

84th WMU meet proves peaceful, inspiring

by Cathy Butler, Staff Writer

Peace and order were the watchwords of the day for the annual Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union meeting at Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown, April 24-25.

During the Saturday business session officers were elected with no discussion from the floor and no opposition.

Peggy Hicks, wife of Southern Seminary missions professor Bryant Hicks, was reelected state president.

Former vice-president Kay Trisler, who stepped down from office in order to pursue her own studies at the seminary, was replaced by Phyllis Parks, Bowling Green.

Ruby Gisler, Danville, was reelected secretary.

Members leaving the board were also recognized during the Saturday morning session. JoAnn McDonald, Virginia Gunther, Ginny Sisk, Lou McWhorter, Maribeth Hambrick, Evelyn Harris, Phyllis Parks, Estelle Gray, Pat Key, Dorothy Crace and Kay Trisler have retired. Carolyn Jennings and Ginny Jones moved from their areas during the year. Phyllis Parks also left the board to assume the vice-presidency.

Music for the meeting, which was the 84th for Kentucky WMU, was provided by Sherrie Lawhon as music director and soloist, her husband Dan as organist and Lisa Moxley as pianist. All are students at Southern Seminary.

The sessions began Friday morning at 9:30. When Howard Cobble, pastor at Severns Valley Baptist Church, greeted



Hicks



Gilliland

the assembly, he pointed out that WMU was the third convention the church has hosted in the past six months.

Each session consisted of music, both solos and congregational singing, reports, missionary speakers, prayers and a dramatic monologue by Freddie Neel.

As Eliza Broadus in the Friday morning session, she described the beginning of women's missions societies in the Southern Baptist Convention. When she ended her recitation with a quote from John Broadus which said in part, "Keep on, ladies. The stars in the courses will fight for you," she was greeted with a standing ovation.

Miss Neel, a professional dramatist, also visited the meeting in the guise of Lottie Moon and Annie Armstrong.

Marjorie McCullough, national WMU

president, spoke Friday morning about her own involvement in missions and the importance of WMU.

After the morning session luncheons were held for missionaries, program personnel, DOMs and associational WMU directors.

In the Friday afternoon session Greg Whitetree, home missionary at the Marrowbone Center in eastern Kentucky, described the difficulties and joys of working with the general Baptists of that area.

Friday evening Severns Valley hosted the Acteens dinner and a dinner for Baptist Nursing Fellowship, which is forming a chapter in Kentucky.

The Friday night session began with a missions moment by Sarah Ahn of the Korean Baptist Church, Radcliff, and the church choir.

Saturday morning, after the Girls in Action presentation and business meeting, Mrs. McCullough brought a challenge and dedicatory prayer. In her challenge she stated, "We have a memory to celebrate and a dream to fulfill."

Baptist Young Women and 1987-88 executive board members held luncheons Saturday afternoon, and the final Saturday session ended promptly at 3:15 p.m. Executive Director-Treasurer Dolores (Dee) Gilliland announced that over 1200 had attended the meeting.

Jackson: presidency must seek man

Southern Baptists should "go back to letting the office of president seek the man, not the man the office," Richard Jackson said.

For months, it has been rumored Jackson, pastor of North Phoenix (Ariz.) Baptist Church, would be the standard bearer for moderate-conservatives at the 1987 annual meeting of the SBC, June 16-18 in St. Louis.

Jackson told Baptist Press he is not a candidate "for anything, but will allow my nomination." However, he said he "will not turn one hand, attend one meeting or identify myself as a candidate for any group. If anybody feels I can help the denomination and wants to nominate me, they have my permission to do so."

Jackson said he made his decision before current SBC president Adrian Rogers, Memphis, Tenn., announced he would allow his nomination for a second consecutive term. "I don't know what he (Rogers) is going to do, but my position has been that the office ought to seek the man rather than the man the office. That is the way it used to be. It didn't always happen that way, but it was the right ideal. I think the convention made a bad mistake when it decided anyone nominating someone had to have their permission to do so. I think any-

body ought to be able to nominate anyone they feel could help and the person nominated ought to feel honored that somebody thought they could make a contribution."

"I am for the Baptist way of doing things, because I feel the Baptist way is based on the biblical way of the priesthood of the believer and cooperation among those believers. I think we should return to that. I am not saying I am the answer, but I am available to be nominated or not nominated, elected or not elected. I will serve God and the denomination as an independent, cooperating Southern Baptist, whatever happens because I believe God is bigger than this whole thing," he added.

Jackson, whose church was the top Cooperative Program giving congregation in the SBC last year, topping \$1 million, said: "I don't have any agenda or axe to grind. People don't have to agree with me. (If elected) I would try to give Southern Baptists a voice in Baptist affairs. I would treat each person on the basis of their love for the Lord, their cooperative spirit and their love for the denomination. You don't have to agree with me, but if your commitment is to the Lord and the SBC, then we will be pretty well together."

Jackson, 48, is a native of Texas and a graduate of Howard Payne University, Brownwood, Tex., and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has been pastor of the North Phoenix congregation 20 years and during his 30-year ministry has baptized more than 15,000 persons.(BP)

Rogers to allow 1987 nomination

by Dan Martin

Southern Baptist Convention president Adrian Rogers will allow his name to be placed in nomination for a third term as president.

Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., told Baptist Press: "If the brethren want me, I hope to serve another year."

If Rogers is elected during the 1987 annual meeting of the denomination scheduled June 16-18 in St. Louis, it will mark the first time in recent years a person has served three terms as president. The last person to do so was the late R. G. Lee, Rogers' predecessor at Bellevue Baptist Church, who served in 1949, 1950 and 1951.

Rogers was elected in the 1979 annual meeting in Houston, drawing 51.3 percent of the vote against five other candidates. Rogers was elected again in 1986, receiving 54.2 percent of the vote, defeating W. Winfred Moore, Amarillo, Tex.

Since Lee's service nearly 40 years

ago, the SBC bylaws have been changed to allow a person to serve only two consecutive terms. A person may, however, serve two terms and be eligible to serve again after a one-year lapse. Thus, under SBC bylaws, Rogers is eligible for a second consecutive term.

Rogers says he "really feels we are coming to a healing in our denomination. I admit it is slow and that there are still some very serious problems, but I sense a lowering of rhetoric on a number of fronts. I also sense a coming together of both sides in many areas."

Rogers, a member of the SBC Peace Committee, said he is "optimistic about what the Peace Committee will do and is doing. I believe the Peace Committee has been very honest and open, contrary to the opinion of some detractors. I believe our committee has been marked with open disagreement and sometimes exasperation, but, at the same time, much candor, love and mutual respect."

The president added he believes the Baptist Faith and Message Statement "is extremely strong" and that Southern Baptists "already have . . . an explanation of what the statement means. I would expect, therefore, for the Peace Committee to so illustrate the statement as to say to the Baptist constituency that we believe peace and healing will come to the denomination when we adhere to what we believe is the obvious meaning of the statement.

Rogers, 54, has been pastor of the 16,000-member church since 1972. Both of his predecessors, R. G. Lee and Ramsey Pollard, were presidents of the SBC. He is a native of Florida and a graduate of Stetson University, DeLand, Fla.; New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; and California Graduate School of Theology, Glendale.

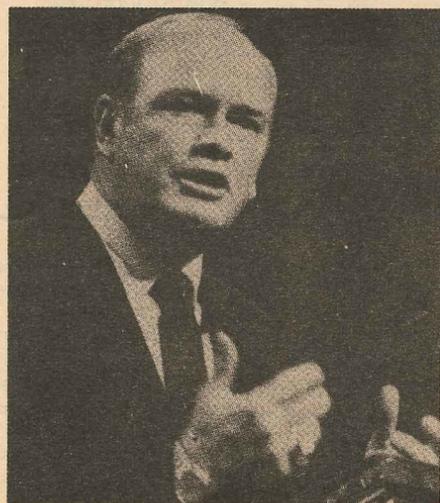
Bellevue Baptist Church has been the top Cooperative Program giving church in the Tennessee Baptist Convention for a number of years.(BP)

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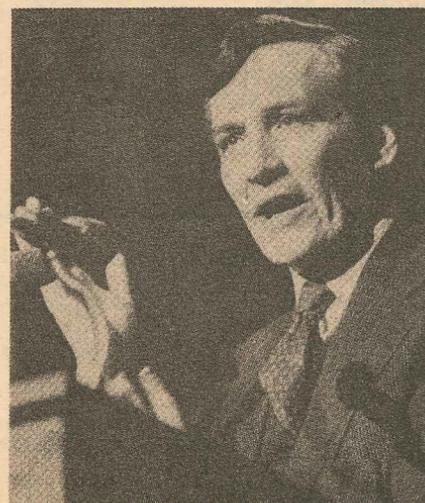
May 5, 1987

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Jackson



Rogers

sanford's perspectives

A look at Kentucky messengers to the SBC



Jack D. Sanford

Messenger cards to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting June 16-18 in St. Louis are now available in the Executive office of the KBC.

