

Sunday School to 'Rekindle the Spirit' Oct. 9-10

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

They haven't held a state Sunday school convention in Kentucky since February 1976, a record of 11 years and eight months.

The record is about to be broken.

Wanna see the face of Chip Miller, director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Sunday School Department, light up like a Christmas tree? Ask him about the "cafeteria approach" convention he and a staff committee have been steadily developing for the last two years for Bowling Green Oct. 9-10.

There's literally "something for everyone" in the smorgasbord of 113 one-hour conferences to be offered during the 24-hour blitz, according to Miller.

"We've specifically steered clear of the traditional age-group concept of meetings for this convention," says Miller, preferring instead a "wide variety" of topics from which a hoped-for crowd of 1500 participants will choose.

"If you had a single conference leader, and he was having a bad day, you might get very little from him if you sat in his session all day," Miller intones. "With the cafeteria approach, you can select up to five options, greatly diversifying your interests and gaining a good all-around selection of topics and leaders. You're sure to hit the target that way."

Special interest conference topics are just as intriguing as the program format. Included are subjects such as "How to Lay an Egg," "Making the Small Sunday School Hum," "What Makes Adults Tick?," "Are We Having Fun Yet?," "My Temperament Equals My Discipline" and "Don't Throw It Away."

There will be six "tracks" of conferences to select from during the five hours of teaching periods. The tracks include sessions specifically geared to pastors, general officers and age-group workers in adult, youth, children and preschool departments and divisions.

Miller said that, in addition to many Kentucky Baptist Convention staffers, conference leaders will include the entire staff of the Tennessee Baptist Convention's Sunday School Department, plus Baptist Sunday School Board workers and others "highly trained and skilled."



Miller



Hewett



Piland



Page

Theme of the Friday night-and-Saturday learning experience is "Rekindle the Spirit." Miller is hoping to see a "breakthrough" in quality and quantity of Sunday school teaching in Kentucky. With about 376,000 presently on the rolls of Sunday schools across the state, Miller and staff have a goal of increasing that number by 5000 per year for five years. He noted that there had been a "marked increase" in study course awards and in attendance at training events in the last year, a method he points to in gauging improvement in Sunday school work.

Three key speakers will emphasize the "Rekindle the Spirit" theme during the Sunday school convention. They include John H. Hewett, pastor of First Baptist Church, Asheville, N. C., Friday night; Harry M. Piland, director of the Sunday School Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Saturday morning; and Charles D. Page, pastor of First Baptist Church, Nashville, Saturday afternoon. Each of the pastors

is "totally committed" to the use of the Sunday school as a "great evangelistic outreach" of the churches they serve, Miller allowed. Each has been "very supportive" of the Sunday school ministry in the places they have pastored.

The state Sunday school convention, hosted by Bowling Green's First Baptist Church, will be one of the most heavily promoted events ever sponsored in Kentucky. The Sunday School Department staff has prepared a 15-page action plan document available upon request to help churches in advertising the meeting to Sunday school workers. It includes a checklist of promotional ideas for each of the five weeks prior to the convention, starting Sept. 4. It proposes that promotional assignments in local churches be designated to four committees—enlistment, publicity, contact and transportation.

In addition, Miller and his professional staff of three associates—Jack Palmer, Wally Miller and Jewell Nelson—will spend one or more days in the

immediate area personally handshaking and inviting people to attend.

"We'll go to businesses, homes and churches in Warren Association and the associations surrounding it encouraging Sunday school leaders and church staffers to participate," says Miller. Their travels will be on a schedule devised by associational missionaries.

"We intend to leave no stone unturned," Miller confirms, "for once this opportunity is gone, it's gone."

There are no plans currently on the drawing board to repeat the convention. The state Sunday School Department will conduct a pastor-staff convention, exclusively for paid and volunteer staff members, in Louisville in 1989.

The Bowling Green convention begins with early bird conferences at 4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 9, for those who can arrive that early. The supper hour is at 5 p.m. with the opening general session at 7 p.m. in the auditorium of First Baptist Church. A one-hour smorgasbord conference session (with several options for each track) is set for 8-9 p.m.

The following day, Saturday, Oct. 10, general sessions are planned from 9-10 a.m. and 2:45-3:30 p.m. One-hour conferences with options are set for 10 and 11:15 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Each registrant will be responsible for his own lodging and meals. A list of motels in the area is available from the Sunday School Department, Box 43433, Middletown, KY 40243. There is no registration fee for the convention.

Baptists prominent in Oldham victory

by Jack Sanford, Editor

Baptists from the churches in Sulphur Fork Association helped the citizens of Oldham County defeat a proposal to make Oldham County wet.

The margin of victory was more than 2-1, with dry forces carrying every precinct in the county.

The surprising victory shocked wet forces in Oldham County who thought a change would come after more than 41 years because many residents have come into the county since it went dry in 1946.

The last election saw voters narrowly choose to keep the county dry, lending hope to wet forces this time around.

However, observers could not predict

the results this year because of the dramatic changes which have occurred in the county since 1946.

The population of the county has more than doubled—from 14,687 in 1970 to an estimated 30,700 last year, according to census information.

In 1980, according to state Commerce Cabinet Department statistics, 56 percent of Oldham County's work force commutes to jobs in Jefferson County, where alcohol is legal.

There was no official Baptist organization but Baptists were prominent in leadership roles with William Day, pastor of DeHaven Memorial Baptist Church, LaGrange, chairman of Citizens For Progress Without Alcohol. CFPWA was the citizen group which or-

ganized the campaign.

Vice chairman of the committee was Terry Powell, a deacon at Ballardville Baptist Church, while A. L. Meacham, retired pastor of DeHaven Memorial and current director of missions for Sulphur Fork Association, was a precinct chairman. Thomas Kinman, pastor of Crestwood Baptist Church, and Henry Beach, pastor of LaGrange Heights Baptist Church, were on the steering committee of CFPWA.

"This was not a preacher victory," Kinman declared. "It was a victory of the people because they made phone calls, knocked on doors and went to the polls and voted," he continued.

Kinman also told Western Recorder that other church groups helped in the struggle. He gave much credit to the Kentucky Temperance League and its executive director, Delbert Butts. Butts provided counsel, literature and know-how to the people as they organized for their overwhelming victory.

Kinman went on to say the battle was over "alcohol, not people. We focused on the real problem, alcohol. We felt the issue was moral and spiritual. It was not a preacher fight nor a preacher victory," he asserted. "The preacher's job is to preach the word of God concerning moral and spiritual values. The victory then comes from grass roots people who exercise their right to vote," he vowed.

When asked if he thought the vote in Oldham County could be compared with the upcoming struggle over a lottery in Kentucky, Kinman declared his belief that "if the lottery is defeated it will be because the people think it has no moral, spiritual or economic value for them" and will translate that feeling into votes which the legislature can understand.

FMB policies in line with peace plan

The Foreign Mission Board in August pledged to remain committed to fulfilling the denomination's mission goals in a manner that is "biblically sound, evangelistically focused and faithful to our Baptist heritage and convention."

A resolution introduced by Mark Corts of Winston-Salem, N. C. affirmed the work of the Southern Baptist Convention Peace Committee and acknowledged the positive affirmation the committee has given the board's work.

The action was taken after FMB president R. Keith Parks had explained in the four-day meeting he sees no need to change the board's procedures for missionary or staff appointments as a result of the Peace Committee's report to the convention in June.

"The board's staff and officers have

taken the Peace Committee's report seriously and reviewed it carefully," Parks said. "In light of the Peace Committee's on-the-spot evaluation of how we are doing things and the fact that the committee itself gave us affirmation, I would simply report to you that I think we're in good shape and the Peace Committee report does not require any action from this board," he said.

Parks noted that as the Peace Committee did its work, a subcommittee visited the Foreign Mission Board in Richmond, Va. After its visit it reported, "You're doing a much better job than we had any awareness you were doing." He said no recommendations were made regarding the processes the board had followed in the appointment of missionaries and the selection of staff. (BP)

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August 18, 1987

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Jack D. Sanford

sanford's perspectives

Looking toward the sunset

Every year thousands of men and women retire from their job to pursue lifelong dreams of peace, contentment and leisure.

That time in my own life is only about three years away, so I have been giving much thought to retirement and what the future holds if the Lord permits life to go on.

In preparation for that great event, Margaret and I have joined AARP, the American Association of Retired People; we have gold cards for Hardee's and McDonald's, which means discounts on food; we use the Silver Pages for occasional shopping ventures; and now we are about to sell our house, move into an apartment and gear-down for the lesser demands retirement hopefully will make on us.

Every piece of information on the subject which comes my way is read carefully, reread and digested. Some of it is useless, but occasionally a good piece of information comes along. One such item came to me from an old friend in ministry, Gordon E. Crocker, executive director of the Shelby Baptist Association in Memphis, Tenn.

