

## Japanese visit Sturgis church to honor missionary

by Todd Deaton, Staff Writer

Jesus Christ means "love in any language."

That was the message five Japanese young women combined with the Ac-teens of First Baptist Church, Sturgis, Ohio Valley Association, conveyed to that congregation Aug. 2.

The love the Japanese sang about was the result of the work of missionary Dorothy Lane, who went 36 years ago to their country to share the gospel.

The Japanese young women were members of a delegation of 24 Japanese Baptists—18 of whom had traveled approximately 8000 miles and paid more than \$2200 each—to visit the Kentucky church where Miss Lane's commitment for missions was fostered as a youth.

"We wanted to come to Sturgis for two purposes," said Shoji Okamura, pastor of Shimura Baptist Church in Tokyo. "First, we wanted to worship Christ with brothers and sisters in the faith.

"We also wanted to express our joy and gratitude to the members of Sturgis and to Southern Baptists for the one sent to us in 1951 as a missionary," he explained.

"We are grateful for the Cooperative Program and for what it does to support missions work in or country and around the world," said Okamura, who is also president of the Japanese Baptist Convention and a professor at the Baptist seminary in Tokyo.

Miss Lane, who retired in July 1986 from her appointment by the Foreign Mission Board, worked alongside Okamura 25 years.

During her first 10 years she taught English at a missions school on the southern island of Kyushu. But, in 1961 she teamed up with Okamura and a handful of Japanese believers to start the Shimura church.

After four years of hard work the group established a church with 70 members. The congregation now has around 220 members and is helping start another missions effort.

Miss Lane was active in an outreach ministry. She taught English and Bible classes during the week and directed a preschool program on Sundays.

Mrs. Motoko Yamanaka, kindergarten teacher at Shimura, saw Miss Lane's love for the Japanese in action. "Miss Lane taught many of our children about the love of Jesus Christ.

"She often baked cookies and cakes and brought them to the children," she recalled. "Through prayers, Miss Lane would teach them the importance of giving thanks for all God's blessings."

Many of these children were led to Christ under her care. One year 17 of the church's 18 conversions were the results of Miss Lane's ministry to the children and their mothers.

"The Christian faith, transmitted between children and mothers, penetrated the Japanese culture," Mrs. Yamanaka concluded.

Okamura, speaking through interpreter Yutaka Takarada, pastor of the Japanese Baptist Church, Richardson, Tex. and former member of the Shimura church, reported of God's work in Japan.

"Missions work began only a century ago with two missionaries appointed by the Foreign Mission Board," said Okamura. "At first, there was little interest in Christianity. Buddhism and Communism were deeply rooted in our society."

Over the years the efforts of Southern Baptists through the FMB netted results. The Japanese Baptist Convention was founded in 1947 with 16 churches and 600 members and has grown to include 211 churches, 70 mission points and more than 30,000 members, he said.

"In 1977 the convention became self-sufficient," Okamura claimed. "We are now beginning to appoint our own missionaries."

Although Miss Lane's work in Japan is completed, she lives on there in the hearts of the ones she touched. Eiji Iwasaki, 19, who attended her English and Bible classes, plans to become an English teacher himself. And, Yorie Itoh, 32, who she encouraged to attend Southwestern Seminary, hopes to return to the Japanese Baptist Convention as a minister of education.

Brody Ambrose, pastor of First Church, Sturgis, presented Miss Lane and Okamura with a hand-sewn quilt with a pattern of two squares representing Southern Baptists and Japanese Baptists. The squares were linked by a connecting block that represented Dorothy Lane, who united the churches of Sturgis and Shimura through love.



Soji Okamura, Dorothy Lane, Yutaka Takarada and Brody Ambrose stand in front of the quilt representing the love that unites their churches. The two churches are First Baptist, Sturgis, and Shimura Baptist Church, Tokyo, Japan.

## HMB tightens hiring policies

by Joe Westbury

Individuals seeking missionary appointment by the Home Mission Board will have to submit to tighter guidelines concerning divorce and glossolalia following action by the agency's board of directors.

As a result of the policy divorced people rarely will be appointed or approved unless their divorce was based on "biblical rationale" as outlined by the board. That rationale was defined as being limited to cases of adultery or fornication and in instances of desertion or physical abandonment by a spouse.

The policy, adopted at the full board meeting July 29, also states no divorced individual will be considered for a pastoral role unless the divorce meets the biblical guidelines and the applicant has not remarried.

People now serving who have been divorced and remarried will remain in service. All missions personnel currently serving and divorcing or remarrying will be evaluated again under terms of the policy.

Board member Don Aderhold, who presented the recommendation from the personnel committee, explained the guidelines also apply to spouses of missionary candidates since they also are

appointed or approved in the hiring process. The policy makes no provision for candidates whose divorce was prior to their Christian conversion.

The board action, which passed 48-20 on a roll call vote, rewrites a former policy that evaluated each instance of divorce on its own merit. For nearly two decades individuals have been employed, after evaluation, if their divorce did not impair their ministry.

Board member James Walters, pastor of First Baptist Church, Mobile, Ala., was one of the half-dozen directors who challenged the policy and sought its defeat.

"Certainly I'm for the ideal but I'm also concerned about the redeeming aspects of the gospel and the message that we are implying. Is divorce the unpardonable sin? Are we going to throw rocks or ropes" to people who have been involved in divorce? he asked the board.

New board member Olan Wills, pastor of Springhead Baptist Church, Plant City, Fla., countered by saying he was sympathetic to those who disagreed with the proposal but added, "We as pastors and Christians cannot go on sympathy but on God's word, and it says, 'Let him be the husband of one wife.'"

Jim Strickland, pastor of Heritage Baptist Church, Cartersville, Ga., challenged the biblical rationale by referring to Old Testament personalities Moses and King David who committed murder and adultery, respectively, but who God later used in leadership positions.

Wanda Haworth, lay member of Centertown Baptist Church, Centertown, Mo., noted there are numerous moral absolutes in scripture but added: "Every day probably most of us here break some of them. I urge the defeat of this because we live under a day of grace, not law."

directors also approved a recommendation that will prohibit employment of missionary candidates who actively participate in or promote glossolalia, commonly known as "speaking in tongues."

Under the policy any current missions personnel who are appointed, approved or endorsed by the board and who become involved in glossolalia will be counseled by an HMB representative. Continued participation will result in termination of employment.

## Seminary president resigns peace group

by Herb Hollinger

William O. Crews, president of Golden Gate Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif., has resigned from the Peace Committee.



Crews has been the only member of the special committee from the western part of the United States but said his resignation at this time would remove any possible conflict of interest.

The 22-member SBC Peace Committee made its report and recommendations at the recent annual meeting of the denomination in St. Louis, Mo. One of the recommendations from the committee was to continue work for three

years to observe how convention agencies and boards comply with the committee's findings.

Since some of the recommendations were directed specifically at the denomination's seminaries, Crews said he felt his resignation would insure there would not be any charges of conflict of interest on his part.

Crews was appointed to the committee two years ago while still a pastor in Riverside, Calif. He became president of Golden Gate Seminary in December last year but was urged by other committee members to remain on the committee.

Crews submitted his resignation last week to committee chairman Charles Fuller, Roanoke, Va.

One other committee member has also resigned, Winfred Moore, who said his resignation was to protest the committee's continuation in a "watchdog" role.

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Jack D. Sanford

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**western recorder**

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*Earnestly contend for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.—Jude 3*

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# mountains to the mississippi

## personnel

**Bruce Embry** has accepted the position of music and education director at Good Hope Baptist Church, Taylor County Association.

**Carl Peters** resigned as minister of youth and music at Stamping Ground Baptist Church, Elkhorn Association, to accept a position as minister of music at Edgewood Baptist Church, Nicholasville, Elkhorn Association.

**Mark Ross**, Jasper, Ala., is the new pastor of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Nelson Association. The church welcomed Ross and his family to the Shepherdsville community June 14 with a dinner and housewarming. Ross is a May 1987 graduate of Southern Seminary.

**Jeff Clark** resigned as associate pastor of New Salem Baptist Church, Nelson Association. He and his wife Melva are working with the Home Mission Board and have moved to Rogers City, Mich. to be church planters. Clark was ordained by the Salem church Apr. 12.

**L. Michael Lanway** began his duties as pastor of New Salem Baptist Church, Nelson Association July 19. He is a graduate of Houston (Tex.) Baptist College and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Lanway goes to New Salem from Pigeon Fork Baptist Church, Waddy, Shelby County Association.

**Terry Vasser** has been called as minister of evangelism and outreach by First Baptist Church, Shelbyville, Shelby County Association.