Every church in friendly cooperation with the convention which has been a bona fide contributor to the work of the convention is entitled to one messenger. One additional messenger is possible for each additional 250 members or for each \$250 paid to convention work during the last fiscal year. No church may have more than 10 messengers.

The last three years Kentucky has had 980 messengers at Kansas City in 1984; 2039 at Dallas in 1985; and 2207 at Atlanta in 1986.

The churches in three Kentucky associations have not sent a single messenger to the last three meetings of the SBC, and the churches in three other associations have not sent a single messenger to two of the last three meetings of the SBC.

When the total messenger count from Kentucky is analyzed, Long Run Association has averaged 21.4 percent of Kentucky's messengers; Elkhorn Association averaged 5.4 percent; Northern Kentucky Association averaged 4.27 percent; West Union Association averaged 3.9 percent; and Daviess-McLean Association averaged 3.09 percent. Thus 38 percent of Kentucky's messengers came from five urban centers scattered across the state.

Since voting messengers determine the issues in Southern Baptist life, it is essential we recognize the importance and power of our vote.

Since the presidential election has become the center of interest for many Southern Baptists, it is essential we accept responsibility for our vote as the one way each of us has available to express an opinion in convention affairs.

St. Louis offers a meeting place close to the center of population in America and should draw a large crowd of messengers. However predictions are that no more than 1500 Kentuckians will attend the St. Louis meeting. If this proves to be true our record of participation will be lower than it has been the past two years.

As a matter of information we have listed below the messenger count from all Kentucky associations for the past three years.

Association	84	85	86
Allen	0	0	50
Anderson	8	8	9
Bell	11	37	28
Bethel	7	25	26
Blackford	8	10	8
Blood River	23	55	43
Boone's Creek	7	10	19
Booneville	0	11	12
Bracken	7	15	22
Breckenridge	2	8	5
Caldwell-Lyon	12	18	23
Casey County	0	3	3
Central	10	18	30
Christian County	16	37	20
Crittenden	3	6	8
Daviess-McLean	42	56	66

East Lynn	2	0	4
East Union	0	0	0
Elkhorn	55	102	125
Enterprise	6	4	11
Freedom	2	1	4
Franklin	17	42	47
Fulton County	2	16	11
Gasper River	1	2	5
Goshen	0	0	0
Graves County	13	27	40
Grayson County	3	4	7
Green Valley	28	28	40
Greenup	12	37	44
Henry County	9	35	27
Irvine	2	0	0
Jackson County	0	0	7
Laurel River	2	2	9
Liberty	12	17	30
Lincoln County	2	11	13
Little Bethel	17	72	47
Little River	9	24	20
Logan County	6	13	8
Long Run	236	399	457
Lynn	2	13	9
Lynn Camp	0	6	4
McCreary County	5	12	14
Mercer	2	15	26
Middle Fork	0	0	0
Monroe	6	9	5
Mount Zion	15	18	32
Muhlenberg	18	54	26
Nelson	17	33	47
North Concord	0	6	14
Northern Ky	43	81	102
Ohio County	9	27	27
Ohio River	7	13	18
Ohio Valley	11	15	12
Owen County	8	20	23
Pike	1	13	8
Pine Mountaint	3	2	0
Pulaski County	22	44	56
Red River	2	7	4
Rockcastle	0	7	7
Russell County	2	9	5
Russell Creek	8	9	11
Salem	4	24	28
Severns Valley	35	53	61
Shelby County	12	26	18
Simpson	6	23	26
South District	13	41	44
South Union	0	0	2
Sulphur Fork	15	33	33
Tate's Creek	4	21	23
Taylor County	22	24	26
Ten Mile	4	5	12
Three Forks	2	9	8
Union	5	12	12
Upper Cumberland	5	14	10
Warren	23	54	55
Wayne County	0	5	0
West Ky	15	16	13
West Union	39	83	64
White's Run	3	9	14
General Group	0	21	25
Total	980	2039	2207

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.

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SBTS board approves building plans, \$13.5 million budget

by James H. Cox

Trustees of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary voted to proceed with plans for a \$12.6 million campus center while approving a \$13.5 million annual budget. They also recognized a former Kentucky Baptist official with the school's highest award.

Meeting in Louisville Apr. 27-29 the trustees approved preliminary plans and cost estimates for a three-story educational and recreational complex to close off the campus' north quadrangle. The trustees voted to spend up to \$12,655,292 for the facility to provide for family life, dining, sports, classroom and spiritual activities. A spokesman indicated that more than \$8 million in cash and pledges is in hand and that construction could begin within 18 months.

The budget for the fiscal year starting Aug. 1, 1987 is \$13,595,155, up \$647,794 over the present one.

Franklin Owen, who retired in 1983 as executive secretary-treasurer of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, was recognized with the seminary's "highest honor." Owen was one of two persons to be given the distinguished E. Y. Mullins Denominational Award.

Owen was cited for "effective leadership among Kentucky Baptists," "exemplary devotion to the local church" in 37 years of pastorates in sev-

eral states and "loyal service to the denomination" as a trustee and elected officer of state and Southern Baptist boards, agencies and institutions.

Mrs. Libby Tarlton Senter, Southern Baptist missionary to Liberia, whose life was cut short by an assassin Nov. 26, 1986 was presented the Mullins Award posthumously, "in gratitude for her selfless service to God and her denomination."

Perry F. Webb Jr., pastor of First Baptist Church, Baton Rouge, La., presided over the business sessions. He was reelected to a second one-year term as chairman without opposition.

Other officers elected last week include Sam H. McMahon Jr., Charlotte, N. C. layman, first vice chairman; George W. Steincross, pastor, Second Baptist Church, Liberty, Mo., second vice chairman; and Fred Pfannenschmidt, Louisville layman, reelected secretary.

The trustees approved 25 separate personnel recommendations from its trustee committee on academic personnel.

Daniel O. Aleshire was promoted from associate to professor of psychology and Christian education.

In addition, five persons without tenure were awarded tenure, including: Joel F. Drinkard, associate professor of Old Testament; J. Michael Hester, associate professor of Christian family ministry; Gerald L. Keown, associate professor of Old Testament interpretation; Mozelle Clark Sherman, professor of church music; and Diana R. Garland, associate professor of social work.

Faculty members and administrative personnel were accorded a three percent salary increase effective Aug. 1, 1987. In addition, they were granted a one time bonus "in appreciation for their efforts and faithfulness" by the trustees.

The trustees dealt with two other personnel matters.

A half dozen written concerns received by the seminary administration on the beliefs on abortion held by Paul D. Simmons, professor of Christian ethics, were discussed. After inquiry by the dean and president, president Roy

L. Honeycutt reported to the board that there were "no grounds for dismissal" called for in some of the expressions. The trustees unanimously agreed, adding their concern with Simmons' position, requesting the president "to encourage him to moderate his public involvement" in the issue.

In a separate matter, the trustees narrowly defeated an attempt to reprimand E. Glenn Hinson, David T. Porter professor of church history, for his outspokenness on the current Southern Baptist controversy. Trustee Jerry R. Dasy of Tucson, Ariz. offered a motion which would have rebuked Hinson for publicly suggesting that the two factions in the convention are "irretrievably divided." But after discussion, during which some trustees defended Hinson's right to "freedom of expression," the motion lost, 25-22.

Edwin Orr dies during evangelism conference

J. Edwin Orr, an authority on spiritual awakening, died at Ridgecrest (N. C.) Baptist Conference Center where he was speaking at a Baptist Home Mission Board evangelism conference.

The 73-year-old president of the Los Angeles-based Oxford Association for Research in Revival, delivered his last public message at the seventh annual Prayer for Spiritual Awakening Conference.

Orr was scheduled to give four addresses at the national conference but was able to speak only once.

During his message, Orr told 250 participants that he had chest pains a year ago and again a week earlier but was unable to reach his doctor before coming to Ridgecrest.

He awoke with chest pains the next morning and suffered a heart attack on arrival at an Asheville, N. C., hospital. He died that afternoon.

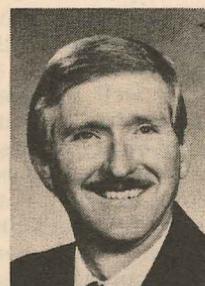
An Irish Baptist, Orr was an author and professor at Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, Calif. (BP)



Sherman
Music Drama



Garland
Social Work



Keown
Old Testament



Drinkard
Old Testament



Hester
Family Ministry



Aleshire
Christian Ed

SBC messenger cards available at KBC

Messenger cards are required for those representing churches at the St. Louis Southern Baptist Convention.

Cards may be obtained by writing to: Executive Office, Attention: Linda Songer, Kentucky Baptist Convention, P. O. Box 43433, Middletown, KY 40243.

