

## Missionaries grieve over Lebanon evacuation

Militiamen with machine guns watched as seven Southern Baptist missionaries and several dozen Lebanese carefully stepped off a shuttle bus on Mar. 5.

The travelers scurried along through the evening rain and walked up an unsteady plank into the boat in East Beirut's port.

Behind them was a war-torn land where a stray artillery shell or bullet could have ended any of their lives. It also was a land where U. S. citizens, by government order, could no longer live.

Ahead of the missionaries was Larnaca on Cyprus, the place where relatives and friends in the United States could count on reliable telephone service to ask, "Are you all right?"

Given the chance, the missionaries would have chosen Lebanon.

In that world, they made deep friendships by weathering the war. "It's been overwhelming to see the love the Lebanese have expressed for us" since the U. S. order was announced in late January, said Leola Ragland, an Oklahoman who has worked 33 years as a missionary in Lebanon.

As of Mar. 7, all 24 missionaries and eight children formerly in Lebanon were in Cyprus. They wondered what relatives and friends thought of their pleas to remain in Lebanon.

"I don't know what people in the U. S. are seeing on television or reading in the newspapers," commented Pete Dunn, an Alabamian who has been in Lebanon since 1968.

"I respect my government," Dunn added. "Maybe they are looking at other factors I'm not exposed to. But right now, I believe the order was unwarranted."

"I can't imagine not coming back to Lebanon" to continue working side by side with the country's Baptists," said Dunn's wife, Pat.

"We were right on the threshold" of launching Baptist TV programs in Arabic," said Dunn, who directs the Baptist Center for Mass Communications, "and here we are on a boat going to Cyprus."

Frances Fuller, Arkansas, who has spent 16 of her 23-year missionary career in Lebanon, cited the relative security of East Beirut and neighboring

towns. "We feel like we could say, 'Mr. Reagan, come and visit us. Meet our neighbors. And then think about (the order).'"

"It's not that there isn't any danger," she acknowledged. "We thought at times we might die for being in Lebanon."

However, for Mrs. Fuller, who directs the Arab Baptist Publication Center, the risk is worth taking to be obedient to God. "Never in any period of my life have I ever been happier" than in recent years in Lebanon," she said. "I feel like my roots are here. I want to come back as quickly as possible."

Mrs. Fuller said she struggled with the principle of obeying God rather than men. She finally decided to obey the order, not wanting her protest to make it difficult for other missionaries later to return to Lebanon.

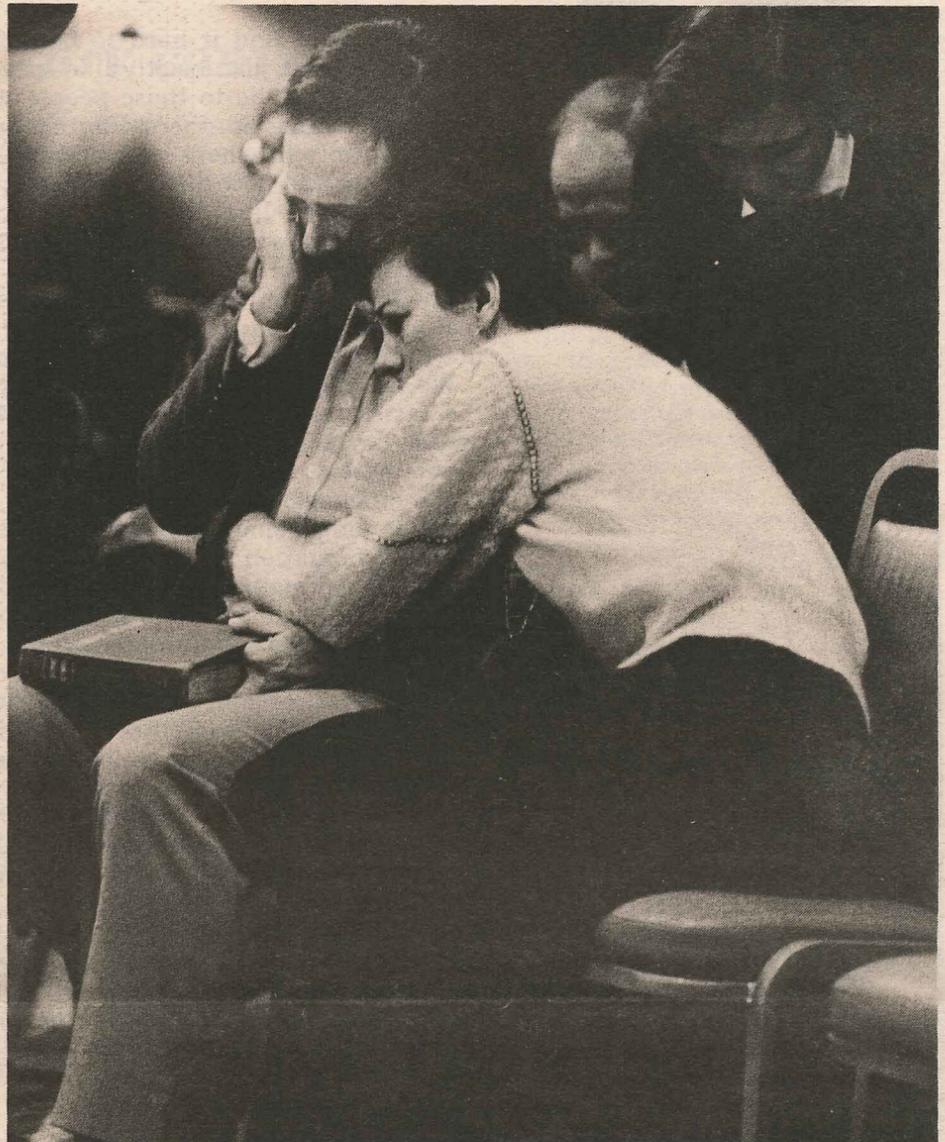
"We're leaving Lebanon as half-people," said Jim Ragland, who directed Beirut Baptist School in West Beirut. "We feel we have left our hearts behind in the places where we have lived and worked."