## revivals

**Parkville Baptist Church**, South District Association was led in its spring revival by a father and sons team. Cecil R. Fultz Jr., minister of music at First Baptist Church, Blair, Okla. led the music and Dale Fultz, pastor of Gar-meada Baptist Church, Middlesboro, Bell Association, was the evangelist.

There were four professions of faith and several rededications. Cecil R. Fultz Sr. was pastor of the church until his



Forty-seven members of Ashland's First Baptist Church youth choir have just completed a concert tour which took them to Coalfield, Tenn.; Stone Mountain, Ga.; Winter Park, Fla.; Eastman, Ga.; and Walhalla, S. C. The choir is directed by William M. Adcock. Bill Messer is the pastor.

retirement June 28.

Tommy Halsell was the evangelist for revival services held at **Clarkson Baptist Church**, Grayson County Association, May 24-29.

One was saved, three came by transfer or letters, and two joined on their statement of faith. A number of rededications were also made. Though the revival is over, pastor Grover Westover reports the spirit is continuing in the church.

**Manchester Baptist Church**, Booneville Association, held revival services May 24-29. The church recorded 12 professions of faith, one call to Christian service and one by letter.

Butch Caner, minister of music and youth, was the evangelist. Roger Williams is pastor.

**Living Hope Baptist Church**, Bowling Green, Warren Association, observed an "I Believe in Sunday School" campaign from March until May. During the three month emphasis the church enrolled a total of 111 in Sunday school and had an average attendance of 363.

Living Hope finished the campaign by designating May 31 as "Miracle Day." On that day, the congregation saw 416 people attend the dual Sunday schools, 450 attend the dual worship services, 22 enrol in Sunday school and 29 joined the church of which seven were professions of faith.

Since May, Living Hope has recorded a net increase of 218 in enrolment and 109 in average attendance. In addition, 163 people (43 by baptism) have joined the church. Billy Compton is pastor.

## congregations

**Ninth and O Baptist Church**, Louisville, Long Run Association, designated July 26 as "Lillian Butler Day: A Tribute to the Pastor's Wife." The congregation held a reception in her honor and provided a box for cards, letters and expressions of appreciation.

Mrs. Butler, wife of LaVerne Butler, has literally poured her life into Ninth and O. At various times during the last 19 years, she has been adult coordinator, WMU president, senior adult director, director and teacher of young marrieds, Bible study leader and conductor of several women's seminars.



Members of First Baptist Church, Jamestown, put small flags in the ground May 31 as a symbol of its victory Sunday theme, "Stake Your Claim," marking the completion of its Together We Build program.

**First Baptist Church, Jamestown**, Russell County Association, held a victory Sunday May 31 to celebrate the successful completion of a Together We Build program.

Pastor Dan Grider stated the church raised \$125,000 to finance much needed space for the growing congregation. Membership has increased almost 100 percent in the past two years.

Members of the congregation put small flags in the ground as a symbol of the victory Sunday theme, "Stake Your Claim." Laymen Dwight Hadley and J. E. Monin led the campaign.

**Southside Baptist Church**, Long Run Association, is sending eight volunteers to Santiago, Chile Aug. 7.

Led by Southside pastor Richard Hutchens, volunteers will work with local missionaries and the pastor of Providencia Baptist Mission, Alfredo Quezada. They will hold evening crusades in three local churches and work on a daytime mission action construction project.

The idea for this mission grew from Quezada's involvement with Southside as minister of senior adults while he was a student at Southern Seminary. When he returned to Chile, Southside budgeted money to aid his work.

Those participating in the project are Richard and Susan Hutchens, Merle and Debbie Wells, Harris and Margo Long, Bette Kennedy and Stephanie Berry. Each has prepared by learning to sing choruses and give a testimony in Spanish.



**Eldred M. Taylor**  
Executive Director  
10801 Shelbyville Road  
Middletown, KY 40243

## homes for children

### Responsibility and accountability

fair. In all of this there is the question of responsibility and accountability. Everyone who receives an assignment is responsible to someone and therefore someone is held accountable for what is done and the way it is done.

When the mishandling of funds is being revealed in areas that affect so many people, it is only reasonable that people ask me about the accounting of funds given to Baptist Homes for Children. Such questions are appropriate at any time, but especially now when we are in the midst of the Beyond This Time Campaign to raise \$3 million for endowment.

I am glad to report to you Baptist Homes for Children is ministering to children and families in a most reasonable way, and all funds are accounted for, reported and audited. As executive director, I am responsible to 21 trustees. These trustees, elected by the Kentucky Baptist Convention, set the policies and guidelines for the ministry.

An acknowledgment of receipts is sent

to each donor. A regular financial report is given to the board of trustees. At the end of each fiscal year there is a thorough audit of all the financial receipts and expenditures. The audit is done by Coopers and Lybrand and their findings are reported to the trustees. In addition, copies of the audit are given to the KBC office. The business office of the convention studies the audit and it is reviewed by a committee of the convention's Executive Board. In a sense we are audited and then we are audited! Any Baptist is welcome to see an audit of our affairs.

I know we are being responsible in ministering to children. I am happy to give a complete accounting of all matters concerning receipts and expenditures. We recognize our accountability, not only to you, our donors, but above all, to our Lord. Our accountability reaches even beyond our money to include the lives of our children as well.

If you have questions please ask. We have nothing to hide.

In recent weeks our nation has been following the scandal of PTL, and the world has followed the Iran-Contra af-

# baptist news in brief

## Texas House deflects lottery lobby

In the final hours of the second special legislative session, Texas legislators approved a \$5.7 billion tax increase and \$38.3 billion budget but no proposal for a state lottery—in spite of a last-ditch effort by lottery backers to redirect attention toward the state-run numbers game.

"Words cannot express the deep gratitude we feel for the political savvy and courage of David Hudson, Steven

Carriker and about 70 other 'untouchables' who refused to be corrupted by the lottery," stated Gary McNeil, Austin-based legislative assistant with the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission.

"We . . . appreciate the stand of Gov. Bill Clements who was not enticed by the lottery lobby to include the lottery in his call for the special session," McNeil said.

In a private July 7 meeting Clements had assured a group of Texas religious leaders—including former Southern Baptist Convention president James T. Draper Jr.—he would not lobby for the lottery. (BP)

## Veteran staffers resign at RTVC

Two veteran staff members of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission and the ACTS network have resigned to join the world's largest direct broadcast satellite network.

Jim Rupe and John Cobb Smith have been employed as executives of the Automotive Satellite Television Network. The network offers daily news and training for the automotive industry to 2000 subscribers nationwide.

Rupe, a 24-year employe of the RTVC, is executive producer of the network. Smith, who was on the commission staff for more than 31 years, is director of operations for ASTN.

Rupe, an executive producer for the RTVC, developed the "Country Crossroads" radio and television shows. Smith, director of TV operations, was in a number of roles at the commission. (BP)

## Baptist woman held hostage in Mozambique

Southern Baptist Kindra Bryan remains a hostage of the Mozambiquean right wingrebels which seized seven foreigners in mid-May.

Bryan was part of a Youth with a Mission team working on a farm in a central province of Mozambique when she was seized.

Although the rebels announced May 20 the seven whites would be freed, they have remained captives.

A spokesman from Second Baptist Church, Houston, where Bryan is a member, stated the church staff received a telex the weekend of July 18 and 19 confirming Bryan's well-being.

Negotiations are continuing for the release of the hostages with hopes of it being resolved in the near future. (BP)

## Day-care firings put church in spotlight

A church's decision to require all its day-care workers to be Southern Baptists has brought nationwide publicity to Lutz, a quiet suburb north of Tampa, Fla.

Art Ballard, pastor of First Baptist Church, Lutz, fired the day-care director, a Methodist, and informed other day-care workers they would have to become Southern Baptists or lose their jobs.

## Employers required to complete forms

All employers, including churches and other religious organizations, now are required to verify their employes are legally authorized to work in the United States.

This requirement, part of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, took effect June 1, 1987. Under the law all employers, regardless of the number of people they employ, are required to fill out a form that confirms their employes are either American citizens or aliens who are eligible to work in the United States.

The government requires Form I-9 to be filled out for each employe hired on or after June 1 and for every employe hired between Nov. 7, 1986 and May 31, 1987 who still is employed.

These new requirements do not apply to people hired before Nov. 7, people hired after Nov. 6 who left employment before June 1, or people who are self employed. (BP)

## Six Baptists win heritage awards

Six Southern Baptists are among 13 recipients of national awards presented by Religious Heritage of America for 1987.

The organization, founded in 1951, is an "interfaith association which believes the application of the Judeo-Christian principles which made America will keep America," said Religious Heritage of America spokesman Bobbe Martini.

