

Leon Simpson resigns at Clear Creek school

by Jack Sanford, Editor

Leon Simpson resigned as president of Clear Creek Baptist Bible School.

In his letter to the trustees, Simpson said it was his "intention to resign the Presidency of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College on or before July 31, 1988, the end of my contract year."

He added, "After March 31, 1988, I would like to relinquish the day-to-day operation of the school...and give my full energies to finding God's next place of service for me."

Simpson also noted that "at the called meeting of the Board on February 26, the feeling was expressed that it was time for new leadership for the school...I have accepted the judgment of the board as an indication of the will of God for Clear Creek and for me."

In conclusion Simpson recalled that "when I came to Clear Creek I pledged to the trustees that I would always try to serve Clear Creek in its best interests and never knowingly hurt this great school. I will continue to honor that pledge in my leaving."

The trustees issued a statement Friday, March 18, 1988, which said in part, "The trustees respect Dr. Simpson's stated beliefs that the Lord is calling him to other places of service. The resignation of Dr. Simpson was accepted by unanimous vote of the board."

In addition to accepting the resignation of Simpson, the trustees also agreed "that he be permitted to relinquish immediate responsibility for day-to-day operation of the school effective March 31, 1988.

The trustees, under the leadership of chairman Elmer Gambrel, made the following statement: "The board of trustees commends Dr. Simpson for his selfless recognition of God's will for his life and his willingness to heed God's leading.

"Furthermore, the board of trustees recognizes and declares that during Dr. Simpson's tenure as president God has blessed Clear Creek with significant progress toward fulfillment of God's calling for this school."

In other action, the trustees decided vice president Carvin Bryant "will begin service as temporary chief adminis-



Simpson

trator effective April 1, 1988."

The trustees also authorized a presidential search committee composed of five trustees, one faculty member, one student and one at-large member.

Simpson went to Clear Creek in June 1982 from a position on the staff of First Baptist Church, Dallas, Tex.

He is a native of Oklahoma, though reared in Amarillo, Tex. He graduated from Texas Tech University, Moody Bible Institute and Southwestern Seminary.

Before taking the position as assistant pastor in Dallas in 1979 Simpson was director of ministerial training at Cumberland College, Williamsburg, Ky., 12 years.

New work conference presents challenge of metropolitan centers

by Jack Sanford, Editor

About 150 pastors, missions directors and lay people gathered at Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville, to share in a new work conference sponsored by the direct missions department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

The meeting was for leaders in churches which have at least 1000 members. Most of these are concentrated in the urban centers of the state, the place where new work starts are desperately needed.

Kentucky pastors who gave testimony regarding new work which their churches have started, included Bob Montgomery, Hurstbourne, Louisville; Curtis Warf, First Church, Richmond; Bill Crosby, Erlanger Baptist, Erlanger; and Howard Cobble, Severns Valley, Elizabethtown.

William Marshall, executive secretary-treasurer of the KBC, presented the rationale for Mission Kentucky, a program designed to start 400 new churches in Kentucky by the end of the present decade.

Marshall set out six reasons for Mission Kentucky. One, the mission of Christ has not changed, the task not finished. The Great Commission still stands and we face what often appears to be an endless task of winning people to Christ.

Two, the church is still the best means of reaching people. There are about 1,200,000 people in Kentucky either unsaved or unchurched. The churches have the resources to reach these people if we would attend to the task.

Three, starting new churches helps reach people groups not otherwise reached by other churches. People in certain socio-economic groups, people of ethnic origin and language groups are examples of people groups not being reached by existing churches which can be reached through new work.

Fourth, starting new churches will bring a new and vital point of mission concern to those who attempt the effort. New work will increase the number of people being saved.

Fifth, the new work effort gives our Kentucky convention another point of unity and purpose. The new work effort has been given a \$1 million budget with another \$1 million in the mission reserve fund for new church loans.

Finally, Marshall expressed a personal opinion by saying new work effort will probably rub off on other religious groups and thus help win more Kentuckians to Christ. He cited his own observation on the foreign mission field where Southern Baptist efforts in Bible study, for instance, stimulated other religious groups to do the same, thus increasing the number of people who were exposed to the word of God.

Other persons who shared from personal experience in new work efforts included KBC church starter strategists, D.M. Aldridge, Harold Wainscott and J. Bill Jones.

Larry Lewis, president of the Home Mission Board and James Chavis, professor at New Orleans Seminary and author of the book *Hayes Plan of Church Starting* also spoke to the group.

Conference organizer Bill Jagers, associate in the KBC direct missions department, reminded participants the resources to meet the needs for new work were available through the convention.

In calling attention to Kentucky needs, Jagers declared the number of lost people is rising while church growth is not. Citing census statistics to call attention to the ratio of Kentucky Baptist churches to the population of Kentucky he pointed out the following: In 1970 the ratio was 1-1468; in 1980 it was 1-1661; and in 1985 it was 1-1698.

He reminded those present that Kentucky, according to the latest census information, is no longer a rural state but is urban. Not only has the state shifted from rural to urban, but there has been a great increase in ethnic people in Kentucky.

For example, we now have 87,000 ethnics in the state including people from Japan, Korea and China as well as Filipino and Hispanic groups.

These changing conditions call for newer ideas for ministry, such as Bible study groups in housing developments, trailer park facilities for worship and other methods not now being used by our churches.

Confidence is high that the goal of 400 new church starts will be reached, according to Benton Williams, KBC missions and church services division director. Williams noted that through February, 1988, there have been 132 new work starts since the Mission Kentucky program began less than three years ago.



Curtis Mooney (center) of Dallas, Tex. was elected executive director of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children Mar. 22. Pictured with Mooney are (l) Curtis Warf, KBHC board president and Lindsey Horn, chairman of the search committee.

Mooney elected KBHC director

Curtis Mooney, a native Kentuckian with more than 13 years experience in child care and other family-related ministries, was elected executive director of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children by the agency's board of trustees Mar. 22. He will assume his duties July 1.

For the past seven years, Mooney, 40, has been an administrator at Buckner Baptist Benevolences, Dallas, Tex., first as assistant to the president then executive vice president. Mooney began his career in child-care ministry in 1974 as a recreation director at Hudelson Baptist Children's Home, Centralia, Ill. He served in several other staff positions at the Hudelson Home before being named its director of social services in 1977. He became executive director at Hudelson in 1978.

Mooney was born in Dixon, Ky. He is a cum laude graduate of Western Ken-

tucky University. He earned the master's degree in social work at Washington University, St. Louis and currently is taking course work in the PhD program in administration at the University of Texas at Arlington's School of Social Work.

An Air Force veteran, Mooney is a member of a number of professional organizations including Southern Baptist Child Care Executives and the National Association of Social Workers. He has been a board member of the National Association of Homes for Children, Texas Association of Licensed Children's Services, and the Child Care Association of Illinois.

Mooney succeeds Eldred Taylor as KBHC executive director. Taylor, executive director since 1981, announced his plans to retire from that position last fall. (KBHC)

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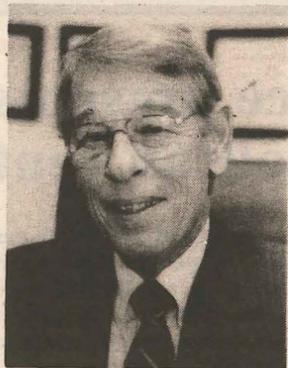
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sanford's perspectives



Jack D. Sanford

Congressional action is correct

Factual information for what follows in this editorial was gathered from material prepared by Stan Hastey, chief of the Washington Bureau of Baptist Press. The opinions expressed are those of the editor.

It is always painful to reject the ideas and actions of the leader, especially a popular leader. However, Congress was on target last week when this representative body was forced to override President Reagan.

President Reagan had refused to sign the Civil Rights Restoration Act on grounds that it would be a threat to religious liberty. There were other objections the President had, but this was the emotional one which generated considerable support from some Christian groups, most of who have been his supporters from the beginning.

What is most surprising in this hotly contested area of civil government is the position of certain religious groups. Principal spokespersons among the leaders of support for President Reagan are Jerry Falwell and James Dobson, both of whom one would have thought would be strongly in favor of increasing protection for the oppressed and downtrodden.

Falwell even claimed that if the president's veto of the expanded civil rights law is not sustained, "Our churches and religious leaders could be forced to hire a practicing active homosexual drug addict with AIDS to be a teacher or youth pastor...." Even from Falwell that is high rhetoric with no basis in fact... unless the religious organization with which Falwell is affiliated takes government money to carry on its ministry. Then, he is right, the federal government will, indeed, tell

him how to conduct his business and whom he can and cannot hire.

Even the chairman of the Southern Baptist Public Affairs Committee, Samuel T. Currin, and vice chairman, Albert Lee Smith, issued a statement calling on Southern Baptists to "call senators and representatives urging them to sustain the veto," though the Southern Baptist Convention and the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs have made no statement of support.

It is difficult to see why this supportive action by religious conservatives since the bill in question specifically applies only to organizations that receive federal funds. Surely no self respecting Baptist would take federal funds to operate the church, to support missions or even to operate a private school. Of course if a Baptist institution takes federal aid, then that Baptist institution should be compelled to obey the rules which apply to everyone else.

Federal law now exempts colleges and universities "controlled by" religious groups from the demands of this specific law and no case requesting exemption has been denied in the 16 years the law has been on the books.

This rhubarb over proper civil rights legislation—legislation which should have the full support of every Christian in the land—is another example of how far behind we often are in supporting the oppressed and how eager we are to attach ourselves to the powerful.

We applaud the Congress for standing up for all Americans by rejecting the President's action, thus assuring it will be more difficult to discriminate in our country.

You will decide in November

Antilottery forces have lost every round thus far and the final round is just around the corner.

Efforts to stem the tide for a state lottery in the House failed because, as many representatives publicly stated, the public wants to vote on this issue.

Efforts to stem the tide failed in the Senate mainly because the Senate has always leaned toward a lottery and would have had this item on the agenda years ago if the Senate alone controlled the issue.

Now we come to the final round, the November election. The question will be on the ballot and Kentuckians will be asked if they want to amend the state constitution to make a lottery legally possible in Kentucky.

Will antilottery forces lose again? Is the force for gambling so great antilottery forces have no chance of victory? Have the antilottery people realized the wind is blowing the wrong way and it is time to step aside?

We do not think the wind is blowing the wrong way. We do not think it is time to step aside. We do not think the force for gambling has the last say.

But it really doesn't matter what we think. It does matter what people across the state think,

however. If enough people believe gambling is wrong for Kentucky, the wind can blow all it wants, the lottery will be defeated. If enough people across the state think gambling is good for us, we will have a lottery. Whatever is decided it will be the people who decide, not the politicians and if there is blame down the road we can only blame ourselves.