Those requesting cards should list name of church, name of association, address of church, and number of messenger cards for which your church is eligible.

Article III of the Southern Baptist Convention Constitution describes eligibility of a cooperating church for messengers: The Convention shall consist of messengers who are members of missionary Baptist churches cooperating with the Convention as follows:

One messenger from each church which is in friendly cooperation with the Convention and sympathetic with its purposes and work and has during the fiscal year preceding been a bona fide contributor to the Convention's work.

One additional messenger from each church for every 250 members; or for each \$250 paid to the work of the Convention during the fiscal year preceding the annual meeting.

The messengers shall be appointed and certified by the churches to the Convention, but no church may appoint more than 10.

Each messenger shall be a member of the church by which he is appointed.

Messengers must be appointed and certified by their churches. Obtaining messenger cards early will greatly aid planning for the Convention.

SBC editor appeals for freedom

by Susan Shaw

An emphasis on "conformity above cooperation threatens the Baptist heritage of freedom, warned a veteran Southern Baptist journalist.

Eugene Puckett, editor of *The Biblical Recorder*, a weekly newsjournal for North Carolina Baptists, addressed issues of freedom during denominational heritage week at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

"People can believe a lot of things and still be Baptist," Puckett said. "They cannot believe some things and still be Baptist. But there is no way they can be Baptist without believing in freedom."

Puckett pointed out the structure of the Southern Baptist Convention has provided a cohesiveness which has allowed Baptists to work together while respecting individual freedom and local church autonomy. He said the system worked well for more than 130 years but that "sharp shifts" from that model have occurred during the past decade. "The structure is not flawed," he said, "but it has been abused."

Puckett identified a series of recent events which he said underscore the gravity of the denomination's crisis:

- the Home Mission Board's dismissal of its first search committee for a new chief executive and its refusal to provide pastoral aid to ordained women;
- the narrow election of Larry Baker as executive director of the Christian Life Commission and subsequent threats that he will be fired in September;
- the debate and narrow election of Al Shackleford as director of Baptist Press by the SBC Executive Committee;
- the Foreign Mission Board's decision to drop the requirement that missionary appointees complete at least part of their training at an SBC seminary.

While the conflict continues, Puckett contended the real issues are not liberalism or the authority of the Bible. "Southern Baptists believe in the Bible and trust it," he said. Rather, he listed four issues as the major concerns: freedom to interpret the Bible under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, the Lordship of Jesus Christ above all things, freedom of the local church to minister and worship as it sees fit and the role of women in the ministry.

Freedom, he said, is a common theme in each of those issues, and "for a true Baptist, freedom is never negotiable." (BP)

McCarty to return as parliamentarian

C. Barry McCarty, the Church of Christ preacher who drew high marks as parliamentarian for the Southern Baptist Convention in 1986, will stage a return engagement for the 1987 annual meeting.

SBC president Adrian P. Rogers told Baptist Press he has asked the same team of five parliamentarians who served at the 1986 annual meeting to return to assist him at the 1987 meeting, scheduled June 16-18 in St. Louis.

"He (McCarty) received so many accolades from both sides of the aisle and I believe he will do a good job. He is eminently qualified and seems to have a love for Southern Baptists," Rogers said.

Rogers said he had asked the same four men who served with McCarty in 1986 to serve again. The chief assistants will be John Sullivan, pastor of Broadmoor Baptist Church, Shreveport, La., and James T. Draper Jr., pastor of First Baptist Church, Euless, Tex.

Sullivan is former two-term first vice president of the SBC and Draper was SBC president 1982-84. Sullivan also has been chairman of the bylaws workgroup of the SBC Executive Committee.

Also to serve will be Dan Collins, an attorney from Greenville, S. C., and Joe Reynolds, an attorney from Houston.

McCarty, pastor of a Church of Christ in Jarvisburg, N. C., is professor of public speaking and debate at Roanoke Bible College in Elizabeth City, N. C. He is a professional parliamentarian and a former vice president of the American Institute of Parliamentarians. (BP)

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.

Consider a call for unity

In the midst of the current Southern Baptist battle there is a need to consider a call for unity. Whether individuals consider themselves Fundamentalists or Moderates no one wishes to destroy all the Southern Baptist Convention has been able to accomplish for the Kingdom of God. While each side has voted to advance their general perspective no one wants to see our agencies and institutions harmed. Through the years both Fundamentalists and Moderates have supported the Cooperative Program to further the cause of Christ. Having lived together this long do we really want to destroy all we have built?

Each side would do well to avoid characterizations that lead to disunity and do not build up the body of Christ. To prevent further erosion in our fellowship those of us anxious to get on with missions and evangelism need to make our voices heard in councils of leadership. Let us call for a mutual respect and upbuilding.

Perhaps the best way to achieve peace and unity would be to elect a solid Cooperative Program supporting Fundamentalist without a political agenda and from outside the current circle of leadership.

Clay Smith, pastor
Finchville Baptist Church
Finchville

Women exploited by abortion

It is almost Mother's Day. Mother's Day is a happy day for many women. It is a day when they remember when their children were just babies. Many fond memories can be rekindled on Mother's Day.

But for many women Mother's Day is sad. Many women are sad because the only memory they have of their baby is the day they let it be killed by abortion. What a heavy load that is to carry—especially on Mother's Day.

If you are a woman who needs help carrying this burden, there is a women's

organization just for you. It is called WEBA (Women Exploited by Abortion) and was organized by and for women who have shared the same experience. If you would like more information about WEBA write their local chapter: P.O. Box 38325, Lou., KY 40232

Valerie Schook
Louisville, Ky.

Graduate grateful for CP

As graduation from Southern Seminary quickly approaches I am reminded of how valuable my education is to me. It has greatly enhanced my ability to serve as a pastor, especially since I came to seminary with degrees earned in other fields. With this formal education I know I will be a better servant to the people.

What humbles me and of which I am greatly appreciative is the fact that through your Cooperative Program giving my seminary education has been made possible. Each term my fee's card reflected that portion which was paid by you. As a result, I have been deeply impressed by the commitment of Southern Baptists to fulfill the Great Commission. Once again, thank you.

David Harris
Louisville, Ky.

Extremists should leave SBC

I have been one of these who felt the present controversy in our convention would be resolved as God's people continue to support missions and are concerned for evangelism. These far extremists who are allowing themselves to be used of Satan would soon go their merry-way and we would get bank to the important task of world mission.

However, I received a brochure from the Southern Baptist Alliance (which is a mis-nomer) to support them in their views to the tune of \$125 per individual and \$1:00 for each resident member if joining as a church. They then claim not to be detracting from the Cooperative Program.

I am not a far-right conservative although I tend to accept some of their theology easier than some of the far-left . . . especially in the area of women serving as pastors and deacons. I maintain our primary purpose is not to nit-pick with each other about inconsequential but to get back to the main task . . . world evangelization. We have never, and will never, completely agree with each other in the field of interpretation of scripture. We have, traditionally, been firm with each other in those things we consider basic doctrines. Perhaps our biggest problem is that we have not been teaching Baptists what Baptists believe.

If the Southern Baptist Alliance wants to form a new denomination, if the Presslyites want a new denomination, then let them go. The Bible plainly teaches if the Lord is in it, it will be blessed. If he is not, it will fall flat on its face. Let the vast majority of us who are TRUE Southern Baptists continue in the calling God has given us and has blessed us in for these many years!

Bob Bottoms
Fountain Run

Thanks to Kentucky Baptists

Apr. 7, 1987 in Rupp Arena in Lexington, Kentucky was a most significant time for my wife, Jerilyn, and myself as we were appointed foreign missionaries to Ecuador. Kentucky Baptists did a wonderful job in preparation and execution of the memorable event. One sobering thought entered my mind as we left Rupp Arena. There have been many great Kentucky basketball teams that have been in that arena but the people leaving that place has the greatest potential of touching others eternally with the gospel of God.

Thank you Kentucky Baptists for all you did!

James C. Smith

Missionaries depend on prayers

We wanted you to know how much we appreciated the encouragement we received from Kentucky Baptists at the Foreign Mission Board appointment service on Apr. 7.

As we go to serve Christ and to represent you in Caxias do Sul, Brazil, we will depend on your continued prayer support. Our efforts will be to lift up the name of Christ our Lord so that he may draw men unto himself.

Thank you Kentucky Baptists for your great send off and for your future prayers.

John & Kathy Vaughn

Statement needs no interpretation

I am bothered by many things happening in our convention these days. But one statement made by Charles Fuller, Chairman of the SBC Peace Committee disturbs me very much.

As quoted in the Apr. 14 issue of the Western Recorder Fuller stated, "the committee is not attempting to replace or amend the Baptist Faith and Message statement. It's an adequate statement of what Baptists believe. Ours is an attempt to interpret it."

