

Illinois state staffer Maurice Swinford is elected executive

Maurice Swinford has been named the seventh executive director of the Illinois Baptist State Association.

Swinford, Illinois church development division director for nearly 10 years, was elected unanimously Feb. 8 during a called meeting of the Illinois association's board of directors.

"He is one of our own," said search committee chairman Charles Dampier of Herrin in describing the committee's unanimous recommendation.

Swinford, 59, became executive director immediately, but the board will formally install him Mar. 8 when it meets in Springfield for a semiannual meeting.

The new leader succeeds Ernest E. Mosley, who resigned Mar. 31, 1987, to become executive vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee.

The new executive director is a graduate of Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, his home town, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

He has been pastor of seven churches in 31 years, the last First Baptist Church, Herrin from 1968-78.

He and his wife, Charlotte, are the parents of three adult daughters. (BP)

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February 16, 1988

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Seminary panel oks peace response

by David Wilkinson

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's trustee executive committee has unanimously approved a recommendation affirming the seminary president's commitment to implement recommendation five of the Southern Baptist Convention's Peace Committee report.

The recommendation came from an ad hoc committee appointed last fall to study the trustees' response to recommendation five of the report approved by the Southern Baptist Convention in St. Louis last June. That recommendation was addressed specifically to the convention's six seminaries.

The trustee recommendation, passed during the group's February meeting, noted seminary president Roy L. Honeycutt has pledged "diligent efforts" to implement the contents of recommenda-

tion five with regard to the employment and future service of administrative staff and faculty.

The recommendation pointed out Honeycutt's stated commitment "to stand by" the Baptist Faith and Message Statement of 1963, the six seminary presidents' "Glorieta Statement" expressing their commitment to work toward reconciliation in the denomination and the Abstract of Principles, the seminary's governing declaration of faith.

The executive committee also authorized Honeycutt "to proceed to determine the positions of the executive staff and faculty members with regard to recommendation five of the Peace Committee Report" and to present a progress report at the executive committee's meeting in April.

The recommendation states: "The Bible is a book of redemption, not a book

of science, psychology, sociology or economics. But, where the Bible speaks, the Bible speaks truth in all realms of reality and to all fields of knowledge. The Bible, when properly interpreted, is authoritative to all of life."

In other actions, the trustee executive committee:

- Elected A. Moncrief Jordan, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jefferson City, Tenn., to serve on the board of trustees until the SBC meets in San Antonio in June. Jordan will fill a vacancy created by Tennessee trustee John Lee Taylor, who moved to another state.

- Approved a 1988 fall retreat for trustees and their spouses to be held in conjunction with the executive committee meeting in October. The retreat, to consist of seminars and recreational activities, will follow trustee-faculty retreats held in 1986 and 1987. (BP)

Numerical gains lowest since 1936

by Jim Lowry

Southern Baptist growth virtually ground to a halt in 1986-87 when denominational programs reported small changes and some conventionwide statistical areas had gains or totals smaller than have been seen in decades.

The denomination's missions organizations, Woman's Missionary Union and Brotherhood, are the brightest spots, with increases of 1.4 and 0.7 percent, respectively, over the previous year's totals. The Southern Baptist Convention fiscal year runs from Oct. 1 to the following Sept. 30; the new statistics reflect the year ending Sept. 30, 1987.

Church membership, which has shown annual increases since 1926, recorded a gain of 109,203, or 0.7 percent, to reach a new total of 14,727,770, as compared to the 1986 total of 14,618,567.

The increase in church membership, however, is the lowest number by which Southern Baptists have grown since 1936, when the denomination gained almost 93,000 new members.

The number of churches in the convention increased by 170, or 0.5 percent, to a new total of 37,286. Except for 1985-86's smaller increase because of the loss of 40 Southern Baptist-affiliated churches in Canada, the 1986-87 total was the smallest increase in nine years.

Baptisms in Southern Baptist churches, down by 6.8 percent, or 24,629, totaled 338,495. Except for the baptisms total of 336,050 in 1977-78, the new baptisms total is the lowest for the convention since 1949. The all time high for baptisms in the SBC was 445,725 in 1972.

The 1985-86 baptism total registered an increase over the previous total, but it had been preceded by three consecutive decreases. More than 7000 churches did not report a baptism on their Uniform Church Letter survey forms for the 1986-87 church year.

The denomination's church music enrolment reflected the 22nd consecutive increase, with a gain of 0.8 percent, or 14,202, to a new total of 1,738,294. It followed an increase of 2.8 percent, or more than 46,000 participants.

The enrolment increase for Woman's Missionary Union of 1.4 percent, or 16,512, is the second consecutive increase, bringing that program's ongoing enrolment to 1,197,479. WMU enrolment has gone up more than 30,000 in

the last two years.

Brotherhood, with an increase of 3783, or 0.7 percent, reached a new total of 572,987. This increase follows an 0.8 percent loss.

Sunday school, the denomination's largest program, registered a change of 0.0 percent, with a small actual loss in ongoing enrolment of 1867, bringing the total enrolment to 7,942,106. It marks the second consecutive loss for the denomination's Bible study program, after posting annual gains from 1980 through 1985.

Enrolment in Church Training also registered a change of 0.0 percent, because of a small actual loss of 408, bringing the total enrolment to 1,953,937.

Call to prayer

Under the leadership of its Christian Action Committee, Daviess-McLean Association will conduct a 24-hour prayer vigil to call upon God for help in defeating a lottery in Kentucky. The vigil will begin Friday, Feb. 19 at 10:00 a.m. and conclude Saturday, Feb. 20 at 10:00 a.m. The timing is critical since the lottery bill, sponsored by Gov. Wallace Wilkinson, is scheduled for committee action Feb. 24.

The prayer vigil was sparked by a successful antilottery rally at Yellow Creek Baptist Church Feb. 2. At that meeting Rick Hamil was the main speaker. Hamil is a man who spent many years as a Las Vegas gambler but has been converted and is now a Christian witness serving as an antilottery voice in Frankfort.

The rally drew more than 400 people from many denominations. On the program with Hamil was State Representative Lewis Johnson, a lottery opponent who is fighting to block lottery legislation.

The churches of Daviess-McLean are being asked to take a 15-minute period during the 24-hour vigil and pray for defeat of the lottery. The associational director of missions, James Spaulding, told Western Recorder he was asking other Kentucky Baptist churches to join them in a massive appeal to the Lord to block the efforts to impose a lottery on the people of Kentucky.

This follows three years of small declines, which were preceded by four consecutive increases.

According to Martin B. Bradley, director of the Research Services Department at the Baptist Sunday School Board: "Reporting procedures used by one state convention for Church Training resulted in inflated figures for 1986. Had this not occurred, the change for church training enrolment in the SBC in 1987 would likely have been positive."

Total receipts in Southern Baptist churches increased by 4.3 percent, or \$176,109,005, to a new total of \$4,293,683,245. The increase in total dollars given in Southern Baptist churches is 1.7 percentage points less than the previous year's gain of 6.0 percent.

Mission expenditures, which are included as part of total receipts, went up by 4.3 percent, or \$27,313,943, to a new high of \$662,691,289. The increase is almost one-half of a percentage point more than the previous gain of 4.0 percent.

Information included in the annual statistical report for the denomination is provided by the Research Services Department of the Sunday School Board from data collected on Uniform Church Letters submitted by 36,674 churches. (BP)

COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

September-January Gifts

	YTD	
	Month (8 months)	
Jan. 88	1,434,460	6,615,007
Jan. 88	1,636,300	6,766,433
\$ Chg.	-201,840	-151,426
% Chg.	-12.3	-2.2
Budget	1,365,053	6,825,263
\$(under)/over	69,407	-210,256
%(under)/over	5.1	-3.1

YEAR	OVER/-UNDER		% INCREASE
	BUDGET	OVER	
	TO DATE	PREV YEAR	
87-88	-210,256	-2.2	
86-87	266,183	9.2	
85-86	-306,130	6.2	
84-85	-184,027	10.4	
83-84	-340,120	3.0	
82-83	178,426	10.3	
81-82	346,970	9.4	

sanford's perspectives



Jack D. Sanford

Lay people are the key

Most of the proposed programs which come across a pastor's desk proclaim "the pastor is the key." That little phrase means, of course, that no program will succeed unless the pastor is behind the effort and lends his support. It is not only a catchy phrase but is also the truth. Unless the pastor supports the program, the program will probably fail.

However another phrase may be just as significant if Southern Baptists are to stop the tragic downward trend in baptisms. That phrase is, "the lay people are the key."

Last year Southern Baptists had the worst baptism record we have had in 10 years. We failed miserably to win people to Christ and the most commonly expressed reason was because we squandered our energy in controversy about the scriptures.

Surely that controversy has hurt us in the eyes of a lost world. But the real reason we saw baptisms decline may be because we have not put lay people in the center of what we are trying to do for the Lord.

