



Ron Kline (standing, center), of Country and Town Baptist Church, Mechanicsburg, Pa., and Anna Stuart, Main Street Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, Miss., witnessed on the streets of Nashville during Single Challenge 88 over Memorial Day weekend.

Singles holiday closes on high musical note

by Terri Lackey
and Charles Willis

The world premiere of a musical drama with a message aimed at single adults topped off 12 hours at Opryland U.S.A. and a three-day national conference, Single Challenge 88, in Nashville.

From 1 p.m. to 1 a.m. on the final day of the Memorial Day weekend conference single adults could attend the musical premiere offered three times in the Grand Ole Opry House, choose from five outdoor self-help seminars and enjoy the sights and sounds of the park, including gospel groups.

Single Challenge 88 was sponsored by the Baptist Sunday School Board's Family Ministry Department. More than 6500 from at least 36 states made it the largest single adult conference held by a Southern Baptist group.

"Every Single Life," a musical with a series of dramatic vignettes, depicts a

variety of single adult life circumstances and the reality of death for all persons.

"Every Single Life" was written by Ragan Courtney, lyricist and playwright from Louisville, and Janet McManhan, composer from Nashville, and arranged by Nashvillian David Maddux.

The premiere performance featured Company, a 12-member auditioned choir representing the school of music at Belmont College, Nashville. Courtney was emcee and his wife, Cynthia Clawson, widely known gospel singer, was a featured soloist.

Courtney, associate professor of Christian drama at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, describes the theme as "introspective—coming to terms with yourself, your humanness, your singleness, your godliness."

Meanwhile, in the festival area of the entertainment park where the outdoor seminars were held Jim Towns, professor of communications at Stephen F. Austin University, Nacogdoches, Tex., said, "It's okay to be single.

"Some of us need a personal spiritual revival within our own lives," Towns, who is single, said. "Most of us probably keep forgetting we are single, but we are continually reminded at work and at church. Some people seem to think that being single is a disease and marriage is the cure.

"But, it is important that we celebrate our personhood," he added.

In a separate conference Bobbye and Britton Wood of Ft. Worth, Tex. talked to singles about preparing for a relationship if one does come along.

"We shouldn't go through life just looking for someone. We should work on making ourselves better and being the person God wants us to be," said Britton Wood, a family life and single adult ministry consultant. He became the first full time minister to single adults in a Southern Baptist church when he joined the staff of Park Cities Baptist Church, Dallas, in 1970.

"You should assume you're never getting married and get busy with your life. We should live for now," he said. "Let marriage, if it happens, be a surprise." (BP)

Morehead crisis shelter opened by Baptist Homes for Children

by Robin Oldham
BHC Communications

Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children formally dedicated its third regional crisis group home June 4 near Morehead.

Members of the agency's board of trustees, women's advisory board, as well as KBHC staff joined Baptist leaders from the Morehead area for the morning's open house, reception and service of dedication.

William W. Marshall, executive secretary-treasurer of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, was featured speaker. Other program participants: Eldred M. Taylor, KBHC executive director; Curtis Mooney, who succeeds Taylor as executive director July 1; Edna Woofter, KBHC director of community services; Dean Harney, KBHC eastern region coordinator; Don Mantooth, pastor, First Baptist Church, Morehead; and Ken Forman, director of missions, Bracken Association.

The Morehead shelter was approved by the KBHC board of trustees following months of indepth study of the increasing need for a crisis group facility in eastern Kentucky.

Taylor said the decision to build the home at Morehead underscores the board's commitment to meet the needs of hurting children throughout Kentucky while following the agency's long-range plans to establish regional offices and crisis group homes in cooperation with local Baptist churches and associations.

"A crisis care home provides a short-term residence for young people who

have had to leave their own homes for any number of reasons," according to Miss Woofter. "It is a place where young people can receive love, support and counseling while more permanent plans are being finalized."

Until now young people needing temporary emergency care were placed in Baptist shelters at Elizabethtown or Dixon near Madisonville.

Cost for the shelter and land was approximately \$160,000. The facility is equipped to serve approximately 75 young people each year.

Larry Dauenhauer, director of administrative services, said the need for and support of a shelter is very strong in the Morehead area. As he met with directors of missions and a number of other Morehead residents, he felt an excitement concerning the opening of the ministry to eastern Kentucky.

"All things have come together so well," Dauenhauer stated. "We acquired a tract of land and were able to build the shelter using construction plans from the Dixon facility with minor modifications.

"Don Mantooth, pastor of Morehead First Baptist Church; Mrs. Hazel Whitaker, former KBHC board member; and Mrs. Barbara White, current board member, were instrumental in helping us locate the property and in making our decision to further explore the possibility of building in Morehead. We have also received tremendous help and encouragement from area directors of missions Ken Forman, Bracken Association; Charles Young, Greenup Association; and Tom Prather, Union Association," added Dauenhauer.

Personnel changes announced among state paper's stringers

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

Western Recorder has named a new stringer to its program of regional state correspondents and transferred another to a new territory.

Virginia P. Flanagan, director of public relations and communications at Campbellsville (Ky.) College, will report in an area of south central Kentucky which includes 11 Baptist associations. Mrs. Flanagan replaces K. Denise Spencer, who is moving from that same territory to Shepherdsville, in the midstate, including six associations. She will replace Denise George, who resigned to move to Alabama.

Mrs. Flanagan, 45, is the wife of Danny E. Flanagan, vice president for religious life and counseling at Campbellsville College. She holds the BS degree from Campbellsville and MA from University of Louisville. A mother of two sons, 17 and 15, and a past officer in Baptist Public Relations Association, she taught school in Indiana and Kentucky before returning to her alma mater. She was director of alumni and public relations from 1976-87 and has held her current responsibility since last fall.

She will represent Western Recorder in these associations: Casey County, East Lynn, Freedom, Lincoln County, McCreary County, Pulaski County, Rockcastle, Russell Creek, Russell

County, Taylor County, Wayne County.

Mrs. D. Michael Spencer, 31, is the mother of two preschoolers. Her husband has been on the staff of First Baptist Church, Somerset, as youth director, and has accepted the call of Bullit Lick Baptist Church, Shepherdsville, as pastor. Mrs. Spencer is a freelance writer, Sunday school teacher and holds a BS degree from Murray (Ky.) State University. She is a native of Owensboro.

She will now represent Western Recorder in these associations: Henry County, Long Run, Nelson, Shelby, Sulphur Fork, Whites Run.

The state correspondent program was developed by Western Recorder in 1981. It consists of 10 persons living across the state who represent specific geographical territories, reporting on Baptist people, churches, associations and programs.



Mrs. Flanagan



Mrs. Spencer

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

June 7, 1988

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Please give us three weeks' advance notice. Clip this portion with your old address label, supply new address above, and send to Western Recorder, Box 43969 Middletown, KY 40243

sanford's perspectives

A time of refreshment



Jack D. Sanford

Weary in mind and body we took a little vacation earlier this month to a hideaway in Florida just to get away and try to find ourselves.

It was a time to relax, enjoy the blessings of God's good earth, eat some wonderful food and rekindle the spirit and refresh the body. We did all of this and found a bonus besides.

We went to a little Swedish Baptist church for prayer meeting and discovered a unique way to worship and fellowship. The people were not Southern Baptist, did not particularly care about Southern or any other designation but were instead children of God whose sole purpose seemed, at least to us, to be fellowship in the Lord and praise to his name.

In his own way the pastor conducted the prayer service in an informal way, standing on the floor of the sanctuary without pulpit or lectern with an open Bible in his hand. In that simple way he opened to us the words of scripture and led us in hearing what God had to say to his children.

He also included the people in the service, ask-

ing them to recount some incident or recite some word of poetry which had meaning for them. It was obvious this was the common practice since many of the parishoners came prepared to share with their brothers and sisters some word of enlightenment and inspiration. It is something we might want to consider to brighten our prayer meetings and give our own people an opportunity to minister through their own experience.

It was a refreshing time because we did not hear any controversy, no strident claims for the Book, no disclaimers about where a person stood on issues. All we did was bow before the Lord among friendly Christians who were open and accepting of us.

It was a good time and we hope someday to return to worship with our Swedish friends, even though we are Southern Baptists, proud of the name and never willing to give it up. But the change was refreshing and just what we needed at the time.

Response brings gratitude

Friends from all across the country have responded to us in the time of our grief and sorrow. Memorial gifts in varying amounts have come to the Kentucky Baptist Foundation for Western Recorder and to the Florence Baptist Church almost daily in memory of our son.

Your care and concern and your generous demonstration of Christian love brings our deepest gratitude and warms our spirit. We know you love as God's children should and we know another thing as well. Namely, the work of Christ will go forward and prosper for years to come because you have given materially to a local church and

to the paper owned by Kentucky Baptists, gifts which not only show your concern but reflect beautifully on the quality of our fellowship in this great state.

Death is ugly and frightening but it is part of life. The contributions to the memorial fund for our son take away some of the sting of death. We know that even in his death the work of Christ will prosper and be continued through the earnings of funds provided by our friends. Nothing more could be asked.

We thank you and seek your continued prayers as we attempt to find our direction through these grey days.

Kentucky Baptists do it right

A letter from James Hawkins, executive associate to William W. Marshall, reveals what is right and good about life among Kentucky Baptists.

