

Kentucky Crusaders slide into softball ministry

by Todd Deaton, Staff Writer

A little more than a month ago the Kentucky Baptist Sports Crusaders, newest member of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's evangelism teams in the Kenya linkup, returned from a 13-day basketball tour of Nairobi, Mombasa and Nakuru. Last week they traded in their hoops, picked up their bats and gloves and slid into another season.

Based on the basketball team's success in Kenya, the organization has formed a softball/ministry team to tour Kentucky this fall.

"Our objective is to use the medium of sports to share the gospel," said Robby Speer, minister of activities at Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown, and co-founder of the Kentucky Crusaders. "Softball is just another facet for our ministry."

The team visited LaGrange Reformatory recently to play a doubleheader against the Kentucky inmates and to share the gospel with them. They posted a 14-6 and a 10-9 victory, but "the real results are in the lives we touched for Christ with our testimonies between games and in the cells," said Speer.

The organization's ministry efforts during their Kenya basketball trip also netted results.

The Crusaders gave 12 basketball clinics and played six games against the Kenya national basketball team, losing only once, and seven games against local basketball clubs. Off the court, the 12 Kentucky players, who completed a KBC witness training program prior to their departure for Kenya, shared the gospel at halftimes, after games, in churches and schools and on a ferry at Mombasa.

Larry Pursiful, the organization's other leader and coach of the basketball team, claimed the players shared their faith with more than 28,000 people and saw about 700 decisions made for Christ. Pursiful is minister of activities at Carlisle Avenue Baptist Church, Louisville.

Pursiful and Speer recruited the Kentucky players, most of whom had college experience, from all over the state. In addition to being a good player, requirements for the team were that one must be a Baptist, but not necessarily a Southern Baptist, and have a Kentucky connection. Each player also had to raise \$2000 for travel expenses to

Kenya.

According to reports, the Crusaders drew their largest crowds of 500 spectators when they played at Shauri-Mayo, a Nairobi Baptist Center. At halftime, coach Pursiful introduced a team member who gave a five-minute testimony about Jesus Christ and how his influence had changed their lives. They also told of their mission to share the gospel through the sport they loved.

"Softball is an expansion of that original mission," explained Speer. "When we returned from Kenya, we had not planned to do any more programs until next spring. But, after talking with Doug Flynn, a former Cincinnati Reds

player, we became excited about an opportunity to share the gospel while playing softball at the LaGrange state reformatory."

That interest started Pursiful and Speer on another recruiting drive. This time, for good softball players.

The team's roster includes Greg Smith, Jim Lockard and Kim Christian, Louisville; Doug Flynn, Mark Bryant and David Shaw, Lexington; Mike Pollack, Campbellsville College; Kerry Scaggs, Bonnieville; Dwayne McClure, Tommy Bradbury and Robby Speer, Elizabethtown.

"As far as we know, this is one of the first ministries of this kind involving softball in the Southern Baptist Convention," Speer asserted.

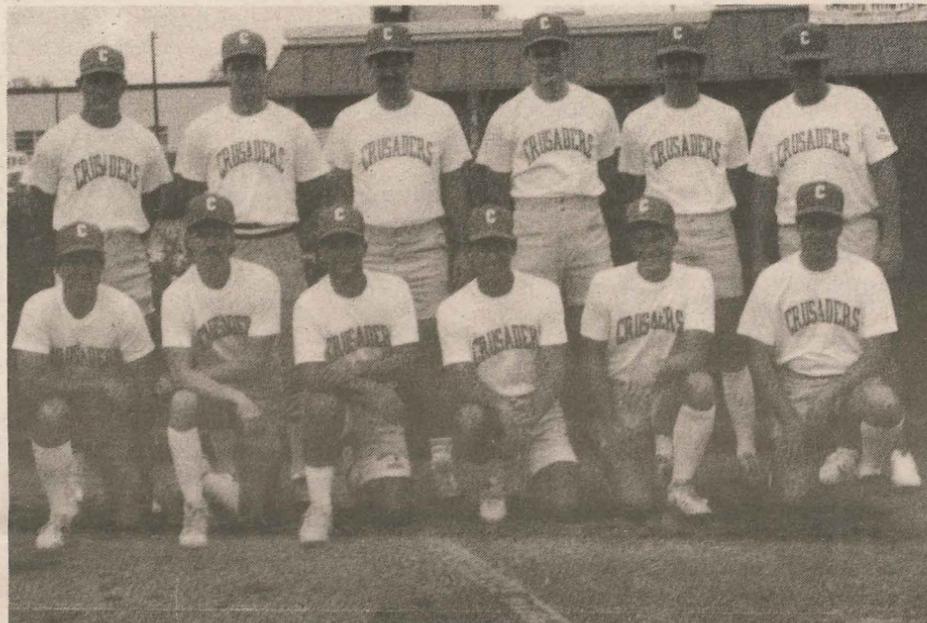
"Right now, the opportunities are endless. We would like to participate in tournaments in the South and on college campuses in our state—going any place we can to share Christ," he stated.

Flynn, who has also played for the New York Mets, Montreal Expos and Detroit Tigers, cited two benefits of being a part of the Crusaders. "First, the program is good for the athletes because it teaches them how to effectively give their testimony to others. Many players have a problem standing up and sharing their faith among their peers.

"Second, the Crusaders provides an opportunity for athletes to use their talents in a particular sport as a vehicle to bring others to Christ," he added.

But, Speer is not content to let the program end with softball season. "We hope to broaden the scope of ministry to include track events soon."

Interested persons should contact Robby Speer, 242 French Street, Elizabethtown, KY 42701.



The Kentucky Baptist Sports Crusaders, who recently returned from a Kenya basketball tour began a softball/ministry program in mid-July.

Long Run Baptists seek rebirth of old church

by Todd Deaton, Staff Writer

Rebirth has long been a favorite theme among Southern Baptists. But, for Barry Harkness, pastor of Long Run Baptist Church, and concerned Eastwood residents, the term has more than a spiritual meaning.

Harkness and the Eastwood residents, along with Jefferson County officials, have created an organization dedicated to restoring the old Long Run Baptist Church as a historical chapel or community meeting house.

"The project was conceived because the old church has historical significance both for Kentuckians and for Baptists," said Harkness.

Around 1790 the property, located about two miles north of U. S. 60 near the Shelby County line, belonged to President Abraham Lincoln's grandfather, who died after Indians attacked his home. His log house was later donated by his family as a community meeting house. According to the best records available, the Long Run church was established between 1780 and 1786 and met in a log building on pioneer Lincoln's farm at the time of his death.

But, Abraham Lincoln is not the only president whose ancestors have ties with the old Long Run church. The existing ruins are from a brick church built in 1840 by the slaves of Harry Truman's great uncle, William Gregg.

According to a letter from Truman to former Gov. Earle Clements, the church

may have taken its name from another incident involving Indians and his own ancestors.

Truman wrote: "... I remember Grandmother Young (a member of the old Long Run congregation) telling me how the church got its name. It seems that her grandfather and some of his neighbors were being chased by Indians.

"When they scattered, her grandfather crawled into a hollow log to hide," he claimed. "The Indians who were after him jumped on the log and, after looking in vain in all directions, said, 'Long Run white man.'"

The structure donated by Truman's ancestors was the home of old Long Run church until it was destroyed by fire on Christmas Day 1960. Only the four brick walls remained.

The Long Run congregation built a new sanctuary about a mile away on Flat Rock Road. The former site was purchased by Jefferson County to be used as a historical marker, and for the past quarter of a century the ruins of the old structure have stood silent. One wall has crumbled and two corners have collapsed.

The site is significant to the history of Kentucky Baptists as well. "The old Long Run church, one of the first Baptist congregations in Kentucky, was the mother church of almost all Baptist churches in Long Run Association. Even the association itself was established in 1803 at the church," says Harkness. Until that time, old Long Run had been

a member of Salem Association, which it joined in 1797.

The congregation gave direct birth to at least six churches: South Long Run (1802); Flat Rock, now Pleasant Grove (1805); Dover (1812); Floyd's Fork, now Fisherville (1827); Pee Wee Valley, now Crestwood (1873); and most recently, Pee Wee Valley Tabernacle.

Skipper Martin, Jefferson County director of community development, and other county officials met with Eastwood residents in July to plan fund raising efforts for the \$30,000 project, part of the Jefferson County Discovery '87 development program.