Two questions are raised in my mind by this statement. First, if the BF&M is an "adequate statement of what Baptists believe," why do we need an interpretation? The BF&M has not needed any interpretation for nearly a quarter

of a century, why now all of a sudden is it so imperative to have one?

Secondly, is such action wise? I do not believe an interpretation is needed nor is it wise. The BF&M is intentionally a broadly-written document to guide Southern Baptists. When we interpret such a statement we come dangerously close to establishing a creed. I realize many will not agree but the more narrow we make the BF&M, the closer to a creed we come.

Let us leave well enough alone. We need to put on the brakes in this "war" sometime. The BF&M needs no interpretation since it is already an "adequate statement."

Charles A. Overton, pastor
Friendship Baptist Church
Philpot

SBA explained further

An April 28 letter in WR reminds me why Baptist preachers have to make church announcements so many times. Almost no one hears the first announcement, the second time maybe half hear, but they get the details wrong. I fear this is the case regarding the Southern Baptist Alliance.

The SBA is an autonomous auxiliary within the SBC. Its purpose is to educate Baptists regarding what it means to be a Baptist. Its membership is within Southern Baptist churches. Its purpose is primarily educational not political.

The problem underlying the convention controversy is this: we Baptists have done an outstanding job getting people into our churches. But we have done a poor job teaching converts and even the current younger generation what it means to be a Baptist.

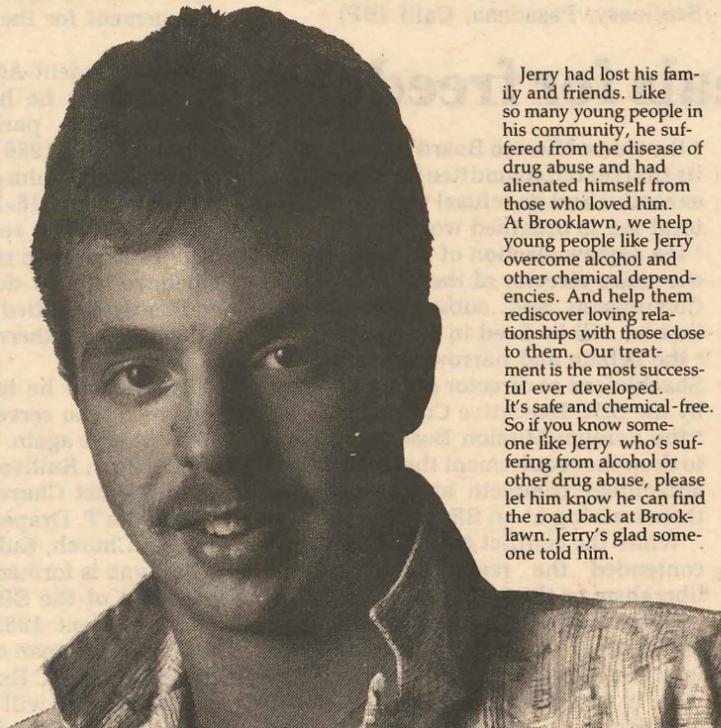
While phrases like soul competency, priesthood of believers, local church autonomy, can be occasionally heard among us, most Baptists have not known how these concepts relate to the way we do business as Baptists. As a result an attractive leadership that can mouth these and other catchy phrases, yet teach and act in direct opposition to our historic Baptist principles, is on the verge of a complete "takeover."

There is but one real answer to this dilemma. Not politics but educating Baptists once again to what it means to be Baptists. *This is the guiding principle of the SBA.*

This does not mean SBA members will not have political opinions regarding the SBC. Nor does it mean SBA members must keep their political opinions hidden. Some of my writing was referred to as a "propaganda sheet." This same article was carried in *SBC Today* (May issue) and titled "In review of SBC since Atlanta author notes 'takeover' success." Kentucky Baptists may read this and judge for themselves whether this is propaganda or accurate reporting.

James Watkins, chairman
Kentucky Baptist Alliance

FOUND



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James H. Cox
Associate Editor

fourth estate

Things we hold precious

In 1968 James L. Sullivan told managers of Baptist Book Stores: "We want to keep the name Baptist in our stores because they continue to maintain *some things Baptists hold precious.*"

I chose "*Some things Baptists hold precious*" as theme of a promotional booklet I was then putting together for the Sunday School Board. I was intrigued with those words then and am fascinated by them now. There is no doubt that our distinctives as Southern Baptists include the ordinances, baptism by immersion and the Lord's supper. I think we have also reaffirmed holy scripture as the divinely inspired word of God. There are some additional tenets of our faith we practice and staunchly defend as Southern Baptists.

In no particular order, one of them is *organized Bible study*. No church program in our history has held the nearly coveted place we have reserved for the Sunday school. While this in no way diminishes the significant contributions of Church Training or others the fact is, we are a people of the Book who seek to discern its truths and apply them to our lives. The numbers speak for themselves: more of us are enrolled in Sunday school than anything except church membership, more of us work in Sunday school than elsewhere, more people put more into preparation for it than anything else they do for their church, more outside activities are planned by the Sunday school than any other program organization and the Sunday school is a major factor in drawing prospects to a church and in winning lost souls.

We are also a people who believe in *missions*. In the first year of our convention's existence (1845) we commissioned boards for domestic and overseas work. We've never wavered in this commitment. A fifth of our basic operating budget goes to home missions while half of what we give goes to foreign missions. It has been difficult to get Southern Baptists to agree in recent years, but if there is one thing they support no matter what their stripe, it is missions. It's a question as nondebatable as apple pie, the American flag, motherhood and "Amazing Grace."

Running a distant third is *evangelism*. Even though it takes 46 plus of us to win a soul, we claim that winning (the lost) is everything. Our actions speak louder than words, but we would probably argue incessantly if anyone hinted that evangelism is not a Southern Baptist priority. It is, if somebody else is doing the job; it simply isn't practiced by many of us.

Your list of things Baptists hold precious might be longer. But I suggest that, for most of us, organized Bible study, missions and evangelism would appear on nearly everybody's list.

baptist news in brief

Leaders take stand at Samford University

Do the people who finance institutions have the right to determine what those schools teach? Two figures in the Southern Baptist Convention theological/political controversy took opposing views on that issue in separate lectures during Samford University's Christian Emphasis Week.

Kenneth Chafin, professor of Christian teaching at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, represented the moderate-conservative position on the topic of "The Basis of Biblical Authority." The fundamental-conservative position was addressed by Paige Patterson, president of Criswell Center for Biblical Studies, Dallas.

"I'm for men being free to believe what they want to believe," Patterson told the Birmingham, Ala., audience, "but Southern Baptist Christians as a

whole have every right to insist that their institutions teach according to their common beliefs as expressed in public session."

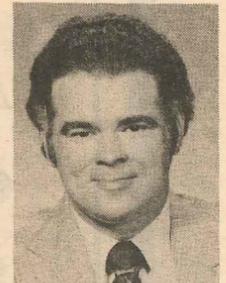
Chafin, former evangelism director of the Baptist Home Mission Board, countered: "The idea of the paycheck buying the conclusion is a bad one. The paycheck should buy responsible, relevant scholarship."

He suggested if such control is adopted at the denominational level, it should also be adopted at the local church level. He painted a scenario of pastors taking surveys of their congregations, then being forced to preach according to the beliefs expressed.

Responding to the question of denominational boundaries, Chafin insisted the future of the SBC depends on a willingness to accept the diversity that already exists. (BP)



Chafin



Patterson

Three more slain in Mexico persecution

Three people have been killed in religious persecution in the mountain village of Santiago Atitlan Mixe in southern Mexico.

The victims, according to one account, had been worshipping at a small Baptist mission and were in the process of becoming members.

A newspaper in the city of Oaxaca reported April 9 that the killings, which took place April 1, were "at the hands of the municipal authorities" of Santiago Atitlan Mixe. The article, titled "The Holy War Collects Three More Victims," also said 28 adults and 11 children were in prison because of persecution.

Killed were Terencio Vasquez Silverio, Martiniano Martinez and Abdon Julian Baltazar. No information was available about their ages or personal backgrounds.

Several members of the Baptist mission have fled Santiago Atitlan Mixe. About 10 of them are being sheltered in First Baptist Church of Oaxaca. The refugees fear others attempting to flee the village have been arrested.

No formal charges have been brought against any of the people arrested. Authorities in Oaxaca, the state capital, are investigating the situation. They say the people responsible for the killings will be punished.

This is not the first such incident in recent years in southern Mexico. Several years ago, a Baptist father and son were killed in one village, and others have been jailed and beaten for turning to evangelical Christianity. (BP)

Specialists sought for Chinese service

The Amity Foundation, Chinese Christians' social service organization, is seeking medical specialists from abroad for nine lectureships at Chinese hospitals and medical institutions.

The foundation's education consultant, Ting Yen-Ren, has invited Southern Baptists to participate through Cooperative Services International, the denomination's office for involvement in countries where missionaries do not work.

