

Ecumenical effort launches Faith Channel

by Cathy Butler, Staff Writer

Louisville's mainline religious groups—Protestant, Roman Catholic, Orthodox and Jewish—announced the birth of a cable "Faith Channel" during a press conference at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary Feb. 2.

Final negotiations are underway to make the ecumenical channel part of Louisville and Jefferson County's Storer Communications Inc. cable system.

The channel is the result of two years' hard work among the city's major denominations. It is the only entity of its kind in the country. The Kentuckiana Interfaith Community, the Ohio Valley board of the American Christian Television Service (ACTS), operated by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, and the Catholic Communications Center of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Louisville, are the three groups cooperating in the project.

Faith Channel would provide 24 hours a day of "wholesome, family entertainment," according to Jim Morrison, associate pastor of Walnut Street Baptist Church and chairman of the Faith

Channel board of directors. Morrison expressed hope programming would begin within six months.

The channel will carry programs from the mainline denominations' communications resources. ACTS, the Catholic Telecommunications Network of America (CTNA), the Eternal Word Television Network (also Catholic), denominational offices, the World Council of Churches' Communications Commission and Jewish sources will provide programs.

"We will have Bible studies, Spanish programs, children's shows, music, drama—everything but sports," said Kenneth MacHarg, executive director of the Kentuckiana Interfaith Community and secretary of Faith Channel's board of directors.

"We have already agreed there will be no fund raising on the air," he continued.

"Our offerings will be positive, uplifting and spiritual."

The board has not yet decided if advertising will be allowed on the air, said Morrison.

The Mary C. and Barry Bingham

Foundation of Louisville has awarded the Faith Channel a \$100,000 grant. The funds will be used to buy equipment and pay first-year operating costs.

The second year of broadcasting will cost about \$70-75,000, according to Morrison, and the third year somewhat more. Future funding will come from the religious bodies.

Channel offices will be located on the campus of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary on Lexington Road. Seminary students will receive media training by working with the offices.

Roy Honeycutt, seminary president, called the channel's creation "an auspicious time in the life of this seminary and the religious community as a whole."

He pointed out the channel's importance in providing a common forum for the area's denominations.

Roman Catholic archbishop Thomas Kelly said he entertained great hope that Faith Channel would be "an important force in the viewing community" and thanked both Storer Cable executives and the Bingham Foundation for their interest in the project.

Dick Clark in speaking for Storer Cable pointed out the company's commitment to providing information as well as entertainment for viewers, and said Storer was happy to be part of the project.

Storer will announce the on-air date and the exact channel number for the Faith Channel at a later time.

Morrison said he did not know now if the Faith Channel would be picked up

by other areas. The board of directors and Storer are concentrating on reaching the Louisville-Jefferson County viewing audience.

The channel's unique concept and development could, however, become a model for religious programming in other parts of the country.

Morrison said three forces brought the Faith Channel into being: a willingness to cooperate among different religious groups, Storer Cable's cooperation and the grant from the Bingham Foundation.

Any religious group wishing to participate in the Faith Channel will be directed to the project's board of directors, said Clark.

How will local viewers, particularly Southern Baptists, respond to this ecumenical attempt?

"I think most people will be supportive when they recognize it is the only way we could have a channel. None of us could support one on our own, but we can have one working together," said Morrison.

He explained that because of the blending of denominations the Faith Channel's audience will be far larger than one completely Southern Baptist.

"We will be able to share our faith stance with more people. In turn we will be able to see how other denominations respond to the gospel message. I think it will be positively received," Morrison said.

Storer is currently evaluating the effect the Faith Channel may have on other Storer religious programming.

Missionaries leave West Beirut in heavily armed military convoy

First in a bulletproof car surrounded by heavily armed militiamen, then in a convoy guarded by militiamen and Lebanese soldiers, Southern Baptist missionaries Jim and Leola Ragland left West Beirut Saturday morning, Jan. 31.

"Tomorrow will be our 33rd year here," Leola Ragland said in a Feb. 2 telephone interview from East Beirut, their temporary residence.

The Raglands described their departure as "very sad." Their careers have been devoted to the Beirut Baptist School, his as superintendent and hers as director of the preschool program. The Raglands hope to remain in East Beirut to help the school, which now is being operated by a committee of three Lebanese teachers.

On Jan. 28 the U. S. Department of State ordered all Americans in Lebanon to leave within 30 days.

Ragland said he was notified by telephone at 5:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 30, that arrangements could be made for him to leave West Beirut the following morning at 7:30.

"We were told by the embassy that . . . that might be the last time they could do anything for us," Ragland said. "It was a very rushed-up thing."

West Beirut has been the site of numerous kidnappings of Americans and other foreigners the past two years. After the most recent kidnappings, militia guarding the area doubled the guards on the Raglands' street.

Soon after the call, Mrs. Ragland said, breaking into tears, "local people just massed in the house to tell us goodbye. It was quite a sad farewell."

The Raglands placed a call to the 950-student school Feb. 2, when students and faculty members learned of the departure. "They told us it was really a sad occasion at school today," Mrs. Ragland said.

The car took the Raglands to the barren U. S. embassy in West Beirut. After a three-hour unexplained wait, the Raglands then were taken in separate cars tucked in a convoy to East Beirut.

Two armed guards were in each car with the Raglands. The Raglands said the guards were quite tense, fearing a possible attack, especially each time the convoy came to a stop in heavy traffic.

In East Beirut, a U. S. embassy official remarked, "I can't believe we got him (Ragland) out safely."

"Please remember that the Lebanese people are very wonderful people, and we love them," Mrs. Ragland said. "It's so sad that a few have just ruined the country" during Lebanon's 12 year old civil war. "There are so many wonderful people who are having to suffer—so much pain and suffering that you just can't imagine."

Other Southern Baptist missionaries remain in East Beirut waiting for word from the U. S. State Department about the possibility of exemptions that may allow some of them to continue working there. (BP)

Wilkinson accepts SBTS post



David R. Wilkinson has been named vice president for seminary relations at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, effective February 15.

Wilkinson, 32, has been director of news and information services for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, Nashville, since 1984.