"Most of the labor for the project has been volunteered by the local bricklayers and carpenters unions," said Harkness. "The county also has pledged to provide some of the work from young people participating in its Job Training Partnership Agency Summer Employment Program."

Long Run Baptist Church hopes the former building will be reconstructed by its bicentennial celebration, which will be observed in 1994. These plans are pending the response of Kentucky Baptists and Eastwood residents to raise funds.

The Kentucky Baptist Historical Commission will also be involved in funding the project. "But, financial assistance and volunteer labor from friends all across the state are greatly needed to insure the old church building's restoration," Harkness added.

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Jack D. Sanford

sanford's perspectives

Below is the second in a series of editorials by members of the Board of Directors of Western Recorder. This opportunity is given these men so they may express to Kentucky Baptists their sense of calling and stewardship in the work they do in supervision of the paper and its staff. There are 12 directors elected by the KBC who serve a three-year term. Pastors, laymen and church staff people are on the board and all of them have a deep sense of responsibility to do their job in a Christ-like manner as stewards of the trust placed in them by the KBC. Writer this week is Richard Bridges, pastor of First Baptist Church, Bowling Green, serving his first term as a Western Recorder director.

Thankful to serve with Western Recorder

When I was a boy and a member of First Baptist Church, Hopkinsville, there were four required reading items in my home. The first was the Bible, the second was my Sunday school lesson for the coming Sunday, the third was the daily edition of the Courier-Journal and the fourth was Western Recorder.

My father and mother insisted I read Western Recorder because they wanted me to be informed about the work of Kentucky Baptists, our connection to the larger world of Southern Baptists and to become familiar with the persons and churches of our state convention.

By the time I was ready for college, having already surrendered to God's call to preach, I had a vision and appreciation of what it meant to be a cooperative Baptist. That vision came through Western Recorder.

My responsibility now as a director is to see that this Baptist paper does for others what it did for me. Western Recorder is to be faithful to Baptist principles and tell the truth about our work together. As a boy I learned Baptists sometimes disagree, but I also learned Baptists can, when given the whole truth, solve most any problem.

That lesson made me a better Baptist, a wiser Christian and a young preacher with a passion for the Baptist way of life. It also prepared me for service on this board.

Baptists have many points of view on almost

any subject. It is our job to let each other know about these various points of view, not because we lack convictions of our own but because one great purpose of a Baptist paper is to help us talk to one another.

If Western Recorder ever starts speaking only one point of view you will know we directors have stopped doing our job.

My dad taught me a pulpit is a sacred place, a place to be used only at the discretion of the preacher. No one else could tell that preacher how to preach; only the Lord and the preacher could take care of that. I feel the same way about the editor of Western Recorder; he has a sacred pulpit.

While I might disagree with him from time to time, he is the only regular spokesman for all Kentucky Baptists. His job is to fairly and honestly speak to every issue concerning Kentucky Baptists. My job as a director is to keep this pulpit free so long as its occupant honors its responsibility.

I am grateful to Kentucky Baptists for allowing me to serve in this capacity. Its only disadvantage is that we directors tend to be lightning rods from time to time! But even in that duty, a valuable service is rendered.

Most of all I want to see that Western Recorder helps Kentucky Baptists stay in fellowship and both educates and challenges us to keep cooperatively serving the Lord Jesus together.

Vacation Bible school excellence

Vacation Bible school is a summertime activity with plenty of excitement, fun and spiritual growth for kids of all ages. It is a lot of work but the rewards are eternal.

Occasionally a church does such an outstanding job reaching people through the VBS that it deserves the praise and recognition of fellow Christians.

Such is the case with First Baptist Church, Whitesburg.

Pastor Thomas S. Stokes and the people of First Church, Whitesburg, have done an excellent job enlisting, teaching and training children and youth during this year's VBS. Their record of VBS enrolment this summer in ratio to Sunday school enrolment must be a near record in Kentucky.

A look at the statistics will tell a story of strong emphasis on people. The total enrolment for the school, including those enrolled in the missions of First Church, totaled 1360. The average attendance was 1051 and 1238 were present on the high attendance day.

Of course First Church, Whitesburg, operates five missions throughout the area—Premium, Eolia, Kona, Colson and Linefork—and the attendance figures include those missions. Even so, this must be a record of faithfulness in reaching people for intensive Bible study during the hot summer months.

Western Recorder joins a host of other Kentucky Baptists in sending pastor Stokes and his people a hearty word of affirmation and thanksgiving.

We rejoice in the good work being done by many other people across our great state. Vacation Bible school has been, or will be, held in virtually every Kentucky Baptist church this summer with success stories common. However we thought it appropriate to focus on one great church with an outstanding record and publicly honor our brethren for the work being done there for the Lord.

Of course the people at Whitesburg, as well as those across the state, do not carry on the work of Christ for the praise of men. Yet a little praise is medicine for the soul. And we offer it gladly.

western recorder

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mountains to the mississippi

congregations

Bashford Manor Baptist Church, Louisville, Long Run Association, will celebrate Sept. 20 the 25th anniversary of the groundbreaking for the church building. Plans include a festival of praise with an all day service and dinner on the grounds. Theme of the morning service will be "Launching Tomorrow." The afternoon theme will be "Reflections of Yesterday."

personnel

George C. Wiles was recognized by Hillview Baptist Church, Long Run Association, for 50 years' service as a deacon. He was ordained May 22, 1937 at Paynesville Baptist Church, Meade County. Glenn Byrd is pastor at Hillview.

Vernon L. Clark was called as pastor of Meadow Creek Baptist Church, Wayne County Association.

Tony Smith has been called as pastor of Gethsemane Baptist Church, Long Run Association.

Joe Skinner, pastor of Southside Baptist Church, West Union Association, resigned. He is available for supply work.

Charlie Jones has been called as minister of music and youth by Livermore Baptist Church, Daviess-McLean Association. Douglas M. Anderson is pastor.

Kevin Borders, a student at Southern Seminary, has been named an assistant in the communications and development office of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children.

Borders, son of Mr. and Mrs. Merwyn Borders, Southern Baptist home mis-

sionaries to Vermont, is a 1985 summa cum laude graduate of Georgetown (Ky.) College. Following graduation, he was a summer missionary in Montreal, Canada. He later returned to Georgetown where he was an admissions specialist.

At Homes for Children, Borders will prepare press releases and other news items. Additionally, he will be editor of the Baptist Children's Messenger, the agency's bimonthly newspaper.

Byrnis P. Monteclaro, pastor of Filipino Baptist Church, Long Run Association, was elected central regional director of the newly-formed Southern Baptist Filipino Conference during home mission week at Glorieta, N. M. The Filipino church in Louisville started as a mission of the Lyndon Baptist Church where Hugh Goldsby is pastor.

Phil Majors, director of public relations and professor of pastoral ministry at Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, resigned that position effective Aug. 1 to become pastor of First Baptist Church, Stearns, McCreary Association. He began part time duties with the church in March and moved to the field in August.

A native of Corbin, Majors is a graduate of Cumberland College and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is currently enrolled in the DMin program at Southern Seminary, Louisville.

He and his wife Melanie, who worked as administrative assistant to the vice president for development at Clear

Creek, have previously served Dry Ridge Baptist Church, Crittenden Association, and Little Flock Baptist Church, Long Run Association. Majors also pastored a church in Brandon, Tex.

Terry Reinhart, pastor of New Cedar Grove Baptist Church, Logan Association, had to walk home Sunday, Aug. 3, a distance of approximately four miles. He had challenged the congregation to reach 75 people in Sunday school. The church responded with 97 people present.

ordinations

Lebane Hall was ordained to the ministry by Forest Park Baptist Church, Warren Association, Aug. 9. Hall is a student at Golden Gate Seminary, Mill Valley, Cal., and engaged in Baptist Student Union work in California.

Jerry Nash was ordained as a deacon by Mays Lick Baptist Church, Bracken Association. Mark Douglas Kitts is pastor.

Gary Bivins, Jack Kellum and Tony Rowe were ordained as deacons July 26 by Maceo Baptist Church, Daviess-McLean Association. Scott Ford, pastor, preached the ordination sermon.

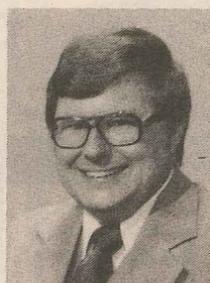
Phil King was ordained as a deacon at Oak Ridge Baptist Church, Northern Kentucky Association, June 28.