"This is home for us," Mrs. Ragland said. "We know Lebanon probably better than we know America."

When news of the order came, Ragland said, he and his wife sat across the table from each other and had their devotional together. "We just sat there and wept together."

For more than three weeks they said goodbyes to Lebanese friends and co-workers, both Christians and Muslims. It was an emotional challenge, Ragland said. "How do you walk away from somebody you've known for 30 years?" he asked, weeping.

Like the other missionaries, the Raglands do not understand why the State Department has banned Americans from Lebanon. "If it's to protect us, we don't want it," Ragland said. (BP)



At times, tears have been the only way missionaries could vent their emotions over being uprooted from Lebanon. Gary White's tears came during a meeting of the 24 missionaries formerly stationed in Lebanon. White and his wife, Jerree (r), had been in Lebanon since mid-1985. In the background are missionaries Emmett Barnes and Vivian Trimble, Mrs. White's mother.

## Local pastor named "Citizen of the Year"

by Jack Sanford, Editor

Additional information for this story was gathered from an article which appeared in the Neighborhood section of the Courier-Journal, March 11, 1987, written by staff writer Gayle Cutler.

Jack Oliver, pastor of Vine Street Baptist Church in the Germantown neighborhood of Louisville, has been named Neighborhood Citizen of the Year by proclamation of Louisville Mayor Jerry Abramson and the neighborhood association. Alderman Steve Magre presented the award on behalf of the mayor.

Oliver has been pastor at Vine Street Baptist Church for 14 years and is recognized for his unselfish service to the citizens to the area who declare he is always there when he is needed.

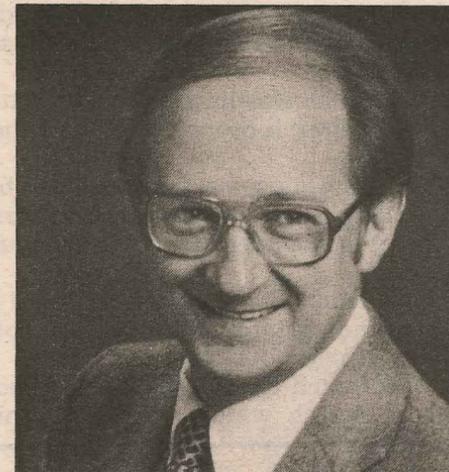
The recognition came to Oliver because of his work in many areas of community concern including:

- Service as president of the Germantown-Paristown Neighborhood Association from 1980-85. In addition he serves as editor, publisher and circulation director of the association's bimonthly newsletter.

- He is president of the board of Covenant Housing Corp., a non-profit community group which is renovating a

house to sell to a low-income family.

- He operates a community clothes closet at his church and was instrumental in starting a kindergarten in 1985.



Oliver

- He started a community food pantry at Vine Street Baptist Church in 1975 which has grown from serving about 25 families to about 150 families each month.

- He is in charge of renovating the neighborhood community distribution center which will be the new commodities distribution site as well as the site of a senior citizens' nutrition pro-

gram.

Residents praise Oliver for his concern for all people, especially children and senior citizens. "Jack went out of his way to know the kids and spend time with each of them, especially those with troubled families. Nobody asked him. He just did it," said John Davis, a member of Vine Street Baptist Church.

Cathy Foster, a single parent who works part time and is a student at Jefferson Community College, has two children in the church's day care center. She declared, "He always helps."

Foster added, "I don't always have the money for the kids' tuition when it's due. But Jack understands. He tells me not to worry, that we'll work it out."

Oliver says he does not understand what all the hoopla is about because "I do what I do because I enjoy it. That's all," he declared.

He stated he enjoyed preaching most of all because, "That is communication of the word of the Lord which is life and joy and peace to people. That is what I have been called to do," he affirmed.

Oliver's wife Margie is secretary in the evangelism department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. They will celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary in May.

Just for fun and relaxation, Oliver works with computers and studies Civil War history.

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Jack D. Sanford

# sanford's perspectives

## Baptists are not parochial

Some Baptists find it hard to believe all other Baptists are not just exactly like they are. What a shock it must be to those people with closed minds to realize Southern Baptists are nationwide not only in where we worship, but also in who we are and how different we are.

For example, last Sunday Southern Baptists across America worshipped in at least 85 different languages.

The truth is our name does not reflect who we really are because we are no longer "southern," nor have we been since the end of World War II.

We no longer have a common language since the fastest growth among Southern Baptists is among language groups ranging from Spanish to Vietnamese to Korean to several European and Asian languages.

We no longer share a common culture since the Baptist population is growing in urban centers and the great metropolitan areas of our country.

We are not "cut from the same cloth," because Southern Baptists are multi-national, multi-racial and multi-lingual.

Truly, we who claim loyalty to Southern Baptist principles and hold to Southern Baptist interpretations of the Bible and practice Southern Baptist ethics are a diverse lot in many ways.

Even in Kentucky we have about 48,000 ethnics. The Direct Missions Department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention has assigned Bill Jagers the task of working with language groups. He reports Kentucky now has work with 13 language groups including Chinese, Thai, Haitian, Laotian, Vietnamese, Cambodian, Korean, Hispanic, Romanian, Philippino and Middle Eastern. In addition our convention is now working with 34 deaf groups whose style of worship is far different than

that experienced by most of us.

The only true common denominator is our faith in Jesus Christ as savior and lord and our belief that all who profess Christ and repent of sin will be saved through the grace of a loving God. From that point onward we have as much, perhaps more, diversity than any other group of religious people in the world.

How, then, can we justify any effort to mold us into a common likeness?