However, we have doubts about how Kentuckians feel. Letter to us, from churches and associations, indicate strong Baptist feelings against a lottery. Yet our politicians in Frankfort keep telling us all they hear from back home is a demand for the chance to bring a lottery to our state. Maybe most of what we hear is from preachers who are almost universally opposed to a lottery.

What is to be done? Our position is that a lottery is a poor way to finance state government, that it is an affront to decent people, that it robs the poor and that it is a sin under God. We are opposed and we will go to the polls in November and vote against amending our Constitution to make a lottery possible.

We may be in a distinct minority, but we will vote our conscience under God. After all that is what being a good citizen is all about. We urge all Baptists to do the same thing.

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Pressler tells Kentuckians to meet at the Alamo

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

Saying the battle of San Antonio determines whether we "finish the course of returning to our roots," a chief architect of the Southern Baptist ultraconservative movement urged west Kentuckians to meet him at the Alamo this summer.

Addressing about 60 persons at Owensboro's Parrish Avenue Baptist Church Mar. 19, Paul Pressler, Houston, Tex. appellate judge, encouraged the audience of mostly pastors to return to their churches, "preach Jesus, and alert your people to the need to come to this convention."

The 131st annual session of the Southern Baptist Convention meets June 14-16 in San Antonio, Tex., site of the Alamo, a prominent landmark in the battle for Texas independence from Mexico. This year at San Antonio SBC moderates and conservatives are expected to clash for a 10th consecutive time over major divisive issues. A new president of the convention will be elected there, giving rise to heightened political activity and speculation.

At the Owensboro forum Pressler informed his audience of current issues in

Special Ministries offers 4 Wellness Conferences

Last year 64 percent of all Southern Baptist Convention ministers who died, died as the result of cardiovascular disease at an average age of 48, according to Douglas T. Strader.

In an effort to help save the health and lives of Kentucky ministers, Strader, director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Special Ministries Department, has requested Ray Conner to conduct several Wellness Conferences at various sites across the state Apr. 18-20. Conner is director of the Church Recreation Department at the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville.

Conference times and locations include: Apr. 18, Boone's Creek Baptist Church, 9-11:30 a.m. and Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, 7-9:30 p.m.; Apr. 19, Kentucky Baptist Building, Middletown, 9-11:30 a.m., 2-4:30 p.m.; Apr. 20, Lone Oak Baptist Church, Paducah, 9-11:30 a.m.

The conference's objectives are to improve family and work relationships, productivity, personal energy levels, self concept, and mental and emotional health.

Participants will be assisted in determining their ideal weight, an appropriate nutrition diet, a personalized program of exercise and an approach to stress management. Ministers will also learn about cardiovascular diseases and the influence of heredity as well as the dangers of obesity.

Cost of the conference is free. For more information contact the KBC Special Ministries Department, Box 43433, Middletown, KY 40243-0433, or (502) 245-4101.

notice

The obituary committee of the KBC requests names of Kentucky Baptists deceased between Aug. 1, 1987 and July 31, 1988. Send names to James E. Casey, Jr., 107 W. Locust Street, Greensburg, KY 42743.

the controversy and responded to questions.

If you have a theological problem, said Pressler, you go to "the source." He identified the source as the seminaries, stating: "You clean things up there." He echoed his statement of several previous appearances elsewhere: "I don't want to see a single person (in our seminaries and institutions) fired, just a lot of people converted."

Pressler went on to say that 100% of all SBC peace committee members found there were "problems with liberality" at our institutions. Though he did not indicate if this applied to every institution, he admonished that the same committee said "we should hire only those who believe the Bible is literally true."

What happened when this was said at Southeastern Seminary? he asked. "The president resigned, the dean resigned and three top administrators resigned," he replied.

Pressler affirmed: "If you want to know what great men of God are, I direct your attention to Dr. Lewis Drummond (newly elected president of Southeastern Seminary), Dr. Larry Lewis (Home Mission Board president) and Dr. Bill Crews (president of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary)." All have been elected, Pressler pointed out, by boards since the conservative victories.

As each factual revelation was presented, or Pressler's beliefs stated, a heavily sympathetic audience of male voices punctuated his remarks with affirmative "Amen's" or "That's right!"

Pressler blamed Southern Baptists for ignoring their past theological problems. "You don't solve a problem by ignoring it," he cautioned. "If we had dealt with it at the time of the Ralph Elliott controversy (in the early 60s) or the Broadman Bible Commentary (in 1970) we wouldn't have to be dealing with it today," he declared.

Concerning the presidential election in San Antonio, Pressler read from a



Pressler

Spartanburg, S. C. newspaper dated Feb. 20, 1988 quoting Randall Lolley, who has resigned as president of Southeastern Seminary. Speaking of Richard Jackson of Phoenix, Ariz., candidate for president of the SBC this year, Lolley states Jackson is the man who can "reverse the direction the convention is going."

"I happen to like the direction our convention is headed," Pressler acknowledged, "and I don't want to see it reversed."

Pressler said the moderates are "throwing everything" into this presidential campaign, citing the national media and Baptist state papers as primary promotional agents.

He warned, however, the moderates "won't have any hope anymore if you and I go to San Antonio and vote our convictions." They have "thrown down the gauntlet," he informed. With victories this year, "we can just about control all the boards."

In answer to a question about whether the convention will split if the ultraconservatives win in San Antonio, Pressler replied there would be "no split, but a

splinter." They (the moderates) will recognize what has been apparent all along, that they are "a very minute minority." He said the "radical fringe" whom he identified as members of the Southern Baptist Alliance and others who identify with them "will probably drift out of the convention" and perhaps become American Baptists. "But you can't say if 25,000 people walk out of a 14-million member convention that is a split," he intoned.

When a pastor asked why Pressler had not informed the group about teaching of Catholic doctrine which he alleged transpires at Southern Seminary, Pressler answered: "I want to tell people enough that they are moved to action, but not so much that they throw up their hands and say there's no hope!"

Pressler told the pastors most of them could bring 10 votes from their churches to San Antonio. "Don't just come as messengers by yourselves," he reiterated.

He allowed that there is "no fundamentalist bloodbath" which a questioner said he had read about in his state paper. There's "just a course correction," said Pressler. "Look at the ugliness. It's not coming from us," he concluded.

Following the question-and-answer period, a freewill offering was taken to help defray Parrish Avenue's commitment to care for Pressler's travel expenses to Owensboro.

Kentucky Baptist historian Wendell Rone urged the audience to subscribe to a new ultraconservative magazine, "SBC Cause." He said it would tell pastors and their people "many things going on in our convention which Judge Pressler has brought to our attention tonight." Rone distributed subscription cards for the new publication.

Before adjourning, plans for a city-wide crusade featuring Southern Baptist conservative evangelist Bailey Smith in Owensboro Sept. 11-16 were announced.

Alliance assails peace committee report

A strongly worded resolution assailing the report of the Southern Baptist Convention's peace committee was adopted by nearly 400 members of the Southern Baptist Alliance during their second national convocation Mar. 21-23 in Macon, Ga.

The Alliance also adopted resolutions affirming the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs and its executive director, James M. Dunn, and expressed appreciation to president W. Randall Lolley and other administrators at

Courtney and Ballenger to star at Kentucky Center for the Arts

The NewStage Repertory Theatre will make its professional debut at the Kentucky Center for the Arts with a production of *Mass Appeal*, a comic drama by Bill Davis, starring Ragan Courtney and John Ballenger. *Mass Appeal* is a powerful play about a priest and a young seminarian who deal with issues of faith, trust and honesty in relationships. *Mass Appeal* will open in the Martin Experimental Theatre Friday, Apr. 8 at 7:30 p.m. Other performances will be 8:00 p.m. Apr. 9-11 and Apr. 14-16. Matinee's will be offered at 2:00 p.m. Apr. 9, 10 and 16.

Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C.

In other business at the meeting on the Mercer University campus, Alliance members elected a slate of officers, heard a variety of speakers on Baptist freedom, adopted a \$158,000 budget, and released their first book.

John Thomason, pastor of Northminster Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss., was elected president while Anne Neil, a layperson and former foreign missionary from Wake Forest, N. C., was named first vice president. The officers are eligible to serve up to two one-year terms.

Earlier in the week the Alliance's 30-member board of directors elected Alan Neely, professor of missiology at Southeastern Seminary to a five-month term as nonsalaried part time executive director. The board members are expected to name a full time salaried staff person during their Aug. 1 meeting.

In a resolution, the Alliance assailed the peace committee report as seriously threatening theological education at the denomination's seminaries.

The resolution maintained that "making a literalistic, 'inerrant' understanding of scripture the test of orthodoxy undermines free inquiry and diversity of opinion which have been a hallmark of Baptist life." The resolution further alleged that "imposing strict and nar-

row credal norms upon our theological faculties denies the priesthood of the believers."

In a related fund-raising matter, Alliance members pledged nearly \$40,000 toward a \$250,000 goal to upgrade SBC Today, an autonomous Baptist news-magazine published monthly in Decatur, Ga. The directors also voted to donate half the proceeds from sale of the Alliance's first book, "Being Baptist Means Freedom," to SBC Today. The contribution from the book, which was released during the meeting, could be as much as \$5000, Crouch said.

James Strickland of Cartersville, Ga., outgoing board member of the Home Mission Board, decried changes he has observed during the past eight years of what he called a conservative takeover of the Atlanta-based agency.

Strickland, pastor of Heritage Baptist Church, said the changes have resulted in the agency evolving from "a mission institution with a broad vision for ministry and an inclusive evangelistic approach" to one with "an ever-increasing narrowness of thought and a myopic view of evangelism." The Georgian said he has seen ordained women, divorced persons, charismatics, "and anyone not adopting the new 'party line' of fundamentalism declared unfit for ministry." (BP)

mountains to the mississippi



Leon Simpson
President
Clear Creek Bible College
Pineville, KY 40977

clear creek comment

We walk by faith

A Christian is weak and worldly when he or she tries to order life by things which are tangible or reasonable. Paul underscores this when he says, "We walk by faith, not by sight" (II Cor. 5:7).

Most of us confess we are weak in faith. We are like the father who cried, "Lord I believe; help thou mine unbelief" (Mark 9:24). We often naively believe we should surround our weak faith with things (and people) we can see and upon which we can lean. We forget the Christian life is to be lived "not by sight."

Walking by sight makes most of us feel more confident and secure. Thus we may lapse into comfortable apathy, pride and even arrogance. We often think we can plan better and see farther ahead by sight. It leads us to boast of tomorrow (James 4:13) and lean on the arm of flesh.