The letter is in behalf of the KBC Committee on Nominations and asks me, as editor of Western Recorder, to suggest names of persons in our state who would be good candidates to fill the vacancies on the board of directors of Western Recorder.

What the committee, through Hawkins, is attempting to do is provide to agency and institutional administrators persons with whom they can work and with whom they can advance the programs and ministries of the Kentucky Baptist Convention rather than persons who will be confrontational and disruptive.

Ultimately the committee will accept or reject the names we suggest. That, after all, is what they have been set aside to accomplish. Our suggestions are merely guidelines for study and reflection. What is important is they do not try to load the boards nor saddle the administrators with persons

who have an agenda. They ask us, we respond and they decide.

Just imagine what peace would prevail in the Southern Baptist Convention if the same kind of Christian concern was evident in the selection process for trustees. If seminary presidents, commission leaders and agency heads were consulted do you think we would have the mess we now have in several of our entities? We would not have the tension, distrust and conflict which now characterizes our denomination. We would have harmony and the kingdom we love so dearly would not be stagnated by confusion and controversy.

May the Lord forbid that Kentucky Baptists ever fall into the partisan trap of loading boards and agencies with agenda-prone men and women who would frustrate and confuse the purposes for which our institutions exist.

Thanks, Kentucky Baptists, for a good way to do business.

western recorder

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51 Kentuckians among Southern, Boyce graduates

Forty-seven students from Kentucky were among about 255 persons awarded degrees from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary during the school's 161st commencement May 20.

Winfred Moore, pastor of First Baptist Church, Amarillo, Tex., delivered the commencement address.

The Kentucky graduates included the following:

Master of Arts—Alma W. Alexander, Louisville; Elizabeth Ann Herndon, Murray; John Edward Saunders Jr., Louisville; Susan Emily Jackson, Louisville; Burt McGaughey, Louisville; Martha Roe White, Simpsonville; May Wye Lim, Louisville.

Master of Divinity—David Sherman Adams, Alexandria; James Kyle Duncan, Hopkinsville; Susan Carole Reeder, Henderson; Christopher M. Bailey, Owensville; Randall Monroe Bowman, Vine Grove; Bobby Winton Brooks, Pineville; Jerry Thomas Browning, Lancaster; James Weldon Bunch, Owensboro; Martha June Hardy, Russellville; French Baker Harmon, Ashland; Paul Kevin Norris, Greenville; Donald Eugene Phelps, Fredonia; Charles F. Ragland Jr., Louisville; Todd Allen Smith, Paducah; Cynthia Marie Snider, Lexington; David Livingston, Crestwood; Dale Edward Stanton, Louisville; Kevin Headie Lee, Springfield; Timothy Richard Colvin, Taylorsville; Anthony Lynn Steele, La Center; Keith Alan Stillwell, Louisville; Roy T'Comas Walker, Elizabethtown; James Emory White, Louisville; Charlie G. Bridges, Louisville; Don W. Dixon, Waddy.

Master of Church Music—William Chris Clarke, Salem; Margaret Joann Dudrey, Louisville; Gregory Roy Harry, Owensboro; Lynn Marie Watson, Louisville; Kathi Shepherd Jones, Paducah; John Milton Reeder, Henderson.

Master of Social Work—Mary Elizabeth Helton, Dayhoit; Deborah Lynn Lawson, Louisville; William Howard McMican, Marion; G. Jane Ferguson, Louisville; Gayla D. Sherman-Koch, Louisville; Donna Helton Trabue, Arlington; Stephen F. Williams, Louisville.

Doctor of Ministry—James Kenneth Allaby, Louisville.

Master of Theology—Joseph Dwayne Howell, Shively.

Doctor of Philosophy—David S. Kolb, Owensboro.

Four students from Kentucky were awarded diplomas from Boyce Bible School, Louisville, during the school's 27th commencement May 20.

The Kentucky graduates include the following:

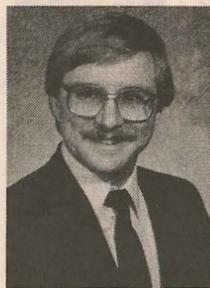
Diploma in Christian Ministry—R. Douglas Sharon, Danville.

Diploma in Educational Ministry—Joyce Marie Hiles, Sparta; Tamera Yvonne Kirby, Louisville.

Diploma in Advanced Ministry Studies—Samuel F. Raizon, Louisville.

Boyce Bible School, a division of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, was founded in 1974 to provide ministerial training for persons without a college degree. More than 600 persons are presently enrolled in the school and its 12 off-campus centers.

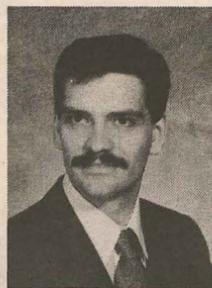
Photos not available: Howell, Alexander, Saunders, Harmon, Norris, Ragland, Walker, Sharon, Bowman, Livingston, Bridges.



Adams



Allaby



Bailey



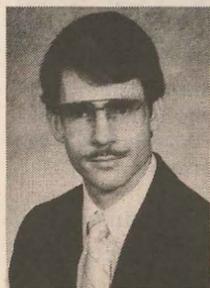
Brooks



Browning



Bunch



Colvin



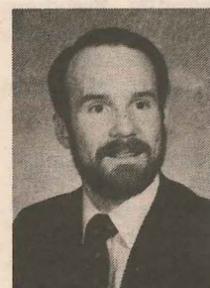
Clarke



Dixon



Dudrey



Duncan



Ferguson



Hardy



Harry



Helton



Herndon



Hiles



Jackson



Jones



Kirby



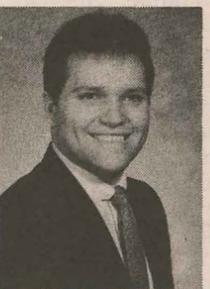
Sherman-Koch



Kolb



Lawson



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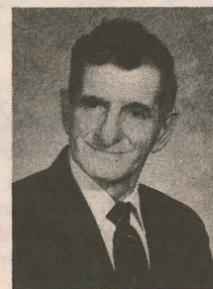
McGaughey



McMican



Phelps



Raizon



J. Reeder



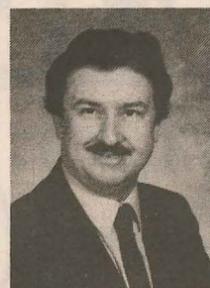
S. Reeder



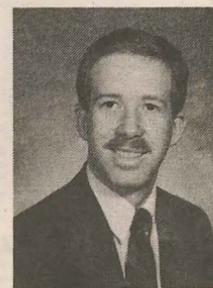
Smith



Snider



Stanton



Steele



Stillwell



Trabue



Watson



J. E. White



M. R. White



Williams

mountains to the mississippi

personnel

Harold Mayfield has accepted the pastorate of Central Grove Baptist Church, Ohio County Association.

Living Hope Baptist Church, Warren Association, has called **Darryl Wilson** as associate pastor.

Mark S. Lilly resigned as pastor of First Baptist Church, Burkesville, Freedom Association, effective May 29. He and his wife Sue will be moving to Loveland, Oh. where he will be pastor of Grace Baptist Church.

Timothy A. Lampley was called as pastor of Marion Baptist Church, Ohio River Association. Lampley is a recent graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex.

Jimmy York is the new pastor at Brownsville Baptist Church, Warren Baptist Association.

Mike Stacey has accepted the pastorate of Bethel Baptist Church, Warren Association.

Gethsemane Baptist Church, Long Run Association, called **Walter Eddie McDonald** as minister of youth. Tony M. Smith is pastor.

First Baptist Church, Russell Springs, Russell County Association, called **Jeff Eaton** as pastor. He is presently a student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.



Hardinsburg Baptist, Breckenridge Association, observed a centennial celebration Apr. 17. The church was organized in October 1887. Pictured are the living pastors who served the church (l-r): Adrian Lamkin, 1950-57; Robert L. Wayne, 1957-62; Rudy Patton, 1973-77; Floyd Price, 1978-83; and Harry Dooley, present.

Marcy H. Mynatt of Burgin Baptist Church, Mercer Association, has accepted the position of minister of education at South Knoxville (Tenn.) Baptist Church. She is graduate of Southern Seminary.

Western Recorder reported in its May 10 issue that her husband Daniel would be assuming the education position. He will be a student at the University of Tennessee School of Law while she serves the Knoxville church.

Byron Peach was called as minister of youth at Forks of Elkhorn Baptist Church, Franklin Association. Peach, a freshman at the University of Kentucky, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Peach of Lawrenceburg. Aaron Striegel is pastor.

hours in rocking chairs earning money based on contributions for continuous hours of rocking completed.

It is the second effort in a week by the church's youth to raise funds for day school activities on the island. Great Crossing youth raised \$152 May 14 from a car wash.

The funds will allow the youth to offer ministries to the children of families in which both parents have employment on Hilton Head Island. The island program will be an enriched approach to vacation Bible school.

Todd Toole, pastor of Great Crossing, is coordinating the mission project which has already enlisted 15 members. The Hilton Head supervisor for the program is Kenneth "Skip" Fendley, a native of Scott County who is in his sixth year as associate pastor of Hilton Head Island's First Baptist Church.