How can we feel good about any movement which would rob us of the right, even the obligation to respond as we believe God leads us, in spite of what others might think of our decision?

How can we hold prejudice toward anyone who thinks, speaks and IS different, since so many differences are realities in the daily practice of our cooperating churches?

In our own state of Kentucky we see this great land and the Southern Baptist Convention in microcosm. Kentucky culture is reflective of national life and is becoming more so with every passing day as we reach more and more ethnics for the Lord.

For this reason we must give our best to openness and tolerance as we accept others who are different. We have no mandate from God to squeeze all his creatures into the same tight mold. He calls us to freedom with responsibility and we must struggle against a narrow interpretation of the faith which would suppress the differences among us.

It is good that the KBC is reaching out to diverse people in an effort to bring them to faith in Jesus Christ. This effort demands our full support because Kentucky Baptists are not a parochial people nor do we serve a parochial God.

## A country church is no longer a country church

Not too many years ago a country church implied, often mistakenly, a little building stuck off in the corner of nowhere, with an outhouse, a wood stove, poor lighting, an out-of-tune piano and people who were resistant to growth and change.

That stereotype has long since faded into oblivion, replaced by reality. That reality is clear; the country church is no longer a country church.

Last week the editor spoke to the executive board of the Russell Creek Association where James Casey is director of missions. The meeting was held at Brush Creek Baptist Church, about four miles down the road from Allendale, which is not much more than a spot in the road in Green County.

Brush Creek was in the country, but it was not a country church by any stretch of the imagination.

The church house is a sparkling new brick structure with carpet, padded pews, modern plumbing and heating and adequate space for education and fellowship.

Pastor Ancil Durrett demonstrated noticeable pride in the accomplishments of his congregation as he welcomed the executive board.

It was a rich experience among people in the kind of church which constitutes the majority

among us. The church was represented at the meeting by a host of women who had prepared food.

The church may be out in the countryside, and the association may be made up primarily of rural churches. Yet this body of believers, both in Brush Creek and in the association, have caught a vision for today and the future, reflected in what was discussed in that rural church last week.

The association is sponsoring a branch of Seminary Extension; plans for Parenting by Grace were discussed; local cinemas were being used to show Christian films; and discussion of mission trips to Kenya and the Philippines were on the agenda.

One of the joys of being editor of the state paper is the opportunity to be among the people who carry the load of Southern Baptists. Believe it, people in rural Kentucky are not behind their urban brothers and sisters. On the contrary they are on the cutting edge in missions, evangelism and Christian education.

Hats off to Brush Creek Baptist Church, Russell Creek Association and to all the people in our great state who worship and serve in the churches which are just about four miles down the road.

**western recorder**

(ISSN 0043-4132)

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

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

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

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

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

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Carl Fields

## Glimpses of our heritage

### Baptist Child Care

George Lorimer, pastor of Walnut Street Baptist Church, led his congregation in promoting the cause of the street children of Louisville and in 1866, "The Orphans Aid Society" was founded.

In 1869, C. Van Meter of New York City came to Louisville and delivered three lectures on his 15 years work in Howard's Mission, New York City. As a result of his pleas \$1100 in cash was given and \$700 was pledged to a building fund for a home for orphans.

On June 21, 1869, women from different Baptist churches organized "The Society of the Baptist Home for Helpless Children." The society pledged "to transfer its work entirely to the hands of the Baptist brethren wherever these have organized for the establishment of a permanent home." The official board, acting within nine days, opened "The Home for Helpless Children" in rented quarters at 828 West Walnut Street, Louisville.

Miss Mary Hollingsworth became superintendent of the new home in July 1869 and held that office until 1905.

In 1870 provision was made for better housing with a gift of \$5000 and a lot 200 feet square at the northwest corner of First and St. Catherine Streets and on Dec. 19, 1870 the new home was dedicated. The home was to occupy these quarters until January 1950.

On the silver anniversary of the Home on Oct. 2, 1894, Lorimer returned to make the memorial address. He made a fine plea for the support of the orphanage. The sum of \$4500 in cash and pledges was received. At this time 100 children were living in the Home.

Many Baptists in the state were not satisfied with what was being done for orphans. They wanted a home for needy children "whether orphans or not." At the meeting, a committee of nine was formed with full power to act in the establishing of a children's home.

In January 1915 the committee purchased the property of Lynnland College, Glendale, Kentucky. The property, consisting of a 34 room building and 17 acres of land, was bought for \$3500. A. B. Gardner was named superintendent of the home and on June 23, 1915 the Kentucky Baptist Children's Home was dedicated.

The "depression" years were hard times for both homes. The bright spot was on Nov. 13, 1934 when the Glendale Association adopted the recommendation of the Baptist Committee that a Thanksgiving Offering be taken in Sunday schools and be divided equally between the two homes. This offering has become the greatest single source of income for the child care ministry of Kentucky Baptists.

# baptist news in brief

## FMB commissions 50 to journeyman posts

Southern Baptists commissioned 50 journeymen Feb. 27 for work in 26 countries during the next two years.

The 27 women and 23 men, all college graduates under age 27, will help Southern Baptist career missionaries by working in youth evangelism; social, music and medical ministries; and in teaching and computer positions.

The group, which included four married couples, was the 25th to be commissioned by the Baptist Foreign Mission Board since the program started in 1965. The journeymen came from 24 states, Brazil and Canada.

The journeymen will travel overseas in a few weeks as the 1985 group completes service and returns to the United States.

## Veteran DOM resigns in Taylor County

Carl Henry Parrott has resigned as director of missions for Taylor County Association after two years.

Saying he was "open to whatever comes up" Parrott indicated he has no definite plans for a future position.

"I am of course available for supply preaching, interim work and any type of speaking engagement," he added.