Gordon is a former foreign missionary who took over the task of directing a big city association several years ago. Now he is ready to step aside from the grueling work of a DOM to pursue those elusive dreams all of us have for retirement. In the process he has written a prayer which has caused me to ponder the future and my own approaching retirement days. Here is the way he worded his prayer for retirement:

"Lord, thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older and will some day be old.

"Keep me from getting talkative and particularly from the fatal habit of thinking that I must say something on every subject and on every occasion.

"Release me from craving to try to straighten out everybody's affairs.

"Make me thoughtful, but not moody; helpful, not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom it seems a pity not to use it all, but thou knowest, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end.

"Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details; give me wings to get to the point.

"Seal my lips on my many aches and pains. They are increasing and my love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by.

"I ask for grace enough to listen to the tales of others' pains. Help me to endure them with patience.

"Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally it is possible that I may be wrong.

"Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a 'Saint.' Some of them are so hard to be around, but a sour old man is one of the crowning works of the devil.

"Help me to extract all possible fun out of life. There are so many funny things around us and I don't want to miss any of them.

"Lord, as long as my life can bring glory to your name and blessings to the people of the world, keep me here on earth. But if I cease to do this, then call me home to live with you forever."

The prayer of an honest man is wondrous, and this sounds like an honest man preparing for what may be ahead for all of us. His words are wise and his petitions to God are worthy of any Christian. As I reflect on my own journey toward the sunset, perhaps some of what this brother has had to say will help me avoid some of the pitfalls along the way. Perhaps some of you also will find direction and motivation from this little prayer.

Week of prayer for state missions

September 13-20 has been set aside for the Week of Prayer for State Missions and the Eliza Broadus Offering.

This annual emphasis is important for what Kentucky Baptists are trying to do to win lost people to Christ in our own state and strengthen our own state Baptist institutions and mission agencies.

However the record indicates only about half our churches participated in the offering last year. There were 1141 churches which took the offering out of a total 2240 churches in our state convention.

Even with that we were able to exceed our \$500,000 goal by \$33,133. Imagine what we could do if all our churches made a determined effort to support this cooperative endeavor to strengthen our witness in our own state.

The goals set this year include an offering goal of \$525,000, less than we actually received in the 1986 offering, but more than the 1986 goal. It is an attainable goal and one we can and must reach. If we exceed the goal some very good things happen.

For example, last year we exceeded the goal and the \$33,133 above the goal was given to "Mission Kentucky" to help establish the 400 new church works we have approved.

William W. Marshall, executive secretary-treasurer of our state convention, in a letter to all pastors in Kentucky, stated there are an estimated 1,200,000 unchurched people in Kentucky. He pointed out that we are attempting to reach that vast multitude through "Mission Kentucky," and have called upon "four experienced, beloved Kentucky Baptist leaders" to help in that task.

Those four are D. M. Aldridge, J. Bill Jones, Harold Wainscott and James Watt Sr. These brothers are doing God's work of locating mission points and assisting local associations and churches find ways to start a new work. The Eliza Broadus offering could go a long way toward strengthening their hand for this vital ministry.

Put the date on your calendar and open your heart to the great need of missions in our state. All of us together can make a difference—and the time to do it is now.

western recorder

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mountains to the mississippi

ordinations

Kyle Rudd, pastor of Oak Grove Baptist Church, West Union Association, was ordained to the ministry June 28 by his home church, Clarks River Baptist Church, Symsonia, Graves County Association.

John Benton was ordained to the ministry by Bashford Manor Baptist Church, Long Run Association. He has been appointed chaplain at Eddyville State Penitentiary.

Rex Fuqua and **Terry Perkins** were ordained as deacons July 19 at Corinth Baptist Church, McQuady, Breckinridge Association. John Meadors is pastor.

Raymond Aldridge was ordained to the ministry by Hampton Baptist Church, Ohio River Association, where he is pastor.

Gabriel Adebayo Ojo was ordained to the ministry July 26 by Farmdale Baptist Church, Louisville, Long Run Association. Ojo is completing doctoral studies at Southern Seminary. He is a native of Nigeria and was a professor at the Nigerian Baptist Seminary in Ogbomosh, Nigeria before going to study at Southern.

He had also studied at Ouachita Baptist University and Golden Gate Baptist Seminary. His wife Janet has earned her master's degree at University of Louisville and is currently studying at the seminary.

They are members of Farmdale Baptist Church, where Ojo teaches an adult Sunday school class. They will return to Nigeria in 1988 to teach at the Nigerian seminary.

personnel

Tony Hough has accepted the call as pastor of Lynn Acres Baptist Church, Long Run Association.

Charles Price resigned as pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Greenup Association.

Bob McDaniel has been called as minister of music by Hiseville Baptist Church, Liberty Association. McDaniel is a senior music major at Western Kentucky University.

Tim Hodges has been called as pastor of Pleasant Valley Baptist Church, Liberty Association.

Richie McKenney has been called as pastor by Sulphur Springs Baptist Church, Ohio River Association.

Henry Delk has been called as pastor of Dunnville Mission, Russell County Association.

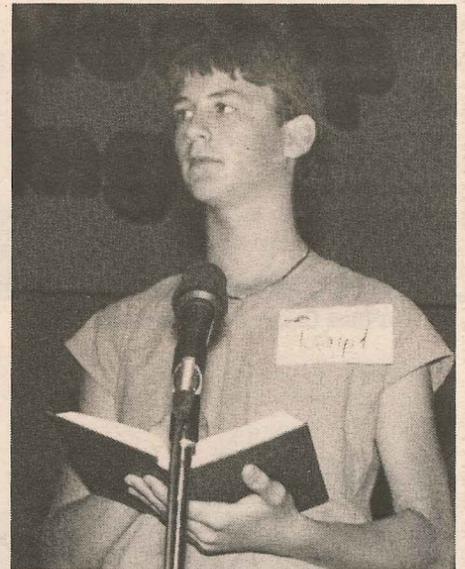
Gerald Chafin resigned as minister of music at West Broadway Baptist Church, Long Run Association, to pursue a doctoral program at the University of Kentucky. Larry F. Orange is pastor of the church.

James Overbee has been called as pastor of Heidelberg Baptist Church, Boone's Creek Association.

J. Lonnie Bradley was named minister emeritus by Lebanon Baptist Church, Central Association, during morning worship July 12. Bradley was pastor of Springfield Baptist Church, Central Association, 16 years before retiring in Lebanon. He also served First Church, Jenkins, and Central Baptist Church, Maysville.

William A. Clutts has been named director of missions for Central Association. Clutts goes to this position from Woodlawn Baptist Church, Central Association, where he was pastor 21 years. He begins his duties Nov. 1.

Lynn Poindexter of Northside Baptist Church, Princeton, Caldwell-Lyon Association, has made a public acknowledgement of his call to enter the ministry.



Lloyd Bastin (l), Beacon Hill Baptist Church, Somerset and Kentucky state youth Bible drill winner, practiced for the Wednesday night drill demonstration during the Church Training leadership conference at Ridgecrest (N. C.) Baptist Conference Center in July.

Melissa Lax of Northside Baptist Church, Princeton, Caldwell-Lyon Association, made a commitment for full time Christian service as a missionary.

congregations

Thixton Lane Baptist Church, Louisville, Long Run Association, will be having a "Hallelujah Celebration" Sept. 20 from 10:45 a.m. until 3 p.m. This is a homecoming event celebrating the 30th anniversary and the dedication of a fellowship hall. All past and present members are encouraged to attend.

Sixteen Girls in Action were presented Mission Adventure awards at **Yellowcreek Baptist Church**, Owensboro, Daviess-McLean Association, May 17. Those receiving awards included Nicole Case, Melissa Millay, Ashley Warren, Cristin Boyle, Cara Ford, April Davis, Mary Beth Hendley, Shaun Dever, Sunshine Millay, Shannon Howard, Kristin May, Melissa Hendley, Misty Case, Kara Yeckering, Michell Osburn, Tammy Welborn and Brandy Chase.

Marion Keeling is Woman's Mission Union director, and Betty Wilhoite is the GA director. Associational WMU director Mildred Kazlauskas and associational GA director Sharon Westerfield also attended the recognition service.



The youth group of Hillcrest Baptist Church, Christian County Association, went for a week-long mission trip to Gatlinburg June 28-July 3. They worked with the Smoky Mountain Missionaries of Pigeon Forge in conjunction with the Home Mission Board. The youth conducted backyard Bible classes in the day under the supervision of Randy Thomas, minister of youth. In the evenings, they presented a puppet program and a musical program.



Eldred M. Taylor
Executive Director
10901 Shelbyville Road
Middletown, KY 40243

homes for children

School days are here

Summer is thought of as vacation time for children. During that time school recesses and for the most part children are free of the classroom. Although this offers a welcome change of pace, there are various activities and responsibilities for them.

