

Youth Evangelism Conference records 352 decisions

by Todd Deaton, Staff Writer

An estimated crowd of 5000 teenagers and ministers of youth attended the state Youth Evangelism Conference June 24-25 in Frankfort's Civic Center and witnessed 352 youth make decisions for Christ.

Among the decisions recorded by the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Evangelism Department were 88 professions of faith, 206 rededications and seven commitments to church vocations.

Key program personalities included Rick Stanley, evangelist, Ft. Walton Beach, Fla.; Henry Chiromo, national youth consultant, Zimbabwe; and Jerry Burgess, physician and Christian illusionist, Whitley City.

Stanley, a graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex. and stepbrother of Elvis Presley, admonished young people to "cut the fluff and the hype" about their lifestyle. "Let's keep Judgment Day honest," he charged.

"Excuse me for being a little old fashioned, but I believe when a person is saved their life is changed and they begin to think about the things of God," Stanley asserted. "If you know Jesus Christ, you act like Jesus Christ.

"I had a form of godliness, too, but I denied the power thereof, like many of you," he continued. "These aisles should be filled with thousands coming and saying, 'I need to be saved. I need to quit mocking God. I need to reflect Jesus Christ.'"

Admitting he was a "17-year-old gutless wonder," Stanley confessed he "didn't have guts enough to say, 'No, thank you,' to the crowd" and it cost him.

"No one ever came to my church when I was a young boy and said, 'Every 21 minutes we lose a kid to alcohol,'" he claimed. "No one ever came and said, 'Everyday 68 teenagers die from alcohol.'"

"Hey, man, grow up! Don't sit out there and say, 'That won't happen to me,'" Stanley warned. "My big brother (Elvis) said that. I said that.

"If you don't hear me, I don't know what it's going to take for you. I'll tell you what it took for me—and I'm sorry to say it, folks—it took the death of my big brother," he cried. "It took a blood sacrifice for God to get my attention."

Although Stanley traveled with Elvis almost everywhere, he claims the most beautiful person he met was a 15-year-old girl who became his friend and told him what he really needed was Christ in his life. After accepting an invitation to attend church, Stanley was converted. "I came off drugs—amphetamines, barbiturates, hallucinogenics, everything—that night," he said. "I'm standing here as your friend and I'm saying he'll change you, too."

Chiromo, an international student in the MDiv degree program at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, told the youth about a girl who had been sexually abused by her school teacher.

"She was fear-stricken, guilt-ridden," he related. "Her youthful zest for life was punctured by her consciousness of what was happening. She felt lonely, helpless and hopeless."

Chiromo shared the gospel with the girl and witnessed her conversion. "I had good news for that dear girl. What had been a written word had become a living document, the living word, for me," he stated.

"The experience of the empowering presence of God enabled her to face the gruesomeness of life's destructive forces with a conquering posture.

"Here is God's invitation for you to experience new life through a personal, intimate relationship with God in Jesus Christ," explained Chiromo.

"We can experience the healing power of being made whole. We can be forgiven of our sins no matter how hideous they may be," he proclaimed. "We can be freed to be on the road to realizing our maximum potential . . . to experience abundant, overflowing life."

Burgess is a member of the KBC executive board who shares the gospel through various illusions, involving rings, picture frames, razor blades and water glasses.

"Depression is the most common disease in America because it is the exact opposite of abundant life," the physician told the crowd.

"We have created a culture that runs here and there trying everything it can get its hands on—whether it's drugs, sex, alcohol, glamour, a big bank ac-

count, or sports success—just trying to find what Jesus Christ said, 'I came to give you.' And, you'll never find abundant life anywhere but in him," Burgess said.

"But, there's a difference between believing and trusting in something," Burgess claimed, asking for a volunteer to assist him in an illusion involving a miniature guillotine.

"I put a person in that contraption and made a preposterous claim. I claimed to be able to apparently take a piece of steel and put it through a man's neck without hurting him," he said after performing the stunt. "And, he had to make a decision whether he trusted the claim I made enough that he would commit all that he was to it.

"The difference between believing something is true and placing your trust in it involves commitment," Burgess explained. "Jesus Christ wants you to commit all that you are to him. And, trusting him means you're willing to forsake anything that would take you away from that decision."

Featured musicians at this year's meeting included Harbor, a Nashville group used extensively by Ridgecrest (N. C.) Baptist Conference Center.

Bill and Kathy Cox, representatives of the South Carolina Baptist Convention's Evangelism Department, presented a multimedia contemporary retelling of the Prodigal Son story. The presentation utilized three giant screens, several cassette tape decks and nine slide projectors.

Scholarships increase

The scholarship committee of the Baptist Foundation announced an 8.8 percent increase in scholarship money given to needy Kentucky Baptist students for the academic year 1988-89. Grants were:

school	number	amt.
Campbellsville	48	33,250
Cumberland	46	33,750
Georgetown	28	21,000
Clear Creek	26	19,500
Southern Sem.	22	16,125
		TOTAL \$125,525

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Blacks, whites share Trigg County revival effort

by Betty Anderson
State Correspondent

One lives in a neighboring county. One came from Louisville to the county of his birth. Both have been pastors. One is head of his denomination in Kentucky and a prominent speaker. The other is an evangelist. One is black; one, white. They were coevangelists June 26-July 1 in an associational revival in Cadiz.

The "co" did not stop with the speakers. The Trigg County Area Unity Evangelistic Crusade cooperated the entire revival effort—a black and a white crusade director, a black choir and a white choir, leaders of both races sharing the other spots on the platform.

Lincoln Bingham and Don Short of Eddyville were coevangelists. Having lived in Trigg County community of Cerulean until age 18, Bingham is presently superintendent of missions for the General Association of Baptists in Kentucky, Louisville, and cooperative ministries consultant for the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

The crusade opened Sunday night, June 26, with greetings from County Judge Executive Zelner Cossey and Mayor Scott Sivills, who had proclaimed the period as Race Relationship Unity Week, and John Randolph, superintendent of schools. The nights Bingham preached the white choir sang, and when Short preached the black choir sang. Bingham numbered the nightly crowd filling the Trigg County High School football stadium at 800.

By Friday night seven people had been saved, two had come seeking God's will for their lives, two for rededication. Harold Skaggs, pastor of Cadiz Baptist Church, codirector of the event, pointed



L to R: Don Short, Eddyville, evangelist; F. L. Larkin, crusade codirector; Ralph Benningfield, DOM, Little River Association

out the value of the crusade in promoting attitude changes as well as an evangelistic thrust. Before the Civil War black and white families worshiped together in Trigg County, historians say.

Church men from both groups—the Little River Association and the Little River-Cumberland Valley District Association—have felt the need for more communication. About four years ago the Cadiz Baptist congregation, according to Skaggs, invited Bingham and the West End Baptist Church Choir, Louisville, to lead a service. Six or seven black churches attended, with about 500 people there, he said.

Later Bingham and Ralph Benningfield, Little River Association director of missions, became acquainted while speaking in a World Missions Conference in Ohio County. Because of their common ties to Trigg County, the two

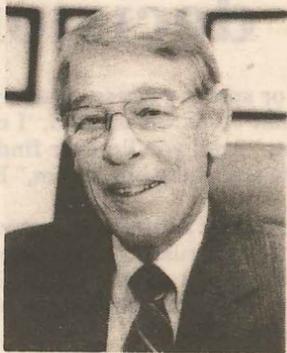
began discussing and praying about strengthening the fellowship between black and white church communities. Little River-Cumberland Valley has 22 churches with many of its pastors not living on the field. The white association has 21 churches.

While worship styles of blacks and whites differ, Benningfield pointed out, ideas can be exchanged about missions, training and Sunday school. He and Bingham are exploring the possibility of a black Southern Baptist Church in Trigg County which would be dually aligned with the black association. The church would use SBC programs.

Bingham preached the closing service of the crusade. His text was Romans 10:1-17, with his sermon being entitled "The Desire of My Heart." His desire is that all his relatives, every Trigg County, be saved.

sanford's perspectives

An opportunity for healing



Jack D. Sanford

The vote Jerry Vines got in San Antonio could not be considered a mandate nor a landslide victory. However he did win and he is the president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Historic Baptist polity calls upon all loyal Southern Baptists to give this man a chance to heal the denomination and become a great president.

And this is exactly what all of us will watch for in the months ahead. We will look carefully at what this man says but, more particularly, we will look carefully at what he does. This, too, is historic Baptist polity.

Vines is in a position to bring healing to the denomination and he can do this, just like every one of his predecessors in the past nine years could have done, by his appointments to key positions within the structure of the denomination.

He has said he wants to do the right thing and do it in the right way. However there will no doubt be questions about what is the right thing and what is the right way.