Southern Seminary president Roy L. Honeycutt said creation of the vice presidency position "emphasizes our commitment to relating effectively to the seminary's numerous and diverse constituencies."

Wilkinson will direct the seminary's communications program and will supervise placement services, prospective student services, and alumni relations.

"In considering several months ago the seminary's leadership needs in the broad area of public relations, David was the first person to emerge in my mind," Honeycutt said. "He brings a unique blend of professional expertise,

denominational experience, and Christian commitment that will enable us in new ways to fulfill our mission of equipping men and women for Christian ministry."

Wilkinson rejoined the staff of the Christian Life Commission in 1984 after serving as Southern Seminary's director of communications for three years while pursuing a master of divinity degree. He had previously worked for the CLC from 1977 to 1979. He also has worked for the Baptist Sunday School Board and the Brotherhood Commission.

Wilkinson has won numerous awards for his writing and twice has received the Baptist Public Relations Association's Frank Burkhalter Award for excellence in religious journalism.

The Oklahoma native is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University and Southern Seminary. He and his wife Melanie have one son, Micah David.

Cooperative Program Report: January Summary for January 1987

Received \$1,636,300
Budget \$1,300,050
(-Under)/Over \$ 336,250

September-January Gifts

Year	Over/-Under Budget to Date	% Increase Over Prev. Year
1986-87	\$ 266,183	9.2
1985-86	-306,130	6.2
1984-85	-184,027	10.4
1983-84	-340,120	3.0
1982-83	178,426	10.3
1981-82	346,970	9.4
1980-81	505,068	16.0

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Jack D. Sanford

sanford's perspectives

Volunteers in Missions

Just about everything we do in Southern Baptist life is on a voluntary basis. We profess faith in Christ by personal choice. We join a church because we decide it is right. We participate in worship, do visitation, serve on committees, give money and many other things because we want to do it. The only external influence comes upon us through the Holy Spirit and our response is purely voluntary.

Perhaps the spirit of volunteerism reaches its peak in the work our people do in mission service around the world. Last year more than 75,000 people gave volunteer time in missions and evangelism through the supervision of the Home Mission Board and the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

During the past two years more than 200 Kentuckians have journeyed to Kenya as volunteers in a multitude of ministries. Hundreds of Kentucky Baptist church members went across America and into other countries of the world in 1986 because they wanted to give something personal in service to the Lord. All Kentucky Baptist churches are richer because of the efforts of our friends who worked in volunteer mission service.

Feb. 22 is on the denominational calendar as a time to recognize and honor those who have been volunteers and to enlist others for mission service in 1987. The need is great because missionaries on the field request thousands of helpers every year. In Kenya alone we hope to have as many as 700 Kentuckians in service there during 1987, more than twice the number we have sent in the past two years.

A local church service of recognition for volunteers in missions would be an appropriate way to honor these people and to raise the sight of others to the possibilities for spiritual growth for them and their church.

Materials are available through Volunteers in

Missions, Box 7203, Atlanta, GA 30357. Volunteers in Missions Day is a joint effort of the Foreign Mission Board, the Home Mission Board, Woman's Missionary Union and the Brotherhood Commission. Each of these agencies has strong interest in and does extensive work in volunteer mission projects.

If someone from your church has made a volunteer mission trip then you know what a blessing and inspiration it is to the entire congregation. If you have never had anyone from your church involved in such a ministry, you have missed a blessing and must see if volunteers cannot be enlisted from your church.

Use Feb. 22, or some convenient Sunday, to focus attention on those volunteers who mean so much to missionary advance around the world. It could be a great time of spiritual refreshment in your church and it could produce even more help for our missionaries as our people respond to God's call to volunteer missionary service.

The Kenya project among Kentucky Baptists is one way you could do important work as a volunteer. Funds have been set aside to assist Kentucky people in their journey to Kenya. Bob Jones, director of the Direct Missions Department of the KBC has all the information you need to launch your career as a volunteer missionary either within Kentucky or in Kenya.

The final year of our agreement to supply help to the Kenya mission is here. The needs are great, the field is white and laborers are needed not only overseas but in our homeland as well.

We recorded 75,000 mission volunteers last year in the SBC. Will we see that number increase in 1987 as more and more of us feel the tug of a lost world and respond voluntarily with our own personal gifts? This kind of volunteerism is at the heart of all we do as Southern Baptists. May we never lose that distinctive.

Fan the Flame Once Again

The theme of this year's evangelism conference is also the theme for the sesquicentennial year of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, "Enriched by Heritage, Encouraged by Hope."

Without question the great heritage of Southern Baptists places strong emphasis upon evangelism. Winning lost people to Christ and discipling those who are won supports all we do in the local church and the denomination. In fact, evangelism is, has been and will continue to be the centerpiece in our Baptist life.

This is our heritage and will be the focus of much of what is said and done at Severns Valley Baptist Church Feb. 23-24. We have been shaped by the flame of evangelism and we will be challenged to fan that flame once again.

Just as evangelism supports our ministry efforts, so is evangelism our hope for the future. We note with pride and thanksgiving the increase in baptisms this year over the past several years. This is encouraging to all of us. This note of encourage-

ment will be sounded by sermons and testimonies during the conference.

Without a strong emphasis on winning lost people and discipling believers we have no real reason for hope in the days ahead. We believe we can snatch people from the fires of sin and death by presenting the claims of Christ and watching the Holy Spirit bring conversion and salvation. That is evangelism and that is the hope which gives encouragement to make one more effort to proclaim salvation to lost sinners.

Every church in Kentucky should see that its pastor has funds to attend this important time of gospel proclamation. The fires of evangelism will be stirred once again and all of us will be enriched by our heritage and encouraged by the hope we discover in the old, old story of salvation by faith in Christ.

Jay Brown, evangelism director for the KBC has prepared an exciting program with outstanding speakers and musicians. It should be a feast which all of us need.

western recorder

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

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mountains to the mississippi

congregations

The Acteens of **Crescent Hill Baptist Church**, Long Run Association, made calendars to raise funds for the Lottie Moon Christmas offering. Each month in the calendar has a hand-drawn symbol of some event within the month.