Parrott has been director of missions for several associations, as well as being a pastor. He was DOM in Lincoln County Association, Rockcastle and Tate's Creek Association, Ohio River Association, and retired from Central Association before going to Taylor County Association.

He offered his resignation at the executive board meeting Feb. 9 and it was accepted with regret.

## Books shipped to USSR set import precedent

Bible study material in the Russian language is to be placed in the hands of evangelical pastors and church workers in the Soviet Union following a decade-long effort by the Baptist World Alliance and the Mennonite Central Committee.

The All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (AUCECB) in the USSR is to receive 5000 sets of a Russian language translation of the William Barclay Commentary on the New Testament. The project, under discussion since 1976 and in preparation for five years, will result in some 75,000 total volumes being distributed to AUCECB leaders.

BWA officials said the import authorization was agreed to during a February meeting between AUCECB general secretary Alexei M. Bichkov and Konstantin M. Karchev, chairman of the Council of Religious Affairs of the Soviet Council of Ministers.

According to the BWA, the import application approval is without precedent in terms of the number of pieces of Christian literature authorized for importation. The Barclay Commentary was chosen by the AUCECB leaders.

BWA officials said the project, to be shared equally by the BWA and the Mennonites, will cost \$500,000. They added the BWA needs at least \$100,000 in gifts to be able to meet its share. (BP)

## Jury convicts Morris in slayings

A 15-member jury convicted Liberian Benjamin M. Morris Mar. 6 of murdering Southern Baptist missionary Libby Senter and 10-year-old daughter, Rachel.

The jury took about 30 minutes to return a verdict in the Nimba County courthouse after hearing five days of testimony from nine prosecution witnesses and Morris. Circuit Court Judge Timothy Swope said he would pronounce sentence soon.

Morris, 32, was arrested Nov. 27 near the Liberian border with Ivory Coast one day after Mrs. Senter, 47, and her daughter were found dead in their Yekepa, Liberia, home. He later confessed he killed the two after Mrs. Senter intervened to prevent him from molesting Rachel.

Southern Baptist missionaries, including the Senter family, befriended Morris, a Liberian Baptist seminary graduate. They knew Morris

was suspected of committing sex offenses in the past, but they had dismissed the accusations after coming to know him, said Bradley Brown, chairman of the group of 67 Southern Baptist missionaries assigned to work in Liberia.

In his own defense, Morris admitted in court to the murders. But departing from his earlier testimony, he said Senter hired him to commit them. Under questioning by the prosecuting attorney and the judge, Morris contradicted himself on the dates involved in the alleged hiring, Brown reported.

"Obviously the judge and the jury did not believe (Morris), because the jury came back in less than a half hour with a unanimous verdict," said John Mills, who directs Southern Baptist mission work in western Africa. Under Liberian law, Morris could be hanged for the killings. (BP)

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# homes for children

## How can I give?

The Beyond This Time endowment campaign is underway, and great interest is being shown in Baptist Homes for Children. Many people who have known only that the homes are operated by Kentucky Baptists are becoming aware of the tremendous needs of children and want to invest in this unique opportunity.

I am finding people who have financial strength, but their money is tied up in property or business investments. This limits the cash flow. There are people in this situation who sincerely want to give more than they can give in cash. So the question is asked, "Are there ways to give other than cash?" There certainly are, and I want to suggest at least five different ways to give to the Beyond This Time endowment campaign.

**Real Estate:** undeveloped land, a farm, apartments, rental property, mortgages, etc. Some people can give a life estate in their residence or their farm. All of these provide tax advantages.

**Securities:** appreciated securities can be given and at the same time provide the donor a tax advantage.

**Life Insurance:** there are new, innovative approaches to giving life insurance. This is a way to make a substantial gift at minimal expense. Ask your insurance advisor about this. Perhaps one has a paid-up policy which is no longer needed and can be given; or a new policy can be purchased, naming Baptist Homes as the owner and beneficiary. Premiums paid by the donor are tax deductible for those who itemize tax returns.

**Trusts:** various kinds of trusts can be set up so as to provide for the donor's family and also greatly benefit Baptist Homes for Children.

**Wills and Bequests:** important support can be given your children's homes by naming the homes in one's will.

Some are giving cash and also using one or more of the above methods to give to the endowment campaign. Also, any of these methods can be used to memorialize a loved one or friend.

Give as God prospers you, and watch your gift bless children and honor God.

# baptist forum

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

## Las Vegas needs Baptist witness

As always, our state evangelism conference was full of excitement and inspiration. In spite of that I was puzzled by one thing.

Rick Hamil, the former gambler, gave a very warm and wonderful testimony, punctuated periodically with a chorus of "AMENS" from the crowd. The thing I do not understand was the final portion of his testimony when he questioned so strongly the plans of the Southern Baptist convention to meet in Las Vegas.

It is true most groups go there to partake of the sin that is offered. It is also true if one of our brothers falls to the temptation, whether a minister or a member of the laity, the secular press will have a field day with it.

However, it is my understanding that the state convention staff in Nevada and the Baptists who live and labor there have said, "please come, if any place in the world needs the influence of Southern Baptists, it is Las Vegas."

It seems to me the question is simple—"What would Jesus do?" The answer is simple, he would very quickly go into that place of sin and spread his prescription of love and forgiveness. Can we as Southern Baptists do less?

We must simply pray God will bless the influence of our convention as we go there and that he will perhaps give a special measure of his blessing so we all may be able to withstand the temptations we will confront and carry his message with us everywhere we go.

Dick Ham  
Richmond

## CLC leader evokes mixed feeling

As a colleague of N. Larry Baker I have mixed feelings over his recent election

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**March 31, 10:00 a.m. (EST)**  
Campbellsville College

**April 1, 7:00 p.m.**  
Yellow Creek Baptist Church  
Ky. 144, 3 miles east of Owensboro

## Florida may require churches to charge tax

Unless the Florida legislature changes its mind, churches in the state will have to begin collecting sales tax on many of the services they provide.