However, a Christian is to walk by faith. Walking by faith does not mean the absence of fear and doubt. Our faith will not increase unless it is tested. And testing results in stretching, aching and pain as well as gain. The trying of our faith makes us stronger to endure.

Lydell Rader says, "Faith grows only in the dark. You've got to trust him where you can't trace him. That's faith. You just take him at his word, believe him and grip the nail-scarred hand a little tighter. And faith grows." Faith is the evidence of things not seen (Heb. 11:1) and therefore faith (unseen) is the victory that overcomes the world (seen).

The world says, "Let me see and I will believe." Jesus says, "If thou wouldst believe, thou shouldst see..." (John 11:40). Tennyson said, "We have but faith; we cannot know; for knowledge is of things we see; and yet we trust it comes from thee, a beam in darkness; let it grow."

Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible. Faith unleashes the power of God in our lives. Faith is courage—it is creative, while despair is always destructive. Augustine said, "To believe that which you do not yet see; and the reward of faith is to see that which you believe." Lord, teach us to walk by faith!

Faith and Sight

"So I go on, not knowing—I would not, if I might—I would rather walk in the dark with God/Than go alone in the light/I would rather walk with him by Faith/Than walk alone by sight."

Mary Gardner Brainard

ordinations

Harrods Creek Baptist Church, Sulphur Forks Association, ordained **Jeff Burns** to the ministry Feb. 21.

Barry Harwell, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary student and part time employe of the Kentucky Baptist Convention building, Louisville, was ordained to the ministry by First Baptist Church, Carrollton, Ga. Harwell's mother, Joanne, and twin brother, Blake, brought special music. Blake Harwell, whom FBC Carrollton had ordained previously, is also an SBTS student.

Brantley Harwell, the candidate's father presented him with a Bible while his uncle, Jack U. Harwell, editor of SBC Today, preached the ordination sermon.

missions

Owners of Heritage Book Store, Somerset, 1968-81, **Mr. and Mrs. John Clifton Wilson** have been appointed by the Foreign Mission Board to work in Transkei for 13 months. He will work in pastoral ministry. Their expected arrival was Mar. 19.

Gene and Jackie Phillips, missionaries to France, report a change of address (B. P. 221, 33921 Bordeaux Cedex, France). He is a native of Murray. The

former Jackie Freeman of South Carolina, she was born in Pickens and considers Easley her hometown. They were appointed in 1973.

personnel

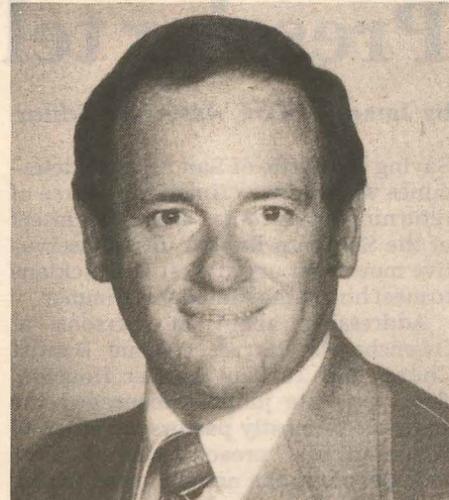
Ridgeview Baptist Mission, Taylorsville, has called their interim pastor, **Gary Pate** as pastor. A interdenominational Bible School, Pate will be ordained Apr. 17.

John Chafin was named minister of evangelism by Unity Baptist Church, Greenup Association. Harold Cathey is pastor.

Calhoun Baptist Church, Daviess-McLean Association, has called **James (Jimmy) B. Jackson** as minister of music and youth. The Jacksons come from the staff of Post Oak Baptist Church, Bethel Association. Franklin C. Skaggs is pastor.

Timothy L. Waits resigned the pastorate of Poplar Grove Baptist Church, Ten Mile Association, to accept the call to pastor of Buck Creek Baptist Church, Daviess-McLean Association.

A graduate of Campbellsville College and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Waits is married to the former Jane Blakey of Louisville. They have three children, Kimberly, Michael and Christopher.



Kenneth M. Murphy

Sunday, Mar. 13 Glasgow Baptist Church, Liberty Association, installed **Kenneth Morgan Murphy** as pastor. President of Georgetown College Morgan Patterson brought the charge to Murphy and the church.

Murphy comes from the pastorate of Heritage Baptist Church, Dothan, Ala. He holds a BA from Samford and a MDiv and DMin, both from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville. He is currently completing requirements for a PhD from Southern. Murphy and his wife, Robbie, have two sons, Patrick Morgan Murphy and Gregory Kevin Murphy, as well as two grandchildren.

Red House Baptist Church, Tates Creek Association, has called **Daniel Parker** as pastor. Parker has been associate pastor of Homestead Heights Baptist Church, Durham, N. C.

Jerry Stone has been called as pastor of Pleasant View Baptist Church, Sulphur Fork Association. Stone and his wife, Kathy, have two children.

congregations

Ridgeview Baptist Mission, Long Run Association, held a dedication service for their new building Mar. 27.

First Baptist Church, East Bernstadt, Laurel River Association, will hold revival services Apr. 17-24. Lynn Dotson is pastor.

Services will be led by evangelist Jack Sherman, originally from Alaska, now living in Fairbanks, Alaska. A vocational evangelist 1970-82, Sherman will be available for revivals this fall after he, his wife Becky and their family relocate.

Aviano Baptist Church, located in Aviano, Italy, 40 miles northeast of Venice, needs a pastor. The 70-member congregation includes primarily people connected with the U. S. Air Force. Aviano Baptist is affiliated with the European Baptist Convention and founded on the principles of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Anyone interested in pastoring in a missions setting may contact Mrs. Donald Bates, Box 1209, APO New York 09293-5360.

Last year **Clifton Baptist Church**, Long Run Association, sponsored an exhibition of the cross and crucifix collection of their pastor, Robert O. Williams. Due to enthusiastic response, Clifton will sponsor the exhibition again this year during Holy Week. All are welcome. For more information contact Williams at (502) 897-1771.



JOANN GOATCHER
Joann is a Physician
Thailand

"We have been greatly encouraged as the response has been much greater than usual for Thailand. Two special meetings have resulted in more than 20 professions of faith in each meeting. A few of our churches have baptized in excess of 30 people this year. Our total church membership is more than 2,000 for the first time. For this we rejoice!

"There are 85 of us serving in Thailand as Southern Baptist missionaries, supported and undergirded by your prayers and your giving through the Cooperative Program. When new Christians received leadership training in a remote village in North Thailand, you made it possible for us to be there. When new churches sprang up in the Kond hills of India, you were instrumental in helping bring it about.



COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

Kentucky missionary identifies with Jonah and whale

by Eric Miller

A Southern Baptist missionary who is headed for Jordan can identify with the biblical story of Jonah and the whale.

Not that he had trouble with a big fish. But Jeff Vann, a native of Mayfield, Ky., did have trouble with a nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine. He says the incident on the submarine one night changed the direction of his life and turned him toward missions.

When Vann was in the U. S. Navy, a Christian friend asked him, "Jeff, have you ever considered being a disciple for Christ?" Vann told him he'd been a Christian since he was 12.

But his friend's question bothered him. Vann had stopped going to church. He went to his room on the submarine and studied his Bible and prayed.

At midnight, he went atop the submarine to serve as a look-out, a require-

ment when a submarine heads out to sea.

They entered rough seas where strong winds whipped up waves to a height of 30 and 35 feet. He and his look-out partner radioed for foul weather gear, and Vann prayed.

"We had taken several waves already that had broken over our heads," he recalls. A submarine does not ride over waves; it goes through them. He began to worry.

It was about 35-degrees Fahrenheit, rainy and dark. Vann was strapped to a cockpit and was wearing a life jacket. "I kept telling myself, 'I am safe. If I die, I will be with the Lord.'"

A wave, about 45 feet high, crashed over Vann and his partner. The impact broke his partner's collar bone and left him unconscious.

"All I remember is getting hit real hard and seeing green, green, green," Vann says.

The wave caused the top of the 425-foot-long submarine to submerge for several minutes. An air bubble apparently rose from the submarine and this kept Vann and his partner from gulping water and drowning, he believes.

"I thank God for saving me and bringing me through it alive," Vann says. "But I began to realize that he was trying to get my attention for something."

So, Vann began attending every church service in the submarine and became active in lay leadership.

His wife, the former Susan Rosemary Coleman of Louisville, noticed a change in 25-year-old Vann when he returned to their home in South Carolina. They had not been to church in "years and

years," she recalls. But "he insisted he was going."

After several Sundays, the Vanns joined Mile Road Baptist Church, Summerville, S. C. He answered God's call to be a preacher, earned a MDiv degree at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex., and there felt a call to the mission field.

He was pastor and church planter for Lakeland Baptist Church, Lewisville, Tex., and pastor of Webster Groves (Mo.) Baptist Church before being appointed as a missionary to Jordan in December 1987.

Vann, the son of Robert and Ladine Vann, is a graduate of the University of Kentucky with a BA in microbiology. The daughter of Everett S. Coleman of Sacramento, Ky., Mrs. Vann has a BS degree in nursing from the University of Kentucky. The Vanns, who will be in a seven-week missionary orientation program in Rockville, Va. until Apr. 23, have three children, Sean, Tara and Tristan.

"Jonah became someone very special to me," Vann says. "Now, Jonah is my oldest son, Sean's favorite character in the Bible."



Jeff Vann, who was appointed a foreign missionary in December 1987 is in missionary orientation. He and his wife, Susan, will live in Jordan.

HMB elects officers, sets budget

Directors of the Home Mission Board reelected officers, elected Charles Chaney as a special assistant to the president and voted to increase the agency's 1988 budget to \$78,517,663 during their March meeting.

Board members unanimously reelected last year's slate of officers to second one-year terms. Clark G. Hutchinson, pastor of Eastside Baptist Church, Marietta, Ga., was named chairman of the Atlanta-based missions agency.

Other reelected officers are William J. Viel Jr., pastor of First Baptist Church, Essex, Md., first vice chairman; Lawson Schroeder, Atlanta dentist, second vice chairman; Barbara Fain of Dunwoody, Ga., secretary; and Paulina Brown of Shelbina, Mo., assistant secretary.

The board increased the 1988 budget by \$1,042,728, nearly half of which was earmarked to supplement pensions for missionaries who retired with inadequate income.