The artists, all girls in grades 6-8, included Cara Miller, Mandy Givens, Kim Leach, Gretchen Kiser, Brittany Burhans, Jennifer Johnson, Michelle Tupper and Heather Perry.

The project raised more than \$165 for foreign missions.

First Baptist Church, Pikeville, observed Miracle Day Dec. 21. The attendance goal for Sunday school was 500



Mollette

with an offering goal of \$40,000. The first half of the offering was voted by the congregation to go toward SBC mission causes. Attendance for the day was 523 in Sunday school with the miracle offering totaling \$60,070. The Sunday school attendance was the largest in over 20 years and the offering was the second highest in the history of the church. According to the church treasurer, the offering was the "best all around offering as far as member participation."

The third miracle of the day was an attendance of 718 in the evening for the annual Christmas cantata.

Glenn Mollette is pastor of First Baptist, Pikeville.

Powell's Valley Baptist Church, Boone's Creek Association, recently honored Marion Brewer for 20 years' service as pastor of the church. The congregation held a dinner in his honor and presented him with a plaque.

ordinations

Susie Jeanes Cobban was ordained to the ministry Feb. 8 by Walnut Street Baptist Church, Long Run Association. Mrs. Cobban is a 1986 graduate of Southern Seminary and has a BA degree from Indiana University.

She is currently a chaplain resident at Bethesda Hospital, Cincinnati, Oh.

Her responsibilities include counseling with women during problem pregnancies and work on the general surgery floor. She plans to continue her career in hospital chaplaincy.

She is married to Jim Cobban, minister to single and senior adults at Walnut Street.

Jon Stubblefield is pastor.

Jerry Wyatt and Charles Lawless were ordained as deacons by Oak Grove Baptist Church, Mt. Zion Association, Jan. 11. Janus Jones, director of missions, gave the charge to the candidates.

John R. Hash is pastor.

David Childress, Steve Hillyard, Randy Nelson and Ken Sheridan were ordained Jan. 4 as deacons of Northside Baptist Church, Princeton, Caldwell-Lyon Association.

David Royalty is pastor.

associations

West Kentucky Association hosted two Super Saturday leadership training sessions during January. More than 200 people were involved in the conference led by William Kaufman, Rob Carr, Dee Gilliland, Brenda Price, Chip Miller and Doug Strader.

Valley View dedicates largest sanctuary

by Jack Sanford, Editor

The largest Baptist worship center in Kentucky was dedicated in an impressive ceremony Dec. 14.

The congregation of Valley View Baptist Church, Long Run Baptist Association, dedicated the new fan-shaped, 2300-seat sanctuary which was built at a cost of \$3 million.

The church is only 48 years old but has experienced tremendous growth under the leadership of T. Howell Upchurch. Upchurch went to Valley View nearly a dozen years ago and has instituted innovative ministry programs that have seen the congregation grow to a total membership of 2514 with 2169 enrolled in Sunday school.

Last year the church was 10th in baptisms among Kentucky Baptist churches and ranked 26th in gifts to the Cooperative Program. In addition, the church has three radio programs and a televi-

The first conference, a missions rally, was at Bardwell Baptist Church and the second, an evangelism workshop, was held at First Baptist Church, Clinton.

A. B. Colvin was inspirational speaker at the evangelism meeting and Jim Simmons, pastor of Memorial Baptist Church, Murray, was youth evangelism rally speaker.

Charles Blair, director of missions for West Kentucky Association, announced James Rose of the Baptist Sunday School Board would lead a media evangelism blitz for the association this week.

deaths

J. C. Livingood, deacon and chairman of trustees at Crittenden Baptist Church, Crittenden Association, died Dec. 5 at age 70. Dorothy Hartley Livingood, his wife of 53 years, survives. Also surviving are four sons, two daughters, 19 grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Two of his sons are Kentucky Baptist pastors. R. Gene Livingood is pastor at Decoursey Baptist Church, Northern Kentucky Association, and Fred Livingood is pastor at Waco Baptist Church, Bates Creek Association.



Mrs. Maggie Strunk, 89, is shown with a Laurel River Association Acteen as she selects gifts for her family in the annual Give-a-Gift for the patients of Laurel Heights Home for the Elderly.

Two grandsons are ministers of music in Kentucky Baptist churches, Tony Doane at Hebron Baptist Church, and Ron Livingood at Greenview Baptist Church. Another grandson, Rich Livingood, is associate pastor at Immanuel Baptist Church. All three churches are in Northern Kentucky Association.

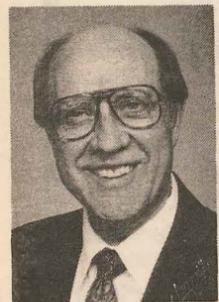
Bobby Barnes, pastor at Crittenden church, declared J. C. Livingood "has left his mark on Kentucky Baptists." He said the family requests memorials be sent to Crittenden Baptist Church.

William E. (Judge) Boswell, a member of Cynthiana Baptist Church, Union Association, died Jan. 11. He was a graduate of Georgetown College and active in many phases of Baptist life, especially in the ministry of Kentucky Baptist hospitals. He served in the Cynthiana church as a deacon and Sunday school teacher for more than 50 years.

Paul E. Tirey is pastor at Cynthiana.

Retired pastor **Foster E. Howard**, 80, died Dec. 17, 1986 after suffering a stroke Dec. 1. Howard pastored churches in Kentucky and West Virginia and served as interim pastor 26 times after retiring.

He was a member of First Baptist Church, Russellville, and was preceded in death by his wife, Mattie Lauvena Howard, who died five weeks earlier, Nov. 11. He is survived by one daughter and two grandchildren.



Eldred M. Taylor
Executive Director
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homes for children

Red hearts say L-O-V-E

February has several distinctions. It is the shortest month in the year and the only one that has an extra day every four years. It is the birth month of two outstanding national leaders, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. And don't forget that many of us have fun looking for a shadow on groundhog day. The most sentimental and romantic

day of February is the 14th, known as Valentine Day. This is a time when school children exchange valentine cards, and lovers have a good excuse for sending tokens of their love for each other. The predominant symbol used in depicting Valentine Day is a red heart. Candy is packaged in red heart-shaped boxes. Many valentines are cut in the shape of a heart, and red hearts are used for party decorations.