In this denominational "Year of the Laity" take a close look at the programs of evangelism conferences, state conventions, retreat centers and even the annual Southern Baptist Convention. You cannot but note the lack of lay people as active participants in the significant moments of these meetings. They are asked to pronounce the benediction but rarely asked to deliver the annual sermon or the doctrinal sermon or the missionary

sermon.

The same thing is true in the average Baptist church. Lay people are expected to pay the bills, fill the pews, usher on Sunday, drive the bus and help repair the building. We may put them in the spotlight on layman's day or at the annual recognition of WMU, but those are practically the only times we grant lay people significant public exposure.

That is not to imply that driving the bus, ushering, giving tithes and offerings is unimportant. These are crucial and no church would survive without this kind of giving by lay people. Neither is it to say all our problems will be solved if we turn the spotlight on lay people. It is to say, however, we are missing a great opportunity to enrich all we do by not focusing more on lay people.

There are lay people who are capable of Bible teaching as the theme interpreter at our state and national meetings. There are lay people gifted to preach with power and spiritual insight at some of our state and national meetings. There are lay people who can move even the coldest of us by the power of their prayers to the Lord.

This is a plea for those of us who have program planning responsibility or church organizational direction to give serious consideration to lay people as "the key" to progress and advancement in God's business.

Who knows, maybe one day soon we will see another godly, dedicated lay person as president of the SBC as a trend setter for all of us.

Have you written your legislator?

The Bluegrass Poll published last week in the Louisville Courier-Journal declared "six of 10 Kentuckians want a lottery."

The poll, directed by Courier-Journal research manager Mark Schneider, reported that 86 percent of Catholics, 61 percent of Protestants and 59 percent of Southern Baptists favored a lottery.

Can you believe 59 percent of our Kentucky Baptist brothers and sisters want a lottery?

With those kinds of figures before them the legislature would be stupid not to vote for a lottery. However, polls are polls and they are not always right. Note the polls in the primary for governor in Kentucky last spring.

Thus it is essential to write your legislator now.

House Bill 1 will come up for committee action most probably the week of February 22. If enough Kentuckians tell their representatives and senators they oppose a lottery, the bill may die in committee.

If people do not write, the poll published this week will be used as an indicator that Kentuckians, even Southern Baptists, want a lottery and we will have one.

Unless we act with courage, conviction and dispatch the die will be cast and then we will moan for years under the burden of a state government involved in management of a gambling enterprise. Surely that is not what we need nor want.

western recorder

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

State Evangelism Conference

Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville

February 22-23, 1988

We salute the churches that led the state in baptisms in 1986-87

Top 100 Churches in Per capita*

Church	Association	Baptisms	Members	Per capita
1. Warfield Ms.	Enterprise	28	39	1
2. Indian Hill	Russell Co.	14	30	2
3. Red Hill	Three Forks	31	103	3
4. Jones Creek	Upper Cumberland	22	73	3
5. Fairview	Union	7	19	3
6. Morningside	Long Run	27	118	4
7. Faith	White's Run	26	100	4
8. Kelly	Christian Co.	8	35	4
9. New Zion Ms.	Irvine	41	198	5
10. Springhill	West Kentucky	29	131	5
11. Brushy Fork	Enterprise	24	128	5
12. Victory	Crittenden	13	66	5
13. Scaffold Cane	Rockcastle	13	62	5
14. McDowell, First	Enterprise	33	198	6
15. Pleasant Grove	Mt. Zion	27	158	6
16. Bethel	West Union	19	119	6
17. Eastside	Taylor Co.	14	79	6
18. Blue Grass	Three Forks	11	65	6
19. Halls Chapel	Warren	3	18	6
20. Mountain Ash	South Union	66	450	7
21. Mt. Zion	West Union	61	451	7
22. Blue Ball	Severns Valley	37	277	7
23. Riverview	Warren	28	207	7
24. Carve Rock	Gasper River	15	103	7
25. Lerose	Booneville	14	101	7
26. Charity	Russell Creek	14	98	7
27. Eastview	Christian Co.	12	84	7
28. Southside Ms.	Greenup	12	81	7
29. Faith	Mt. Zion	9	62	7
30. Riverview	Elkhorn	8	59	7
31. New Life	Graves Co.	38	286	8
32. First Creek	Three Forks	35	291	8
33. Oak Ridge	Crittenden	19	153	8
34. Gethsemane	Tates Creek	14	107	8
35. Dekoven	Ohio Valley	12	92	8
36. Oak Grove	Casey	9	75	8
37. Mt. Zion	Ohio Co.	5	40	8
38. Lytleton	Booneville	52	447	9
39. Gilead	Severns Valley	46	426	9
40. First Korean	Severns Valley	39	354	9
41. New Harmony	West Kentucky	23	212	9
42. Oak Grove, First	Christian Co.	22	202	9
43. Mortons Gap, First	Little Bethel	12	110	9
44. Grace Southern	Behtle	9	77	9
45. Sadieville	Elkhorn	8	72	9
46. Emmanuel	Three Forks	8	73	9
47. Demosville	Crittenden	6	56	9
48. Penn Avenue	Elkhorn	6	51	9
49. Knob Lick	Tates Creek	5	43	9
50. New Hope	Green Valley	4	36	9
51. Oakwood	Union	38	377	10
52. Rocky Ridge	Little River	26	260	10
53. Watson Chapel	Mt. Zion	25	247	10
54. Parlor Grove	Lincoln	23	226	10
55. Mt. Freeman	South District	22	226	10
56. Central Grove	Freedom	20	198	10
57. Blue Lick	Lincoln	18	188	10
58. West Grove	Christian Co.	17	169	10
59. Danleytown	Greenup	16	165	10
60. Roundstone	Rockcastle	12	114	10
61. Forest Oak	Muhlenberg	11	109	10
62. Whispering Meadows	Ohio Valley	11	113	10
63. Whigleville	Bell Co.	9	90	10
64. Pack Ms.	Daviess-McLean	8	81	10
65. Topmost	Enterprise	7	69	10
66. North End	South Union	7	68	10
67. Greenbriar	Boones Creek	6	62	10
68. Eddyville, Second	Caldwell-Lyon	6	59	10
69. Blood River	Blood River	23	257	11
70. Grace Union	Liberty	19	205	11
71. Clay City	Boones Creek	12	129	11
72. Milton Ave.	Long Run	11	123	11
73. Alsile Ms.	South Union	11	118	11
74. Totz	Upper Cumberland	9	96	11
75. Hedgeville	South District	8	90	11
76. West Van Lear	Enterprise	7	78	11
77. Stephensburg, First	Severns Valley	7	80	11
78. Camp Pleasant	Franklin	34	413	12
79. Cove	Long Run	29	348	12
80. Wingo	Graves Co.	28	347	12
81. Watson Lane	Green Valley	28	333	12
82. Mt. Pleasant	Green Valley	24	285	12
83. Cedar Grove	Simpson	21	255	12
84. Glen's Creek	Elkhorn	17	204	12
85. New Haven, First	Nelson	16	193	12
86. Lewisport, First	Blackford	15	180	12
87. Hill Top Ms.	McCreary	15	180	12
88. New Hope	Elkhorn	14	164	12
89. Olive	Lincoln	11	132	12
90. Cedar Gap	Mt. Zion	10	117	12
91. Coxton	Upper Cumberland	10	118	12
92. Stoney Fork	Bell County	8	92	12
93. Indian Creek	Casey Co.	7	84	12
94. Windsor, First	Russell Co.	6	71	12
95. Corn Creek	Mt. Zion	5	60	12
96. Mayflower Unity	Pike	4	46	12
97. Mill Creek	Bell County	32	408	13
98. Feds Creek	Pike	29	363	13
99. New Hope	Little River	25	337	13
100. Unity	Crittenden	23	295	13
101. Tatesbrook	Elkhorn	22	278	13

*unofficial figures

Sponsored by the Evangelism Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention
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Top 100 Churches in Baptisms*