READY TO SERVE
Jerry Butcher, a Home Mission Board summer missionary from Georgetown (Ky.) College, helps other summer missionaries handle luggage at Baltimore-Washington International Airport. Butcher worked with resort missionary Lynn Davis at Ocean City, Md., this summer.

correction

A feature article in the Aug. 4 issue on Joe Parks, cook at Howard Memorial Baptist Camp, Upper Cumberland Association, identified Parks as a member of Wallins Baptist Church. He is a member of First Baptist Church, Loyall.



James H. Cox
Associate Editor

fourth estate

Mentoring

One of the most positive influences on my life has been the quality of young people God has given us as journalism interns at Western Recorder. It has been sheer joy to be associated with nearly 40 of them, all students at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

I don't know if every seminary student is as uniquely qualified as those who have come our way, but they are surely a credit to that institution and to this younger generation. I might add, a credit to training by godly parents in formative years, too. If all the young people coming out of our churches today could emulate the young men and women who

have been a part of this staff, I believe our nation would be better prepared to cope with the problems of tomorrow. These are wholesome, committed young people with endearing personalities. I could summarize by adding that they are the kind of persons most of us would feel comfortable having as sons- and daughters-in-law.

When we interview these young people for vacancies at Western Recorder, we emphasize that we are looking for goal-oriented persons who know, beyond doubt, that they are called of the Lord to religious communications. Part of our responsibility, we discern, is in training those who will fill future vacancies in this work.

Since the program's inception we have "graduated" interns to positions with the four SBC boards (Annuity, Foreign Mission, Home Mission, Sunday School), Brotherhood Commission, Woman's Missionary Union, staffs of three Baptist colleges, three state Baptist child care agencies, six Baptist state newspaper staffs, as freelance writers

deaths

Mabel Harper Pogue, 84, the widow of Bob Pogue who was business manager of Western Recorder for 22 years, died Aug. 13 at Baptist East Nursing Home, Louisville. Mrs. Pogue was a member of Beechwood Baptist Church and formerly taught Baptist school at Walnut Street Baptist Church for more than 30 years. She is survived by her mother, one sister, five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Ada Boone Brown is remembered by the Baptist Women of Central Baptist Church, Lexington. Her loyal devotion and commitment to missions and her church was called an inspiration. Among her published poems and books, Golden Remembrances is remembered by the Woman's Missionary Union.

revivals

Russ Adkisson, state Brotherhood president, reports successful lay revivals were conducted at East Rhudes Creek Baptist Church, Severns Valley Association; Hardinsburg Baptist Church, Breckinridge Association; and First Baptist Church, Barbourville, North Concord Association.

Several people were converted and one young man on Adkisson's revival team, Dewey Keys, acknowledged a call to be an associational youth leader for Breckinridge Association, where he has won 12 people to Christ since June.

Adkisson has two revivals already scheduled this fall in Kentucky. He will be leading a revival at Ninth and O Baptist Church, Long Run Association, Sept. 19-21, and another at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Pulaski Association, Oct. 23-24.

Ray Acree, Kentucky's representative to the Foreign Mission Board for Laity Abroad, spoke in June to both morning services at Faith Baptist Church, Kaiserslautern, West Germany. His subject was involvement of Christian lay persons overseas helping to accomplish Southern Baptists' Bold Mission Thrust, a comprehensive effort to reach the world for Christ by the year 2000.

Acree is available to speak at other churches or associational meetings by contacting him through the KBC's Brotherhood Department.

for denominational publishing houses, religion editors on several secular papers, a state convention PR director and in church staff positions where a writing ministry is encouraged.

We happily recommend these young people for full time capacities as they approach seminary graduation. We maintain a personal interest in them, correspond with them, publish a bimonthly newsletter for them containing information about their families and work and host a mealtime reunion for them at the SBC annual meeting each year.

This mentor-in-residence is proud of every one of them. I am attempting to repay a similar kind deed done for me three decades ago when the Sunday School Board tapped me in my collegiate years as its first news writer.

At Western Recorder, we're putting some of our stock into today's young men and women. The investment is a rewarding one, for Jesus himself spent a great deal of time helping, guiding and preparing people for far greater service.

baptist news in brief



Glimpses of our heritage

Rone

From trials to triumph 1837-1843

by Wendell Rone

Evangelist-historian J. H. Spencer said, "During the eight years of calamity that preceded the constitution of the General Association, the Baptists of Kentucky lost nearly one-third of their number and nearly two-thirds of their prestige and ministerial power."

The Campbellite schism and anti-mission defection led Baptist leaders to see the necessity of a united front to evangelize the state.

The Baptist Banner emphasized the necessity and importance of such a general meeting by declaring, "The condition of Baptist churches demands something be done and be done speedily. . . . We now have upward of 500 churches with but a little over 200 ministers and 40,000 members . . . even these 200 ministers do not give themselves wholly to the work. Most of them are poor men and have families to support. Hence they toil all week in the fields or shops and on the Lord's day, preach to churches that would suffer them to die in want and their families be reduced to beggary rather than give of their carnal things."

On Oct. 20, 1837, 57 persons met in First Baptist Church, Louisville, (now Walnut Street) and formed the General Association of Baptists in Kentucky, changed to the Kentucky Baptist Convention in 1960.

Of the 57 who attended 20 were ordained ministers, one a licensed minister and the remaining 36 private church members. Louisville had about 25,000 population and one Baptist church with 380 members.

Elder William Vaughan preached the introductory sermon. Elder William C. Buck, the host pastor, called the meeting to order and elder George Waller was appointed chairman with elders John L. Waller and J. M. Pendleton chosen as secretaries.

Only nine of the 43 associations in Kentucky were represented. The association adopted the Principles of Union approved by United Baptists as "the sentiments avowed by this body."

Four objects were approved: (1) ministerial support; (2) an educated ministry and laity; (3) Bible distribution; and (4) the support of foreign missions. The policy was adopted setting forth that the best method of reaching the spiritual destitution of the state was by means of the district associations, considered as auxiliaries of the state body.

After its organization, opposition to organized missions—especially theological education, was more intensified and determined. There was agitation and confusion in many associations in 1838. But a revival broke out in the Louisville church and continued for six years, during which time 637 were baptized. The revival soon spread to other churches resulting in nearly 7000 baptisms during the year.

Peace report answered by Florida paper

The Florida Baptist Witness will "continue to contribute to the process of reconciliation" in the Southern Baptist Convention but will not abandon use of theological terms to describe opposing positions in the SBC controversy, according to the newsmagazine's directors.

The Florida Baptist Witness Commission, which governs publication of the weekly newsjournal, has adopted a statement in response to the SBC Peace Committee report approved by messengers to the convention's annual meeting in June.

Recommendation VII of the peace report asks state Baptist newsjournals, other publications and individual Baptists "to refrain from the use of intemperate and inflammatory language, labeling individuals and impugning motives."

"Specifically, we request that all Baptist writers and individual Baptists refrain from characterizing fellow Southern Baptists in terms such as 'fun-

damentalist,' 'liberal,' 'fundamental-conservative,' 'moderate-conservative,'" the recommendation continues.

The terminology used by reporters has been debated in the nine-year-old SBC controversy. Some people say such labels are offensive and distort the positions espoused by leaders on both sides.

The response suggests, "While recognizing that designations and terms must be used in reporting some events and defining certain issues, such language will not be used in an inflammatory or divisive manner." (BP)

Georgian, N. Carolinian 1988's DOMs: HMB

Bob Lee Franklin, director of missions for Noonday Baptist Association in Georgia, and Fred Lunsford, director of missions in Truett Baptist Association in North Carolina, were named directors of missions of the year for the eastern United States during the home missions conference at Ridgecrest (N. C.) Baptist Conference Center.

Franklin received the metropolitan award. He was director of missions in Montgomery, Ala. eight years before going to Noonday Association in suburban Atlanta two years ago. He received the award for his "strong leadership of associational workgroups in new work areas," said Jere Allen, Home Mission Board director of metropolitan associational missions.

Franklin's ability to lead churches to start missions also was cited as reason for the award. He has helped start eight missions in Noonday Association.

Lunsford received the rural/urban award for his 23 years of work in Truett Association. "He has dedicated his life to work among our mountain churches," said Gary Farley, Home Mission Board associate director of rural/urban associational missions.