Award recipients are cast as role models for American society and are chosen

for attributes such as honesty, ethical and moral conduct, participation in a local worship community, religious activity which is not limited to a single

faith group and religious commitment which has had a national impact or which deserves national attention.

Churchwoman of the year is Mary Kay Ash, chairman of the board of Mary Kay Cosmetics and a member of Prestonwood Baptist Church, Dallas.

Other Southern Baptist recipients are:

Charles Barrett Howard Sr., director of denominational relations for Campbell University, a Southern Baptist school in Buies Creek, N.C.

Gus A. Becker, retired president of Gus Becker Printing Co., and a member of Calder Baptist Church, Beaumont, Tex.

William E. Poe, an attorney and member of First Baptist Church, Charlotte, N.C.

Carl Mays, president and director of Creative Living, Inc., and a member of First Baptist Church, Gatlinburg, Tenn.

U. S. Senator Strom Thurmond of South Carolina and a member of Columbia Baptist Church, Falls Church, Va.

Kenneth H. Cooper, a Dallas physician and member of Prestonwood Baptist Church, Dallas, is general chairman of the RHA 1987 national awards program. (BP)



Johnna Ramsey (l), state Bible drill winner from First Baptist Church, Dawson Springs, practices drills with other winners during Church Training Leadership Conferences in Glorieta, N. M. Baptist Sunday School Board's Church Training Department and state conventions sponsor the Bible drill events each summer. (BSSB photo by Terri Lackey)

## CLC conference examines abortion

The Christian Life Commission will sponsor a two-day national conference on abortion at the Southern Baptist Convention Building in Nashville, Tenn.

The conference, according to N. Larry Baker, executive director of the Christian moral concerns agency, "will help Southern Baptist ministers, church staff and lay persons attack the problem of abortion and minister to those who are affected by this critical issue.

"We can work together as Southern Baptists to shape the minds and hearts of others and move our nation away

from its easy acceptance of abortion and toward a renewed commitment to the sanctity of human life," Baker said.

The conference, which begins at 1 p.m. Aug. 31 and concludes at 2 p.m. Sept. 1, will include addresses on biblical principles related to abortion, current legislation on abortion, a history of the abortion issue and how Southern Baptists can effectively fight abortion both in their local communities and nationwide.

The meeting will also feature six practical workshops: preaching on sanctity of human life, educating children about sex, establishing crisis pregnancy centers, working through public policy, caring for persons who face crisis pregnancies and supporting state Baptist convention homes for children.

For registration and housing information, write to Abortion Conference, Christian Life Commission, SBC, Box 25266, Nashville, TN 37202-5266.

## Wright replaces Nichols at RTVC

Michael A. Wright has been named director of affiliate relations for the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, succeeding G. William Nichols, who resigned to join a San Antonio, Tex. advertising agency.

Wright was ACTS regional manager before becoming vice president for cable relations of the ACTS network.

He attended San Joaquin Delta College, Fresno City College, California Baptist College and graduated in business management from Dallas Baptist University. Professional experience has included private business management and broadcast programming.

Nichols, who was senior vice president for cable relations since 1982, will join Atkins and Associates, Inc. of San Antonio. Atkins and ACTS reached an agreement to name the San Antonio firm the network's national representative.

Nichols was previously northeastern regional manager for ACTS and vice president for cable relations. (BP)

western recorder

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the news!

# Louisvillians assist in overseas hunger projects

James Furr, director of missions and ministries for Long Run Association, has given assistance in selecting several sites overseas to receive help through the Louisville United Against Hunger organization.

LUAH has awarded \$18,000 in grants to three overseas development projects for 1987.

World Neighbors will receive \$10,000 for an agricultural training and development project in Huancavelica, Peru. The region of Huancavelica is one of the poorest in Peru. Poor health and hygiene have contributed to the high infant mortality rates. Because of extreme poverty of the rural population, violence in the region has been common.

The World Neighbors project will train peasant farmers in grain and vegetable production, soil conservation, animal husbandry and health and family planning. The project will expand as the trained farmers then train others in the region in the newly acquired skills. The program will affect 200 communities. All leadership is Peruvian.

Commenting on the effectiveness of the program, Senor Moscoso, a provincial minister for education, said, "We find that our people are susceptible to promises of more food and without the ability to help ourselves we will be exploited by politicians and terrorists . . . But if we develop ourselves, with World Neighbor's help, there will be less

reason for people to resort to violence."

Coordination in Development (Codel) will receive \$7000 for a self help agricultural project for young adults in Zambia.

Zambian youths who migrate to urban areas to find jobs have been unable to find work due to high levels of unemployment. LUAH's funds will enable young adults to remain in rural areas where they will be able to become self sufficient.

The young adults in the Codel program will develop land given to them by the local government. When it has been developed their cooperative will receive title to the land.

The project includes training and resources for producing maize and vegetables, operating a mill and raising poultry. LUAH committee members were excited about the opportunity for self sufficiency provided in this project.

The Eritrean Relief Committee will receive \$1000 for the purchase of oxen to be used by farmers in the Eritrean region of northern Ethiopia. Twenty-four years of war and five years of drought have contributed to the severe famine in Eritrea.

In the devastating Eritrean war with Ethiopia villages have been destroyed,

crops burned, draft animals killed, one-fifth of the population displaced and the region's economy completely disrupted.

The oxen purchased by LUAH will be an important part of comprehensive cooperative efforts on the part of the Eritreans to improve their situation.

Furr, whose primary ministry with

Long Run Association is in the area of local missions and ministries, expanded his influence and chaired the committee which selected the sites to receive aid from LUAH, an interfaith organization which seeks to raise awareness about hunger and encourage united response.



Members of a Sunday school class at Highview Baptist Church, Long Run Association, recently painted Hunter Cottage on the Spring Meadows Children's Home campus, Middletown. Pictured at work are Gary Patterson, Goldie Logsdon, Betty Patterson and Harold Skidmore. William Hancock is pastor at Highview Church.

## The Cooperative Program



## People Serving People



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## Future substance requires meaningful preparation

As I grow older, I reflect more about the meaning of life, and I give considerable thought to that which will be a part of the future. More and more I want to do something for Jesus that has substance and meaning. The study of God's Word reveals to me that life is made meaningful by the measure we give of ourselves to care for the needs of others.

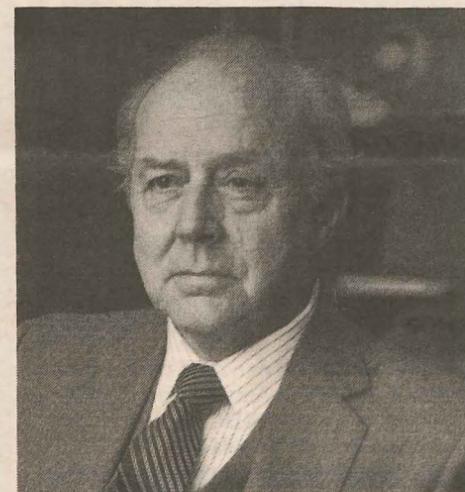
Over the period of time I have been with Baptist Homes for Children, I have seen many people discover that one of the most meaningful things they can do is to make an investment in the lives of others in memory of their loved ones. I am reminded of a very lovely lady, who is now with the Lord, who wanted to be sure her parents were memorialized. She gave several significant gifts for the care of dependent, neglected and troubled children in memory of her parents.

### Moore Notes

by Tom Moore  
Director of Development

I remember also driving the better part of a day to see a lady who had just a few months before lost her husband. It was very evident that she dearly loved her husband and cherished his memory. She said that when she began to consider making a memorial to her husband, she reflected on the way he loved children, and especially those who had little or no opportunity in this life. She said she knew it was only fitting to place the memorial with Baptist Homes for Children.

Both of these ladies placed their memorials in permanent endowment, and it is there to sustain Christ's ministry to children until



Tom Moore

He comes again. Both, along with scores of others, found a way to do something for Jesus that had meaning and substance.

These ladies used cash gifts, but many others have used real estate, securities, jewelry, mortgages, and wills to establish memorials to loved ones.

Many of you have given serious thought to investing in the lives of children. If you need to talk about your desires or to explore the possibilities of such an investment, I am available to discuss such plans at your convenience. Discussing your plans with me brings no obligation on your part whatsoever—I am here to help you to do what you want to do.

Please fill out the information below and send to Tom Moore, Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, 10801 Shelbyville Road, Louisville, Kentucky 40243, or you may call Doris Raymer on our toll-free number (1-800-292-9440) to make an appointment.

Please call me for an appointment:

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Address.....  
Telephone.....

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 Please send information about memorials.  
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 Please send information about charitable unitrust.  
 Please send information about the "Beyond This Time endowment campaign.

