

First, Shepherdsville, celebrates 150 years

by Jack D. Sanford, *Editor*

First Baptist Church, Shepherdsville, Nelson Association, celebrated its 150th anniversary Sunday, Nov. 15 with all day services.

A. B. Colvin, immediate past president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, spoke at the morning worship hour. Colvin called the church to gratitude, faithfulness and courage.

Afternoon speaker was Jack Sanford, editor of Western Recorder. Sanford called the church to fulfill the ministry it had from the Lord by being a servant people.

Former staff members who shared in the program included former pastor Bill Crosby, pastor of Erlanger (Ky.) Baptist Church; former minister of music Clark Measels, now on the faculty of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, Tenn.; S. Bryan Priddy, former minister of music, now a student at Eastman School of Music; and Craig F. Stout, former minister of education, now on the staff of First Baptist Church, Jackson, Mo.

Prominent political leaders took note of the anniversary of the church. Proclamations from Bullitt County judge Clifford Haley and Shepherdsville mayor Adrian Jones as well as letters from President Ronald Reagan and Kentucky Gov. Martha Layne Collins were read to the congregation.

Fred Halbrooks, director of missions for Nelson Association; Larry Smith, representative from the SBC Historical Commission; and Kentucky state Rep. John Harper were recognized.

The Shepherdsville church began when elder Thomas Fisher held a revival in the old court house Oct. 19-31, 1837. There were 65 conversions during the revival. At its conclusion 48 white people and 20 black people constituted the church and called elder Francis F. Self as the first pastor.

Current pastor Stephen B. McSwain declared, "Today we look back with gratitude at the dreams, labors and sacrifices of those who have left us a heritage worth cherishing."

From the opening moment of the Sunday school, which set a record attendance with 414 present, to the final "amen," the day was one of joy and celebration.

A handmade quilt, put together by women of the church and depicting the varied ministries of the church, was unveiled during the afternoon service. The quilt will be on a wall hanging in the church reception area as a constant reminder that First Baptist Church, Shepherdsville, is prepared for continued service to Christ through the next 150 years.



Christians who live in a world where the issue is not whether there is food to eat but rather what food to choose may forget that all blessings come from God. Thanksgiving is a special season for remembering and expressing gratitude to God. (BSSB) photo by Jim Veneman)

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September-October gifts

	Month	YTD 2 Months
October 87	1,307,731	2,650,187
October 86	1,340,314	2,643,431
\$ Change	-32,583	6756
% Change	-2.4	0.3
Budget	1,365,053	2,730,105
\$(under)/over	-57,322	-79,918
%(under)/over	-4.2	-2.9

September-October gifts

Year	over/(under) budget to date	% increase over prev yr
1987-88	-79,918	0.3
1986-87	43,331	18.5
1985-86	-369,644	8.5
1984-85	-351,298	12.5
1983-84	-423,046	1.3
1982-83	-178,149	6.6
1981-82	-30,801	8.2

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November 24, 1987

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Choosing to follow Jesus beginning, not end, of struggle: campus minister

by James H. Cox, *Associate Editor*

A Baptist campus minister told 240 persons attending an international student retreat that being born again is "letting God live within me" every day.

Speaking at Kenlake State Resort Park Nov. 6-8, Rick Trexler, who serves at Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, recounted his personal pilgrimage in accepting Jesus Christ as savior at age seven.

Choosing to follow him then was not "the end of my struggle," Trexler affirmed. "It was the beginning." Every day since, he said, "I have had to make choices."

Choosing Jesus' way, Trexler declared, is "the beginning of a journey."

He invited his audience of students on Kentucky college campuses from 54 nations to rethink the question, "Will you be born again?"

In answering it "you will find a way to a successful life," Trexler concluded.

Trexler was one of several speakers addressing the annual conference of ethnic collegians hosted by the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Student Department, Middletown. The event is paid for out of Eliza Broadus state mission offering proceeds provided by the Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union.

Setting the stage for a weekend built around the theme "Building Bridges," Baptist campus minister Wyndee Holbrook of Cumberland College, Williamsburg, suggested that the group would learn about some of their "similarities and differences."

While "enjoying" the process of learning, "we will learn from one another," she declared. And in doing that, "we hope to build bridges of understanding among us."

Nell Magee, consultant in the Baptist Sunday School Board's National Student Ministries Department, Nashville, defined culture for the group.

It is not a nation or society, she explained. Rather, it is people and their expected ways of behavior; common understanding; arrangement of their ways of thinking, feeling and acting; their physical manifestations; routines of life; patterns of relationships; greetings; morals and values; religion; food; language; and race.

Why are bridges so important? Miss Magee asked.

Because they are "connectors," she suggested. They link "chasms that would divide us." They "bring us together." They help us communicate "across the way."

She continued: "I believe God in Jesus

Christ has made it possible for us to be one in him. For in Galatians we read, "You are all one in Jesus Christ."

She offered four suggestions as bridges of communication—concern, openness, helpfulness, love.

Could we commit ourselves to greater understanding of one another through love? she inquired.

Later, Ronald F. Prevost, associate professor of Christian education at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, summarized to the internationals "Why I Am a Christian."

Music for the weekend was under the leadership of H. K. Kingkade II, campus ministry intern at the University of Louisville and a Southern Seminary student. Kim Pyles, a U of L student, sang before the group on several occasions.

A two-hour international talent show, a monolog by state WMU executive director Dee Gilliland on "The Woman at the Well," planned recreation, 10 small discussion groups which met three times throughout the weekend and other features were part of the annual conference.

The program was directed by Dwight K. Lyons, metropolitan Baptist campus minister in Louisville, who will retire early in 1988.

sanford's perspectives



Jack D. Sanford

Controversy hurts everyone

We have reports from across the nation indicating peaceful state conventions almost everywhere among Southern Baptists. The stridency so conspicuous in the Southern Baptist Convention has not reared its ugly head in the state meetings. For this we must thank God.

Our thanks for peace comes from the sure knowledge that controversy among brothers always hurts.

For example, **controversy alienates brothers and makes cooperation and support almost impossible to achieve.** When brothers are at war with each other they are unable to help each other when crises come. This alienation bred from controversy is surely not the will of God.

Controversy also inflicts serious wounds on friends. The wounds of controversy are often deep, sometimes fatal and always slow to heal. An open wound is now on the body of Southern Baptists and only the grace of God will bring healing. When controversy is allowed to continue you can mark it down as a certainty: there will be wounds.

The growth of the kingdom of God is seriously retarded when brothers engage in controversy. Energy, both spiritual and physical, is expended to fire the flame of controversy and the result is apathy toward the things which matter, such as soul winning, church growth and Christian education. When we are stalking our brother in controversy we put the chill on any chance for significant growth in spiritual matters.

Perhaps the most serious consequence of controversy among brothers is the suppression of the

gospel. The glorious word of salvation is dulled by the taint of controversy and the proclaimer of that gospel is suspect when he is at war with his own brother. How can a preacher of the gospel of peace have any credibility when he is in controversy with his brother? The lost world will not hear for one moment the message of salvation when the messenger is at war, not with the Devil, but with his own brother.

Thus the reason for thanksgiving to God for the peace we have had in our state conventions comes from a real sense of the tragic dangers of continued controversy. We must bend every effort of mind and will to see that the peace we have had this year across our states will continue until it reaches our larger Baptist family.

We cannot stand much more warfare among Baptists. May each of us determine in his own heart to be the peacemakers whom God says are blessed. We need no more controversy because the consequences are far too devastating.

Let us determine now to go to San Antonio and make our voice count for peace, not controversy. How we do this must be decided by our own conscience and our own response to the leadership of God. This is the Baptist way for each of us is a priest unto the Lord, responsible for our own conduct and beholden to no human being for direction of our spiritual pilgrimage.

When we seek the Lord's face in prayer and act in good faith, we cannot but love one another. We must do it now for controversy hurts everything we hold dear.

Kentucky Baptists presented a great challenge

A few weeks ago Jay Brown announced the conclusion of his service as director of evangelism for our state convention. Now Eldred Taylor of the Baptist Homes For Children and Eugene Quinn of our state convention music department have both indicated they will step down from leadership posts in the near future.

Each of these men has served Kentucky well and will be greatly missed by all of us who have loved them, prayed for them, worked with them and supported them in their efforts for the Lord.

However the Lord always opens a door when one closes and we can be sure he has already put his hand on his people to fill these very important places.

What is significant for Kentucky Baptists is that we give those charged with finding replacements our total support in prayer as well as suggestions for successors for the men who are leaving. The responsibility to fill these vacancies will rest with a search committee from the various departments of the work, but the entire Kentucky Baptist family has a stake in the selection of leadership and the entire Kentucky Baptist family must take the opportunity to give input in the process.

Finding people willing to step into state convention leadership positions is more difficult now than it has been in previous years. Yet there are people who are qualified, who have the Lord's

hand on them and who would welcome the opportunity to serve all the churches of this state in an important ministry. Our task is to find those persons.

It is not premature to begin the prayer vigil so vital in finding the person God has selected to do his work. Each church in this state has a stake in evangelism, children's home ministry and music. Therefore each church in this state has an obligation to assist in the process of finding the right person for the positions soon to be open. We can exercise that obligation best by praying for God's leadership and by providing names for the search committees.

We have no authority to ask for recommendations and do not want to embarrass those who have that authority. However we believe leadership in state positions is the business of all the Baptists who cooperate in the work of the state convention. Our people do not always understand they are permitted, even encouraged, to submit names of qualified people.

If we have overstepped our bounds by suggesting your input we apologize. We feel strongly the right persons in places of leadership is critical to our future.

So express yourself to the appropriate persons and assume what is your rightful place as an active partner in helping shape the future.

western recorder

(ISSN 0043-4132)

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Western Recorder is published weekly by Western Recorder, Inc., Box 43969, Middletown, KY, except for one week in July and December. Second class postage paid at Louisville, KY.

Postmaster: Send address changes to Western Recorder, Box 43969, Middletown, KY 40243.

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

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

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mountains to the mississippi

revivals

Central Baptist Church, Corbin, Mt. Zion Association, experienced revival Oct. 25-29. Results included a record high 1444 in Sunday school, a Sunday offering of \$50,000 and 16 additions to the church. The Sunday school attendance and offering were the highest in the 67-year history of the church.

James Jones, pastor of Campbellsville Baptist Church, was evangelist for the revival. Don Mathis is pastor.

Hillcrest Baptist Church, Hopkinsville, Christian County Association, had a revival Oct. 18-23 with Don Short of Kuttawa as evangelist. Alex Littlefield, music minister, directed the music. The church experienced 41 decisions, 20 of which were professions of faith. Five persons were received by letter and 15 made rededications. Wayne Newby is pastor.

ordinations

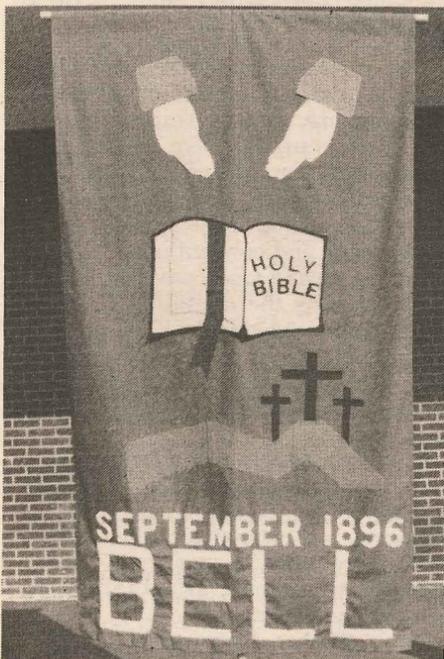
Eddie Harpo was ordained to the ministry by Trace Creek Baptist Church, Graves County Association. Ronnie Gale Stinson is pastor.

Robert Bostwick, Mark Botto and Gary Shrader were ordained as deacons by First Baptist Church, Ft. Thomas, Northern Kentucky Association. Gilbert D. Fauber Jr. is pastor.

Rick Bruce, Marvin Dailey and Ken Robinson were ordained as deacons by New Heights Baptist Church, Louisville, Long Run Association, Nov. 15. Terry L. Sammons is pastor.

Gogo Benson-Jaja from Opobo, Nigeria, was ordained to the ministry Oct. 25 before one of the largest attendances witnessed at Garfield Avenue Baptist Church, Long Run Association. Friends from six foreign countries and more than 20 ordained persons attended the service. Benson-Jaja is associate pastor at the church.

Timothy Lines delivered the sermon; David Ransdell gave the charge to the candidate; and William Cromer presented the charge to the church. Ransdell is pastor at Garfield.



The Bell County Associational WMU banner was made for the KBC's 150th anniversary celebration by Jill Griffin and Carolyn Sexton of Southside Baptist Church, Middlesboro. Eva Goodman is associational WMU director.

Bennie Duff, Gerald Power and Richard Younger were ordained as deacons in June by Great Crossing Baptist Church, Elkhorn Association. Todd Toole is pastor.

Erman Joe Fryman was ordained as a deacon of Victory Baptist Church, Cynthiana, Crittenden Association, Sept. 27. Fryman is the first deacon of Victory.

Mark J. Wood was ordained to the ministry Oct. 18 by First Baptist Church, Cumming, Ga. Wood is minister of youth at Audubon Baptist Church, Louisville, Long Run Association. David W. Green is pastor.

personnel

Terry Zane Murphy of Spartanburg, S. C. began his duties as pastor of North View Baptist Church, Lexington, Elkhorn Association, Nov. 1.

Murphy is a graduate of Cumberland College and New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary.

Mike Williams has accepted the call to Lone Oak Baptist Church, Paducah, West Union Association, as minister of youth and activities. Williams was ordained to the ministry Oct. 25 by Cynthiana Baptist Church, Union Association, where he served four years in a similar position.