"He has accepted churches where they were and been able to draw them into being cooperative churches, relating to all people," Farley said. (BP)

Marylander missionary dies in Ethiopian crash

The business manager for the Southern Baptist mission in Ethiopia died in a helicopter crash Aug. 4 as he was flying to meet Ethiopian agricultural officials in a remote area. The pilot was killed also.

Police recovered the bodies of missionary Troy M. Waldron Jr. and Steve Bartalsky, the pilot, in a gully in sparsely populated hills near Addis Ababa.

The craft had just passed over the first range of mountains it would encounter on the trip when the engine apparently failed. Parts of the helicopter were strewn over a wide area, and both men apparently died on impact.

The wives of the two men decided to bury their husbands on Ethiopian soil as an indication of their love for the people.

Waldron, 34, of Silver Spring, Md., was making a one-day trip to the area around the Southern Baptist feeding station at Merhabete, about 45 minutes' flying time from Addis Ababa. He was planning to join Ethiopian officials there and accompany them as they made several stops in the area to take samples of crops in the Merhabete area, in response to concern over inadequate summer rains.

Before his appointment as a missionary in 1982, Waldron had owned small businesses in Maryland, Michigan and Kentucky. He had attended Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and the University of Louisville. (BP)

Floridian is recipient of language honor

Milton Leach Jr. has received the catalytic missionary of the year award from the Language Missions Division of the Baptist Home Mission Board. He accepted the award at the annual home missions conference at Glorietta (N. M.) Baptist Conference Center.

Leach is a catalytic missionary in Ft. Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Fla. He also has been a Home Mission Board consultant on refugees.

Leach received the award for his spiritual dedication, personal relationships and loyalty to the board, said Oscar Romo, HMB language missions director. (BP)

Former WR staffer joins Baptist college

Susan Shaw, news director and a Garrett Teaching Fellow at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, has joined the faculty of California Baptist College, Riverside, as assistant professor of religion.

She has been a state correspondent and student journalism intern for Western Recorder.

A native of Rome, Ga., Miss Shaw recently completed requirements for the doctorate in education at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville. She earned a BA magna cum laude from Berry College, Mt. Berry, Ga., and MA in Christian education at Southern Seminary.

Miss Shaw has been named an Outstanding Young Woman of America twice. She has also been named to Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges twice.



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Guatemala missionaries hit by rash of robberies

A series of armed robberies and robbery attempts has plagued missionaries in Guatemala this summer, apparently the result of a local missionary directory falling into criminal hands.

Missionaries Ted and Sue Lindwall returned from church Aug. 2 to find three armed men ransacking their home. Mrs. Lindwall chased one of the men out of the house with a knife. Her husband pursued the other two into the yard. They turned on him, brandishing guns, forced him to his knees and took his wallet, containing more than \$200. Jewelry and some Baptist convention funds inside the house also were taken. The robbers tried to take the Lindwalls' car, but could not shift the gears.

Two men tried to break into another missionary home in Guatemala City the

same day but were turned away by a guard. The same week a group of known criminals tried to gain entrance to a third missionary home and a fourth home was being watched by presumed robbers, according to missionaries.

These incidents follow the May 28 robbery at gunpoint of missionary Mar-

gie Carothers, whose car, wedding rings and purse were taken.

Crimes like robbery and burglary have increased in Guatemala because of hunger and worsening economic conditions, said missionary Don Doyle, whose house was also the target of an apparent robbery attempt. (BP)

Theologian-in-residence set in Houston

Willow Meadows Baptist Church, Houston, Tex., will host the first theologian-in-residence sent to a local church from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

The congregation has invited William Tillman Jr., assistant professor of Christian ethics, to act as "Christian ethics resource person" during his sabbatical leave this year. Pastor is George Gaston, former professor at Southwestern.

Tillman, who has taught at Southwestern since 1981, also will be interim director of Southwestern's off-campus center at Houston Baptist University.

Further, he will be visiting scholar in the department of religious studies at Rice University.

Although the theologian-in-residence concept still is new in Baptist circles, Tillman thinks bringing professors into local churches can bridge understanding between seminaries and Baptists.

"This congregation asks that I bring my professional expertise to bear upon them as part of my local church involvement," Tillman said. "I will guide them to learn how they may better apply Christian ethical values in their community." (BP)



Leon Simpson
President
Clear Creek Baptist School
Pineville, KY 40977

clear creek comment

God's bivocational pastors

Today is our first day of classes for the fall semester at Clear Creek. My heart is full as I think of all of these future pastors and other workers beginning their pilgrimage with us. L. C. Kelly (who founded our school in 1926) must be rejoicing in heaven today. And I am sure Merrill D. Aldridge (president 1954-1982, now retired in Lexington) is happy he gave so many years of his life to helping God's servants along the way.

I am convinced there is no higher calling in life than to help God's servants in the ministry. Let me introduce you to a bi-vocational pastor (who also has taught at Eastern Kentucky University for years) who recently came for his first visit to Clear Creek in order to help our students. His letter follows.

"I just must express our appreciation for the royal treatment you and your staff members extended to my wife and me on our recent visit to your remarkable school. It was our first visit and it exceeded our expectations in every way.

"We trust the library will be able to use a number of the volumes we took down. I realize many of them, being paper backs and text books of sorts, will not qualify for the library. We hope they could be made available for students to browse through and add to their personal libraries. And those which neither library nor students want will serve well as fuel for the beautiful suspended fireplace in the family life center.

"Of course I have kept the cream of my personal library. There are 2000 or more selected sets and volumes on my shelves. I feel I still will be using them in preparation for my writing and preaching in the next few years. However, in a few years, when I am close to the termination of my earthly pilgrimage, I will see that Clear Creek Bible College gets them.

"We were very impressed with the school—physically (it was so neat and well kept and clean) and academically. I have examined the catalog and like what I find. We were most especially impressed with the young man who was our host during our visit.

"Our tour of the campus, the visit to Jerusalem and the warm friendly treatment from the three ladies were wonderful. Thank you for your hospitality and it is my intention to visit Clear Creek many times in the years ahead."

Louis A. McCord
Retired pastor
Wallaceton Baptist Church
Retired professor, EKU

Floridians ask senators to limit abortion insurance

Several Florida Baptists went to Washington to ask the state's two senators to support an amendment limiting health insurance coverage of abortions.

Although neither Sen. Lawton Chiles nor Sen. Bob Graham endorsed the amendment—labeled the Danforth Abortion-Neutral Amendment—Graham promised to seek a solution to the legislative dilemma facing abortion opponents.

The dilemma centers on the Civil Rights Restoration Act, expected to come before the Senate soon. Although the act is supported broadly, even among anti-abortionists, some observers fear enforcement of the bill will require many hospitals and colleges—including some Baptist institutions—to provide employees and students with health insurance for abortions.

The Florida group was joined by Larry Braidfoot, general counsel of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, Nashville. (BP)



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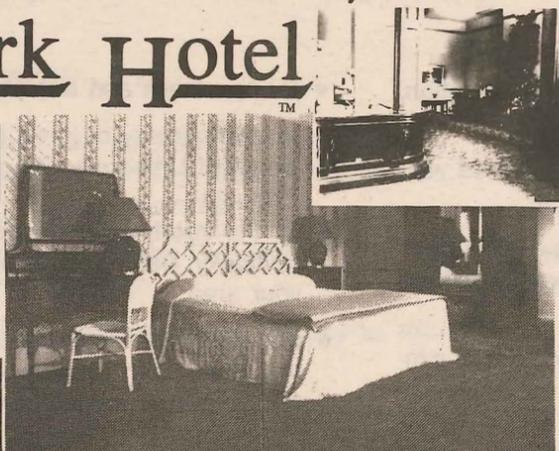
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DIRECTORS OF MISSIONS

Uniting Missions Throughout the State

Set apart to pray . . .

- for the Directors of Missions in our state that they will have impact on furthering the ministry of Kentucky Baptists.
- for more persons to accept the challenges of forming associational or church partnerships with weaker associations or churches in our state.
- for the churches and pastors in your association, that they will be cooperative in their ministry efforts. Pray for those churches and pastors who may have special hurts or needs at this time.
- for your Director of Missions, asking God to instill vision in him for ministry in your association.

MOUNTAIN MISSIONS

Spreading Good News Through Kentucky's Appalachia

Set apart to pray . . .