Clip and send to:

Tom Moore, Director of Development  
Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children  
10801 Shelbyville Road  
Middletown, Kentucky 40243  
Telephone: 1-800-292-9440



# Hopewell starts sister church in Mombasa, Kenya

by Pauline Stegall,  
State Correspondent

Hopewell Baptist Church, Caldwell-Lyon Association, has a young sister church which bears its own name. It was born in Mombasa, Kenya this summer and is now thriving with 46 members.

Jimmy Gibbs, pastor at Hopewell (Kentucky), and three of his members, Don Short, Ronnie McPherson and Kenny Aldridge, saw an immediate need for a church in the Nyallie Bridge area when they were in Kenya recently.

They preached at the bridge where hundreds of people were saved. In addition, Short, who had seen many decisions for Christ in the same area last summer, soon renewed his acquaintance with pastor/interpreter Nathan.

The Kentucky group soon felt they were being led to sponsor Nathan in a church near the ferry. He already had a house church, but it was several miles away. When the ferry travelers made decisions, there was no nearby church to which they could be referred.

One Sunday nine members from Nathan's church (even though they had

walked five miles) met near the ferry. Sixteen were saved and added to the group.

The Kentuckians thought the church could be promoted by buying a tent. Naming it Hopewell seemed to be appropriate.

"Old" Hopewell agreed to pay Nathan's salary for six months. And since the group returned to the states, a building was started. Members from Caldwell Blue Springs, Little River Association, have gone to Kenya and finished the roof on "new" Hopewell.

Opportunities for ministering were rampant. Missionary Ralph Bethea wanted the Kentuckians to meet Pat Sullivan, a doctor from Oklahoma. Traveling to the village where Sullivan was treating the sick, they saw children with protruding stomachs and swollen eyes caused by worms. Some of them were beyond responding to penicillin.

Healthy men crowded around Sullivan, wanting handouts of any kind, while women with sick children stayed in the back. The doctor told the interpreter to tell the men to step back and let the women with the sick children come in first. The men expressed their displeasure by much jabbering, but did let the women come forward.

Gibbs said, "I would cry a minute and then I would pray."

One native pastor needed money for a dowry. He had married a woman from Tanzania and had to pay her family \$18 or one cow. They would come and get his



Don Short and Kenyan pastor Nathan examine a new bicycle provided by money from Hopewell Baptist Church, Caldwell-Lyon Association. The congregation is sponsoring a sister church in Mombasa with the same name.

wife if the dowry was not paid. The Americans gave him the money.

The desire to help almost led the Lyon County group into trouble at one time. With money which people at home had donated, they hoped to provide water for the natives who had to buy their water. Charles Macurau, the native pastor, led them to the water hole. The city government sells the water and some of the men make their living selling it from carts.

One of the Moslem men started talking loud and attracting a group of people. It was obvious that tension was rising, so Gibbs' group appealed to Macurau.

"Yes," he said, "things are getting heated. We are in the middle of Shiite Moslems."

The group left immediately. Macurau had hoped to go there and convert some of the Shiites, a radical group of Moslems. But the instigator had told the gathering the Americans were there to take the water away from

the people and to put the water sellers out of business.

Christian work is growing so fast in Kenya that opposition among the Shiites is increasing.

Some of the money donated by Hopewell was used to buy bicycles for native pastors. The need was great. Most pastors are so poor they have to walk everywhere.

A unique presentation ceremony was organized. "The pastors were so pleased—just as excited as they would have been over a new car. Some would try to clap their hands for joy as they rode and almost fell," Gibbs recalls. "Three of our men rode bicycles through the town to the court house where they had to buy licenses."

He thinks the greatest outcome of the trip is that Hopewell Baptist Church (Kentucky) has planted seeds that will enable Jesus Christ to continue to work through Nathan, his church, Southern Baptists and the Kentucky-Kenya link-up.

**Baker Baptist Church** near Marion is one of almost 400 Kentucky churches that have adopted the **EXPANDED CHURCH ANNUITY PLAN.**

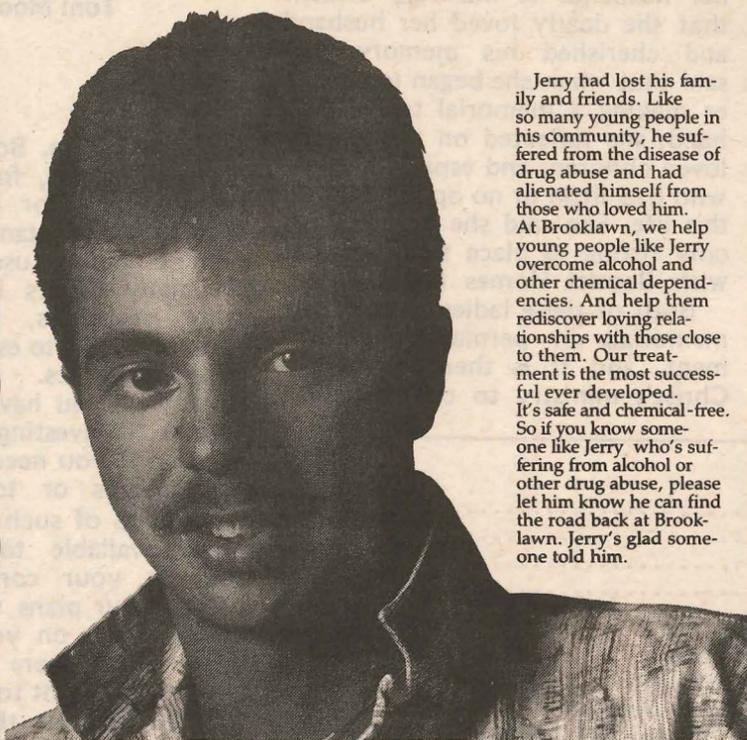


**YOUR CHURCH** can be a part of this plan. Contact the Annuity Board (800) 262-0511 or your **KBC Annuity Department** (502) 245-4101.

## correction

The July 27 issue containing the Annuity Board Conference advertisement reported the Aug. 11 meetings begin at 7:30 P.M. The correct time is 10:00 a.m. at the following churches: Pollard, Ashland; Lone Oak, Paducah and Bethlehem, Louisville.

# FOUND



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**Information:** Write to Mrs. Lillian Butler  
2921 Taylor Boulevard  
Louisville, KY 40206

# Pulaski Baptists dedicate Trinity Springs park

by Denise Spencer,  
State Correspondent

Anytime a church dedicates a facility there is reason to rejoice. June 7 was a time of celebration for not one, but 62 churches.

The date marked the formal opening of Trinity Springs Baptist Park, Pulaski Association. The park is a 14-acre tract of land owned by the association, and its dedication was a milestone in the park's four year history.

Trinity Springs is the 83-year-old association's first attempt at centralized ministry and recreation. David Acre, director of missions stated the idea did not originate with any one individual. Rather, for some time "various people felt the association needed a central piece of property."

A survey done in an associational meeting revealed what the members had in mind: five to 15 acres in or near Somerset. The property was to be used for recreation, fellowship and housing the associational office and clothing center.

The association's executive board directed the moderator to appoint a property search committee. Landis Reese was the committee chairman.

Reese approached Correll enterprises, owned by Ward Ray and Blaine Correll of Somerset. He was investigating the possibility of buying property owned by the company. The Corrells decided instead to donate the land to Pulaski Association.

That was four years ago. Many hours of work have since gone into clearing the tract and shaping the park into existence. Trinity Springs now includes a softball field, volleyball court, horseshoe site, picnic spots and a pavillion with a 200-person capacity. A maintenance and concession building is under construction. The pavillion and concession building have been done by contract, but the rest of the work has been accomplished by volunteers and contributions.

Pulaski Association initially took out a \$400,000 loan. Several churches participated in a "Walk for Christ" that

raised \$18,000. Three churches have been giving monthly gifts toward the park's development.

All associational churches were asked to bring an offering to the dedication. The largest single gift of \$2500 came from High Street Baptist Church. Other churches have supplied generous gifts of money and labor.

The current fundraiser is "Coins for the Cause." Every Sunday school member between the ages of six and 26 will be given a coin purse and encouraged to collect coins each month.

Trinity Springs is located off Mill Street in Somerset. It is a quiet hollow where many varieties of trees and birds abound. A border of woods surrounding the cleared spaces masks the signs of city life nearby.

The association voted on the name "Trinity Springs" at its annual meeting in April. The name is derived from the three natural springs that flow through the park.

Almost 300 people from 31 associational churches joined in dedicating the

park. Kentucky Baptist Convention president A. B. Colvin, Wally Miller of the state Sunday School Department and F. Ross Figart Jr., director of Mountain Missions, were in attendance.