Don Anderson has accepted the call to pastor Willow Baptist Church, Union Association. Anderson is a student at Southern Seminary.

Randall Stallings Jr. was installed as pastor Oct. 25 by Sacramento Baptist Church, Daviess-McLean Association.

Emery G. Kinslow has been called as pastor of Concord Missionary Baptist Church, White Plains, Little Bethel Association.

Jeff Brown was called as pastor of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Mt. Zion Association.

Jim Hunt has accepted the pastorate of Poplar Spring Baptist Church, Liberty Association.

Franklin Dee Smith has been called as pastor of Denton Baptist Church, Greenup Association.

Mike Gibbs accepted the call as pastor of Tidal Wave Baptist Church, Mt. Zion Association.

Shawn Madden, interim pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Irvine, has been called as pastor of the church.

James Moreland resigned as pastor of Bethany Baptist Church, Graves County Association.

Gerald Wells has been called as pastor of Corn Creek Baptist Church, Mt. Zion Association.

Odell Beauchamp resigned as pastor of First Baptist Church, Hindman, Three Forks Association. He accepted the pastorate of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Daviess-McLean Association.

John Chaffin resigned the pastorate of Liberty Baptist Church, Greenup Association.

John Hornsby resigned as pastor of Lothair Baptist Church, Three Forks Association.

Rueben Johnson has been called as pastor of McGrady Creek Baptist Church, Ohio County Association.

Terry Sims resigned as pastor of Baltimore Baptist Church, Graves County Association.

Mark Hoagg resigned as minister of youth and children at Clifton Baptist Church, Long Run Association. Robert O. Williams is pastor.

Ronald Cruse is the new pastor of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Graves County Association.

Jeff Hicks accepted the call as minister of education by Gardenside Baptist Church, Elkhorn Association. James Edward Heard is pastor.

Joyce Franklin has been called as minister of music by Highland Hills Baptist Church, Northern Kentucky Association.

R. Perkins Atherton, pastor of Highview Baptist Church, was honored by West Union Association for being present at his 55th consecutive meeting.



Atherton has been clerk of the association twice, 1943-63 and 1978-present for a total of 31 years.

West Union director of missions Tom Lewis presented Atherton a plaque from the pastors and people of the association in recognition of his faithfulness.

Atherton first attended an associational meeting when he was 16 and had the honor of carrying the church letter to the association to be read. He has not missed a single meeting since.

Arthur Antle was honored Oct. 11 with a surprise reception at Salem Baptist Church, Campbellsville, for his 37 years' service as church treasurer.

A retired farmer, Antle has also been a deacon in the Taylor Association church since 1946, and he has taught Sunday school 48 years. He joined the church in 1912.

Antle stated when he became treasurer the church's electric bill was only \$3.05 per month. "I've seen a lot of changes in those 37 years," he chuckled.

Anita Thompson was called as part time minister of music and youth by First Baptist Church, Fisherville, Long Run Association.

A native of Ahoskie, N. C., Miss Thompson has a BM degree from East Carolina University. She is currently an MCM student at Southern Seminary.

Miss Thompson has previously been minister of music and youth at Chadbourne (N. C.) Baptist Church and has had part time experience at two other North Carolina churches.

Joy Rosas is pastor at Fisherville. Smithfield Baptist Church, Henry County Association, has called **Ritchie Curtis** as director of youth and music ministries. Curtis graduated from Georgetown College and has served in Alton Christian Church, Lawrenceburg, and Kenton (Ky.) Baptist Church in Kenton County and Buck Run Baptist Church, Frankfort.

Curtis is a first year student at the Southern Seminary where he is in the MDiv program. He resides with his family. Terry and Devola Curtis, Prospect.

Larry Wetherington is the pastor.



Leon Simpson
President
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Pineville, KY 40977

clear creek comment

Let's go to work

One of the most dramatic moments of my life came during a staff meeting at the First Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas. The church had just had one of the most smashing successes in its history. During the meeting one staff member after another congratulated others and complimented those who had worked so wonderfully well. Some even sang their own praises!

Then it was the pastor's turn. Dr. W. A. Criswell stood and surveyed the room as everyone waited with bated breath. After a long pause, he said, "I've enjoyed hearing from each one of you. Now, let's go to work!" He gathered his material and marched from the room.

As we enter into the Thanksgiving season after having celebrated Kentucky Baptists' 150th anniversary, this event in Dallas was brought to my mind. We have had a wonderful celebration and we are so thankful for God's blessings on Kentucky Baptists for the last 150 years. Now, let's go to work!

Paul spoke of celebration in I Thessalonians. He said, "Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" (5:16-18). But he also spoke of work—"study to be quiet, and to do your own business and to work with your own hands..." (4:11). In II Thessalonians 3, he emphasized work as a Christian duty in verses 8-13. Paul "wrought with labor and travail night and day" (v. 8). He said, "If any would not work, neither should he eat" (v. 10). He mentions the "disorderly, working not at all" (v. 11). He commanded, "that with quietness they work and eat their own bread" (v. 12). And he urged, "brethren, be not weary in well doing" (v. 13).

We believe in work at Clear Creek. We don't think that God blesses lazy preachers. Our students work to provide for themselves and their families. Our faculty and staff certainly work—from daylight to dark and beyond! Dr. Kelly, founder of Clear Creek was 'a mover and a shaker' and Dr. Aldridge, Clear Creek's second president, was (and is) a tireless worker. God blesses and Clear Creek goes forward as we work!

Edward Hale asserts, "I am only one/But still I am one./I cannot do everything/But still I can do something/And because I cannot do everything/I will not refuse to do the something that I can do."

God's will for me is to work—in his service, on his behalf and for his glory. Kentucky Baptists, let's go to work!

State convention reports

WEST VIRGINIA

Messengers to the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists annual meeting adopted a record \$1.6 million budget for 1988 and reelected their president during sessions at First Baptist Church, Ceredo, Nov. 6-7.

Members of West Virginia Southern Baptist churches will contribute \$703,000—44 percent—of the budget. Of that portion, \$179,280—25.5 percent—will support national and global mission causes through the SBC Cooperative Program budget.

Of the remainder of the budget, \$898,802—or about 56 percent of the total—is to be received from the Home Mission Board, Sunday School Board and other Southern Baptist agencies. This contribution represents a 5.3 percent increase over the current budget.

Lawton Searcy, pastor of Highlawn Baptist Church, Huntington, was reelected without opposition to a second one-year term as state convention president.

Messengers also adopted without discussion a resolution strengthening the conventions stand against abortion. A 1986 resolution voiced opposition to abortion for any reason other than to save the life of the mother. The new resolution expressed opposition to "the cruel, murderous holocaust of abortion on demand, except in cases where the life of the mother is in clear and definite danger."

The meeting was attended by 199 messengers and 94 visitors. (BP)

GEORGIA

Georgia Baptists defeated attempts to investigate charges against Mercer University, denied a customary second term to incumbent president Clark Hutchinson and asked Christian Index editor Jack Harwell to reconsider plans to retire early.

Moderates controlled almost every major vote in the Georgia Baptist Convention's annual meeting, which attracted a record 4863 messengers to Savannah.

Messengers approved a motion expressing their "profound gratitude and appreciation" for Harwell's 21 years as editor of the Christian Index, the convention's weekly newsjournal, and "respectfully requested" that he reconsider plans to retire early at age 55.

The motion, made by T. L. McSwain of Augusta, also asked a review board appointed by the Christian Index committee in August 1986 be "dismissed to preserve editorial freedom and integrity."

Harwell had announced plans in October to retire after the review board threatened to fire him if he wrote one more editorial it considered unacceptable. In Savannah, he told a cheering, standing crowd that in the light of the affirmation he had received, he would accept the invitation to reconsider his retirement, subject to negotiations with the Index board of directors and the Georgia Baptist Convention executive committee.

Hutchinson, pastor of Eastside Baptist Church, Marietta, narrowly lost a bid for reelection. It was the first time a convention president eligible for a traditional second term was not reelected.

By a margin of 51 votes, Jim Pitts, pastor of First Baptist Church, Val-

dosta, was elected president of the 1.2 million-member convention. Pitts received 2109 votes to Hutchinson's 2058.

Earlier, Pitts had preached the convention's doctrinal sermon, stressing such Baptist distinctives as the authority of the Bible, autonomy of the local church, priesthood of all believers, religious liberty and separation of church and state.

In nominating Pitts as president, Peter Rhea Jones of Decatur said a vote for Pitts is a vote for Baptist freedom. "He supports all Southern Baptist work, including Mercer," Jones said.

Pitts said in a news conference he was shocked and stunned by the election. He had no idea he would be nominated as president until after his sermon, he said. His election was considered a victory by Mercer University supporters.

Moderates also controlled election of three of the four vice presidents.

Earlier, a motion asking for appointment of a special nine-member committee to study "matters of concern" at Mercer was voted out of order by the convention.

The convention voted to substitute Bill Young, pastor in Avondale Estates, for Fred Powell, senior associate pastor of First Baptist Church of Atlanta, as member-at-large on the executive committee. Powell previously had been quoted in the media as opposing Mercer University and announcing the Atlanta church was withholding contributions to Mercer.

In another action, the convention adopted a motion deploring a recent mailout attacking Mercer's president, staff, trustees and students. The mailing to 6000 Baptists was by Lee Roberts, a Marietta mortgage banker who teaches a Sunday school class at the church where Hutchinson is pastor. Roberts charged Mercer president Kirby Godsey with theological heresy, and with permitting "drunkenness, immorality and debauchery" on the Mercer campus.

Godsey called Roberts' charges "the most scurrilous, vicious attack" ever leveled against Mercer, and responded to each charge in a presentation to the convention. Messengers responded with a standing ovation. Godsey said the real issue was control of the university by what he called "political fundamentalists."

Godsey called Pitts' election and other actions of the convention "a great victory for Baptist freedom" and a reversal of a national trend in which "political fundamentalists" have not lost a major vote in the Southern Baptist Convention during the last eight years.

Receipts from the convention's newly approved \$29.1 million budget will be divided on a 50-50 percentage basis between Georgia Baptist causes and worldwide Southern Baptist endeavors, with half the receipts going to the national convention's Cooperative Program unified budget. (BP)

NORTH CAROLINA

North Carolina Baptists turned out in record numbers Nov. 9-11 at the Baptist State Convention to elect new officers, conduct business, hear reports of convention work and worship around the theme "Sharing the Dream—Truth and Love."

Among their actions, 5638 messengers—the most ever registered for an annual meeting—elected officers, adopted resolutions affirming the administration, staff, faculty and student body

of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and the staff and work of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs; approved a \$28 million Cooperative Program budget for 1988; and accepted an invitation to enter into a five-year mission partnership with the Sao Paulo, Brazil, Baptist Convention.

The record registration was attributed to unusually high interest among North Carolina Baptists in the election of convention officers for the coming year. In the weeks preceding the 157th annual convention session six candidates publicly announced their intention to seek the post of convention president or vice president.

Ted Stone, a Durham drug rehabilitation advocate, was the first candidate nominated for the presidency being vacated by William Poe of Charlotte who served the maximum two-term limit. Stone was nominated by Henry Cook, pastor of Beulah Baptist Church, Statesville.

Ned Mathews, pastor of Parkwood Baptist Church, Gastonia, was nominated by Dale Lawson, pastor of Mulberry Baptist Church, Charlotte.

The final nomination was made by W. Randall Lolley, president of Southeastern Seminary and a member of Wake Forest Baptist Church, Wake Forest, who proposed Leon Smith, pastor of First Baptist Church, Goldsboro.

Messengers elected Smith by a wide margin on the first ballot, giving him 62.3 percent (3375) of the votes. Mathews was second with 36.3 percent (1967) and Stone placed third with 1.3 percent (73) of the votes.

The \$28 million Cooperative Program budget for 1988, which includes a \$1 million challenge section, was adopted without debate. The \$27 million basic budget will again next year be divided 64.5 percent for North Carolina ministries and 35.5 percent for national and international ministries related to the Southern Baptist Convention (BP)

SOUTH CAROLINA

South Carolina Baptists elected a new president who shuns all labels except "Christian and reconciler" during their annual meeting Nov. 10-11.

Jimmie E. Harley, pastor of First Baptist Church, Florence, was elected at the 167 annual session of the convention in Charleston.

Harley, who said he wants to be a force for harmony in the convention, defeated Bruce Russell, pastor of Charleston Heights Baptist Church, Charleston. Harley was the convention's first vice president and also had been second vice president. Observers within the South Carolina convention perceive Harley to be most closely affiliated with the moderate faction within the Southern Baptist Convention, while Russell is identified with the conservatives.

South Carolina Baptists approved a budget of 22.1 million for 1988, an increase of \$1 million over the previous budget. The new budget contains a basic portion of \$20.1 million tied to a "Bold Mission Challenge" of \$2 million. All challenge money will be divide equally between South Carolina Baptists and the SBC.

The basic budget directs 65 percent of contributions to South Carolina mission needs and 38.5 percent to Southern

Baptist Convention causes. The amount earmarked for the SBC is a 0.75 percent increase.

Messengers also voted to enter a three-year partnership with Carioca Baptist Convention in Brazil. (BP)

OKLAHOMA

Messengers to the 82nd annual meeting of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma were urged to shrug off gloom talk and join a bold battle for the kingdom of God.

Speaker after speaker challenged messengers to leap into the second decade of Bold Mission Thrust with new vigor. Western Christianity as embodied by Baptists, they said, is not proving it has anything to offer a world shaken by constant threats and shifting values.

In business session 1306 messengers approved a \$16.5 million budget for 1988, the same as 1987, and agreed to pass 44 percent of it on to the Southern Baptist Convention for national and international causes, also the same as this year.

They reelected president Rod Masteller, pastor of Putnam City Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, who was unopposed for office. He served the last of Wendell Estep's final term as president when Estep moved from the state, then was elected on his own last year.