Weddings, funerals, retreats, even Valentine's banquets may be subject to sales tax when the law goes into effect July 1. Critics have charged the tax policy will make churches the agents of government. "This would put the church in the role of the tax collector," said Dan Stringer, executive director of the Florida Baptist Convention.

The Sales Tax Exemption Repeal Bill, passed by the legislature last fall, is intended to increase state revenue by shortening the list of organizations and professions not required to charge sales tax for their services.

Accountants, barbers, doctors and many others who for years have not collected sales tax soon will have to add the five percent levy to their bills. Churches and other non-profit organizations are also among those who have lost the exemption.

Private schools will be hard hit when the tuition they charge becomes taxable. Students at Stetson University, owned by Florida Baptists, will have to pay about \$400 in sales tax on top of their tuition, while state owned schools will be exempt.

The legislature also created a commission which has been evaluating the impact of the law and considering reinstatement of some exemptions. A report will be made in April.(BP)

as executive director of the Christian Life Commission.

I regret that Midwestern Seminary is losing his service as dean and teacher. He has ably taught courses in Christian Ethics and Worship Leadership. For several years he has been dean, in which position he has demonstrated superior qualities in planning, directing and supervising in an academic community. He has always taken a team approach. He thoughtfully and courteously relates to those with whom he works. He has been a good colleague and friend.

I rejoice, however, that Southern Baptists will have the benefit of his professional knowledge, administrative and other skills and personal commitment. He will serve Southern Baptists and the Kingdom of God well as he leads the CLC in addressing social problems and helps Southern Baptists to apply Christian principles to them.

I respect his competence, admire his personal qualities and value his friendship—and commend him to all Southern Baptists as one worthy of confidence.

Hugh Wamble  
Midwestern Seminary  
Kansas City, Mo.

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# mountains to the mississippi

## personnel

**Donald Cottrell** is the pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church, Christian County Association. He was formerly pastor of Victory Baptist Church in the same association.

**Cindy Jefferies** resigned as minister of music and youth at Providence Baptist Church, Sulphur Fork Association.

**Bob Cox** has accepted the pastorate of Allen Baptist Church, Enterprise Association.

**Clay Harrell** resigned the pastorate of Keck Baptist Church, Lynn Camp Association.

**Roy Sutton** resigned as pastor of Red Bird Baptist Church, South Union Association.

**Roy Bennett** resigned as pastor of Stone Lick Baptist Church, Bracken Association.

**Jesse Alford** has been called as pastor of Flat Creek Baptist Church, Mt. Zion Association.

**Bill Helton** has been called to pastor Huff Settlement Baptist Church, Upper Cumberland Association.

**Charles Queen** has accepted the pastorate of Fellowship Chapel, Greenup Association.

**Steve West** resigned as minister of youth and activities at Harrodsburg Baptist Church, Mercer Association.

**Douglas C. Hembree** has been called by Valley View Baptist Church, Severns Valley Association, as minister of music. Hembree is a student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

**Ken Morgan** will begin his ministry at College Heights Baptist Church, Elyria, Ohio, March 24. He leaves Sorgho Baptist Church, Daviess-McLean Association.

**James W. Wright** has accepted the pastorate of Bethany Baptist Church, Long Run Association.

**James A. Conrad** is the new pastor of Shively Baptist Church, Long Run Association.

**Charleston Farber** began as pastor of Dripping Spring Baptist Church, Bethel Association, March 1.

**Jackie Cardwell** resigned the pastorate of Muddy River Baptist Church, Logan Association.

**David Hale** is interim pastor of Walnut Grove Baptist Church, Bthel Association.

**Scott Wilson** has accepted the pastorate of Little Bethel Baptist Church, Wingo, Graves County Association.

**Jack Guerin** resigned as pastor of Sharon Baptist Church, Graves County Association.

**E. Lee Phillips** has authored a prayer-book, *Breaking Silence Before the Lord*, published by Baker House, \$5.95.

Phillips was formerly assistant to the pastor in pastoral care ministries at Crescent Hill Baptist Church, Long Run Association, under John Howell. The foreword to the book is written by Stephen Shoemaker, current Crescent Hill pastor.

The book, Phillips' third, contains five years of Advent calls to worship and two years of Lenten calls to worship.



**Ancil A. Durrett** has accepted the pastorate of Brush Creek Baptist Church, Russell Creek Association.

**Dale Etheridge** has accepted the call to pastor Thomas Baptist Church, Boone's Creek Association.

**Curtis Griffis** has been called to Central Baptist Church, Boone's Creek Association, as associate pastor/minister of education.

Midlane Park Baptist Church, Long Run Association, has called **Tom Seel** to be minister of music. Rick White is pastor.

**Nick Szymansky** has accepted the call from Lee's Lane Baptist Church, Long Run Association, as minister of music and education.

**Mike Smith** has been called as minister of music at Bashford Manor Baptist Church, Long Run Association.

**George H. Leagans** has resigned as minister of education and youth at South Elkhorn Baptist Church, Elkhorn Association.

Kentucky Baptists recently received national recognition for involvement in Church Training studies. Kentucky earned the honor by having the largest numerical increase in Baptist doctrine study course awards across the Southern Baptist Convention in 1985-86. The increase was from 1356 to 2989 awards.

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

**Bill Beard**, pastor of Valley Creek Baptist Church since 1981, has retired. He and his wife Frances are now making their home in Campbellsville.

Beard has been active in the work of Severns Valley Association. Before his retirement in mid-February, 10 churches had called him pastor: Round Top, Locust Grove, and Valley Creek in Severns Valley Association; Temple, Beaver Creek, and Austin Village in Ohio; and East Union, Muldraugh Hill, Mackville, and Loyall Avenue in Kentucky.