President Colvin delivered the dedication message. Somerset mayor Smith Vanhook gave a "Visions for the Venture" speech. C. E. Jacobs, pastor of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, challenged Pulaski Baptists to use Trinity Springs "for God's glory."

The highlight of the dedication was a ribbon-cutting ceremony in which two members from each church cut a section of ribbon with their church's name on it.

Trinity Springs was in use even before the dedication. In May an associational children's choir presented a musical directed by Gary Clark of High Street Baptist Church. Late May saw the start of a 10-week recreation program and Bible club led by Joey Kent of Somerset and Lenell Bell of Monticello.

Other activities planned for the summer include an associational youth picnic, a GA day camp, Billy Graham films and a Labor Day softball tournament.

Aker also revealed future plans for basketball leagues, senior citizens' walking trails, a children's playground and a stage for indoor dramas and concerts. A basketball court and running track are to be paved this summer. A tennis court will be paved next year. This winter an architect will begin planning an activity center to house recreation facilities, associational offices and the Pulaski Baptist clothing center.

Aker hopes to see a drop-in day care center for children whose parents are using the facilities. "Our ambition is that every member of a family can come together and go home together, even if they do different things while they are here."

Jacobs summed up Pulaski Association's dreams for Trinity Springs in his dedication address. "In the park can be found an opportunity for the churches of the county and area to work together, to do something together. . . . It is a chance for us to get outside our churches, to a larger church family. It will mean somebody is going to get saved here."

## Joe Parks: Cooking for kingdom's kids at camp

by Beth Wyatt, State Correspondent

Joe Parks, 73, is the first one to arrive and often the last to leave Howard Memorial Baptist Camp, Upper Cumberland Association.

"I wonder how we would have camp without Joe Parks," Mrs. Nashby Mills said. "He has been here as long as the camp."

Parks recalls, "During those first years, the camp had a kitchen and dining room in its only building. The youngsters slept in the dining room. Each morning they rolled up their beds and we set up the tables."

Parks was once responsible for all three meals. But, this year area churches brought lunch and dinner.

A native of Whitley County, Parks settled in the Harlan area following World War II. His wife Ruth is a Harlan County school teacher.

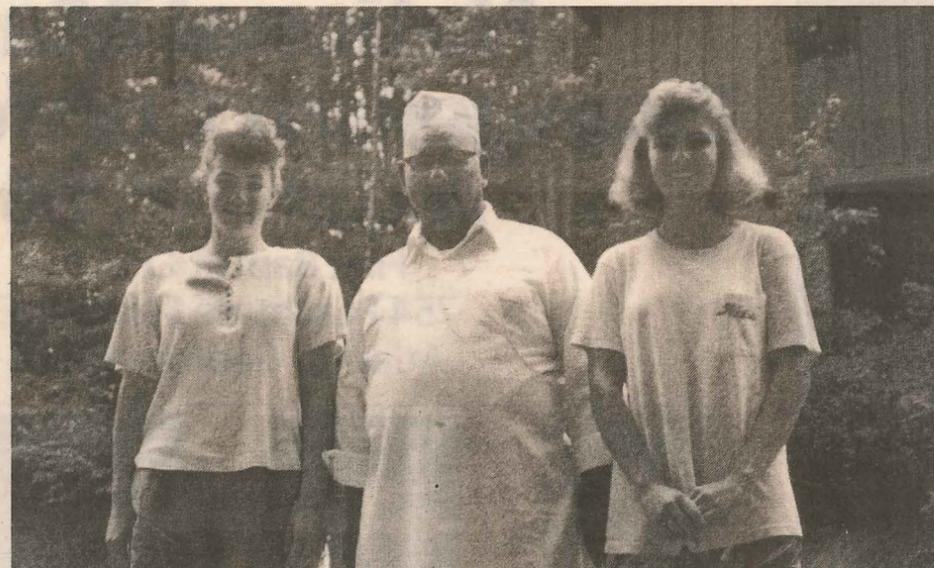
When he entered the military as a young adult, he was selected along with several others for kitchen duty. Of the entire group he was the only one to remain in the kitchen. When his unit was sent overseas he earned the rank of corporal. After spending five years in the military, he returned home and enlisted in the National Guard, where he served 11 years as a cook.

The Parkses do not have any children of their own, but they have many from her 40 years of teaching and his 22 years of driving a county school bus. Failing eyesight forced him to retire 10 years ago but that did not slow him down. He joined the cooking staff of the Loyall Elementary School.

Parks is very organized. He cannot recall having come up short on food at the camp during 26 years of cooking. Hours before each meal he checks the supplies and lays out the necessary ingredients for the meal. "That way I never run short," he smiled.

Parks is an active member of Wallins Baptist Church and very active in associational work.

Howard Memorial Camp was begun in 1961 under the direction of director of missions Mack Presley, now DOM in Boone's Creek Association. Presley loves to tell of those days with Parks. Parks was in the National Guard then



Joe Parks is shown with Susan Jordan and Jennifer Smith who have attended Howard Memorial for nine and 10 years respectively.

and the guard camp and Howard Memorial Camp sessions were falling on the same days. So, Parks left the guard and gave his time to the children.

According to Presley it was a shock for some of the ladies who were accustomed to being in charge of the kitchen to learn a man would be preparing the meals. But after doing the shopping and waiting until the first meal was not only prepared but edible, they gave him the kitchen.

Presley also commented that after he left eastern Kentucky for a pastorate he brought a group to the mountain area each summer to conduct vacation Bible schools. "We always stayed at the camp and the workers looked forward to coming back year after year to Joe Parks' pancakes. He was always there to greet us no matter what time we arrived," he concluded.

J. W. Lester and Mrs. Mills complete the list of missionaries he has worked with for the past two and a half decades. Several years ago he built a cabin near the dining hall. But when the family of the late Roscoe Douglas wanted to do something to honor their parents, he sold that cabin to them and built another for himself down the hill from the kitchen and dining quarters.

He is considering a camper or motor home as his years and health problems make climbing the hills around the Happy Top community camp more difficult. No matter . . . Parks says he does not plan to be absent from camp as long as the Lord gives him the strength.

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

## clear creek comment

### Investing for eternity

We conclude our alumni conference today with great preaching by A. B. Colvir, wonderful fellowship and all the latest news about our alumni. One of these outstanding graduates is Robert Pryor.

A few months ago I was privileged to preach in South Jefferson Baptist Church, Louisville, where Don Coleman is pastor. Pryor was a member of this fine church when God called him (and his dear wife Pearl) to full time ministry.

Like so many others, Pryor answered God's call later in life. He was 47 years old when he came to Clear Creek! He was a student here from 1973 until 1976, pastoring Turkey Creek Baptist Church, Knox County, while in school.

After graduation he pastored Calvary Baptist Church, Irvine, three years. Then he accepted a call from Buck Grove Baptist Church, Brandenburg, in June 1979. He preached his first Sunday at Buck Grove and died suddenly that night of a heart attack.

Pryor's death was certainly untimely but not tragic! Some years before he had given his life to Christ and surrendered all rights to it. In God's providence his homegoing was sooner and more unexpected than any of us anticipated. Pryor is absent from the body but present with the Lord. And his ministry lives on.

Some of Pryor's friends at South Jefferson Baptist Church, led by Mr. and Mrs. Mickey Arnold, have established the Robert N. Pryor Memorial Scholarship Fund. This is a unique way to honor this dedicated man's life and ministry. Pearl will be present at Clear Creek Aug. 26 to present \$800 scholarship awards to two deserving students.

Everyone who has given to this fund has a part in honoring Pryor's memory. His short-lived ministry continues through the lives of these students who are helped through school. Everyone who contributes to the memorial fund will be investing in eternity.

Mickey Arnold is the chairman of the Pryor Fund. He recently wrote, "Many of us feel the appropriate way to honor and remember his short-lived ministry is to establish a scholarship fund for the purpose of educating preachers, evangelists and missionaries to proclaim the gospel from now until the Lord comes."

Pryor is characteristic of all our alumni. Today this column is dedicated to honoring him and them. May our lives be spent (like theirs) in investing for eternity!

# baptist forum

### A political power takes over SBC

Let's keep our 140 years of Southern Baptist heritage. This talk of a takeover in 10 years with full control of our seminaries, boards and all other agencies started in 1979 with manipulating methods of the past and present presidents of the SBC.

I attended the Dallas and Atlanta conventions. I, as well as others, saw a group of men over-impressed with themselves and strutting with great arrogance knowing they had the committee stacked with their own people.

This inerrancy thing is a smoke screen for people who want power. With what I have seen and heard, they will go to any length to gain positions of power. Do we want a dictator in our Baptist denomination? NO.