The 1988 budget of \$16.5 million is the same as the revised budget adopted by the executive board last year.

Messengers adopted a resolution that said "Baptist agencies should refrain from organizationally endorsing candidates or attempting to speak for Baptists in elective or appointive politics."

In August the Southern Baptist Convention's Public Affairs Committee broke 50 years of precedence when it urged the confirmation of Supreme Court nominee Robert Bork.

In a resolution prompted by associational actions in Muskogee and Memphis, Tenn., messengers affirmed the autonomy of local churches and associations. Both associations disfellowshipped churches; Memphis for calling a woman pastor and Muskogee for having a divorced male pastor.

The resolution called a church "an autonomous body operating through democratic processes under the Lordship of Jesus Christ, in which congregation members are equally responsible." It said these churches have the right "to form associations and conventions" and the churches may "decide who may or may not be seated as messengers at said associations and conventions."

For the second year convention planners withdrew the invitation to one of the platform speakers. In 1986, the invitation to Nashville pastor Charles Page was withdrawn after it was learned his congregation had voted to allow women as deacons.

This year, program committee chairman Bob Evans, a professor of religion at Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee, told messengers the committee had "relieved" a speaker of "the responsibility to speak" after the man was fired by his church.

David Walker, former pastor of First Baptist Church, San Antonio, Tex., and a former Oklahoma pastor, had been invited to address the assembly. However, on Oct. 25 the Texas congregation voted 623-614 to dismiss the 34-year-old Walker, citing problems of "leadership style" which had caused divisions in the church. (BP)

TEXAS

A record 5172 Baptist General Convention of Texas messengers elected Ft. Worth pastor Joel Gregory as convention president, approved a record \$68 million budget and affirmed the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs during their annual meeting Nov. 10-11 in Ft. Worth.

"Laborers Together" theme and year-long "Celebration of Cooperation" emphasis set the tone for the 102nd annual meeting of the 2.4-million-member convention.

Gregory, pastor of Travis Avenue Baptist Church, Ft. Worth, was nominated by Bailey Stone, pastor of First Baptist Church, Odessa, who described him as a man "who owes absolutely nothing to anyone in the convention and one who will be a debtor to all Texas Baptists."

At a press conference following his election by acclamation Gregory characterized himself as a "representative, independent, conservative" pastor capable of building bridges between factions in the convention.

"Ninety percent of Texas Baptists stand on the same ground in both faith and practice. I believe I am representative of those nine out of 10 Texas Baptists," he said. "I did not seek or desire the endorsement of any partisan group in Texas. I don't belong to anyone except the Lord Jesus Christ."

Lee Berg, pastor of West Oaks Baptist Church, Houston, presented a motion calling for Texas Baptists to continue funding the Baptist Joint Committee if the Southern Baptist Convention cuts off its Cooperative Program support. The Southern Baptist Public Affairs Committee voted 8-4 Oct. 6 to suggest the SBC sever ties with the Baptist Joint Committee.

No one spoke in opposition to Berg's motion. When the voice vote was taken, only a few dissenting votes were heard. (BP)

FLORIDA

Messengers to the 126th annual Florida Baptist State Convention completed three days of business and inspiration in Daytona Beach with only two contested votes.

The election of local pastor Bobby Welch as president and the removal of former DeLand pastor David Medley from the committee on order of business for alleged indiscretions were the only votes that were not unanimous.

None of the 1872 messengers voiced objection to the election of three other convention officers, approval of seven resolutions, adoption of a \$23 million budget for 1988 and acceptance of a new five-year budgeting plan for 1989-94.

The 1988 budget continues the convention's record-setting pattern of dividing Baptists' Cooperative Program unified budget half-and-half between Florida and Southern Baptist causes.

That 50/50 division, however, coupled with slow growth in giving by churches, forced the convention to alter the way it spends its portion of cooperative income beginning in 1989. The big loser in the new budgeting plan will be Stetson University, which will forfeit 31 percent of its allotment from Florida Baptists' budget.

But messengers stressed the reduction of funding for Stetson was not "an action of censure or disapproval" of the

school. In an unusual move that required the unanimous consent of messengers, the convention instructed the Resolutions Committee, which already had concluded its report, to draft a resolution of support for the school and its new president, H. Douglas Lee.

Although Welch has been a leader of the conservative faction in Florida, there was no mention of denominational politics during his election as convention president. Welch, pastor of First Baptist Church, Daytona Beach, collected 52.6 percent of the vote in his first-ballot victory over Patrick Anderson, a layman from Lakeland who was this year's first vice president, and Hayes Davis Sr., pastor of Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Polk City.

Although the votes for Anderson and Davis were not announced and not recorded in the minutes, figures from the tellers' committee gave Anderson, the candidate favored by moderates, 42 percent and Davis 6 percent of the estimated 1150 votes cast.

Three times in three sessions the convention considered action on Medley, a leader of Florida's moderates who resigned as pastor of Stetson Baptist Church, DeLand, amidst allegations of sexual misconduct.

Messengers first postponed, then tabled and finally approved a motion to rescind Medley's 1985 election to a three-year term on the committee on order of business, which sets the program for the annual meeting.

One of the objectives of the five-year budget plan is to put the convention's \$617,000 annual debt payments into the basic budget. In past years the payments had been made from advance budget funds. To make room for those payments in the basic budget, the convention reduced the portion of the budget designated for six Florida Baptist agencies, including Stetson, from 16.2 percent to 13.9 percent.

Stetson president Lee later told the Witness the school definitely will feel the impact of reduced funding even though the loss represents only 1.5 percent of Stetson's \$28 million annual budget.

But Lee said he had no quarrel with convention's decision to trim Stetson's share of the budget. "They had a budgetary problem they had to solve," he said. "They didn't have much choice.... Never did I feel it was a slap at Stetson." (BP)

MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi Baptists elected a politically unaffiliated pastor as their new president and approved an \$18.9 million budget during their annual meeting Nov. 9-11 at First Baptist Church, Jackson.

Jim Futral, pastor of Broadmoor Baptist Church, Jackson, brother of Guy Futral, KBC staff, was elected to succeed outgoing president Frank Gunn, pastor of First Baptist Church, Biloxi.

Futral was elected on a first ballot that included Gerald Harris, pastor of Colonial Heights Baptist Church, Jackson, and Eddie Hamilton, pastor of Oak Forest Baptist Church, Jackson. Futral received 662 votes, or 50.91 percent of the ballot. Hamilton received 327 votes, and Harris, who has held meetings related to the conservative movement in the state, received 292.

Messengers approved a motion that, in the interest of unity, Futral be elected unanimously. They later elected Harris

as first vice president and Hamilton as second vice president.

The 1988 budget, which helps fund Southern Baptist related missions and education causes in the state and around the world, is a 4.2 percent increase over the \$18.15 million budget of 1987. Thirty-seven percent of the budget will go to Southern Baptist causes outside the state through the Southern Baptist Cooperative Program budget. (BP)

VIRGINIA

Rumors of conservative efforts to influence events at the annual meeting of the Baptist General Association of Virginia motivated a record number of messengers to attend the meeting Nov. 11-12.

More than 2500 Virginians, most of them moderates, met on the campus of the College of William and Mary to denounce conservative efforts to "disrupt unity," voice their support of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs and ask the Virginia Baptist General Board to study the possibility of establishing a divinity school at one of the state's four Baptist colleges.

For the first time in nearly 15 years a pastor was elected president of the general association without opposition. Neal T. Jones, pastor of Columbia Baptist Church, Falls Church, is considered to be a moderate.

Interest in the meeting was heightened by a letter reportedly written by a northern Virginia layman which detailed conservative efforts to "control the convention."

T. C. Pinckney, a retired Air Force general and chairman of the SBC committee on nominations in 1987, apparently sent the letter to a pastor he believed was sympathetic to the decade-long attempt to turn the SBC in a more conservative direction.

Moderates obtained the letter and sent copies of it to approximately 6000 Virginia Baptist church leaders just prior to the meeting. Stories about it appeared in most of the state's leading newspapers.

The letter attributed to Pinckney, a member of Plymouth Haven Baptist Church, Alexandria, said, "Judging by the attendance last year, with hard work we could get enough conservative delegates (to Williamsburg) to control the convention." He also asked for assistance in efforts to send resumes of conservatives to churches without pastors, noting that he already had sent resumes to more than 200 Virginia Baptist churches.

"A continuing need is a current file of resumes for conservative pastors," Pinckney wrote. "I welcome any resumes you may send; please just be certain that the pastor is an alert conservative; that is, he is not only conservative in theology but also stands and votes with us on controversial issues." He added that suggestions for directors of missions for district associations also would be welcome, since "to place conservatives in such posts would be a great step forward in getting more conservative pastors here in Virginia."

Responding to the letter, BGAV messengers easily approved a resolution warning that "in recent weeks a strategy has been developed to disrupt our unity in diversity and establish one theological stance." It expressed "strong disfavor toward any actions which would seek to categorize pastors, staff members, churches or any other entity of

Southern Baptist life in Virginia by theological positions and voting stance."

Virginia Baptist also maintained support for the Baptist Joint Committee by approving a line item in their budget designed to assist the Washington-based agency if ties to the SBC are severed.

The entire \$16 million budget, 62 percent of which will fund Virginia ministries while 38 percent will be sent for missions causes outside of Virginia, passed easily.

In an additional gesture support for the BJC, messengers approved a resolution condemning the Public Affairs Committee's recent endorsement of Robert Bork as a nominee for the U. S. Supreme Court and the PAC's "expressed intent to lead the Public Affairs Committee to withdraw from participation in the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs."

A resolution on Southeastern Seminary expressed "grave concern for the actions" that led recently to the announcements of president W. Randall Lolley and academic dean Morris Ashcraft that they intend to resign.

Another, noting that Prescott Memorial Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., has been dismissed from its district association because it called a woman as pastor, affirmed "the right of Prescott Memorial Baptist Church and every other Baptist church to call whomsoever they determine is the God-appointed person as their pastor."

A final business matter changed BGAV bylaws to require the "president and two vice presidents of the General Association, acting as a committee, to make committee appointments. Observers saw the move as a preventive tactic which will keep the president of the BGAV from exercising what some believe has been excessive power wielded by the president of the Southern Baptist Convention. (BP)

OHIO

The State Convention of Baptists in Ohio adopted a record budget, reelected its president and approved a long range plan for growth, all without dissenting vote during its annual meeting Nov. 3-5.

The overall budget for 1988 is \$5,285,508, with \$3,158,675 anticipated to come from the 585 congregations of the SCBO. Cooperative Program gifts will be divided with 58 percent remaining in Ohio and 42 percent going to support Southern Baptist Convention causes. The 58-42 division represents a 0.5 percent increase for SBC causes.

Glenn Davidson, pastor of Pisgah Heights Baptist Church, Cincinnati, was reelected president.

The long range planning report covers objectives and goals for the convention from 1990-95. One major objective is developing resources to purchase 15 priority sites on which to plant new congregations in Ohio. Another goal is to start 30 missions and organize 15 churches per year, resulting in a net increase of 95 churches by 1995.

Messengers also adopted, without opposition, a resolution which expresses appreciation to the SBC Christian Life Commission for "assigning priority to the promotion of pro-life issues" and for its "long awaited and more aggressive leadership for Southern Baptists to become better informed and involved in standing against abortion." (BP)

baptist news in brief

Baptists bury legend: Porter Routh

Southern Baptists buried a legend Nov. 10, 1987.

Porter W. Routh's family, colleagues and admirers celebrated the life—and grieved the death—of a Baptist Christian they called statesman, giant, theologian, friend.

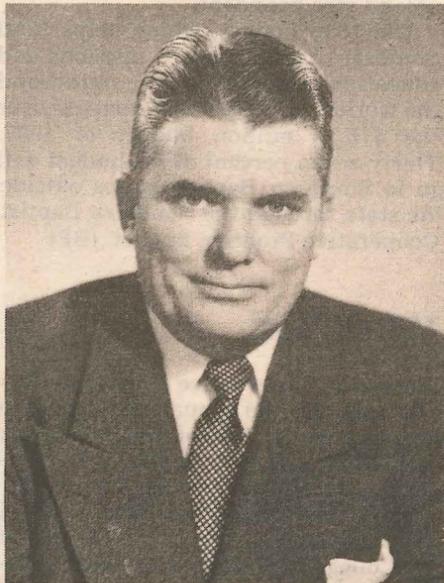
Routh, 76 died Nov. 7 in Nashville following a brief illness. He was executive secretary-treasurer of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee from 1951 until his retirement in 1979.

More than 300 family and friends gathered at First Baptist Church of Nashville, Routh's spiritual home for 42 years. Pastor Charles Page told them: "We celebrate the homegoing and coronation of Dr. Porter Routh....He has given us the kind of lifestyle that has been an inspiration to us. This is a time of celebration, a time of victory."

H. Franklin Paschall, pastor emeritus of the church and Routh's neighbor for 32 years, recited scriptures that reflected his friend's life and faith. He noted one that particularly related to Routh's faithfulness to God and witness of Christ: "...and they are there that testify unto me."

Paschall drew a sketch of Routh as a friend he had been "together" with through three decades. He recounted how they had raised their children together in the same neighborhood, shared the same tailor, worshiped in the same church ("If God ever made a great churchman, it was Porter Routh.") and labored together in the SBC.

Albert McClellan, Routh's associate at the Executive Committee through the decades, painted a picture of an intense, hard working man who loved his work at a Linotype machine," McClellan said, reflecting back 50 years to Routh's days



as a reporter for an Oklahoma City newspaper. "I tried to get his attention and could not, his concentration was so strong. I later worked with him for 28 years and all those years I saw that same intensity and love for his work."

McClellan succeeded Routh as editor of the Baptist Messenger, Oklahoma Baptists' weekly newsjournal, in 1945.