A little red heart has become a symbol for the word "love." An example is a bumper sticker that reads "I love Kentucky," with the heart-shaped symbol in place of the word love. If a red heart is an appropriate symbol for love, then red hearts are plentiful around Baptist Homes for Children. This is a place where love is—love for children.

When children come to live at Baptist Homes for Children, they are met by houseparents who will love them and demonstrate that love in many ways during their stay with us. Other support

staff also show their love through many avenues of guidance, encouragement and ministry. It is wonderful that the red hearts of love do not appear just on February 14, but our love for children is present each day of the year.

Staff at Baptist Homes for Children are not the only ones who provide red hearts of love for children. The hundreds of Baptist churches which receive the Thanksgiving Offering for this ministry and help in many other ways demonstrate their love throughout the year. The thousands of you who give directly as well as through your church also show your love, and children are blessed.

Through the current Beyond This Time campaign many more red hearts saying, "I love children" will appear. These valentines of love will go into endowment and the earnings will show love to children over and over until Jesus comes. Thanks for showing your love to children.



James H. Cox
Associate Editor

fourth estate

10,000 Fields days

March 31 won't be a particularly happy day for me. After 10,122 days (nearly 28 years), Wilmer Clemont Fields will retire as vice president for public relations of the SBC Executive Committee in Nashville.

W. C. taught the novices among us how to do our jobs better. He pioneered in applying advanced technology, pled for unbiased reporting, championed a free press. Like other colleagues, he believed when Baptists had the facts they could respond appropriately.

Despite the positive visibility Jimmy Carter gave Southern Baptists, my perception is that W. C. Fields likely gave us more exposure. It was he who played to the secular media these 28 years on your behalf. He got the word out, openly, honestly, quickly, factually. He ran the largest, most impressive, most comprehensive news operation during any American religious body's annual meeting every year—the press room for hundreds of reporters at the SBC each summer. Secular reporters equate it with a White House press operation, calling it the "best run of any denomination in America."

I fondly recall my travels with W. C. He's been to nearly 100 foreign lands. I haven't, but I've probably attended conventions, workshops and seminars with him in half the American states.

In California two years ago Libby, his Kentucky bride of four decades, was asked to give a short speech about her life with W. C. Said she: "He told me from the beginning, 'Stick with me kid and we'll go places.' Well, I did and we have!"

Their home is a museum of artifacts and oddities from journeys all over the world. There are precious few inches of wall space anywhere in that three-story house without something attached. At a Christmas party there years ago I recall Libby opening a white elephant gift, asking, "What ever shall we do with this?" To which some wise sage observed, "Hang it on the wall!"

W. C.'s diversity knows no limits. He is equally comfortable in Madison Avenue ad agencies, corporate offices of the major networks and the private suites of Washington dignitaries. He made his points with provocative issues before a group at Estes Park, Colo. and by adding a Kenny Rogers recording to a Sunday morning sermon on a Mississippi beachfront. I know; I was there.

In everything he did, I felt W. C. Fields never sought to glorify himself. He constantly pointed in innovative, creative ways toward the Giver of Life.

W. C. has been a confidant, counselor, encourager, model, Mentor for me. All Southern Baptists may rejoice that, in the providence of God's goodness, he gave each one of us a friend like W. C. Fields, for such a time as this.

baptist news in brief

FMB seeks exception to evacuation order

If the U. S. Department of State refuses to soften its stance that Americans must leave Lebanon, the Baptist Foreign Mission Board expects its personnel to obey the order.

"We intend to abide by the laws and restrictions of our government," said Isam Ballenger, director of Southern Baptist work in Europe and the Middle East.

However, Ballenger said, "We are uncertain whether this (order) means that all FMB personnel will have to leave. On the surface, that appears to be the case. But we're still seeking clarification. It could be that some exceptions might be made."

The January 2 order bars Americans from entering or traveling within Lebanon, according to State Department spokesman Dona Sherman in Washington. She said a 30-day "grace period" has been extended to Americans currently in Lebanon. Those remaining

beyond 30 days face prosecution by the U. S. Department of Justice.

Among missionaries in Lebanon, "the mood has been one of shock and sadness," said Frances Fuller. "We've done a lot of crying today." "It's like a nightmare come true for us. We never imagined... that our government would tell us to leave."

Three Lebanese coworkers "collapsed in my arms and cried," Miss Fuller said. "Our departure is going to be demoralizing to a lot of people. I think (Lebanese Christians) feel very hurt, very bewildered, that they somehow are being punished for something they didn't do. They seem to be asking, 'Is the rest of the world deserting us?'" (BP)

Presidents sponsor inerrancy conference

Presidents of the six Southern Baptist Convention seminaries are sponsoring the Conference on Biblical Inerrancy at

Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center in Ridgecrest, N. C. May 4-7.

"This is the first time in the seven years of our debate that Southern Baptists will have an opportunity for a balanced, objective discussion of inerrancy apart from emotion," said Russell Dillard, president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex.

Keynote speaker will be J. I. Packer, professor of historical and systematic theology at Regent College in Vancouver, British Columbia. Packer is a charter member of the International Council on Biblical Inerrancy and a noted author on the subject.

The conference will include six general sessions of worship, with addresses by key speakers. Professors from the six SBC seminaries will lead small group discussion sessions. Topics will include

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April 16 - First Baptist, Corbin
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"the relationship of the Bible to natural science," "the strengths and weaknesses of fundamentalism," "the relationship between views of the Bible and missions" and "biblical teaching on inspiration and inerrancy."

Because the presidents expect a capacity crowd for this first conference, reservations should be made soon, Dilday said. Individual conference rates are \$148.75/single, \$110.50/double, \$101.80/triple, and \$97.45/four.

A deposit of \$12.75 should be sent to Conference on Biblical Inerrancy, Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Box 128, Ridgecrest, N. C. 28770.(BP)

Plans suggested for changes in BJCPA

Witnesses lauded and censured the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs during hearings by a fact-finding committee on late January. Twenty-two people gave testimony, 15 in support of the work of the Baptist Joint Committee and seven in opposition to it.