Which shall we choose, the president of the SBC and all his colleagues working hand-in-glove to rule over all our agencies or to follow Christ and his teachings?

I believe most of our 14.4 million SBC members feel as I do. We are to be in

obedience to Christ and follow him, not a man.

I have sat under the preaching of many great pastors in the city churches and in other states. I belong to a 2000 member church now. I know they are not "chicken preachers" as stated by a former president of the SBC. They preach the inspired word of God and they believe it from Genesis to Revelation.

Editor, I commend you on the superb job you are doing with Western Recorder. You give it pro and con. We are behind you 100 percent.

Helen Sparrow  
Harrodsburg

### Praise for Children's Homes staff

Kentucky Baptists have a marvelous opportunity during these days to support the establishment of a \$3 million endowment for our Homes for Children.

As a participant at the local level it has been my privilege to observe Eldred Taylor, Tom Moore and staff leading in

the "Beyond this Time" campaign.

These leaders with staff members Robin Oldham, Donna Reynolds, Margie Jagers and Kevin Borders have given hours "above and beyond the call" to this stewardship effort.

Our prayers are for the success of this effort with a special thank the Lord for Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Moore, other husbands and wives who are sharing their spouses so generously in the conduct of this effort.

As a former school administrator I have a sense of the organization and effort expended in scheduling, preparing materials and in the mailing efforts required to carry out this program effectively and efficiently.

Thank God for this leadership and thanks, too, for every person who has or will have responded to this effort before the closing date.

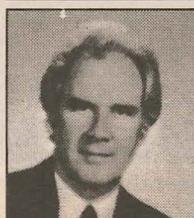
My own efforts have been minimal in this work but I would be grossly remiss were I not to thank God for leaders like those directing this work.

Chester C. Redmon  
Bowling Green

# National Mass Evangelism Conference

August 17-21, 1987

First Baptist Church  
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#### MUSIC EVANGELISM

August 17-18

Valuable information on how to build an evangelistic music program in your church.

#### PROGRAM PERSONALITIES

Larry Black, FBC, Jackson, Miss.  
Mark Blankenship, Music Design Editor, Church Music Department, Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.  
Alan Celoria, Evangelist, Smithdale, Miss.  
Billy Jack Green, Eastside Baptist Church, Marietta, Ga.  
John Glover, FBC, Atlanta, Ga.  
Ragan Vandergriff, FBC, Orlando, Fla.  
Jim Whitmire, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn.

Registration cost: \$25.00

#### REVIVAL TRAINING

SEMINAR

August 19-20

Information on how to prepare for and conduct successful revival meetings.

#### PROGRAM PERSONALITIES

Bill Cathey, Evangelism, Dallas, Tex.  
Bob Hamblin, Vice Pres., Home Mission Board, Evangelism  
Larry Lewis, President, Home Mission Board  
James Merritt, Pastor, Snellville, Ga.  
Jack Price, Evangelist, Dallas, Tex.  
Nelson Price, Pastor, Roswell Street Baptist Church, Marietta, Ga.  
Jay Strack, Evangelist, Dallas, Tex.  
Jim Whitmire, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn.

Registration cost: \$25.00

#### AREA CRUSADE

PREPARATION SEMINAR

August 20-21

Information on how to prepare for and conduct successful area crusades.

#### PROGRAM PERSONALITIES

Wayne Bristow, Evangelism, Oklahoma City, Okla.  
Joey Hancock, Forest Park, Ga.  
Ernie Eudy, Evangelist, Dallas, Tex.  
Jack Price, Evangelist, Dallas, Tex.  
Felix Snipes, Evangelist, Atlanta, Ga.  
Jay Strack, Evangelist, Dallas, Tex.

Registration cost: \$25.00

Registration cost for all three conferences: \$50.00  
Monday and Tuesday evenings are without cost to attendee.

Send registration fees to Mass Evangelism Department, Home Mission Board, 1350 Spring Street, NW, Atlanta, GA 30367-5601

Hotel/motel reservations will be handled individually by conferees.  
For reservations call: (404) 898-7787.

A Southern Baptist Convention agency supported by the Cooperative Program and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.



**HMB actions speak, not words**

I read with interest the article concerning Larry Lewis' strong emphasis on leading the Home Mission Board to help Southern Baptists win and baptize a million new believers by the year 2000. As I read your article an old proverb came to mind, "Actions speak louder than words."

One, the HMB passed a policy on church pastoral aid that violates the autonomy of a local church in whom that church calls as a pastor; two, it denigrates God-called women and their ministries by making them responsible for the "edenic fall"; three, the president of the HMB has already said those who cannot subscribe to the Peace Committee's findings "must be replaced"—far more than what members of the Peace Committee intended.

It seems to me the last year of actions on the part of the HMB and in the first two months of Lewis' tenure speak more clearly about how missions will be done and if it can even be effective than any sincere words spoken by the president of the HMB.

Steve Watkins, student  
Southern Seminary  
Louisville

**The lottery is Satan's deception**

Lottery! This word was used by one of Kentucky's candidates for governor in the recent primary. This word is going to be a platform in November. I am a church staff member in Illinois, but since I am a Kentucky native, it alarms me to see my state make a bad decision.

In Illinois the lottery has not raised the extra money needed and now our governor is wanting to raise taxes. I see people buy lottery tickets in the grocery and then turn around and use food stamps to pay for their groceries. A lottery is nothing but gambling.

God's word speaks against gambling. As Southern Baptists we can join together and vote against candidates who support the lottery and we can preach and teach what God's word tells us.

Write the Christian Life Commission and ask for information they have on gambling and the lottery. When you vote and support a candidate, check to see that he is Christian and will stand for "one nation under God."

Satan tries to deceive us in the game of lottery. Kentucky Baptists, rise up and put on the full armor of God.

Rick Hatley  
Marion, Ill.

**Pastor offers solution to controversy**

A sad day has come upon Southern Baptists. As I read my weekly copy of Western Recorder I am truly saddened at the

amount of misinformation spread by various groups. Charges fly from both camps that are doing nothing to build and strengthen the cause of Christ

I must confess I cannot see what the controversy is all about. There can be no question with regard to the integrity and accuracy of God's word. After all, it is his word. God does not make mistakes. His word cannot be destroyed because of who he is.

While we are debating something that was settled before time began, millions are dying and going into eternity unprepared to meet God. It seems to me a simple solution would be to follow Jesus' command in Matt. 6:33, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you."

We have come to the place in history where we put aside what we think and accept something that has stood the test of time—the word of God.

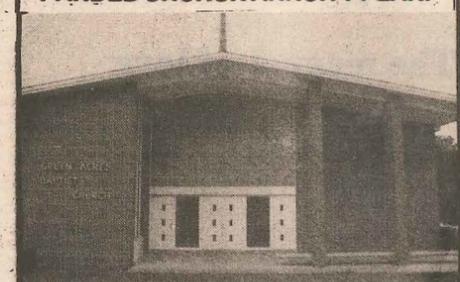
It is my prayer Southern Baptists will unite to fulfill the commandment to take

the gospel into all the world. While I do not agree with all my brothers or sisters in Christ, I love each of them and respect their right to their own opinion. However, we must never come to the place where we put what we think above what God says.

Dwight D. Bond, pastor  
Bellview Baptist Church  
Allegre

*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.*

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

# oneida journal

## The magnet of love

Oneida has been a Baptist school from the day it was first conceived in the heart and mind of James Anderson Burns. The word Baptist formed the middle word of our school's name from the very beginning. The school's charter was signed in the old log Riverside Church, a crude house of worship a half mile west of our campus on the waters of Goose Creek.

Over half of those first trustees had to make their "X" mark on the school's charter as they could neither read nor write. Their leader had only 17 months of formal education. Yet these illiterate and near illiterate men started a school that serves today. Baptist people of Kentucky and many states were inspired by the boldness of their faith and helped them to turn their vision of love and Christian education into reality.

Not only Baptists but people of many persuasions shared and still share. Baptists have, naturally, been our most generous supporters. But it is also a fact that our work could not have been carried on without the generous help of

Presbyterians, Methodists, and even Catholics. Whatever their denomination, each, too, has claimed Jesus as both savior and Lord and that is all that it takes to make them our brothers and sisters in Christ.

A monthly donor recently wrote from Oxford, Oh.: "Just got back from our yearly prayer retreat of the Southwest Ohio Women of the Church of God. I am so proud of Oneida Baptist Institute. I've heard you say, 'God is our foundation.' That is the reason for the success and growth of the school."

With the letter was her usual \$20. A retired Presbyterian minister in Weaverville, N. C., regularly blesses us with a \$30 gift and a copy of the bulletin of his church. He lifts us up in prayer and often writes words of blessing and encouragement.