Beard is open to supply and interim work. He can be contacted at 605 Osage Drive, Campbellsville, KY 42718.

**Keith Pate** has been called as minister

of music at Chapel Park Baptist Church, Long Run Association. Ed Boyd is pastor.

**Chester Irvine** has resigned as pastor of Gethsemane Baptist Church, Long Run Association.

## congregations

**Reidland Baptist Church**, West Union Association, observed the 10th anniversary of minister of music and youth Larry Heltam. The sanctuary choir hosted a fellowship. Jerry Hopkins is pastor.

**Wakefield Baptist Church**, Nelson Association, reports that since October they have had 10 professions of faith, nine rededications and two members by letter. Roger Hodge is pastor.

**Morningside Baptist Church**, Long Run Association, recently completed a \$200,000 sanctuary and education building. The first service was March 1.

The church will hold a dedication service at 10:45 a.m. April 5, the church's 14th anniversary. John Meeks is pastor.

## Correction

In the Feb. 17 edition Western Recorder incorrectly identified Odell Beauchamp as pastor of Vest Mission. Beauchamp is pastor of First Baptist Church, Hindman, Three Forks Association. Our apologies for the error.



**Norm Langston**, Interfaith Witness Consultant with the Home Mission Board, recently led an Interfaith Witness Conference at the Baptist Building. Interfaith Witness Conferences, sponsored by the Direct Missions Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, focus on cults and provide training for persons interested in learning to relate and witness to followers of non-Christian sects. In the past year, more than 400 Kentucky Baptists have been instructed in the beliefs of Mormons, Jehovah's Witnesses and Islam.(KBC)



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

## clear creek comment

### Water for a Thirsty Soul

Some time ago I received as nice and as beautiful a letter as I have ever read. I want to quote part of it:

"As a small child, I can remember my father and mother sending gifts to Clear Creek whenever their financial condition would permit and assume they continued this until their passing in the 40s and 50s. I have felt this tie with Clear Creek over the years although, until re-

cently, I had failed to send gifts after they passed away.

"I think the mission of Clear Creek is so vital and decided I would like to resume assisting the school whenever possible. Also, having been a Baptist all my life (I have been organist at First Baptist Church since 1948) I assume I am possibly more aware of your work and the financial need for such schools."

Receiving this letter reminded me of Prov. 25:25, "As cold water to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country." How refreshing and beautiful this 'good news' was coming from a 'far country' to bless our hearts at Clear Creek. When you are thirsty, cold water relieves you, refreshes you, makes you feel good all over and encourages you to keep on keeping on.

This is exactly how we at Clear Creek feel when we hear from you. In the tremendously difficult work of training God's called servants for the most important work on earth, there are times when one could become discouraged

and depressed.

Then a letter comes from one of our many faithful Kentucky Baptist supporters and our hearts are gladdened and overjoyed. If more of you knew how you bless our hearts when you write expressing appreciation, prayer or support, you would more regularly practice the ministry of encouragement.

So thank you for writing, praying and encouraging us. When we hear good news from a far country, it is like cold water for a thirsty soul!

### Touching Shoulders

*There's a comforting thought at the close of the day,/When I'm weary and lonely and sad,/That sort of grips hold of my crusty old heart/And bids it be merry and glad./It gets in my soul, and it drives out the blues,/ And finally thrills through and through./It is just a sweet memory that chants the refrain:/ "I'm glad I touched shoulders with you!"*

Author unknown



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

## oneida journal

### Do you have some used clothing?

It has been over three years since we have written about used clothing. Do you have some that you have been thinking of giving away?

Perhaps you could bring them to us at Oneida?

We do NOT have "pickup points" nor representatives anywhere. It is physically impossible for us to go all over Kentucky and into other states to pick up clothing. We have over 500 girls and boys to care for, day and night, and it takes the full time efforts of our staff, actively busy here on the campus, to do that. So if you want to share clothing with us, you need to ship it to us by parcel post or UPS. Or, better, bring it to us and visit with us.

We do NOT need clothing that is worn out. We do NOT need rags. But we can recycle good used clothing of differing kinds in a variety of ways.

Of course, our greatest single need is for preteen and teenage clothing for boys and girls. We minister to young people grades 6-12. Many are unable to pay anything that come to us. We must help a number with clothing and personal articles.

But we also make use of clothing for adult men and women, of all sizes, also baby clothes, and shoes that are still in good condition. These are sorted and

sized and put in our Friendship House and sold to people of our area at very low prices. The clothing is thus utilized and the money income goes into our Student Aid fund. So if the clothing you bring or send is not needed or suitable for one of our students, our students are still helped by the money income.

Three of our local women work as volunteers each day in our used clothing store. Not one dime is paid out in salary to maintain this operation.

Sheets, pillows and pillow cases, quilts, blankets and bedspreads are always needed. Many students arrive without even these items. Also such articles can be used in our guest area. We take care of many visitors each year.

As has been true through all of our history, any victim of fire or flood in our area is helped from our available stock free of charge.

Also some articles that are not needed by our students or staff, and are not sold after a long period, are used to make rugs and we then sell the rugs and put that money into our Student Aid fund.

These rugs are put into our Craft House for sale. In a few more weeks, we will have a wonderful 3000 square feet addition completed to our Craft House. That will give us so much more room in which to work, room in which to teach our girls and boys various craft skills. Also, it will give us much more display room. We have been terribly overcrowded as this program has grown so very much.

The adults who work in our craft program are unpaid volunteers. So, again, all the income derived from the sale of craft items made at Oneida goes to buy more materials, and the net income all goes for the Student Aid fund.

Whether you have used clothing to bring us or not, you should plan a visit to Oneida this spring or summer.

We have no one or two days of the year designated as an "open house." Our welcome mat is out every day. Come see us just as we are. If everything isn't in perfect order, it probably isn't at your house either.