Crestwood Baptist Church, Sulphur Fork Association, celebrated the 100th anniversary of Woman's Missionary Union Mar. 21. A home missions/centennial reception featured displays from the various mission groups and the dedication of a centennial quilt.

Pastor Thomas Kinman dedicated the quilt to the mission spirit, citing Miss Georgia Earl Hopkins, a Southern Baptist missionary, as an example. "She had a vision that Crestwood Baptist Church reach people for Christ," said Kinman. "Her many acts of kindness, love and compassion will be remembered as a model for us in the years to come."

Anna Mary Byrdwell, Baptist Women/Baptist Young Women consultant for the Kentucky Baptist Convention, was a guest speaker at the centennial celebration.

Fleming Baptist Church, Pine Mountain Association, celebrated its seventh anniversary with a homecoming and dinner-on-the-grounds June 5. Gary Ellis is pastor.

deaths

Robert Palmer, faculty member at Cumberland College and former pastor of Williamsburg First Baptist Church, died Wednesday evening, May 25. He had just undergone bypass heart surgery and did not recover.

R. G. Shelton, retired director of missions for Green Valley Association, died May 26 in Eddyville from an apparent heart attack. He is the brother of Thomas Hicks Shelton, former director of the Evangelism Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, 1965-76. Thomas L. Shelton, R. G. Shelton's son, is director of missions for Ohio Valley Association.



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

homes for children

Words of wisdom

It is a joy and blessing to visit Glen Dale and Spring Meadows Children's Homes and witness the progress troubled young people are making in putting the pieces of life together. Your faithful support of this ministry, the unapologetic Christian emphasis and the tough love of caring staff are making a real difference in many young lives. However, to visit the campuses in May for the recognition banquets is truly an inspiration. This is the time for giving awards, sharing love and appreciation for one another and especially honoring those who are graduating from high school.

Recently my wife, Marjorie, and I had this wonderful experience again. It made us proud of Kentucky Baptists for caring enough to provide such a ministry. We were also proud of staff for their untiring love, and the progress so many youth are making. When awards were given there was much evidence of hard work and love. When the seniors were presented all the youth as well as staff demonstrated pride and encouragement. Most of the graduating seniors will be going to college in the fall. I am so glad we will still follow, encourage and help them just as a parent would do.

When it came time to share, a great amount of emotion was evident as youth spontaneously spoke words of love and appreciation for what they had experienced at the home and particularly for their peers and staff.

At Glen Dale Tim Isaacs, who was graduated two years ago, had returned for a visit. Tim, now a student at the University of Louisville with plans to attend Georgetown College this fall, has a nice singing voice and a fine Christian testimony. He has served as a member of Son Share, a mission team that served in Calgary, Alberta, Canada during the Olympics, and this summer Tim will serve with a Home Mission Board college campus ministry covering five states. They asked Tim to sing at Glen Dale. Just before he sang he said, "I have three things I want to say." What he said were such gems of wisdom I want to share them with you. He said, "Don't forget where you came from. Don't forget what it took to get you here. Don't forget those who have helped you on the way." What a fitting admonition. It sounded almost like the passage of scripture in Isa. 51:1, "Hearken to me, ye that follow after righteousness, ye that seek the Lord: look unto the rock whence ye are hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged."



The Girls in Action of Crestwood Baptist Church, Sulphur Fork Association, display their work during a WMU centennial reception dressed in 19th century attire.

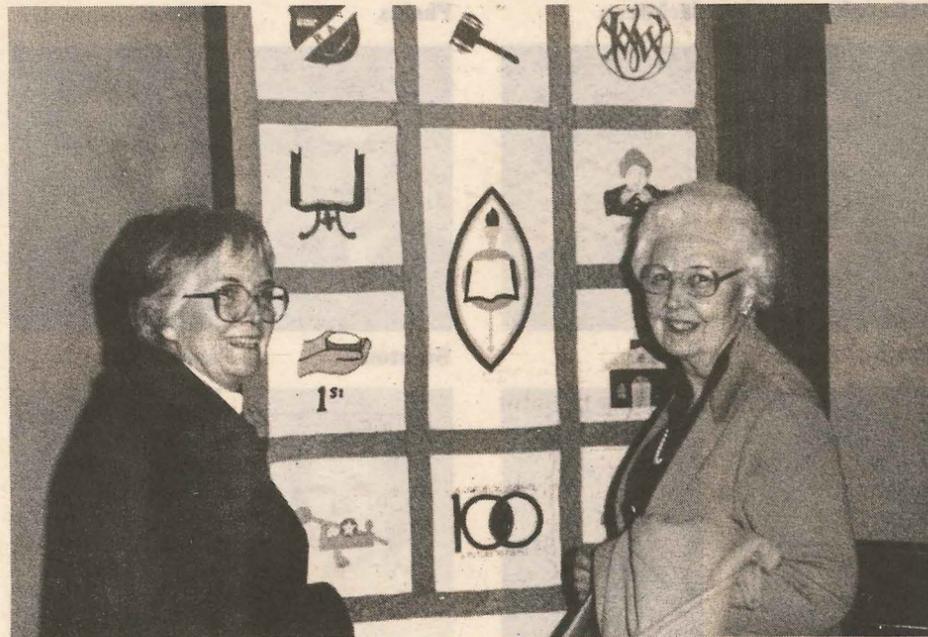
ordinations

Shawn Madden was ordained to the ministry May 15 at McKee Baptist Church, Irvine Association. He is pastor of Mt. Zion, Irvine Association, and a student at Clear Creek Bible College. Noel Dodson is pastor at McKee.

congregations

The youth of **Great Crossing Baptist Church, Georgetown, Elkhorn Association, sponsored their first "rock-a-thon" May 28 to raise money for a summer mission trip to Hilton Head Island, S. C. the first week in July.**

More than 20 members of the 203-year-old congregation were to spend 24



Marguerite Wakefield and Virginia Jones examine a quilt made by the Woman's Missionary Union of Crestwood Baptist Church.

christian education

Campbellsville honors eminent alumni

Campbellsville College honored two alumni with distinguished alumnus awards during commencement May 7 at Campbellsville Baptist Church.

J. B. Crawley of Campbellsville and Hayward Spinks of Hartford were presented plaques.

Crawley, who attended Campbellsville Junior College in 1938, is a current member of the board of trustees. He is a radio engineer and first class radio telephone licensee of the Federal Communications Commission. He is also an engineer of WCND, Shelbyville; WMSK, Morganfield; WMJL, Marion; WLBN and TV Channel 6, Lebanon.

Crawley, who has built approximately 13 radio stations in Kentucky and Tennessee, recently received the Kentucky Mike Award from the Kentucky Broadcasters Association, the

highest honor given a broadcaster.

Also active in church work, Crawley has been moderator of Taylor County Association and Sunday school director of Russell Creek Association. He was Young Men's president of Kentucky Baptist Men and the Kentucky representative on the Southern Baptist Convention's nomination committee.

Spinks is employed as a pharmacist at Spinks Pharmacy in Hartford. He has been a trustee of Campbellsville and was the first contributor to the computer lab in the academic area of the college.

Spinks, a member of Hartford (Ky.) Baptist Church, was the town's mayor 12 years.

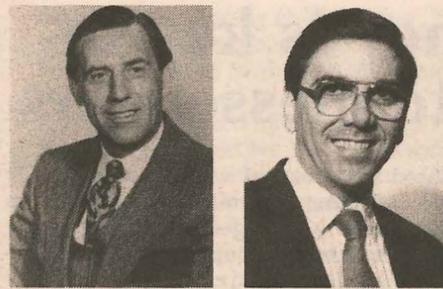
Porter to be chairman of Campbellsville campaign

J. Chester Porter, a member of Campbellsville College's board of trustees, has been named chairman of the "Vision 2000" campaign.

Porter is affiliated with his own law firm of Porter and Associates in Shepherdsville and is a partner in a Louisville law firm. A 1962 graduate of Campbellsville with a BS degree in economics and sociology, Porter holds a juris doctorate degree from the University of Louisville.

Kenneth Pope, vice president for advancement for Campbellsville, will be campaign director.

The board of trustees' "Vision 2000" campaign has a base goal of \$400,000 and a challenge goal of \$600,000 for faculty and facilities improvement.



Fendley

Loscalzo

Fendley assumes new role at Georgetown College

Ken Fendley will assume the newly-created position of director of publications at Georgetown College July 1. After seven years as director of public relations at the Kentucky Baptist institution, Fendley is retiring from full time responsibilities.

In his role as director of publications, Fendley will be responsible for most of the college's publications, including the campus newspaper, the president's "Annual Report" and other quarterly publications.

After this year Fendley will have completed 29 years in institutional advancement, most of them at Georgetown College, his alma mater, where he served under four presidents.

He was director of development, 1955-72, under presidents H. Leo Eddleman and Robert L. Mills. After an absence of eight years, Fendley returned to Georgetown in 1980. He directed the church campaign in the early days of the college's capital effort before becoming director of public relations again in 1981.

Fendley has been heavily involved in church activities throughout his life. In 1964 he was one of two Kentuckians on the committee which developed the Baptist Sunday School Board's *Life and Work Series*. For the past seven years he has utilized his musical talents as the music director for Great Crossing Baptist Church, Elkhorn Association.