Thousands of youth participate in vacation Bible school. There are camps and retreats, mission and choir tours,

many athletic programs and for many there is work.

This has been a full summer for the youth at Baptist Homes for Children. In addition to a stepped up work program at Spring Meadows and Glen Dale, there has been much to do. Some of the older youth have had regular jobs and others have worked on campus. Each campus had their own camp program for a week. There have been some brief vacation trips that were both educational and fun.

You would be proud to see how brave young lives are being turned around as help is given in putting their pieces together.

Now it is time for school to begin and the routine of study and classes to resume. Baptist Homes has the opportunity of helping a number of our high school graduates get started in college or vocational school. All youth in our care will begin school. Adults know much is involved in getting children ready for school.

We are now checking to see each child has shoes and clothing. Before long there will be the need for winter coats and rain wear. In addition, there are the school supplies to be secured and all the incidental expenses.

To help us with these back to school expenses, we have mailed a letter to our friends asking for their help. I cannot express how much it means to have these special gifts coming in to lift this burden. Gifts come in various amounts and each one is important. When the many gifts are put together they provide a real boost to our continuing care for children.

Another help is provided through gifts of personal supplies. Sunday school classes, Woman's Missionary Unions and others gather personal supplies and get them to a pick-up point or personally bring them to one of the homes. Incidentally, we are glad to have groups come for a visit—it's a lot of fun.

God bless you for helping us enter school days again.



Plum Creek B.C., Taylorsville



Sedalia Baptist Church, Sedalia



Scottsville B.C., Scottsville



Baxter Ave. B.C., Louisville



First Baptist Church, Lone Oak



First Baptist Church, Mt. Vernon



New Bethel B.C., Hardinsburg



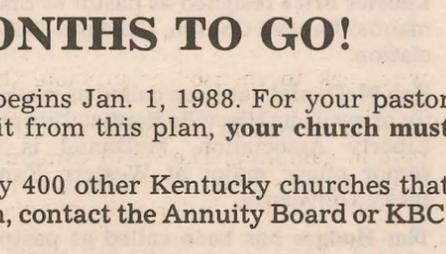
Pleasant Hill B.C., Campbellsville



Greasy Creek B.C., Greensburg



Rockhouse Baptist Church, Hyden



Highview Baptist Church, Louisville



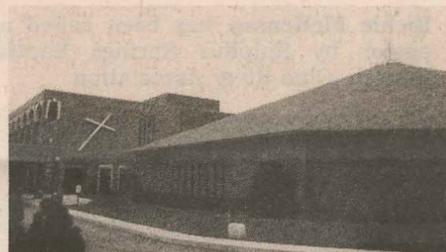
First Baptist Church, Loyall



New Hope Baptist Church, Cadiz



Northside B.C., Princeton



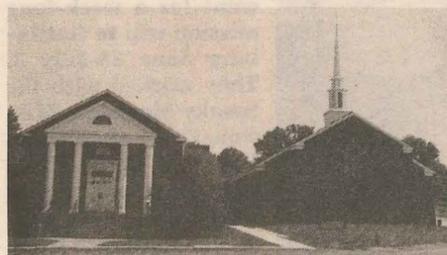
Summit Baptist Church, Ashland



Cave Spring Baptist Church, Albany



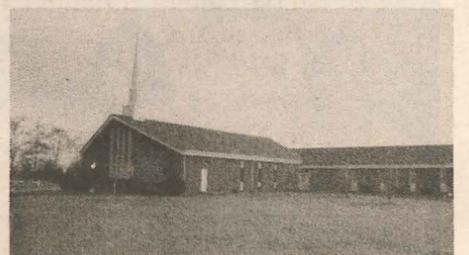
First Baptist Church, Dawson Springs



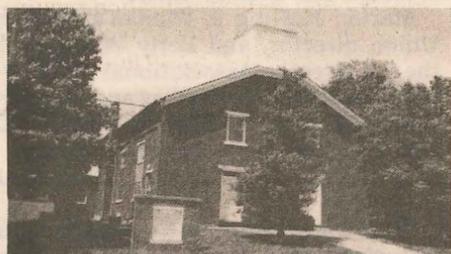
Severns Valley B.C., Elizabethtown



Whippoorville B.C., Adairville



Greenwood B.C., Bowling Green



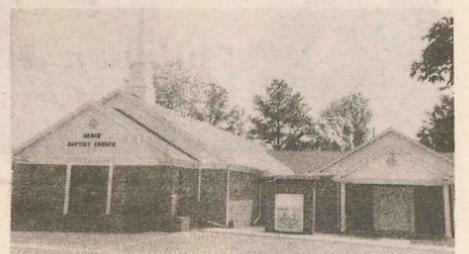
Christiansburg B.C., Christiansburg



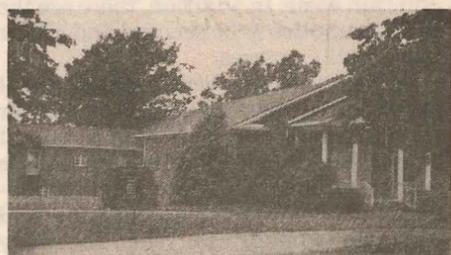
Cloverleaf B.C., Louisville



Fellowship B.C., Harrodsburg



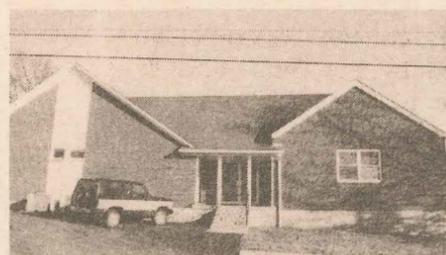
Grace Baptist Church, Murray



Casky Baptist Church, Hopkinsville



Lake City B.C., Gravel Rivers



Calvary Baptist Church, Central City



First Baptist Church, Somerset

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baptist forum

Divorced people marked as inferior

It was with sorrow I read of the latest action taken by the Home Mission Board which effectively closes the door of home mission service to persons who have suffered the agony of divorce. I affirm the sacredness of the marriage of one man to one woman for life; and I deplore the prevalence of divorce in today's society. I affirm the need for all of us who serve in ministry to live lives which are shining examples of the lifestyle to which our Lord called us. Living under the grace of God I cannot affirm action which serves to punish forever those who have failed in their relationships to each other and to their God.

While the Bible says, "... the husband of one wife ..." it also says, "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will forgive you; but if you do not ... neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." The purpose of biblical forgiveness is the reconciliation and restoration of persons to persons and persons to God. Rather than exercising such forgiveness, it seems we are committed to hanging a big red "D" around the necks of the divorced so as to mark them for all time as inferior to the rest of us. Whenever we cast stones at others, as if we were without sin our-

selves, we err.

In our efforts to be biblical let us always be careful to take the whole Bible as our guide rather than just portions of it. Our Lord had cutting words of criticism for the Pharisees of his day who made too much of portions of their scripture and tradition while neglecting the weightier matters. May God forgive us for what we have done in his name.

Michael R. Duncan
Eminence

Association opposes lottery

We, the Executive Committee of the Wayne County Association of Baptists, out of deep concern for the moral welfare of our state and county and our communities, feel we must out of good conscience take an unshamed, unequivocal and vigorous stand against a state lottery and any person or persons who seek to sponsor or promote the same.

To participate in a lottery is to participate in gambling. The sin of gambling is the sin of stealing. Furthermore, the proven history of lotteries is that they prey upon the poor, those who can least afford it. In addition, lotteries where legalized entice gangsters and racketeers and foster a moral climate upon which criminal elements feed and fester.

Further, the establishment of a lottery requires the establishment of an ungodly bureaucracy which must extend its lecherous tentacles into every county and city. It would be a moral cancer reaching out into every nook of our beloved commonwealth.

Our concern transcends political party considerations and demands we take our stand as we believe the Lordship of Jesus Christ requires.

Through the passing of this resolution we seek to encourage our Baptist people in particular, along with all others who call Jesus Christ Lord, to stand with us in voting against any and all efforts to legalize a lottery as well as those who have brazenly and openly declared their

intentions to lead such an effort.

Executive Committee
Wayne County Baptist Association
Lloyd Williamson, moderator

No convention in sin city

Las Vegas is a city renowned for gambling, skin shows, risque or just plain dirty monolog/dialog by comedians/comediennes. This is a recognized, legal, approved business in the state of Nevada. I also understand prostitution is legal in the state. "My Town" does have sin of the same type but it is not the accepted behavior, it is against the law and we don't advertise it as a business.

Las Vegas, the "convention city!", is renowned as a "fun city" where people go to let their hair down, check the inhibitions at home and have "Fun" (spelled with a capital F).