- for the work of Kentucky Baptists in the mountains of eastern Kentucky.
- for Ross Figart as he oversees the ministries there.
- that weak churches will become self-supporting and able to function fruitfully in the community.
- for new works beginning in the area. Consider your church's response in assisting in a partnership.
- for the Mountain Missions Conferences and its ministry to persons who serve our churches there. Pray for the conference leaders as they seek to inspire and encourage ministers in the area.
- for God's blessings on Oneida Baptist Institute and their assistance in hosting the conference and ministering in the area.

DISASTER RELIEF VAN

Volunteers Assist in Disaster-Struck Areas

Set apart to pray . . .

- for the work of disaster relief in Kentucky.
- for Bob Simpkins, who serves as disaster relief coordinator.
- that more churches and associations will seek to become a part of the relief team by providing volunteers or by becoming equipped relief sites in case of possible disaster in their area.
- for expansion of the disaster relief program to better aid hurting people.
- that the ministry of Baptist Builders will be developed.

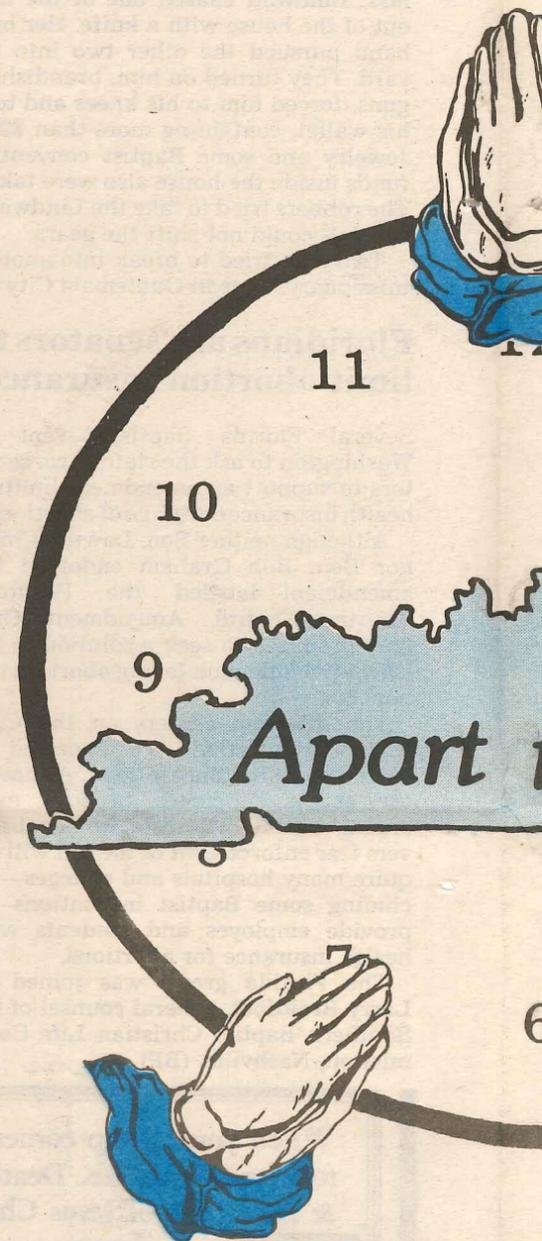
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT MINISTRY

Delivering the Word Around the World

Set apart to pray . . .

- for Internationals in Kentucky, in your association, and community.
- for the work of Kentucky Student Ministries with Internationals on college campuses.
- that people will be made aware of the availability of Bibles in other languages, and of those individuals who receive them.
- that persons will get involved in extending their ministry to other faiths and nationalities.
- for openness and acceptance of all people.
- for the ministry of Kim Chrisman with Chinese students at University of Louisville's Medical/Dental School.
- for the yearly International Student Conference in Kentucky. Seek ways to aid the conference when in your area.
- that students receiving Bibles will become led by the Holy Spirit to bear witness of Christ as they return to their homes here and in other countries.

WEEK OF STATE M

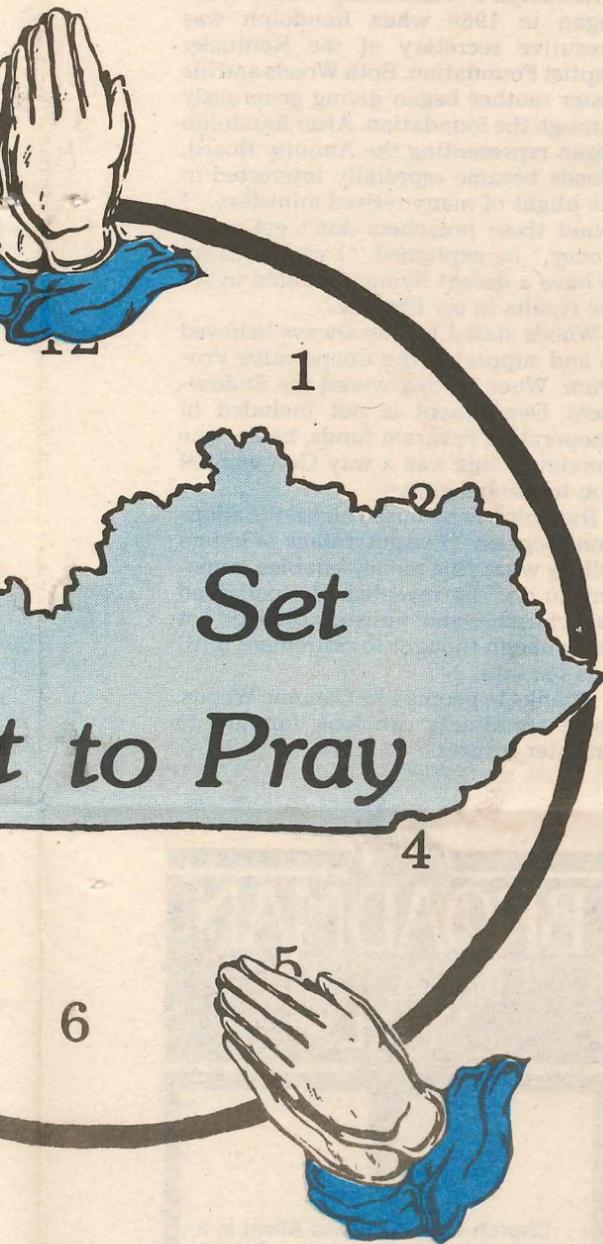


"Evening and morning,

September

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OF PRAYER for MISSIONS



ng, and at noon will I pray."
Psalm 55:17a (KJV)

er 13-20, 1987

NG GOAL:
25,000

MISSION KENTUCKY

Starting New Churches, Missions and Preaching Points

Set apart to pray . . .

- for Directors of Missions who have a major role in "Mission Kentucky's" success.
- for pastors and leaders who see value in establishing new preaching points.
- for associational missions committees and for the support of local churches.
- for the witness of new mission points.
- for provision of facilities, and for congregations to grow into maturity.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Investments in Ministry

Set apart to pray . . .

- that individuals will know of the availability of Woman's Missionary Union and Kentucky Baptist Convention scholarships.
- for the recipients of scholarships that they will use their education for furthering the Gospel of Christ.
- for the selection committees as they award the scholarships.
- for individuals who may consider providing future scholarship funds for Kentucky Baptist students.

INFANT RESOURCE PROJECT

Louisville's Baptist Center Making a Difference

Set apart to pray . . .

- for Jim Holladay, who oversees the Infant Resource Project in Louisville.
- for the young mothers who find assistance through IRP and the Baptist Center.
- that IRP's help will enable the mothers to better provide for their infants, and that the Baptist Center will be able to help them overcome difficulties in their lives.
- for the number of abused and poverty-stricken individuals in IRP's neighborhood.
- for volunteers to help with IRP.
- that churches and individuals will continue to support the project by providing infant supplies.
- for greater solutions to the circumstances of life in the inner city.

STUDENT SUMMER MISSIONARIES

Supplementing Baptist Ministry in Kentucky

Set apart to pray . . .

- for the summer missions program in Kentucky, that it will be effective in leading people to Christ and strengthening ongoing ministries.
- for Ed Richardson and the Directors of Missions who coordinate the work.
- for the individuals who participate as summer missionaries.
- for the work in our state parks, Cumberland College's Love-In-Action and Mountain Outreach programs, and for the work in Louisville's inner city.
- for your church's support of campus ministries and direct missions in our state.