Church	Association	Members	Baptisms
1. Highview	Long Run	4,941	135
2. Gardenside	Elkhorn	1,757	108
3. Binghamtown	Bell Co.	2,410	97
4. Ninth & O	Long Run	4,238	91
5. Severns Valley	Severns Valley	3,068	85
6. Porter Memorial	Elkhorn	3,147	81
7. Paducah, First	West Union	3,058	75
8. Stithton	Severns Valley	1,973	72
9. Glendale	Warren	3,077	70
10. Whitesburg, First	Three Forks	1,695	68
11. Mountain Ash	South Union	450	66
12. Yellow Creek	Daviess-McLean	1,241	62
13. Second	Christian	2,464	61
14. Mt. Zion	West Union	451	61
15. Rose Hill	Greenup	1,758	57
16. Walnut Street	Long Run	6,373	55
17. Lytleton	Booneville	447	52
18. Bowling Green, First	Warren	3,071	51
19. Immanuel	Elkhorn	3,687	50
20. Florence	Northern Ky.	1,710	47
21. Gilead	Severns Valley	426	46
22. Pleasant View	Lincoln Co.	709	45
23. Fellowship	Mercer	688	45
24. Hickory Grove	Northern Ky.	1,550	45
25. Valley View	Long Run	2,518	42
26. Zion	Green Valley	790	41
27. New Zion Ms.	Irvine	198	41
28. First, Ludlow	Northern Ky.	1,113	40
29. Vine Grove	Severns Valley	2,181	40
30. Airline	Green Valley	555	39
31. First Korean	Severns Valley	3,514	39
32. Central	Boone's Creek	1,917	38
33. New Life	Graves Co.	291	38
34. Bethlehem	Long Run	2,245	38
35. Somerset, First	Pulaski	2,012	38
36. Oakwood	Union	377	38
37. Lewisport	Blackford	695	37
38. Henderson, First	Green Valley	1,365	37
39. Erlanger	Northern Ky.	1,550	37
40. Blue Ball	Severns Valley	277	37
41. Main Street	Mt. Zion	734	36
42. Cedar Grove	Muhlenberg	731	36
43. Second, Greenville	Muhlenberg	817	36
44. Unity	Greenup	2,375	35
45. Westport Road	Long Run	1,562	35
46. First Creek	Three Forks	286	35
47. Camp Pleasant	Franklin	413	34
48. Owenton, First	Owen	880	34
49. Owensboro, First	Daviess-McLean	2,557	33
50. McDowell, First	Enterprise	198	33
51. Pikeville, First	Pike	1,226	33
52. Meta	Pike	683	33
53. Richmond, First	Tates Creek	1,244	33
54. Campbellsville	Taylor County	1,663	33
55. Mill Creek	Bell Co.	408	32
56. Mayfield, First	Graves Co.	1,641	32
57. Central	Mt. Zion	2,531	32
58. Living Hope	Warren	519	32
59. Paris, First	Elkhorn	690	31
60. Madisonville, First	Little Bethel	2,674	31
61. Red Hill	Three Forks	101	31
62. Macedonia	Booneville	409	30
63. Calvary Ms.	Green Valley	475	30
64. Calvary	Laurel River	664	30
65. Farmdale	Long Run	1,571	30
66. Westport Road	Long Run	942	30
67. Cove	Long Run	348	29
68. Feds Creek	Pike	363	29
69. Gethsemane	Pike District	1,159	29
70. Springhill	West Kentucky	131	29
71. Lone Oak, First	West Union	2,068	29
72. Rosebower	West Union	709	29
73. Post Oak	Bethel	1,513	28
74. Warfield Ms.	Enterprise	39	28
75. Wingo	Graves Co.	347	28
76. Watson Lane	Green Valley	333	28
77. Coral Hill	Liberty	558	28
78. Liberty	Little Bethel	645	28
79. Ormsby Heights	Long Run	1,414	28
80. Immanuel	Pike	520	28
81. Riverview	Warren	207	28
82. Fulton, First	West Kentucky	1,033	28
83. Second	Caldwell-Lyon	448	27
84. Beechland	Long Run	1,493	27
85. Morningside	Long Run	118	27
86. Pleasant Grove	Mt. Zion	158	27
87. Old Yellow Creek	Bell Co.	1,211	26
88. Crofton	Christian Co.	447	26
89. Immanuel	Franklin	810	26
90. Northside	Graves Co.	1,563	26
91. Seebree, First	Green Valley	495	26
92. Rocky Ridge	Little River	260	26
93. St. Matthews	Long Run	2,874	26
94. Oak Grove	Mt. Zion	418	26
95. South Campbellsville	Taylor Co.	747	26
96. Eastwood	Warren	1,148	26
97. Twelfth Street	West Union	739	26
98. Faith	White's Run	100	26
99. Hillcrest	Christian Co.	957	25
100. Immanuel	Green Valley	1,406	25
101. New Hope	Little River	337	25
102. Watson Chapel	Mt. Zion	247	25
103. Immanuel	Pulaski	489	25



Eldred M. Taylor
 Executive Director
 10801 Shelbyville Road
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homes for children

Beginning a new year

I am appalled at the speed with which the year 1988 is melting away. Already we are half way through the second month and it seems that the new year began only last week. Even though the year is more than six weeks old, I still want to share something about beginning a new year.

Many wonderful letters come to me which bring joy and encouragement in our ministry to children. Recently a rather unique letter came that I know you would like to hear about. I withhold the names, but you will catch the joy and spirit of it. It went like this:

"New Year's 65 years ago—I was sweet 16 and had just been most thoroughly kissed by, as I vaguely remember his name, Charles. I adored him for at least two months!

"It was a watch party at the church and our pastor called us to order saying, 'Those are collection plates on the communion table. Be it much or little, let the first money you spend this year be for the Lord.'

"New Year's 1988—and I have just been most thoroughly kissed by two fine, tall grandsons whose names I do know. (Names were given.) Following a custom of 66 years I have excused myself to write the enclosed small check.

"Happy years for you, yours, your dreams and all 'our' children."

One can detect immediately the wit, sparkle, love and positive attitude of this 81 year old lady. What a wonderful way to begin a new year! This unusual letter and gift reveal a long standing commitment to our Lord and a love for children who stand in need of our ministry.

How did you begin 1988? More importantly, how are you living out these fleeting days of this new year? Remember, there is yet time to make this year truly count in what you do to serve and honor God. There is time now to become more dedicated to our Lord. There is time now to become more faithful in service. There is time now to send that extra gift to help care for a dependent, neglected or perhaps even abused boy or girl who looks to Baptist Homes for children for their only chance to make it in life. There is time now to prepare your will and let it reflect your Christian commitment. A properly prepared will lets your possessions work for God beyond this time.

christian education

Biblical preachers meet in Louisville Mar. 7-11

Calvin Miller, a popular author and Southern Baptist preacher from Omaha, Neb., heads the list of program personalities who will speak at the third annual National Conference on Biblical Preaching Mar. 7-11 at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Miller, pastor of Westside Baptist Church since 1966, is the author of more than 20 books. He will deliver the Louisville seminary's annual E. Y. Mullins Lectures on preaching and will engage in an informal discussion time with conference participants. He is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University and Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Other speakers at the conference sponsored by the seminary's National Center for Christian Preaching include Otis Moss, pastor of Olivet Baptist Church, Cleveland, Oh.; John Sullivan, pastor of Broadmore Baptist Church, Shreveport, La.; James Cox, the seminary's Victor and Louis Lester professor of Christian preaching; and Cecil Sherman, pastor of Broadway Baptist Church, Ft. Worth, Tex.

For more information on the conference, call the seminary's Continuing Education Office toll free at 1-800-626-5525. Kentucky residents should call (502) 897-4315.

Summer study of John hosted by Campbellville

Campbellville College's annual summer studies program has been set for July 12-15. Studies in the gospel of John will be led by Jon Stubblefield, who has taught New Testament at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and Boyce Bible School, Louisville.

The former pastor of Walnut Street Baptist Church, Long Run Association, Stubblefield recently became pastor of First Baptist Church, Shreveport, La. He earned his doctorate from Southern Seminary.

Nancy Futral, who has led retreats for Sunday school workers and deacons and spouse groups, will lead the pastors' spouses seminar. Mrs. Futral holds a BA from Mississippi College and an MA in education from Southern Louisiana University.

The summer studies program was instigated in memory of Paul G. Horner, a long time professor and chairman of the Bible department of Campbellville College.

For more information contact H. E. Coker, Campbellville College, Campbellville, KY 42718, or call (502) 465-8158.

Cumberland College hires 12 faculty members

Twelve members have joined the faculty of Cumberland College.

They are Richard Hamwi, assistant professor of art; Carl Hogsed, instructor of business administration; Charlotte King, assistant professor of French; James Manning, assistant professor of physics; Roy Meador, technical services and reference librarian; Charles "Al" Pilant, assistant professor of history; Ronald Rarick, assistant professor of art; James Ross, assistant professor of biology; JoAnn Seymour, associate professor of secondary education; Julie Shoemaker, instructor of learning skills; Natasha Turaki, instructor of chemistry; and Garland Young, assistant professor of philosophy.



Campbellville College's Collegiate Choir and handbell choir will travel to New Orleans on tour Feb. 26-Mar. 5. Their itinerary includes programs at eight churches, a high school and a chapel service at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. They will perform at Campbellville Baptist Church Mar. at 8 p.m.

Campbellville offering \$118,500 aid

Campbellville College has announced an Excellence in Action Scholarship program sponsored by the school's church relations council.

Several scholarships will be awarded, including one full tuition (net value \$14,300), two half tuition (\$7100 each) and 30 scholarships of \$750 (totaling \$3000 over four years).