In staff appointments, directors employed Chaney of Bolivar, Mo., to fill a newly created position of special assistant to the president. Chaney, assistant to the chancellor and dean of the Courts Redford School of Theology and Church

Vocations at Southwest Baptist University, will join the board staff May 16. He is a native of Alexander, Tex.

The position is needed to help Lewis direct the agency's primary emphases in evangelism, church planting and church growth, Hutchinson said. Chaney, president of the university from 1983 to 1986, also will assist Lewis in implementing changes in strategy and organizational structure at the board. (BP)

SWBTS employe, Trimble, passes

Robert L. Trimble, 43, of Grand Prairie, Tex., audiovisual librarian at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, since 1973, died Mar. 14 in a Grand Prairie hospital.

Trimble, a native of Jefferson City, Mo., graduated from Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee. He was radio production engineer with the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission and the Baptist General Convention of Texas, 1961-71. Later he was announcer and production engineer for radio stations in Dallas and Arlington, Tex. (BP)

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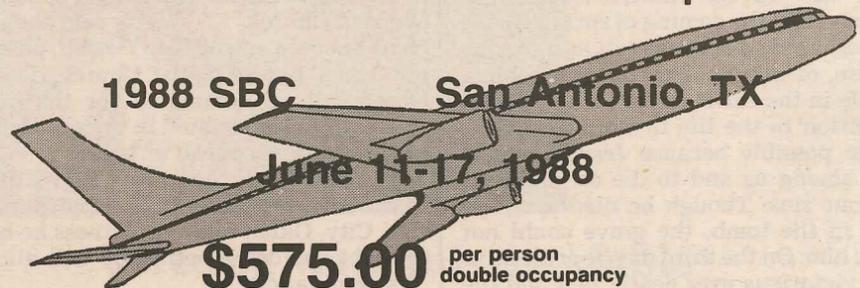
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baptist news in brief

SWBTS trustees respond to peace group, affirm Dilday



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

homes for children

Springtime!

At 4:39 a.m. Sunday, Mar. 20, spring arrived! This is a wonderfully exciting, optimistic time of the year. Although the birds had already begun to sing, they now seem to sing with a renewed zest and sweetness. They sound as if their throats would burst. Early flowers had already begun to show in the warmer spots of the yard, but now they are bursting forth everywhere. The tree buds are swelling and soon will be bursting into full bloom. The grass is taking on that fresh, green cast and the whole earth seems to be coming alive.

Now we are just a few days away from Easter, the Resurrection Sunday. Of course, every Lord's day is an opportunity to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord. But this one Sunday in the year calls the whole world's attention to the resurrection truth. It seems significant that this special Lord's day aligns closely with the coming of spring. To me spring is a kind of resurrection, a coming to life, of nature. This natural coming to life in the earth serves to call special attention to the life in Christ which is made possible because Jesus came to live among us and to die on the cross for our sins. Though he died and was laid in the tomb, the grave could not keep him. On the third day he arose alive and victorious over death, hell and the grave. Now, because he lives, we can live also. This wonderful, eternal life in Christ brings true "spring" to every person who believes in him.

This eternal spring can come to everyone who believes, even when one's life is in the dead of winter. That is what makes the ministry of Baptist Homes for Children so exciting. We are able to take children who are in the cold winter of trouble, and through love and Christian guidance lead them into the warmth and freshness of spring. As we plant the seed of the gospel in the young, troubled lives, they are introduced to a new friend, Jesus. When Jesus is invited to become their savior, we rejoice to see these young people blossom into beautiful, useful lives.

While the natural spring comes only once each year, we see spring coming for youth in our care all year long.

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary trustees adopted a positive response to the Southern Baptist Peace Committee and affirmed Russell Dilday on his 10th anniversary as seminary president during their spring meeting Mar. 14-16.

The board also elected four new faculty members, adopted several changes in the Ft. Worth, Tex., seminary's bylaws and approved a \$19.7 million budget.

Trustee Wayne Allen of Carrollton, Tex., presented the motion affirming Dilday in the last minutes of the board meeting. Allen called for "a vote of confidence and appreciation for 10 years of leadership."

The board unanimously adopted Allen's motion on a voice vote, with applause from some trustees. The night before at a banquet for trustees, administrators and faculty, Dilday received an extended standing ovation after a program about his 10th anniversary.

The suggestions of the Peace Committee are being implemented at Southwestern in the spirit of the six SBC seminary presidents' "Glorieta Statement" that the books of the Bible are "not errant in any areas of reality" and have "infallible power and binding authority," the statement says.

In other business, trustees adopted a \$19.7 million budget for fiscal year 1988-89. The new budget is an increase of 4.8 percent from the current year and

Gregory to nominate Smith to lead pastors

Ralph Smith, pastor of Hyde Park Baptist Church in Austin, Tex., for the past 27 years, has become the second Texas pastor to agree to be nominated for president of the SBC Pastor's Conference this June in San Antonio, Tex.

Smith told the Florida Baptist Witness, newsjournal of the Florida Baptist Convention, he agreed last November to a request that fellow Texan Joel Gregory be allowed to nominate him.

Gregory, pastor of Travis Anenue Baptist Church, Ft. Worth, said the recent announcement Paul Powell, pastor of Green Acres Baptist Church, Tyler, Tex., will be nominated for the post made it "appropriate" to announce his own intentions ahead of time.

A third likely nominee, Tom Elliff, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, Del City, Okla., told the Witness he has not yet decided whether he will allow his nomination.

According to Stan Coffey, pastor of San Jacinto Baptist Church, Amarillo, Tex., and this year's Pastor's Conference president, Elliff was the choice of conservative leaders who met privately in Atlanta in midFebruary. The group also tapped Jacksonville pastor Jerry Vines as their preference for SBC president.

Gregory said his invitation to nominate Ralph Smith "is totally my undertaking. I talked to absolutely no one before deciding to nominate Ralph. I certainly do not represent any group, faction or cause and will not be involved in any campaign, as Ralph will not."

Smith told the Witness he has been pleased with the direction of the Pastor's Conference in recent years and would not suggest changing it to appeal to moderate pastors, many of whom have met separately in the SBC Forum since 1984. (BP)

provides a 2 percent salary increase for faculty and staff.

Four faculty members were elected without opposition. They are Grant Irven Lovejoy, instructor in preaching; Henry Newton Smith, instructor in missions; Paul Wateson Stevens, director of field education and associate professor; and Rhonda Jayne Edge, assistant professor in church music education. (BP)

"In God's Image": BSU leaders meet Apr. 8-10

Key Baptist Student Union leaders from across Kentucky will converge at Hurstbourne Baptist Church, Louisville, Apr. 8-10 for a leadership training conference sponsored by the KBC Student Department.

The conference, whose theme is "In God's Image," will include seminars, Bible study, testimonies and a commissioning service for summer missionaries.

Special music will be presented by True Vine, University of Kentucky, and Jubilate, Western Kentucky University.

Featured speaker is John Lee Welton, professor of theatre and speech, Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, Tenn.

Panama violence grows; Honduras quiet

U. S. authorities have warned American citizens in Panama, including missionaries, to carefully limit their movements as the country plunges into chaos.

The advice came as an attempted coup Mar. 16 against military leader Manuel Antonio Noriega failed and the largest and bloodiest demonstrations yet against his rule filled the streets.

Southern Baptist missionaries and their families are staying close to home, and they have little communication with each other for the moment.

"We've tried to lay low," said missionary Kathy Eudy, who lives in Balboa on the edge of Panama City. "Yesterday (Mar. 16) was really, really bad." Early in the day Mrs. Eudy and her husband, Garry, both of Birmingham, Ala., took visiting friends to the airport, anxious to get them out of the country before conditions got worse. "When we got back from the airport, we got barricaded out of Balboa, and we had to jump some railroad tracks to come home. From certain points in Balboa you could see down into the city. There were a lot of fires and demonstrations, a lot of people involved in those."

The 22 Southern Baptist missionaries in the country reportedly have enough food for now, and more food is available

Writers Workshop set at Sunday School Board

Opportunities for training and evaluation of writing samples will be highlights of the annual Writers Workshop July 11-15 at the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville.

Robert J. Hastings, editor emeritus of the Illinois Baptist, will be featured speaker for the eighth year.

Topics for consideration during the five-day meeting will include writing articles, books, devotions and curriculum materials.

Cost to attend is \$60 per person, which includes registration, materials and a banquet. (BP)

KBC committee affirms sending \$70,000 to Kenya

The story of the Kentucky Kenya partnership is filled with tales of success, victory and deepened spirituality for all people who volunteered to serve in the African nation, and for Kenyans as well.

Perhaps the final chapter in that story was enacted Mar. 24 when the Kentucky Baptist Convention Business and Finance Committee affirmed the action to send approximately \$70,000 to Kenya for "new church work."

These funds are the accumulation of "unspent" portions of the total each Kentucky volunteer paid for his or her ticket to Kenya. Neither KBC budget funds nor special gift funds are involved in this sum.

The total number of Kentuckians who spent some time on mission in Kenya came to 771, including some persons who went more than once.

Those persons who made volunteer mission ventures to Kenya specifically requested that any funds remaining after the partnership closed be spent to aid Kenyan Baptists in new church work. Thus the action last week sent this money on the way to the Kenyan mission field.

in Panama City. The problem is getting money to buy it. The dollar shortage continues to worsen because of U. S. economic actions to pressure Panama, and grocery stores are accepting only cash.

Despite their own potential problems, missionaries and Baptists want to help others without food. They are trying to scrape together \$22,000 to help people who have received no paychecks or who cannot get money from banks. The money would be used to buy and distribute food through churches to needy families. Participating families would receive vouchers for one \$20 food packet each week until the emergency ends.

"They're doing some food distribution already through the Panama City Baptist Association. But it's rather limited because of the funds they have on hand," said Joe Bruce, Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board director for Middle America and the Caribbean. (BP)

Zimmerman joins Baptist Messenger

Sarah Zimmerman, 26, a 1983 graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University, has been named assistant editor of the Baptist Messenger, newsjournal of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma.

At the Messenger, she will write feature stories, edit and write articles, handle advertising and assist in layout and news coverage. She fills a slot left vacant when associate editor Norman Jameson accepted a position with the North Carolina Baptist Children's Homes.

Since May of 1985, she has been medical reporter for the Tyler (Tex.) Morning Telegraph and Courier Times. Previously, she was lifestyle editor and general assignment reporter for the Edmond (Okla.) Evening Sun.

At OBU, Zimmerman was a magna cum laude graduate. She edited the student newspaper, The OBU Bison and was a feature writer for the Shawnee (Okla.) News-Star. (BP)

Alliance elects executive director

Alan Neely, professor of missiology at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C., has been elected to a five-month term as executive director of the Southern Baptist Alliance.