For about five summers hundreds of Methodist young people lived on our campus, while they helped repair the homes of the poor in our county. Many of these are today faithful supporters of this Baptist work. One of their leaders wrote: "Your assistance provided the support which was needed for us to be in effective ministry to both families and volunteer youth. Thanks so much for letting our groups stay at your school. Without a place to house the volunteer groups, our ministry of repairing homes would not be possible. Thanks also for being a resource in leading a weekly evening session. Our volunteers all expressed appreciation for the stories and information that you relayed to them."

Yes, these paying guests also fell in love with our work. One of them, now a missionary in Australia, sends generous gifts and warm letters like: "It looks as though we'll be in Australia a few more years, so no visits to OBI in the near future. However, I do plan to return sometime. With inflation and all that, I suppose it is harder to make ends meet, but if anyone can do it, you can. I am enclosing a check for \$200 from my wife and myself to help things along."

A Catholic couple (he an AP White House photographer for over 30 years) from West River, Md., write: "We think of Oneida often and the wonderful work you do. Say a prayer for us and we'll do the same." With their letter was \$25.

A Catholic organization regularly gives us a \$1000 yearly scholarship. Their last letter said: "We wish to compliment you in your good work. We are hopeful this will be a continuing scholarship."

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**H. C. Chiles**  
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# sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR AUGUST 9, 1987

Life and Work Series

## A leader's lifestyle

**I Timothy 3:1-7** Before a man can qualify for bishop or pastor of a New Testament church, he must have had an experience of grace, an assurance of salvation, an unblemished reputation, an ability to preach, a call from God, a heart of compassion, an unquestioned sincerity and a willingness to sacrifice.

If a man is to exercise oversight of a church in a Christ-honoring manner, he must be blameless, not a polygamist, vigilant, serious-minded, hospitable, an abstainer from intoxicants, not greedy, patient, peaceful, generous, one who rules his household well, humble and dependable.

The tremendous responsibility of proclaiming the gospel of Christ merits the highest qualifications, the most thorough preparation and the most diligent efforts any noble life can produce.

**I Timothy 3:8-13** The deaconship is dishonored when it is regarded as a post

of honor rather than a medium of service.

Like a pastor, a deacon should be a man of Christian character, genuine piety, wisdom and sound judgment. If a deacon is to set a worthy example, he must be serious-minded, trustworthy, an abstainer from alcoholic beverages, not covetous and must not have more than one living wife.

A good deacon will assist in building church attendance, care for the sick, create a strong fellowship, witness to the unsaved and look after church finances.

International Series

## God's unchanging purpose

Multitudes insist on trying to earn the forgiveness of their sins and eternal life by their noble thoughts, unselfish deeds, generous contributions and so-called "good works," but all such attempts fail. Salvation is never a human achievement, but always a gift from the loving and merciful God. Through spurning the grace of God, stumbling over the teaching of salvation by grace through faith in Christ, refusing to accept the righteousness of God as a gift and trying to obtain it through human efforts, many Jews deprived themselves of the salvation which had been made available to them.

**Romans 10:12-17** After one believes on Christ as savior, he is obligated to confess him as such before others. This great salvation is offered to both Jew and Gentile. Because the message of salvation by grace through faith in Christ is for all men, it must be carried to those who have never heard it. Our possession of the gospel and the command of Christ to proclaim it have placed us under an obligation from which there is no exemption. It is our privilege and duty to share the gospel with all.

**Romans 11:1** Paul reminded those to whom he was writing he was both a Jew and a Christian. He was aware that the first Christians were Jews and acknowledging the majority of Jews had rejected Christ, he was grateful a remnant had become believers.

**Romans 11:33-36** These verses are the conclusion of the doctrinal portion of the epistle, and they are related to the doctrine of salvation and justification through the preceding chapter.

God intended both Jews and Gentiles to hear the only plan of salvation and that to be assured that those who receive Christ would be saved.



Leonard

## Glimpses of our heritage

## The Baptist ship on storm-tossed seas

by Bill Leonard

In 1964 Franklin Owen, then pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Lexington, was elected president of the Kentucky Baptist

Convention.

Western Recorder editor C. R. Daley observed that "one of the most wholesome events in the convention was the election of officers. Completely free of politics, it was a lovely thing to experience."

Daley continued, "Because denominational politics can be some of the worst kind and because striving for pre-eminence is so out of line with the teaching of Jesus, the picture this year at the Kentucky convention was unusually encouraging. Come to think of it, it has been this way for several years now."

One year later Franklin Owen delivered the president's address. It was a sermon which confronted the crucial issues of the day directly and courageously. The sermon, entitled "The Baptist ship on Storm-Tossed Seas," raised the question of Baptist ability to confront and withstand the onslaught of a variety of contemporary problems and issues.

His intent, Owen insisted, was not to offer easy solutions but to raise crucial

questions to which Southern Baptists should respond.

First, Owen addressed the growing "ecumenical movement" evident among Christian groups in the 1960s. While he advocated no organic union with other denominations, Owen did encourage Kentucky Baptists to recognize diversity while working with other Christians in the common work of Christ.

Owen declared: "Let us be sure it is Christ whom we worship and uphold. Not necessarily a pre-millennial Christ, nor yet a post-millennial Christ, nor a conservative Christ, nor a liberal Christ—no—nor yet even a Baptist Christ. But Christ and Baptists for Christ's sake rather than Christ for Baptists' sake."

Second, Owen turned to the question of biblical interpretation. He concluded "the better the word is understood, the wider the word is opened. . . ." He also urged Kentucky Baptists to remember "these noble Christian servants in the scholastic community have an obliga-

tion to come honestly to grips with viewpoints and schools of thought that most of us don't have to worry about."

Third, he noted that Southern Baptists were "already late" in their response to the issues of racism and integration sweeping America. He insisted, "We must all dare to make whatever progress we can . . . so that movement is ever toward the day when men made in the image of God have equal value in the sight of one another."

Finally, Owen insisted Kentucky Baptists must hold fast to their heritage of religious liberty. He asked, "Is separation of church and state the end goal? or is separation of church and state the means to the end, which is religious freedom?"

Franklin Owen served Kentucky Baptists well. He was later to become state executive secretary. But he was never more eloquent, more prophetic and more Baptist than in his presidential address in 1965. His words must not be forgotten.

# Church finds scripture distribution, evangelism go together

by Jim Lowry

For Southern Baptists, scripture distribution might be the catalyst which sets in motion new progress toward winning the world to Jesus Christ.

In Credo, W. Va., members of First Baptist Church are reaching out in their community by giving away New Testaments in nearly every situation where they contact prospects or make visits.

"Good News America, God Loves You" New Testaments are given away by church members during weekly visitation, as well as in visits to hospitals, senior adult retirement homes and to youth who "hang out" in the downtown area.

Use of the New Testaments has been cultivated as a lifestyle for church members by pastor Wade Armstrong, who said he has seen people grow in confidence and security where fear formerly controlled their witnessing efforts.

"People become more confident when they give the word," Armstrong said. "They know they have sown the seed

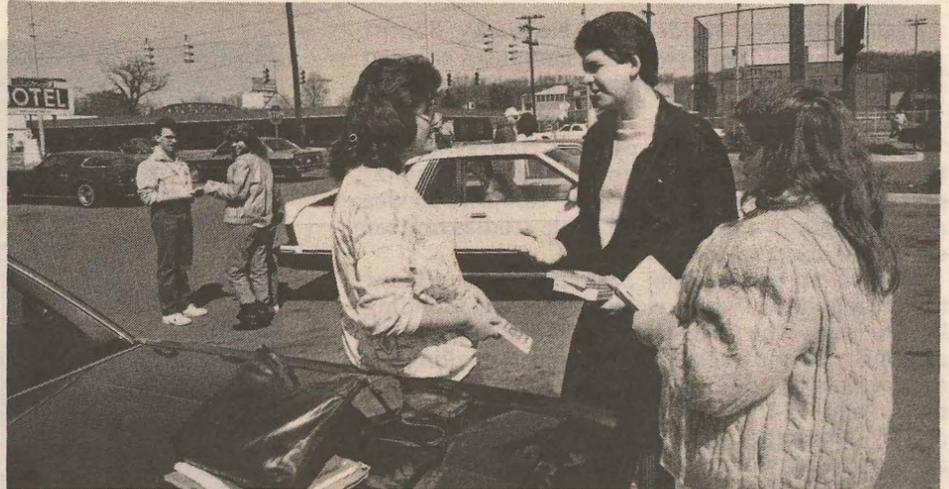
that is the sword of the Lord."

He added that when people give the Bible, it quickly goes beyond mechanics of giving away a book. "Enthusiasm carries over into their personal lives and the life of the church."