Southern Baptists don't have any business having our convention there. If we are sincere in making a Christian impression on the people of Las Vegas let us combine forces with the Baptists there and sponsor a citywide crusade and make a concerted effort to win the city to Christ. Southern Baptists should not lend credence to the sin trade of Las Vegas and we should not encourage other organizations to go there by the fact we have our convention there.

Sin is sin. Yes, but Sodom and Gomorrah were two cities where the sin was so bad God saw fit to destroy them.

Shun the very appearance of evil and do not place 25,000 Southern Baptists in this mecca of temptation. When we go let us go as missionaries to conduct a crusade and then we can work with and show proper Christian love to the 12,000 Southern Baptists in Las Vegas.

Fred McConnell
Princeton

Check motels, hotels carefully

The city of Louisville always graciously receives Kentucky Baptists when the annual meeting is scheduled here. Restaurants, hotels and motels give us special rates and cater to our convention clientele.

The Louisville Convention and Visitor's Bureau is providing us a special reservations service and has made ar-

rangements for several excellent hotels to hold blocks of rooms for Kentucky Baptist messengers. I would strongly recommend, however, that all persons seeking accommodations in Louisville during convention week be aware that not all hotels cater to Christian interests and reservations should be made advisedly.

Gregory L. Hancock
Communications Division
Kentucky Baptist Convention

Editor's note: Western Recorder printed a list of hotels, motels supplied to the KBC Communications Division by the Louisville Convention Bureau. This list contained some facilities which perhaps would not be suitable for Kentucky Baptists. We regret this poor judgment on our part in printing the list and ask Kentucky Baptists to accept our sincere apology.

Praise for a worthy ministry

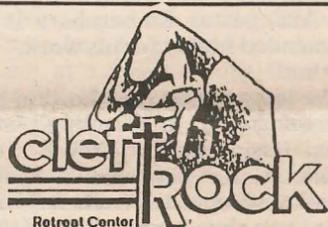
We the members of Highlands Baptist Church, Lexington, commend the 50 years of faithful service in the gospel by Henry Downing.

We are also especially grateful for his seven years of teaching our church the true meaning of the word pastor. Many of our families have life-long memories of the special ministry he gave them in their time of sorrow.

We commend our dear brother and his faithful companion, Thelma, to the perfect will of our heavenly father. May the God who has protected your life and ministry give you a special anointing of the Holy Spirit.

James Thorpe, pastor
and 121 members of
Highlands Baptist Church
Lexington

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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November 5-8, 1987

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DOM, pastor, layman join to build Kenya church

by Pauline Stegall,
State Correspondent

Calvin Wilkins, director of missions for Graves County Association, was contacted by Allen West about organizing a church building crew to send to Kenya. Wilkins knew just the people for the job.

After seeking assurance that there would be opportunities to preach and witness, Wilkins, a veteran of 20 overseas missions trips, contacted C. C. Brasher, pastor of Briensburg Baptist Church, and John Dyke, Briensburg layman, both of whom have made mission trips to Trinidad. Completing the team was Gary Sanderson, High Point Baptist, Mayfield, who is song leader for his church and also a contractor. Sanderson had felt for some time the Lord wanted him to be involved in missions and this opportunity was made to order.

After much prayer, things materialized.

Dawn Lee from Kentucky met them at the Nairobi airport. It was an 11-hour drive to the home of missionaries Ed and Mary Horton at Kakamega where the church was to be built.

The Kentuckians went to the job site the next morning and found the foundation had been laid and there were 200 concrete blocks already made. Their job would be to oversee and assist the making of several hundred blocks and laying them.

The blocks were to be made on site by

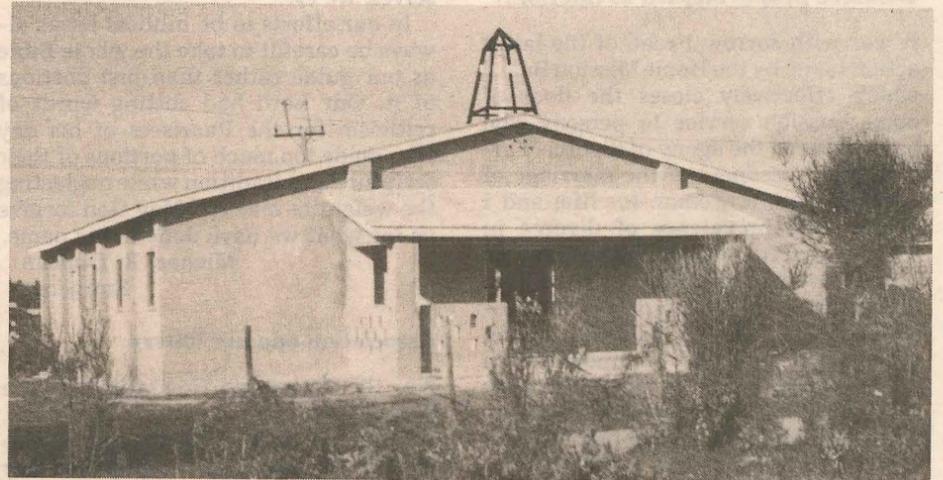
filling a frame with mortar and letting it dry for three days. Since Sanderson and Dyke were the "expert" block layers, Wilkins and Brasher took charge of making the blocks.

After two days, they were able to hire 16 men and three women. The native block makers earned about \$1.50 a day, which was considered a good day's wage. The layers received about \$3 a day. The women, who walked to a water hole, filled buckets with water, carried them back on their heads, and emptied them into barrels, made about \$3 a day.

Brasher and Wilkins went into all the villages and compounds, witnessing and ministering in every little hut. The pastor, John Embarabara, was interpreter. People were open to the gospel and many received the Lord. Embarabara would put them on the mailing list for Bible material, a home Bible course and follow-up work.

The first Sunday Wilkins preached some distance away in an uncompleted school house to a congregation of 200. Later in the week they saw a man who had been in the service. He had never had a white man in his home and wanted them to visit his little mud hut. Wilkins and Brasher visited his family and prayed in their home. The host was so happy they had come he presented them with two chicken eggs.

The team suggested having a brief service for the construction workers. Fifteen of the 16 men accepted the Lord,



Calvin Wilkins, Graves County Association DOM; C. C. Brasher, pastor of Briensburg Baptist Church; and Briensburg layman John Dyke joined forces to help build Kakamega Baptist Church in Kenya.

one man having previously done so. The spiritual relationship improved working relationships greatly.

There could be no night services because there was no electricity and it was not safe to be out in the dark. When the men quit work at 5 p.m., a P.A. system was set up and a singing service begun. The children would come to sing choruses and later adults would stand on the grounds for open air services.

The Americans would take turns preaching. Duke was experienced, having shared his testimony on other trips, but Sanderson was nervous and kept asking Wilkins about certain scriptures all day. Wilkins told him to tell them all the Lord had done for him. He did, and 27 young people committed their lives.

The second day they were there Sanderson noticed that something about the building was not working out right. Upon examining the blueprints, he found the plans called for a 30' x 80' building, but they were building a 50' x 80' one. The missionary called the Nairobi office who had discovered the smaller building. They discovered there had originally been two plans. They had gotten switched. The go-ahead for the larger building was given.

Wilkins believes the change was actually through the providence of God, because he recently heard that the building had been filled to capacity. The

church has every prospect of growing and becoming a mother church as there are 10,000 people within a mile's radius.

The men were able to see the walls completed and one truss for the roof before they left. Dyke and Sanderson built one for a pattern and the men were able to build the rest. Their only tools were a hand saw, hammers and nails.

"Ed and Mary Horton are consecrated, dedicated and doing a tremendous job. And pastor Embarabara is to be commended highly for his work," stated Wilkins.

"We led people to the Lord in homes, on creek banks, in shopping places, in town, businesses, wherever we met people. It was phenomenal—few ever turned the gospel down when it was presented in a clear manner. No high pressure was used. They received the Lord and were willing to give testimony they had done so," he said.

"First Baptist Church of Franklin, Ky. and Sulphur Springs Church deserve a lot of credit for the Kakamega building. Both pastors had been to Kenya and saw the need for the building. They returned home, presented the need to their churches, and money was raised and sent to the Foreign Mission Board.

"One of those pastors later went back to help finish the building.

"We give God the praise and glory for everything that has been accomplished," Wilkins concluded.

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Annuity Board, Southern Baptist Convention

New Hampshire church built with help of Kentuckians

by Kima Jude, *State Correspondent*

It pays to have friends.

Without a little help from friends Trinity Baptist Church in Hanover, N. H., wouldn't be in the shape it's in today.

That is, it wouldn't be housed in a brand new facility, immaculately trimmed from basement to ceiling.

But thanks to friends, including some Kentucky Baptists who trekked the thousand miles north over the past two summers, construction of the church building has nearly been completed.