To qualify, each Southern Baptist pastor is encouraged to nominate one high school senior from his church for every 250 members.

The nominee should be an active church member who demonstrates Christian commitment and leadership in church, school and community. An Excellence in Action scholar will be selected on the basis of past and current Christian achievements, merit and potential for future service to Christ. Award winners will be chosen by a committee of pastors from the Campbellville church relations council in consultation with the college financial aid committee.

Georgetown group stages "Death of a Salesman"

The cast for Georgetown College's spring production of Arthur Miller's "Death of a Salesman" was named by George McGee, director and assistant professor of communication arts.

The cast, composed of Kentucky's oldest college drama group, The Maskrafters, is at work to meet performances Feb. 22, 23, 25 and 27 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 26 at 8:30 p.m. Admission: \$3 for adults; \$1.50 for students.

The cast includes: Ed Smith, a Frankfort senior; Kevin Gebhart, Georgetown senior; Greg Phelps, Meally sophomore; Beverly McArtor, Georgetown senior; and Tom Ezzell, West Paducah senior.

Other cast members include: Kevin Purcell, Milwaukee, Wis. freshman; Jay Nelson, Floyd Knobs, Ind. senior; Doug Roach, Louisville junior; Mina Blue, Paducah sophomore; Tim Thomas, Franklin, Oh. junior; Melodie Marquess, Louisville freshman; Beth Bale, Hodgenville sophomore; and Lee Ann Botoms, Prestonsburg sophomore.

Send applications and nominations to W. R. Davenport, president, Campbellville College, 200 West College St., Campbellville, KY 42718. Applications must be received by Apr. 23. Award winners will be announced May 1.



Jeanette M. Hampton

Campbellville College hires Hampton as nurse

Jeanette M. Hampton of Campbellville has been named Campbellville College nurse, according to Sylvia Morris, vice president for student development.

Mrs. Hampton graduated from Baptist Memorial Hospital School of Nursing in 1953 as a registered nurse. She also attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex., and the former Arkansas A & M.

Formerly head nurse at Harris Methodist Hospital, Ft. Worth, and Medical Service Methodist Hospital, Gary, Ind., Mrs. Hampton has also been director of nursing at Long Term Care Facilities in Indiana and assistant clinical supervisor at McCracken County Health Department, Paducah.

International photo show now on at Campbellville

Robert L. Doty, professor of literature and languages at Campbellville College, is holding his seventh one-man art show through Feb. 26 at the college's Fine Arts Center gallery.

"Looking up, Looking Out and Looking Down" is the title of Doty's show. The exhibit consists of photographs taken in various countries, including the United States, Canada and Europe. The gallery is open 8 a.m.-12 noon and 1 p.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Doty received an AS degree from Henry Ford Community College. He earned the BA degree at Georgetown College and a BDiv degree at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Doty received his MA and PhD degrees from the University of Kentucky and has taught at Campbellville since 1973.

U. S. religious freedom thrust of summer study

The Americans United Research Foundation will hold a summer institute for educators on the importance of teaching students about America's legacy of religious freedom. The institute, the only teacher training of this kind operating in the country today, will be June 19-July 1 at George Mason University, Fairfax, Va.

Thirty of the country's top social studies teachers will be selected to attend this year. The institute is the second of five projected training programs being held to mark the bicentennials of the U. S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

"Support for religious freedom has eroded because of inadequate education about the role of religion in U. S. history and society," said Charles Haynes, Foundation project director. "Training teachers is the most effective way to integrate religious freedom issues into the existing curriculum."

For an application to the 1988 institute or for more information contact Haynes at Americans United Research Foundation, 900 Silver Spring Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20910-4781, or call (301) 588-2282. Applications must be received by Mar. 30.

baptist forum



Leon Simpson
President
Clear Creek Bible College
Pineville, KY 40977

clear creek comment

Assemble yourselves

I treasure the opportunities I have to meet many friends of Clear Creek as I travel. No matter who they are (or where they are) I am privileged to share fellowship and their remembrances of Clear Creek. Many friends share verses of scripture, quotes or poems with me.

Here are two quotes on church attendance. At Clear Creek we support Christ's church and believe in being in the Lord's house at every opportunity. However, many Christians use excuses for not attending church.

Whoever Heard Of A Man....

Who preferred to drown rather than get into a boat with a hypocrite?

Who quit going to movies because the manager did not speak to him?

Who always quit on the second day of a job because he made a mistake on the first?

Who never did anything about his illness because he wasn't interested in the subject?

Who refused to eat because he couldn't understand how it could give him physical strength?

Who was too busy to breathe?

Who refused to pay his taxes because he was "good enough" or refused government aid because he "was not good enough?"

Who never made any kind of promise to anyone because he was "afraid he couldn't hold out?"

Who scorned a personal invitation to have audience with the President of the United States because he would have to give up some of his friends?

Who refused to obey the law of his nation because his parents might object?

Who failed to improve himself in any way because someone might laugh at him?

Who renounced his American citizenship because he didn't like the President?

In the world—never.

In religion—often.

Don't Wait To Go To Church Until The Hearse Calls You!

If you do, you will go, regardless of the weather!

There will be beautiful music, but you won't hear it!

You'll go no matter how many hypocrites are there!

You will go, no matter how much you are needed at home or at work!

You won't feel concerned about your clothes!

You will never have to decide about attending church again!

Isn't it wonderful to be alive and be able to go to the Lord's house? Choose to go before you have to go!

Another legislator responds

With the election of Wallace Wilkinson as governor it was assured the lottery was going to be an issue during this session of the General Assembly. I realize the lottery will never solve all the state's revenue problems, but there seems to be a great deal of sentiment in favor of at least placing the issue on the ballot and letting the electorate make the final choice.

At this point I have not made a decision as to how I will vote on this issue. I intend to make my final decision when the bill has reached the floor of the House of Representatives. I assure you I will carefully weigh your concerns before I make my decision.

I appreciate your concern and urge you to contact me regarding any issue that comes before the General Assembly.

Louis Guenther Jr.
State Representative
Louisville

Lotteries promote organized crime

The members of Corinth Baptist Church, London, want to express total opposition to the establishment of a state-operated lottery. We believe a lottery is nothing more than legalized gambling, a regressive form of taxation and a source of potential harm to the spiritual and moral well being of our state.

The experience of other states that have lotteries has proven by example these games of chance target the poorer segment of society, straining already limited budgets and are only marginal in their effectiveness in raising revenues.

It has also been shown that the establishment of legalized lotteries promotes the onset of organized crime, as those who do not have funds to participate in the "legal" game will borrow from organized crime sources to play the illegal ones, with inevitably tragic results to individuals and families.

It is our opinion the detrimental effects of a state-operated lottery would far outweigh any possible benefits. This form of taxation is unjustifiable, impractical and undesirable in securing money for the commonwealth, as our state constitution writers must have realized when placing a ban on government lotteries.

We urge all Christians to take a stand with your voices, your votes and your prayers to either prevent this measure from becoming a referendum or to defeat it on election day.

Corinth Baptist Church
Louise Lewis, Media Representative
London

Legislator says people want lottery

I appreciate your concern on the proposal to place the lottery issue on the ballot.

I certainly share your concern. I have never personally felt that a lottery is the proper or best way to finance state government. However, I am convinced, following the election of Gov. Wallace Wilkinson, and the results of two polls I have taken in the 46th District (1984—76% and 1986—74%) in favor of the lottery, that the people of Kentucky want to vote on this issue. I think that each of you has that right.

This is the "purest form of democracy" when the voters can cast their vote, especially on issues that change our Kentucky Constitution.

Again thanks for expressing your concerns and please keep me in your

thoughts and prayers during this session.

Larry Clark, Representative
46th District, Jefferson County
Louisville

Editor's note: Representative Clark has clearly indicated he is swayed by the opinions of voters through the polls he took in 1984 and 1986. If enough people write this man a letter asking him to represent them by voting against a lottery he could be swayed again. He has said he does not favor a lottery but is responsive to what he believes Kentuckians want. Mr. Clark is merely expressing the first principle of politics: please the voters in order to win reelection and he thinks the voters want a referendum.

Senator has no rigid position on lottery

Thank you for your letter dated Jan. 13, 1988 regarding the lottery. In a positive vein I do want you to know I appreciate your taking time to write me. Hopefully it comes as no surprise that my administrative assistant and I review all correspondence.

I have never taken a hard and fast position on the lottery but rather see valid arguments on both sides. Please allow me to candidly suggest that the rigid position you have adopted could be counter productive to good government. Surely the only criteria for public service should not be this single issue. It is my earnest desire that you accept this letter in the same positive spirit it is written.

Your time and consideration is deeply appreciated.