Later, when the duo was together at the Executive Committee, McClellan said, "The way he conducted staff meetings was to stand at my door and talk about a problem and then leave it in my hands, like he did that first newspaper."

But McClellan also painted a portrait of a man who came to the office at night during his vacations to read his mail and dictate responses. "The man was profoundly interested in his work. It never left his mind, and that was why he did so well at it," he said.

"For him, a problem never was a problem. It was a challenge," McClellan added, describing how Routh would study an issue and patiently listen as colleagues discussed possible solutions. "Then he would suggest a changed word or two, and everybody would be happy—at least as happy as you can be in Southern Baptist life."

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Grady Cothen, who was Routh's colleague as president of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and later of the Sunday School Board, sculpted an image of Routh the denominational leader.

"He was stubborn, intense. Had he not been so, Southern Baptists would not have made the progress we have made....There was a vision beyond here and now....Always there was that endless search: Is there a way we can do these things and do them better?"

Routh also was "a great interpreter of Baptist polity," particularly championing the cherished doctrine of the priesthood of every Christian believer, he said. Routh perpetually adopted "cooperation" as his watchword, advocated peace among Baptists and sought consensus through every crisis, he added, citing Routh's zeal for the SBC's Cooperative Program unified budget, missionary enterprise and theological education.

"Porter W. Routh was one of the greatest Christian statesmen I have ever known," said Harold C. Bennett, Routh's successor at the Executive Committee. "His commitment to the denomination and Southern Baptists was beyond question. I counted him as a close personal friend and a strong prayer supporter.

"Above all things, I would say he was a denominational statesman in the truest sense," echoed Duke McCall, Routh's predecessor at the Executive Committee. "He was trying to look down the decades ahead and help Southern Baptists find the course for their future as God leads."

McCall, retired president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, quoted scripture when recounting his feelings at Routh's death: "A giant in Israel has fallen. I link him in our heritage to God-called men of the Bible, for he intended to stand in that lineage."

And Kendall Berry, retired executive director of the Southern Baptist Foundation and Routh's friend for three decades, described him as "Mr. Baptist, as far as his denomination was concerned."

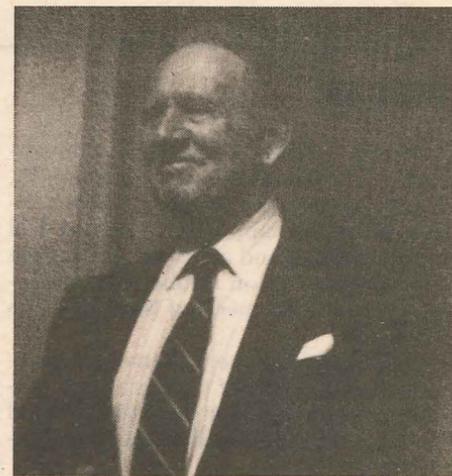
"Porter was a stalwart man," Berry added. "He would always stand up for what was right and didn't mind people knowing his position as far as his denomination and Christ were concerned. I don't know of a finer layman that ever lived." (BP)

'Battle for the Bible' has Dec. 16 air date

Southern Baptists are the topic of one documentary in a three-part series on "God and Politics," produced by Bill Moyers to air on the Public Broadcasting Service in December.

Southern Baptists interviewed for the documentary include Russell Dilday, president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; T. B. Maston, professor of Christian Ethics emeritus at Southwestern; Bruce Corley, of First Baptist Church, Dallas; Paul Pressler, Houston judge and leader of the conservative movement in the convention; James Dunn, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs; and Daniel Vestal, pastor of First Baptist Church, Midland.

The segment on Southern Baptists is titled "The Battle for the Bible." It is scheduled to air Dec. 16 in most areas. Due to the independent nature of PBS affiliates, dates may vary by location. Check local listings for details. (BP)



A beaming Art Linkletter faced a big Georgetown College audience last week.

Career success means 'doing what you like,' says Art Linkletter

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

To be successful in life, it's important that you "do what you like to do," a self-described "natural born entrepreneur" told Georgetown (Ky.) College students last week.

Famed radio and television personality Art Linkletter emphasized that "if, when your life is over, you haven't enjoyed it, it hasn't been a success."

Speaking at the school's 11th career emphasis day, he urged an audience of nearly 1000 not to follow the advice of anyone who would keep them from doing what brings genuine satisfaction.

"Forget fame, fortune and anything else that would prevent you from achieving true joy," he advised.

The adopted son of a poor Baptist evangelist, at 75 Linkletter divided his life into three equal thirds.

In the first third, he declared he was "poor as Job's turkey." In the second third, he became "very rich and very famous." In the most recent third, he has devoted his life to "serving others," and in so doing, has achieved "an even greater measure of reward and satisfaction than I ever thought possible."

Linkletter appears frequently for groups opposing pornography and drug abuse, as a fund-raiser against certain catastrophic diseases and on behalf of private Christian colleges and other philanthropic and charitable organizations.

Linkletter left his career emphasis audience with seven suggestions for planning their life's vocations:

Set goals, be enthusiastic, reach beyond your grasp, be persistent, be innovative, take risks and rehearse your future actions.

In an interview following his address to the students he indicated he had "never been a drinker or a smoker."

Inquiring about Georgetown's identity as a church-related institution, Linkletter was assured by vice president for student affairs L. Bert Hawkins that the school is "proud of that heritage" and it "doesn't plan to change it." Hawkins told Linkletter that alcohol is not permitted on the campus, the institution is "very close to Baptists" and about 10 percent of Georgetown's operating budget is provided by the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Linkletter starred in two of broadcasting's longest running shows, *House Party*, daily for 25 years on CBS Radio and TV, and *People Are Funny*, which ran weekly for 19 years on NBC Radio and TV. He is an author, lecturer, starred in two major motion pictures and in a half-dozen TV dramas.

called to pray

Many missionaries in Indonesia have been notified they cannot get another annual extension for their visas. They will have to leave next year.

Suade just became a Christian. He had been yearning for the Lord for 25 years. Is it time for a nation of 168 million souls like Suade to lose Christian missionaries? How many hours are you willing to commit to God in prayer so that it won't happen?

—Harry Bush
missionary to Indonesia



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A SWORD IN HER SOUL, a novel based on the story of Mary, mother of Jesus, by Carroll Gillis, retired Southern Baptist missionary. Here is an author who combines scholarship with storytelling ability. This new novel stresses the humanity of the mother of Jesus. Mary's everyday life, her joys and fears, her concern for Jesus as he faces hostile Jewish religionists, her sorrow at his death and her joy in his resurrection, are treated by Dr. Gillis with sympathy and understanding. Order from SUNBURST PRESS, Box 3129, Pacoima, CA 91331. Paperback \$7.95; clothbound \$15.95. Add \$1.00 for handling. Refund if not satisfied.

Dispute results in five Southeastern resignations

by R. G. Puckett

W. Randall Lolley, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary for nearly 14 years, resigned during a called meeting of trustees Nov. 17.

Morris Ashcraft, academic dean for seven years, also resigned from the deanship but will remain on the faculty.

Both resignations are effective July 31, 1988, or when successors are named.

The resignations of the two top officials at the Southern Baptist Convention-affiliated seminary had been expected since the trustees' fall meeting Oct. 12-13. Both Lolley and Ashcraft told the faculty and student body in a chapel service Oct. 22 they were setting in motion the termination of their service to the 37-year-old seminary.

Somewhat unexpected were the resignations of three top administrators: Jerry Niswonger, assistant to the president for student development; W. Robert Spinks, assistant to the president for financial development; and Rodney V. Byard, assistant to the president for communications.

Niswonger will take early retirement because of circumstances at the seminary and a heart condition. The alumnus of the school suffered a heart attack two years ago and had bypass surgery. His physician has advised him to avoid stress and excessive activity.

Spinks, who for 10 years has been Southeastern's first full time development director, cited progress in fund raising for special projects and endowment, and told the trustees: "I have been both happy and successful in my work here. Now, because of the recent changes at Southeastern, I find it necessary to seek employment elsewhere."

Byard will take early retirement effective Dec. 31, 1988. Niswonger will conclude his service to coincide with Lolley's leaving and Spinks will set an effective date later.

The called meeting of trustees was scheduled to begin at 8 a.m. in the con-

ference room of Plantation Inn, a motel near the campus, a departure from normal practice under which trustees meet on campus. The session, however, was delayed until 8:31 a.m. because of a caucus by some of the trustees who wanted to remove Lolley by Jan. 1, 1988.

James T. DeLoach of Houston, vice chairman of the board, told Todd Ackerman of the Raleigh News and Observer some of the "more extreme" members wanted an interim president to take over in January.

"A lot of things were talked about and that was one, but I think something of a consensus really came about here," DeLoach said of the decision to have Lolley stay until July 31, 1988.

James Bryant of Ft. Smith, Ark. made a motion that G. Paul Fletcher, director of business affairs, be named executive vice president and chief executive officer during the transition, receiving an additional \$6000 annually for the added responsibilities.

Trustees concluded, however, that the documents of the seminary make no provision for an executive vice president and that until Lolley vacates the president's office there could not be two chief executive officers. However, Fletcher will assist Lolley during the transition and if a new president is not found by Aug. 1, 1988, Fletcher will become acting president.

Under terms agreed to by trustees,

Lolley will be permitted to live in the president's home until July 31. Since he is eligible for sabbatical, which he has not taken, an amount equal to one year's base salary (\$72,000) will be deposited in his annuity funds with the SBC Annuity Board. He also will receive the traditional 10 percent of salary severance plus four weeks of pay for vacation earned but not taken.

Ashcraft will take a sabbatical to which he is entitled and return to the faculty to teach theology. As dean, he will be given 10 percent of his salary (\$4,810.50) as severance pay.

The 11-member executive committee met in closed session Nov. 17 to discuss securing a new president. (BP)

Conservatives enjoy 'a little fellowship' in Atlanta

by Dan Martin

Key national leaders of the conservative movement in the Southern Baptist Convention met at an Atlanta airport hotel for an all-day "private fellowship meeting" Nov. 16.

About 40 people attended, said Homer A. Lindsay Jr., copastor of First Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Fla., and one of the participants.

Current SBC president Adrian Rogers and all three former SBC presidents since 1979 attended. They included Bailey Smith, evangelist from Atlanta; Jimmy Draper, pastor of First Baptist Church, Euless, Tex.; and Charles Stanley, pastor of First Baptist Church, Atlanta.

Others included Lee Roberts, a Marietta, Ga., businessman and chairman of the 1986 committee on boards, and Brig. Gen. T. C. Pinckney of Alexandria, Va., a retired Air Force officer, and chairman of the 1987 committee on boards. The committee on boards nominates people to serve as trustees of the 20 national SBC agencies, including the six seminaries.

Also present were Paige Patterson, president of the Criswell Center for Biblical Studies, Dallas, and Paul Pressler, a Texas appellate judge from Houston. Patterson and Pressler are believed to be chief architects of the nine-year political/theological effort to turn the nation's largest Protestant denomination to a more conservative direction.

Draper read a 11-paragraph statement which noted, "We are grieved and dismayed at the apparent failure of some to maintain the spirit of the St. Louis convention as reflected by the overwhelming response to the report of the (SBC) Peace Committee."

The statement said, "The continued use by 'moderates' of terms such as 'Fundamentalists' to describe conservative evangelicals serves only to obscure and confuse the real issue of biblical authority."

The meeting was held just a few days after moderates won victories in such Baptist state conventions as Georgia, North Carolina, Texas, Maryland, Virginia, Louisiana and Kentucky.

In response to a question about whether strategy concerning potential

candidates for the SBC presidency in 1988 was discussed, Rogers told Baptist Press: "No decisions were made as to who would be a candidate. Certainly, as any group would do we discussed a number of people. We are happy there are a number of good possibilities. But we made no decision, nor do we have the right to make decisions of that kind. That decision is for an individual to make."

Participants apparently decided to release a statement on the meeting after two news reporters showed up at the Airport Marriott to cover the event. Jim Newton, chief of the Atlanta bureau of Baptist Press, requested permission to attend the meeting, but was asked to leave.

"This is a closed meeting of Baptists who are here for fellowship," Newton quoted Patterson as saying in response to his request.

The Marriott daily schedule of events listed the meeting as being scheduled by First Baptist Church, Atlanta. As he left the room, Stanley, pastor of the host church, said the group was "having a little fellowship in there." (BP)

SEBTS officials tell their sides of the dilemma

by Larry E. High

A strongly-worded statement from the top administrator of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary spelling out why he is leaving was read during a news conference less than three hours after a called meeting of trustees "accepted with regret" his resignations.

President W. Randall Lolley and dean Morris Ashcraft resigned effective July 31, 1988, unless successors are elected before then.

Lolley and Ashcraft, along with Robert Crowley, a Rockville, Md., pastor who was elected seminary trustee chairman last month, read statements during the two-hour news conference, then held a question-and-answer session involving media representatives and seminary students.

Lolley said he has "four lingering questions which I must ask Southern Baptist people" as he leaves the post he has held since 1974.

The first is, "Southern Baptists, do you recognize the differences between free-conscience, conservative trustees and trustees with pre-packaged agendas who must report out the results of their agendas?"

Lolley criticized some trustees who "cannot come to orientation or to trustee meetings with completely open minds.

They have never set foot on this campus before becoming trustees. Yet upon arrival, they seem to know precisely what needs to be done and who needs to be disciplined. They have a prepackaged agenda upon election."

Lolley's second question is, "Southern Baptists, do you recognize the differences between 'biblical inerrancy' as a legitimate personal conviction or a theological construction and this concept as a code word for power politics?"

Lolley said there is a wide variety among those people who use inerrancy to describe biblical authority. "The difference that really makes a difference is between a 'theological inerrantist' and a 'political inerrantist.'"

The third question Lolley asked is, "Southern Baptists, do you recognize the differences between our 1963 confessional statement and our 1987 functional creed?"