Much of the construction of the building was done last year after the Home Mission Board solicited help on behalf of Trinity from sister Southern Baptist churches in the South.

Then, groups from South Carolina, Alabama, Georgia, Virginia and Ohio responded, according to Trinity pastor Ken Hale, as well as three Kentucky churches—First Baptist, Mt. Washington, Nelson Association, and a team of workers from both Lawrenceburg Baptist and Sand Spring Baptist, Anderson Association.

Hale credits the Home Mission Board for directly securing the help from four of last year's seven respondents, friends of which Trinity had been previously unaware.

But the others were already known to Hale, who had formerly been minister of music at Lawrenceburg Baptist, a contact which resulted in help from Anderson Association church members.

His wife Sandy grew up in the Mt. Washington congregation. Hale's father is a member of a church in Dayton, Oh., giving the Ohio connection.

The Home Mission Board coordinated all of the groups, scheduling them to reach Hanover at various times last summer to construct the first church building of Trinity Baptist Church, a fledgling congregation constituted in December 1981.

This past summer five groups from the South arrived again in New Hampshire to finish work begun the previous year, specifically the basement or lower level, drywalling and painting to use as Sunday school space and fellowship hall.

A group made up of members of Lawrenceburg and Sand Spring Baptist churches in Anderson Association, where Hale had ministered, made the trip again.

A group also went this summer from Red House Baptist Church, Richmond, Tate's Creek Association. Pastor Terry Lester was acquainted with Hale, as was the church's director of children worship and activities, Linda Coulter. She



Trinity Baptist Church, Hanover, N. H., completed its new facility this summer with help from Southern Baptists in the Bible belt, including some Kentucky Baptists. Pictured are members of a team of workers from Lawrenceburg and Sand Spring Baptist Churches, Anderson Association. From left are Garvice and Garnett Gibson, Ann and Robert Gentry and Virginia and Harold Carter.

grew up in the Lawrenceburg congregation.

A team from Power Drive Baptist Church, Orlando, Fla., was scheduled to conduct backyard Bible clubs and youth ministries with a skateboard team.

Far Hills Baptist Church, the Dayton church of which Hale's father is a member, also made a return trip.

And Trinity's designated sister church in Roanoke, Va., Oakland Baptist Church, sent a team.

"We couldn't have a building unless there were interested friends and individual churches in the South who were willing to take a little personal interest," Hale said. The 34-resident member congregation lacked the resources for the project.

Help, he said, arrived from friends through financial avenues as well. Lawrenceburg Baptist gave an initial \$5000 offering to Trinity and followed it with monthly donations over the past year as has First Baptist, Mt. Washington.

Lawrenceburg Baptist and Sand Spring got involved in helping Hale's ministry even before last year's excursion. After leaving the Lawrenceburg staff, Hale was pastor of a church in Washington, Vt. as a Mission Service Corps volunteer. In the summer of 1984 a team from Lawrenceburg Baptist and Sand Springs Baptist churches went north to paint that church building.

It wasn't Red House's first excursion

north, either. In 1982 some members spent a week in New Hampshire converting an old New England barn into a church building. In addition, Mrs. Coulter had visited Hale and his wife in an unofficial capacity last year.

"You forget what it's like outside the Bible belt," Mrs. Coulter said.

Indeed, outside the Bible belt many Southern Baptist churches struggle to survive.

"If we had to rely on local contractors and carpenters the project would have been completely out of reach," Hale said.

But Trinity wasn't the only one on the receiving end.

"I think we can all say it would be a blessing we can all remember for the rest of our lives," said Harold Carter, a member of Lawrenceburg Baptist who made the trip to New Hampshire. Others from Anderson Association who participated this summer include his wife Vir-

ginia, Robert and Ann Gentry from Lawrenceburg and Garvice and Garnett Gibson from Sand Spring.

"All my life I've heard about single people or groups going on mission trips to other countries," Carter said. He found the trip north for home mission ministry an opportunity for a fitting alternative to foreign missions. Indeed, Carter and Gibson have participated in all three trips north to minister at Hale's churches, caring for their own expenses this year themselves. Other trips have been sponsored by the churches.

Ten people started out for the week-long visit to New Hampshire from Red House this year, including the pastor, but three had to return because of a death.

Those who completed the journey arrived to take over where the previous group had left off. Participants included Mrs. Coulter, Lester, Mike, Norma, Shannon and Chris Conley, Kitty Mills, Ryan Brown, Glenn and Ruby Laswell. The men readied the lower level for the next group, which would begin painting. The women conducted Big A clubs in Hanover and Lebanon, N. H., and nearby Thetford, Vt.

The Lawrenceburg group had spent a week earlier in the summer dry walling and adding other finishing touches.

It also happened that during the week the Red House group was at Trinity Baptist, the New Hampshire church received the offering of \$56.69 that Red House preschool children had collected during its children's worship through the past year.

Hale said he got to read that letter from the Red House children with Red House members present in the Wednesday night service.

"It was a touching thing for us," he said, adding that the money will be spent equipping their preschool department.

After this, Hale said, the building will be essentially completed with only cabinet work and shelving remaining.

However, if he needed help Hale could call his Kentucky friends. They say they'd be willing to trek north again if there is an opportunity.

Kentucky-Ohio Link

Lewisport laymen aid Aurora church

by Jack Sanford, *Editor*

For several years Kentucky has been linked with Ohio in mission ventures. We know of Kentucky churches which have spent many hours and much money in aid to Ohio congregations. We also have heard stories of Ohio churches coming to Kentucky to assist in construction, revivals and vacation Bible schools. Now another congregation from Kentucky has made a venture into Ohio and reports fantastic results in deeper spiritual commitment by all who were involved.

A visit to the mission field will always stimulate Christians to deeper commitment and more generous giving. Such is the case with a Kentucky church which has just concluded mission enterprise to a sister church in Ohio.

The Lewisport Baptist Church, Blackford Association, went to serve First Baptist Church, Aurora, Oh., where Jeff Seat is pastor of a small congregation.

The group from Lewisport had 46 people, both young people and adults, who

did a great work for the young Ohio congregation in material and spiritual ways.

Young people conducted five backyard Bible clubs which resulted in 22 professions of faith.

The adults did construction work for a new building, mainly electrical wiring and duct work for heating and air conditioning.

The mission spirit did not stop with those who went on the trip to Ohio. Lewisport pastor Ron Williams told Western Recorder the Lewisport congregation caught the mission spirit and generously allocated \$70,000 from their own building fund as an interest-free construction loan to the Aurora congregation. He joyfully stated the funds will be repaid by the end of September, since the Ohio church is ahead of schedule on repayment.

The spirit of missions is kindled at Lewisport and an Ohio congregation is beneficiary of Kentucky's concern that all people everywhere hear the gospel of our Lord.



Green Hill Baptist Church, Greensburg, is another Mission Kentucky church start. James Casey (r), director of missions, presents a check from the Kentucky Baptist Convention for building assistance to Carliss Compton (center), pastor, and laymen.

baptist news in brief

Baptist volunteers rebuilding Saragosa

Texas Baptist volunteers have erected the first new house at Saragosa, the western Texas town destroyed by a tornado May 22 and plans are being made to rebuild the entire community Aug. 24-Sept. 11.

Included in the rebuilding plan is an around-the-clock building effort by vol-

unteers on Labor Day weekend, Sept. 4-7.

Up to 450 Texas Baptist volunteers will take part in the building project, in which as many as 60 homes are expected to be rebuilt. Among the laborers will be 75 to 100 retired couples who work regularly with Olen Miles and the Texas Baptist Men Retiree Builders.

Two Texas Baptist couples from Second Baptist Church, Lake Jackson, are working on a one-bedroom Red Cross model home that is expected to be completed by Aug. 15. A group of Mennonite families from Kansas are erecting a three-bedroom home that also is being built with Red Cross funds. (BP)

Virginia board releases escrowed BJCPA funds

The Virginia Baptist General Board has released funds which had been placed in an escrow account to support the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, in the event its budget was deleted or reduced by the Southern Baptist Convention.

Board treasurer Nathaniel W. Kellum said the action taken by the SBC last June which continues funding for the agency, "satisfies the conditions of the motion" passed last year by the BGBV.

Messengers to the general association last November agreed to set aside \$75,000 from the SBC portion of the BGBV budget in an escrow account for the BJCPA.

Kellum said some Virginia churches had asked that their contributions to the Cooperative Program not be added to the escrow account. (BP)

Baptist men fete kids of tornado-ravaged town

The children of Saragosa, Tex., who saw their world blown apart by a tornado earlier this summer, were swept away to the fun-filled fantasy world of Six Flags Over Texas in late July.

About 40 youngsters, ages 8 and up, were brought to the Arlington, Tex. amusement park courtesy of Texas Baptist Men, Project CARE and Greyhound Bus Lines.