The hearings were conducted by a nine-member committee appointed by the Southern Baptist Convention executive committee to study the relationship between the SBC and the BJCPA, a 50 year old religious liberty advocacy organization composed of representatives of nine Baptist bodies in the United States and Canada.

The study committee heard four plans suggested:

—Retaining the current relationship,

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which stresses the advantages of coalition with groups representing 27 million Baptists rather than 14 million Southern Baptists.

—Continuing to participate in a modified fashion. Suggestions included changing the membership of the SBC's public affairs committee to include more at-large members.

—Continuing to participate, but in a reduced fashion, while establishing an exclusive Southern Baptist presence, perhaps through placement of a Christian Life Commission staffer in Washington.

—Severing all relationships with the BJCPA and establishing an organization to "better represent" Southern Baptists views to government leaders.(BP)

Young calls meeting positive, negative

"I think this was the best meeting we have had, in terms of the information we received," said Gary F. Young.

Young, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, Phoenix, Ariz., is chairman of the committee studying the relationship between the Southern Baptist Convention and the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

"On the positive side, we have discovered many more facts, and it is the main duty of this committee to discover facts.

"On the negative side, I realize through the testimony more fully the great diversity of opinion among Southern Baptists concerning the Baptist Joint Committee and how strongly those

opinions are held."

Young said he believes the facts gathered by the committee help the group "make progress toward possible solutions" but added, "We have not yet begun to formulate those solutions."

The committee will report to the February 16-18 meeting of the SBC executive committee. It will make its final report at the executive committee meeting June 8.(BP)

John Allen resigns as Alaska executive

John H. Allen has resigned effective February 28 as executive director of the Alaska Baptist Convention, to become director of cooperative missions and stewardship for the Colorado Baptist General Convention.

Allen, 55, has been with the Alaska convention since 1976, first as director of missions and since 1982 as chief executive officer. Prior to going to Alaska, Allen was associate director of church extension for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board. He also was an area director of missions in South Dakota and a pastor in California, Texas and Virginia.

He is a native of Ft. Worth, Tex., and a graduate of Wayland Baptist University; Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif.; Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, Calif.; and Medical College of Virginia.

Bill Duncan, director of evangelism, Brotherhood and stewardship for the convention, will be interim executive director.(BP)



Leon Simpson
 President
 Clear Creek Baptist School
 Pineville, KY 40977

clear creek comment

"Living water"

Those who try to predict future trends and problems tell us that the world's next major crisis will not involve energy but will center around the scarcity and impurity of water.

At present impure water is a major hazard. Each year 10 million deaths result from waterborne intestinal diseases. And more than one-third of humanity is debilitated as a result of impure water.

The Bible refers to water in many places. In creation it is said that "the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters" (Genesis 1:2). John baptized with water, Peter walked on water, Pilate washed his hands with water and the rich man wanted Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water. Jesus' first miracle at Cana involved water and our Lord thought the giving of a cup of water in his name was significant.

In John 4 he described his salvation as living water and John's vision of heaven in Revelation 22 involved "a pure river of water of life" (22:1). It is noteworthy that our Lord's last invitation is, "Whosoever will, let him take of the water of life freely!" (Revelation 22:17).

We have been thinking about water a lot recently at Clear Creek. Since Dr. Kelly's era water has been piped to all of our campus from the Clear Creek and the water system has miraculously withstood the ravages of time.

For the last few years, the state health department has regularly warned us of unacceptable levels of bacteria in water samples. Therefore, the decision was made by our trustees to tap onto the water supply of Pineville. There is now a 100,000 gallon reservoir standing on the mountain above our school and clean, clear, fresh water is now available to our families.

Water lines supplying every building on our 700-acre campus were laid by our students under the capable direction of Chris Carroll, our graduate assistant. The total cost was enormous (\$100,000) but the benefits for generations to come are obvious.

We are in the 'water' business at Clear Creek as we tell a thirsty world about a wonderful saviour who can give living water!

"I heard the voice of Jesus say, 'Behold, I freely give/The living water, thirsty one,/Stoop down, and drink, and live.'/I came to Jesus, and I drank/Of that lifegiving stream;/My thirst was quenched, my soul revived,/And now I live in Him."
 Horatius Bonar

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Barkley Moore
President
Oneida Baptist Institute
Oneida, KY 40972

oneida journal

"Good Morning, Mr. Moore"

The birds were singing loudly this Friday morning. The sun was shining warmly on our campus. Yet snow was still piled high all about after a very cold wintery interlude. After each snowfall our boys efficiently cleared all the campus walks and steps, and that is always a rather large undertaking. Our men put large blades on several of our vehicles and cleared the campus roads.

It was such a beautiful morning that I found it hard to force myself to the office and the mountain of paperwork I face daily. Rather my feet carried me into our middle school classroom building. The hum of learning is always a satisfying sound and it was very pleasant this morning. Students in three eighth grade classrooms, two seventh grade classrooms, and one sixth grade were all hard at work.

Then it is always a spirit lifter on the most difficult day to go through our classroom for staff children grades 1-5. There are nine children in that classroom this year. Ranging in age from six up, their singing "Good morning, Mr. Moore," is always a delight. Then each wants to wave or give an individual greeting.

From there my feet led me one block down the street to Britton Hall built within a year or two of the founding of Oneida. Nell Hignite Britton lived there as a child and all of her adult married life. She was a student on the opening day and later married Tom Britton who taught on our campus many years and

many other years at Big Creek, a branch school of Oneida. He was a state senator when I first remember him.

This old two story family home with its large white columns and balcony-like second floor porch houses our day care and kindergarten also for staff children. We have all ages here from a three-month-old baby, the son of two OBI graduates who met while students here and now serve on staff, through age five.

This is another delightful group. The day care supervisor is Dot Burns. She came to Oneida in the 1950s as a student from Alabama as did two of her sisters. While here Dot met a 1953 graduate and they were married a year and a half after her graduation. Their three children are also Oneida graduates. Her husband, Joe, is a retired highway engineer and supervisor. He is now a full time staff member and does tremendous service with the school's bulldozer, backhoe, tow truck and also driving our diesel former Greyhound taking the seniors to Washington and Colonial Williamsburg each year, and the choir and band on trips, etc. Several other ladies work with Dot while their husbands and all the parents of the children teach or otherwise serve the school.