The Amity Lectureships, scheduled

for the 1987-88 academic year, will bring foreign medical specialists to China for three to six weeks each. They will lecture, demonstrate new medical techniques or participate in training programs and conferences in several cities.

Visiting specialists must pay their own transportation costs to and from China, but the foundation will arrange for housing, food and local travel.

Another urgent medical request calls for an ophthalmologist willing to spend several weeks in China performing cataract surgery and lens implants. Also, Zhejiang Medical University in Hangzhou has asked the foundation to provide teachers of medicine and medical English for beginning medical students during the 1987-88 school year.

Southern Baptist medical professionals interested in the China service opportunities should contact Alvinia Michalec in care of Cooperative Services International, P. O. Box 6767, Richmond, VA 23230, (804) 353-0151.

KBHC offering tops last year by \$79,000

This year's Kentucky Baptist support of Baptist Homes for Children's Thanksgiving Offering has reached a record \$716,614, according to Eldred Taylor, KBHC executive director. That figure exceeds the 1986-87 goal by \$6,614 while surpassing last year's Thanksgiving Offering by \$79,229.

"It is inspiring to be reminded of the deep and abiding love that Kentucky Baptists have for children," said Taylor. "Such generous support underscores the tender spot Kentucky Baptists have for children while indicating that Baptists appreciate what we are doing and want to be part of this Christ-centered ministry."

In expressing his gratitude to Kentucky Baptists, Taylor emphasized that he is especially encouraged and pleased because the record-setting Thanksgiving Offering was given at a time when many also are involved in the agency's Beyond This Time \$3,000,000 endowment campaign.

Missouri resolution supports Lewis, Baker

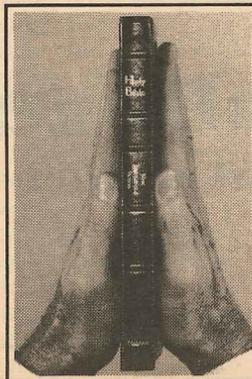
The Missouri Baptist Convention executive board has passed a resolution of appreciation and support for "two prominent Missouri Baptists (who) have recently been elected to head major Southern Baptist organizations."

The resolution honored N. Larry Baker, executive director of the Baptist Christian Life Commission, and Larry L. Lewis, president of the Baptist Home Mission Board.

The resolution noted "both men have ably served Missouri Baptists as administrators of Baptist institutions lo-

cated within our borders, as pastor or interim pastor of cooperating churches and in elected places of leadership."

It called on "the members of the Home Mission Board and the Christian Life Commission to provide each man the fullest opportunity to lead and serve effectively in their respective positions of responsibility" and encouraged "our fellow Missouri Baptists to join us in prayerful support of Larry L. Lewis and N. Larry Baker as they assume their new roles among Southern Baptists." (BP)



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For Bob & Eddie Fields

cleftRock Retreat fulfills high school dream

by Denise Spencer,
State Correspondent

Bob and Eddie Fields live and work at cleftRock, where they have ministered for 13 years. The retreat, nestled in the hills of Daniel Boone National Forest on the Rockcastle River, is for them the fulfillment of a dream that began long ago.

They were both born in Covington. Fields was raised in Livingston, while Mrs. Fields grew up in Ft. Mitchell. The couple met at Georgetown College. After graduation and marriage they moved to Louisville, where Fields attended Southern Seminary while she taught school. After seminary graduation, Fields pastored Clay Village Baptist Church.

The Fieldses received a Foreign Mission Board appointment in 1962. Their family had already doubled with the addition of a daughter, Tamira and a son, Todd. The family moved to Israel, and it was there that a third child, Valarie, was born.

As early as his high school days, Fields had cherished a dream of opening a retreat to expose pastors and other church leaders to missionaries. "But he never told me that!" Mrs. Fields laughed. She at first was unaware of this idea of the past that God would someday bring to the forefront.

While on furlough the Fieldses bought



A wooded area surrounds the cleftRock lodge where a variety of meetings and enrichment seminars are held throughout the year.

a cabin in Laurel County. When they knew return to Israel was eminent, they asked Wayne Moore of Georgetown College to look after it for them. They gave him permission to use the cabin for college and church retreats. Once back on the mission field, the Fieldses received numerous reports of successful retreats there.

Soon after Fields had completed renovation of a student center in Jerusalem, he journeyed to Bethlehem one week-end. Mrs. Fields recalled "He had what he called a 'holy discomfort.'" Fields

sensed God's leading in a different direction and prayed for guidance.

Fields confessed he had never forgotten his adolescent dream. "I thought the work in Israel would take care of it, but it didn't," he grinned. When he returned to Jerusalem he told his wife they were to come to the United States to build a retreat center.

Mrs. Fields was taken by surprise. "I'd never been happier than in Israel," she explained. "It was Bob's dream."

In 1971 the family moved to Georgetown where Fields was dean of religious life for two years. Three other couples helped the Fieldses purchase 450 acres in Rockcastle County. They obtained the status of a non-profit organization and began cleftRock Retreat.

Right away, the Fieldses knew an important focus would be the family. Their concern for strengthening Christian marriages grew from their own struggles. "In Israel we were workaholics," Mrs. Fields remembered. "The marriage suffered, but we had nowhere to turn."

They received training from David and Vera mace of the Association for Couples in Marriage Enrichment. The Fieldses are now certified to train others in leading marriage enrichment groups. In addition, Fields will graduate from seminary this month with a D Min. in Marriage and Family.

Fields explained their desire is not to compete with local churches, but to supplement and strengthen their ministries. Examples of types of cleftRock retreats are marriage enrichment, family enrichment, discipleship training, elderly, church staff, women, singles, youth, deacons and Sunday school classes. The

Fieldses do most of the teaching themselves, but often utilize leaders from their church or members of the cleftRock board of directors.

Longtime advocates of marriage enrichment, the Fieldses are increasingly excited about discipleship as well. CleftRock hosts a seven-week discipleship training course in the summer, using MasterLife as the curriculum.

Whatever the topic, retreat participants usually get a chance to work on communication and conflict management while at cleftRock. Living together for days or weeks produces situations from which growth can occur. "It's mostly experiential education," Fields observed.

Today the cleftRock office and Fields home stands at the entrance to the retreat. The gravel road leads to three cabins owned by missionary couples. cleftRock rents these cabins for use by retreat participants. A fourth cabin has recently been purchased by cleftRock, and finishing touches have been put on two marriage enrichment cabins. A comfortable lodge serves as the facility for meetings and meals, flanked by a pavilion.

Countless donated dollars and hours of volunteer labor have built cleftRock. The retreat receives no denominational help except the state WMU's support of a yearly retreat for children of missionaries. The Fieldses went eight years without a regular salary, "but the Lord provided," Fields smiled.

The Fieldses are grateful to their home church, First Baptist, London, Laurel River Association. "The Lord has used this church to bless and support cleftRock," Fields claimed. "Our board of directors is made up of some First Baptist members and the other missionary homeowners."

As busy as they are at the retreat, the Fieldses love to visit other churches to do seminars. Volunteers are sorely needed at cleftRock to enable them to do more outside teaching. They are currently hoping to find one or two couples to live at cleftRock and help with its operation.

Pleased with the success of cleftRock, the Fieldses still look to the future. Fields explained, "Our goal is to have one couple in every church in the state really conscious of marriage and family." He hopes to do more training of leaders. "We're living in a different age today... we were trained by our parents. Marriage enrichment is updating, re-training."



The lodge at cleftRock provides a cozy setting for group sharing sessions and marriage enrichment classes.

Food increases, hunger still rampant

The worldwide food supply has increased for the second consecutive year due to favorable weather, expanded planting, price incentives, availability of fertilizer and use of high-yield plants, according to a United Nations report.

Contributing to the increased produc-

tion of cereals is a two percent rise in the aggregate output in developing countries, where poverty and hunger are the greatest. Much of the increased productivity is in Asia and Africa.

"The increased production for the second successive year in Africa represents a sharp turn away from the famine conditions of 1984-85," said Robert Parham, director of hunger concerns for the Baptist Christian Life Commission.

In Asia, the picture also is good. Rice production in both China and Bangladesh is expected to increase, while India's rice crop is anticipated to fall about five percent from the record level in 1985.

Amidst the good news, the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations offered a cautious word that food harvests are threatened in Africa and parts of Asia by infestations of locusts and grasshoppers. If the anticipated heavy breeding in the spring is not controlled, the FAO warned, the swarms of locusts could spread into the Arabia peninsula, south of the Horn of Africa and West Africa.

Other threats to food production include civil strife in Angola and Mozambique and insufficient rains in Botswana and Lesotho. An estimated 3.5 million people in Mozambique, one-fourth of the population, now need food relief.