Neely, a member of the Alliance board, will be part time and nonsalaried until Aug. 1, when a permanent executive director is expected to be named. Neely was elected by the Alliance board on the eve of the group's second annual convocation in Macon, Ga. He is a former foreign missionary and pastor of churches in Texas, Virginia and Colorado and has taught at Southeastern seminary since 1976. He has chaired the Alliance literature committee for the past year.

The position was formerly held by founding president and executive director Henry Crouch, pastor of Providence Baptist Church, Charlotte, N. C., who completed his first term of service. Future presidents will not have to shoulder both responsibilities, Crouch explained, which was necessary during the alliance's first year of operation.

Neely's election reflected directors' belief that the Alliance's growth would soon require a full time administrator. His appointment as interim executive director will aid the transition from a volunteer status to a permanent role in

Religious magazines' sales tax exemption before high court

The U. S. Supreme Court has agreed to decide if state laws that provide a sales tax exemption to religious periodicals violate the Constitution's ban on an official establishment of religion.

At issue in the case—to be argued and decided during the high court's next term—is a Texas law on the books between 1984 and 1987 that restricted what had been a general exemption from the state sales tax for all magazines to religious periodicals alone.

Claiming the law violated the establishment clause of the First Amendment, Texas Monthly magazine took the state to court. Although a trial court agreed with the 280,000-circulation magazine and struck down the law, a state court of appeals later reversed the lower panel, leading to the Supreme Court appeal.

Even though the Texas legislature reinstated the broader exemption last year, Texas Monthly is seeking to recover nearly \$150,000 in refunds for the three years it had to pay the sales tax.

The high court's decision in the case could affect laws still on the books in 11 other states that provide exemptions for religious publications but deny them to all others.

Ridgecrest painter falls to death

Chaney Brown, 53, a painter at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center since 1981, died Mar. 21 in Memorial Mission Hospital, Asheville, N. C., following a scaffolding accident.

Brown and Howard Haney, 51, a regular part time employe, fell when scaffolding apparently tipped over in the gymnasium at Camp Crestridge for Girls, adjacent to the conference center.

Haney remains hospitalized in serious condition with multiple broken bones. (BP)

the fellowship, directors said.

Crouch reported the fellowship, launched in February 1987 with 22 members, has grown to 25,000 members in 38 states. Of that total, 2106 are individual members while 40 churches in 11 states also have joined, enrolling their entire congregations to financially support the goals and objectives of the Alliance. (BP)

Suriname missionary dies in Florida

William W. Lawson, 50, a new missionary to Suriname, died Mar. 23 of double pneumonia at a hospital in Coral Gables, Fla.

Lawson was flown to Florida from Suriname Mar. 18 in a medical airplane which contained a miniature emergency room with medical personnel, according to Bill Damon, Foreign Mission Board associate area director for Brazil and the Caribbean.

He had been hospitalized in Suriname for several weeks with breathing difficulties, said William Gaventa, director of the FMB's Missionary Health Department.

Lawson arrived in Suriname Oct. 9, 1987 and had just completed language study when he became ill, Damon said. He would have been involved in starting and developing churches in the South American nation.

Born in Chattanooga, Tenn., he considered Ball Ground, Ga., his hometown. He received an AA degree from Reinhardt College and a BS in education from Georgia Southern College. He took courses by extension from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

1st Amendment focus of NBC network special

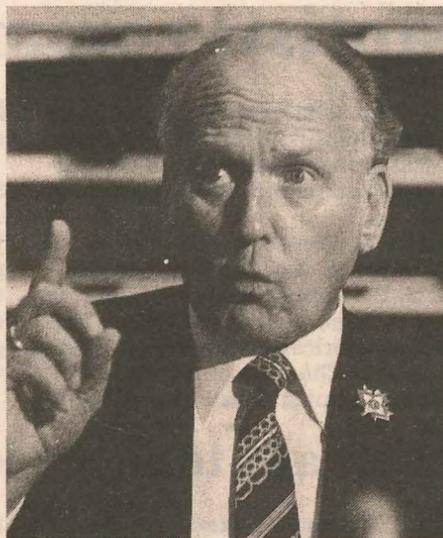
The role of Baptists in establishing the unique religious freedoms offered American citizens will be the focus of a one hour special on the NBC television network.

The program, "The First Freedom," was produced by the Southern Baptist Convention Radio and Television Commission and is scheduled on most NBC stations at 1 p.m. EDT, Sunday, Apr. 17.

Narrated by television journalist Jack Reynolds, the special features news footage and interviews with noted historians, religious leaders, politicians and legal experts to examine American's unparalleled system of religious freedom.

Freedom of religion, as guaranteed by the first phrase of the First Amendment to the Constitution, was established at the insistence of Baptists and other religious minorities who faced discrimination at the hands of state churches in the original colonies. Because of it, America has been spared the bitter internal conflicts suffered by citizens in other parts of the world.

Current challenges to the doctrine of religious liberty are examined in the program. New York Gov. Mario Cuomo is heard in his now-famous speech at Notre Dame exploring the potential for divided loyalty between citizenship and religious belief. James T. Draper Jr., former president of the Southern Baptist Convention, comments on how a lack of accountability by some TV evangelists has tested the limits of their freedom. U. S. Sen. John Danforth, (R) Mo., expresses the concern of many about the breakdown of social values. (BP)



Gerhard Claas

BWA leader, Claas, dies in auto crash

Gerhard Claas, general secretary of the Baptist World Alliance, was killed Mar. 21 in a car-truck crash near Lodi, Calif., about 50 miles east of San Francisco.

Seriously injured in the accident were Mervyn Betts, a retired American Baptist minister and his wife, Nora.

Claas, 59, was in California on a series of fund-raising meetings among BWA supporters in both American and Southern Baptist churches. He had spoken at Golden Gate Seminary during the week.

Claas, a citizen of the Federal Republic of Germany, was general secretary of the Union of Evangelical Free-Churches in the FRG and the European

Former editor's wife, Berta Cooper, dies

Berta Mae Cooper, wife of Edgar R. Cooper, editor emeritus of the Florida Baptist Witness, died Mar. 23 in a Jacksonville hospital following cardiac arrest.

A native of Pitts, Ga., she grew up in Florida and graduated from Stetson University in DeLand. She was a member of Southside Baptist Church, Jacksonville.

Survivors include her husband; a son, E. Raydell Cooper of Oakland, Calif.; two daughters, Susan Blasingame of Nashville and Deborah Cooper of Orlando, Fla.; four grandchildren; a sister and a brother. (BP)

Baptist Federation, one of the six BWA regional fellowships, before moving to the United States in 1980 to become head of the 35 million member BWA.

Funeral services are scheduled in Vollmarstein, FRG, in the Baptist church where both Gerhard and his wife Irmgard grew up and were baptized.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m., Apr. 19 at the McLean (Va.) Baptist Church, where Claas and his wife were members.

Denton Lotz, deputy general secretary, will assume direction of the BWA until further notice.



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baptist news in brief

Baptists commemorate 350-year heritage

Marking the 350th anniversary of Baptist beginnings in North America, Baptists will gather June 5-7 for a celebration and conference at the site of those beginnings.

"Faith & Freedom: Baptist Beginnings in North America" is being sponsored by the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, Southern Baptist Convention Historical Commission, American Baptist Churches of Rhode Island, American Baptist Historical Society

and North American Baptist Fellowship.

The three-day event will begin with a Sunday afternoon celebration at the historic First Baptist Church, Providence, R. I., followed by a banquet on the campus of nearby Brown University. Peter Gomes, Plummer professor of Christian morals at Harvard University, will preach during the 4 p.m. celebration service.

The conference portion of the an-

niversary gathering will begin Monday morning and continue through Tuesday night. Although most of the conference sessions will be held at Providence's First Baptist Church, Monday's afternoon session will move to Newport, R. I. Providence and Newport both claim the first Baptist church in the American colonies.

Conference leaders are to include Frederick J. Anderson, executive director of the Virginia Baptist Historical Society who will present a dramatic monologue as Roger Williams; Ken Medema, a musician who will interpret conference presentations; Barrie White, principal of Oxford University's Regent's Park College who will discuss the antecedents to the Rhode Island experience; Edwin S. Gaustad, professor of history at the University of California-Riverside who will make presentations on Roger Williams and John Clarke; and Virgil A. Olson, professor emeritus of Bethel College and Seminary who will discuss ethnic Baptist beginnings.

For further information and registration materials, write: Faith & Freedom, Brown University, Conference Services, Box 1864, Providence, R. I. 02912.



James H. Cox
Associate Editor

fourth estate

Seven year itch

I don't know what we were expecting when Western Recorder began the first stringer program among state Baptist journals seven years ago this week.

It was clear that a shortage of staff and diminishing travel resources prevented us from discovering some worthy stories. Yet, all of us felt a desire to improve our touch with the constituency.

For decades the major wire services (AP and UPI) have operated with stringers. Correspondents around the globe provide news to thousands of outlets. Secular newspapers operate much the same. They are dependent upon writers and photographers living in given areas to report for them. Baptist Press (BP), the distinguished national news service of Southern Baptists, has a similar system. Headquartered in Nashville with bureaus in six cities, it considers all who hold professional SBC communications roles as stringers. Thus, we surmised, why couldn't a Baptist state paper implement its own regional network, too?

We scoured the state in search of Baptist writers willing to indulge this little fantasy. Basic requirements included living in the territory they represented, being active in a Southern Baptist church cooperating with the state convention, possessing writing skills and having a working familiarity with basic Baptist tenets, terminology, organizational structure and personnel. You might be surprised how few people who are qualified in all categories volunteer!

Each of our 10 regional correspondents is required to produce at least three stories annually. Writers are reimbursed for expenses and are given a small stipend for their services. Personal achievement and a byline may be their greatest rewards.

I'd like to have some writing samples, resumes and photos of any Kentucky Baptist who would want to be considered for future vacancies. If you are interested and believe you qualify, would you write to me?

Has the stringer program paid off? Seven years later, we don't question that scores of worthy and well written stories contributed by stringers have turned up on the pages of this publication. Many of them might not have been there otherwise. God has surely been honored by what these scribes have produced. Readers have been genuinely enthusiastic in their response to the good work of the correspondents. And Western Recorder has shared information about Baptist people, churches, associations and programs it never would have had the stringers not been there.

If you'll forgive the pun, I think this is one seven year itch we're not anxious to scratch.

Shoemake to succeed Beaver at FMB

Robert E. Shoemake will succeed Homer Beaver July 1 as executive assistant to the president of the Foreign Mission Board.