It may not be worth much, and it surely will not change the mind of the president, but this editor suggests the right thing is to appoint members of the minority to key positions in the structure and the right way to do it is straight up—no fancy rhetoric—just plain appointment of men and women to key positions even though they have been in the minority these past years.

None of his predecessors has had the will to do this and as a result the minority continues to be on the outside of decision making throughout the denomination.

One of the principal gripes of ultra conservatives is that they stood on the outside for many years, without vote or voice in the decision-making process. Not many people will deny the legitimate complaint they have. However, that must change if we are to have any semblance of peace. Two wrongs do not make a right and to perpetuate a policy that is wrong is to compound the wrong.

Now the president of the convention can help heal the terrible sore on our collective body by taking a step none of those who preceded him these past nine years has had the will to take.

Will Vines appoint moderates to positions of leadership and influence? Time will tell and time will indicate whether we go on in the bloody way we seem to love or if we will turn to each other as brothers and sisters.

It is an awesome responsibility for one man. It takes great spiritual courage and great moral integrity to do what is right when so many want something altogether different. All of us pray Jerry Vines has those moral attributes which can make him a great president of our beloved denomination.

An inspirational message of hope

Jim and Betty McKinley have returned to Bangladesh for what will perhaps be their last tour before retirement from the Foreign Mission Board.

This wonderful missionary couple have given their entire life to the ministry of the gospel among a people living in ways different and perplexing for Americans. Yet they have stayed by the course and have seen the glory of God come alive in the hearts and lives of countless people to whom they have ministered.

Ten years ago McKinley wrote a book, "Death to Life: Bangladesh." The book was published by Highview Baptist Church, Louisville, and sold thousands of copies. All the income from sales went into foreign mission work and blessed countless people. Now he has written another book, "Help, Helpers, Hope." This one, too, is published by Highview and the profits will also go to missions.

This second book tells the story of the people who make Southern Baptist foreign missions so dear to all of us. Our people around the world are the finest representatives of sacrificial Christian living one can find anywhere. The story of their work and labor of love is told with eloquence and

pathos by one who himself has spent his life in service to the Lord in strange places.

Surely WMU groups will want to get this book. Every Baptist church library and media center will want this book. It would warm the heart and stir the soul of every preacher who took time to read what this colleague says about help and helpers and hope.

Perhaps the group who would profit most from reading this book would be young people. In the pages of this book they will discover how their peers, the McKinley children, handled the almost unbearable circumstances of life on the mission field. The story of these missionary children is in itself remarkable and should prove a great motivator for other young people.

The book is like Jim McKinley: open, honest, straightforward. It is a book of compassion, hope, reality and it vibrates with the honest conviction of a man and his family whose entire life is dedicated to the Christ all of us love and serve.

Get the book and read it, knowing that when you do you not only will have a great spiritual experience, but you will also be making a contribution to the ministry of our beloved missionary brothers and sisters.

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JACK D. SANFORD, Editor
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Earnestly contend for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.—Jude 3

baptist forum

All believers are priests

Action by the Southern Baptist Convention with regard to the priesthood of believers belies a mistrust and basic misunderstanding of this vital doctrine by some in our denominational family. Timothy George's book, *Theology of the Reformers*, clearly demonstrates this was a central doctrine for Luther, Zwingli, Calvin and Simmons—all of whom had some impact on Baptists' theological self-understanding. A. H. Strong claimed that "in Christ the believer is prophet, priest and king."

The New Testament basis for the doctrine of the priesthood of believers is drawn from I Peter 2:5, 9 where Christians are called a "holy priesthood" a "royal priesthood." The priesthood of all believers means two things. One, there is no need for any other mediator between the individual and God. Paul says, "There is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus." Two, all believers have a ministry in, to and through the body of Christ.

Believers should have an attitude of respect for and submission to the ministry of those who "spoke the word of God to you . . ." and "keep watch over you." (Heb 13:7, 17) This should not imply blind submission to any human authority. The Bible commends the Bereans who "received the message with great eagerness and examined the scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true."

The authority of spiritual leaders should not be a restriction upon or threat to the priesthood of believers but rather an enhancement of that priesthood.

The unnamed "heresies," which we have been told lurk under the protection of the privileges and responsibilities of the priesthood of the believer, should be identified and dealt with on their own basis. The precious and sacred truth that all believers are priests before God and to humanity must be practiced, preached and preserved.

Joey Rosas
Fishersville

No mandate given in San Antonio

I commend you for your coverage of the Southern Baptist Convention. However, in good Baptist fashion I would like to differ with you on a few points and add a different perspective on others.

Your headline reads, "Conservatives maintain control. . . ." We conservatives have had NO control since 1979. Control has been fundamentalists in the hands of the fundamentalists. We need to keep the issue in clear focus. Southern Baptists are a conservative people. Southern Baptist seminaries are conservative institutions. The professors in these schools are conservative scholars. There are no liberals among them.

Our problem since 1979 has centered in the organized efforts of a strong group of Fundamentalists to take over all Southern Baptist institutions. They have used skillful political tactics and slogans of doubtful validity in doing this. They are obviously a minority group in the Southern Baptist fold, for the closer you get to the grass roots of our life—state conventions—the less influence they have. No state has yet been taken over by this group.

Thus we come to another ill-used phrase—"two sides in conflict." They have actually been named "fundamental-conservative" and "moderate-conservative." The truth is that there is a great host of people joined together in world missions and over to the side a

strong group of rebels trying to seize the reigns of power.

These rebels need to lay down their arms and get back into the stream of Baptist life and principles. Ed Perry put it best a few years ago when he said that you are not an arsonist when you try to put out a fire that someone else has started in your house.

We need to remember that 15,804 votes out of 14 million Southern Baptists gives no one any kind of mandate. Our president simply has the privilege of being a servant of the many if he is faithful to the task entrusted to him. If he forgets the vast number of Baptists who will never attend the SBC or the 15,112 who did not vote for him he will only help keep alive a conflict that is greatly hindering the work God has called us to do.

Jerry Vines can add to the darkness of our world or through a cooperative spirit let some ray of light in.

C. Carman Sharp
Louisville

Another straw man to attack

After years of attacking the straw man "liberalism," Jerry Vines admits, "Liberalism . . . is not the real theological issue in our denomination." Vines now claims the problem is not liberalism but another straw man, "new-orthodoxy."

Anyone who attended the SBC in San Antonio surely came away convinced the greatest problem of the Southern Baptist Convention is neo-Catholicism. The nonbiblical, nonBaptistic resolution on the priesthood of the believers affirms a hierarchical notion of relationship that would rival that of Roman Catholicism.

No matter what kind of face one may try to put on it, the SBC in San Antonio was a triumph of ignorance, intrigue and iniquity. It is a sad day for biblical concepts of the church.

Raymond Bailey
Louisville

A biblical solution to controversy

The devil is working hard to destroy the Christian fellowship among Southern Baptists. He doesn't like the goals we have set.

It is time to show Satan that greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world.

Let's attack the right person rather than our Christian brother. We can overcome him by the blood of the Lamb and by the work of their testimony

If we truly desire to mend our broken fellowship Mark 11:22-25 has the answer providing we take verse 26 seriously.

Also we will give thanks always for all things unto God and the father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Submitting ourselves one to another in the fear of God.

Ruth E. Harris
Cold Spring

Let all be servants

Whereas, Resolution 5 on the Priesthood of the Believer of the Southern Baptist Convention diminishes the importance of this doctrine as a "recent historical development" and indirectly denounces the Baptist Sunday School Board 1988 doctrinal study on the priesthood of all believers.

The Buechel Park Baptist Church resolves affirmation of both the historical importance and the biblical relevance of the doctrine of the priesthood of all believers. We firmly believe in the responsibility of Christians to minister to one another as servants of Christ. We express our gratitude to the Baptist

Sunday School Board for its support and to Walter Shurden for authorship of the book on our recent doctrinal study.

Furthermore, we declare our freedom of Christ Jesus to follow the leadership of the Holy Spirit in the interpretation of scripture and the health of diverse voices in the church. We have never suggested nor heard suggested that the priesthood of all believers "gives license to misinterpret, explain away, demythologize or extrapolate out elements of the supernatural from the Bible" as stated in Resolution 5.

Furthermore, we acknowledge the importance of spiritual leadership in the church by pastors and other church leaders but recognize the word of Christ: "Whoever would be great among you must be your servant."

Larry K. Dipboye
Buechel Park Baptist Church
Louisville

A pastor's example remembered

Although the news reached me in Brazil late I wanted to express my congratulations to Southern Seminary for its choice of Carman Sharp as one of its alumni of the year.