Kentucky pastor named to Southern faculty

Craig A. Loscalzo, pastor of Evergreen Baptist Church, Frankfort, has been named assistant professor of Christian preaching at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

Loscalzo, 37, earned the BS degree from Nova University, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., and the MDiv degree from Southern Seminary. He received the PhD degree from Southern at the school's spring commencement.

The Pennsylvania native will begin his teaching duties this fall.

Union alumni plan San Antonio dinner

The Union University Alumni and Friends Dinner will be held in conjunction with the Southern Baptist Convention in San Antonio, Tex. The dinner will take place at 5:15 p.m. June 14 in the Corte Real Room, atop the Hilton Palacio Del Rio Hotel. The hotel is just across the street from the convention center.

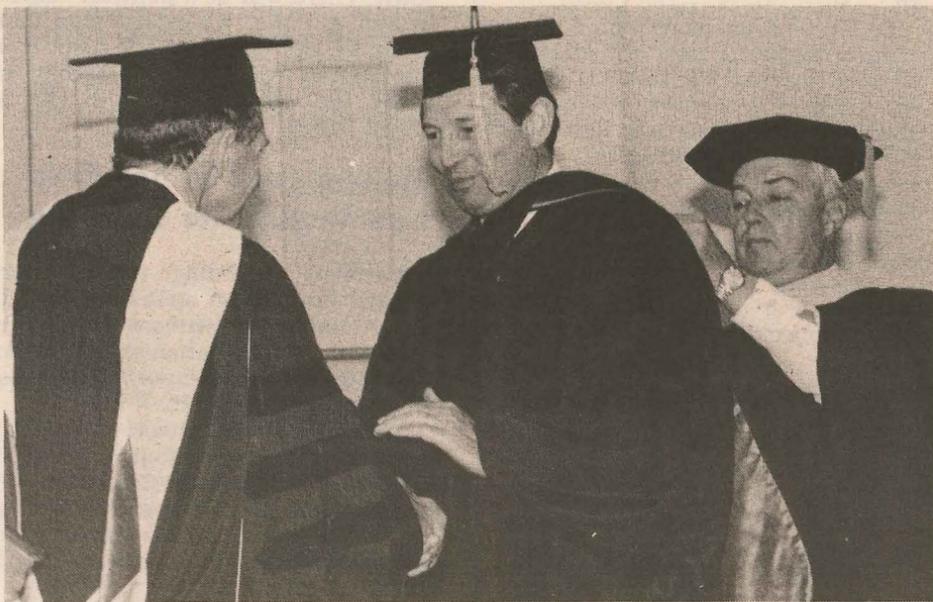
All pastors, messengers and San Antonio-area alumni and friends of the college are invited to attend. Price of advance tickets will be \$12 and at the convention ticket cost will be \$14 each.

Professor exhibits art at Cumberland

Richard Hamwi, assistant professor of art at Cumberland College, opened an exhibition of his work at the Central Bank Gallery located in the main offices of the Central Bank and Trust Company of Lexington. The exhibition is open through July 11.

A grand opening reception was held May 20 for the exhibition which includes 25 drawings, watercolor paintings and collages created by the artist.

The exhibition is open to the public free of charge, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Kincaid Towers.



William Marshall, center, executive secretary-treasurer of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, accepts an honorary doctorate of divinity from Campbellsville College president W. R. Davenport, left, and academic vice president Robert S. Clark.

—classified ads—

MISSIONS SUMMER CAMP for children and youth at Rabro, Cedar Crest, Jonathan Creek. Affordable prices, trained staffs. Contact Rob Carr, Brenda Price, Kentucky Brotherhood and Woman's Missionary Union, 502-245-4101. EW

FOR SALE: 1969 International Bus. 36 passengers. \$300 or best offer. Call 1-502-532-7555, 9:00 - 11:00 p.m. 5-31-2T

JELLY! THREE JARS! \$10! Write: Christian Appalachian Project, 322 Crab Orchard Road, Lancaster, Kentucky 40446 5-31-3T



Touching Lives With Love

On Annuity Board Sunday, June 26, Southern Baptists will recognize the ministries of the convention's pension agency. A free bulletin insert, which shares how the Board touches lives through its work, has been prepared for your church's use on this occasion. Use the coupon to order.

My church wants to recognize the Annuity Board's ministries. Please send _____ copies of the Annuity Board Sunday bulletin insert.

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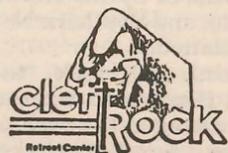
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baptist news in brief

Young: presidency is key to returning SBC to messengers

An Arizona pastor who headed a special fact-finding committee appointed by the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee blames a system that is "tightly and powerfully controlled" for the current controversy over the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

After telling Baptist Beacon, the newsjournal of the Arizona Southern Baptist Convention, the controversy was a political dispute, not a theological one, Gary Young charged the system of Baptist polity with creating the current situation. Young, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, Phoenix, noted that at the St. Louis convention Southern Baptists reelected to the PAC "the chairman and one member who had ro-

tated off, both of whom spoke in our (fact-finding committee) hearings in Nashville and urged us to withdraw support from the Baptist Joint Committee." A third person elected also had testified against the BJC, he said.

In addition, three other people who had expressed opposition to the BJC in writing or in personal conversation were added to the PAC, he said.

Because of the system, he said, "no one could stand at a microphone and give this information to the messengers. Consequently, all of them were elected without question."

The system gives the SBC president great power, he said, both through the appointive process and through parliamentary procedure at the convention. In the past few years, the president has not allowed people challenging nominations by the committee on nominations to explain why a person is not qualified to serve; people can only present other nominees and tell why they are qualified, he said.

Messengers who don't know the background, he said, "say, 'We trust these people because they're protecting the Bible, and these people over there are liberals.' Then obviously they're just going to sit there and vote for whoever is nominated. So the president stifles any objection in the Southern Baptist Convention."

The answer, Young believes, is in the election of the president. "Under the present system," he said, "electing a president of the Southern Baptist Convention who is not a part of the party in power is the only way to return the convention into the hands of the messengers." (BP)

Southwestern names public relations chief

Mac Sisson, assistant director of public relations at Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark., has been named director of public relations at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex., effective June 1.

Sisson, 41, has been at Ouachita 13 years. He directed the school's news bureau and supervised a team of student newswriters. He also was sports information director and named sports information director of the year by the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics in 1986.

At Southwestern, Sisson's duties will include the publication of seminary promotional materials. He replaces Ward Walker, who resigned to accept the pastorate of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Pullman, Wash. (BP)



Bernardo Rodriguez Jr., 26, of Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic, and his mother, Anna Maria Rodriguez, examine a cross-stitch kit. Rodriguez seemed headed for an early death until Richard Reynolds, Southern Baptist cardiac surgeon in Richmond, Va., replaced a damaged valve in his heart. The Foreign Mission Board helped arrange Rodriguez' trip, funded by a Dominican Republic organization. A Richmond hospital gave him a free stay and doctors donated services.

Peace keeper sees 'crisis of spirit'

The Southern Baptist Convention is "in a crisis of spirit," Charles Fuller, chairman of the SBC Peace Committee, said.

Fuller, who has headed the 22-member crisis resolution committee since it was created in 1985, issued a statement to Baptist Press on the state of the SBC in advance of the annual meeting in San Antonio, Tex., June 14-16.

Fuller, who for more than a quarter century has been pastor of First Baptist Church, Roanoke, Va., said: "I recognize the limits of convention action. Local churches are not bound by it, and individuals are free to disagree. . . . Certainly, there is a place for the so-called 'loyal opposition,' but just as there are some theological parameters among us, there are some political and behavioral ones as well.

"In my opinion, we are in a crisis of spirit. There have begun alterations of our theological course. Now, I feel there needs to be an alteration to the course of our spirit. Charity is not a theological tenet; it is an evidence of conversion."

Fuller concluded his statement by saying: "Southern Baptists need to become our own answer to this crisis of spirit. There will be a political contest in San Antonio. We cannot stop that. What we can do is provide a spirit in our politics which will favorably surround the world we seek to win to Christ." (BP)

Messengers to preview Las Vegas site meeting

Messengers attending the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in San Antonio, Tex., will get a sneak preview of the denomination's next convention site and of attempts to reach Las Vegas, Nev., for Christ.

The Home Mission Board will sponsor an exhibit in San Antonio's Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center to tell people about the denomination's ministry in Nevada and in Las Vegas, where the convention will meet June 13-15, 1989.

Bobby Sunderland, director of the board's direct evangelism division, said the booth will be the first spotlight the Atlanta-based agency has put on an upcoming convention city. The display will be cosponsored by the Nevada Baptist Convention and Southern Nevada Baptist Association.

The booth will seek "to motivate Southern Baptists to become involved in soul winning in the state prior to the convention," Sunderland explained.

The booth will feature a 10-minute video that will be shown on the half hour, as well as printed material on Southern Baptist ministry in the city and state.