He claimed the Peace Committee report, adopted at the 1987 Southern Baptist Convention in St. Louis, moved the denomination from a confession, the Baptist Faith and Message statement adopted in 1963, to a creed.

"Put simply, our confessional statements up to this point have all allowed us to interpret them as we were led by God's Spirit while exercising our freedom of conscience. Now the only 'cor-

rect interpretation' open to us is the one supposedly embraced by the majority of others no matter what we as individuals in conscience may conclude," he said. "The ultimate issue in all this, my friends, is freedom—free consciences, free churches and free classrooms," he added.

Lolley's final question is, "Southern Baptists, how long will you go on calling young girls and women to faith in Jesus Christ; telling them to dedicate all their gifts to his Lordship; recommending them from your churches to your seminaries; and then upon their graduation refusing to consider them as your pastors and teachers?"

The seminary president said: "Do you realize that you are requiring us in your seminaries to be duplicitous with your daughters? And that you may be muscling in on the calling of God."

Trustee chairman Crowley said: "We hope and expect that a broader spectrum of views, including conservative theological views, will be included and respected at Southeastern Seminary."

Crowley added: "I am committed to see Southeastern Seminary excel in quality theological education in the training of ministers for the accomplishment of the Bold Mission Thrust of our Southern Baptist Convention.

"The trustees solicit the prayers of all

our constituency as we seek to accomplish these goals," Crowley concluded.

Lolley responded: "I think a man deserves the right, once, to say why he is leaving the job of his dreams. I took that responsibility seriously. I don't intend to talk about it a whole lot more. I've said all I intend to say. If Bob (Crowley) thinks I have seized an opportunity negatively and wrong, I'm sorry."

Morris Ashcraft, meanwhile, said trustee actions in the October meeting of the board "made it impossible for me to remain as the chief academic officer of the school."

Ashcraft said his decision to resign came from the conviction that "I can no longer implement the policies of the majority of the trustees as required by position description."

"It is my belief that too many leaders in the SBC have capitulated to the pressure and agreed with it. No one has said a clear 'No!' Now president Lolley has said 'No!' It is my intention by resigning to say 'no' to the purposes and methods of the Pressler-Patterson coalition and our trustees who are carrying out this program.

"I will not be party to some of the actions now taking place and injuring persons, nor will I hold the coats of those who do," Ashcraft concluded. (BP)

THAT ALL MAY HEAR

From Mrs. Wayne (Mary Lou) Emanuel, Japan: The high yen/low dollar is really playing havoc with our mission budgets in Japan. The Foreign Mission Board takes care of our missionaries and adjusts our living costs according to local currency. However there is not

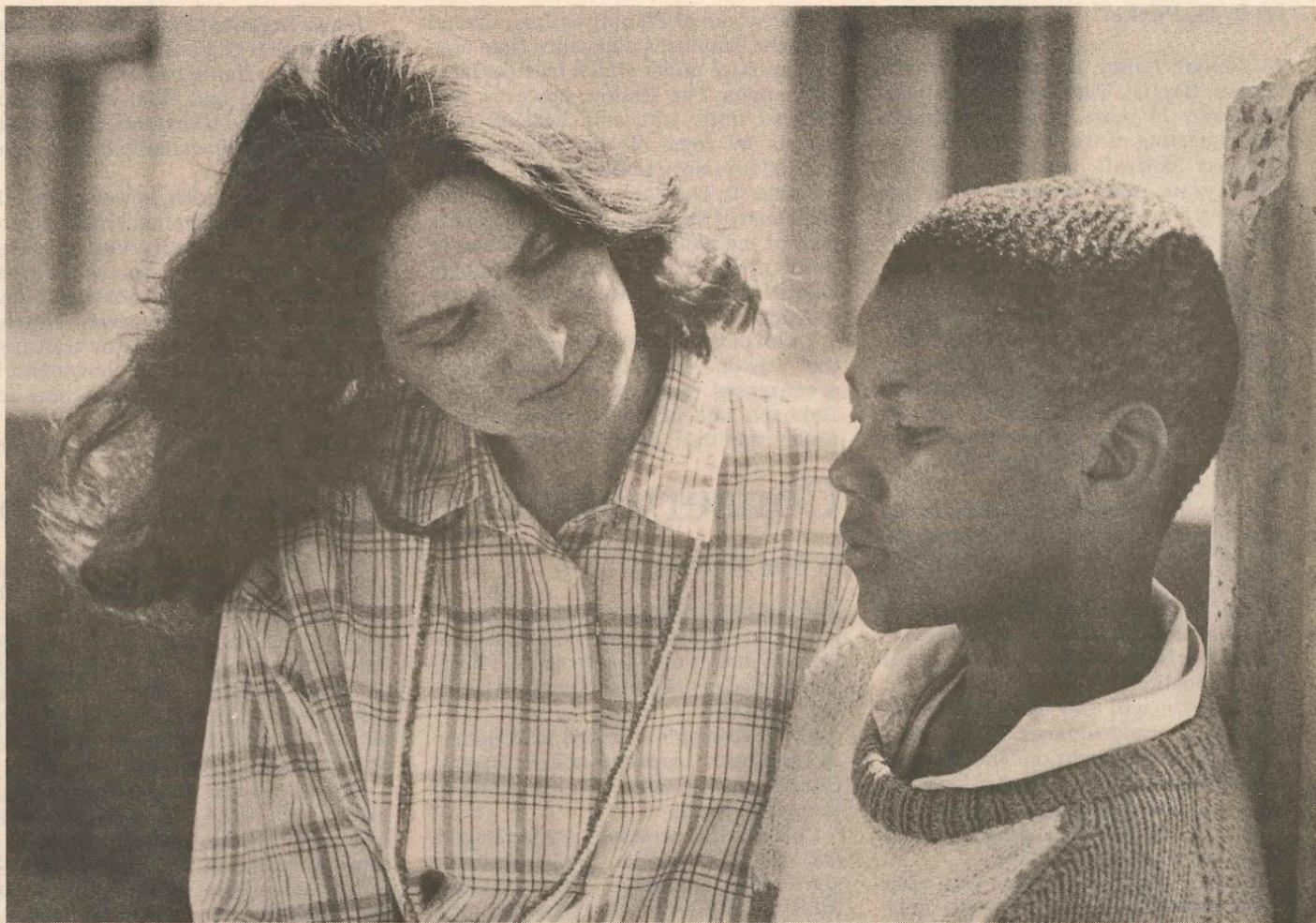


enough money to do the same with our work budgets.

One positive aspect is that we are taking a hard look at our work and are placing priorities on the things which are really bringing people into the kingdom and building or strengthening local churches.

Heretofore the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering was seen as an answer to capital needs or special projects. Now, given our financial situation, this offering also supplies much of our basic salary.

The school of nursing which I direct receives 42 percent of its operating budget from the FMB. We have graduated 249 nurses and all but 7 have made professions of faith in Christ by graduation time. This is how your mission offerings are used to spread the gospel of Christ.



Through Khayamnandi (Sweet Home), which Baptists have started in Cape Town, South Africa, Terry Blakey has been able to minister to homeless boys like this young man. Pray today for the adults and children hurt by the world's strife.

Foreign fields need commitments to go

by D'Lesa Carroll

During their last years of foreign missionary service Howard and Marjorie Olive never knew where they would lay their heads next.

All the comforts of home in the United States never entered their minds. God was nurturing them. It was an exciting time.

For the Olives, 32 years of foreign missionary service seems almost mind-boggling. They spent time teaching at the Baptist seminary in the Philippines but temporary assignments from the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board took them to Thailand, Singapore, Guam, Sri Lanka and India.

Though recently retired the Olives still devote much of their time to those whom they left behind—by praying for them—praying they will hear the name of Christ.

"Right now the number one need on the mission field is for more workers. It is our prayer that Southern Baptists will give the support needed to expand the work," said Howard Olive.

In various areas where the Olives worked, the gospel is spreading. But it took a long time.

The Olives faced much opposition. In the Philippines it was Muslims; in India no visas were allowed to missionaries; in Thailand the people were not very receptive to a "new" religion where Buddhism is so strong; and the list goes on.

Because there were so many people

Kartik Singh starts each day facing his Hindu gods, pulling his rickshaw through hazardous Calcutta traffic. His family, including baby, may never know the name of Jesus.

who needed to hear the gospel and so few missionaries to tell them, Howard Olive initiated radio and television ministry programs and Bible correspondence courses in the Philippines. Even to this day he is receiving letters from people converted through those ministries.

Another problem the Olives often encountered was the lack of theological training among religious leaders in the local churches. To combat the situation Howard Olive held theological lectures and training sessions with pastors so that they could become more know-



ledgeable about the Bible.

A problem that was especially hard to deal with was poverty. It's one thing to help someone occasionally, the Olives said, but they found that on a daily basis, charity is not as easily accepted. The Olives soon learned that to be effective they had to help the people help themselves.

"The plea that weighs so heavily on our hearts is that more missionaries will go to these countries and share the love of God," he intimated.

Marjorie Olive agreed. "It is heartbreaking to know that we left without many knowing the Lord and knowing that people from our own country hindered us."

This "hindrance" came when some so-called "Christian" tourists from the United States visited these foreign lands but did not show a Christian witness while there. The Olives spent many trying hours solving problems caused by the incongruity.

"We represented a 'Christian' nation and so many times we were asked, 'If they are Christians why do they do this?' or 'Why do they do that?'"

"As Christians we all are called to be missionaries, whether we go to a foreign country or not. We are to be witnesses for Christ wherever we go and those who can't go can pray," she said.

It was the prayers of Southern Baptists and their gifts to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions that enabled the Olives to go overseas as missionaries in the first place.

Those same needs are just as urgent today, they agreed. Prayer support, financial support and the willingness to go to the mission field are as crucial today in spreading the gospel as they were 32 years ago.

From Dale E. Beighle, Bophuthatswana, Africa: Ann was taking cinnamon rolls out of the oven for a leisurely Saturday morning breakfast when a man arrived at our back door.

Such a caller at our house early on Saturday morning always means a sick animal must be seen. This one was a bloat case and since a bloated cow is always an emergency I left with the man immediately, my mouth watering from the aroma coming from our oven.



Out in the village I found a milk cow of mixed breeding who was indeed bloated. After routine attention I felt she would be fine.

As I began to explain to the owner about the follow-up care of the cow I began to notice his children. They were typical "stair steps" from about eight years of age down to the infant perched on the mother's back.

It was then I realized the real urgency of this case from the point of view of the family. For me it had been the life of the cow that was threatened, but for them it was the life of the family, the life of the children who depended on milk from that cow.

Because you give to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, together we can share the bread of life, the living water, the sincere milk of the word.

PRAY... PRAY... PRAY...

Missionaries praise the Lottie Moon Offering

Following are a series of letters from Kentucky missionaries serving through the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. Western Recorder asked these missionaries to tell us the ways the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is vital to their work.

From I. Grundy Janes Jr., Temuco, Chile: This year the Baptist Academy in Temuco, Chile, celebrates its 65th anniversary. Throughout its long history many nationals and missionaries have invested their lives in the ministry of the school. They have participated in the training of many of the Baptist leaders in Chile today. They have rejoiced as many students have come to accept Jesus Christ as personal savior.

We continue to strive to offer a top quality education in a Christian context. Much of the academic excellence we have obtained is due to our very adequate facilities.

Most of these facilities have been made possible by funds we have received from the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

This year we were able to remodel and transform the basement of our main building into a beautiful Christian education department with a chapel, library and classrooms. In the evenings these facilities are used for seminary extension classes.

Pray for the ministry of the Baptist Academy. We along with our Chilean brothers are grateful for your prayer support and your gifts to missions.



Mrs. Cauthen greets a new—and very young—friend on a street in Yantai, China.

Lottie Moon's thunder echoes from China

by Erich Bridges

"Great changes are going on in China," Lottie Moon wrote to Southern Baptists exactly 100 years ago. "Wonderful progress is being made."

The missionary was excited about her ministry, which wasn't unusual. But she was a tad impatient with the church folks back home, which also wasn't unusual.

"The question comes up: What are Southern Baptists doing to utilize the opportunities now offered?" she challenged. "Here in Shantung where we ought to have 100 missionaries we have just eight! How long is this state of affairs to continue?...How many million more souls are to pass into eternity without having heard the name of Jesus?"

The next year she wrote, "I confidently believe that we should have hundreds, yea thousands of inquirers and converts. I think I know whereof I speak for I have lived down among the people and I know they can be won by loving self-sacrifice on the part of mission-

aries—but we must have the missionaries."

A century has passed since those words pricked the souls of Southern Baptists and helped lay the foundation for the largest Protestant missionary force on earth.

The missionary era in China ended a generation ago. Chinese Christians have both suffered deeply and grown phenomenally in the years since. Today they number in the millions and worship in relative freedom.

Those believers who remember the missionaries of the past appreciate their historic contributions to spreading the gospel in China. But they also rejoice in the fact that their Christianity is now recognized by others as a Chinese faith, not a "foreign religion." They now declare their readiness to shoulder their responsibility for sharing Jesus Christ with their own people.

Lottie Moon would surely rejoice to know how much her beloved Chinese church has grown and matured, despite the hardships of this century and the departure of missionaries.

Though missionaries no longer live and work in today's China, the nation and its churches are welcoming Christians from abroad who come as friends to learn and to contribute to China's national progress.

Eloise Cauthen, widow of longtime foreign missions leader Baker James Cauthen, was invited last year to return to Shantung (Shantung), the province where she was born and reared and where Lottie Moon devoted her life to the Chinese people. Cauthen's missionary parents knew and worked with Lottie Moon. She returned recently to teach English for a year at Yantai University in Shantung.

Cauthen enjoyed teaching English and brushing up on her own admittedly "rusty" Chinese. She discovered that most of her students knew Confucius was born in Shantung around 551 B. C. but had no idea the legendary Shantung Revival swept the region with a wave of Christian conversions in the early 1930s. Nor did they know that missionaries like Lottie Moon and Cauthen's parents spent a lifetime preaching Christ in the province.