During five of the seven years I lived in Louisville, Carman was my pastor. It was a privilege to serve with him as part of the staff of Deer Park Baptist Church. He was a pastor who led, not by imposing his will in an authoritarian manner, but by trusting people to do their job, staff and lay leaders alike. Always ready to help if asked, he left us to carry on our meetings and activities without feeling he had to be there to check up on us. For me this was a new experience but one I came to value over the years.

A real measure of Carman's successful leadership was the period between his retirement and the coming of our new pastor nearly a year-and-a-half later. The deacons, staff and committees continued their work and instead of the usual membership decline, we held our own.

I came to admire Carman's vision. He dared to speak against injustice long before it was fashionable. He was not one who merely reacted, but rather led the way.

In this my first year as a missionary after language school, Carman's example as a pastor has been held up as we have tried to open our students' vision to shared ministry.

I celebrate with Kentuckians and Southern Seminary this honor. Congratulations Carman.

Janelle Ganey
Missionary to Brazil

Life, priorities change for volunteer

As a Christian Service Corp volunteer since 1978 I have been on several tours but the one I just completed was by far the most rewarding.

Last November Mildred McWhorter, director of missions for the three Baptist centers in Houston, Tex., spoke at my church in Winchester. I immediately decided, even though I am a senior citizen and past the age for service corp work, I would like to go to Houston and see if there was anything I could do. In early April I went.

I taught literacy classes every day, taught Bible stories and crafts to children, tutored children, cared for small children in the nurseries while their parents were in Bible study and helped pack food and clothing in grocery bags to be distributed to many families who came each week to Bible study.

The job Miss McWhorter has in Hous-

ton is gigantic but she is a gigantic personality. She could not begin to accomplish the amount of work that needs to be done without a host of volunteers.

Anyone interested in doing volunteer work—either long or short term, anyone concerned about Bold Mission Thrust, anyone who wants to receive the richest blessing you can imagine should go to Houston. There are never enough hands to do all that needs to be done, but praise God, with his help and Miss McWhorter's never-ending energy great things are happening for our Lord every day.

I wish everyone could experience just a few of the many joys I received in the six short weeks I was there. My life, my priorities will never be the same.

Louise Hadden Reimer
Winchester

Lay people must attend SBC

For several decades I have been concerned our convention has become increasingly dominated by clergy. Our lay members, who provide the bulk of financial support, have been largely disenfranchised from the Southern Baptist Convention despite efforts to include them on committees, commissions and boards.

Several things could be done to change this. One, churches could pay the expenses for lay persons to attend SBC meetings as they do for pastors and other staff.

Two, SBC business could be conducted by correspondence, each church having the number of votes equivalent to their authorized number of messengers.

If the "political powers" are really concerned to know the convictions of "grass roots Baptists," as some of them declare, they should do something dramatic to get an adequate expression.

Joseph R. Estes
Louisville

Louisa church meets its obligations

The membership of First Baptist Church, Louisa, became concerned about the deficit in mission giving Apr. 3. Since we are known as a Missionary Baptist Church, we felt it necessary we keep our commitment to missions.

A committee recommendation suggested we set May 29 as a day to receive a special offering to catch up our mission deficit. All money over the amount needed for our Family Life Center payment would go to missions.

We were happy to say we made up the entire deficit of more than \$2700.

In order not to have to deal with a shortage of money each month the committee further recommended we set June 19 as a special day to receive \$30,000 to pay on the principle and reduce the debt on the Family Life Center.

After much prayer and a lot of encouragement and faith we had a celebration service June 19, even before we counted the money. In the morning service we received more than \$31,000. The total as of June 27 stood at \$33,941. The membership of the church is still praising God for what we have allowed him to do through his church.

Leon Greer
Louisa

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.

mountains to the mississippi



Curtis C. Mooney
Executive Director
10801 Shelbyville Road
Middletown, KY 40243

homes for children

Thank you, Eldred Taylor

As I assume the position of leadership of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, one of my most pleasant tasks is to thank Eldred Taylor for seven years of outstanding leadership. Each of us is called by God to specific positions of ministry and for special times. There is no doubt in my mind, nor anyone else's who knows him, that Eldred Taylor was God's man for Baptist Homes for Children for the past seven years.

Capping many years of service as pastor and denominational leader, Brother Taylor brought a steady hand and a strong vision of the future for KBHC. Among many accomplishments the expansion of the program to regional crisis group homes and the leadership of the "Beyond This Time" endowment campaign are two which will have tremendous impact for years to come.

While my words echo the sentiments of all Kentucky Baptists, I want to add my personal word of thanks for the month we have worked together. Thank you for taking the time to travel with me around the state and introduce me to some of the friends of children in Kentucky. Also, thanks for the many hours of conversation about the ministry and Kentucky Baptists. Your insights will be particularly helpful to me.

It has been my observation that God gives the spiritual gift of wisdom sparingly. One person to whom that gift has been given is Eldred Taylor.

As I take on a new position, I am very much aware that I cannot take Taylor's place. God in his unique wisdom prepares each of us differently for his work. It is my prayer God will use me to build upon the work of Taylor and the many who preceded him, so that we as Kentucky Baptists can do an even better job in the future than in the past.

I ask for your prayers for me and for this ministry to children. I also ask for your continued financial support. This ministry which is so vital today cannot exist without both means of support.

congregations

Lewisport Baptist Church, Blackford Association, had a unique ground breaking ceremony June 5. About 350 people pulled ropes attached to an old horse-drawn road-grader to turn the earth. The new structure will contain a sanctuary—seating 600 persons—plus nine Sunday school rooms. Total cost is estimated at \$850,000. Easter Sunday, 1989 is the target date to enter the structure. Ron Williams is pastor.

Booneville Baptist Church, Booneville Association, honored pastor James Reed on the occasion of his retirement.

Westside Baptist Church, Blood River Association, recently concluded a successful "Together We Build" campaign. Gifts totaling \$261,322 were pledged. Glynn M. Orr is pastor.

Wickersville Baptist Church was admitted to the East Lynn Association. Roger Scott is pastor.

Calvary Baptist Church, Princeton, Caldwell-Lyon Association, broke ground for a new sanctuary May 15. Pastor J. R. Bruce led the service with help from Olin Sisk who was moderator at the organizational service of the church 30 years ago. Director of missions Harold Greenfield brought a message. The ground was broken by an old mule-drawn plow pulled by the building committee, deacons, trustees and charter members of the church.

deaths

Joe Norton pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Boones Creek Association, died after a long illness.

Rice A. Pierce, an editor of Sunday school materials for the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, for almost 30 years, died Thursday, May 26.

Pierce, 71, retired from the board in February 1982. He was editor of adult curriculum materials in the Life and Work and vacation Bible school section of the Sunday School Department.

In 27 years as an employee of the Baptist Sunday School Board Pierce was editor of young adult and collegiate Bible study materials. He also was supervisor of the Sunday school youth editorial section. He joined the board in June 1955 as an editor of Church Training youth materials.



Members of Calvary Baptist Church, Caldwell-Lyon Association break ground for a new sanctuary with an old mule-drawn plow.



Lewisport Baptist Church used a horse-drawn grader to break ground for a building. Building program planning committee members who took part are (l to r) Bruce Shelton, Elaine Eubanks, Shirley Cahal, Marlene Westerfield and Steve Drury.

Earlier Pierce was head of the Religious Education Department at Georgetown (Ky.) College. He was a minister of education and associate pastor in churches in Louisiana and Kentucky.

personnel

Wheeler and Kitty Thompson celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at their home in Waycross, Ga. Thompson was associate in the Kentucky Baptist Convention Sunday School Department before accepting the call of the Illinois Baptist Convention to be Sunday School Department director. Thompson has written several books which are available by writing him at Baptist Village, Drawer 179, Waycross, GA 31502.

Foster Avenue Baptist Church, Long Run Association, helped **Kenneth and Robbie Wrather** celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary. Wrather is pastor.

First Baptist Church, Madisonville, Little Bethel Association, called **Rodney Vincent** as minister of education and administration. Vincent goes to Madisonville from Calvary Baptist Church, Evansville, Ind. H. Garrison Coltharp is pastor.

Walter McDonald accepted the call as minister of youth at Gethsemane Baptist Church, Long Run Association. Tony Smith is pastor.

Ron Shaw was called as youth director by New Salem Baptist Church, Laurel River Association. Bob Steadman is pastor.

Roundstone Baptist Church, Rockcastle Association, called **Gordon Mink** as its pastor.

Jessie Fields resigned as pastor of Putney Baptist Church, Upper Cumberland Association.

Old Flat Lick Baptist Church, North Concord Association, called **Andy Gambrel** as pastor.

Clyde Strunk accepted the pastorate of Buena Vista Baptist Church, Pulaski Association.