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

homes for children

Reaching a new generation

Many letters come across my desk expressing love for children and support of the ministry Baptist Homes for Children provides. It is both encouraging and humbling to read these letters. They come from all ages and out of various circumstances. Multitudes of people have been supporting the children's homes for years. They learned the importance of this work from their church and their parents. I want to share a few excerpts from some of these letters:

"I am sending you a little gift as often as I can. My strength is failing fast, and of course I can't expect too much of myself any more. Our wonderful Lord has been so graciously good to me through these past 92 years.

"I hope I can send you another little gift at a later date."

"Our Baptist Women visited Spring Meadows Children's Home on Saturday, July 25. We sure enjoyed meeting some of the children, eating our lunch and watching the talent show. We are praying for you all each day.

"Enclosed you will find a check from our church. We are hoping it will be a help in getting the children something they will need for school. It came from our little birthday box in our church.

"If we haven't time to help youngsters find the right way in life, somebody with more time will help them find the wrong way."

All of these letters had a gift enclosed to help support this important ministry. Many of those who support us so faithfully are well up in years. They have been long time supporters, but before many more years will go to be with the Lord. Who will support our ministry then? The younger generations, of course. That is why it is so imperative to teach children and young adults the importance of Baptist Homes for Children and their ministry to dependent, neglected children.

More and more, young and median adults are becoming involved in the undergirding support of this work. Both prayer and financial gifts are important. Young children learn to care by sending small gifts to help. The September food roundup allows children as well as adults to become involved in helping.

A whole generation is being awakened to the needs of children. They are working in the Beyond This Time endowment campaign and are giving over and above gifts for the sake of children and the glory of God.

Annuity Board offers donor program

Somerset native finds joy of giving

by Denise Spencer,
State Correspondent

Cammie Woods of Somerset believes in giving, and his lifestyle shows it.

Woods was given the Donor's Fellowship Award from the Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention July 20. Grady Randolph, field consultant for the board, presented the award.

Woods was recognized because of his contributions in the "Adopt an Annuitant" program. Woods has currently adopted three annuitants on a lifetime basis. In addition, he has arranged lifetime adoptions for 10 others through his estate. Randolph stated he believes Woods is the first person in the SBC to offer a continuing gift for the endowment of retired ministers.

The retirement program of the An-

nuity Board provides for retired ministers who have contributed to the program during their working years. Many Kentucky ministers entered the program too late or at too low a level to receive adequate incomes. Inflation complicates the situation as does the fact that our life expectancy has increased.

At the end of 1987's first quarter, the SBC annuity roll numbered 15,327. Of those, 6089 received below \$100 a month and 4172 drew between \$100 and \$200 a month. At the same time, Kentucky had 692 annuitants. Two hundred fifty-two of those earned under \$100 a month, while 199 got between \$100 and \$200 monthly. The Annuity Board established the Endowment Department for the support of these low income ministers and widows.

One aspect of the Endowment Department is the "Adopt an Annuitant" program. A donor gives a minimum of \$600 a year so an annuitant in his state will receive an additional \$50 a month. So far, Kentucky has four adopted annuitants, three of these adopted by Woods. Woods has opted for lifetime endowments, in which the donor contributes a one-time gift of \$6000. He is then assured his annuitant will receive \$50 a month for the rest of that minister's life. In addition, 10 other ministers will receive identical adoptions from the Woods estate.

Woods is an 83-year-old retired railroad engineer. He has been retired 21 years, after 41 years of employment. He is a member of Duke Memorial Baptist Church, Somerset, and has been a Baptist 54 years.

Randolph's relationship with Woods began in 1969 when Randolph was executive secretary of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation. Both Woods and his foster mother began giving generously through the foundation. After Randolph began representing the Annuity Board, Woods became especially interested in the plight of many retired ministers. "I found these preachers don't get much money," he explained. "I wanted them to have a decent living. I wanted to see the results in my lifetime."

Woods stated he has always believed in and supported the Cooperative Program. When he discovered the Endowment Department is not included in Cooperative Program funds, he became convinced this was a way God wanted him to use his gifts.

Randolph is enthused about the adoption program. "I've got a stack of letters telling what this money enables ministers to do," he revealed. He explained that churches and ministers often do not give enough thought to retirement until it is too late.

Thanks to people like Cammie Woods, some annuitants can look forward to brighter futures.

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Larry L. McSwain is a professor at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. **William C. Treadwell** is staff coordinator and Senior Educator at Myers Park Baptist Church in Charlotte, North Carolina.

At your Baptist Book Store

baptist forum

Central church opposes lottery

Because we believe a state lottery to be detrimental to the moral and spiritual life of the people of Kentucky, Central Baptist Church voted in its July business meeting to express opposition to such methods of financing any part of government.

Truett Cocanougher
Central Baptist Church
Maysville

God hears the prayers of all people

Central Baptist Church, Lexington, in its regular business meeting Aug. 9 voted to make an apology to the Jewish community and to disassociate itself from the recurring statement made by Bailey Smith, former president of the Southern Baptist Convention. Several weeks ago Smith reaffirmed his statement of several years ago: "God does not hear the prayers of Jews."

It is our opinion the creator of the universe will not be limited by Smith as to who will be heard. We also believe such prejudice is not consistent with the application of the faith which we affirm in our commitment to ecumenical work in our community.

We hope you understand that in the Baptist tradition no one person speaks for another Baptist and certainly not for another Baptist church. There are times when some Baptists speak in words that are repugnant and unacceptable to us. We further plead not to be judged by the words of Smith. Central Baptist

Church is proud of its past cooperation, acceptance and work with the Jewish community. We also acknowledge that our faith was birthed in the Jewish tradition and that we share a commonality of scripture.

We believe God heard the prayers of Abraham, Moses, David, the prophets, all the people of the Old Testament period and all the prayers of Jewish people since then. We acknowledge the indisputable fact that Jesus was born, lived and died a Jew. We do believe God heard his prayers.

We offer you who share the common expression of God in our lives and the ultimate goal of humankind our affirmation as people of God.

We apologize for this deliberate display of prejudice by one who happens to be a Southern Baptist. We believe God hears the prayers of all people. We assure you (Smith's statement) does not speak for us.

J. Spurgeon Hays, pastor
Central Baptist Church
Lexington

Have Baptists abandoned the city?

In the July 27 issue of Western Recorder I noticed an interesting phenomenon.

There was an excellent article on the Home Mission Board's call to win the cities for Christ. This certainly is a stirring call to evangelize those persons who are often the last, least and lost of our age. As a downtown pastor I applaud any and all leadership that calls us to our biblical mission as Christians.

However, a few pages removed I noticed another smaller article I think more nearly captures the thinking of the "movers and shakers" among us.

Highland Baptist Hospital (Louisville) has chosen to abandon its mission to the city for the more lucrative environs of the suburbs. Thus another institution bearing the Baptist name runs helter skelter from the city. I say another because not too long ago the Baptist Book Store chose to abandon the inner-city. All the flowery rhetoric aside it seems Baptists are truly a "bottom line" people who go where the money is, not where the "mission" is. One is forced to wonder, since no great howl has arisen among the brethren about this obvious contradiction, whether we are a people of "the book" or "the balance sheet."

Flee to the suburbs, build a new building, abandon an old building, transfer beds, don't cancel beds, fill the beds with affluent east-enders, let the inner-city folks shift for themselves. Yes sir, Baptist all the way?

Jack Oliver
Louisville

— classified ads —

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.

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.

western recorder

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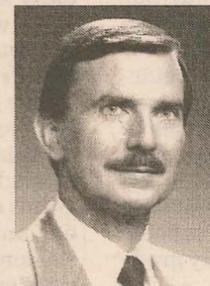
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Barkley Moore
President
Oneida Baptist Institute
Oneida, KY 40972

oneida journal

A new year

Our 88th academic year is under way. We have well over 500 students and the largest group of teachers ever. We made several changes this year in our procedures to handle such a large number on the day of arrival.

It is a tremendous undertaking to receive so many, give them orientation, interview those not yet interviewed, receive their first month's payment and get them moved into a dorm room. But our procedures worked as planned. We saved much effort and time. It was the smoothest opening yet. We anticipate we can do even better next year, refining further what we did this year.

At 7:45 a.m. the next morning, sixth, seventh and eighth graders and freshmen all met in differing locations for a morning of testing. The results helped determine who went into our "special help" program where we have a 1-3 teacher-student ratio. Also, for freshmen, we are better able to determine what level of English, math, etc. a student is to take. We made changes to facilitate the grading-evaluation process which saved hours during the course of the day. Some of the teaching staff monitored the testing process while others worked in the library grading and evaluating the results.