On a statewide basis, simultaneous revivals, scripture distribution, and sponsorship of 25 church-type missions are some of the activities planned prior to the 1989 SBC meeting. The main evangelistic emphasis will be the revivals, which will be a pilot for the "Here's Hope. Jesus Cares for You" national revivals in the spring of 1990. (BP)

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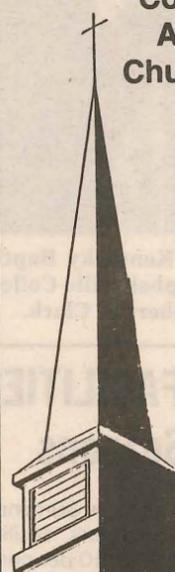
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baptist forum

Thankful for God's call

I just wanted you to know that as of May 1, 1988 I accepted the call of Bramlette Baptist Church, Whites Run Association, to be pastor.

This is news because I am 71 years old. I retired in 1981 and went to Hawaii until 1985. I was used of the Lord to start two missions there. When I came home I have been supplying and doing interim pastorates almost every Sunday. The Lord is blessing.

Everett M. Rountree
Glencoe

Grateful for help at a stressful time

On behalf of First Baptist Church, Middlesboro, I want to offer sincere thanks to the Disaster Relief Team who came to our community's aid during our recent tornado disaster, May 9. The team's prompt response, disaster relief training, efficient organization and perhaps most of all, genuine love and concern for people helped us cope with a very difficult situation.

Operating from the parking lot of First Baptist Church, the team cleared debris, provided almost 2000 hot meals and coordinated relief efforts in the first few days of recovery. The humble and generous spirit of each volunteer from throughout Kentucky made a lasting impression on the people with whom they came in contact.

It is with deep gratitude and pride that we offer our thanksgiving to God for this service offered to disaster victims through the Brotherhood Department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and funded through Cooperative Program and state missions offerings. We commend you, Jim Fox, disaster relief coordinator, Jane Fox and all volunteers for your capable leadership, untiring efforts and witness to our community in our time of need. May God continue to bless your work in this most significant ministry.

Nenette Measels
Minister of Education
First Baptist Church
Middlesboro

Public prayer is hypocritical

Symptomatic of the current malaise afflicting the Christian movement in the U. S. was the picture in Western Recorder May 24 in which President Reagan in the presence of some congressmen and religious leaders inaugurated a "National Day of Prayer," whatever that is. In light of this, one's eyes glaze over when contemplating the words of Jesus, "... when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to the Father. . . ."

Thanks to the President the U. S. government now has publicly sanctioned prayer, never mind that Jesus roundly condemned the public prayers delivered in the synagogues and on the street corners, even strongly suggesting that such prayers are the products of hypocrites.

This is but another effort of the conscientious but misguided civic religionists who insist that government must inculcate some sort of comprehensive socio-religious agenda; though, of course, these religionists could not agree in a million years concerning the composition of that agenda. Picture the local minister solemnly approaching the throne of grace before the Friday night football game, in which young men, basking in his prayer for physical protection, attempt to knock the stuffing out of each other. Such is the ridiculousness of "civic prayers." It is instructive that Jesus, speaking and teaching pub-

licly in synagogue and countryside, did not allow even his closest disciples to attend him as he prayed in Gethsemane.

The nation cannot pray for itself. Its citizens cannot pray collectively. Neither prayer (as in public schools) nor any other spiritual exercise constitutes a government responsibility. Prayer as explained by Jesus is too intimate and private an affair to be exercised outside the confines of that unique space shared only by the creator and created. Within that context the Christian can pray for the nation. His/hers is the only prayer that matters.

J. L. Clark
Danville

Mail-out does not promote peace

Few events in the recent years of our Southern Baptist Convention have disturbed me more than the recent mail-out from one of our more prominent pastors, especially the tape recorded message. I am not disturbed by the views presented on the cassette tape, or by their political nature. Anyone has a right to hold such views, many of which have appeared in denominational and independent papers as well as the secular press.

If the impassioned pleas had been made available upon request at a modest price I may have reacted differently. However, there seems to be a feeling on the part of some that only a very few actually provided the financial backing that such a recording and mail-out surely must have cost.

That a few persons would attempt such an endeavor at a time when many are calling for and working toward peace is both unfortunate and inappropriate. This kind of action will not bring peace and will certainly not bring the results this June for which it was intended.

Timothy L. Waits
Calhoun

God works in another Kenya crusade

Last week I returned from a partnership crusade to Mombasa, Kenya and just wanted to report that it was one of the greatest I have ever known.

Larry Lindsey of New Hope Baptist Church, Graves County, also went and reported 150 conversions where he served in the Adija Baptist Church. I was assigned to the Ushindi Baptist Church field. A 70-year-old lady from Atlanta was assigned to work with me and we had two witnessing teams going out each afternoon in one-on-one witnessing. We saw 205 conversions and the total for the crusade was more than 4700.

The medical teams were greatly used of the Lord to minister to the physical needs of 3400 people. We used the opportunity also to share the gospel of Christ with many of them and saw many of these people saved.

As you know Wayne Dehoney led the crusade and our missionary, Ralph Bethea, coordinated the work and did a wonderful job. I thank God for Ralph and the other missionaries who worked along side us and watched God at work in such mighty force.

Calvin Wilkins
Mayfield

A miracle at Garfield Avenue

Garfield Avenue Baptist Church, Long Run Association, has experienced a small miracle this past year and we would like to share it.

May was a month of blessings with 10

baptisms and two by church letter. This ends a year of 17 baptisms and 29 by letter in addition to many inactive members who returned to the fold.

The church has tripled in size this year from 20 to 60 and we had five services with more than 90 in attendance. This may seem like a small blessing to many larger churches, but to a small inner-city church with few resources it is a miracle.

Garfield is one of the few churches in the state led by two pastors. What is more unique is they are of different races and different countries. Our blessing is more than numbers. The blessings we have received few churches ever experience. Being able to worship in unity of spirit with God's children from all parts of the world has been a growing time for all of us.

If you would like someone from Garfield to come to share our miracle and how you may increase church growth, call 502-633-3456. No charge for what God has taught us.

David Ransdell
Gogo Benson-Jaja
Copastors
Louisville

Thanks to women of Kentucky

This is the best way I know of to thank the women of Kentucky for their wonderful response in support of the Kentucky Room in the new Woman's Missionary Union national headquarters building in Birmingham. The \$38,408 designated as the amount necessary for sponsoring and furnishing this conference room has been surpassed. However, the work of missions goes on all over the building. Consequently, any money received since meeting our goal will be used to help pay for the undesignated areas of the building.

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²²God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth."⁸

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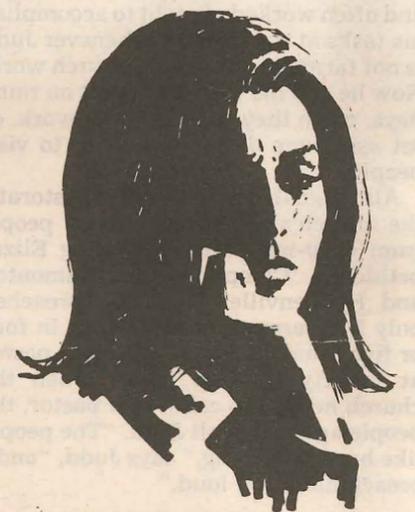
There are two things, though, that the Kentucky Room still needs to make it complete: new wall covering below the chair rail, plus special window treatment for energy conservation and room darkening in order to view projections. These items will need to be specified if we want them done in the near future. Therefore, I am taking this opportunity to request that any people wishing to make a Thank Offering to WMU in the next few weeks, please mark it for "Kentucky Room decorating," if they would like to see these things done.

Our room is beautiful and you will be proud of it. Visit it when you travel to Birmingham!

Gifts may be mailed to: Thank Offering, Kentucky Room Decorating Woman's Missionary Union, Box C-10, Birmingham, AL 35283-0010.

Maribeth Hambrick
Georgetown Baptist Church
Kentucky Room, Chairman
Kentucky WMU

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



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Bivocational midstate farmer claims greatest joy 'shepherding the flock'

by Beth W. Prassel
KBC Communications

Six years ago when a full time farmer preached his first sermon at Mt. Sherman's Liberty Missionary Baptist Church, in East Lynn Association, only 33 were present for Sunday school.

Today, Jerry Judd is still farming, but the Sunday school has quadrupled in six years and more than 200 are listening to him preach every Sunday morning.

Judd runs an 80-acre farm and milks 60 cows but his greatest joy comes as pastor of Liberty Missionary Baptist Church. Problems and frustrations that arise in bivocational work do not seem to hinder Judd's confident ministry in this rural community about 10 miles north of Greensburg.

Since Judd's farm is located 20 miles from the church, he drives at least 200 miles a week to and from church services. He adds more to his weekly mileage for visitation in the community and during revival weeks.

"It runs me to death," he says with a chuckle, recalling the previous week's revival. "Saturday I got up and milked those 60 cows—by myself—went and got a load of hay, fed my cows, came to prayer meeting, went back, got a load of hay, . . . put my feed in, milked my cows and back over here at 15 'til 6:00 for prayer for revival."

When Judd first went to the church he spent two or three days a week there and often worked at night to accomplish his tasks at the church. Whenever Judd is not farming, he is doing church work. Now he and his wife often visit on rainy days, when they can't do farm work, or set aside one day of the week to visit people.