David K. Karem
State Senator
Louisville

Another church opposes lottery

In business meeting on Jan. 13, 1988, our church adopted a resolution in opposition to the installation of a state lottery. We are in the process of conducting a letter writing campaign to our state officials expressing personal opposition to a lottery.

I felt it necessary to let you know it was because of your careful, insightful and moving editorials that we as a people became informed about the dangers of this method of taxation.

You have moved us off the fence and into the fight. Thank you for being faithful to the work you have been called to do.

Tim Maynard
Shepherdsville

Discipleship is more than conversion

I cannot begin to tell you the great enthusiasm I felt after reading your editorial of Jan. 12, 1988, "The first priority." You're right on target! Discipleship is where it's at if the contemporary church is going to survive.

As difficult as it is to not focus on measuring up to worldly standards of success, there is a lesson to be learned from these statistics. Even many of those churches that are winning and baptizing large numbers have a back door at their church just as big as the front. Discipleship encompasses much more than conversion; it is a life-long pursuit of spiritual growth.

I pray Christ's vision of discipleship will permeate our vision in all our programming as Southern Baptists. It's our only hope to accomplish Bold Mission Thrust.

James Woolums Jr.
Lexington

Commendation for a faithful servant

The First Baptist Church, Princeton, Ky., voted in business session Jan. 13, 1988 to express sincere words of commendation regarding Mr. Skip Snyder who is coming to serve on your church staff.

In the 18 months Skip has served as our minister of education and youth he has endeared himself to our people as a most conscientious worker. His sincerity and dedication to his calling are evident to all who know him. This is reflected not only in his "ministry" but also in his own personal walk with God.

The effectiveness of his work is reflected in the statistical growth of our various educational programs and in the enlistment of new workers within the church.

Although we are sorry to lose them here we do heartily commend Skip, Kim and Jason to your fellowship and pray they will have a long and fruitful ministry among you.

Bill R. Tichnor, Pastor
First Baptist Church
Princeton, Ky

Editor's note: The above letter was sent to First Baptist Church, Inman, S. C. which has called Snyder to join their church staff.

BJCPA Executive Director attempts to clarify issues

I write in response to Richard C. Porter's letter concerning the severing of ties with the Baptist Joint Committee (WR 1/12/88). I wish to clarify some of his statements and correct his misperceptions.

The move of a very few persons within the Southern Baptist Convention to sever ties with this agency is another attempt to further a political agenda that is contrary to the clear voice of the people. The SBC voted overwhelmingly in the 1987 meeting in St. Louis to maintain ties and funding to this agency. In October 1987 eight of the 17 members of the Public Affairs Committee, not the SBC as a whole, recommended the severing of ties. Several state conventions, including Virginia, Missouri and Texas, passed resolutions in support of the BJCPA in their fall meetings. The vast majority of the people want to maintain ties with this agency.

As for the position adopted by this office on the issue of prayer in schools, let the record show we are opposed to *governmentally prescribed* prayers. Would we really want our elected officials writing prayers for our children to pray daily?

Finally, neither the BJCPA nor I personally have taken the position that abortion is a personal choice. The issue of abortion does not fall under the program assignment of this agency, thus it would be inappropriate for us to take an official position.

I hope you will help me clarify these issues with Mr. Porter and with your readers.

James M. Dunn
Executive Director BJCPA
Washington, D. C.

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.

baptist news in brief

Louisvillian in finalists for SEBTS presidency

Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary's presidential search committee has narrowed its field of possible successors to W. Randall Lolley to "three highly qualified individuals," according to a Feb. 11 statement.

The search committee released the statement midway through a Feb. 11-12 meeting in St. Louis. The committee is seeking a replacement for Lolley, who resigned effective July 31.

The search committee said finalists are Charles L. Chaney, assistant to the chancellor and dean, Courts Redford School of Theology and Church Vocations, Southwest Baptist University, Bolivar, Mo.; Lewis A. Drummond, administrative director, Billy Graham Center, and Billy Graham professor of evangelism, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville; and Paige Patterson, president, Criswell Center for Biblical Studies, and associate pastor, First Baptist Church, Dallas.

The statement added: After we have finished interviewing them tomorrow (Feb. 12) we will attempt to make a selection of one man to recommend to the board of trustees. If we are successful, we will have a further announcement tomorrow afternoon.

Lolley, dean Morris Ashcraft and three assistants to the president announced their resignations in response to recent trustee actions at the seminary. (BP)

Inerrancy group to push till battle is won

Insisting that "the stakes are high in this battle," Missouri Baptist pastor David Baker has initiated the formation of the "Southern Baptist Coalition for Biblical Inerrancy."

Baker, pastor of First Baptist Church,

Stanley named to broadcast hall of fame

Former Southern Baptist Convention president Charles F. Stanley was inducted into the National Religious Broadcasters Hall of Fame during the organization's annual meeting in February.

The 55-year-old pastor of the 11,000 member First Baptist Church of Atlanta, Ga., joins earlier honorees Billy Graham, Pat Robertson, Jerry Falwell, Charles E. Fuller and Walter A. Maier as recipients of NRB's highest honor.

Stanley's extensive radio and television outreach, known as In Touch Ministries, includes daily radio broadcasts and weekly telecasts. His "In Touch" programs are heard on 450 radio stations, while the weekly telecast of the Sunday morning worship service of First Baptist, Atlanta, is seen on more than 125 television stations.

The telecast also is beamed worldwide through the Armed Forces Radio and Television Network to all U. S. military bases abroad, U. S. embassies around the world and American ships at sea. (BP)

Belton, Mo., wrote in the Jan. 20 issue of his church newsletter that he was seeking 50 men in his congregation to each contribute \$50 a year to the organization "until the battle is won." Baker added that "my prayer is that we will be able to enlist 1000 people in the coalition by April, representing 250 conservative churches."

Baker announced plans for a "Rally for Biblical Inerrancy" Mar. 24 at First Church, Belton. Among scheduled

speakers are John Click, pastor, Immanuel Church, Arnold, Mo.; Tom El-liff, pastor, First Southern Baptist Church, Del City, Okla.; David Lucus, pastor, First Baptist Church of Oak Hill, Austin, Tex.; and Paige Patterson, president, Criswell College, Dallas.

The rally will focus on the theme, "A Baptist and His Bible!" It will be followed Mar. 25 by a breakfast meeting featuring a panel discussion by fundamental-conservative leaders. (BP)

Record January reverses CPs trend

Southern Baptists contributed a record \$15.5 million to their national Cooperative Program budget in January.

The big January total reversed a two month downward trend in the Cooperative Program and brought the budget back ahead of the pace for the same period last year, announced Harold C. Bennett, president and treasurer of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee.

The \$15,514,367 January receipts topped the previous monthly total—about \$13.1 million in January 1987—by 18.63 percent, Bennett said. It brought total receipts for the 1987-88 fiscal year to \$45,630,004 or 3.55 percent ahead of the total for the first four months of last year's budget.

Cooperative Program total receipts had fallen to 2.81 percent behind the 1986-87 budget by the end of December. However, the strong January lifted the

year-to-date total to within one percentage point of the current inflation rate which is about 4.5 percent, said Tim A. Hedquist, executive committee vice president for business and finance.

The 1987-88 Cooperative Program has been hurt by financial difficulties among the 37 state Baptist conventions contributing to the program which finances Southern Baptist missionary, evangelistic and educational ministries around the world. (BP)

Group sets in motion plans for new hymnal

The three-year process to develop a new Baptist Hymnal began at the Baptist Sunday School Board Feb. 4-5. Subcommittee members considered page format and hymn score style to be recommended to the full hymnal committee in September.

Concerns and requests expressed in letters from Southern Baptist church leaders and laypeople were reviewed as a part of the process to deal with indices, paper, binding and organization of materials.

The 11-member design/organization subcommittee deliberated over such matters as author and composer information to be printed with each hymn and placement of that information on the page. A clean look and ease in locating material of interest to congregational users of the hymnal was a desire expressed repeatedly. Practical and aesthetic factors such as paper, color, weight and style of binding the hymnal also consumed much of the time.

Jean Pilcher, minister of music at First Baptist Church, Little Rock, Ark., and chairman of the subcommittee, described the two-day session as "positive and really healthy where we disagreed. We either talked through our disagreement or gave ourselves two or three options that, after study, we'll prioritize." (BP)

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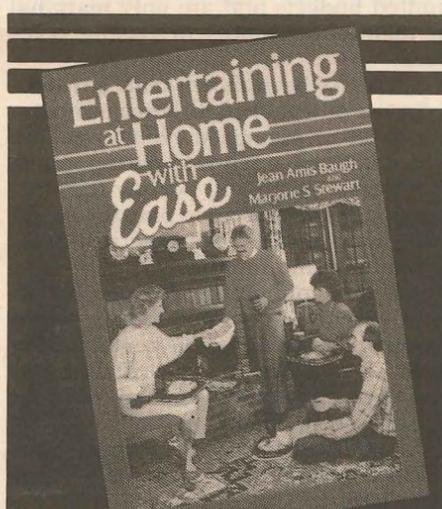
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Jean Amis Baugh is a county extension agent for home economics, Fayette County, Kentucky. Marjorie S. Stewart is a professional home economist, Henderson, Kentucky.