"Despite the increased food supply," Parham said, "an estimated 730 million people around the world remain hungry each day. Increased productivity does not necessarily mean increased availability. People are malnourished in large measure because they are poor. And one of the best ways to alleviate hunger is to help poor people become self-sufficient." (BP)

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mountains to the mississippi

personnel

LaVerne Butler, pastor of Ninth and O



Church, Long Run Association, has been elected recording secretary of the Radio and Television Commission.

He was elected during the commission's recent meeting and will take office following the

Southern Baptist Convention in June. He was formerly chairman of the commission's Radio Services Subcommittee.

Harlan Avera resigned as pastor of Long Branch Baptist Church, Laurel River Association.

Otis King, pastor of Redbud Baptist Church, Upper Cumberland Association, has retired. **Delbert Jones** is the new pastor.

Glen Holifield has been called to New Hope Baptist Church, West Union Association.

Larry Brown resigned the pastorate of Corinth Baptist Church, Boone's Creek Association, to go to Immanuel Baptist Church, Pulaski Association.

William Bush resigned as pastor of Salem Baptist Church, Boone's Creek Association.

David Brumlow has been called to Deer Stables Baptist Church, Irvine Association, as pastor.

Darrell Stephenson resigned the pastorate of Heselon Baptist Church, Bracken Association.

James M. Gooch was honored by his church, McVeigh Baptist, Pike Association, on his 25th year as pastor.

Joe Stephenson resigned his position as pastor at Forest Hills Baptist Church, Pike Association.

Thomas Moore resigned as pastor of Grace Baptist Church, Pike Association.

Claude Maggard has accepted the call to pastor Greenmount Baptist Church, Laurel River Association.

Dan Kincer has been called to pastor New Prospect Baptist Church,



First Baptist Church, Pikeville, had the largest Easter Sunday school attendance in its history Apr. 19, with an attendance of 515. The Sunday school reported over 2000 contacts made prior to the Sunday attendance. The budget offering was \$14,801. (l-r) Pictured are Sunday school director John Mullins; pastor Glenn Mollette; music director Yvonne Clark; staff assistant John Spencer; and director of education/youth Rebecca Martin.

Booneville Association.

Delton M. Beall has resigned as pastor of Glasgow Baptist Church, Liberty Association. He will be moving to First Baptist Church, Forrest City, Arkansas.

Ray Cummins resigned as pastor of Marion Baptist Church. He is moderator of the Ohio River Association.

Steven Alan Grayson has been called as minister of music and youth at Masonville Baptist Church, Owensboro, Daviess-McLean Association.

Gregory S. Fauls has accepted the position of minister of youth at Eastwood Baptist Church, Warren Association.

Tom Lancaster has been called to the pastorate of Dedicated Baptist Church, Warren Association.

Bill Fort has accepted the pastorate of Rich Pond Baptist Church, Warren Association.

Jimmy Gentry has accepted the call to Lewis Lane Baptist Church, Owens-

boro, Daviess-McLean Association.

Lynn Dotson has resigned the pastorate of Singing Creek Baptist Church, Laurel River Association. He is going to East Bernstadt First Baptist Church, Laurel River Association, as associate pastor.

Elmer Wiley has retired as Director of Missions in Booneville and Irvine Association.

David Bailey has been called a pastor of Walnut Log Baptist Church, Union City, Tenn. He is a graduate of Clear Creek Baptist College, Pineville, Ky.

Steve Smith has accepted the call to Grand Rivers Baptist Church, Ohio River Association, as director of music and youth.

ordinations

James L. Casey was ordained a deacon by Poole Missionary Baptist Church,

Green Valley Association, Mar. 29, 1987.

E. Keevil Judy brought the charge to the candidate and Brian Galloway brought the charge to the deacons.

John Chandler gave the charge to the church and Timothy Burden prayed the prayer of dedication.

Robert D. Walters is pastor.

David Gooch, pastor of Sutton Baptist Church, was ordained Apr. 12.

Timothy Glass was ordained Mar. 22 at Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, Russell Creek Association.

Bill Helton, pastor of Huff Settlement Church, was ordained by Evarts Baptist Church, Upper Cumberland Association Mar. 29.

Mark Fudge, Terry Harvey, Mike Harvey, and Joel South were ordained as deacons at Harrods Fork Baptist Church, Russell Creek Association.

Mark King was ordained to the ministry at Immanuel Baptist Church, Elkhorn Association. Ted Sisk is pastor.

associations

Salem Baptist Association has maintained an outstanding record in its music projects.

Since Salem Association had its first Christmas Carol Sing on Dec. 15, 1957, it has celebrated each year its service to Christ through music. They have reported conducting 31 hymn sings, eight music schools, 22 festivals, seven music conferences, nine Shoptalks (leadership music conferences), one International night and 11 associational choir rehearsals and concerts.

The attendance at these projects has been 10,304 from a total of 818 churches. They have enjoyed this growth under the faithful leadership of Mrs. Katherine McQuary and other associational music directors.

congregations

First Baptist Church, Hazard, Three Forks Association, broke records Mar. 22 when they recorded 356 in Sunday school. Attendance had been averaging 160 for several years. The goal was 301.

Revival followed and was a blessing. Several were added to the membership. Don Short was evangelist. Ben A. Baird is pastor.



Leon Simpson
President
Clear Creek Baptist School
Pineville, KY 40977

clear creek comment

Scattered preaching

It is commencement time at Clear Creek! This Friday evening more than 50 students will graduate. They and their families will go into all the world to serve the Lord. We are so proud and so blessed to have been a part of encouraging and guiding and training them for the work of the Lord.

In Acts 8:4 we read, "They that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word." It is thrilling to imagine where God will lead some of these outstanding preachers of the word. Many of them will pastor in Kentucky. But others will be led to other states and some will eventually serve in foreign countries. They are all God's missionaries bearing witness to Jesus and we are a missionary training school.

Today I am thinking about our new graduates and their families. Where will they go and what ministry will they find for the Lord? How will God bless their faithful witness for Jesus in years to come and what trials and tribulations will their families encounter?

Every time I think of all the men of God who have graduated from Clear Creek I am amazed to consider that God has scattered more than 1200 of our alumni abroad in 46 states and several foreign countries preaching the gospel for him. Every day I remind myself that 1200 preachers and their families are

preaching the word all over the world.

I am also reminded of the difference between a fresh graduate of Clear Creek and a seasoned alumnus who has served the Lord for years. Our new alumnus, while not as young as typical college students (our average student is 32 years of age) are nevertheless young in the ministry. They are joyous and enthusiastic, looking forward to all that God will do in and through their lives.

However, as our alumni inevitably discover, they encounter trials and tribulations as well as blessings along the way. Satan is very real and he sees to it that God's servants are tempted to discouragement and despair. Opposition from the world (and even from God's people at times) arises and obstacles often loom on the horizon.

So today I am asking you to pray for Clear Creek and for our many alumni who are faithfully witnessing for the Lord. They have been scattered everywhere and they are preaching the word!



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

homes for children

What is more beautiful?

Where could one find a state more beautiful than Kentucky in the springtime? Everywhere one turns there is a breathtaking view. Whether in the flatlands, rolling hills, bluegrass, or mountains, our state is a garden of beauty. Spring flowers blooming in profusion have been at their best this year.

This appears to be the year of the beautiful dogwood in Kentucky. Almost every dogwood is in full bloom. Being an early bloomer and an undercover tree, they are now highlighting yards, roadsides, hillsides and forests. Since the other trees have not leafed out fully, the dogwoods interspersed through the wooded areas give the appearance of soft, white clouds floating just above the ground. What a beautiful sight!

I praise God for the beauty of springtime and I marvel at his handiwork. But his handiwork in nature is only a small part of his true power. The real miracle of God's creative genius is his creation of human beings—and just think, he has made us in his image and he loves each of us. Therefore, each one of us is somebody. Each of us is important and capable of great potential.

Even though we are created in the image of God and are capable of great potential, there are obstacles and hindrances that keep us from attaining what God desires for us. In today's society many children are being neglected, discouraged and hindered from fulfilling the plan God has for their lives.

Every child has a right to be loved, cared for, protected from harm and trained in the way of truth and good. Most of all every child has a right to know about Jesus. However, thousands of children are being deprived of these basic rights. Broken homes often fragment and scar children. Parents caught in the web of alcoholism are unable to care for their children properly. Sometimes illness or economic disaster hinders parents' ability to care for their children.

Where could one find anything more beautiful than helping care for dependent, neglected children? Their beauty is breathtaking, their worth inestimable, their potential unlimited. Your support of Baptist Homes for Children is an investment in children, giving them an opportunity to know Jesus and reach their potential.

Kentucky volunteers more than tourists

Employees at the Kenyan Embassy in Washington have noticed a surge in the number of Kentuckians applying for visas in recent years.

But most of the people behind the numbers spent more time with Bibles than with guide books when they decided to visit the country in eastern Africa.