Although this is Judd's first pastorate, the church's ministries attract people from a 40-mile area, including Elizabethtown, Campbellsville, Edmonton and Hodgenville. Judd had preached only five sermons before filling in four or five Sundays for the previous pastor at Liberty Baptist. Later, when the church needed to call a new pastor, the people agreed to call Judd. "The people like hard preaching," says Judd, "and I preach hard and loud."

Judd's dedication, along with cooperation from church members, accounts for much of the church's growth. Judd and a group of church members visit people throughout the community every Thursday night. Sometimes as many as 20 participate in visitation. The church dedicates itself to prayer each Thursday night before visitation and every Saturday at noon. Several members meet to pray 15 to 30 minutes before each Sunday morning service.

The church members not only visit people and pray but they provide transportation. Before and after every service the church van travels throughout a 12-15 mile area taking people to and from church. In addition, one of the church members owns a large bus. He often takes groups of adults or youth to places of recreation, such as Opryland.

Judd recently began a tape ministry in the church. Each church service is

let happen what happens." Judd plans no set order of worship for Sunday services. "We worship the old time way," he says. "I like for it to be different every service."

Judd explains that Liberty Baptist believes all that most Baptists believe. However, the church members are emotional and, unlike a lot of Baptists, are not afraid to express their feelings. During services people often go to the altar and pray. The people enjoy singing "old time gospel" music and services usually last 90 minutes or longer. "It's a shoutin' church," says Judd.

When others are sick the members have faith in the healing power of God; they anoint with oil and pray for healing. "We've had a lot of people healed . . . some don't [get healed] and I don't know why they don't."

Sunday school classes continue to grow. Judd expresses the church's con-

We expect things to happen.
Most of the time you get what
you expect.

Jerry Judd

recorded on tape and mailed free of charge to people in the community. Beginning with a mailout of 18 during the first week, the number surpassed 100 within six weeks. People in the community also hear about Liberty Baptist Church on Judd's weekly radio program, broadcast each Sunday morning. Together, the tape ministry and radio program reach many people who might not have heard about the church otherwise.

The church services themselves contribute much to the church's success, according to Judd. "We're an unusual Baptist church," he explains. During Wednesday night prayer meeting "we just come in here and start singing and

cern for the growth of Christians as well as for conversion of nonChristians. He teaches a class of new Christians, helping them know what to expect.

Since Judd has been at the church members have seen evidence of growth in several young Christians. Nine or 10 young men have made commitments to the ministry by announcing their call to preach.

Perhaps one of Liberty's greatest characteristics is its love and concern for people. A slogan suggests Liberty Baptist Church is a place "where everybody is somebody and Jesus Christ is Lord."

"We like for everybody to feel that they're just as important as I am. . . . It doesn't matter if they're poor, rich . . . we want them to feel that they're a part just like anybody else." Judd stresses the fact that all persons are welcome at Liberty Missionary Baptist, regardless of who they are or what they have done. "We just like to get people saved. . . ." he allows.

Judd explains that the only way some people will know about Jesus' love is to see the love of Jesus in the people of the church. He describes Liberty as one of the most spiritual churches he has seen.

"There's a great love here," he says. He often receives letters and calls from people about the love they have felt when visiting the church.

Despite the church's success, Judd has experienced problems and frustrations. One of his greatest frustrations comes when he feels God leading the church in a certain direction yet the members hesitate to follow. When Judd preaches, he proclaims what he believes to be God's word. But "some people can't stand it . . . when whatever you're preaching is where they're living," he declares.



Jerry Judd

He has seen people leave because they did not like what he preached. However, Judd does not "back up for anybody . . . I'm very plain with it. . . . We just try to deal where people live. . . . We try to get people saved."

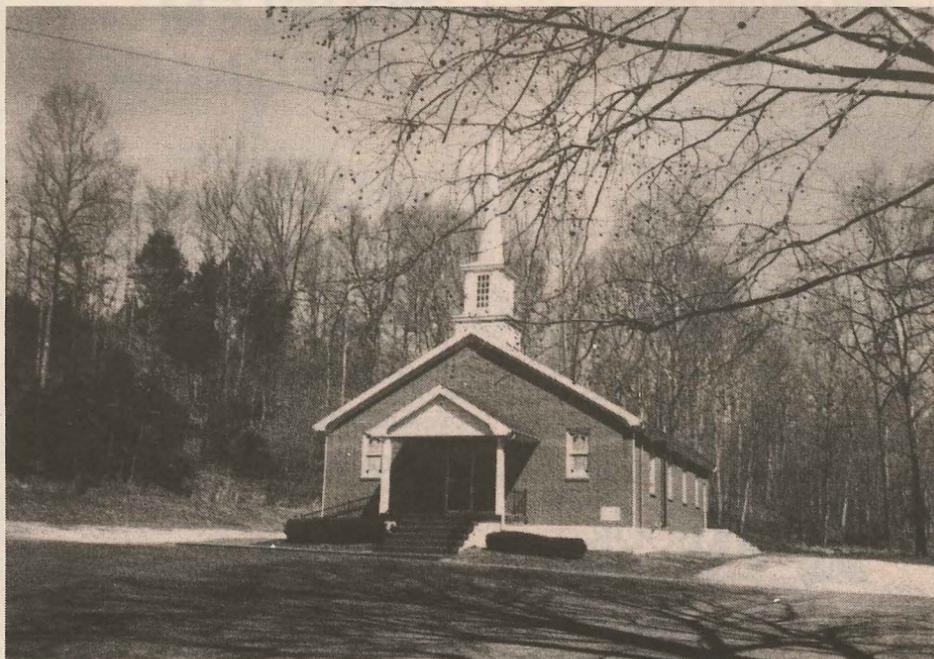
"We've had problems," says Judd, "but a church that doesn't have problems isn't doing anything. Ever since I've been here we've had ups and downs, but we've never stopped growing." (The church just recently voted to build on to its present structure to accommodate the growing number of people.)

Judd believes the church has grown well, "but nothing like we could have." He feels that practicing two professions limits his success as a pastor.

"Sometimes it would be nice to be off the farm and on the church field every day . . . if I didn't have the farm and could put more time on it . . . there's no end to what a person could do with the Lord's help," he avers.

Judd feels God has placed him in this bivocational situation and seems pleased with the growth the church has experienced during his six years there. In spite of his frustrations and desires to do even more with the church Judd expresses his happiness with the growth of Liberty Missionary Baptist Church. "We expect things to happen. Most of the time you get what you expect."

Judd says that growing a church requires paying a price. "If you want to sit down and do nothing, that's what you'll have . . . if you want to get out there . . . and work and witness and care for people, you'll grow a church. It's all in what you want to do."



Liberty Church: 'one of the most spiritual'

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BAPTIST JOINT COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Paducah couple turns retirement to joyful service out in Arizona

by Pauline Stegall
State Correspondent

Versatile, flexible, energetic. Each word is applicable to Stella and Leroy Fox, Ledbetter. Well beyond retirement age, the Foxes continue to find new avenues of Christian service.

Now members of Baptist Tabernacle (Clyde Angel, pastor), Paducah, West Union Association, they are ready to fill any church position.

Leroy, a retired truck driver, and Stella, who is experienced in restaurant work, have always been misison-minded. Many years ago, as members of Paducah's Twelfth Street Baptist Church, they helped found the Eighth Street Mission which later became Bethel Baptist Church.

In the early 70s the Foxes moved to Phoenix. They found mission needs in Arizona made-to-order for their many skills.

Immediately becoming involved in starting a mission, they saw it grow into the Lewin Butte Church. True to their lifestyle, the Fox couple served many positions during the developing period of the church.

Returning to Kentucky in the 80s, they still had a desire to do mission work.

They returned to Arizona in the winter of 1986-87, this time as volunteers through the Home Mission Board. Their assignment was in Apache Association where they worked with Mark Daniels, director of missions, and his wife, Clara.

Stella's duties reflected her many talents. She worked in the associational office as receptionist, did bookkeeping and worked with audiovisuals. Leroy worked in the BTN room, kept the facility clean and helped erect a storage building.

Volunteering again in 1987-88 they returned to Apache Association. This time Leroy did repair work at Bethel Baptist Church and at Ferguson Memorial Baptist Church. At Ferguson, on the Pima Indian Reservation, he worked with missionary Steve Fox.

Stella again worked in the office, instructed children at Highway Baptist Church in Apache Junction and exercised her culinary skills by cooking for visiting associational guests.

Her creativity was demonstrated when she developed a new recipe for a pie made out of sour oranges, a fruit usually ignored by Arizonans.

"Many Arizona Baptist churches have started as mission churches and become full-fledged churches," Fox stated. "The churches need help because of so many retired people."

He spoke of the effect of sun belt migration.

