a loss in trying to evaluate conditions. Overseas telephone calls, now common, don't always work smoothly and can be expensive.

This is an area where many suggest church members at home might assist. The missionary craves facts. "If someone would write often telling us exactly how mother is getting along, that would be a great relief," sighed one. Hearing "no news is worse than hearing the bad news," affirmed another.

Church members at home can help in some other practical ways, although a few missionaries cautioned that some parents may be "too proud, independent and private" to accept aid, and some types of help can come only from family members. Also, not every church may be equipped for such a ministry. Noted one woman of her experience, "People in the church seemed to be frozen, unable to understand practical ways of responding, while wanting to do so."

Missionaries who have been aided by churches express deep gratitude. One told of the church that helped her husband's father: "They bought groceries, harvested his garden, cut firewood, provided transportation to the doctor, cheered him up." Without this help, "we could not have stayed" on the field.

In some situations, says one, it would help "for a local church to 'adopt' the parent or parents to see to daily needs and then call the family member when major decisions need to be made."

Among other suggestions: involve parents in visiting shut-ins or provide another way for them to serve; tape-record a message from the parent to send the missionary; have a trusted person serve as "secretary" to sort through bills and unsolicited mail; arrange for a "personal care" worker to see that medicine is taken, proper food eaten, clothing kept clean.

Many parents of missionaries seem never to meet anyone else whose child serves in missions. One missionary suggested that the board sponsor an informal organization of parents. The Japan

Baptist Mission, reported De Ridder, already produces a quarterly newsletter for parents of all its missionaries. This has "resulted in parents praying for one another and sharing with one another," she said.

One basic rule rings out in whatever way someone at home might try to assist: Follow through. Never offer help if there is no commitment.

Sometimes missionaries feel warm support from their family. "We thank God for sisters and brothers whose interest and concern for missions has caused them to go the extra mile in caring for our parents in order that we could remain at our place of service," noted one.

Parents' conditions also vary greatly. When aging or illness saps a parent's decision-making power and clear reason, the burden of choice falls squarely on the children. In seeking affordable facilities for parental care, missionaries face the same problems as children in the United States, but missionaries face them at long range, adding to the hardship.

The recent "explosion in resources in gerontology" means resources do exist, De Ridder pointed out. Every state now has some kind of office on the aging, she reported, and all can make referrals as to where to find help. De Ridder shares this kind of information in an optional session during furloughing missionary conferences and in a one-hour period with new missionaries during orientation.

But many missionaries "feel keenly their own responsibility, even when others are willing to assume this load (for ailing parents)," suggested Bob Hardy, associate area director for East Asia. "I was fortunate to have brothers and sisters who lovingly cared for their parents and understood my calling," said one missionary. Still, "many times I had deep anguish about not doing my part."

One noted that because of the culture in the society in which she serves, "where honor and respect" are given the elderly, if she did not return home to care for her aged mother, "my witness would be a sham."

Many parents remain supportive toward their child's overseas ministry, even during their own troubles. Others, feeling their own needs bearing down, may hint—or ask outright—that their children not return overseas. One mother wrote her missionary son, "I love you, but I'd love you more if you come home."

Those in the mission force who have faced parental needs urged new missionaries to grapple with the possibilities before a crisis strikes, exploring the "what ifs" for themselves and with others in the family. A single woman missionary recalled that when she tried to discuss matters, "the family did not want to talk about such morbid things, since all of us were strong and well." Now, after a crisis, they "have a united plan."

Both at home and on the field, prayer is a key resource. One missionary's mother who avoided reporting her illness to her daughter overseas explained, "I didn't want to worry you. ... You can't do anything about it." Her daughter responded, "Mom, we can pray."

(Adapted from the December 1986 issue of *The Commission, magazine of the Foreign Mission Board.*)



Joe Davis Heacock, dean emeritus of the school of religious education at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex., prepares to receive the Friend of Church Training Award. With Heacock is his wife, Nell.

## Church Training friend is honored

by Terri Lackey

At age 60 and with 57 years of church work under his belt, Joe Davis Heacock has been serving the Lord longer than many have been alive.

That is in part why the Church Training Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board chose him to receive the 1986 Friend of Church Training Award during annual meetings in Nashville.

Heacock, dean emeritus of the school of religious education, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex., began his stint in church work as director of the Baptist Young People's Union (BYPU) in Birmingham, Ala. BYPU is the predecessor of modern-day Church Training.

He later became president of the Central District Baptist Young People's Union of Birmingham, and then president of the western district of the Alabama State Baptist Young People's Union Convention.

Heacock graduated from Howard College in Alabama with a bachelor of arts degree in religious education in 1929, and although he said he knew he "wasn't called to be a pastor, and didn't know much about being a minister of education," he felt he had been "directed" into a church-type vocation.

"I felt called into doing full time church work like what I was doing in my church, but I wanted to make a living at it," Heacock said.

In addition to his BYPU work, Heacock also worked in Sunday school, served as a deacon and was director of

church training at Southside Baptist Church, Birmingham.

Heacock and his wife, Nell, decided to marry when "we were both working at Protective Life Insurance Company, we both taught Sunday school classes at Southside, and we were both members of BYPU."