They arrived at Fielder Road Baptist Church, Arlington, July 29 and spent the night in the church's family center, enjoyed a full day at Six Flags July 30 and returned to Saragosa the following day.

The trip was meant to be recreational therapy for the traumatized children, some of whom lost brothers, sisters and parents in the tornado. The trip also gave counselors an opportunity to talk with the youngsters in a relaxed setting and to help them work through their grief.

In addition to providing lodging and meals for the children, the Fielder Road church also purchased marked New Testaments in Spanish and English for the youngsters.

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NOTICE - The Men's State Southern Baptist Softball Tournament has been postponed until September 18 & 19, at Valley View Baptist Church, Louisville, KY. Double elimination tournament. Balls provided. Team trophies to first, second and third place teams. Individual t-shirts to the first place team. Entry fee is \$90. Contact Dennis Sills, Valley View Baptist Church, (502) 935-9454, ASAP.

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North Central Baptists focus on setting identity

Doing church work effectively and establishing a community identity will help Southern Baptists to develop a stronghold in the North Central U. S., according to state leaders from the area.

Three state Sunday school directors from the seven-state region—Jack Baker of the Illinois Baptist State Association, Norman Wallace of the Minnesota-Wisconsin Southern Baptist Convention and T. Frank Smith of the Baptist State Convention of Michigan—discussed their concerns for strengthening Baptist work during a Sunday school leadership conference at Green Lake, Wis.

The North Central region includes seven states in the five conventions of Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Illinois and Minnesota-Wisconsin. Iowa is a fellowship.

The region has about 30 million unchurched people, more than any other geographic region of the country, said Harry Piland, director of the Sunday School Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board.

In order to reach people in the area, Southern Baptists are emphasizing a person-to-person approach. "Touching lives is a solid kernel of ministry for us; it's what we need," said Wallace.

Mozambique famine said to be strife-caused

Civil strife, not drought, is the major cause of a severe famine plaguing the southern African country of Mozambique, a report released by the House Select Committee on Hunger states.

Mozambique faces a famine of historic proportions with about one-third of the nation's population in danger of acute malnutrition or starvation. The primary cause of the crisis, the report continues, is terrorist activity by RENAMO, an antigovernment insurgency force within Mozambique. Previously, most studies blamed drought as the main cause of the famine.

In addition to raiding food production and food relief operations, RENAMO forces have destroyed 42 percent of the country's health posts, caused destruction or abandonment of 40 percent of the primary schools and attacked and killed local health and relief workers.

The Foreign Mission Board has designated at least \$1 million in Southern Baptist hunger relief money to include training Mozambican Baptists to run feeding programs and operating a seed and farming tool distribution program.

Gleaning to end hunger in U. S.? Maybe!

The ancient concept of gleaning is making a comeback as a possible way to help alleviate domestic hunger in the United States.

During a hearing members of the Domestic Task Force of the House Select Committee on Hunger heard testimony about current gleaning projects and the need to expand such programs.

"There is nothing new about gleaning," said Rep. Tony P. Hall, D-Ohio. "It's not only ancient, but biblical."

Hall, a congressional advocate of gleaning as a source of food for the hun-

New converts helped by 'Encourager' plan

A new Christian encourager plan, developed jointly by the Church Training and Sunday school departments of the Baptist Sunday School Board, relates an "established" Christian to a new one.

The encourager's role is to assist the new Christian in completing the Survival Kit for New Christians and help him become involved in the church, memorize scripture and establish a quiet time, said Stanley Howell, manager of the growth section of the board's Church Training Department.

Southside Baptist Church, a large rural congregation of 1300 members on the outskirts of Gadsden, Ala., recently adopted the program as a means to stop new Christians from "walking down the aisle and out the back door forever," said David Philippe, minister of education.

The key to eliminating the dropout problem is for new Christians to establish friends and ties with the church, Howell said, noting, "This program enables encouragers to develop friendships with new Christians while they incorporate themselves into the church family."

50,000 by 2000 must be goal, HMB's Lewis says

Home missionaries and other Southern Baptists must help this denomination achieve the goal of 50,000 churches by the year 2000, Larry Lewis told participants at the annual home missions conference at Glorieta (N. M.) Baptist Conference Center.

"This should become the magnificent obsession that dominates Southern Baptist thought, philosophy and achievements," said Lewis, new president of the board.

"There are not two more important endeavors on the earth than starting churches and reaching people. They are inseparably linked. No evangelistic effort is really fruitful and effective if it is not oriented in a church," he said.

Lewis continued that even though the average Southern Baptist church wins and baptizes only seven people a year and 6000 churches do not report any baptisms, the convention still must maintain a goal for establishing more churches.

"The purpose of the church is not to baptize 10 people a year. The church exists to fulfill the Great Commission. Every time we establish a Bible-teaching, Bible-preaching, soul-winning, witnessing, ministering church, we are putting Jesus in that place," Lewis stressed. (BP)

gry, described a major gleaning project in his state. During the project's first year, Hall said, hundreds of volunteers from 37 church, civic, food relief and school groups donated more than 3000 hours of time and took in almost 21 tons of food. He said his goal for this year is to double that tonnage.

Hall said state and local governments can help by passing laws to remove barriers to gleaning, such as limiting the liability of food donors, and by offering tax incentives for charitable contributions of food.

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Gerald L. Borchert is professor of New Testament at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky.

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BROADMAN

Baptist professors join secular group for protection

Fearful of conservative attack, moderates who teach in Southern Baptist seminaries have joined a secular organization pledged to defend academic freedom and job security.

More than two dozen professors at Southeastern Baptist Seminary have formed a chapter of the American Association of University Professors at the Wake Forest, N. C. campus. Individual professors at Southern Seminary, Louisville, also have joined the national organization which seeks to promote higher education and protect the profession's standards, ideals and welfare.

"There does come a time in the kinds of problems we're facing now when a person has to pay attention to individual

rights and privileges," said Temp Sparkman, a Southern Baptist professor who was accused of teaching heresy last year.

Sparkman, who teaches at Midwestern Seminary, was acquitted of "unBaptist" teaching by seminary trustees who ordered him to revise his latest book.

W. Randall Lolley, president of Southeastern Seminary, said he did not consider the chapter, whose members include more than two-thirds of the faculty, to be adversarial.

"I'm sure there is some element of feeling it gives them a wider court of appeals in some of these matters that are controversial now," Lolley stated. "They think it is important."

Roy Honeycutt, president of Southern Seminary, called the AAUP membership "a needless action." He further said, "In my judgment belonging to AAUP will not do anything pro or con regarding their security. In our system due process is followed throughout."

Russell Dilday, president of Southwestern Seminary, said the issue by the association's membership was broader than whether schools followed due process.

"This is a tragic testimony of the mood of suspicion and distrust that pervades our denomination," he said. "People are searching for assurance, protection and guidance—and it seems to be getting worse, not better." (BP)



Fields

Glimpses of our heritage

Early revivals.

by Carl Fields

The "tent chautauqua" concept of the post-Civil War era was an important part of the American scene in the early part of the twentieth century. Well organized revival efforts were followed by a different kind of preaching, as that of Billy Graham and other evangelists of his day.

In 1888, from Jan. 25 to about Feb. 25, evangelist Dwight L. Moody and his song leader Ira D. Sankey, led an evangelistic effort in Louisville in which the Baptists took a leading part. The "tent" was a wooden tabernacle that seated 5000 people and was built on Broadway between Fourth and Fifth Streets, just west of the Warren Memorial Presbyterian Church. That dwelling was unable to accommodate the crowd so the overflow was taken care of by the First Christian Church at the northeast corner of Fourth and Walnut and the Walnut Street Baptist Church at the northwest corner. With these auxiliary accommodations, the evangelist was able to speak to over 6000 people. At the farewell night service, more than 10,000 were turned away.

Marion P. Hunt, a Louisville pastor, reported in Western Recorder that Gipsy Smith came to Louisville Oct. 17, 1920 for a four-week campaign. His tabernacle was located on the south side of Broadway, between Brook and Floyd Streets. Overflow crowds were directed to Broadway Methodist Church.

Sunday, Nov. 14, 1920, the last day of the meeting, the total number in the service was estimated at 15,000. Reports on the meeting were that there were 232,000 people in the 29 days of preaching in his tabernacle, and in the Cadle Tabernacle (where week day noon services were held on the south side of Walnut Street, where the Pendennis Club now stands).

E. O. Excell of Chicago conducted the music services. A gifted musician, he will also be remembered for the many songs he wrote. Professor Excell became ill before the meeting was half over. He returned to his home in Chicago and died from "a heart attack suffered in Louisville."