We always feed our guests. Whatever God has blessed us with, you are welcome to share. If it is good enough for our children, we will assume it is good enough for you. Most folks find that it is. Much of the summer we eat vegetables fresh from our gardens. We plant early and stagger our planting times.

To see Oneida is to see state, home and foreign missions at one time in one location as we minister to students from all over Kentucky, 23 other states, and 19 differing nations.



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

## sunday school lessons

### LESSONS FOR MARCH 22, 1987

#### Life and Work Series

#### Valuing Persons

**Luke 15:11-14** The younger son reached the stage when he thought he knew more than his father and got tired of life at home. Chafing under the restraints, and intoxicated with the lure of sites unseen and of experiences untried, the younger son approached his father and requested his share of the estate. This young man's longing to be free from the restraints of home is a splendid illustration of man's desire for independence from God.

Reluctantly the father acceded to the wish of his son and "divided unto them his living." With his share of the inheritance the younger son left home. His financial resources were soon exhausted.

**Luke 15:17-19** Without funds and friends, and in desperation the younger son accepted employment as a swine herder, the most obnoxious task at which a Jew could work. Heartsick, homesick, friendless and penniless, he sat down to think. Soon thereafter he came to his senses.

**Luke 15:20-24** Promptly he decided to turn from his sinful life, return home, cast himself on the mercy of his father, and apply for a job as a hired servant. Meanwhile, the devoted father was anxiously waiting and watching for his return. When the father saw him in the distance and recognized him, he ran to his son, threw his arms around his neck

and kissed him. Then he led him into the house and called his servants to place a robe upon his back, a ring on his finger, and shoes on his feet. He also commanded them to prepare a great feast for the celebration of his son's return.

#### International Series

#### In the Garden

**Luke 22:39-44** After the Lord's Supper in the upper room Christ went to the Garden of Gethsemane, accompanied by 11 disciples. Knowing he would be betrayed, Christ felt a need for companionship. He left eight apostles at the garden's entrance and took Peter, James and John with him. Withdrawing, Christ knelt and prayed. Communion with the Father was Christ's source of strength in every time of need.

Christ was anxious to escape the agony of love rejected. However, he yielded himself to the will of the father. He was determined to comply with the will of God in every respect.

**Luke 22:45-46** While Christ was praying, the disciples were sleeping. They should have been praying for him and for themselves, but they displeased him and deprived themselves of the strength which they needed by sleeping instead.

Christ admonished the disciples, and us, to watch and pray that they might not yield to temptation and sin. Let us, like Christ, express our willingness to do God's will, along with requesting the strength which will enable us to do it.

**Luke 22:47-48** While Christ was speaking, Judas led a large crowd into the garden, approached him, and identified him by planting a kiss upon his cheek, enabling the officers to seize and arrest the son of God.

**Luke 22:49-51** Resenting the treatment to which Christ had been subjected, Peter struck at a servant of the high priest, Malchus, with a sword. The latter dodged and the sword severed his ear instead of his head. Christ disapproved Peter's resort to violence, and rebuked him for it. He then replaced the man's detached ear and healed it.

**Luke 22:52-543** Inasmuch as he had only been engaged in the commendable work of teaching in the temple, Christ inquired as to why the authorities now resorted to the use of arms to arrest him. Even though he possessed supernatural resources, Christ was not disposed to the use of his power in self-defense. Those who had conspired against Christ would certainly be defeated.



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

## on mission together

### Not Impossible Dreams

While some still think of Bold Mission Thrust as an "absurd fantasy of fanatics," others of us, probably a little uncomfortable with the label, try to remember that the ONE who initiated this within us is still in there with us!

The Foreign Mission Board's field is 95 percent of the world's population—big territory and lots of people. So many, in fact, the figures no longer astound us. How do you comprehend **five billion people**?

How are we doing "out there?" Well, as the FMB said recently: "Year end statistics offer new hope that Bold Mission Thrust goals may not be **impossible dreams**."

- Baptisms by overseas Baptists related to Southern Baptist missions climbed 17.1 percent during 1986.
- The 185,689 baptisms surpass the

previous record of 158,626 in 1985.

- The total also more than doubled the number baptized in 1975, the year before Bold Mission Thrust—the denomination's special evangelistic emphasis—began.

- An annual growth rate of nearly 10 percent was envisioned in overseas baptisms and churches when Bold Mission Thrust goals for the year 2000 were adopted during the 1976 Southern Baptist Convention. But the goals have not been met.

- In baptisms, the average increase has been about seven percent.

- Overseas Baptists reached record levels in other categories of work during 1986 and, in most cases, posted healthy increases.

- The number of churches, 16,699, is 6.8 percent over the 1985 total.

- Overall membership, at just over two million, increased by 1.5 percent.

- The missionary force grew to 3756, or four percent over 1985 and well on target toward a goal of 5000 by the end

of the century.

- Southern Baptist missionaries and national Baptists have begun a plan to reach a group of people in India who have shown little interest in the gospel message. Baptists began broadcasting a daily radio program, "Voice of Truth," from the neighboring island of Sri Lanka Jan. 5. National Baptist Convention leaders are planning to send church starters and evangelists to work with those who respond. Targeted are about 40 million Kannada-speaking Indians in the southern state of Karnataka. The radio audience, expected to be primarily rural village people, will need only an ordinary transistor radio to hear the voices of local Kannada-speaking pastors and musicians. Funds from Southern Baptists' Lottie Moon Christmas Offering will pay for the entire program, including buying air time from Trans World Radio.

The dream is still alive and still possible. After all, the One who fed 5000 with a few loaves and fishes, is still around.