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Elkhorn churches plan SS clinic

Elkhorn Association is convinced that "People Need the Lord." Seventeen churches in the central Kentucky association have made commitments to participate in a simultaneous Sunday school clinic Mar. 5-12.

The purpose of the clinic is to help a church discover and reach lost persons

Annuity Board proposes new insurance programs

Annuity Board trustees unanimously voted in their Feb. 1-2 meeting to ask the Southern Baptist Convention and its Executive Committee for approval to develop property and casualty insurance programs and retirement plans.

If the proposals are approved, the Annuity Board expects to begin offering insurance programs including church-owned property coverage, general liability, workers' compensation, bus liability, day-care liability and minister's malpractice insurance.

Also, if approved, the proposals would allow the Annuity Board to offer retirement plans under "tax-qualified" plans rather than "not for profit" plans.

The insurance recommendation requires Southern Baptist Convention approval since it requires a change in the board's program statement. The proposal is expected to be acted on during the SBC Executive Committee's Feb. 22-24 meeting in Nashville. (BP)

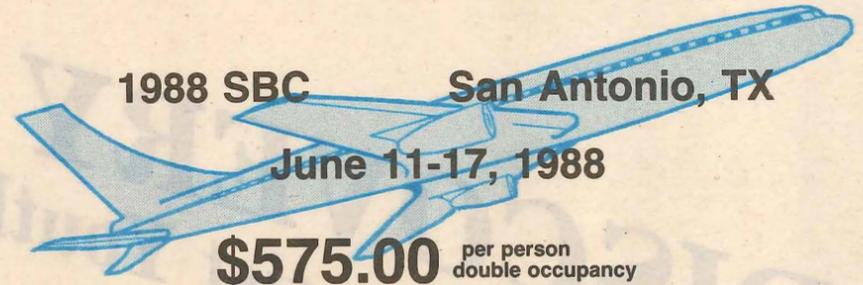
in its community; enrol prospects in Bible study; enlarge the Sunday school organization; and discover, enlist and train Sunday school workers.

Church members and Sunday school workers who want to see their programs grow are encouraged to attend the clinics, which are supported cooperatively by the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville; the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Middletown; and Elkhorn Association. In each of the 17 churches there will be a guest director and two to four age group specialists to promote a custom-made Sunday school program to meet the needs of that particular church.

Churches participating in the clinic include: Broadway, Calvary, Paris First, Gano Avenue, Gardenside, Georgetown, Great Crossing, Immanuel, Millville, Mt. Pleasant, Porter Memorial, Rosemont, Spears Mill, South Elkhorn, Southern Heights, Tatesbrook and Versailles.

The week begins with a kickoff rally at Gardenside Baptist Church, Lexington, Mar. 5 at 10:30 a.m. Kenneth Dean, Baptist Sunday School Board representative and coordinator of the Elkhorn clinic, will introduce the board's consultants who will be working in individual churches. Music by the Porter Memorial choir and Bob Norman, guest speaker, will present a challenge to the churches. The clinic concludes with Super Sunday celebrations. (BP)

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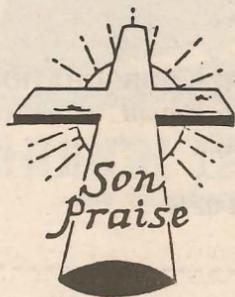
CEDARMORE BAPTIST ASSEMBLY

DATE	CAMP PASTOR	CO-ORDINATOR
June 13-17	Joel Walker, Minister of Youth Highview Baptist Church, Louisville	Mrs. Pat Brunner Campus Minister, Berea College
June 20-24	Scott Cox, Pastor Clear Creek Baptist Church, Versailles	Keith Inman Campus Minister, Murray State University
*June 27-July 1	Dr. William Crosby, Pastor Erlanger Baptist Church, Erlanger	Dr. Jack Birdwhistell Campus Minister, Georgetown College
July 4-8	Dr. Ray England, Pastor First Baptist Church, Winchester	Gene Parr Campus Minister, Morehead State University
July 11-15	Dr. Hal Poe, Evangelism Department Kentucky Baptist Convention, Middletown	Mrs. Wyndee Holbrook Campus Minister, Cumberland College
August 1-5	Robby Spear, Director Kentucky Baptist Crusaders	Mikel Robinson Campus Minister, Kentucky State University

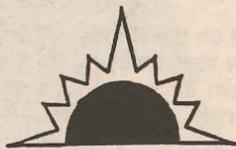
JONATHAN CREEK

July 18-22	Jim McKenzie, Pastor First Baptist Church, Hopkinsville	Tom Smoot Campus Minister, University of Louisville
July 25-29	Bill Fort, Pastor Rich Pond Baptist Church, Bowling Green	Rick Trexler Campus Minister, Eastern Kentucky University
August 1-5	Dr. James Gentry, Pastor Lewis Lane Baptist Church, Owensboro	Mrs. Twila Greene Campus Minister, University of Kentucky

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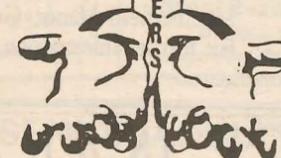
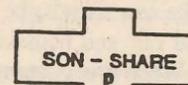
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 Rev. Don Blaylock, Director, Student Work Department
 Rev. Ralph Hopkins, Camp Director and Associate Director of Student Work Department
 Miss Angela Perkins, Associate Camp Director, Student, SBTS

mountains to the mississippi

missions

Eugene and Ellamae Elder, missionary associates to South Africa, have arrived on the field for language study (Box 1759, Edenvale 1610, Republic of South Africa). He was born in Louisville and considers Shepherdsville his home town. She is the former Ellamae Thompson of Greenville, Ala. They were employed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1987.

Roy Maggard, father of **Mrs. Jim Shemwell**, missionary to Togo, died Dec. 31 in Cold Spring, Ky. The former Donna Maggard of Kentucky, she was born in Dayton and grew up in Cold Spring. Her husband was born in Greenville, Ky. and considers Gary, Ind. his home town. Appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1982, they may be contacted at 1611 Opossum, El Paso, TX 79927.

Dewey and Ramona Mercer, missionaries to Japan, have completed furlough and returned to the field (9 Higashi Asahi-machi, Matsue-shi 690, Japan). He is a native of Central City, Ky. and she is the former Ramona Hall of Lincoln County, Tenn. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1955.

ordinations

Lowell Avenue Baptist Church, Taylor Association, ordained **Henry Pippin** as deacon Jan. 24. Larry D. Koch is pastor.

Liberty Baptist Church, Sulphur Fork Association, ordained **Bert Rait** to the ministry Nov. 29, 1987. A native of Scotland, Rait will work in a church in the Washington D. C. area. Lamar Lyon delivered the ordination message.

Harry Markham, Earl Hamby, and Mike Kreke were ordained deacons by Buena Vista Baptist Church, Owensboro, Daviess-McLean Association. Jewel R. Pruitt is pastor.

David Napier was ordained to the ministry by Jones Creek Baptist Church, Upper Cumberland Association. Paul White, pastor of Locust Grove Baptist Church, preached the ordination sermon.

Jimmy Clem was ordained to the ministry by Lenarue Baptist Church, Upper Cumberland Association. Don Richmond, pastor, preached the ordination sermon.

David Kent Evans, minister of music at Hillsdale Baptist Church, Long Run Association, was ordained to the ministry of music. Michael Akridge is pastor.

Bob Smith was ordained a deacon at First Baptist Church, Somerset, Pulaski Association. Robert F. Browning is pastor.

Steven G. Sholar, pastor of Blackey Missionary Baptist Church and third year student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, was ordained to the ministry Jan. 17 at First Baptist Church, Hazard, his home church.

The ordaining council was chaired by Charles Wilcox, coordinator of chaplain consultancy services for the southeastern Kentucky ARH Regional Medical Centers. Interrogation was conducted by Phillip Rosenbaum, director of missions, Three Forks Association. The ordination sermon was preached by Ben A. Baird, pastor.

Sholar, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald R.

Sholar, minister of music at First Baptist, Hazard, lived in Hopkinsville during his elementary and high school years. He is a graduate of the University of Kentucky and was principal and teacher at Woodland Hills Christian School, Harlan, three years.

First Baptist Church, Franklin, Simpson Association, ordained **Roy Reynolds, Damon Tabor and Claud Johnson** as deacons Jan. 3. Ray E. Cummins has been pastor since April 1987.

personnel

First Baptist Church, Benton, Blood River Association, called **William Dodson** as pastor. He began duties Dec. 16.