Obviously Mt. Kilimanjaro, Africa's tallest mountain, is as stunning as ever, and the spiced tradewinds of Mombasa are just as gentle. Like other tourists, the Bluegrass visitors go to the game parks for close-up views of lions, water buffalo, elephants, giraffes and zebras.

But the hundreds of Kentucky Baptists who annually spend several weeks in Kenya are motivated by more than exotic sights and sounds. They are active participants in partnership efforts by the Kenyan Baptist Convention and the Kentucky Baptist Convention to share the gospel with that part of the world.

James and Wilma Whaley, longtime Kentucky residents who are spending several years in Kenya to coordinate the partnership, get a firsthand look at all that is being accomplished.

Setting extra plates at the dinner table—from two to 20—has become routine for them. They receive all the volunteers into their Nairobi home, send or take them to their work stations, help meet any needs the volunteers might have and, if time permits, arrange a bit of shopping and/or sightseeing.

When their work is over, the volunteers again gather at the Whaleys' home before returning to the United States. One recent evening was typical, as 11 volunteers gathered around the Whaleys' table to swap stories.

Ray and Shirley Provow told of preaching in Nakuru in open-air services. Provow, pastor of Sedalia (Ky.) Baptist Church, glowed as he recalled visiting "hut to hut," and told of one home where all six family members professed faith in Jesus Christ after he talked—through an interpreter—with them. Another day, he and Arthur Kinyanjui, chairman of the Kenyan Baptist Convention, gathered a group of men for a service. Eighteen professed faith in Jesus.

Donald H. Gowin, pastor of Green River Memorial Church, Campbellsville, recounted preaching in one service where 46 people committed themselves to Christ and immediately began organizing a church.

Two laymen from Green River Memorial Church, Doug McCubbin and Larry Parrish, worked alongside their pastor. They showed Christian films to crowds that started with as few as four people but grew to 60 or more, and they spoke in boarding schools with 600 to 800 pupils.

By working 12- and 14-hour days, the three men spoke to 11,000 people in two weeks and reported 574 professions of faith in Christ.

Harold Barnes, director of missions in Liberty Baptist Association, and Larry Noe, pastor of Grace Union Baptist Church, Edmonton, worked in Embu, preaching on Saturdays and Sundays and training Kenyan pastors in personal witnessing during the week. The teams they trained covered 25 square miles visiting door-to-door.

Ken Holden, pastor of First Baptist Church in Flatwoods told how he had come to share a dream for an evangelistic effort to push north from Nyahururu toward Ethiopia through an area where there is little evangelical witness.

Working with three language groups, Holden, career missionaries Vaughn and Johnene Ross and Kenyan Baptist trans-

lators visited village after village. In one community people in all but two of the 12 huts prayed to receive Christ.

Another day, the visitors came upon a woman at a water hole. The woman invited them to her house, explaining God had told her not to leave the water hole, "because someone was coming to talk to me about spiritual matters." She, too, became a Christian.

Ophthalmologist Morris Nackle of Parkland Baptist Church, Louisville told of doing 50 eye operations in the few days he had been there—including 15 in one day. At one point he had to operate by the light of a nine-volt flashlight. Susanne Nackle had her own stories of working in a maternal and child health clinic.

Even as one group said goodbye, the Whaleys readied for another round.

The following morning 10 fresh volunteers arrived to be briefed and sent out on their assignments. The Whaleys were hosts for the 10 incoming and the 11 outgoing volunteers at a joint meal.

By the end of 1987, when the three-year Kentucky/Kenya Baptist partnership officially ends, hundreds of people who would never have visited Kenya as tourists will have visited at the Whaleys' table.

And hundreds of new Kenya Baptist churches will be ministering to thousands of new Christians because the Kentucky Baptists came. (BP)

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Barkley Moore
President
Oneida Baptist Institute
Oneida, KY 40972

oneida journal

Together they come & go

Several Oneida graduates attend Campbellsville College, among them several sets of siblings.

"I like it," said Nahom Abraham, a junior computer science major. Nahom's sister Lena is a senior pre-engineering major. "She's always there if I have any problems."

John and Ayo Olaniyan are sophomores from Nigeria. John is majoring in political science, and Ayo is majoring in business.

"We are different," said Ayo. "We argue a great deal, too."

For international students, having siblings on campus may be the only family contact they have for as much as four years.

Even though their family may be a great distance away, Aida, a senior, and Rahel Hailu, a sophomore, agree that they still have sisterly disputes occasionally. The Hailus are from Ethiopia.

"We have the same interests and can share each other's clothes. We do have normal fights," they both agreed.

All the above-mentioned students now at Campbellsville got their introduction to America at Oneida, improved their English speaking skills, and graduated from our school before going on to college.

Many siblings who go through Oneida go to many differing colleges together, or following one another. Others, after being here together, go to separate colleges.

For example, Martin Mapona, of The Zambia, graduated from Oneida in 1985 and is now a sophomore at Campbells-

ville. But his brother Mwesa graduated from Oneida in 1986 and is a freshman at Cumberland. Their younger brother Chando is still a student at Oneida, very active in our drama program.

I think of the Combs sisters, each of them graduates of Oneida, the fourth generation of their family to attend here. Carolyn, Pat and Teresa were each voted "Miss Oneida" in their respective years of graduation in a secret ballot of the faculty. The oldest and youngest became honor students of Campbellsville and the middle one went to Transylvania and now teaches here.

I think of a differing set of Combses, Keven and Karen, also fourth generation Oneidians. Keven was voted "Mr. Oneida" and many other honors and is now a sophomore at Transylvania and Karen is the valedictorian of this year's class, and many other honors, and will follow her brother.

I think of the Burns sisters, both third generation OBI students who were voted "Miss Oneida" in their respective years of graduation. One attended Cumberland and both also attended Union. Sylvia was salutatorian of her class, and has been an outstanding elementary teacher for nearly 30 years, having started in a one-room school. Carolyn was her class valedictorian and did graduate study at UK and earned her doctorate at IU, Bloomington. She is a university professor and author of several psychology books.

Then there are the two Barnes sisters and their brother. Each was voted the "Mr." or "Miss Oneida" honor in their respective years of graduation as was their mother, Mary Esther Webb, before them. They are third generation OBI graduates. Sherry is now a registered nurse having attended Georgetown and Eastern. Both Ricky and Robin are at ECU also.

Then I think of the Samples brother and sister combination, Lydia and Lydell, both on full scholarship now at Georgetown. Lydia was our 1986 class valedictorian and also voted the school's highest honor, the Evans Trophy. Their older brother, Joe, came to us talking about "dropping out" of school. By the time he graduated from OBI, he swung a scholarship at a university in North Dakota. Lydia, because of her scholastic attainments and high scores on national tests, was offered scholarships at Stanford and Yale.

Youngest of this family of twelve is Hezekiah, who is one of the highest ranking members of our 1987 class. He came to us in the 7th grade and has completed high school in three years.



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

sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR MAY 10, 1987

Life and Work Series

The church empowered

Acts 2:1-8 On the 50th day after the Feast of the Passover, the 12 disciples were in the upper room in Jerusalem. There was an audible sign—"a sound from heaven as of a rushing, mighty wind." There was also a visible sign—divided tongues which resembled fire, and one sat upon the head of each one present.

The reception of the Holy Spirit was not just a group experience; it was a personal one.

Acts 2:41-42 Approximately 3000 of Peter's hearers were deeply convicted of their sins and believed on Christ as saviour. After Christ saved them, they submitted to baptism as evidence of their faith and as an act of loving obedience to him.

Acts 2:46-47 Those early Christians were happy in the Lord and in their work together for him. Their spirit won the admiration of the unsaved around them and resulted in the salvation of many souls and their addition to the church. Fellowship with those who know the Lord and truly love him is one of the greatest and most precious privileges which God gives to his children.

International series God still loves

Hosea 2:16-23 The worship of Baal had become so engrained in the Israelites they had mixed it with the worship of Jehovah, and interchanged the names of dieties. Gods had forbidden Israel to speak the names of other gods because they were abhorrent to him. Those who worship God must never insult him by making room for other gods.

When God's people forsake him, he will chastise and discipline them. God had Hosea warn the Israelites of the severity of his judgment unless they ceased to worship idols and turned from their wicked ways.

God was seeking through loving words to persuade the Israelites to true repentance and reformation of life. Hosea was careful to emphasize what God would do for those whom he disciplined, namely, woo them back into fellowship with him. Hosea informed his readers that the real purpose of God in disciplining his wayward people was to restore them to fellowship with him, to enable them to enjoy the peace that he provided for them, to bring them additional blessings and to assure them of true prosperity.

It must have been encouraging to the Israelites to be told that they might yet live in intimate fellowship with God, with whom they had entered into covenant. Whereas noisy beasts and other things were one of God's sore judgments when they sinned against him, they were given the assurance that the time would come when they would not be hurt by them as a judgment upon them. They would have a relationship of righteousness, justice, loving-kindness and mercy with the Lord following their restoration.