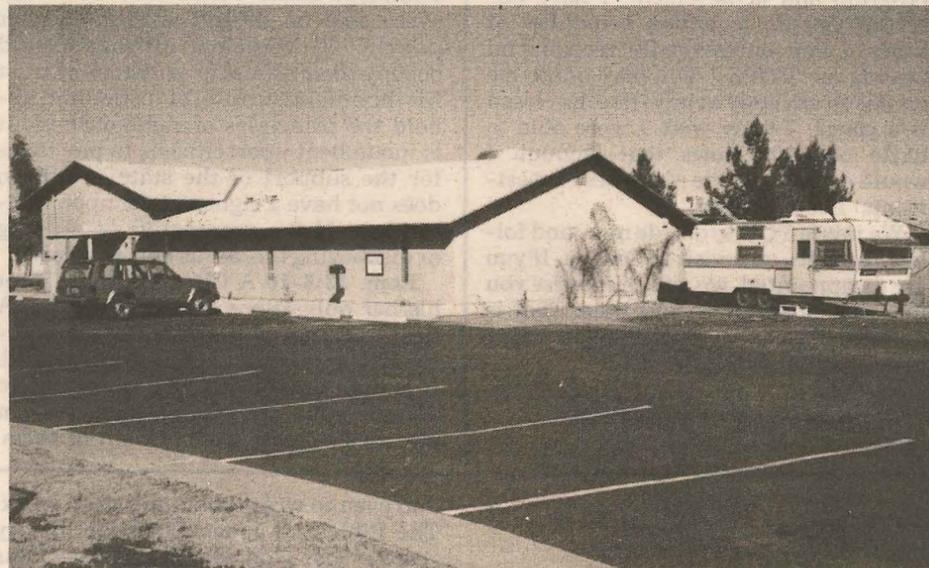
"The churches can't keep up with the people coming in. Some new churches are being built. But it is difficult to get building permits because of the Mormons in city government."

Fox proudly displayed his home organ which he plays by ear.

"I worked at Dairy Queen five or six hours a day, too," he laughed. "They like to get older people who will work hard."

More Arizona mission plans? Nothing definite. But the Foxes will be involved in missions somewhere.

Top to bottom: Leroy Fox, Paducah, on grounds of Bethel Baptist Church, Apache Association, Arizona; Stella Fox using her culinary skills in associational building kitchen; exterior of associational offices; Fox with children and workers at Highway Baptist Church, Apache Junction.



James H. Cox
Associate Editor

fourth estate

A humble servant

One of Southern Baptists' spiritual giants claimed his heavenly reward a few months ago. Porter W. Routh was, from 1951-79, executive secretary-treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee.

I didn't know Porter and Ruth Routh well even though we were members of the same congregation 15 years. But there were definite signals that he was a humble layman, faithful to his Lord, his denomination and his church, and was never enamored with his own importance.

The Rouths could be found at First Baptist Church, Nashville, Sunday mornings, Sunday nights, Wednesday nights, and every other occasion his busy travel schedule allowed. That impressed us denominational employees and lots of others as well.

I was deeply touched by his humility and sincerity. Two illustrations suggest why.

Several years ago I sat in an Executive Committee session where the chairman, a Louisiana pastor, was retiring. He spoke of his relationship with Dr. and Mrs. Routh, sharing personal insights into Porter's great love for Southern Baptists.

The pastor recalled when he was elected to the high office of chairman of the Executive Committee, he was soon invited to the Routh home. Following a meal, the two men moved into the living room.

"I turned to Dr. Routh," the retiring chairman remembered, "and said, 'Porter, what would you like me to do during my term?'"

Routh replied: "You've got it all wrong. The real question is, 'What can I do to help you?'"

Concluding his remarks to the Executive Committee, the speaker lovingly, almost reverently added: "You know, I never found it any other way."

Another example: By virtue of his office as SBC treasurer, each year Routh was provided a desk on the platform at the annual convention sessions. He was conspicuous as he sat pouring over notes, handling myriad details. Yet he never called undue attention to himself while under the constant scrutiny of thousands of Baptist eyes.

Once, during each convention, he would slip out to the farthest point in the convention hall (often in a balcony), find a chair and sit down. Facing the desk he occupied on stage he viewed that small speck from his distant vantage point. Routh said he would think to himself: "How small that man must be."

He must increase, but I must decrease (Jn. 3:30).

Sainthood for Porter Routh? Maybe not, but he was a lot closer than many of us will ever grasp.



Barkley Moore
President
Oneida Baptist Institute
Oneida, KY 40972

oneida journal

Oneida is "tops"

Many touching letters come to us. Some are from donors. Others are from former students. Many are from girls and boys wanting to come to our school. The other day one came from a young man in northern Kentucky:

"Sir, I'm writing because me and my friends heard about your school. I was in school and Dr. _____ told us about your school. He said he has been there and he told us it was a very nice place. He said it was pretty big. Well I would love to attend your school and so would my friends Mike and Andy.

"I have to talk to my parents. They don't know how much it would cost. My mom doesn't work no more. But my dad makes a couple of hundred a week sometimes.

"I have been wanting to attend a private school a long time. I figure it would help me. Well I believe in Jesus Christ and he has done wonders for my family. Well I better let you go. Could you please write back and fill me in on your school. I thank God for people like you trying to help young people out."

Many such letters come and many young people of this caliber enrol in our school. It is their own idea, not their parents'. They, themselves, want to be here. They come for the right reasons, wanting something better. Of course, such young people are of immeasurable worth in setting the tone and helping to minister, by their attitude and example, to many of their peers who come to us reluctantly. The first group helps the

second group to become outstanding young people also.

Sometimes students come here in very difficult situations. With much effort, we get the student onto a differing path, making real headway, and then parents withdraw the child for whatever reason. This is generally done without any request for our opinion or insight. We just ache sometimes as we see tragic mistakes in the making, and are helpless to stop it. Often appeals are made to us to take the child back when things go wrong back in the environment that produced the problems to begin with. Consider this recently received letter: "Last year I brought my oldest son to you. Oneida helped him more than anything I've ever done for him. Then school started this year. My parents, his father and everyone close to him wanted him to go to school here. I knew it was a mistake, but I let him stay home. Now, after four months, everyone has decided that something has to be done. His behavior is awful. He has no regard for anyone. He seems so angry at everything. He has been expelled. I don't know how to help him unless you accept him back. I know with your constant guidance and teaching him about the Lord, someday his life may turn around. Help me."

We made a good start with the young man before. But, with the sequence of events since, we may or may not be able to duplicate. How much better had we been allowed to continue what had been started, building on the gains made initially.

Very encouraging is a letter like the following: "I spent 48 years in school work; 24 as classroom teacher and 24 as a high school principal, all in the same public school system, and where I spent 12 years as a student. I humbly believe I am qualified to recognize a good school program and achievement. I have observed Oneida in action a number of times. I can unreservedly recommend Oneida as "TOPS." You may quote me on this to anybody at any time. Enclosed is a check. I truly wish I were able to write one 100 times that amount. I would consider it one of the best 'investments' I could make."

We invite YOU to decide now, and follow through, on a visit to Oneida. If you are disappointed, we will reimburse you for your gas expense and time. That is no joke. I mean it. *Every day* is "open house" at Oneida.

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sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR JUNE 12, 1988

Life and work series

Responsibility of citizens

Rom. 13:1-7 Human government is ordained of God and functions by his providence. God has ordained government for the protection of its citizens, for the punishment of evildoers and for the administration of justice. Defiance of governmental authority is a violation of the law and a mark of disobedience to God. A Christian should abide by the laws and be submissive to them unless said governmental agency should require disobedience to God.

What are some of the obligations which a Christian owes to the government? Citizens should respect the government under which they live. "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers." Government officials should occupy their offices as positions of trust for the administration of justice and uphold the principles of righteousness. It is incumbent upon citizens to pay taxes for the support of the state. A citizen does not have a right to take upon himself/herself the prerogative of obeying or disobeying the law as he/she pleases.

Rom. 13:8-10 A Christian must meet his/her obligations to other persons. A debt must never defraud his/her creditor, or leave a debt to any person unpaid. It is both unethical and unChristian to assume more obligations than one can pay, or to ignore the payment of them.

A Christian should certainly live within his/her means and pay bills promptly.

Paul enumerated the last five of the Ten Commandments, and they can be summarized in the admonition to love other citizens. We continually owe a debt of love to all persons. If we love them as we should, we shall have respect for their persons and their possessions. Expressing love for others is both an obligation and an opportunity which we must not neglect.

International series

Moses: search for identity

Ex. 2:11-14 Actuated by a genuine love for his brethren, the Israelites, Moses went forth to observe their condition with his own eyes. He was sorely grieved to see them ground down by their labors. Moses observed an Egyptian taskmaster beating a Hebrew slave unmercifully. Pity for the victim and hatred for the oppressor surged in Moses. He resolved to rescue the victim and punish the wrong doer regardless of the consequences. With a swift blow Moses slew the cruel Egyptian and returned to the palace hoping his rash act would never be known.

Ex. 2:15 Naturally, the man whom Moses had rescued from death began to tell what had happened. Moses was alarmed when one of his friends informed him that Pharaoh had heard what he had done and had ordered him to be slain. Moses got some bread and a skin of water and fled to the desert of Midian for safety.

Ex. 2:16-17 Shortly after the refugee "sat down by a well" to meditate, seven young women came to the well to water their father's flock. Shepherds came and attempted to drive the young women away. Moses promptly and courageously helped the women finish their task more quickly.

Ex. 2:18-22 When the women returned home, their father Reul, a priest, inquired why they returned earlier than usual. They informed him that Moses had helped them. He insisted they show their gratitude to Moses and invite him to their tent for a meal. With genuine gratitude he accepted their invitation to live in their home for a while. Reul gave Moses Zipporah for a wife and welcomed him into their home as a member of the family. In that strange land he developed numerous commendable qualities and performed his duties faithfully, whereupon he learned to depend on God in every circumstance.