Chris Bailey accepted the pastorate of Calvary Baptist Church, Bracken Association. Bailey, who will graduate from Southern Seminary in May, began his ministry at Calvary Jan. 31.

Keith Adams accepted the call as pastor of Walkers Chapel, McCreary County Association. He was ordained Nov. 8.

Ronnie Owens, pastor of First Baptist Church, Artemus, North Concord Association, resigned to go to South Clinton Baptist Church, Clinton, Tenn.

Clifford R. Morris recently resigned as pastor of 20th Street Baptist Church, Corbin, Mt. Zion Association. He has also retired as a public school teacher in Knox County and is now available for full time work as a pastor. He may be contacted at Rte. 3, Box 11, Barbourville, KY 40906.

Sligo Baptist Church, Sulphur Fork Association, called **Andrew Tufano** as pastor. A native of Brooklyn, N. Y., Tufano graduated from Southern Seminary, Louisville.

Covington Baptist Church, Westport, Sulphur Fork Association, has called **Bobby J. Touchton** as pastor.

Touchton goes to Covington from Chapel Park Baptist Church, Louisville,

Long Run Association, where he has been minister of youth and education. He is a MDiv student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Michael Caudill has accepted the call to First Baptist Church, Hindman, Three Forks Association, as pastor. Caudill leaves the pastorate of Bedford Baptist Church, Sulphur Fork Association.

Bill Hammonds has been called to Galilee Baptist, Tates Creek Association, as pastor. Hammond goes from Pleasant Run Baptist, Rockcastle Association.

Ryans Creek Baptist Church, Mt. Zion Association, called **Don Lay** as pastor. Lay lives in Jellico, Tenn. and is a member of Tannery Hollow Baptist Church, South Union Association.

James Michael Akridge, native of Hodgenville, accepted the call as pastor of Hillsdale Baptist Church, Long Run Association. Akridge goes to the Louisville church from Ashtabula, Oh., where he was a home missionary in church development. He is a graduate of Campbellsville College.

Danny Vancil was called as minister of music by First Baptist Church, Middletown, Long Run Association. Charles R. White is pastor.

Leonard Martin resigned as pastor of Fairmont Baptist Church, Long Run Association.

associations

Sulphur Fork Association has designated Mar. 6 as Kentucky Baptist Convention Day. Speakers from the Kentucky Baptist building, Middletown, will speak in at least 17 of the churches in the morning service.

Gethsemane Baptist Church was welcomed into **Tates Creek Association**.



James H. Cox
Associate Editor

fourth estate

Malihinis in archipelago

Geologists say 25 million years have elapsed since a crack in the Pacific Ocean floor spewed up liquid lava from a hot spot in the center of the earth. Craters resulted. Slowly, a series of volcanic islands emerged, stretching across two thousand miles of water.

Thus begins the fascinating story of the mountainous archipelago (island chain) we call Hawaii. The arrival of Polynesians, the first human inhabitants, thousands of years ago; their "discovery" in 1778 by British Capt. James Cook; unification of all the islands in 1810 under rule by a "benevolent despot," Kamehameha the Great; Hawaii's growing significance based on its strategic location; and Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941, are important events in the narrative of Hawaiian history.

I suspect the relative importance of Hawaii in the eyes of most Americans, however, is not its history, but is today one of "paradise found." Whether they've been there or not, our fellow countrymen probably conjure up images of warm tropical breezes blowing across fertile coconut plantations, serene beaches overlooking panoramic vistas and resplendent gardens filled with luscious fruits of unbelievable variety and taste, plus carefree living every day. It may be this, but it is surely more.

In a short visit a few years ago we found some of the most graciously hospitable people we have ever encountered. Virtually without exception, each was a marvelous ambassador for his state. Each one is an individual, too, with physical and spiritual needs.

We also discovered that a brief visit to the aloha state is too short to experience it fully. While there we pledged to try to make a return trip upon reaching our silver anniversary. That milestone occurred last year, and we anticipate making good on our pledge soon.

Someone told us the last time we were there that Hawaii is a place for "the newlywed and the nearly dead." Those in between don't fit at all, I suppose, but I believe we get our money's worth anyway.

I learned some lovely purely Hawaiian words last time: *malihini* (newcomer or stranger), *aloha* (welcome, farewell or love), *kane* (man), *wahine* (woman), and the prettiest, *mahalo* (thank you).

Still virtually undisturbed is the garden isle of Kauai, the most indescribably beautiful place on earth. Sometimes I think how much better the eternal splendor of a home which Jesus has gone to prepare for us. There can be no comparison with Kauai. But for mortals like me, I marvel at how magnificent that lasting reward must be!



Twenty-one Kentucky-Kenya volunteers from Little Bethel Association gathered for a potluck dinner Jan. 21 in Madisonville. During the three year partnership, a total of 24 persons went to Kenya from Little Bethel, with four of the 24 going twice. James and Wilma Whaley and Bob Jones (pictured) were guests for the fellowship event. John and Jean Ashby are directors of missions for the western Kentucky association.



Barkley Moore
President
Oneida Baptist Institute
Oneida, KY 40972

oneida journal

A big difference

It is a beautiful springlike day with the temperature in the low 70s and the birds twittering everywhere. A most unusual day for late January.

Our academic team left at 5:30 a.m. for an important tournament. The boys basketball team left yesterday afternoon for a road trip, playing games in Elizabethtown and Louisville. The girls middle school team will play in our gym this morning and our girls varsity basketball team will play here in our girls invitational this afternoon. Eighteen students will arrive this afternoon from Berea for a concert this evening. Tomorrow morning our choir will leave to sing at Trammels Creek Church near Greensburg.

Varying crews are busy all about the campus. From my office window I can see a number of boys working on the compost pile at the edge of the garden. The accumulated leaves raked from our large campus becomes fertilizer for our gardens in the spring. We do our earliest planting in March and late May we will be eating certain things. Plantings are staggered so that we eat from the gardens through October.

A friend wrote recently from Knoxville: "Glad to support your fine students. Challenge them to be their best. Each individual surrendered to God equals God plus the individual putting it all together. Each life is beautiful under his care like a rose blossoming into unlimited possibilities."

A mother writes: "We certainly appreciate the great job being done at Oneida. Our daughter has made tremendous progress with her grades."

A graduate writes from Florida: "To maintain a Christian school with the needed discipline must be more difficult today. Twenty-five years ago Oneida worked for me and two years ago for my son."

A 1948 graduate writes: "Just a little token to express my appreciation for some of the true values of life that have remained with me through all these years as a result of being a student at Oneida."

Parents of a recent student write: "Our gift in appreciation for what you did for our daughter and what you are doing for so many other children. God bless you all for your wonderful work."

A grandmother writes: "I feel confident in giving to the Oneida school knowing the offering is being used in a wonderful way. I had a grandson there for some time. I am grieved that things did not work out for him through no fault of the school. Schools are fortunate indeed to have such dedicated personnel."

A retired state policeman in Alabama became a faithful supporter of Oneida after bringing a Vietnamese refugee to us some years ago. I still vividly remember his shout of joy when I telephoned him long-distance of Lee's making a profession of faith. He sends a gift and writes: "Lee Chau is still in Nevada. He is a hardworking boy helping to support his parents who went there one year ago."

Another grandmother writes with a gift: "In appreciation for the love and guidance of all the children at Oneida, especially my two grandsons. We can see a big difference in them."



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

sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR FEB. 21, 1988

Life and work series

Sexual purity

Ex. 20:14 When God established the institution of marriage he intended there should be one man for one woman. This relationship should be permanent. Faithfulness to each other is one of the foundation stones of a true home.

"Thou shalt not commit adultery" strikes at an evil which is growing with frightful rapidity these days. However, the prohibition of adultery still stands. Whoever violates God's law is certain to reap distress and misery.

Matt. 5:27-28 Marriage is the union of one man and one woman whereby the two become one in the sight of God. This tie is not to be dissolved at will, or on purely legal grounds. The only scriptural justification for divorce is adultery or fornication, which is such a breach of the holy union as virtually to destroy it.

Christ taught that adulterous desires are sinful and God will not excuse them. When the thought life is not controlled by the Holy Spirit, it will be influenced by Satan. Evil thoughts, impure motives, unholy desires and wicked ambitions will result ultimately in overt acts of ungodliness.

I Thess. 4:3-7 Paul declared it is God's will for Christians to be devoted to living righteously. Our sanctification, or being set apart from sin and dedicated to God certainly involves abstention

from every form of immorality. God will enable any Christian to overcome the temptation to indulge in immorality if he has the desire to live victoriously.

I Cor. 7:3-5 The Corinthian Christians inquired about the advisability of marriage. In response Paul did not state any rule as to what they should do. He acknowledged each state had advantages and he reminded them the decision to marry or not to marry was a privilege given to everyone. He taught the important thing is to follow the leading of the Lord.