In the summer of 1935 at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Heacock and Nell pledged their lives to full time Christian work, and took off for Southwestern Seminary the following year where they have remained ever since. In 1950, Heacock received his PhD in religious education there.

Heacock began teaching at the seminary in 1944, and became dean of the school of religious education in 1956.

He said he has seen quite a few changes in church training since he began attending in the 1920s.

"Back in that day there was more organization and structure primarily through programs and content. We had more people to enlist and recruit. Everybody had a responsibility," Heacock said.

"With society like it is, church training does have more competition," Heacock said. "I remember when radio first came on on Sunday night, and we were trying to build church training attendance, we felt a lot of competition."

"And then when TV showed up, everybody knew that would be the demise of church training, but it still continued to grow."

"That just goes to show you that we can still have growth," Heacock said.

# Georgetown College's Highbaugh Hall Undergoing Major Restoration

**H**ighbaugh Hall, an historic gem in the academic commons, is well on the way toward Georgetown College's planned restoration.

A new roof planted atop repaired decking will provide protection during the coming winter months. The craftsmen will be able, with a new roof, to make inside improvements and alterations throughout the difficult months.

The restoration began in early November when the Hall was cordoned off by a wire fence, scaffolding was erected around the shell, and equipment was located nearby.

College planners, cochaired by Drs. Joe O. Lewis, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Tom Benberg, Vice President for Administration, worked for a year making careful preliminary plans for the architects.

The team counsel will continue well into the construction when carpeting, color and finishing schemes will be chosen.

President W. Morgan Patterson foresees the completion of the project before the end of the spring term. It is hoped that the College will be able to have a rededication of the 126 year old building by graduation time.

The restoration project, a long time dream, appealed to the imagination of the J. Graham Brown Foundation, leading to a grant of \$500,000 to pay for a major part of the cost.

According to Lewis and Benberg, the major internal use of the Hall will be devoted to instruction. Three large and easily accessible rooms will be given to the latest and most appealing environment for excellence in learning.

Two of the lecture areas will be developed on the upper level, where for many years earlier, the renowned Ciceronian and Tau Theta Kappa debate societies met.

Every effort has been made by the College planners to preserve the valued historic features that gave early character to Georgetown.

Steps are being taken to preserve the markers on the east and west of Highbaugh Hall, identifying these societies.

The first floor will have another classroom across the south end of the Hall.

The front quadrant will be given the status of a receiving area where students can relax, study or hold formal or informal gatherings. It may be used from time to time as a meeting place for other campus and off-campus groups.

The ground floor, used for nearly twenty years as a lab/lecture facility will house the mechanical room, rest rooms and corridor space.

The Hall's outside appointments will feature "pointing" the brickwork, repairing the columns facing the central mall... giving the structure a renewed appearance.

It will become a center of interest commenting on the main purposes of the College and complementing the surrounding Halls of learning. According to one College official, "The Central academic commons will be fully vested with renewed purpose and vigor."

In the Hall's beginning in 1861, it not only housed a college prep academy on the first floor, but also harbored the literary societies on the upper level.

In 1917, when public schools assumed a larger role in education, the old academy was closed.

Professor Dean Martin, physics teacher at Georgetown, petitioned for use of the building as a center for physical sciences. The request was granted.

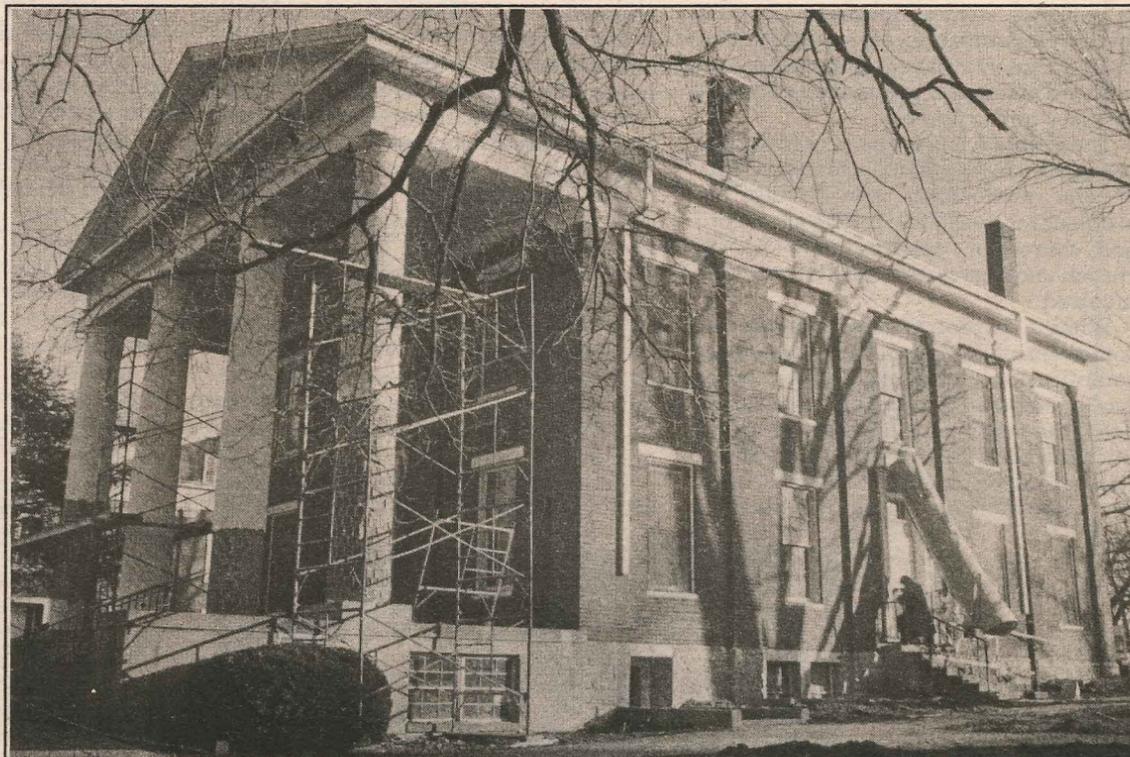
Martin's research there led to the development of fluorescent light bulbs. He was a very popular and inventive physics teacher for many years at the College.