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on mission together

Uncertainty

Is there **more uncertainty** in the world today than in any other previous era? What criteria would be used to determine if that were so?

I suppose a good polling consultant could design a series of questions, and from a random sampling, come up with something of an opinion.

Without benefit of "poll," an historian's familiarity, or any claimed "prophetic word" from the Lord, I would suggest that, indeed, **uncertainty permeates our culture.**

I have a faith-certainty, that God is good, merciful, redemptive, etc., but that is tempered with historical awareness that God also allows his people to suffer, to hurt themselves and others,

and even to wreck their own good work. The Bible and Judeo-Christian history reveals that God seldom "rescues" his people in times of trouble. Accompany? Yes! Attend? Yes! **Rescue? Rarely!**

As an optimist, I look for hopeful signs on a global, national and denominational scale. There are a few "glimmers of hope" but they are apparent, it seems, only to those who look through the biased telescope of optimism.

Sometimes I think optimists avoid seeing the darker realities of a nation showing significant signs of decay.

No one likes to hear that our nation may be "sick"—it's unpatriotic! While I served as a Marine, patriotism can be a cop out on reality. I think our nation is gravely ill. The indications are too plentiful: drug consumption, homosexuality, breakdown of family, corruption in high (and low) places, selfish consumerism, moral failure in leadership, natural resource exploitation, etc., etc., "ad nauseam." We have never had so many symptoms in such proportion.

When the Roman Empire fell, maybe.

Sure, lots of folks still do some good things—but our culture shows more signs of decay and spreading illness than it shows remission and vitality.

So I am left to decide what, if anything, I can do about it.

I believe, from faith and experience, that a person who seriously and redemptively encounters Christ not only is changed, but becomes a change agent—new light in the darkness.

While darkness falls upon our nation, the light of God's eternal purpose for mankind can never be totally extinguished. Of that, I have a faith-certainty.

I hope, then, for **renewal** not of our passing culture, or our nationalistic ideologies; not our aging and wasteful system—but of individuals; of persons . . . God's most beloved creation.

In the midst of uncertainty, I must cling to my faith-certainty: I will hope and work for a renewed world—if not for me, for my grandchildren.

Annuity Board's ministry is 'touching lives with love'

by Darold H. Morgan
President, Annuity Board
Southern Baptist Convention

In the 70 years since the creation of the Annuity Board, countless Southern Baptist servants have been touched by its two-fold ministry: helping ministers, church staff members and denominational employees prepare for retirement and providing relief for those who did not prepare adequately.

On Annuity Board Sunday, June 26, Southern Baptist churches will recognize this two-fold work of *servicing those who serve the Lord*.

Much about the work at the board has changed in seven decades. For instance, when the Southern Baptist Convention created the *Relief and Annuity Board* in 1918, it was believed that the relief ministry would be its primary emphasis. However, over the years the board's focus changed so much that *relief* was dropped from the name. It became apparent that encouraging ministers to prepare for old age and providing a way to build retirement income was much more effective than providing relief.

Nevertheless, relief—the ministry of providing financial aid to needy retired ministers and their widows—has not been dropped from the board's mission.

Ideally this portion of the ministry could be eliminated for lack of need. But as long as our denomination is growing, as long as we have churches struggling financially, there will be a need for relief.

Many elderly, retired ministers and their widows who served small Southern Baptist churches during the early to mid 1900s need this help. These servants ministered at a great sacrifice for the cause of Christ and the growth of the denomination. The consequences of their sacrificial ministry were not fully realized until their age and/or health forced them into retirement.

Even now, churches struggling financially are not able to help ministers prepare adequately for retirement. But there are other reasons why the Annuity Board relief ministry must and will be continued.

• Some retired ministers and ministers' widows have lived far beyond the effectiveness of the annuity they began receiving years ago. Inflation and longer

life spans figure into this.

• Some ministers retired without Social Security benefits. However, this number is dwindling significantly.

• The number of bivocational ministers is growing. Churches with bivocational pastors often assume that the preachers' second job will provide a pension.

Southern Baptist churches are providing funds for this relief ministry, which touches the lives of those who have sacrificially served Southern Baptist churches. In 1987 Cooperative Program dollars provided a healing touch to 600 needy, retired ministers and widows. The Annuity Board distributed \$653,281 to people who needed help paying for utilities, doctor bills, prescription medicine, rent and other expenses.

The Annuity Board distributed an additional \$193,655, provided by direct donations, through the Adopt An Annuitant program. In 1987 this program dispensed monthly \$50 supplements to 357 retired ministers and widows whose incomes were inadequate.

The worth of the \$50 is multiplied many times by the deep appreciation ex-

pressed by "adoptees." These "adopted" annuitants know their lives have been touched with love.

The widow of a Baptist preacher writes: "I am so touched by the generosity of a dear Christian friend. How grateful I am to God for this person."

The Annuity Board knows more than 2000 people who need Christian friends like this widow describes. Individuals, Sunday school classes and departments, church organizations and churches at large may adopt an annuitant in two ways: by committing at least \$600 for a year (\$50 a month); or by making a \$6000 one-time gift, which will provide a needy annuitant with \$50 a month for life.

This year's Annuity Board Sunday emphasis focuses on the board's relief ministries, such as the Adopt An Annuitant program.

A free bulletin insert for use on Annuity Board Sunday is available from the Annuity Board. To order, write to John Bloskas, director of endowment; Annuity Board, SBC; P. O. Box 2190; Dallas, TX 75221-2190. Be sure to include quantity desired, your name, your church's name and church address.

Adopt An Annuitant matches donors, retirees

Believing it's a travesty for "servants of the Lord to spend retirement in poverty," a Texas Baptist couple decided to do what they could to help retired ministers and widows. They "adopted" a 92-year-old widow and two others, providing them with extra cash every month.

Matching donors with needy retired ministers, denominational employees and widows through the Adopt An Annuitant program is a ministry of the Annuity Board of the SBC.

Mr. and Mrs. Hall (not their real name) became interested in the Adopt An Annuitant program after reading about it in the Baptist Standard of Texas and receiving additional information from their local association.

"I think it is a terrible shame that people who devote their lives to furthering the gospel must live their retirement years worrying from month to month if they can pay their bills," Mr. Hall said.

In 1987 monthly \$50 supplements were dispensed through Adopt An Annuitant to 357 persons whose incomes were considered inadequate. The board knows more than 2000 others like the elderly Florida widow who need Christian friends like the Halls.

The widow, Mrs. Smith (not her real name), is the third annuitant the Halls have "adopted." She had been receiving an annuity of \$25 a month from the board before she became part of the Adopt An Annuitant program.

"My husband worked for New Orleans Seminary the last eight years prior to his retirement," Mrs. Smith said, "so we only qualified for \$25 a month. "This additional \$50 is a godsend."

With Social Security and Annuity Board benefits, Mrs. Smith now receives \$575 a month to pay her rent, utilities, food and other expenses.

"Persons selected for adoption come from a pool of persons who are listed as living below the poverty level," said John Bloskas, vice president and director of endowment at the Annuity Board. A very careful screening ensures that there is a need and the person meets the guidelines set up by the board's trustees.

Touching Lives With Love



Annuity Board Sunday
June 26, 1988

BHI is proud of Nina Owen Hewitt

On January 31, 1949, Nina Owen started working for the President of Kentucky Baptist Hospital, Louisville, Kentucky. In those days you worked a 48-hour work week. During the early years, Nina carpooled Monday through Friday from her home in Mount Washington, Kentucky, to Louisville. On Saturdays her father would drive her to the bus stop, where she would take the bus round trip to downtown Louisville and back to work a half day.

A lot of people, changes and healthcare procedures have come and gone, and Nina Owen Hewitt has experienced them all. For 39 years Nina has worked for three Presidents of Baptist Hospitals, Inc.: Dr. H. L. Dobbs, Dr. Homer Coggins and Dr. B. R. Brewer.

In her capacity as Secretary to the Corporation, she has been at the nerve center of all activities.

Nina prepared the requests and official documents necessary to start construction of Western Baptist Hospital, Central Baptist Hospital and Baptist Hospital East so that their areas could have medical services made available to them.

Nina has seen young nurses, doctors and employees mature into medical professionals in their respective communities. She is quick to tell you that the most memorable experience in her 39 years of service was the day that Don Hewitt, an employee of Louisville Baptist Hospitals, changed her name from Owen to Hewitt on their wedding day in 1970.

If you are looking for a role model of integrity, loyalty and endorsement of the mission of an organization, you need look no further than Nina Hewitt. Nina took her well-deserved retirement on February 26, 1988. We shall miss Nina on a daily basis but look forward to the frequent visits she has promised to make.

Nina's first activity upon retirement has been assisting in the collection of data for a book to be written on the history of Baptist Hospitals, Inc. What better person to serve as the focal point for reliving our history than Nina. We all look forward to the finished product, knowing Nina will have confirmed the facts.

In the 1980s there have been many social changes to our society, but one word still epitomizes the highest compliment you can pay to someone like Nina—she is a "lady."



For additional information about Baptist Hospitals, Inc.
call or write the President of BHI at:

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