Mrs. Joe Buckner teaches the staff kindergarten in what was once the Britton master bedroom. Her husband was a dorm parent for eight years working with deaf children before coming to us, and has been an assistant dean of boys here for three years.

We let our local senior citizens have use of the former Britton living room and kitchen to serve daily meals, etc. They have the area rent free as one of the many ways we help minister to our local community. The upstairs is used as a staff apartment.

Walking back up the street I checked on the construction progress of the 3000 square foot addition to our Craft House. Two of our crew were putting the roof on while three others were working on the second floor inside. We do all of our own construction work, meeting all codes, and our men are busy daily year round. The Oneida physical plant has more than tripled in the past 10 years. Looking across the valley and Goose Creek the new 3000 square foot farm shop can be clearly seen. Progress has been rapid on it recently despite some bad weather. Recently we have been working on about five projects at the same time, moving back and forth as circumstances dictate.

I got to go through the morning mail before being spiritually uplifted in our daily chapel service.



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

sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR FEB. 15, 1987

Life and Work Series

Following Jesus

Luke 9:23-26 The cost of Christian discipleship is self-denial, self-renunciation and self-abnegation.

Self-denial is a renunciation, a disowning of self, and a declaration that self shall not rule. It is the setting aside of self-will and saying a cheerful and obedient "yes" to Christ's will.

Self-renunciation means to take up one's cross; it does not mean to bear some of life's little disagreeable experiences.

Self-abnegation means accepting Christ as one's leader for life and doing his will rather than one's own will. We should think his thoughts and work out his will.

Luke 9:57-62 A would-be disciple affirmed: "Lord, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest." Obviously he did not have any clear conception of what it was going to cost him to follow Christ, so Christ dealt with this eager man by bringing him face to face with the facts. Christ wants all whom he saves to follow him without any delusions about what is involved in doing so.

With the second man Christ took the initiative. The man was willing to go, but he was not quite ready to get started. He wanted to delay, but Christ was not willing to take the second place in his life.

A third man considered the cost of discipleship and wanted to go with Christ

but stated categorically that he would not do so until he went back home and put his business in order so that he would not lose anything during his absence. His attitude was that Christ should not expect him to put his work ahead of his own affairs.

Christ made it clear to this man that whatever makes one look back, even if it be family or friends, makes him unfit for service in the kingdom, dishonors Christ, cripples his work and injures one's church.

International Series

Being Christian in Relationships

Colossians 3:5-9 Wrong attitudes, bad dispositions and evil practices are the enemies of Christian peace, power and progress. Among the things which Christians are to put to death are the sins which grow out of physical lust, and the sins which are the result of egotism. God will not overlook these evil inclinations and practices, so Christians must banish them from their lives.

Colossians 3:10-11 Having been redeemed by the blood of Christ, believers hold the same blessed position, whether Jew or Gentile, bondman or freeman. So far as the Christian's life is concerned, Christ is its source, sustenance and security.

Colossians 3:12-17 For the sake of their happiness, Paul exhorted his readers to put on the robes of mercies, kind deeds, humility, longsuffering, forbearance and forgiveness. The outer garment, which is to cover these virtues and hold them together is true love, "the bond of perfectness."

Paul urged the believers to enthrone Christ as the Lord of their lives and let his peace rule over them. He admonished them to cultivate a thankful spirit, and reminded them that such a spirit pleases the Lord. Paul also urged Christians to let "the word of Christ" find hospitality and residence in their hearts. Christ's will is of paramount importance in the life of every Christian.

Colossians 3:18-21 Here Paul exhorts Christian wives and husbands to accept their responsibilities and obligations in their families for the sake of Christ. Children are to obey their parents. Those who do so please the Lord, honor their parents and bring credit upon themselves. In exercising control over their children, parents should not make unreasonable demands of them, or administer chastisement to them in anger.



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

After four years: new experiences

A steady decline in Kentucky Baptist Cooperative Program growth began in 1981. The decline culminated this past year in a decision to "freeze" this year's operating budget at the same level as the previous year. While disappointing to many, the "freezing" action was appropriate and right. Unlike our national economic system, Kentucky Baptists simply will not operate "in the red."

The economic reality has made an "income watcher" of me these past few months. Although I haven't moved my desk to the "counting office," I do call

Judy LaVallie each day I'm not out on the road. Judy is our "chief counter" and always by early afternoon has the most up-to-date summary on Cooperative Program income.

We already knew that December had been the second-best month in our history and had put us 14 percent ahead of the previous year after four months. Even with that, and the "reduced" budget, we were still 1.3 percent under our operating budget.

Daily, the calls to Judy signaled optimism. By January's end, after exactly four years with the KBC (my "apprenticeship" with Dr. Owen began February 1, 1983), I was, for the first time enjoying two new experiences:

First, by January 31, five months into our new budget, we not only were \$572,313 (9.2 percent) ahead of last year, but we were, for the first time in my administration, **actually ahead of budget after five months**. As of January 31, Kentucky Baptists are \$266,183 (4.1 percent) ahead of the revised budget.

Second, the combination of December's \$1,620,022 and January's \$1,636,300 represents the first time in KBC budget history that we have crossed the \$3 million mark in back-to-back months.

What a joyful way to mark the beginning of our **Sesquicentennial** year!! A number of events have been planned for this year but this one was "unplanned." It reminds me of a loving God who sometimes avoids our planned events and creates his own surprises.

Aware that last year's Cooperative Program outlook was brighter at this time of year but fell precipitously by year's end, my optimism must be tempered with caution. A "low month" could pull us back under again.

But for now, we can celebrate these two new experiences which in the long haul, will mean an extension of God's blessings within a world greatly in need of the Good News and the social implications of a Christ-like life. And that's worth celebrating.

on mission together

baptist news in brief

Smith joins FMB in personnel selection

Pam Smith, a former journeyman and Southern Baptist Home Mission Board church planter, has joined the Foreign Mission Board as associate director of the Personnel Selection Department. She works with two other associate directors, William Kruschwitz and Wendy Norvelle. Some of her duties will include overseeing the application process of the journeyman program and helping enlist and evaluate career and associate missionary candidates.(BP)



CLC spotlights family in spring seminar

The spotlight will be on the family March 23-25 as Southern Baptist leaders from throughout the country gather in Charlotte, N. C. for a national seminar on "Critical issues facing today's families."