Sacramento Baptist Church, Daviess-McLean Association, called **David R. Taylor** as minister of music. Taylor goes

to Sacramento from Yellow Creek Baptist Church, Daviess-McLean Association, where he was organist, handbell choir director and youth choir assistant. Denzil Probus is pastor of the Sacramento congregation.

Jerry Judd became pastor of Liberty Baptist Church, East Lynn Association, Feb. 14. Since then there have been 72 additions to the church by baptism. Judd also runs an 80-acre farm, milks 60 cows and conducts a radio program on WGRK, Greensburg.

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

Gary Conner resigned as pastor of Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Boones Creek Association.

Charles Jones has been called to Calvary Baptist Church, Franklin County Association, to be minister of music and youth. He is a first-year student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

Angela "Micki" Davis was named director of the Baptist Fellowship Center in Louisville. She is a Southern Seminary graduate.

Mark Lilly resigned as pastor of Burkesville Baptist Church, Freedom Association, to accept a pastorate in Loveland, Oh.

First Baptist Church, Hopkinsville, Christian County Association, called **Bill Adcock** as minister of music. Adcock goes to Hopkinsville from First Baptist Church, Ashland. James S. McKenzie is pastor.

James Smith resigned as pastor of Friendship Baptist Church, Boones Creek Association, to accept the call as director of missions for Enterprise Association.

Roy W. Field Jr. retired from the ministry after 33 years. His last pastorate of eight years was with Henderson Memorial Baptist Church, Hopkinsville, Christian County Association.

Field will be living in Hopkinsville, 112 Black Oak Lane, and is available for pulpit supply and interim work.

Bob Hutchins resigned as pastor of Wickland Baptist Church, Nelson Association, to accept the call of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Troutville, Va.

Buena Vista Baptist Church, Daviess-McLean Association, accepted the resignation of pastor **Jewel R. Pruitt**, who has accepted the call as pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, Liberty Association, a newly organized congregation in Glasgow.

Clark Measels, professor of music at Carson-Newman College, is the new minister of music at First Baptist Church, Middlesboro. His wife, Nenetie, also serves on the church staff as minister of education. Pastor of the church is Bill Daniel.

Alan Holden, minister of music and youth at First Baptist Church, Carrollton, Whites Run Association, resigned to accept the pastorate of Rochester (N.Y.) Baptist Church.

Rick Vaughn, youth minister at Howard's Mill Baptist Church, Boones Creek Association, has accepted the call to be the church's pastor.

Joseph D. Boone began his duties at Latonia Baptist Church, Northern Kentucky Association, July 6. He goes to Latonia from the pastorate of First Baptist Church, Highland Heights, Northern Kentucky Association.

Vic and Ruth Harrison have both joined the staff of Springfield Baptist Church, Central Association. He is full time minister of youth and music. She is part time minister to children. Brad Johnson is pastor.

Tim Hobart Mills, associate minister at Greenland Baptist Church, Corbin, Mt. Zion Association, resigned to continue his education at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex. A December 1987 graduate of Cumberland College, Mills was ordained to the ministry at Greenland Apr. 10. Larry G. Mulberry is pastor.

missions

Green Acres Baptist Church commissioned **Suzanne Lacy** as a volunteer missionary of the Home Mission Board's Mission Service Corps Division May 29 during the morning worship hour.

Miss Lacy received her assignment from the HMB for two years, ending April 1990, in the Greater Boston Association. She will serve the local churches in language missions development.

Persons wishing to make a contribution to support her voluntary mission work may write Greater Boston Baptist Association, 187 Church Street, Newton, MA 02158, or contact Daniel Powell, pastor, Green Acres, 964-8165.

Scott Sanderson of Oneida has been assigned as a student summer missionary working in the Louisiana Baptist Convention Brotherhood Department, Alexandria, La., according to Wayne Taylor, associate in the LBC Special Ministries Department.

Vickie Guthrie of Cumberland College was named a Baptist Student Union summer missionary. She will be serving in Whitesburg through the Kentucky Direct Missions program. Her photo was



Suzanne Lacy



Miss Guthrie



Hopwood

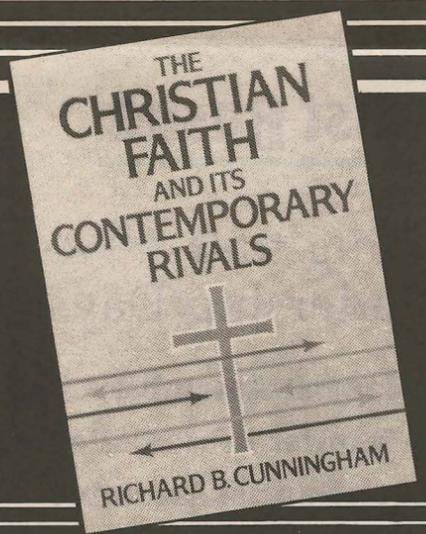
inadvertently omitted from the pictures supplied to Western Recorder for the May 10 issue.

Jeff Hopwood of Campbellsville is a student summer missionary, working at Camp Jellystone. An incorrect photo of him was supplied by the Kentucky Baptist Convention Student Work Department for the May 10 issue.

ordinations

Sam Harper, Mike Sprowles and Kenneth Sharp were ordained as deacons by Robinson Creek Baptist Church, Taylor County Association. Steve James is pastor.

Tom Katzman was ordained to the ministry by First Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Warren Association. Katzman has been called as pastor of Liberty Baptist Church, Leitchfield. Dick Bridges is pastor of the Bowling Green church.



"Christians are called to bear witness to the saving gospel of Jesus Christ to every person within the human family," says Richard B. Cunningham, author of *The Christian Faith and Its Contemporary Rivals*.

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Paperback, \$9.95

Richard B. Cunningham, who publishes widely, is professor of philosophy of religion at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky.

Ballardsville Baptist Church, Sulphur Fork Association, ordained **Nate Perry and Wendell L. Trapp Jr.** to the diaconate May 1. Ballardsville pastor Mark Waters preached the charge and Tom Riddle, chairman of deacons, was moderator of the ordination council.

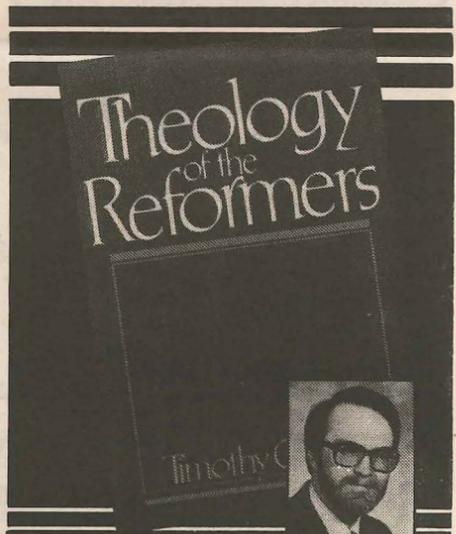
Denise McLain Massey was ordained to the ministry by Highland Baptist Church, Louisville, Long Run Association, in April.

Susan Miller, minister of music at Parkwood Baptist Church, Louisville, Long Run Association, has been licensed to the ministry.

revivals

Franklin Crossroads Baptist Church, Severns Valley Association, reports 21 professions of faith in Jesus Christ and numerous rededications during a spring revival May 16-22. The church also had a record high attendance May 22 with 228 in Sunday school. Evangelist was Charles Killough from Houston, Tex. Ron Davis is pastor.

Revival services were held at **Greenland Baptist Church**, Corbin, Mt. Zion Association, Apr. 24-29. Tom Atwood of Douglasville, Ga. was evangelist. There were 11 professions of faith, two additions by letter and two rededications. High attendance day was observed Apr. 24 with 207 in Sunday school. Larry G. Mulberry is pastor.



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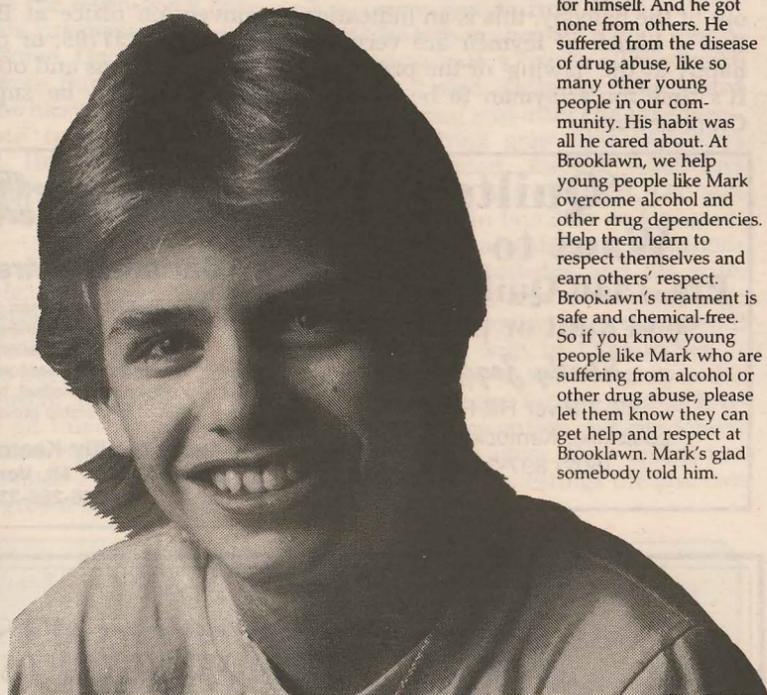
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Timothy George is associate professor of church history and historical theology at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky. He is co-author of *Dear Unborn Child* and author of other published works.