Three years later Billy Sunday (William Ashley Sunday) with Homer Rodeheaver held a six-week revival in Louisville from Apr. 22 to June 3 in the same building. It is described as the "Tabernacle, Broadway, between Floyd and Brook" and as the "Kosair Auditorium." The building had been enlarged to seat 1000 more people. Estimates of seating at this time ran as high as 7000. Billy Sunday preached to two or three audiences each day. Baptist churches were greatly strengthened by the many decisions made during these early revivals.



Singular recognition

John Hufsey (standing) and John Heine are members of a single adult Sunday school class at First Baptist Church, Metropolis, Ill., who with thousands of other Southern Baptist singles will be recognized on Single Adult Day Sept. 13. The class at First Baptist often holds Sunday afternoon Bible studies in the home of Heine, who was injured in a motorcycle accident in 1985. Single Adult Day is sponsored by the Family Ministry Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville.

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Applicants must be active Southern Baptists, U. S. citizens, in good physical and emotional health and qualified for specific mission tasks. They may be single or married but not divorced. Couples must be childless and married for at least a year by Sept. 15 and both

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Those interested in applying for the 1987-89 program may call (804) 353-0151 or write to the FMB, Box 6767, Richmond, VA 23230. (BP)

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It is the growing word-of-mouth reputation of our quality program that brings so many to our campus. Hearing of what is happening from someone who knows firsthand is the most convincing type of information. Though we are 40 miles from the nearest bus station or airport, we currently have students from more than 20 states and 34 nations have been represented in our student body in the past 12 years.

The number of Oneida's students and staff has increased approximately five fold in the past 12 years. Not merely doubled or tripled or quadrupled, but a five fold increase. We did not seek such a size or such a rate of growth.

Ours has been a response to a genuine need, a felt need, not an artificially created one. We have no recruiters, no field offices. We have not gone out to find students. They have found us. It takes about every ounce of energy, every moment of time to deal with the ever increasing number of boys and girls seeking admission and to minister to the hundreds taken in. Ours is a day and night, year round ministry.

During the past year we have had to consciously come to grips with our growing numbers. We have decided to add no more beds. This decision will, of necessity, limit our student enrolment near the 500 mark.

Schools can be too big. Most schools today in the U. S. are many times larger

than they should be. Over a certain number, the bigger the school, the less opportunity for the individual girl or boy. In most American schools today, the sense of community has been lost. There is a notable lack of effective discipline. A proper learning atmosphere has been lost in large measure.

Also schools can be too small. A school must have a sufficient number of students and teachers to make possible a comprehensive range of courses and number of classes to provide flexibility in scheduling and a solid educational preparation. Also, the level of enrolment must be sufficiently large to make possible a truly competitive athletic program, strong music and drama programs and a broad range of extracurricular programs making possible an "involved" student body. The goal should be participation of every child in more than the classroom routine.

Unfortunately, most of American education at the elementary and secondary level is so structured today as to make the average student feel like he or she is a "nobody." Sheer numbers force most young people to be spectators, not participants. The great majority of American teenagers are simply bored to death at school and after school. Unable to do more than attend class, they make their own excitement. They are turning increasingly to 'pot,' hard drugs, alcohol and promiscuous sex. The "dropout" rate steadily increases. Teenage alcoholism and drug "burnout" is epidemic. Thousands are committing suicide.

Big foundations and corporations give most of their educational money to colleges. But students who have finished high school and had the motivation and ability to get into college are already 90 percent successful. A much greater percentage of our national treasure needs to be devoted at the elementary and high school level. It is this age group in such great trouble today. It is at this level that hundreds of thousands are being lost through the cracks annually. Kids who don't finish high school aren't going to college. First things first.

Oneida is on the frontline of the battle. We are on the cutting edge of the educational and social problems of our nation. Each life salvaged, each soul won to the Lord, each is important, each is so precious. But there are millions who need our help. We can only minister to a few hundred at a time. But we are a lighthouse, a beacon of what can be, should be.

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H. C. Chiles
Clear Creek Baptist School
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sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR AUG. 23, 1987

Life and Work Series

Learning how to minister

Paul gave Timothy some practical advice on dealing with people and with problems which he would encounter within the fellowship of the churches. The apostles readily recognized all of those within the society of grace were interested in being the recipients of concern, understanding, love and appreciation. He knew the demonstration of the Christian attitude would result in a wholesome solution of many problems.

I Tim. 5:1-8 Knowing older people respond favorably to respect, courtesy, kindness and love, Paul admonished Timothy to plead with them respectfully and lovingly as if they were his parents.

For generations the Jews practiced providing for the needs of widows and others who were in dire need of financial assistance. The first church in Jerusalem continued that practice and it had received some criticism from those who claimed they did not receive their share.

Paul advocated support of widows

who were left without funds for the necessities of life. A Christian is obligated to minister and care for kinsmen. Children and grandchildren are responsible for providing for their needy loved ones. Those who ignore their responsibility in this realm—by relegating it to a church—fail to do their duty, dishonor Christ greatly and come far short of the standard of heathen. Christians who shun their obligation thereby repudiate the law of love.

I Tim. 5:17-22 Paul explained a church should recompense its pastoral leadership with proper respect, honor, love and financial support. A pastor should carefully guard his character. No accusation against him deserves consideration unless it is substantiated by "two or three witnesses." Should the charge be found true, he is to be disciplined wisely, tactfully, lovingly and remedially, thereby keeping others on guard against temptation.

International Series

Citizens of two kingdoms

Rom. 13:1-8 God instituted government for the protection of its citizens, the punishment of evil doers and the administration of justice. Each child of God has obligations to the government under which he lives. He should abide by the law of his city, county, state and nation, unless it should require him to disobey God's word.

One must obey the law not simply to escape the consequences of wrongdoing, but for the sake of his own conscience which tells him to do right. Wanting his children to do that which is right in every area of life, God expects them to respect the government under which they live, to be subject to it and to support it through the payment of taxes for their share of the expenses incurred in rendering its services.

Rom. 13:10-14 Knowing the Roman Christians were living in one of the most wicked cities, Paul instructed them how they should live to please the Lord.

Paul taught that Christians should awake from spiritual drowsiness and lethargy, cast aside the vestments which he calls "the works of darkness," and put on "the armour of light." Christians should then walk properly as people whose daily strength comes from the strong conviction that Christ is coming again. At what particular time he may appear no man knows. In the meantime, it is rightfully expected that those whom God has saved shall live righteously and practice good citizenship.



Leon Simpson
President
Clear Creek Baptist School
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clear creek comment

New students everywhere

It is recorded in Luke that Jesus "went forth and saw a publican, named Levi, sitting at the receipt of custom: and he said unto him, 'Follow me' and he left all, rose up and followed him" (Luke 5:27, 28).

Matthew's call to full time ministry is repeated over and over today. He is a model of the many new students whom God calls and brings to Clear Creek each year.

The scripture indicates Matthew was older (our students' average age is 31).

He no doubt had a family (our average student brings with him a wife and two children), owned his home and had a settled life (many of our students also owned homes) and had a trade (almost all our students come with professional experience).

He gave all of these advantages up to respond to our Lord's call and follow him. Our students also sacrifice much to follow the Lord's call to Clear Creek.

Our new students have descended on Clear Creek since Aug. 1 with U-Hauls and Hertz-Penskes, Ryders and home-made trailers. Unpacking and cleaning have been the order of the day. This select group ranges from our minimum age of 21 to more than 60 years old. We have singles, more than one newlywed couple, families with no children ranging to families with four children. Majors include preaching, evangelism, pastoral care, Christian education and church music.

One 36-year-old man is a fireman/police sergeant and also a certified electrician who ran from God's call for eight years. Another is a machinist and married to a nurse. Another specializes in concrete work in construction. A retired Air Force man will be a student for the Lord this fall as well as one whose family background is filled with preachers and missionaries. A retired man and his wife are coming "to learn the Bible better so I can serve the Lord." A 'youngster' attended a nearby college until he was old enough for Clear Creek.

We have many students from Kentucky and some from Tennessee, Ohio and Virginia. However, we also have students coming this year from Indiana, Pennsylvania, New York, Illinois, Missouri, Oklahoma and Louisiana.

Pray that we will be good stewards of their time with us. This is an exciting time as we begin our year. There seem to be new students everywhere!

Christ becomes chief for great-grandson of Crazy Horse

by Scott Collins

If Jack Cochise had lived 100 years ago, he might have been chief of the Apache Indian nation rather than a student at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth.

He is the great-great grandson of both the famous Apache chief Cochise and Crazy Horse, chief of the Sioux.

But this Cochise finds his most important relationship not to tribal chiefs but to a spiritual chief, Jesus Christ.

Cochise was "brought up with the old ways" on the Mescalero, N. M., Indian reservation, he said. The tribe was poor and Cochise remembers living in tents, hauling water from a nearby creek and eating army rations to survive.

As an 11-year-old, Cochise ran away from Albuquerque Indian School. He became a heavy drug user and was convicted on felony charges, sending him to a boys school in Ogden, Utah.