Sponsored by the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, the meeting at the Adam's Mark Hotel will feature presentations dealing with concerns such as nurturing moral values in the home, pornography, domestic violence, suicide, the church and the family, aging and the moral issues facing children and youth.

Registration is \$35 per person and \$17.50 for spouses of registrants and for students. Additional information, including details about special rates at Adam's Mark, is available from the Christian Life Commission.

Musicians to meet for March seminars

Handbell leaders and ministers of music and youth will meet at the Sunday School Board's Church Program Training Center March 17-20 for national workshops.

Composing and arranging, care and maintenance of handbells and using handbells with congregational singing will be among the study topics.

Ministers of music and youth will explore time management, multiple staff issues, producing musicals and music reading.

To register, send \$50 registration for each participant to Church Program Training Center, P.O. Box 24001, Nashville, TN 37203.

Hodo picked to lead Houston University

Edward Douglas (Doug) Hodo has been elected president of Houston Baptist University, announced Milton Cross, chairman of the board of trustees, and Marvin L. West, co-chairman of the board's succession committee. Hodo will assume the presidency June 1.

Outgoing president William H. Hinton has been named chancellor of the Texas Baptist school.

Hodo currently is dean of the college of business at the University of Texas

at San Antonio, a position he has held since 1972. He has earned four degrees from the University of Mississippi.

Hodo has been on the Christian education coordinating board of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.(BP)

Evangelism stressed in BSSB survey

Stepped-up efforts at winning lost persons to Jesus Christ should be the number one priority of Southern Baptist churches, according to a survey in which evangelism led by 10 percentage points over all other concerns needing greater emphasis.

In the study conducted for the Baptist Sunday School Board, NFO Research Inc., Toledo, Oh., sent a mail survey to about 1500 Southern Baptists 18 years of age and older. A total of 1072 responded to the four page questionnaire.

Asked to rank a list of 13 items according to the emphasis needed in Southern Baptist churches—ranging from greatly increased emphasis to greatly decreased emphasis—57 percent of those responding called for greatly increased emphasis on winning the world to Christ.

With a desire expressed for more emphasis on evangelism, 40 percent of the respondents said they had talked with an unsaved person about becoming a Christian during the last 12 months while 11 percent said they had led someone to make a commitment to Christ.(BP)

Christians help stop pari-mutuel bill

Georgia Baptists and Methodists played key roles in defeating a proposed constitutional amendment to legalize pari-mutuel gambling on horse races in Georgia.

The house industry committee of the Georgia general assembly voted 18-6 against the bill, in effect killing it for the 1987 legislative session.

Thousands of Baptists and Methodists wrote letters opposing the legislation to their representatives and senators and to members of the house industry committee. Opposition to the bill was led by the Georgia Council on Moral and Civic Concerns, an organization of Baptists and Methodists in Georgia established in 1943.

Emmett Henderson, executive director of the council, attributed defeat of the bill to an outpouring of letters, phone calls and public outcry from concerned Christian citizens in Georgia.

Henderson especially praised the role of the Christian Index, the Georgia Baptist state paper; the Wesleyan Christian Advocate, the state paper for United Methodists; and the leadership of Clark Hutchinson, president of the Georgia Baptist Convention.(BP)

China honors woman who upheld faith

Xiu Rui-Juan, a Christian and world known scientist and physician, has been named "Woman of the Year" for the last three years by the government of China.

Xiu, a specialist in microcirculation systems, has received wide notice for her

research in diabetes and heart disease. Chinese radio, television and periodicals present her as an example for everyone in the country.

The honors reflect an amazing turnaround for the 50-year-old Xiu. During the cultural revolution of the 1960s and 1970s, radicals in China persecuted religious people, intellectuals and the well educated, among many others. Foreign ties of any sort also were considered highly suspect at the time. Xiu and her family had been close to the Swedish Baptist missionaries who formerly worked in Zhucheng.

Xiu was separated from her family and banished to the countryside during the revolution. She worked as a farm laborer and later as a poorly equipped rural "barefoot doctor." Her father suffered severe persecution. Her husband died during the era.

"I never denied my faith or my background, a fact that has caused me many difficult moments and suffering," she said. "Now the difficult times are over, and we thank God for freedom and for our country's openness to the world."(BP)

Film, video centers close in consolidation move

Baptist Film and Video Centers in Memphis, Tenn. and Louisville closed Feb. 1, according to John Ross, retail merchandiser in the Baptist Book Store chain's book store marketing department.

The closings will centralize services in three remaining locations, he said.

Circulation of the more than 700 film and video titles available through Baptist Film and Video Centers will continue through centers in Arlington, Tex., Atlanta, Ga. and Greensboro, N. C.

Ross said efforts to improve service for film and video rental customers will include toll free numbers for the three libraries, effective immediately.

Customers of the Arlington, Tex. center may call 1-800-433-5090 outside Texas. In Texas, the number is 1-817-640-5261.

Georgia residents may call 1-800-422-7411, while persons in Alabama, Florida, Mississippi and Tennessee may call the Atlanta center at 1-800-334-2675.

Persons in North Carolina may dial 1-800-621-1621. Out-of-state customers should call the Greensboro center at 1-800-334-4080.

Tough laws not enough to stop drunk drivers

Fortified legal sanctions are making a difference, but a report contends the battle against drunk driving never will be won without fundamental changes in America's social attitudes.

That conclusion dominates the 1986 progress report of the National Commission Against Drunk Driving, established in 1983 to monitor nationwide efforts to combat drunk driving.

"The laws that have made a difference in saving lives are in place as never before," the report says. "However, the unfulfilled need is the most difficult, and that is to change behavior patterns and social attitudes."