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baptist news in brief

Daycare centers exempt from state regulation

The U. S. Supreme Court has let stand an Illinois law exempting religious daycare centers from state regulation.

Although the action sets no binding precedent, 33 states have similar statutory exemptions for daycare facilities owned and operated by churches and other religious institutions.

In its brief order June 27, the high court stated the challenge to the Illinois law presented no "substantial federal question." The action's effect was to leave in place a decision last January of the Illinois Supreme Court upholding the exemption's constitutionality.

At issue in the dispute between the state and the Preschool Owners Association of Illinois was a 1982 amendment to the state's child care law exempting church-run centers. The association challenged the law in a Cook County circuit court, claiming in part it violated the First Amendment's ban on an official establishment of religion.

That panel agreed, invalidating the religious exemption. But on appeal, the Illinois Supreme Court reversed the trial court, ruling the state acted properly in granting the exemption. (BP)



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Church Training/Special Ministries Dept.
Kentucky Baptist Convention (502) 245-4101

Douglas T. Strader, Director James G. Clontz, Associate

HMB appoints first Campers on Mission

A retired Sears employe and his wife are traveling the country in their 27-foot Winnebago encouraging other campers to become fishers of men and women in America's resorts, parks and campgrounds.

Carl and Mary Reagan are the first national Campers on Mission specialists for the Home Mission Board. They are self-supporting Mission Service Corps volunteers assigned to the board's Special Mission Ministries Department.

Campers on Mission is an organization sponsored by the HMB to encourage campers to participate in missions projects. The group held its annual rally this summer at Georgia's Stone Mountain Park.

At that rally the Reagans found a captive audience for their favorite topic—missions through camping. They moved

Three Kentucky Baptists endorsed as chaplains

Three Kentucky Baptist were among 28 chaplains and spouses who attended the spring orientation for chaplains sponsored by the Home Mission Board. An endorsing service was held at Trinity Baptist Church, Conyers, Ga.

James Foxworth is a chaplain at Ft. Campbell Army Base. Angela Church is a chaplain at the Lexington Federal Correctional Institute and James Dent serves at the Kentucky State Reformatory. (BP)

among the 600 participants, encouraging them and enlisting them for service.

"We have one of the best ministries I have ever seen," Reagan said of Campers on Mission. "That's why I quit my job early."

Reagan took early retirement from Sears, where he had worked 23 years. His wife had retired two years earlier as financial secretary at First Baptist Church, Tampa, Fla. They have moved to Franklin, N. C.

Although Campers on Mission was begun in 1972, the Reagans said they were doing Campers on Mission work

in the 1960s. It all started when they bought a 13-foot Scotty trailer and joined the Florida Scotty Club. They joined on the condition they could conduct worship services for the members each weekend.

Reagan was president of the Florida chapter of Campers on Mission for four years before accepting his new national assignment. In Florida he and his wife organized creative ministries at state fairs. They planned their vacations around the fair in Tampa in order to camp there and minister to the employes and visitors. (BP)

Jesting leads to layman's nomination

Lighthearted jesting among a group of Oklahomans led to the nomination of a Tulsa, Okla., layman as president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

James Craig was nominated for the SBC post during the annual meeting in San Antonio.

Oklahomans who fellowshipped in a hotel room the night before the election discussed the presidency. Sources who asked not to be identified confirmed the conversation led to Craig's nomination the following afternoon.

Craig was nominated by a participant in the informal meeting, Robert Maples, a former Oklahoma pastor and music/youth director and now a chaplain in New Mexico.

"A group of us was sitting around discussing the convention and the upcoming election," declared one source of the story. "Craig and Maples are longtime friends and got to joking about the nomination. It went on for awhile, and the gathering broke up."

The next thing anyone knew Maples was at the SBC podium to nominate Craig as representative of the millions of laymen who support Southern Baptist churches and their ministries and are deserving of recognition.

"While I was surprised when Maples really did nominate me and almost fell out of the balcony, this is an indication that a bunch of laymen are very unhappy at the 'jawing' of the preachers. It's time for a layman to be elected," Craig declared.

Maples had difficulty gaining access to the SBC platform to nominate Craig. As has been the practice in recent years, the stairs to the platform were monitored and access was controlled. Maples was asked repeatedly if he really wanted to make the nomination, he said, noting he told platform monitors that if they continued to delay him, the nominations would cease.

Craig, a construction inspector for the City of Tulsa's Engineering Department, is a former president of the Oklahoma Baptist University alumni association and is a member of South Tulsa Baptist Church. (BP)

Northern Plains invites Baptists to celebration

All former members and friends of churches of Northern Plains Baptist Convention are invited to a celebration of its life and demise Oct. 19-20 in Rapid City, S. D. It will be a gala affair as NPBC divides into two fellowships: Dakota Fellowship of Southern Baptist Churches, Bismark, S. D.; Montana Southern Baptist Fellowship, Billings, Mont. The division will be effective Dec. 31.

Persons interested in attending the festivities should communicate with the convention office at Box 1278, Rapid City, S. D. 57709, or phone (605) 343-5572. Programs and other pertinent information will be supplied upon request.

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Prevost

Burnes

FMB names Tom Prevost to direct lay strategy

Tom E. Prevost will direct a new strategy designed to make better use of the growing ranks of Southern Baptists living overseas who want to help in missions.

As director of the Foreign Mission Board's newly formed International Lay Missions Department, Prevost, 41, will help develop new methods of ministry overseas involving Southern Baptists and others not considered foreign missionaries by vocation. He also will direct efforts involving nonmissionary personnel who fill special job requests from the field.

The department will help enlist people to work through Cooperative Services International, an arm of the board that reaches where missionaries are unwelcome. It also will help the board locate Southern Baptists and others who could spread the gospel inside foreign nations where they travel or live.

A native of Jackson, Miss., Prevost has worked at the FMB since 1983. Before that he was a home missionary in Phoenix, Ariz., and a pastor in California and West Virginia. He is married to the former Carol Page of Amory, Miss., and they have two sons.

In another development, the board has named Norman N. Burnes III to direct its Missionary Learning Department and Arville Senter to be associate director of missionary orientation.

Burnes will oversee orientation and training programs offered primarily at the Caithen Missionary Learning Center in Rockville, Va. Senter will help plan and schedule the seven-week missionary orientation program.

Burnes, from Rome, Ga., is a former pastor and Southern Baptist representative to Israel who has worked as a missionary candidate consultant at the board since 1981. He is married to the former Kathryn Batten of Rocky Mount, N. C., and they have three grown children.

Senter, who grew up in San Angelo, Tex., and his wife, the former Pauline McMahon of Freeport, Tex., were missionaries in Tanzania from 1963-84. Since then he has been pastor of Town East Baptist Church, Mesquite, Tex., and coordinated an international student program, working with African students in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area. They have three grown children. (BP)

Missionary faces charges in hospital dispute

The missionary administrator of Southern Baptists' hospital in Bangalore, India, will face criminal proceedings in late July soon after she returns to India from a short stay in the United States.

The missionary, Rebekah Naylor, has been accused of breaking a law that governs the operation of factories by leading the hospital in reducing its work force. The Foreign Mission Board has retained legal counsel for her in the case and the hearings have been rescheduled several times.

"We're not a factory," said Naylor, a surgeon from Ft. Worth, Tex., who came to Bangalore after being appointed in 1973. "The very issue of any hospital being a factory is ridiculous."

A labor reduction by 39 employees

triggered a dispute between union workers and hospital officials. Angry workers hung an effigy of Naylor at the hospital's front gates last June and burned it six months later.

Naylor said she found out on a Saturday in mid December that a police officer held a warrant for her arrest but would give her until the next Monday to appear in court and pay bond. Later she learned the warrant specified she not be allowed out on bail. Without a warning, she would have been required

to spend the weekend in jail, she said.

The labor cutback came as the FMB began to reduce its subsidy to the hospital, which has been at the center of Southern Baptist mission work in India since its dedication in 1973. In keeping with a worldwide policy, the board is moving toward making all such hospitals self-supporting.