But Shantung's illustrious Christian heritage still exerts influence across the years. Rural people still call Sunday "worship day," whether or not they attend a church. Christians are respected.

Chinese Christian leaders estimate by 1985 some 250,000 believers worshiped in more than 60 churches and 2000 home meeting points in the province.

Though China is no longer a field for foreign missions, many other countries are wide open. If Lottie Moon were alive today she would be laboring in one of them, alongside the more than 3800 Southern Baptist missionaries now at work in 111 countries.

From Karl Babb, Davao City, Philippines: How thankful we are for your support through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Let us share with you some of the ways these funds have been used in ministry over the last three years.

A few years ago our library capacity was 60 students and we had more than 100 in our seminary. Most of our classes require library work. The new library built with Lottie

Moon funds has a capacity of 200 students and has greatly aided our work. Also of great benefit is the new chapel and three additional classrooms. Before these classrooms were built some of our classes and chapel times were conducted outdoors.

Your gifts have also provided publication equipment. This equipment is used to produce Sunday school literature as well as literature for theological training, evangelism and church growth.

Lottie Moon gifts provide missionary transportation and housing. Currently we are negotiating to purchase land to build a residence for a missionary family in Davao city.

During this season in which we celebrate the birth of Jesus who gives us peace and hope we want to thank you in a special way for your prayers and support. We do not forget the part you have in this ministry of sharing this peace and hope which Jesus gives with people here in the Philippines.



Rose Young, a woman from the Sasstown area of Liberia, wears white powder on her face to show that she has survived a "sassywood trial."

Foster parents share love, change lives

by Pauline Stegall
State Correspondent

Fifteen years ago Pat Wallace of Ledbetter, Livingston County, told her husband she had a strong desire to become a foster parent.

Their home was already a busy place. Each of the Wallaces, previously widowed, had children. They also had a son, Jim Pat, plus Nancy, whom they adopted when she was five.

But Lamar Wallace said, "Okay, honey, if that's what you want."

Pat answered a TV plea for foster parents by calling an 800 number, little dreaming of its results. The Cabinet of Human Resources, after the usual procedures, accepted the Wallaces. For the next five years, the couple provided a home for one child at a time.

When Pat's brother became terminally ill, the project had to be abandoned. For the next five years, she cared for him in her home.

After his death she saw an ad in the paper. A temporary shelter for foster children was to be built at Dixon in Webster County. House parents were needed.

"I know we can do that," stated Lamar, who had recently retired from his job on the river. Pat, already on the Women's Advisory board of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, applied.

The Wallaces stayed in Dixon for the next three years. During that time they became "parents" of 168 children.

"When I first became a foster parent no training was required. But when I went to the shelter I had to have 24 hours of training. And now under the state program one must have 18 hours even to apply and six hours every year after that," Pat explained.

After the Dixon tenure the Wallaces returned to Ledbetter and applied for a license from the state. Since that time they have had 13 foster children.

"We are licensed for six girls but presently we have only five. They all call us 'maw and paw'," she laughed.

"Things get hectic. We had three graduating from high school at one time. And there are always Easter outfits for everybody." She pointed proudly to a page in a photograph album.

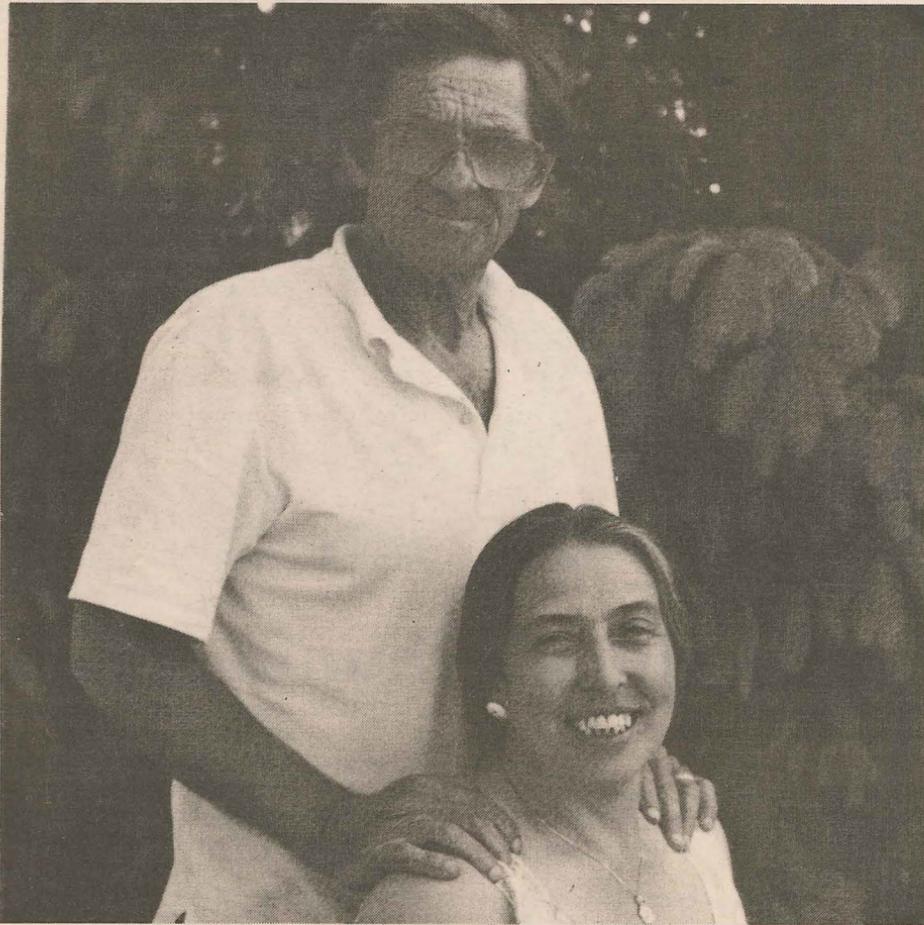
The girls are all 15 or older. "I relate better to the older ones," Pat said. "And there is a greater need in that area. Some people are reluctant to take adolescents."

The girls are expected to keep their rooms clean, store their laundry and take their turn doing dishes and cleaning the bathroom. There are other rules too. If a young person desires to make long distance phone calls, they must be responsible for their own calls. They have certain nights for dating and must observe a curfew. Dating must be postponed until age 16.

"We go a lot of places, have a lot of fun. We go to amusement parks, camping and sometimes the girls can even take their boyfriends along.

"When we were at the shelter we had six girls who were there because they would not attend school. But we had no trouble with them. Our youngsters know if they miss school, they have to stay in bed and rest with meals brought to them, no TV, no stereo until school starts the next morning. And I've never had any trouble with school attendance. I've even had them wanting to go with 103 degree temperature!" she smiled.

"The girls relate well to each other. Rarely a serious problem comes up.



Pat and Lamar Wallace

When it does we all sit down on the floor and talk it out. It works."

And after they leave the foster home? Pat says that many go on to college, vocational school or other training. Some go directly into a job and others marry. Out of one class at the shelter, seven

went to college and two of them are taking pre-med. One girl is on the basketball team at her college.

"And can you guess what most of the college bound students want to be?" asked Pat. "Social workers—they want to help someone else."

The Wallaces have been "maw and paw" to almost 200 boys and girls. "It's hard to count accurately," mused Pat as she looked over her notebook where she keeps records of all her "kids."

And rewards?

"Oh, there are so many!" beamed Pat. "There's always someone here—some of the family is always dropping in. And all the grandchildren! My telephone bill is terrible. But then I have lots of kids to talk to."

She is especially proud of one young lady who recently lacked just one point of making the honor roll at school. "She made straight Fs during her first semester as a Freshman. But she has improved her grades and found an important place of service in her church. She thinks that missions might be in God's plan for her life. I find my reward in things like that," Mrs. Wallace declared.

While at the shelter, she took a little boy to the dentist one day. The child was tormented and jealous of the whole world. Trying to impress upon him that she loved him Pat said, "Honey, I love you." He snarled, "Nobody loves me." She insisted, but he said, "You couldn't love me like you do your own son."

So Mrs. Wallace said, "Let me explain something. Turn a water faucet on. There is water coming out. I can take a cup and hold it under the faucet and fill it up. When it gets full I can take another cup and catch what runs over. Then I can do it again and again. And it doesn't make the first cup any less full. That's love. You love each person and to love another person doesn't take away from the first person or the second person. It continues to grow and to fill.

"The boy said, 'Can you love me that much?' I told him I did love him that much. From that day on he was a changed child."

Providence celebrates sesquicentennial

by Betty Anderson
State Correspondent

First Baptist Church, Providence, formally marked its 150th anniversary Oct. 25 during morning worship and in an afternoon service. William Shoulta, pastor, preached the morning message and William Marshall, executive secretary-treasurer, KBC, preached in the afternoon, followed by the Destiny Quartet in concert. A noon potluck was enjoyed by members and visitors.

For the past year, Shoulta explained, Providence First has had the slogan "The First Family—Celebrating 150 Years." Two earlier services were part of the year-long celebration, featuring Carolyn Weatherford, executive secretary, WMU, and Roy Honeycutt, president, Southern Seminary, Louisville. Also part of the observance was a revival Oct. 26-28 with C. R. Daley, former editor, Western Recorder, and Thomas Woodson and Bob Williams, former pastors.

Church history was portrayed in morning worship by member Duane Bolin posing as T. L. Garrett, missionary of the Little Bethel Association, and in Shoulta's anniversary message. After reading Garrett's words regarding what he hoped would soon be a large and flourishing church, "May the Lord multiply it until it shall spread itself like the green bay tree by the side of the re-

freshing river," Shoulta took his text from Jeremiah 17:7-8:

"Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord and whose hope the Lord is. For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters and that spreadeth out her roots by the river and shall not see when heat cometh but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit."

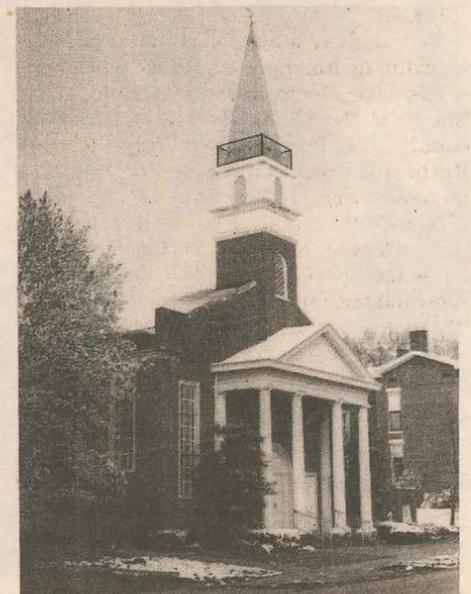
Shoulta applied the prospering of the man to the prospering of the church. The church is to stay near the source of life, Christ. It is to send out its roots in evangelism and is to be ever green and full of life.

Shoulta's application and church history were interspersed. Prior to 1837, he said, Baptists of the area were part of the Highland Association who had taken a stand against missions. Four churches withdrew and formed the Little Bethel Association with T. L. Garrett as their first missionary. Garrett went to Providence for a protracted (revival) meeting which resulted in 20 people forming the Sharon Baptist Church Oct. 28, 1837. The name was changed to Providence First Baptist in 1913. Until 1882 the Methodists, Presbyterians and Christian congregations rotated Sundays with Sharon Baptist in using the building.

Current church membership is at five hundred. Staff members include Sally

Ensley, minister of education and Geneva Blue, music director. The church operates a soup kitchen one day a week.

At the conclusion Shoulta read letters of congratulation and recognized guests. William Marshall brought greetings from the Kentucky Baptist Convention and reminded the congregation it was "also in 1837 we became a convention."



First Baptist Church, Providence

Whaleys return home after Kenya project

by Gregory L. Hancock

While much of Kentucky focused attention on radio and television coverage of the 1987 gubernatorial election, a small but spirited "special interest group" assembled at Standiford Field, Louisville, to welcome home the couple that for three years has anchored Kentucky Baptist volunteer mission work in Kenya.

James and Wilma Whaley, exhibiting the same graciousness and gentleness of spirit that nurtured over 700 volunteers through the rigors of an East African



Janet and Jim Whaley were the first to greet their parents when the Whaleys stepped from flight 311, election eve. G. Allen West (in foreground at left), served as the James Whaley's counterpart in the United States. The two men worked hand-in-hand to coordinate volunteer activities.

missions experience, stepped from TWA flight 311 at 10:15 p.m. to the cheers of colleagues, friends and family.

The Whaleys had taken the scenic route home; visiting spots in the mid-east and Europe as a vacation treat to themselves. "It was all just wonderful," Whaley said in describing their journey, "but it's good to be home."

Whaley's daughter Janet, a senior at Georgetown chimed in, "And it's good to have you home." Janet, her brother Jim and Jim's wife, Cathy, were among the first of the crowd to assemble at TWA gate 5 that evening.

"I hope they are on this flight," Jim Whaley laughed before the arrival gates opened. "Mom and Dad may have just decided to take off and see some more of the country. They are like that!"

Indeed, James and Wilma Whaley have shown more than trifle of ability to capitalize on spur of the moment opportunities. Such talent snatched victory from the jaws of defeat more than once over the course of their three year vigil with the Kenya mission. "We are not always given the best of things," Whaley commented to a volunteer in 1986. "We've got to learn to **make** the best of things." Among the best of things coming out of the three year Kentucky/Kenya project are:

- An average of one new church per day through 1986-87;
- Over 14,000 baptisms resulting from professions of faith in Jesus Christ;
- A new closeness between career missionaries and Kenya nationals;
- An offering from Kentucky Baptists to the Kenya mission of nearly \$100,000 to help continue the Gospel ministry in that country.