Foy Valentine, executive director of the Baptist Christian Life Commission, welcomed the report. "If public attitudes are to be translated into changed behavior, then churches must redouble their efforts to provide intervention and education, especially among young people. The best way to end the problem of drunk driving is to end the problem of alcohol abuse."(BP)

Retired missionary Tucker Callaway dies

Tucker N. Callaway, 68, a retired Southern Baptist missionary to Japan and Liberia, died in his home in Decatur, Ga. on Jan. 21. He had undergone surgery in the early January for prostate cancer and was recovering when he collapsed and died of an apparent blood clot related to the surgery. He had donated his body to science. A memorial service was conducted in Atlanta on Jan. 25. He and his wife, Elizabeth, had served 35 years in Japan and Liberia and he had written several books.(BP)



"Go through doors," Causby tells nurses

Baptist nurses should "walk through doors" which God might open for them challenged Baptist Nursing Fellowship president Mary Lou Causby, Shelby, N. C.

"If you see that the Lord has a door open for you, go through it, because it could be one of the most fulfilling experiences you could ever have," Causby said during a Baptist Nursing Fellowship meeting in conjunction with the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union executive board meeting.

The Woman's Missionary Union will host a breakfast for Baptist Nursing Fellowship members during the WMU annual meeting June 15 in St. Louis. The Fellowship's annual meeting is set for Nov. 12-15 at the Sheraton Music City Hotel in Nashville, Tenn. WMU sponsors the fellowship by providing financial support, office space and office support staff.(BP)

WMU gears conferences to ethnic, deaf women

Conferences designed to meet needs of American Indian, Spanish-speaking and deaf women will be offered at the 1987 Woman's Missionary Union summer conferences.

Conferences for American Indians will be held July 25-31 at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center, Glorieta, N.M., and for the deaf August 22-28 at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Ridgecrest, N. C. Conferences for Spanish-speaking women will be held during both weeks.

Methods and leadership conferences for these groups will have the same basic content as regular WMU conferences, but will be geared toward the needs of these members.

Reservations for the Glorieta Conference may be made by writing: WMU Conference July 25-31, Glorieta Baptist Conference Center, Box 8, Glorieta, N. M. 87535.

Reservations for the Ridgecrest Conference may be made by writing to: WMU Conference August 22-28, Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Box 128, Ridgecrest, N. C. 28770.

**Who Will Win America?
Week of Prayer for Home Missions
March 1-8, 1987
Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
National Goal:
\$37,500,000**

CONVENTION **KBC NEWS**

"Kentucky Baptists' best conference" meets in Elizabethtown this month

The conference many Kentucky Baptists consider the highlight of the denominational year convenes this month in Elizabethtown. And this year's conference promises to doubly inspire participants. It opens the curtain on the state's "Celebration '87" observances.

Nineteen eighty-seven is the sesquicentennial anniversary year for Southern Baptists in Kentucky. Evangelism director Jay Brown has risen to the occasion by assembling a program roster that might well be called "Who's Who in Baptist Evangelistic Work."

James Pleitz of Dallas, TX; D.L. Lowrie of Lubbock, TX; Perry Sanders of Lafayette, LA; and Richard Harris from Foreign Mission Board in Atlanta will join Kentuckians Hal Poe, Eldred Taylor, A.B. Colvin, Hicks Shelton and the state Evangelism director, himself, behind the Severns Valley church pulpit. Brown has incorporated the "Celebration '87" theme--"Enriched by heritage, Encouraged by hope"--into his conference plans. Each speaker will develop the theme through his own unique style of preaching. Evangelistic music by the Cobb family, the Kentucky Baptist Chorale, Jenny Tanner,

Duane Fitzpatrick, Julie Eaton, Allen and Ann Case, Dana Gisler Davidson and the Severns Valley church choir will accent the preaching sessions.

The State Evangelism conference is easily the best attended of all state sponsored meetings. Even in years when heavy snow has impeded travel from remote corners of the state, Southern Baptists have turned out in droves to draw inspiration, motivation and even a sermon outline or two from the spiritual "horn of plenty."

Pessimists already predict snow for the week of February 23, but diehard Evangelism conferencees remain undaunted. One pastor visiting the Kentucky Baptist Building in Middletown, last week, announced, "I don't care if we get three feet (of snow). I'll just start out a little earlier and get home a little later!"

That attitude probably represents the mainline of pastoral thought in Kentucky. Many church leaders rely on the two day gathering to supply them with sermon ideas and illustrations for the rest of the year.

Three of this year's nine keynote speakers are past Kentucky Evangelism directors. A.B. Colvin, one of the

three, is also this year's state Convention president.

Colvin retired from the Kentucky Baptist Convention in 1985, having served the denomination for 28 years in various capacities. Since stepping down from his vocational duties, he has been constantly involved in volunteer service to the Convention. His passion has been Oneida Baptist Institute, the Convention's boarding school in the mountains of eastern Kentucky.

Eldred Taylor, another of Kentucky's past Evangelism department directors, now directs the operations of Kentucky Baptist Homes For Children. Taylor left the Convention over three decades ago to become pastor of Somerset First church. He returned to Middletown, to assume the top Child Care administrative

position in 1981.

T. Hicks Shelton preceded Jay Brown in the role of Evangelism department director. In recent years he has been a director of missions, interim pastor and volunteer missionary to Kenya. Like both Taylor and Colvin, he holds the credentials of Kentucky Baptist Convention president.

Conference sessions will begin in Elizabethtown, at 2:00PM, EDT. As was the case at the Convention annual meeting last November, parking space will be difficult to find and local facilities will be crowded. The Convention staff joins the staff of Severns Valley church in strongly suggesting conference participants share rides and arrive at the church early. Those requiring lodging in Elizabethtown, should make arrangements immediately if they have not already done so.

The mission begins in Lexington this April

February is not too early to begin planning to attend the Foreign Mission Board's Missionary Appointment Service at Rupp Arena in Lexington. The Foreign Mission Board has given Kentucky the privilege of hosting this year's service as a salute to the sesquicentennial anniversary of the organization of Southern

Baptist work in Kentucky.

The Missionary Appointment Service is the second major event of the "Celebration '87" year. Following the state Evangelism conference, it precedes the state Sunday School conference, the state Baptist Student Union Convention and, of course, the KBC annual meeting.