At its June meeting, the board approved in principle a proposal to release administrative control of the hospital to the Christian Medical College in Vellore, India. Under the proposed agreement, the board would continue to own the multimillion dollar facility and assign missionaries to it. The medical college would manage it and receive decreasing subsidies from the board during the next five years. (BP)

Ruth Purtle Routh dies in Nashville

Ruth Purtle Routh, wife of the late Southern Baptist executive Porter Routh, died June 26 in Nashville following an extended illness. She was 74.

Mrs. Routh was born in Sulphur, Okla. in 1913. She graduated from Oklahoma Baptist University in the early 1930s and was named an OBU distinguished alumnus in 1982.

She and her husband were married for more than 52 years prior to his death Nov. 7, 1987. He was executive committee president from 1951-79 and was editor of the Baptist Messenger, Oklahoma Baptists' weekly newsjournal.

Mrs. Routh was a home economics teacher in Oklahoma before her children were born. She traveled around the world with her husband several times, visiting Southern Baptist mission fields.

She was involved in the support of Clover Bottom Developmental Center in Nashville and was a parent representative on the center's human rights committee. (BP)

Rogers, Gregory sermons available on videotape

Videotapes of addresses by Adrian P. Rogers and Joel Gregory to the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting this summer are available from the Baptist Telecommunication Network.

Rogers, who ended his term as SBC president during the annual meeting June 14-16 in San Antonio, Tex., delivered the annual president's address.

Gregory, pastor of Travis Avenue Baptist Church, Ft. Worth, Tex., preached the convention sermon.

Requests by messengers to the annual meeting have prompted BTN to sell the tapes, according to a spokesperson for the Baptist Sunday School Board.

The tapes of each message cost \$24.95 and may be ordered through the Sunday School Board's toll-free telephone number, 1-800-458-BSSB.

Haiti normal again after June coup

After a June 19 coup, Haiti "seems to have returned to normal so fast that it's almost incredible," Southern Baptist missionary Mark Rutledge said in a phone conversation from Haiti.

"All the kids are back in school, everybody's gone back to work, all the banks are open," said Rutledge, who heard gunfire during and after the takeover.

"If everything goes well and stays calm," he added, Baptist volunteers from Savannah and Valdosta, Ga. will travel to Haiti in late July and August. They will build a bridge and a missionary house for Rutledge and his wife, Peggy, in a rural area where Rutledge coordinates agricultural projects and will start work with 10-15 churches.

Mrs. Rutledge asked for prayer for peace in Haiti and for the annual Haitian Baptist Convention meeting scheduled for early August. Civil unrest has prevented annual meetings the last two years. (BP)

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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."^s

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christian education

Two vice presidents named at Southeastern Seminary

The trustees of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C. have named two persons to fill vice presidential slots.

G. Paul Fletcher and George E. Worrell were elected by the seminary trustees June 15 as vice presidents for internal affairs and external affairs, respectively. Both elections were effective July 1.

Fletcher, 48, assistant to the president

for business affairs at Southeastern since 1980, will be responsible for internal affairs including financial, information, plant, student services, etc. The Virginia native is a graduate of Wake Forest University and was director of development at Judson College prior to joining the Southeastern administrative staff.

He was appointed by the trustees last fall to provide transitional services be-

tween the resignation of W. Randall Lolley in November 1987 and the arrival of president Lewis A. Drummond Apr. 1.

Worrell, 58, of Jefferson City, Mo. will guide the seminary's programs of financial development, alumni affairs, admissions and public relations.

Evangelism Department director for the Missouri Baptist Convention since 1978, Worrell is a graduate of Texas Technical University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth. He has been pastor of two

churches in Texas and was youth and renewal associate in the Evangelism Division of the Texas Baptist Convention, 1970-78.

The filling of these two top leadership positions by the board of trustees and president Drummond leaves only one executive position still open after the seminary's administrative reorganization. According to Drummond, a diligent search is underway for a vice president of academic affairs/dean of the faculty.

SBTS seeks support for complex

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary has launched an organized effort in the Louisville community to secure the final funds needed to construct its proposed \$13.8 million Campus Center Complex.

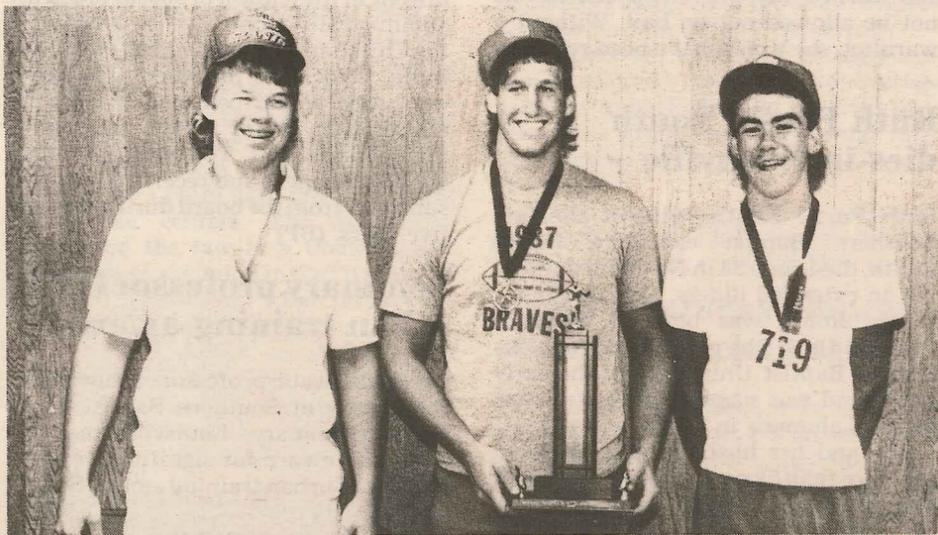
In a news conference June 22, Wayne Dehoney, general chairman of "Commitment '90: The Louisville Challenge," said the seminary is seeking to raise \$3.5 million in the Louisville area for the project. Dehoney, retired pastor of Louisville's Walnut Street Baptist Church, noted the seminary has accumulated more than \$10 million in cash and pledges toward the campus center.

Dehoney also announced the seminary has already secured more than \$1.6 million toward the Louisville goal from three locally-based foundations. The seminary has received \$1.25 million

from the Gheens Foundation, Inc., \$250,000 from the J. Graham Brown Foundation and \$100,000 from the V. V. Cooke Foundation.

In addition, Dehoney said the Kresge Foundation of Troy, Mich. has awarded the seminary a \$500,000 challenge grant contingent on the seminary obtaining the funds necessary for the completion of the project.

Site preparation for the complex will begin this summer and the seminary plans to break ground for the complex this fall. The building will house a comprehensive physical fitness and wellness center, including a natatorium, gymnasium, racquetball courts and exercise rooms. It will also house the campus' cafeteria, medical clinic, book store and post office.



Seventy-eight Baptist Associations competed in a track meet at Cedarmore Baptist Association May 14. The Ohio Valley Baptist Association Royal Ambassador's (RA's) won the overall competition in the grade 10-12 division. Individuals who placed were Chad Robinson, first in the high jump; Jimmy Collins, first in the shot put; and Joey Seay, second in the shot put. (Photo courtesy of Sturgis News).

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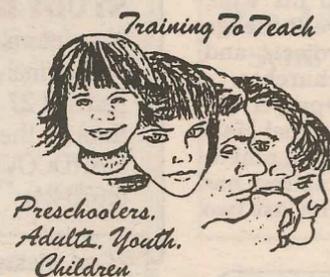
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- Jonathan Creek — August 20
- Jonathan Creek — August 27
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- First Baptist Church, Ashland — August 27, 1988
- Cedarmore (Small Church) — September 3
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viewpoint

Love and tenderness shown at Buffalo Baptist Church

by David Beeler, pastor
Buffalo Baptist Church

It seems that everywhere we turn these days there are numerous stories about problems in our churches. Being a pastor, some of the most troubling stories I hear are those concerning churches that supposedly mistreat their pastor. In light of this I thought it might be a blessing to people to hear about a church that has treated its pastor with exceptional kindness, generosity and affirmation. Thus I offer the story of my church, Buffalo Baptist, Severns Valley Association.

I came to Buffalo in January 1984 with my wife Kay and our son Daniel, who was two at the time. For the next two-and-a-half years we enjoyed a ministry that was relatively peaceful and successful. In March 1986 we had another son, Andrew. Then in July we experienced a terrible, life-changing tragedy. One Wednesday night, while I was in the next room working on a sermon, my wife Kay committed suicide.

From the moment I heard the explosion of the shot that took Kay's life, my own life went into a nose dive from which I may have never recovered had it not been for the support of my church family at Buffalo.