Highbaugh Hall, as it has been known since 1951, was redeveloped by a grant from the late Le Roy Highbaugh, Sr., a Louisville real estate developer.

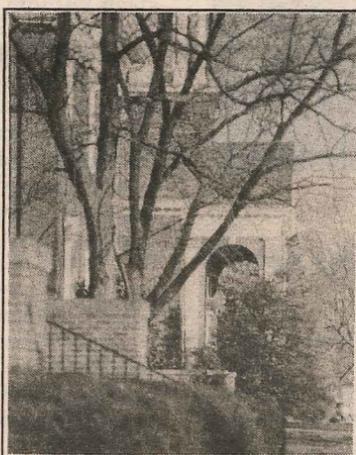
His 1950 gift provided improvements in the Hall which included a number of new classrooms and offices as well as a portico facing the central commons.

The Hall was closed in 1974 by an order of the State Fire Marshall. It has served principally as a College housekeeping facility since then.

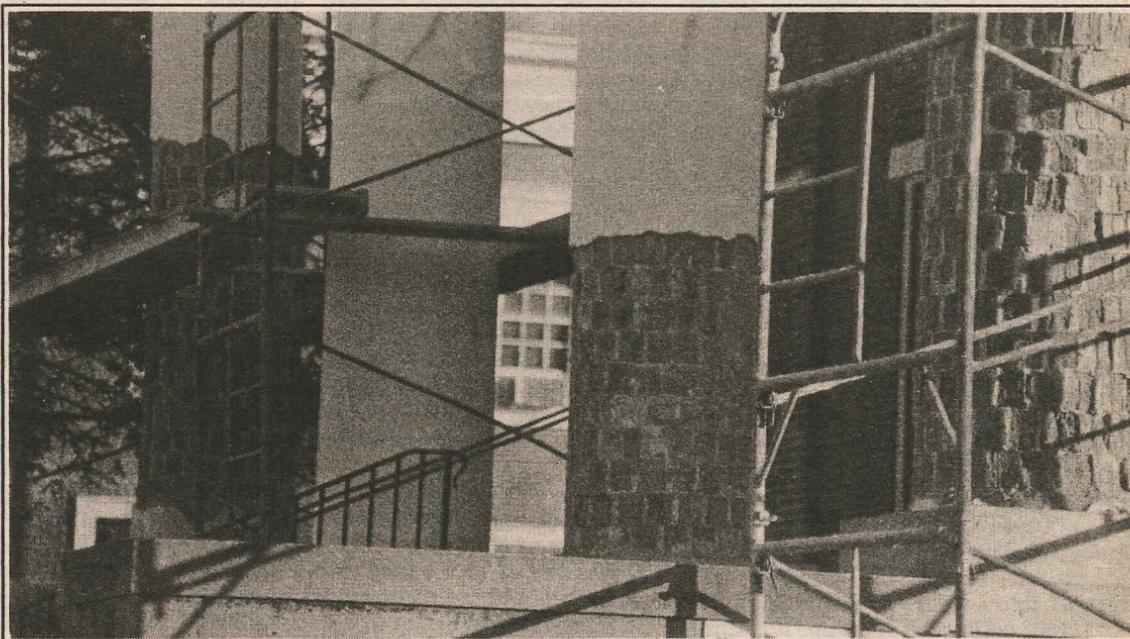
The restoration of Highbaugh Hall marks the second major improvement funded by the six year old Decade of Progress Campaign at Georgetown.



Highbaugh Hall, in its 126th year, has served Christian education well through the years. Great teachers have led in learning here and through its doors leaders have gone out into the world to make their contributions.



Shown above (l. to r.) are: the Old Tau Theta Kappa Society's entrance to the Hall; looking East from Highbaugh shows its centrality on the campus; and the traditional doorway to the Ciceronian Society's upstairs meeting room is readied for new paint.



The four pillars, supporting the Hall's Colonnade, face Georgetown's Asher Science Center across the central mall.