The 1987 Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meeting marked the end of the Kentucky/Kenya partnership.



L to R: Interim pastor Bill L. Gray, Charles R. Aldridge, Michael Byford and John East.

Marion church becomes fund trustee

by Pauline Stegall
State Correspondent

Following the Sunday morning worship service Oct. 18, Marion Baptist Church was recognized as trustee of the Ohio River Baptist Association Neely R. Jones Scholarship Trust.

In an unusual move, Mrs. Neely R. Jones, who died Mar. 3, left \$148,497.17 to be set up as a perpetual trust fund for the education of ministerial students.

During the ceremony, a check was presented to Michael Byford, budget and finance committee chairman, by Charles R. Aldridge, executor of the estate.

Mrs. Jones, who had no immediate relatives, was the widow of Joe H. Jones, who had owned and operated a Ben Franklin Five and Ten Store in Marion. Both had been active members of the church.

Interested in the education of ministers, Mrs. Jones was aware some ministerial students have financial problems. This concern, combined with her love

for the association, led her to make the decision.

Henry Parrott, former DOM, now of Campbellsville, was a neighbor of the Joneses. He spoke warmly of the couple.

"They were ideal church members and neighbors. Their primary interest was Christian education for God-called ministers. The trust can be a great incentive, especially for those who are called to the ministry later in life."

The budget and finance committee of Marion Baptist will oversee the trust and assist the DOM in administering and evaluating all requests for scholarship funds.

The recipient must be a male ministerial student and a member of an Ohio River Association church. The money may be used for seminary extension, college or seminary.

John East, present DOM says, "The generous gesture on the part of this lady is unprecedented in this association. Pastors and ministerial students who have been unable to attend college or seminary will now have access to financial resources."

baptist forum

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

Praise for a former minister

I learned some weeks ago of the death of James O. Mattox in North Carolina. Although he spent most of his ministry in North Carolina and as an Army chaplain, he was youth pastor of Beechmont Baptist Church during the years I was a Junior.

He touched many of us in a lasting way during his short stay in Kentucky.

His wife, Doris, lives in Raleigh, N. C. She said the Methodist, Baptist, Episcopal and Presbyterian churches in Rutherfordton combined to hold a memorial service for him.

His mother and three children survive. Also a brother, Bernard, whose stage name is Gregory Walcott, the man who played Bill Wallace in the movie, "Bill Wallace of China."

Jon A. Whitfield
Brandenburg

There is another side

I have read your depressing article entitled, "Sweet dream is nightmare for Dawson Baptist Church." My heart goes out to them in this horrifying experience.

May I commend you on a thorough job of reporting the "bad news" well. The church public should be made aware of the pitfalls when undertaking a project of this magnitude.

But if the church public, while reading this article, mentally lumps all the "total package" church builders into the same category of distrust, then a grave injustice would be done.

The purpose of this letter is to remind you there are also some "good news" stories of people who employ "total package" church builders who adequately fulfill the dreams and prayers of people undertaking a building program. Ours is such a story.

First Baptist Church, Kuttawa, had dreamed and prayed 20 years for the church facility we now have to become a reality. Eight months ago the church was completed after we employed Trinity Church Builders, Louisville, Harry L. Nurse, president. They provide a complete service for church construction—design, supervision and management of construction. This service was adequately provided on budget, on schedule and acceptable.

This type "total package" when provided correctly is a very valuable and much needed service and should not be marred or discouraged by one unfortu-

nate example.

The bottom line is—there are probably more "success" stories than "failures" dealing with this type service. Ours can testify in the "good news" column.

Ray Whittaker, Chairman
Building Committee
Kuttawa First Baptist Church

Editor's note: In the above mentioned article it was clearly stated the Dawson Baptist Church investigated the builder and found only success stories in other churches. Their experience was indeed unfortunate and not typical. We rejoice with Brother Whittaker for the good job done in constructing the Kuttawa First Baptist Church.

A travesty of the highest order

I am appalled at the coverage your paper gave to the recent resignation of Randall Lolley.

As a minister of music and youth and a full time student at a Kentucky SBC college, I have followed the activities in our convention both on a national and state level with great interest.

I am greatly distressed by your com-

mentaries on "unfairness" and "close-mindedness" on the part of the fundamentalists. Calling those who don't believe in the absolute integrity of the scriptures and the virgin birth "moderate-conservative" is a travesty of the highest order. Under those terms only the most vehement atheist would be called a liberal.

The truth is the movement of the last decade has been a grassroots movement. If the faithful members of the congregations across the nation knew what some professors are teaching, they would be aghast.

In the name of "open mindedness" they have thrown the precious cargo of the virgin birth and other biblical absolutes off the gospel ship. If there is no literal hell to lose and no literal heaven to gain, what exactly is our doctrine? What was Jesus' mission? The Bible still says he came to seek and save that which was lost.

Do not take my anger at this liberalism as anger at those who hold these views. I love them, however I feel sorry for them. In the search for intellectualism they have placed themselves as judges of God's word and that is a precarious seat.

E. Michael Caner
Manchester



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

homes for children

This is the time

"To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under the heaven." (Ecclesiastes 3:1) Indeed, there is a time for every season. There is a time to speak and a time to listen; a time to pray and a time to act. For weeks, many have been praying for the Thanksgiving Offering for our children. Leaders have made plans to present the needs of children, and the story has been written and spoken. Thousands have thought about how to help meet the pressing needs of dependent, neglected, abused children. Now this is the time—the time to help answer our prayers, put feet to our faith, action to our wishes—this is the time to give to the Thanksgiving Offering.

This is the time to once again hear the cries of children. They are crying for someone to love them, to provide a safe place to live, to give guidance and encouragement, to bring hope to their hopelessness and help them put the broken pieces of life together. How can you help? First of all, pray for these hurting children and for the child care workers who parent and guide them. Then give to support this ministry. Give generously to the Thanksgiving Offering through your church.

Do you know that Baptist Homes for Children is truly at the mercy of the Thanksgiving Offering? What Kentucky Baptists do at Thanksgiving will either keep this ministry on the cutting edge of child care or cause this ministry to be curtailed. Surely, all of us care about children. Therefore, we must be bold to give generously and sacrificially. For the sake of a troubled, destitute child, would you do without something so you could share in helping that child? I believe you would. Just be sure you give to the Thanksgiving Offering this year and make it more than last year. Then you can rest assured that your gift will bless the lives of children who come to us to find a home and family.

As you gather with family and friends on this Thanksgiving, you will enjoy the fellowship and food more if you have a significant part in helping children. Your sacrificial and generous Thanksgiving Offering through your church means more than words can ever express. It means the difference between hopelessness and hope for children.

This is the time to express genuine thanks to God for his blessings. Expressing that thanks with a worthy gift for children makes the thanks authentic.

christian education

Students to participate in Brazil project

Ten students and a campus minister from Kentucky are among the 145 students and campus ministers participating in a USA-Brazil global missions project in January 1988.

Participating are Marsha Butler, Catlettsburg, Morehead State University; Andrew Carrithers, LaGrange, Western Kentucky University; Brian Coleman, Shelbyana, Alice Lloyd College; Peter Coleman, Louisville, Cumberland College; Hannah Holtzclaw, Kingsport, Tenn., Georgetown College; Jeff Jacobs, Cincinnati, Oh., Morehead State University; Timothy Lucas, Leitchfield, Western Kentucky University; Vicki Sams, Louisville, Alice Lloyd College; Margaret Spragens, Lebanon, University of Kentucky; Stephen Whitaker, Hazard, Cumberland College; and Gene Parr, campus minister at Morehead State University.

Students will leave for Brazil Dec. 29 after a two-day orientation session in Miami, Fla. They will return Jan. 13.

The project is a pilot for future involvement of students in volunteer foreign missions and is a cooperative effort of the Baptist Sunday School Board's National Student Ministry Department, the Foreign Mission Board and the Brazilian Baptist Home Mission Board.

During the project 30 teams with five Southern Baptist students and five Brazilian university students will work

together at sites throughout Brazil.

The students will conduct various mission activities including Backyard Bible Clubs, vacation Bible schools, revivals and People Searches in addition to personal evangelism efforts.

Mission activities will vary depending on the needs in the particular location according to Brad Gray, National Student Ministry consultant who is coordinating the project.

Sites range from resort beach areas to upperclass urban communities and poverty-stricken rural areas, Gray said.

While the project is designed to expose Southern Baptist students to

foreign missions work it also will help Brazilian Baptists see what can be done through student work and volunteer student mission projects, according to Mattie Lou Bible, a Southern Baptist missionary to Brazil who works with the Brazilian Baptist National Youth Board in student work.

Southern Baptist students approved for the project represent 26 state conventions.

Students are responsible for raising approximately \$1650 to participate in the project. However, several state conventions are in funding for some students, Gray said.

Creation dispute erupts in Missouri

A long-simmering dispute at Missouri Baptist College broke into the open in mid October when the St. Louis Post-Dispatch printed an article charging three professors were being forced out by the school for teaching evolution.

According to the story, Leroy Madden, chairman of the Department of Natural Science and professor at the Missouri Baptist Convention-affiliated school 17 years, is being forced out for refusing to teach creation science.

Former history professor Douglas Herman charged he was denied reappointment for the current year when he refused to "describe certain biblical stories such as the Garden of Eden and

Noah's Ark as accurate historical accounts."

Professor of religion Larry Davis, who reportedly disagrees with the administration's interpretation of scripture, also has been told his contract will not be renewed after the current academic year.

Missouri Baptist College does not have a tenure system for faculty. Instead, the school issues contracts to its professors.

Madden said he was instructed to teach creationism with its views that the earth is between 6000 and 10,000 years old and God placed dinosaur bones in the earth to confuse men but there were no such things as dinosaurs. He said professors were instructed to teach that evolution is an incorrect theory and that creationism was right.

"I cannot teach that with any kind of intellectual integrity," said Madden, who holds a doctorate in chemistry from Oklahoma State University and a BDiv degree from Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex. "That is not right in a science class. It is a case of science against a non science."

Missouri Baptist College president Patrick O. Copley acknowledged the charge that professors had been replaced in the Religion Department and the History Department. He said the school was consciously attempting to present a conservative Christian view.

However, long time trustee Margaret Hartung resigned from the board of trustees in protest over the school's policy. Mrs. Hartung, a member of Third Baptist Church, St. Louis, and a former college professor, protested the violation of academic freedom as her reason for resigning.

Audubon Quartet gives Georgetown concert

Georgetown College will present the Audubon Quartet, a widely heralded string ensemble sponsored by the school's Foust Endowment, in concert and lecture/demonstration Dec. 1 in Hill Chapel.

The co-curricular feature, divided into two appearances, will give a demonstration of their musical skills at an 11 a.m. convocation.

The evening concert will bring to central Kentucky some of the finest virtuosos in chamber music.

Members of the quartet are David Ehrlich, violin; Doris Ledere, viola; and Thomas Shaw, cello. As individual instrumentalists these musicians trained at such schools as Curtis Institute, Tel-Aviv University, Yale University, the Israeli Conservatory and Oberlin Conservatory.

Canadian convention dedicates seminary

Canadian Southern Baptist Seminary was dedicated during the third annual meeting of the Canadian Convention of Southern Baptists Nov. 3-5 in Calgary attended by nearly 160 messengers.

The seminary dedication service was held in the newly completed main academic building on the 149-acre campus near Calgary. The 16,000-square-foot structure houses administrative and faculty offices, classrooms, a chapel, library and lounge.

Classes started Sept. 1 with 20 students. Planned for the future are separate classroom and library buildings, a chapel and a gymnasium.

Canadian churches have raised about half of their \$300,000 goal for financing the seminary construction, said Allen Schmidt, convention executive director-treasurer. Southern Baptists in the United States have contributed more than \$575,000 for seminary property and construction through the Foreign Mission Board and individual gifts.

Massachusetts collegian fills Georgetown chair

Georgetown College has filled its half million dollar J. Graham Brown Chair of Business and Economics.

Associate professor Robert McMurray, an undergraduate and graduate product of Harvard University, moved to the college this fall to satisfy the role after more than a quarter of a century as an industrial leader.

His first steps in his return to the field of education were taken in Massachusetts when he was appointed to the faculty of Nichols College in 1984.

He brought to Georgetown a multi-faceted background of teaching benefits. He is offering courses in investments, marketing and mathematics of finance, each strengthened by his "on sight" experience.

Hundreds of Canadian and American Southern Baptists have donated vacation time to help personally with construction efforts.

Schmidt also reported on Canadian Southern Baptist progress from the west coast to Montreal. Twenty-one churches or mission congregations were begun during the last 15 months, he said, marking the fastest growth period in Canadian Southern Baptist history.

Senior art exhibit set at Campbellsville

Delora Lynn Fox is holding her senior art exhibit at Campbellsville College's Gosser Fine Arts Center Nov. 30-Dec. 18.

There will be a reception for Mrs. Fox's exhibit Nov. 30 from 7 until 9 p.m. Gallery hours are: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-noon and 1-4 p.m.

She will be exhibiting oil and acrylic paintings, silver and copper jewelry, sculpture, ceramics, ink drawings, cast paper pieces and prints from linoleum and etching processes.

Mrs. Fox will receive her BA degree in May.

Her past experience includes the 7th annual Juried Student Exhibit in 1986 in which she placed first in three-dimensional work and third in the two-dimensional category. She also participated in the 8th annual Juried Exhibit in 1987 which she placed second in three-dimensional work. Her art exhibit placed third in the 1986 Green River Holiday Festival and second in the 1987 Green River Holiday Festival. She also exhibited with students and faculty at the Trypticon Gallery in Louisville and at the 1987 Kentucky State Fair.

She is married to Robert S. Fox and they live at 812 N. Columbia in Campbellsville. She has three children, Jonathan, Christopher and Jocelynn.