In the meantime, the remainder of the teaching faculty was seated on the north porch of our administration-chapel building. In 1½-hour segments, seniors, juniors and sophomores signed up for their first quarter classes.

In the afternoon, each student received work assignments. All of our stu-

dents are taught to work and each has 1½ hours daily of chores to do and a total of four hours on weekends.

Monday evening our study halls were organized. Each student must study one hour nightly under supervision in our two dining rooms until honor roll status is attained. As long as one remains on the academic honor roll, one is excused from evening study. Afterwards we introduced our students to the evening routine of "free time," swimming in the pool, etc. Then it was bedtime at 10:30 p.m. and the bedtime work crews went about their chores of scrubbing the showers and rest rooms, mopping the halls, emptying the trash barrels in preparation for another day.

The first day of classroom activity went well as old students returned to a familiar routine and new students learned where their varying classes are located.

Major additions to our curriculum include driver's education. Many states, including some we enrol students from, require such a course preparatory to getting a license. Of course, having had driver's ed cuts insurance costs substantially in every state for teenagers and those in their early 20s. Our driver's ed teacher previously taught with us 12 years, as well as coaching. He taught driver's ed in Ohio for some years. Also he is a former state policeman, deputy sheriff and chief of police of two cities.

Also we have added some more courses to our vocational program. One of these is printing and photography utilizing our print shop with its thousands of dollars of equipment and our dark room where we develop our own pictures. Also, we are once again teaching agriculture for academic credit. Oneida students have always learned a lot about farming as a part of their daily work but it has been about 35 years since we've taught it in the classroom. We are utilizing our new 3000-square-foot Craft House to teach crafts as a part of our academic day. We have added a commercial artist to teach such practical things as sign painting. All these are offered in addition to our previous programs of auto mechanics, welding, manual and computerized drafting, home economics, business subjects. Yet, basically our program remains college preparatory. Over 80 percent of our 1987 class will attend college or other higher training.

Our first chapel message of the year was on "Moses, my servant is dead; now, therefore arise, go over this Jordan . . ." Josh. 1:2). The past is past, summer is over, now get back to school work.



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

sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR AUGUST 30, 1987

Life and Work Series

Contending with materialism

The Explanation - I Tim. 6:6-10 Paul warned Timothy against the belief material possessions constituted an indication of godliness. To be godly is to have the good, holy and perfect will of God done in our lives. If a Christian would achieve contentment, he should master his wants, give Christ the priority in his life, make much of life's blessings and work for others. Multitudes have a consuming passion to be rich, but because the love of money has entered their souls, pity has cooled, compassion has frozen and charity has fled.

The Exhortation - I Tim. 6:11-14 Inasmuch as Timothy's priority or main concern was God's will—discovering it and doing it—Paul lovingly urged him to do three things in verses 11-14:

1. To Flee. "O man of God, flee these things." Timothy was called a "man of God" because he had been born of God, had yielded his life to God, and had been called to deliver God's message. For his own safety and for the glory of God he was urged to flee from things that were wrong.

2. To Follow. The Christian is exhorted "to follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness." In spite of disappointments and hardships, these six qualities are to be

pursued until they become part of one's character.

3. To Fight. "Fight the good fight of faith." "The son of God goes forth to war" against evil in our day. The Christian life is a fascinating fight. It appeals to the very best that is within us, has important issues, has a supreme leader and results in incalculable good.

The Emphasis - I Tim. 6:17-19 Christians should refrain from trusting in riches and should accept their possessions gratefully as a trust from God. They should never become proud because that would be very displeasing to God; they should carefully, conscientiously, unselfishly and prayerfully use them for the glory of God, thereby storing up for themselves treasures in heaven.

International Series

When Christians disagree

Rom. 14:1-4 Paul urged mature Christians to exercise great care lest they influence their immature brethren to violate their consciences and indulge in sin. Paul reminded his readers of the folly of participating in fruitless disputations which disrupted the unity of the church. He emphasized the prerogative of judging belonged to God only. Christians are forbidden to ridicule or hold in contempt those whose opinions differ from their own.

Rom. 14:13-21 Knowing the Roman Christians were living in the midst of one of the most wicked cities in the world, Paul was careful to instruct them as to the way they should live to please God. Because the unsaved judge Christianity by the actions of Christians, the latter are obligated to live consistently and righteously.

Every earnest Christian should consider it a privilege and a duty to avoid doing anything that will be displeasing or offensive to God, or that will cause another person to do wrong. If we are to please God, we must avail ourselves of the means of grace and receive from him the strength which is needed for doing so.

Rom. 15:1-2,7 Addressing the strong Christians, Paul urged them to recognize their obligation to manifest a vital interest in and concern about the weaker brethren. True Christians are to devote themselves to the task of helping others, even though it may involve embarrassment, unpleasantness, numerous difficulties and lack of appreciation.



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

on mission together

The journey: London

In my previous work I had passed often through London. But until this trip, I had never stayed long enough to really experience it.

More than three times the total population of Kentucky, greater London sprawls for miles until its countryside, like green sand dunes, seems to shout "no further." But, in time, the green must give way to the ever-conquering asphalt and concrete, with little green spaces called "parks" left to remind posterity of what once it all was like.

We roomed in the familiar (to British and New Zealand missionaries) Foreign

Missions Club in North London. Bed and breakfast at a reasonable rate makes it possible for missionaries to vacation in London, or a few days enroute to or from the field. Names of great missionaries such as Samuel Zwemer grace the guest book. We met the Project Director for the African Inland Mission fresh from Sudan and, on the last day, one of our own former missionaries, Ralph Neighbor, leading a group of students. They were on the last leg of their six week research project, gathering information to develop an approach to mission in the larger cities of the world.

Indeed, London is one of the largest of those "larger" cities . . . millions of people. And it seemed we saw and touched most of them in the remarkable underground system. By week's end, London seemed to us a borough of ants, busily and hastily moving either through underground passages or riding red buses from one place to the other accustomed to being crowded together.

At the bottom of each stair and es-

calator was an aspiring musician, playing his or her instrument—case or coat open on the floor to receive the occasional coin. The lonely sound of music in the underground was a kind of pathetic cry in contrast to the Sunday morning service at St. Paul's (Anglican) where within this majestic architecture an orchestra and choir presented Stravinsky's Mass. There were several thousand present; there were millions of others in no church that morning.

How do we reach people in the cities? So intimidating, so anonymous, so impersonal, these big cities of the world have become our greatest missionary challenge.

It was a ten-minute walk every day to Islington station to go underground on the subway. On our way were a large Anglican church, a modest Baptist church, and a mission, store-front with afternoon activities for children. And I was reminded, thereby, of how the challenge of the big cities will be met—by churches—old, new, and alive.

BSSB NEWS

Music ministry needs singing congregations

by Charles Willis

Congregational singing is the most important aspect of a music ministry, a church music educator told participants in a Church Music Leadership Conference at Glorieta, N. M.

Al Washburn, dean of the school of music at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, said in establishing goals to build a music ministry in a small church, the first priority should be to emphasize congregational singing.

"The psalmist gave us an imperative to 'make a joyful noise,'" Washburn said. "God expects his people to offer praise."

Urging church musicians to "get the congregation to address God" through such hymns as "Holy, Holy, Holy" or "Come, Thou Almighty King," he said churches should have a varied repertoire of hymns so that not all congregational singing centers on individuals' experiences.

"Singing is one thing we can do as a congregation—as a body of believers," he said. "We will remember what we've sung or heard sung sometimes more readily than we remember the three points of a sermon."

Leaders should make hymn singing fun—something the congregation won't want to miss, he continued.

He suggested using the Sunday School Board's "Hymn of the Month" plan to introduce variety into the use of familiar hymns or to learn new hymns. Varying

Building committees, architects to meet

Architectural seminars, one for church building committees and the other for architects, are scheduled for September, according to the Baptist Sunday School Board's Church Architecture Department, sponsor of the events.

The National Church Building Seminar, Sept. 14-17, is for church building committees, long-range planning committees, church administrators, pastors and other church leaders anticipating church building needs.

To be held at the board's Church Program Training Center in Nashville, the program will provide insight into all aspects of church building planning. Program highlights include growth through the Sunday school, touching lives with adequate facilities, analyzing ministry needs and property potential, interior design and landscaping. A tour of church facilities will be a part of the program.

A registration fee of \$50 for each person should be sent to Church Program Training Center, Box 24001, Nashville, TN 37203.