Hosea 3:1-3 In the course of time Gomer was offered for sale in the open slave market. Hosea bought her at the auction, paid for her, forgave her, took her back home, tenderly sought to restore her to chastity and tried to regain her love.

Hosea saw in Gomer's sinful conduct an apt illustration of the behavior of Israel toward God. His pity for Gomer was a faint similitude of the yearning love of God for his erring people. God loved the wayward and disobedient Israelites compassionately, and, after they had learned that transgressions bring inescapable penalties, he wanted them to be forgiven and restored to usefulness in service.



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

on mission together

Toward evening

The marker read: **Walking Trail - 1.2 miles.** The longer I walked the more I suspected the sign meant "as the crow flies."

But the hills were lovely and dusk was setting in at Jenny Wiley State Park. The next day I would preach at First Baptist Church, Pikeville and speak at an afternoon dedication service for the newly-acquired Pike Association office and missionary home.

I needed the walk, not only to relieve the stiffness created by the 3½-hour drive, but because I'm a "hill person" . . . always have been since I spent many a childhood afternoon wandering the hills along the Kentucky River.

The path wound southward, meandering among an assortment of oak, poplar, iron wood, and an occasional dogwood in full bloom. No ancient timber there, except among the fallen carcasses.

After reaching its lowest point, the path turned and rose steeply, snaking its way to an overhang of rock, etched by the water of thousands of years. Springs still dripped water from countless places.

A large, dry boulder had no difficulty in accommodating me. I wondered how many hundreds had sat there before me. Noting the absence of signs along the damp trail, I must have been the only one that day.

Only an occasional motor interrupted the evening concert of the birds. Even they were slowly putting away their instruments. They would sing again tomorrow and there would be other audiences.

Without realizing when, I moved from a consciousness of the external to the stream of consciousness within.

Lately I've been thinking about God more than usual, although I'm not sure what a usual amount for a preacher is supposed to be. Because our last bird will soon leave the nest, I've been count-

ing again the years so quickly passed. I draw closer each day to the time when what I believe about God will experience the ultimate test.

As I there contemplated my own death, I wanted to be truthful with myself and with God. I do love life—every precious moment. I don't really want to die . . . not even when I'm passing a kidney stone, or immobile with back pain.

And I wondered if Jesus wasn't at least partly telling his Father, when he asked for the "cup to pass," that he loved life, too. He really didn't want to die.

I mean no sacrilege when I confess that I don't yearn for heaven. And I hold neither disbelief nor envy for those who sincerely want to go "on home to be with the Lord." My grandmother did long before she died at 93.

But for me, for now, I'm grateful to be alive and to be a part of what God is doing here on earth. I'm sure heaven is a finer place, but if it please the Lord, I'll not be disappointed if he should leave me here a few more years.

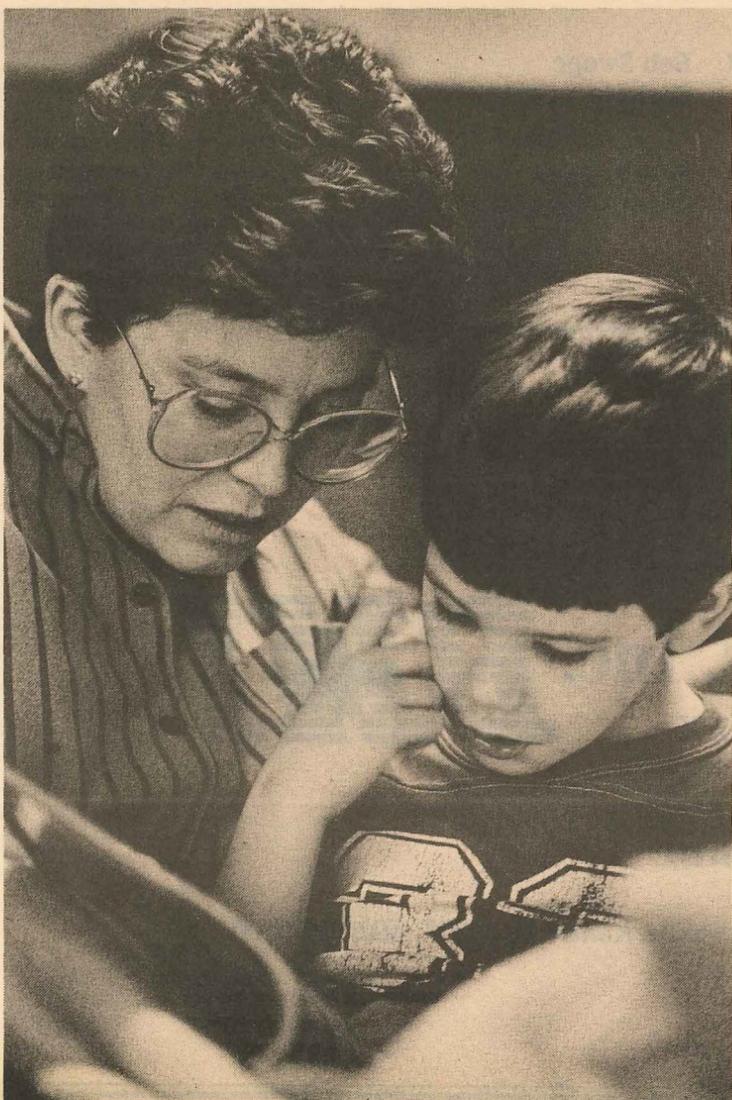
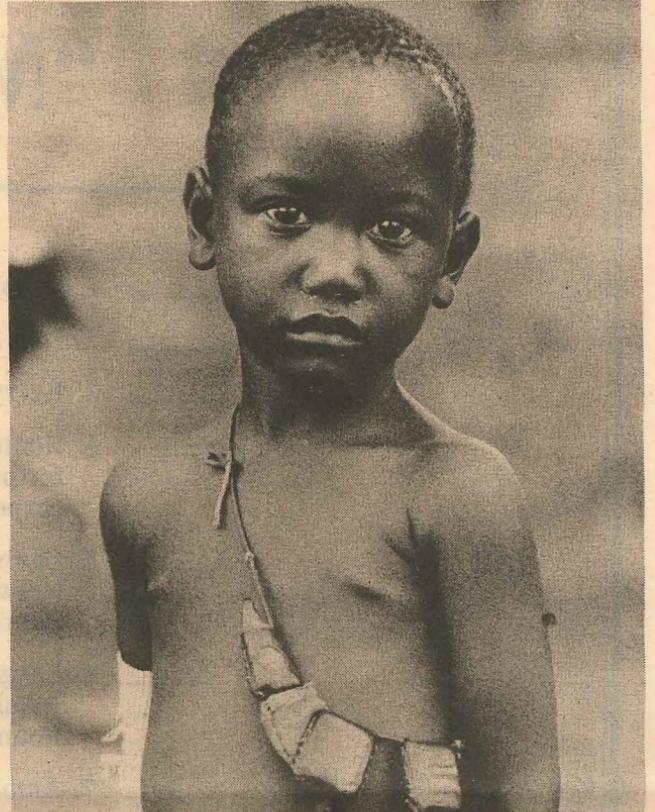


Southern Baptist missionaries "Sharing good news around the world"



The Bible in his own language meant life to 80-year-old Catalino Queva, one of the first converts in Cajamarca, Peru. Here he reads the scripture with lay pastor Rosario Espilco. Southern Baptists produce and distribute Christian literature throughout the 110 nations.

Boys like Pa Dibba will benefit this year from vacation Bible schools set up by missionaries. Pa, the son of a veterinarian in Farafenni, the Gambia, believes the magic amulets hanging around his neck will fend off bad fortune.



What would the world be like without women who take time to teach their children to love God? Missionary mom Charlotte Parris of Little Rock, Ark., shares private time with her son, Kenneth. She and her husband, Stan, are missionaries to Venezuela.



There are no finely tuned organs at this Baptist house church in Rio San Juan on the northern coast of Dominican Republic. Instead, a national pastor, Jose Artiles Chepe, strums a lone guitar and missionary Paul Siebenmann leads the singing.



Volunteer Rosie Fenton, a nurse from Cocoa Beach, Fla., patches up an Ethiopian child at the Baptist clinic in Shil Afaf, about 100 miles north of Addis Ababa. Fenton, 59, is one of many senior adults who continue to serve around the globe.

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| _____ 4. Kentucky's largest not for profit hospital corporation | D. Three |
| _____ 5. Chairman, Health Data Network Administrative Board | E. Administrator of Baptist Regional Medical Center |
| _____ 6. Largest bequeath to Baptist Hospitals Foundation | F. Baptist Hospital Highlands |
| _____ 7. Amount Kentucky Baptist donated to Sunday School Charity Fund in 1986 | G. President of Central Baptist Hospital |
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| _____ 9. How many hospitals does BHI own? | I. A. B. Clarke |
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