His alcoholic father was married three times by Cochise's 13th birthday. By 19, Cochise had attempted suicide six times. "I was a pretty angry individual," he said.

At the boys school Cochise refused to accept Christ.

"I was an Indian and just saw that as a white man's religion," he said.

Even though Cochise was paroled from the boys school at 18, the reformatory had not reformed him. He began selling drugs and by 22 was earning "quite a bit of money" as a pusher. He was also a heroin addict and a heavy drinker.

"I had gained a pretty bad reputation by age 22 from people on the reservation," Cochise said. "I think I was just

trying to cover all the hurt and pain of my childhood."

Awaking from the stupor of an all-night party, Cochise finally realized he had "hit rock bottom in my life," he said. "I didn't care if someone hurt me or if I hurt them."

Sitting alone in his living room, Co-

chise reviewed his life.

"The dope, the alcohol, nothing seemed to cover the pain," he said. "There was only one thing left to try. That was to become a white man and accept his religion."

Cochise remembered some Bible verses the Pentecostal preacher had told

him. "Through those verses I became a Christian," he said. "I remember saying, 'If there is a God and you said your son died on the cross for my sins then I believe.'

"That was the first time in years I had cried," Cochise said. "I could feel the cleansing power of the Holy Spirit. My whole life has changed since then."

But Cochise's Indian friends thought he had become a white man. Many cursed him and one tried to shoot him, he said.

With the help of Southern Baptist home missionary Virginia North, Cochise began to study the Bible and grow in his new-found faith. She helped him "bridge the cultural gap" and encouraged him to attend college.

Cochise did not want to go back to the reservation as a missionary, he said. "I was kind of ashamed of being an Indian."

But God showed him the needs of Indians and the cultural problems in reaching them. "It really came home to me that I needed to go back to my people and be a missionary among them," he said.

That calling brought Cochise to Southwestern where he is studying Christian Social Ministries. Cochise said the needs of Indians are many because they are "the forgotten minority."

Problems on the reservation include poverty, "prison camp conditions" and resurgence of traditional Indian witchcraft and medicine-man practices, he claimed.

Despite those difficulties, Cochise believes he has the answer for American Indians. It is the same solution he found—Jesus Christ. (BP)



by Breena Kent Paine

He is a Samurai, a spy, a private detective, a stunt actor, a pilot, a writer, a hair stylist, a magician and now a student at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Frank Burrelli's life could be an adventure film. His father was a magician, so Burrelli, 54, learned the trade as a child, and as a teenager, he used his talent to make a living. In the Air Force, he carried his magic with him everywhere he was stationed, performing in officers' clubs and night clubs. Now that he is a Christian, however, he uses his talent to present the gospel.

But his search for meaning in life first took him around the world. He became an Air Force pilot in 1950, and throughout his military career has been stationed in Japan, Greenland, Korea, Vietnam, Alaska, Taiwan and Guam.

When he was fire chief of the Tokyo International Airport from 1955 to 1959, Burrelli took martial arts lessons and made personal friends with the Japanese prime minister's secretary of agriculture. The friend in high places named him an "honorary Japanese policeman" so he could attend the Tokyo Metropolitan Police Academy and take more lessons in the martial arts.

He is a Samurai, a spy, a private detective, a stunt actor, a writer, a magician, and now . . . a seminary student.

Ministry tops long list of Frank Burrelli's adventures

"Three years later, in a contest, I beat my own instructor and won a championship, and when I did that, I was knighted by the emperor as a Samurai," said Burrelli.

But that was not the end of his adventures. During a nine-year break from the military, Burrelli attended hairstyling classes at Charles

of the Ritz in New York, where he worked for awhile, then moved to Boston, where he and his brother opened the city's largest beauty shop, and Burrelli won competitions against internationally renowned hairdressers.

He entered the Air Force once more in 1971 as an air traffic controller.

While stationed in Florida, he obtained a private investigator's license and worked with surveillance and missing persons. "It's not like you see it on TV," said Burrelli, "so I soon got bored."

During his military career, he also was

assistant fire chief at Hickam Air Force Base in Honolulu. In his spare time, he was a stunt driver for "Hawaii Five-O."

"I put sticks of dynamite under the hood, blew up cars, smashed them into other cars, smashed them into walls, drove down hills," said Burrelli. During his stay in Hawaii, he also gave movie stars tours of the islands on chartered flights in a commercial plane.

In 1977, Burrelli was in Alaska on a remote assignment with the Air Force. It was there that he accepted Christ. "We were at the closest point of the United States to Russia, on an 8500-foot mountain, with radar equipment, watching the Russians 20 miles away," he said.

There on that remote mountaintop, Burrelli, a Catholic, read two books by Hal Lindsey—*The Late Great Planet Earth* and *There's a New World Coming*.

"I got hold of a Bible, read Revelation, understood it and accepted the Lord," he said.

It was not until several years later, however, that Burrelli, who had left the Air Force and was a pilot for U. S. Air, felt God calling him into the ministry. "I thought he had called me to be a priest, so I got accepted by St. Joseph Seminary in Baltimore," he said.

At the time, Burrelli was writing a book on the life of Jesus. He quit his job at the airline four months before seminary classes began to do more research for his book. After reading the gospel through 50 times, however, Burrelli realized St. Joseph was not the place for him, and decided to go to Florida to "look elsewhere" for God's calling.

In Florida, not really sure of what he was looking for or where to go to find it, Burrelli came across a list of churches and pastors in Ocala, where he was staying the night, and randomly picked a pastor's name similar to his. He was baptized at Highland Baptist Church, Ocala, Fla., by a pastor with the last name of Burrell, Palm Sunday, 1982.

A year later, First Baptist Church, Naples, Fla., ordained Burrelli to the ministry, and he became a vocational evangelist. The magician now uses his talent to evangelize.

"As I do magic now, I take a walk through the Bible and give images," said Burrelli. For instance, he tells the story of Peter in chains, locks himself into seemingly inescapable chains and escapes; or he makes a dove appear in his hands and talks about the Holy Spirit descending at the baptism of Jesus.

"Almost every performance, people come forward and accept the Lord," he said.

Now at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, Burrelli is seeking an associate of divinity degree. He feels the training will help him in his ministry of using the artwork of magic to bring people to Christ. (BP)

Woman's
Missionary
Union

NEWS



WMU HISTORY INSPIRES MISSIONS INVOLVEMENT

Catherine Allen believes more women will become involved in missions when they read about WMU history, because they will see what a difference an individual woman can make.

Allen is the author of *A Century to Celebrate*, the new history chronicling the first 100 years of Woman's Missionary Union work. The book is being published in conjunction with WMU's Centennial celebration.

"This is a different history in that it does not just start at the beginning and go straight through to the end. It is a topical history. Each chapter deals with another aspect of our work," Allen said.

Those chapters include such topics as WMU's role in supporting the missions offerings and the Cooperative Program, WMU's relationship with the missionary, the development of mission action, the introduction of theological education for women, WMU's relationship with

the Southern Baptist Convention, and the innovative things introduced into Southern Baptist life by WMU.

Allen found much evidence of how WMU has helped women define their role in Southern Baptist life, particularly the missionaries.

"Much more than I expected I found that WMU officers in the early days personally mentored and championed the women missionaries," Allen said. She said she is convinced "if WMU had not functioned we would still today not have women missionaries."

Although WMU has done much for women and their abilities to serve, Allen said it was clear that this was a by-product, never the organization's purpose.

"Whatever comes and goes from the scene, we will always be loyal to our main purpose, which is missions."

WMU LEADERS PROFILED IN BOOKS

As Woman's Missionary Union members celebrate the organization's Centennial, they will have a new book of biographical information about the leaders who have shaped the past 100 years.

Laborers Together with God, written by Catherine Allen, is a compilation of biographical sketches of the presidents and executive directors who have served WMU through the years.

"I think that people will find it extremely interesting to study their accomplishments and their personal

styles," Allen said.

Laborers Together was originally intended to be a chapter in Allen's new history, *A Century to Celebrate*, but became too big to be included as just one chapter.

"I found these women to be tremendously interesting in their great skills, their commitment, the way they overcame problems," Allen said.

She said that WMU has always used history to help women be encouraged about what they are doing today.

MAGAZINES COMMEMORATE CENTENNIAL

What is the one keepsake most likely to show up at WMU Sesquicentennial celebrations in 2038? More than likely it will be a commemorative issue of a WMU magazine.

With more than 800,000 magazine subscriptions, a commemorative issue will be the one keepsake most WMU members will have when the Sesquicentennial rolls around.

All 1988 May monthly (and April-May-June quarterly) WMU magazines will be wrapped in covers designed to celebrate the Centennial.

Features inside the magazines will include stories of people and events in WMU history. Historical contents will be especially tailored for each magazine.