"Church Design: Mission/Ministry" is theme of a workshop for architects scheduled at the Music City Sheraton in Nashville, Sept. 25-26.

Program topics include innovative design for mission/ministry, understanding space needs of Southern Baptist churches, making weekday and Sunday program space compatible, church building finance, small church needs and recreation facilities.

Information about the annual design awards program for architects is available from the Church Architecture Department. Registration may be made by sending the \$110 registration fee to the Church Architecture Department, 127 Ninth Ave., Nashville, TN 37234.

the presentation makes hymn singing come alive, he said.

Washburn suggested a talent survey to determine the possibilities for using a variety of persons in the music program. He urged the use of quality wor-

ship music, including keyboard, instrumental, vocal and choral music, using solos, trio and ensembles.

While suggesting the use of a variety of techniques to build music programs in small churches, he insisted that "the

pastor must be the strongest supporter of the music ministry in a church because he is the church's leader."

Washburn said visiting prospects, training graded choir leaders, promoting the music program in every possible way and organizing a functional music council are among the tools toward enlarging a music program.

The music leader must grow spiritually and musically, he said, by participating in associational, state and denominational events; by taking advantage of college and seminary courses, by reading and private study through practice.

"Be a minister," he urged. "Be an encourager and equipper, get along with people, work hard and set priorities."

"A music ministry begins to grow with prayer, a positive approach, hard work and the help of others."

Children need help in spiritual growth

by Terri Lackey

When Children become Christians, church workers must help them to see that spiritual growth begins rather than ends when they emerge from the baptismal waters, a leader in the field said.

"After children become Christians, there should be growth, and we as children's leaders must teach them how to grow," said Lenore Stringer, editor of Exploring 1 materials in the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's Church Training Department.

"A seed has been planted; a decision has been made. If those seeds don't get enough nurturing, they will die," said Mrs. Stringer during a session at the Church Training Leadership Conference at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center.

Mrs. Stringer suggested children's leaders utilize in their teaching the Equipping Center module, Learning and Serving: New Church Member Training, and the children's edition of Survival Kit for New Christians.

Without proper training and understanding about their conversion experience, Mrs. Stringer said children may tend to believe every new spiritual decision is an indication they did not give their lives to the Lord in the first place.

"After children become a Christian and they have another big spiritual experience, they sometimes say, 'Oh-oh, I wasn't saved. This must be the real thing now.'"

"Maybe your place as a children's worker is to ask the questions," said Mrs. Stringer. "It is far more honest to say to children, 'Well, let's wait and think through it. What did you say? Did you mean it?'"

"Some people think becoming a Christian ought to hit like a bolt of lightning, but it could be just as natural as saying hello to a relative," she added.

At the same time, Mrs. Stringer said some children may have a flippant attitude toward becoming a Christian. "It's not supposed to be that way. It is supposed to be a life-changing experience."

To make Christianity real for children, Mrs. Stringer said, children's leaders must help them understand the true meaning of sin. "We need to let them know sin is rebellion against God's word."



Jim and Genie Houston, who responded to the call of volunteer music missions before a program existed to accommodate their skills, rehearse together during Church Music Leadership Conference at Glorieta (N. M.) Baptist Center. The Houstons are avid supporters of Musicians on Mission, a Sunday School Board emphasis that provides short-term music missions volunteer opportunities.

Musicians on Mission becomes miracle for Georgia couple

by Charles Willis

When Genie and Jim Houston registered to attend the Church Music Conference at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center in 1984, little did they realize the impact it would have on their lives.

"We were both serving in the music program at First Baptist Church, Morrow, Ga.," Mrs. Houston recalled, "but while we were at Glorieta we felt the Lord leading us to do more. During the invitation at the close of the week, we came forward to make public our willingness to do whatever it was that the Lord was leading us to do."

As the Houstons left the auditorium that night, the idea came to them to be volunteer music missionaries. Houston had been a part time minister of music in two churches, and as an internal auditor for Delta Airlines, his flying privilege could take them wherever they were needed.

"We checked with the Home Mission Board as soon as we got home, but there was not a need then for the skills or amounts of time we felt we were able to give," Mrs. Houston said.

"Then, miracle of miracles, when we attended Ridgecrest the next summer, the theme for the Church Music Leadership Conference was 'Musicians on Mission,'" she said. "We wondered if the Sunday School Board had gotten the

idea at the same time we did, or if the Lord had been preparing our hearts for what he wanted us to do!"

"We were thrilled to sign up that week to attend the first workshop to be held in 1986 in Van Nuys, Calif.," Houston recounted.

"And," Mrs. Houston added, "we were very excited to be asked later if Jim would teach the class on instrumental music and if I would lead some sessions on children's choir leadership."

While the Houstons were attending the workshop they met Phil Nall who was serving as minister of music at Mt. Shasta, Calif. Phil expressed an interest in having someone lead a workshop for children's choir leaders at his church, and he mentioned that he had a number of instrumentalists who would like help.

A few months later, the Houstons were back in California to work with the Mt. Shasta congregation.

"The blessings we received were greater than we could have given," said Houston. "We're so thankful to have been given the opportunity to be Musicians on Mission."

Persons in Kentucky interested in serving as short-term music missions volunteers may contact the Musicians on Mission Coordinator, 127 Ninth Ave., Nashville, TN 37234 or their state Music Department director, Eugene Quinn.

CONVENTION

**KBC
NEWS**

REKINDLE — Can it become a reality in your church? the Spirit

Kentucky's first state Sunday school convention since 1976 will attempt to meet the needs of churches with varied sized memberships Oct. 9-10 at First Church, Bowling Green.

As preparations continue, the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Sunday School Department is offering a 15-page plan document, available upon request, to help churches promote the convention to their Sunday school workers. The document has a checklist of publicity ideas for each of the five weeks preceding the meeting, beginning Sept. 4. Assignments in local churches are designated into four committees--enlistment, publicity, contact and transportation.

enlistment

Proper promotion for the convention can only be achieved if the pastor, church staff, church council and Sunday school council are committed to its support and involvement.

publicity

The publicity committee is responsible for creating interest among Sunday school workers about the convention through pulpit announcements, the church newsletter, Sunday bulletin, posters and direct mail.

A poster and brochure will be mailed to each church 4-6 weeks prior to the convention. Additional

copies may be requested free of charge through the state Sunday school department. Place posters in conspicuous places where Sunday school workers are sure to see them--the sanctuary vestibule, hallways, bulletin boards, each department room, weekly workers meeting room, etc.

Pulpit announcements should capture people's attention and gain their interest. More effective public announcements could include a short (2-3 minute) dramatical skit or puppet skit.

Include information concerning the conference in the church newsletter and Sunday bulletin several weeks prior to the convention.

By means of direct mail, send each Sunday school worker and each potential one an invitation letter encouraging them to attend the convention.

contact

The primary responsibility of this committee is making telephone contacts to every worker from pre-

school through adults. Workers will be given convention information and an invitation to attend.

transportation

This committee's most important objective is to organize transportation for Sunday school workers to and from the convention location. Each worker will receive a commitment card to sign indicating their intentions in attending. This information will determine the number of workers needing transportation.

About the keynote speakers . . .



Piland

Dr. Harry M. Piland is director of the Sunday School Department, the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, TN. He is a graduate of the University of Texas, Austin, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Piland, an Austin native, has held educational posts at churches in his home city, Ft. Worth and Houston.

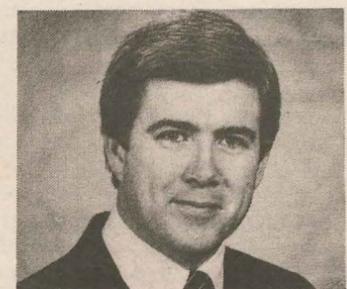
The Sunday School Department, under Piland's leadership, employs 165 persons and produces 100 publications.



Page

Dr. Charles D. Page is pastor of First Baptist Church, Nashville, TN. Page, a Roanoke, VA native, is a graduate of Wake Forest University and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Page's pastorates include churches in Greensboro and Charlotte, NC, and North Augusta, SC.



Hewett

Dr. John H. Hewett is pastor of First Baptist Church, Asheville, NC. He is a graduate of Stetson University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Hewett is a native of St. Augustine, FL. He has served on church staffs in Bunnell and Holly Hill, FL, and in pastorates in Elmburg and Graefenburg, KY and St. Louis, MO.

CELEBRATION '87
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Encouraged by hope*