Expressing Christ's compassion to a wounded generation



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Barkley Moore
President
Oneida Baptist Institute
Oneida, KY 40972

oneida journal

Orphaned!

The young father was drinking. In a drunken rage he killed his wife and then himself. A 15-month-old child was left an orphan. There was no one who could or would take care of this little one except a great-uncle, now retired. This man and his wife have done their best for nearly 10 years. They are elderly and the great-uncle has several very serious health problems including a heart condition. Indeed, just a few days after we accepted this new student, this added responsibility, the uncle had to be hospitalized in a most serious condition.

As the boy came to us, it was almost an emergency type situation. We conceivably may have this young man another seven years, seven very important and formative years. We are called upon nearly daily to help in such situations.

We are made so aware of a world filled with tragedy in our daily ministry. During the Christmas holidays, one of our finest teenage boys, with us nearly two years, lost his mother in an incident similar to the one already mentioned. His seemingly happily married step-father shot the boy's mother, killing her instantly, and then turned the gun on himself. He died some hours later. The young man is grieving deeply and we must minister to him in his grief.

How does one explain the unexplainable to this one and so many, many others?

In our society today there is so much violence and wickedness. One of our

finest mountain girls watched in terror as a drunken neighbor shot both her father and mother to death before her eyes. She grabbed up the baby of the family and with another sister escaped through a window into the woods. Thus their lives were spared and today the killer is in the penitentiary. This teenage girl is today one of our most radiant students. Though she has dark memories, she has an abiding faith in Jesus and daily walks closely with her Lord.

One of our finest Christian young men, with us for some years now, saw his mother commit suicide. Then a preschooler, the trauma of what he witnessed apparently caused a type of mental block. He came to us a physically healthy, muscular teenager. Yet he was almost helpless. He was unable to count, tell time and could not distinguish a dime from a quarter. With a lot of love and patience, we have watched him learn, grow and mature very steadily into one of the most respected members of our campus community, one to whom responsibility can be given. What a joy and privilege it is to be able to help bring happiness where once there was only frustration!

Hundreds of our boys and girls are rather ordinary American kids with normal type backgrounds and loving parents. Why have they come to us? They come because of our very outstanding program that meets our students, academically, wherever they are. We have a young lady with an IQ of 150. We have a program to meet her needs as well as that of the slow learner. We have an excellent teacher-student ratio, a 15,000 volume library open daily until 9 p.m. and on weekend afternoons, a computer program open 14 hours a day involving 200 students weekly, and vocational school opportunities in drafting, welding, carpentry, mining, industrial electricity, auto mechanics and auto body. Others seek an opportunity in sports.

Oneida has such a broad varsity athletic program, equaling the largest schools in Kentucky. An Oneida student has probably at least four times more opportunity to be on a varsity athletic team than in any other school of the state, and probably 10 times more opportunity than in the vast majority of American schools.

We must not get much larger if we are to maintain the family and individual type ministry Oneida has always had and are to continue to know our students as individual human beings.

Reprint from Jan. 19, 1983
Western Recorder



H. C. Chiles
Clear Creek Bible College
Pineville, KY 40977

sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR NOV. 29, 1987

Life and work series

Sharing Christ in difficult circumstances

Philippians 1:12-14 On account of his imprisonment, Paul might have become discouraged. He rejoiced that his imprisonment served as a channel through which the knowledge of Christ was brought into a sphere which otherwise would have been closed to his preaching. The furtherance of the gospel, whether in bondage or in liberty, was Paul's supreme aim.

Philippians 1:18-21 Paul readily acknowledged that the hardships which he had experienced in serving Christ had contributed greatly to his spiritual development. He refused to impair his usefulness by becoming embittered because of his adversities. He found that the power of the indwelling Christ was sufficient for every emergency, for victory over every obstacle, and for complete satisfaction in life. No course of life can compare with that expressed by

the statement: "For me to live is to reproduce Christ, to reflect his spirit, to carry out his purposes and to follow as nearly as possible the pattern of his glorious life."

Philippians 1:27-30 Paul was deeply concerned about the manner of life of the Philippian Christians because it had a direct bearing upon the progress and success of the gospel. He taught that the Christian's manner of life should adorn the gospel, not in the sense of making it more beautiful, but in giving it such a setting that its actual glory may be seen in the life.

God has two great benefits or blessings for us, according to verse 29—faith in Christ and suffering for Christ. True believers may have to suffer for following Christ.

International series

Reconciliation among the brothers

Genesis 45:1-5 Knowing that their old jealousy was gone, Joseph was eager to make himself known to those who had despitefully sold him into slavery. With only forgiving love, Joseph did not have the slightest desire to retaliate by bringing pain upon his brothers. He revealed his identity in the short but dramatic statement: "I am Joseph your brother, whom ye sold into Egypt." No doubt they were terrified, but his statement humbled them and encouraged them to hope for kindly dealing at his hand.

Genesis 45:14-15 Joseph's greatness and magnanimity were displayed by his forgiveness of those who had sinned so grievously against him. His brothers were completely restored to his favor. He kissed them and wept over them as though they had never sinned against him.

Genesis 50:15-21 Following the death and burial of Jacob and the return of the brothers to Egypt, they expected Joseph to punish them. In expecting him to vent his anger upon them, they were judging him by themselves, but he was not like them. Apprehensive and anxious, they sent a messenger to Joseph to make known to him their feeling. Their failure to believe Joseph and to trust him fully grieved him so much that he wept profusely.

Joseph emphasized the fact that what his brothers had meant they did against him for his personal injury, God had meant it for good. He did not see in their deed the meanness of men but the providence of God.



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

on mission together

Mountain sounds

On Thursday following the convention Alice and I drove to Virginia for an overdue visit with friends, her annual check-up at Medical College of Virginia and a little time for me in the "hills."

I use the term "hills" to describe the land we bought some years ago when I assumed we'd retire with the Foreign Mission Board. The land lies on the eastern edge of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Most of it is "mountains," the top most point about 2250 feet, called Raven's Roost.

An old but adequate mobile home, framed outside to look like a cottage, provides our shelter. Except when it rains it is mainly a sleeping place.

It was only two hours from Richmond. Now it is seven hours away. I can't move

it, so I still go there.

When the kids were younger we spent some family time there. The girls don't remember it as fondly as I. They recall the tiny field mice who often preferred our place to their own and, occasionally, frolicked on the covers of the children. Not likely we'll ever be there again as a family, but I try not to think about that.

For me it's always a time of **work, walking and sitting**. For **work** I continue to clear some acres which offer the best view of the sounding mountains. Been working on that site for three years. If someone asked me why "clearing land" gives me such pleasure I wouldn't know for sure. I only know it gives me something that the job of executive secretary does not. I also enjoy not having to shave and wearing the same old coveralls and hat every day!

Walking was at its best this time. Unlike Kentucky, it had rained enough that the small streams were flowing. The leaves were down and visibility was generous. The cattle that my neighbor

grazes on our place had cleared paths through thickets I had never walked.

I continue to discover new places but there are two which can always expect a visit from me. One looks down a boulder strewn stream; the other provides a wide vista of the distant hills. Here I sit. Sometimes I hear or see turkey, or deer or crows chasing a hawk. Sometimes I hear only the wind through the trees.

Sometimes I talk to God but mostly I just try to listen for the sounds of the hills. When they speak to my soul, I'm grateful God still speaks in the silence. The religious world can sometimes be so full of noisy words.

The few days passed quickly and I am better for having gone. I hope to go back in April when the dogwood will be blooming, the grass greener and the streams overflowing.

I'm glad that God is back in the city, too, and in the stress of daily work. For it is there I am called to live, even if sometimes I'd like to move my office to the mountains.



BSSB NEWS

Small, overlooked book deals with today's crisis

by Frank White

Malachi, as the small, often overlooked, final book of the Old Testament, speaks to Christians today with a clarion call to integrity, according to a Southern Baptist Bible scholar.

Malachi calls for integrity among religious people," said Bill Tolar, dean of theology at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex., who taught the book last summer at a Sunday school leadership conference at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center.

The book of Malachi begins with a condemnation of the priest for corruption in religious practices.

"That speaks directly to the problems the church is facing in America today with the scandals in religion," Tolar said.

Tolar said Christians and nonChristians alike are disillusioned with indiscretions of local pastors and national evangelists alike.

But, Tolar said, church members must also be called to integrity because they are scrutinized by nonChristians as representatives of their faith.

A study guide for use by participants in January Bible Study, "Malachi: Rekindling the Fires of Faith," has been written by Page Kelley, professor of Old Testament interpretation at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

The January Bible Study in Malachi allows the study leader to call church members to a renewed commitment to



The book of Malachi calls Christians to give the best of their service and devotion. Edie Kirkpatrick demonstrates such a commitment to service as a volunteer worker during Wednesday night church suppers at First Baptist Church, White House, Tenn.

religious principles and faithfulness just as the writer was calling a disillusioned Israel to a renewed vision, Tolar said.

Probably the verse most often quoted from Malachi, an admonition to bring the tithes into the storehouse, can lend a stewardship emphasis to the study, Tolar pointed out.

However, he said, focusing on tithing loses the main point of the four-chapter book.

The book was calling the nation of Israel to a renewed commitment of their faith and to give the best of their service and devotion as well as the tithe to God. "It presents us the same challenge,"

Tolar explained.

"Malachi sees a lack of stewardship as the result of a lack of inner devotion," Tolar said.

Malachi deals with a crisis in the ministry, family crisis, religious commitment and financial commitment—all important topics today, Tolar explained.

Malachi deals with a crisis in the ministry, family crisis, religious commitment and financial commitment—All important topics today....

While January Bible Study "does not replace an ongoing study of God's Word, it is a boost of additional vitamins," Tolar said.

The size of the book allows in-depth coverage of the material in January Bible sessions, he said.

Youth will study the book of 1 John for January Bible Study. Studies are also provided for preschoolers and children.

Study and promotional resources are available in Baptist Book Stores,

International student work has personalized impact for east Tennessee native

by Frank White

Brenda Tenpenny once thought she was to be a foreign missionary but didn't know how or where God would use her. She has found her niche for foreign missions in East Tennessee.

Mrs. Tenpenny has opened her Morristown home in the past four years to international students at Carson-Newman College. Her hospitality has become a niche for foreign missions.

Mrs. Tenpenny has opened her Morristown, Tenn. home in the past four years to international students from nearby Carson-Newman College and to partnership students from Japan. Now, she believes a personal relationship she has forged with a Southern Baptist missionary to Japan will enhance her mis-

sions involvement.

In an effort to strengthen her work with international students, Mrs. Tenpenny attended a recent workshop for workers with international students sponsored by the National Student Ministry department at the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Attending along with Mrs. Tenpenny was Jan Hixson, her missionary friend who is on furlough in Morristown.

Mrs. Tenpenny's first involvement with international students came five years ago when a college department teacher at Manley Baptist Church in Morristown asked for a family to provide a place for two Nigerian students to stay while dorms were closed during the Christmas holidays.

"My husband raised his hand. I poked him and said we didn't have room," Mrs. Tenpenny recalled.

Those students were only the first internationals to find room in the Tenpenny house. Since then, few international students or international workers who crossed Mrs. Tenpenny's path have been able to pass by without experiencing her East Tennessee hospitality.

"We can be a witness. We can live our lives to be missionaries by opening our homes," said Mrs. Tenpenny, who for the past four years has been WMU director at Manley Church.

Mrs. Tenpenny opened her home three years ago when the church was asked to host Japanese students for three weeks in a university partnership pro-



Brenda Tenpenny (l) and Jan Hixson have found they can be partners in foreign missions and international student work through their particular ministries. Mrs. Tenpenny is WMU director at Manley Baptist Church, Morristown, Tenn. Mrs. Hixson is a Southern Baptist missionary to Japan.

gram.

When the students left, Mrs. Tenpenny wrote every Southern Baptist missionary in the Tokyo area to ask them to follow up with a ministry to the students. Mrs. Hixson, who received a letter from Mrs. Tenpenny, was impressed with her interest.

"It was so great that she took the time to write us. So many Japanese have Christian experiences while in the United States and we don't know about it when they return to Japan," Mrs. Hixson said.

When the two started corresponding three years ago, they didn't know that furlough plans for Florida would crumble at the last minute and the Hixsons

would wind up in Morristown instead.

The missionary residence of Manley Baptist Church was available when the Hixsons needed it.

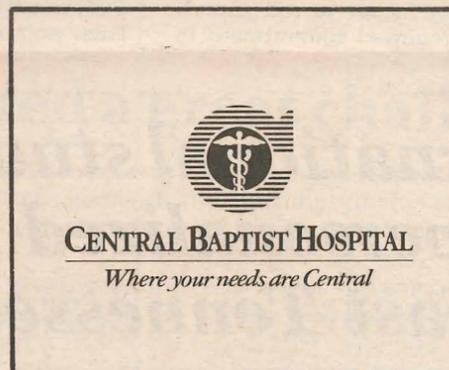
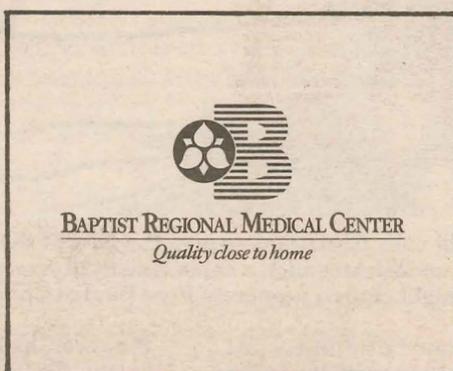
The Hixsons will be returning to Japan in January. In the years they have been together, Mrs. Tenpenny and Mrs. Hixson have shared ideas about student ministry and international student work.

Mrs. Tenpenny plans to use the relationship as a foundation for sending students from Morristown to Japan for a missions project.

"All this has opened so many doors for us. We can do more for international student work both here and in Japan with us working together," she said.

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