Shoemake, 44, will assist Foreign Mission Board president R. Keith Parks in directing Richmond staff operations, organization, personnel and meeting arrangements.

The Commerce, Tex. native joined the mission board staff in 1973 as office manager for the Missionary Personnel Department. He later worked as assistant to the vice president for communications and since 1986 has been assis-

tant to executive vice president Bill O'Brien in administration of communications and public relations.

Beaver, 63, will formerly retire July 31 after 10 years of service to the board, most of which were spent in top posts closely related to the president.

Retiring June 30 is Samuel Hatfield, 63, assistant vice president in the executive assistant's office. Hatfield, of Sumter, S. C., has been with the board 14 years both in his current role and as assistant to the vice president for management services and Overseas Division office manager. (BP)

HOW DO CHURCHES GROW?

If the Home Mission Board is to reach its Bold Mission Thrust goal of 50,000 congregations by the year 2000, Southern Baptists must do more than "swap members." They must reach out with the gospel to nonbelievers.

Starting new churches—where the people are—can help Southern Baptists win our nation.

As a Southern Baptist committed to Bold Mission Thrust, will you:

- help provide a church for a deaf couple in Baton Rouge?

- make sure an international student in Denver has a place to worship?
- guarantee a choice of worship places for an inquiring man in Utah?
- help assure a church where a Minnesota youth who accepts Christ can be nurtured?
- help provide a variety of Southern Baptist churches so that everyone can worship as led?

A Church for Everyone

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
National Goal: \$37.5 million



BSSB leader's dream fulfilled; mini-library project completed

A project developed in 1983 to meet a need for Bible study materials among Baptist pastors and laypersons in many nations has been completed.

More than 6300 mini-libraries of Broadman Press and Holman books had been shipped to Baptist leaders in more than 73 countries by the end of 1987, Lloyd Elder, president of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, told the board's trustees.

The worldwide distribution of books for study and sermon preparation was begun as a tribute to Elder's predecessor, Grady C. Cothen, at his retirement in 1984. The former board president had been concerned about a lack of tools for ministry and preaching among Baptists in many nations.

Cothen noted the needs while participating in Baptist World Alliance meetings in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America. He had been chairman of the BWA's education committee.

Friends of Cothen and trustees of the Baptist Sunday School Board provided funds to supply the books, while the Baptist World Alliance provided postage costs and secured the names of Baptist leaders to receive the books. At the end of the project, \$162,000 had been provided in books with another \$47,000 spent in shipping costs.

Five categories of mini-libraries were provided during the course of the project. Theological mini-libraries consisted of 14 volumes; basic libraries, 10 volumes; Spanish, 10 volumes; Eastern

Europe/China, nine volumes; and the Holman Master Study Bible, a one-volume library. The total number of books provided exceeded 66,000.

Most of the mini-libraries were basic and theological, said Elder, with 83 percent of the shipments in that category. Spanish, Eastern Europe/China and the one-volume mini-libraries made up the remaining 17 percent.

The joint project provided recipients "access to materials of their own for the first time," Elder said. "In some countries, books like these are not available at any cost."

Letters of appreciation from recipients indicate little or no available study materials prior to the gifts of books.

Pastor Thank God Obudu of Nigeria wrote: "Apart from the teachings in the college, I had not even a single theological textbook to make research. I can now read wider to broaden my knowledge in ministry. I have been testifying about this miracle to many people."

Manuelito Rey, a pastor in the Philippines, wrote: "In a place where Christian magazines and books are not available, these books are very helpful. Especially in our country the price of books is very dear."

Elder said the board's joint participation with the Baptist World Alliance in the project supported "one of the great missions of the board—its partnership with Baptists throughout the world in sharing the saving news of Christ's love." (BP)



John Tala, pastor of Katuluni Baptist Church, Malindi, Kenya, sent this photograph to the Baptist World Alliance acknowledging the gift of a mini-library. An accompanying note said the books "will help me and others in understanding more deeply the word of God and recognizing the wonders of his love more strongly and clearly."

Southern Baptist Pastor's Conference Henry Gonzales Convention Center San Antonio, Texas June 12-13, 1988 Theme: "Building The Greatest Churches Since Pentecost"

Sunday Evening, June 12, 1988

Stan Coffey, president—Presiding; pastor, San Jacinto Baptist Church, Amarillo, Tex.

- 6:00 Pre-Conference Music
- 6:10 Congregational Singing
- 6:15 Special Music
- 6:25 Welcome and Prayer, Carlos McLeod, evangelism director, Baptist General Convention of Texas, Dallas
- 6:30 Special Music, Wanda Jackson, music evangelist, Oklahoma City
- 6:45 Message, Freddie Gage, evangelist, Go Tell Ministries, Hurst, Tex.
- 7:25 Greetings, SBC president Adrian Rogers, pastor, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn.
- 7:30 Special Music, Trent Sisemore, San Jacinto Baptist Church, Amarillo, Tex.
- 7:35 Message, Charles Stanley, pastor, First Baptist Church, Atlanta
- 8:20 Congregational Singing
- 8:25 Offertory Prayer, Charlie Martin, pastor, First Baptist Church, Indian Rocks, Largo, Fla.
- 8:30 Special Music, John McKay, music evangelist, Bailey Smith Ministries, Hurst, Tex.
- 8:35 Message, Bailey Smith, evangelist, Atlanta
- Benediction, Nick Garland, pastor, First Baptist Church, Broken Arrow, Okla.

Monday Morning, June 13

- Gerald Davidson, vice president—Presiding; pastor, First Baptist Church, Arnold, Mo.
- 8:30 Pre-Conference Music
- 8:45 Scripture and Prayer, Wallace Edgar, pastor, Trinity Road Baptist Church, Texarkana, Ark.
- 8:50 Congregational Singing
- 8:55 Special Music
- 9:05 Message, Ron Herrod, pastor, First Baptist Church, Ft. Smith, Ark.
- 9:30 Congregational Singing
- 9:35 Special Music
- 9:45 Message, Ronnie Floyd, pastor, First Baptist Church, Springdale, Ark.
- 10:15 Congregational Singing
- 10:20 Offertory Prayer, Jim Prock, pastor, First Southern Baptist Church, Chandler, Ariz.
- Offering
- 10:30 Special Music
- 10:35 Message, Paige Patterson, president, Criswell Center for Biblical Studies, Dallas
- 11:05 Congregational Singing
- 11:10 Special Music, Mike Speck, music evangelist, Owasso, Okla.
- 11:15 Message, Morris Chapman, pastor, First Baptist Church, Wichita Falls, Tex.
- 11:45 Benediction, Rod Masteller, pastor, Putnam City Baptist Church, Oklahoma City

Monday Afternoon, June 13

Stan Coffey, Presiding

- 1:20 Pre-Conference Music
- 1:30 Congregational Singing
- 1:35 Scripture and Prayer, Gerald Harris, pastor, Colonial Heights Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss.
- 1:40 Special Music, Jack Price, music evangelist, Dallas
- 1:45 Message, Richard Lee, pastor, Rehoboth Baptist Church, Tucker, Ga.
- 2:10 Congregational Music
- 2:15 Special Music, Alan Celoria and Celoria Family Singers, music evangelists, Smithdale, Miss.
- 2:20 Message, Tom Elliff, pastor, First Southern Baptist Church, Del City, Okla.
- 2:50 Offertory Prayer, Claude Thomas, Council Road Baptist Church, Bethany, Okla.
- Offering
- 3:00 Election of Officers
- 3:15 Congregational Singing
- 3:20 Special Music, Jim Bob Griffin Family, music evangelists, Rusk, Tex.
- 3:25 Message, Bobby Boyles, pastor, First Baptist Church, Moore, Okla.
- 3:55 Congregational Singing
- 4:00 Special Music, Jack Price
- 4:05 Message, Jay Strack, evangelist, Dallas
- 4:35 Benediction, Dennis Sewell, pastor, Highland Baptist Church, Laurel, Miss.

Monday Evening, June 13

- Stan Coffey, Presiding
- 6:15 Pre-Conference Music
- 6:30 Congregational Singing
- 6:35 Scripture and Prayer
- 6:40 Special Music
- 6:50 Message, Ed Young, pastor, Second Baptist Church, Houston
- 7:20 Congregational Singing
- 7:25 Offertory Prayer, Sid Peterson, pastor, Stine Road Baptist Church, Bakersfield, Calif.
- Offering
- 7:35 Special Music
- 7:40 Message, W.A. Criswell, pastor, First Baptist Church, Dallas
- 8:25 Congregational Singing
- 8:30 Special Music
- 8:35 Message, Jerry Vines, copastor, First Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Fla.
- Introduction of new Pastor's Conference officers
- Benediction—Newly elected Pastor's Conference president

Officers

Stan Coffey, president, pastor, San Jacinto Baptist Church, Amarillo, Tex.; Gerald Davidson, vice president, pastor, First Baptist Church, Arnold, Mo.; Don Deel, secretary-treasurer, pastor, Eastlake Baptist Church, Merrillville, Ind.; Jack Price, music leader, music evangelist, Dallas. (BP)



Barkley Moore
President
Oneida Baptist Institute
Oneida, KY 40972

oneida journal

A chance and a hope

Some weeks ago our choir sang in one of the larger churches of Kentucky. There was a full house. Some days later we had a letter from that county's jailer who had attended the service.

He wrote: "Such a warm blessing I received as I sat and listened to the 45 wonderful young people from OBI along with their pianist and accomplished able conductor and accomplished pianist. My profession is one in which I come across many misguided youths. I see many who have no goal, no purpose and no savior in their life.

"This is why my heart was so warmed last evening. As long as there is an Oneida, no child anywhere can say 'I never had a chance.' As long as there is an Oneida, there is a chance, a hope, a goal, a purpose, a place in life for any young man or woman who will heed the direction of the Lord."

We have been struggling with a young man for the past three years. It has been a trial. The parents really care. The boy does want to be here. There is much undeveloped potential. Pray for us and him. In the meantime we appreciate this from the parents: "I do know the staff of Oneida are wonderful people and do a good job for the kids who want to make something of themselves."

From Glenview, Ill.: "I visited Oneida last summer and was very impressed. Enclosed is my offering to help with your work."

A longtime supporter sends a gift from Laurens, S. C.: "I marvel at the excellent

experience the pupils get in learning to make it in today's world."

With a gift comes this encouraging letter from Hopkinsville: "I enjoyed being at Oneida last spring and seeing, firsthand, the marvelous work being accomplished with the children and the love you are giving them. I sensed their response and respect in the good behavior we witnessed. We attended the inspiring chapel service, visited the classrooms, and met various groups. May the Lord stir the hearts of many to furnish financial and moral support."