I have no family in Kentucky and, until my family arrived from Tennessee, I was comforted and encouraged through those first most difficult hours by the folks of Buffalo. They prayed with me, cried with me and hurt with me so that I experienced God's love

The following article is representative of the kind of life most pastors know in the church. At this particular time in our common life, we deemed it proper to share the personal word of one man who has known the best mannerism of Baptist people. We commend both Brother Beeler and the members of Buffalo Baptist Church for this testimony.

wherever I turned. I have never felt God's presence more fully than during that time.

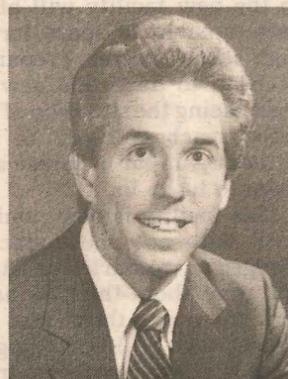
My deacons were a special source of strength and comfort to me in those first few days. They sat with me during that first night and listened as I tried to express my anguish and loss. Then the next day they came by and told me they had unanimously agreed they wanted me to be their pastor as long as I possibly could. They also said they wanted me to take off 30 days and if I needed more than 30 days, take 30 more, or 60 more. In the meantime they said my check would be deposited in the bank each week and my bills would be paid.

I cannot begin to tell you what that affirmation meant to me. I continue to draw strength from the memory of that experience to this day and this was just one of many acts of kindness and affir-

mation extended to me and my family in the first days of our mutual loss.

I took off 40 days and came back in September to try and pick up the pieces of my life. During the next church year I was frustrated by my inability to do the same amount of work as I once did for the church. All of a sudden I was a single pastor and parent with a four-year-old and a baby who desperately needed my time and attention. Plus I was easily fatigued and much more susceptible to sickness following Kay's death. All of it due to depression.

Again the folks at Buffalo came through and picked up the slack. Remarkably, the church year following Kay's death was a banner one for our church. Sunday school attendance increased from 175 to 189, we added 37 members and our offerings were at the highest level in the church's history.



David Beeler

Truly God had blessed the faithfulness of his people.

Today, due to the never-ending grace of God and the prayers and support of the people of Buffalo, my faith is stronger than ever before. My hope for the future is getting brighter all the time.

The deacons and leaders of our church continue to pick up the slack and work in harmony and our church fellowship is marked by a spirit of love and tenderness.

One leader who has stood beside me through thick and thin throughout my ministry at Buffalo has been our music and youth minister, Glen Rice. He is truly a man among men but more importantly he is God's man. I have been blessed to have him as a friend and fellow minister.

The youth group, which Rice directs, has taken on the role of a huge extended family of brothers and sisters who baby sit for me free of charge, play games with me when I need a lift and in general look out for me and my family.

My boys have more "Grandmas" and "Grandpas" and I have more "Moms" than you can shake a stick at. All of them are attentive to our needs.

There may be churches where pastors are occasionally mistreated and Buffalo may have done this at some point in the past. But, they have treated me with the highest degree of honor, generosity and Christian compassion. I can truly say that they have been a source of support and inspiration for me. I will be forever grateful. I am proud to be the pastor of Buffalo Baptist Church.

Layman's witness brings shackles to Leslie County Baptistry

by Beth Wyatt, State Correspondent

Junior Woods is a Christian layman in Rockhouse, a remote section of Leslie County. He is 60, a deputy jailer and, to put it correctly, he is a "jack of all trades" and a master water well pump repairman.

"Junior loves the Lord all over and tells everybody he sees," says his pastor, Ray Wilson Jr.

Woods has a difficult job—not one that is envied. He works with prisoners, including those from lesser offenses to capitol law breakers. He witnesses to each one who enters the Leslie County jail and has brought a number of them to church after their stay in jail.

Last fall a young man was incarcerated who had been a local "no good." He drank, messed with drugs, got into fights regularly and was arrested last fall. The charges included armed robbery and attempted murder. Bill was held without bond until his trial.

Junior told him about the Lord, gave him a Bible from the supply he keeps at the jail and befriended him. One day he told his pastor he believed Bill was ready to make a decision. The pastor tells how he witnessed to him at length but no decision was made.

The pastor reports that one cold evening last winter he stopped by the jail on his way home. "I was tired, hungry and just anxious to be home," he said. "But I had Bill on my mind and felt I should visit him."

Wilson gave the plan of salvation, but Bill said he was not ready. He attempted

to leave, Bill asked him to stay. This went on for some time before at last the pastor resigned himself to the fact Bill would be saved before he left the jail. So forgetting his hunger, weariness and thoughts of home he spent the evening and saw Bill accept Christ.

Then came the time many folks experience in similar circumstances. Bill did not want the authorities to know of his decision for fear they may understand it as a way of trying to escape the charges against him. Yet, he found an overwhelming desire to witness and a real urge to follow the Lord in believer's baptism.

Bill went to trial, was convicted and had real problems with his attorney because he refused to lie. Arrangements were made with the authorities and he was baptized, in shackles, the week following Easter.

Jail officials continued to notice a change in Bill. Once a real troublemaker, now he is loving and caring toward fellow inmates. For example, before conversion he was involved in a major brawl after a man whom he did not like was lodged with him.

After his salvation experience he asked to be put in the same cell with the man and spent his time witnessing and attempting to love him into the kingdom.

Bill is now serving his sentence at a minimum security prison. He does not know how long he will be there but he is spending the time organizing a Bible study and has written his pastor of the joys he has experienced.



Southern Baptists helped finance the shipment of 100,000 Bibles to the Soviet Union this year. Larissa Ovchinnikova (center) shows friends the Bible she received through the Baptist Church in Pskov, Soviet Union.



Barkley Moore
President
Oneida Baptist Institute
Oneida, KY 40972

oneida journal

You don't have to pay me

We have had an excellent first semester of summer school. Over 200 students are studying here as we enter the second half of our summer academic program.

We expect to have a small building completed by the start of school to house our "Special Help" Department. This summer we have 14 teachers working with 23 children all day long in this intensive tutorial program. In our normal yearly program, we have as many as 16 teachers in this program with about 40 students.

Nine of these teachers have college degrees and the others are well-trained and dedicated aides. Several of these aides are among the finest teachers I have ever known. True, these few lack a degree; however, it takes more than having a college degree to make a teacher. Of course, having a degree helps because of what has been learned in the process.

Mrs. Floy DeJarnette will be 81-years-old at her next birthday. She is our oldest full time teacher and can out-work and out-think most people half her age.

Mrs. DeJarnette is the longtime head of our Special Help program and it is her creation. She is its inspiring leader and trainer of those who are privileged to work with her. As Henry Adams said: "A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops." True of any teacher, how much more true it is of the Christian teacher who is also concerned with things of the soul and spirit.

Yes, I am so happy that Mrs. DeJarnette and her faithful teachers are going to have a larger work area. Their move to the new facility will also free up a large amount of space for our regular high school classes. Preparatory to our decision to have this new facility, we were facing the situation of having dedicated teachers ready to teach, some without a dollar of salary and no classroom to teach in.

This facility is being built totally on faith with not one dollar in hand or pledged as we started construction. Will you pray about this? We have the faith that there are those that God has so blessed who will be willing to share.

I got a letter recently from a young man nearly 29 years of age. He had been a "dropout" seven years when he came to us at age 23. Though he had some high school credits before he quit school, he tested only at second grade level in his reading. Mrs. DeJarnette and her workers, other teachers and staff, dorm parents worked with this young man intensively for 3½ years. It was not easy. He was very difficult at times. But he graduated in 1986 having met all state and Oneida requirements for graduation. He went to one of our Baptist colleges on full scholarship.

Kenny writes: "I am still in college. Last semester I made a "C" in English, a "B" in beginning swimming, a "D" in introduction to sociology and a "B" in theater arts. This semester I have made an "A" in reading, an "A" in principles of economics, a "B" in music appreciation and a "C" in English. I really feel good about the grades and am including my reports.

"I am still working at night. I make good money, but when school starts I will have to go back to part time. I have nothing to do on the weekend and would like to come to Oneida each weekend to work for you. You do not have to pay me. I just want to help out and give back something because Oneida gave me so much. I could work a lot of weekends this summer, but when school starts I can only work now and then."

And folks wonder why we work here for a third of the normal salary for 16 or more hours per day!

Do you know of a retired art teacher? certified math teacher? Perhaps a biology teacher who still has reasonably good health, a love for young people and the Lord and still wants to do something for somebody? Write me and, if it be God's will, who knows.

But don't delay. There is much to be done. Another year begins Aug. 14.