# Baptist Hospitals, Inc.

is proud to serve with these dedicated community  
leaders in the healing ministry of Jesus:

**Donald Walker**  
Paducah, Kentucky

**William P. Cubine**  
Paducah, Kentucky

**Glenn R. Noss**  
Paducah, Kentucky

**Don VanCleve**  
Paducah, Kentucky

**Howard Cobble**  
Elizabethtown, Kentucky

**Clyde F. Ensor**  
Louisville, Kentucky

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**A. B. Clarke**  
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**Larry Ensor**  
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**Eugene Siler, Jr.**  
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**Ned Buchanan**  
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**Howard Z. Gray**  
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**Dan Shipley**  
Murray, Kentucky

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**Warren M. Cox**  
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**Rex A. Thompson**  
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**Jack Phillips**  
Barbourville, Kentucky

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Corbin, Kentucky

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**Stephen Schindler**  
Lexington, Kentucky

**Bill W. Johnson**  
Lexington, Kentucky

**James R. Wieland**  
Lexington, Kentucky

*The next time you see them say "thank you" for making your community a better place in which to live.*

## Baptist Hospitals, Inc.

**Central Baptist Hospital**  
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Lexington, Kentucky 40503  
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**Baptist Hospital Highlands**  
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(502) 561-3100

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(502) 575-2100

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Louisville, Kentucky 40207  
(502) 897-8100

**Health Data Network**  
840 Barret Avenue  
Louisville, Kentucky 40204  
(502) 585-1391

## Baptist Hospitals Foundation, Inc.

768 Barret Avenue, Louisville, Kentucky 40204, (502) 561-3277



# CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

*"Beginning Our Seventh Decade of Service to Kentucky Baptists"*

*"To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under the heaven." Ecclesiastes 3:1*

As we begin our seventh decade at Clear Creek, we think our time is here. We are so proud God is continuing to bless and confirm our ministry to mountain preachers and Kentucky Baptists.

Spring is beautiful in the mountains. It is a time of renewal and freshness. It is a time for rejoicing over a risen Saviour and His re-creating and fulfilling love.

Spring at Clear Creek brings a newness that is seen in the faces of new students registered for a new semester. This year, our students returned to find a modern water system providing refreshing liquid from the Pineville city water system. Installed with student labor over our entire 700 acre campus, at a cost of \$100,000, the new system replaces one purchased by Dr. Kelly from the Pineville water company nearly sixty years ago. The old system became a source of concern a year ago when repeated warnings were received from the Kentucky health department regarding the quality of the water on campus. With the installation of this new system, students and their families will be healthier and happier in their experience of God's leadership to Clear Creek.

An added, exciting feature of the spring is conference week. The week of February 16-20 Clear Creek students and spouses received insight into how to handle church conflict from Dr. Don LaBelle and the staff of First Baptist Church of Fairborn,



DR. JOHN WALLACE

Ohio, and Dr. John Wallace of Parkway Baptist in Lexington. This event is one of two yearly learning experiences designed to provide the minister and his family in skills needed in meeting today's issues.

The four-day program featured conferences for couples, spouses and individuals. Beginning at 8:00 each day and ending with personal conferences in the afternoon, conference week has come to be one of the most valuable resources for students at Clear Creek.

The program this spring examined conflict among staff members and its affect on the church as well as conflict in the church. Throughout the conference the emphasis of Christ's call to servanthood and peace-making was taught, illustrated and discussed. The effect of conflict on individual and corporate witness

was examined with insight and benefit to all in attendance. The choice servants God sent our way gave the Clear Creek family a sense of resource and hope of relief in conflict.

Spring, 1987, is a special time for Leroy and Irene Peterson. They are completing twenty-five years of ministry at Clear Creek and we hope God gives them twenty-five more!

Everyone who knows the Petersons, knows how special they are. Their tireless efforts on behalf of Clear Creek have left an indelible impression on graduates and colleagues alike.

During their tenure, professor Peterson has prepared for and taught thirty-three different subjects and held fifteen different positions at various times. He and Dr. D. M. Aldridge began the accreditation process which culminated in full acceptance by the American Association of Bible Colleges in November, 1986.

Mrs. Peterson has served Clear Creek for twenty years in several capacities including pre-school center director and secretary to the academic dean.

We certainly thank God for the Petersons and their impact on the lives of our graduates. We encourage you to pray for them as you pray for God's school in the mountains, Clear Creek.



LEROY & IRENE PETERSON

Clear Creek is committed to missions. We are a mission begun in the heart of L.C. Kelly! His dream for an educational outreach to Appalachia through training of its ministers is still providing outstanding and competent leadership. On the campus, we have all the organizations of a local church and our missions organizations are leading the way in spiritual growth and ministry awareness. Just three months after a historic offering of over \$1,000 to foreign missions through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, the Clear Creek students are preparing to give over \$500 to home missions through the Annie Armstrong offering. The week-of-prayer emphasis and home mission theme, "Who Will Win America?", challenged the hearts of Clear Creek students and faculty who are well aware that several hundred graduates and alumni are serving faithfully in pioneer areas and other areas of home mission concern.

Spring is now bringing thoughts of graduation to the minds of our fourth-year students. The May 7 event will see the first class to graduate with full accreditation. Many of them will go on to work in one of our six Southern Baptist seminaries with a new confidence in their ability and academic standing. Others will enter into full-time ministries with the assurance that they have received a high quality education from one of Kentucky and Southern Baptists finest institutions. Graduation will take place in the sanctuary of Binghamtown Baptist Church on the evening of May 7. We hope there will be a good representation of Kentucky Baptists encouraging our students to seek God's blessing in ministry in a local Baptist church.

Spring is also the time we think about the "Clear Creek Express" to the Southern Baptist Convention. The annual bus trip always provides good fellowship and opportunity for renewal. This year's trip to St. Louis is shaping up as one of the finest ever.

Yes, as Solomon said, "To everything there is a season. . .", and at Clear Creek the spring season is filled with excitement and anticipation.



New water lines bringing Pineville water to the campus were installed with student labor.