Before marriage God requires each Christian to practice continence. After marriage each is obligated to be faithful to his or her partner.

International series

Instructions to the church

Matt. 18:10-14 Christ Jesus came into the world to save lost souls. The worth of a human soul is obvious when we consider the infinite price paid for it, the immensity of its capacities and the immortality of its being. Since the worth of a soul transcends that of the world, no one is to be subjected to spiritual neglect.

If a sheep is so valuable to the shepherd that he will leave the ninety-nine that are safe in the fold and go out and seek for one which has gone astray, the child of God is even more valuable to the Lord.

Matt. 18:15-17 Those who cause strife within a church do the cause of Christ a greater injury than any ungodly outsider could ever inflict. If one is wronged by a fellow Christian, he is to take the initiative to approach the erring one and "tell him his fault between thee and him alone." They should try to resolve the estrangement and effect a reconciliation. If this method fails, the offended should return with one or two reliable Christian witnesses to effect a reconciliation.

If the wrongdoer ignores the offended and remains inpenitent, then the matter is to be taken to the church for judgment and disciplinary action. Should the one who is at fault still refuse to admit he is wrong, he is to be regarded "as a heathen man" until he repents and seeks restoration.

Matt. 28:18-22 When two or three assemble in Christ's name, he has promised to be in their midst. The presence of Christ guarantees to the least possible number the greatest privileges and blessings.



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

on mission together

Hard fishing

If the statistics are accurate only China, India and the Soviet Union have within their populations more unsaved and/or unchurched persons than the United States.

However, residing in the United States is also the largest number of evangelicals of any world population! In other words, while we have the fourth largest "lost" population in the world we also have the most churches and largest body of Christian leadership. It's a paradox!

Kentucky has an estimated population of 3.7 million, 750,000 of whom are "on the rolls" of Kentucky Baptist Convention churches. That's one out of five residents of our commonwealth.

The Home Mission Board estimates that slightly over one million of Kentucky's population is unsaved. That

means there are roughly two million other-than-Baptists in the state who are Christians.

One could assume, therefore, that 2,750,000 "Christians" should be able to influence the other million to become believers in Christ.

None of the three countries—China, India or Russia—has anything approaching the proportion of Christians in their population as does Kentucky. In fact, Kentucky on a percentage basis is one of the "most saved" states in America.

The question comes, inevitably, what are the numerous Baptists going to do about the million in our state who are unsaved?

Criticizing each other or knocking the brethren is not likely to bring the desired results. Nor does lambasting a congregation for what they don't do. Blaming the current SBC controversy or suggesting that we're turning "soft" on evangelism may get a few "amens" from different folks but it won't change the

situation, even if there is some truth in both accusations.

A persistent decline in baptisms within the Southern Baptist Convention and in our state is a potent message in itself. If the "lost" population was declining and the total Christian community was growing, we could perhaps live with the fact that other evangelicals were doing a better job. At least, the lost were being won to Christ even if not under our Baptist banner.

But this isn't the case. The lost population is growing and demographic studies tell us they are now more difficult to locate, contact and ultimately reach.

I'm just naive enough to speculate that maybe, just maybe, the decline is the most prophetic act God could use to get the attention of the Baptist part of his family.

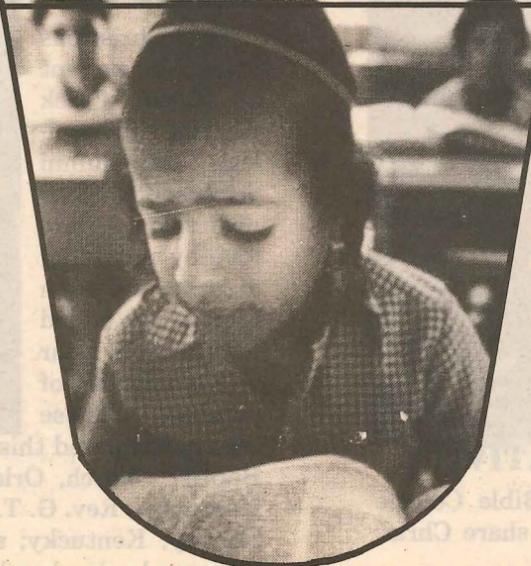
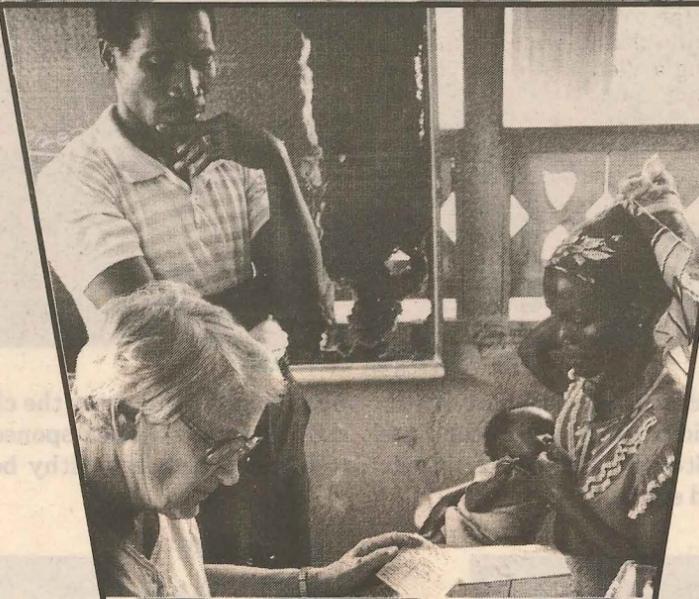
Maybe God is about to get our attention. Until he does, not much is going to happen to change things.

See you at the evangelism conference.



**“You are the
light of
the world...”**

—Matt. 5:14



Top: Sunlight streaming through stained glass provides a dramatic backdrop for these Japanese Baptists during Bible study at Fukuoka Baptist Church. The first Southern Baptist missionaries in Japan began work in 1889. Now, some 200 missionaries work with more than 300 churches in the Japan Okinawa Baptist conventions.

Upper center: Missionary Ray Register (r) surrendered to lifetime Christian service during a Baptist Student Union retreat while he was in college. About a year later he felt called to foreign missions. Here Register listens intently as Motasem Badran in Israel reads the Koran to him. In a few minutes Register will open his Bible and share an appropriate witness with Badran.

Lower center: Volunteers have become a very important part of Southern Baptists' foreign mission efforts. This photo shows volunteer nurse Vivian Daniell seeing patients in a well-baby clinic in Bandor, Liberia. Volunteers participate in overseas work for periods ranging in length up to two years.

Bottom: When public school classes end each day, this Orthodox Jewish lad makes his way to yet another school, a “cheder,” for an hour or so of study of Jewish Scriptures. Jews who believe in Jesus as Messiah hope to share their message with this boy and all Israelis. There are some 3000 Messianic Jews in 30 congregations. Several of the 50 Southern Baptist representatives in Israel worship regularly with Jewish believers.



Family Life at Clear Creek Baptist Bible College



CHILDREN'S CENTER

Younger children enjoy snack-time, play-time and lesson-time while Mom and Dad are in classes.

CONFERENCE WEEK

During each semester there is one conference week. There are no classes in session during this week. The themes for some conference weeks were "Shared Ministry" and "Marriage Enrichment." Spring 1988 conference is February 15-19 and the theme is "A Good Minister for Christ."



OLYMPIC GAMES

Children are a vital part of our campus family. This year the children participated in the Clear Creek 1987 Olympic Games sponsored by the Student Life Office. Clear Creek encourages a healthy body, mind and spirit.

MASTERLIFE

All students begin their first semester in a MasterLife group. One full year of MasterLife is required of all students. Husbands and wives are in the same group.



SHOPPING SPREE

Shopping Spree '87 proved to be one of the most exciting events of the year. There were tears of joy as our students witnessed the manifold blessing of God. The faculty and staff arranged the items that were donated and the students were overjoyed as they selected gifts for their children's Christmas. Clear Creek's annual Shopping Spree is made possible by gifts from friends, alumni and Kentucky churches.



YOUTH PARTICIPATE IN LIVE NATIVITY

The Youth Disciples of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College sponsor a live nativity scene each year. They share Christ with the whole community.

ALUMNI TURKEY DAY

The Christmas spirit was evident at Clear Creek Baptist Bible College. Our alumni demonstrated their dedication and love by providing a turkey for each family. An added feature this year was a 5 lb. bag of potatoes. Those



who participated this year were Dr. Bill Whitaker, pastor Downtown Baptist Church, Orlando, Florida, (former pastor of FBC Murray, Kentucky); Rev. G. T. Moody, Associate pastor, First Baptist Church, Murray, Kentucky; and Don Colyer, Alumnus of 1978. President Simpson lends a hand.