From Ashburn, Va. a longtime supporter writes: "It is so good to know that Oneida continues to work with young people. The world is an extremely difficult place for young people in these times."

From a graduate who was here for six years and is now in the Navy: "I pray daily for the school. Not a day goes by that I don't think of all the people of Oneida. Thanks for everything, especially all the love shown me."

From the mother of another graduate: "We send you love and thanks and gratitude for the work you're doing. Oneida will always have a special place in our hearts. Our son developed ties there that are still very strong and we realize the role Oneida played in his life."

A gift comes from England: "Even though I only worked at Oneida for a short summer, my thoughts and prayers are with you. Sometimes I think the Lord may lead my wife and I back to the powerful ministry of Oneida."

Soon a student will graduate that we have worked with some years. At times it seemed we would have to give up. But in recent months, he has experienced tremendous growth emotionally. His mother writes: "I want to thank you for all you have done for Billy. He couldn't make it in public school because he didn't try very hard and partly because no one took the time to help him. I thank God everyday for OBI and your giving him a chance when everyone else had given up on him."

A 1964 graduate visited with her family recently from Florida. I gave her a tour of the campus and interviewed her 26 years ago when she first came here. She now has a fine husband and several beautiful children. She writes: "We all enjoyed our visit. It was great actually seeing the growth of the school. We were especially impressed with the extracurricular activities for the students. I really admire the commitment and devotion still evident there."



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

sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR APR. 3, 1988

Life and work series

Resurrection—good news

Rom. 1:1-7 In verse one Paul informed us he rejoiced in being a bond-servant of Jesus Christ, who was ready to go where he sent him, do what he commanded and proclaim what he had done.

Nothing kept Paul as the fact that he had been saved by Christ and then made a chosen instrument to preach the death, burial and resurrection of Christ.

Rom. 1:15-17 Paul acknowledged he was obligated to share the gospel of Christ with all to whom he could witness. He longed to give himself to the great undertaking of preaching the gospel of Christ in the wicked metropolis of Rome. He knew Christ could meet the needs of all who lived in Rome or anywhere else. Inasmuch as Christ was ready, able and willing to save the lost, Paul was anxious to tell them the good news about the savior. When a God-called person preaches the gospel of Christ in love, the Holy Spirit uses the message to convict the unsaved of their sins and to persuade some of them to repent and believe.

Rom. 10:8-10 By their noble thoughts, unselfish actions, generous contributions and good deeds multitudes hope to earn the forgiveness of their sins and to be admitted into heaven. All such attempts are futile. Salvation is never an achievement of man, but always a gift

from God.

Concerning the way of salvation Paul wrote: "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." This salvation includes deliverance from the penalty of sin, the power of sin and the presence of sin.

Note that there is a heart duty, "Believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead," and a mouth duty, "Confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus." The belief is within the heart, where the Lord sees it; the confession is with the mouth, where men may hear it. If one truly has faith in Christ, he cannot help but confess it with his words and his life.

International series

Jesus' resurrection

Matt. 27:62-66 Following the crucifixion of Jesus Christ, Joseph of Arimathea obtained permission from Pilate to remove Christ's body from the cross. He and Nicodemus prepared his body for burial and placed it in Joseph's tomb.

On the next day the chief priests and Pharisees, recalling Christ's predictions of Jesus from the dead, approached Pilate and urged him to take the necessary precaution to prevent Christ's disciples from stealing his body out of the tomb and claiming that he had risen.

Matt. 28:1-10 Neither the stone, seal nor guards could keep Christ a prisoner to death.

At dawn that Sunday morning Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and John, and Salome approached the tomb to anoint Christ's body with perfumes. They beheld an angel seated upon the stone which had been rolled away from the tomb's entrance. But Christ was not in the tomb.

The angel said: "Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; for he is risen, as he said." The angel urged the women to inspect the place where the body of their Lord had been kept prior to his resurrection.

Having heard the glorious news, and having observed the empty tomb, the women were commanded to "go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead." As they hastened to spread the good news, Christ greeted the women, "All hail!" The presence of Christ dispelled their doubts and brought them unspeakable joy.



William W. (Bill) Marshall
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on mission together

God, the river and me

Born in 1932, I remember the '37 flood that devastated so much of Kentucky. I was too young to remember much other than the immediate circumstances at that time.

Though no more than 100 yards from the Kentucky River, our home was situated above the level. I remember wading with my little red boots in the several inches of water in our basement; standing alongside the water level with dad and a number of the men in the neighborhood and listening to their conversation about the weather and people they knew who had been flooded out.

Close friends stayed with us, their home captured by the muddy water. Dad had carried coal from the basement to the backyard to keep it dry. All our meals were cooked over the one fire-

bend where all the teens gathered on the hot summer weekends. That's all memory now of an older generation who will not forget those simple pleasures.

I remember especially the day when we looked down and saw for the first time that the water was going down. I was unable to keep up with daddy's long strides but I managed to reach the house in time to hear him yell to everyone inside—"She's going down!"

Later I heard stories about how people all over town had helped each other; had shared their homes, their food and their clothes.

My granddaddy's grocery was completely covered and they lost a great deal, like hundreds of other families.

But they built back...Frankfort, as did scores of other cities and towns, built back.

The Kentucky River has been through the years to those of us who have lived along her banks, a great teacher.

She has taught us of her kindness in summer and fall, yielding the pleasures of fishing and boating; of picnics and swimming at "Big Eddy," the sandy

she has taught us of her kindness in summer and fall, yielding the pleasures of fishing and boating; of picnics and swimming at "Big Eddy," the sandy

Most of all, perhaps, the rivers of Kentucky have taught and continue to teach us that there is a power beyond us and our control; the river of life, however hard we try to avoid her, will sooner or later come out of her banks and carry us away.

When that time comes, it is of ultimate importance that we have made peace with the river and have confidence where she will take us.

"I believe in the Cooperative Program because...."

by Lloyd Elder, *President of Baptist Sunday School Board*

"I believe in the Cooperative Program because..." This article is not intended to be a denominational statement but a personal testimony. The Cooperative Program is a serious, happy business for me as a Southern Baptist, and so I gladly share my own thoughts.

First, as a reminder to us all, let me share the latest definition of the Cooperative Program (p. 30 of the 1979 Southern Baptist Convention Annual):

"The Cooperative Program is a financial channel of cooperation between the state conventions and the Southern Baptist Convention which makes it possible for all persons making undesignated gifts through their church to support the missionary, education and benevolent work in their own state conventions and also the work of the Southern Baptist Convention."

That is an excellent definition, but my commitment to the Cooperative Program goes well beyond a formal definition into the very fabric of my heritage, theology and experience.

I began to believe in the Cooperative Program very early because my family and my church believed in it and spoke well of it. In my youth the Cooperative Program was held in high regard by those whom I held in high regard, and so this gave me an early understanding of its importance.

I believe in the Cooperative Program because, in the summer of 1951, the pioneer church where I became a Christian—First Baptist Church, Fairbanks, Alaska—was founded and partially sustained through funds from our Home

Mission Board. That same church sent me out in the summer of 1953 to pastor its new mission, another product of cooperative home mission efforts.

I believe in the Cooperative Program because it was the main support of the two Baptist colleges Sue and I attended, first as dating coeds and then as a very young husband and wife. Those Baptist schools helped us develop in our Christian lives, focus on the message of Holy scriptures, and begin our preparation for the gospel ministry.

I believe in the Cooperative Program because through a Southern Baptist

seminary it provided me with an outstanding theological education, at almost no cost. That education is the bedrock of my service to Christ and to Southern Baptists.

I believe in the Cooperative Program because of a Baptist hospital owned by Baptists and partially supported by the Cooperative Program, where my son was born. On other occasions I, and others I have personally known, have received the benefit of Baptist agencies and institutions supported by the Cooperative Program.

I believe in the Cooperative Program because I saw what it could accomplish in the missionary, educational and benevolent work of a great state convention. I saw godly men and women working as "denominational servants" with a devotion to Christ, a sense of calling and an effectiveness that did justice to the expenditure of mission funds.

I believe in the Cooperative Program because for five years I saw it support the work of a great theological faculty, training men and women for the minis-

try of Christ throughout the world. Trained leadership, rooted in the Bible, and called to the service of our Lord, is a far reaching contribution for mission funds to make.

I believe in the Cooperative Program because, for 22 years I pastored churches deeply affected by this missionary support system. Sometimes the gifts were small, other times larger and growing, but always a channel for those churches to participate in a world-wide missionary enterprise.

I believe in the Cooperative Program because I believe in the lordship of Jesus Christ. He is Lord of all—Lord of the world in which we live, Lord of the message of love we preach, Lord of the resources he places within our hands, and Lord of the congregation that makes the mission support decision regarding the Cooperative Program. It's possible that "Planned Growth in Giving" is just what we need to move us forward surrendering to the lordship of Christ.

I believe in the Cooperative Program because I believe in the "convention approach to missions." I realize that there are worthy single mission causes I could support; but my primary commitment is to the cooperative support of taking the whole gospel to the whole world by the whole people of God called Southern Baptists.

It generates trust, demands trust and enjoys the trust of millions of Southern Baptists. We are at our best when we are trusting. The Cooperative Program is **voluntary**. An individual or individual church voluntarily participates in this mission-funding channel. I could do otherwise; and the knowledge of that freedom motivates me to do more, not

less, to support such a system. I believe in the Cooperative Program because it is trustworthy; not perfect, but trustworthy.

I may not feel an equal commitment to every work supported by the Cooperative Program; but, through the budget offering I give in the local church, I stand behind the wisdom of the larger family of God, rather than relying only on my own perception or information.

I believe in the Cooperative Program because it generates a tremendous amount of missionary teaching and training. "We've a story to tell to the nations," that's true; but also, a beautiful life changing story is told back to us about missions around the world.

I believe in the Cooperative Program because it is based on sound biblical theology, valid management principles, effective missionary strategies and our own rich Baptist heritage. The Cooperative Program is not fanciful magic, but it does have an amazing track record of phenomenal success. It works for Southern Baptists.

I believe in the Cooperative Program because it provides a living link between me, my children and my grandchildren. I can provide the next generation of missionaries, teachers, doctors, nurses, preachers and others with the context and basis for their service to God.

Finally, I believe in the Cooperative Program because the world is lost without Jesus Christ. Southern Baptists have experienced the saving message of God's love and we have to do all we can, together, quickly to get the story out to the people.