In one service, copies were provided to church members to mark and use in witnessing. Armstrong preached from one of the New Testaments, encouraging members to make personal notes so they would remember how to organize their witnessing efforts.

The "Good News America, God Loves You" testaments, which are published by Holman Division of the Baptist Sunday School Board, are marked with the plan of salvation to help individuals understand how to accept Christ. These testaments also are provided as pew Bibles in the church's auditorium.

Preaching from the marked copies gives his messages "a two-pronged approach," Armstrong said. "It fortifies church members with resources and allows lost persons to watch and learn how to be saved."



Charles Reber, associate pastor of First Baptist Church, Ceredo, W. Va., leads youth in witnessing and scripture distribution efforts.

Associate pastor Charles Reber has coordinated the scripture distribution effort. He said some 100 church members participate in the witnessing efforts.

"We give copies to new Sunday school members, newly saved persons and to new church members on the day they join," Reber said. "Several members have asked for copies to mail to unsaved relatives or give to neighbors.

"Scripture distribution gives shy members an outlet—almost an excuse—to witness where they normally wouldn't do it," he contended. "There is just something about a Bible that makes people accept it and not throw it away. There is a reverence which opens up another step, another visit."

In the 18 months of scripture distribution, adults and youth in the church have been involved, Reber said. Youth have witnessed to other youth who have joined the church. Middle and senior adults have had their personal witnessing strengthened.

In all this a unity has developed in the church, which has experienced steady growth in an economically depressed area where a significant number of people have moved away over the years.

The participation in scripture distribution was prompted by the partnership between the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists and the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. A gift of 10,000 New Testaments was made to West Virginia by the North Carolina convention.

Reber said Ceredo church members not only increased their efforts in evangelism, but in prayer as well through the scripture distribution project. Church members have matured through intercessory prayer instead of focusing on themselves.

"Handing out scripture breaks down barriers of fear and witnessing," Reber concluded. "It also gives church members a sense of accomplishment, affirmation and an avenue of obedience for expressing their commitment.



Phil Wells, deacon at First Baptist Church, Ceredo, W. Va., frequently offers a copy of the scriptures to people he visits in hospitals.

## Youth leaders, parents need hands-on experience with teens

by Terri Lackey

Continual interaction with youth as well as an understanding of their physical, emotional and mental growth patterns is needed for a parent or youth leader to understand today's young people, a seminar leader said.

"Experience is absolutely vital if you are going to learn what's normal and what's not normal in today's kids," said DeRema Dunn, a conference leader who taught the Convention Press book, *Understanding Today's Youth*, during the Church Training Leadership Conference at Glorieta (N. M.) Baptist Conference Center.

A youth worker at Shiloh Terrace Baptist Church, Dallas, Tex. and mother of a 17-, 15- and 12-year old, Mrs. Dunn says she "understands youth a little more each day."

She said experience with young people coupled with a knowledge about their emotional, physical and mental growth patterns makes for a fairly good understanding of "what young people are about."

Mrs. Dunn said the first three years of a person's life is the only time when bodily, emotional and intellectual changes are greater than they are when a young person hits puberty.

"We need to be aware that young people are going through phenomenal growth spurts and that they are at a very awkward age," she said.

She claimed physical changes also include a heightened sexual awareness. "When discussing with my groups this week the problems they were having with their teens, the number one problem was sexual problems.

"Drugs are there too, but they are not as much of a problem with church youth as sexual morality," Mrs. Dunn stated.

She attributes the increasing sexual problem among youth to "the social condoning of sex. The media bombardment has made it look glorious—for everybody."

She said she believes sex education at an early age and an establishment of strict dating guidelines may aid youth in feeling more morally responsible when they reach dating age.

"Research shows youth who are given a strong, Christian atmosphere when they are growing up have fewer problems with drugs, sex and alcohol," Mrs. Dunn said.

"Parents must raise their children by nurturing them in the Lord," she said. "Youth need to feel secure and stable and, hopefully, they will get that from their home life."



## LANGUAGE MISSIONS DAY AUGUST 9, 1987

America: a patchwork of people from many nations bearing gifts that enrich our country.

Gifts brought by immigrants and refugees contributed to the development of traditional American folk art: cross-stitch (Peru), quilting (China), stenciling (Egypt and the Orient).

Using language and culture as channels for the gospel, Southern Baptists minister among 84 ethnic groups speaking 87 languages.

"Let all the nations be gathered together, . . . let them bring forth their witnesses" (Isa. 43:9).

Oscar I. Romo, Director • Language Missions Division • Home Mission Board, SBC • 1350 Spring Street, NW • Atlanta, GA 30367-5601

### Children's Homes enjoy camp

Again this year, residents of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children's two main campuses enjoyed a variety of camp experiences as part of their summer activities.

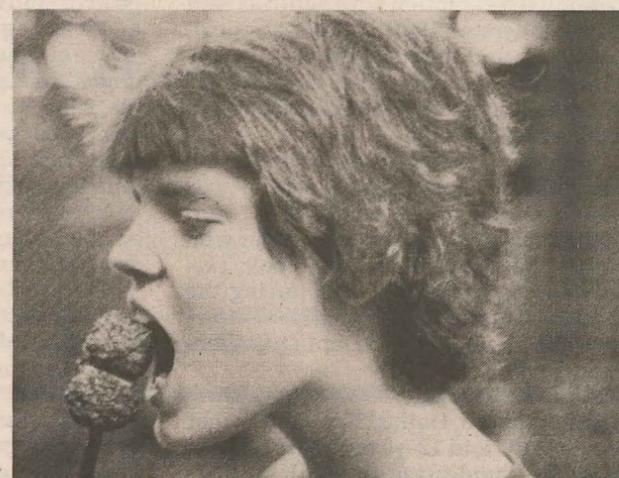
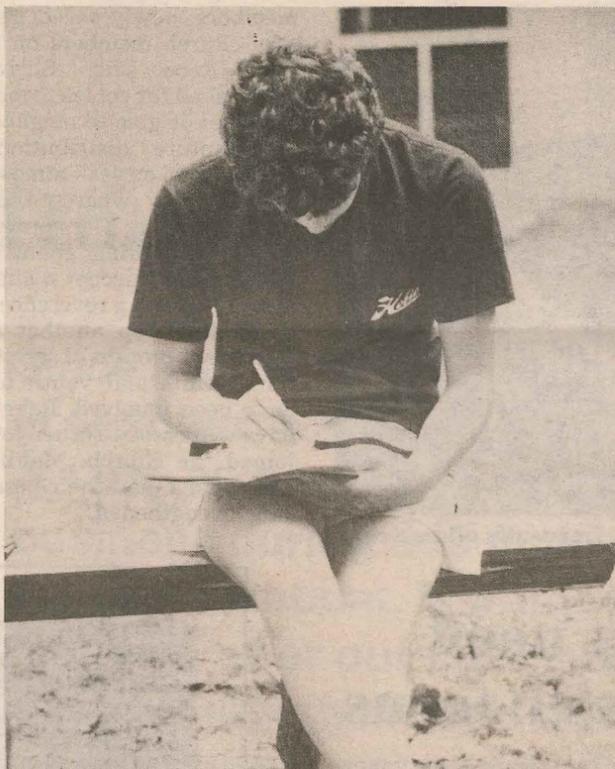
Visiting Camp Schafer outside Hawesville, Ky., the Spring Meadows campers enjoyed canoeing, swimming, sing-alongs, volleyball, campfire services and daily group activities and Bible studies on team unity and cooperation.

Geared at encouraging participants to discover their capabilities while viewing their surroundings in new ways, the Glen Dale camp was held on the campus' 500-plus acres. It featured rappelling and rock climbing, canoeing, a challenge course complete with 12-foot wall, archery and rifle ranges, crafts, swimming and overnight camp-outs as well as worship services and a tour of Mammoth Cave.

Glen Dale staff hosted the camp with assistance from members of the Campbellsville (Baptist College) Singers.

Likewise, staff from Spring Meadows Home conducted camp activities at Schafer. For cottage worker Patrick Wilkerson, the time was a chance "to get to know youth I don't usually work with and to enjoy a teaching role leading a group Bible study."

Co-worker J.T. Sutherland explains camp as "a chance for getting away. It's for slowing yourself down and enjoying an area that God's made and man's not altered. It's finding a tree or lonely spot to renew your acquaintance with God."



Camp experiences for residents of Glen Dale and Spring Meadows Children's Homes featured variety. Held at Camp Schafer, the Spring Meadows group enjoyed daily Bible study (top), group activities (center, right) and time for reflection (center.) The Glen Dale campers experienced marksmanship events, (center), toasting marshmallows (above) and tipping canoes (left).

Photos by Darrell Monroe