Cooperative Program Day celebration

by James L. Austin,

On Cooperative Program Day, the name of missionary Jim Lockridge will be mentioned in those churches using "Missionary Moments." Jim is a native of Georgia. He serves as president of the Philippine Baptist Theological Seminary in Davao City. His presence at this seminary indicates how Cooperative Program support helps prepare nationals to lead their own people in a Christian witness. In Davao City where Jim and his wife, Mary, live there are 40 small communities called barangays. Twelve of these communities have no evangelical ministry. Join with those who will be praying especially for the Lockridges on April 17, 1988.

The 1988 Cooperative Program Theme, "Share His Word: Give," reminds us that a Southern Baptist church is able to distribute the word of God in over 110 countries and all 50 states as they give through the Cooperative Program.

Many advances have been made through Bold Mission Thrust. For example the number of home and foreign missionaries has increased from 5192 in 1976 to 7522 in 1987. These missionaries assisted by several thousands of short term volunteers report dramatic increases in responses to the presentation of the gospel. Statistics of baptisms abroad offer continued reason to celebrate the work we support through the Cooperative Program. These baptisms represent more than double the number in 1975. Gifts through the Cooperative Program (state and SBC) have grown from \$183,187,768 in 1976, to

\$325,436,882 in 1986.

For these and many other reasons, Southern Baptist churches will be celebrating progress in mission advance and support on Cooperative Program Day.

Cooperative Program Day is a time for Southern Baptists to reflect upon past accomplishments, to understand present needs and to prepare for future challenges.

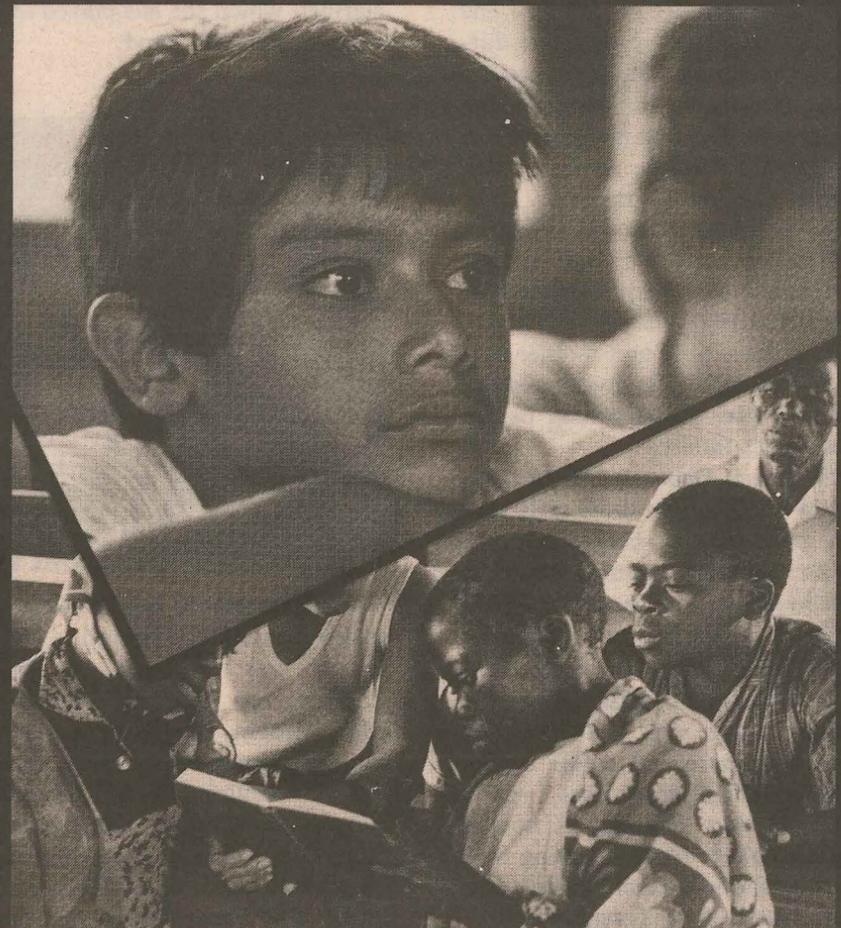
Cooperative Program Day is a time to create excitement and enthusiasm for opportunity of partnership in the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Extensive suggestions for observing this special event may be found in the booklet, "Lay Involvement in Cooperative Program Day." This planning guide is prepared jointly by the Woman's Missionary Union, the Brotherhood Commission, and the Stewardship Commission. A copy of this planning booklet can be found in the March issue of *The Baptist Program*. Additional copies may be obtained free from most state stewardship offices or from the Brotherhood Commission.

Other materials such as Cooperative Program Day posters and leaflets may be secured from most state stewardship offices. Several Cooperative Program films such as *Like a Mighty River* and *More Than Money* are also available on a free loan basis from all state stewardship offices.

The Cooperative Program is a voluntary plan of Baptist cooperation, created and controlled by Southern Baptist financial resources to bring the lost to Jesus Christ.

Share His Word—GIVE



Cooperative Program Day
April 17, 1988

Oneida Baptist Institute Girls in Annual Competition



Deborah Ledford, a 17 year old senior from near Oneida, is the 1988 Yearbook Queen.

Deborah is a varsity basketball, softball, and volleyball player. She has a total of eight varsity letters. Also she has been in choir. Deborah has received outstanding scholar awards in How To Study, Typing I, English II and III. After her graduation, she plans to study pharmacy. Her brother Jerry graduated from OBI nearly three years ago.

Seated on a bale of hay and wearing overalls, Deborah told a delightful story titled "Little Fish Story" from the book "Mountain Tales". This was her part in the talent competition.

The panel of three judges chose the 1988 Yearbook Queen from seven girls chosen by a secret ballot of the student body. Each of the girls were interviewed personally by the judges, who had earlier studied a written biography of each. The judges also observed each one during the talent competition as well as the evening gown competition. The judges were Dr. JoAnn Seymour, a Cumberland College professor and former OBI staff member; Rev. Roger Williams, pastor of the Manchester Baptist Church and an OBI trustee; and Mrs. Gloria Bowling of Sizerock, a 1977 graduate and now a fulltime housewife and mother to a son and daughter, having earned her college degree and teaching before starting her family.

1988 Queen Deborah Ledford is a worthy successor to those girls who have been selected before her in a 31-year old OBI tradition. The first Yearbook Queen was DeRonda Miniard, now a lawyer in Virginia. That first competition was held when present Oneida President Barkley Moore was a 14-year old OBI sophomore and editor of the 1956 ONEIDIAN. Last year's Queen, Debra Thomas, is now a fulltime college student having won the state shotput championship as a grand finale of her Oneida years.

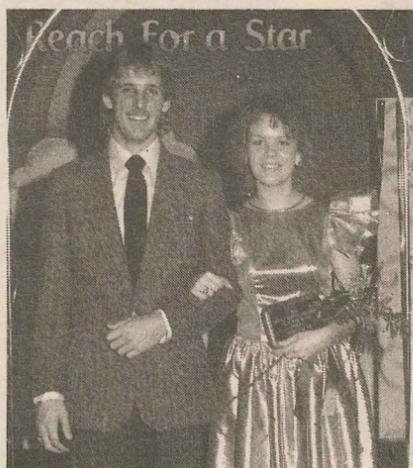
Deborah Ledford, this year's Queen, is a second generation Oneidian. Her father, Jerry Ledford,

graduated 25 years ago with honors in the Class of 1963.

Deborah was escorted by Marty Roberts, a 17 year old senior from Northern Kentucky.



Mary Ratliff is a 17-year old senior from Indianapolis, attending Oneida since the 6th grade. Mary's escort was Sam Payne a 17-year old junior from Appalachia, Virginia. Mary has participated in swimming, band, choir, ensemble, and B.S.U. Mary received the 110% award in band, and "most valuable swimmer" award. She has been elected to Who's Who in Music. Mary has received an outstanding scholar award in English III. Mary plans to attend college, major undecided. Mary performed "Sarabanda and Gavotta" by A. Corelli on her clarinet, which she has played many years in the OBI Band.



Robin Vogelpohl is a 17-year old senior from Cincinnati, Ohio. Robin was escorted by Matt Chesher, age 18 from Hamilton, Ohio. Robin has participated in choir, ensemble, drama, band, B.S.U., Fellowship of Christian Athletes, swimming, volleyball, and track. Robin has received outstanding scholar awards in Science and Bible. She was elected as most outstanding Junior by the faculty. She has been elected for Who's Who among American High School

Students. She is currently participating in Miss Teen National. After graduation, Robin plans to study law. Robin sang "Raining on the Inside" originally sung by the contemporary Christian artist Amy Grant.



Debbie Queener is a 17-year old senior from Oneida, here four years. Her mother is the former Myrtle Webb, 1960 OBI valedictorian and Oneida's Guidance Counselor the past four years. Debbie's escort was Elmer Lessa an 18-year old senior who has been at Oneida since the 8th grade. He is the son of a Brazilian Baptist pastor. Debbie has participated in choir, band, academic team, volleyball, softball, and tennis. Debbie has received outstanding awards in Spanish I, English III, and English IV. She was elected by the faculty as most outstanding Junior. After graduation, Debbie plans to attend college to prepare herself to be a high school English teacher. Debbie sang "Candle on the Water" from the musical "Pete's Dragon."



Lori Smith is a 16-year old senior from Oneida, Kentucky. All of her school days have been at Oneida. Her father is OBI's drafting teacher and water plant engineer and her mother is Dean of Students. Lori's escort was Jay Sanderson, also a 17-year old senior from Oneida. Like Lori, all of his school days also have been in Oneida as his parents John and Hannah Sanderson came

from the foreign mission field to teach at OBI 16 years ago. Lori has participated in band, choir, ensemble, academic team, and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Lori has received outstanding scholar awards in Algebra I, English II, English IV, and Computer Literacy. She was elected by the faculty as most outstanding Junior. Last summer she participated in the Governor's Scholars Program at Centre College.



Bonnie Couch is a 16-year old senior from Frankfort. Bonnie's escort was Travis Simpson a 17-year old senior from Warsaw who came to Oneida as an 8th grader. Bonnie has participated in volleyball, softball, basketball, cheerleading, Flag Corps, and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Bonnie received the 110% award in Softball and "most improved" in the Flag Corps. Bonnie gave a dramatic monologue on "I'm Not So Bad, After All."



Emily DeRossett is a 17-year old senior from Allen (Floyd Co.). Emily was escorted by Troy Parrish a 17-year old junior from Louisville, at OBI three years. Emily has participated in choir, also being part of the choir's ensemble. She has participated in band, is Captain of the Flag Corps and Missions Director of B.S.U. Emily performed a piano selection "Up Where We Belong" from the movie "An Officer and a Gentleman."