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

sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR JULY 17, 1988

Life and work series

God's constant love

Hosea 3:1 In his tragic experience with Gomer, Hosea saw a portrayal of God's betrayal by the Israelites. Hosea did not abandon Gomer to her degradation and debauchery. He hated her glaring sin but he loved her still in spite of her shame, wretchedness and disgrace. In the course of time Gomer was offered for sale in the open market like a common slave. At the auction Hosea paid for Gomer, forgave her, took her home, tenderly sought to restore her to chastity and tried to regain her love. From the black tragedy of his home life Hosea discovered the secret of God's love for unfaithful and sinful Israel.

Hosea 11:1-4, 8-9 Out of grace God had chosen Israel, entered into a covenant with her and made her the object of his love and blessing. Like Gomer, Israel had left her first love for profligate lovers: the heathen deities. Israel had mixed the worship of Jehovah and Baal to such an extent that it was difficult to see which received the most of her devotion. Israel's wickedness increased in proportion to the expression of God's goodness to them.

Verses 8 and 9 reveal the greatness of God's love for his disobedient people. He wanted to bless and use them in his service if they would repent and obey

him. When God stated he would not execute the fierceness of his anger, we are to interpret the expression as indicating God would chastise them, but he would not exterminate them because of his great and loving purpose in, with and through them. This reveals his loving concern for his children today when they backslide and indulge in sin. Forgiveness and blessing await their return to him.

International series

Moses challenges the murmurers

Ex. 16:2-3 While the Israelites were in bondage in Egypt, they complained about their servitude and cried for freedom. After they had experienced the demonstration of the goodness of God in their deliverance, they did not expect to encounter any further hardships. When they confronted the threat of hunger in the wilderness, they promptly murmured against Moses and Aaron. Thinking they had not improved their condition by exchanging Egypt for the wilderness, they expressed their preference for the well-filled flesh-pots and slavery in Egypt to hunger and freedom in the desert.

Ex. 16:4-5 The Israelites were prone to forget many of the blessings which God had bestowed upon them and many of them joined the ranks of the murmurers. Their conduct was highly displeasing to God. However, he responded with a genuine concern for them and provided for their daily needs. He provided food for them. He gave them quail for meat and in the evening and instructed them to gather "bread from heaven" or manna each morning, except Fridays when they were to gather a double portion to avoid having to gather any on the Sabbath.

Ex. 16:6-8 God demonstrated that he was patient and longsuffering in his response. He provided for their needs even though they did not deserve his graciousness. He did not take lightly their murmuring. He attempted to silence their murmuring through his generous supply of food to them.

Ex. 16:9-12 God challenged the Israelites to change their ways, to depend on him for their daily needs, and to expect him to be present with them and enable them to behold his glory when it appeared in the cloud. The display of God's glory should be sufficient to convince them of his trustworthiness.



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

on mission together

Song of the bridge

Four bridges connect the two sides of my home town. Most of the time, the Kentucky River minds her own business and provides pleasure for fishermen, boaters and painters. She made quite an impression on artist Paul Sawyer, whose paintings now grace thousands of Kentucky homes. Though he died 15 years before I was born, many of the scenes he painted remained for my growing up.

Three of the four bridges across the river in Frankfort were there when I was a boy; the fourth was the result of Interstate 64.

But it's an impersonal structure. Nobody walks on it. It's strictly for cars, trucks and buses—going somewhere in a hurry; an expensive bridge, but with no real "personality."

Not so with the bridges up the street from where I lived. It was a covered bridge when Sawyer painted it. It became the "Singing" Bridge after fire destroyed it. And it sings the same song now as then. The high-pitched whine of rubber against the steel-grated floor is the same tune I remember. It still has "personality"; it makes me feel at home.

On the south side of the bridge is the shortest street in Frankfort—Bridge Street—a half-block long. It hosted the YMCA, the hamburger "dump," Lecompte and Gayle Drug Store, a barber shop, a grocery store and Pete's Corner. On the other side of the bridge, the street becomes St. Clair. It empties into Broadway and the old Capital buildings—the part of town in which my father grew up.

Along St. Clair were the candy store, Clark's Electric, a bank, the Courthouse, the shoe shine parlor, Lerman's, the Grand Theatre, the dime store, clothing stores, jewelry stores, a couple of saloons, the music store, Sower Hardware,

Sears, a laundry and my home church, First Baptist. Except for the Court House and First Baptist, nothing is the same . . . except in my memories.

Life is kind in that respect. For when my generation has passed, so will our memories. The events which shaped them are already gone. No one will remain who remembers what we remembered; secrets we take with us.

Somewhere along the river, near the "Singing" Bridge, before there was a dam, was Frank's ford . . . a shallow crossing. That was before my time. The river was deep when I was born.

The "Singing" Bridge gave unity to the people of Frankfort, as well as easy access. And it provided me a way to get to grandmom's and granddad's, to town, to the candy store. **In a real sense, the "Singing" Bridge helped me experience the wholeness of my home town.**

"Thank you, Lord, for the old, "Singing" Bridge. Help me be one, too, in a time when there is so much troubled water."



BSSB NEWS

Giant printing project set for Southern Baptists

In what may be the largest religious printing order ever, the Holman Division of the Baptist Sunday School Board recently contracted the printing of up to 15 million New Testaments.

The New Testaments will be part of "Here's Hope—Jesus Cares for You," the denomination's 1989-90 nationwide witnessing effort that will include mass scripture distribution and simultaneous revivals.

Lloyd Elder, president of the Baptist Sunday School Board, said the giant publishing effort is based on a concern for witnessing and sharing the gospel as widely as possible.

The printing of the New Testaments will be done by the United Methodist Publishing House, which also is located in Nashville.

Johnnie Godwin, director of the board's Holman Division, said this publishing effort is the board's largest, with the second largest being the 10 million New Testaments and gospel portions that were printed for "Good News America" in 1986.

Officials at the United Methodist Publishing House estimated the materials required for such a printing project would include about 12,000 miles of paper for the text alone. That is the equivalent of a piece of paper 31 inches wide, stretching two round trips between Miami, Fla. and San Francisco, Cal.

It will require 96 rail boxcars to carry the 7,350,000 pounds of text paper in addition to six truckloads of paper for the cover.

To print the New Testaments, one printing press would have to run for 6000 hours. That is 250 days, or almost 36 weeks at 24 hours per day. However, the printing will be broken down into more manageable work times over a two-year period.

The first copies of the "Here's Hope" testaments will be available in fall 1988 for use in Las Vegas, Nev. for witness training sessions as preparation for the annual Southern Baptist Convention there in 1989.

The New Testaments will be printed in English in the King James and New International Versions and in Spanish in the *Rena Valera Revisa, 1960* text.

In cooperation with the American Bible Society, New Testaments also will be made available in quantities of 50,000 each in Korean, French/Haitian, Chinese and Polish.

The Gospel of John will be available in Arabic, Cambodian, Japanese, Vietnamese, Laotian, Tagalog, Romanian and German. A total of 160,000 gospel tracts will be printed in these languages.

All "Here's Hope" materials, including the New Testaments, will be available by calling one toll free number beginning in Spring 1989. That number will be published in *Facts and Trends* magazine as soon as it is available. The price of the New Testaments has not been determined, but it will be on a cost-recovery basis, which will cover production, postage and handling.



Lloyd Elder (l) president of the Baptist Sunday School Board, talks with Robert Feaster, president of the United Methodist Publishing House about a recent agreement in which the board placed a printing order for 15 million New Testaments.

With computerized ordering Placing orders is EASY in Baptist Book Stores

by Charles Willis

Mailing a paper church literature order form to the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville may soon seem as outdated as the pony express.

Now Baptist Book Stores across the United States can place church literature orders using a telephone line and a computer modem for churches that do not have IBM or IBM compatible computer systems.

The Electronic Access System (EASY Order System) has been available for more than a year to churches with equipment to use two pieces of IBM software, a materials ordering software diskette and a data form diskette. The diskettes are free of charge to interested churches from the board's Church Information System (CIS) section.

Placing a church literature order at a local Baptist Book Store requires only walking into the store with a completed literature order form in hand. Book store personnel take care of the rest, keying in the order at a computer terminal and providing the customer a printed copy of the order as it was keyed. No transferring or rekeying of order information is done at any other point in the order-filling process.

In Atlanta a pilot test of book store use of the EASY Order System has proved to be a success with persons who previously sent church literature orders to Nashville the old-fashioned way.

Karen Aaron, literature chairman at Heritage Hills Baptist Church, Conyers, Ga., said she shops often at the Baptist Book Store, so the convenience of placing her order during a shopping trip was appealing.

Previously she said receiving pack-

ages to assemble the church's complete order "sometimes took a month. Now all the packages arrive within two to three days of each other."

Ordering materials for a growing church that has just moved and is also building a new facility has meant for Mrs. Aaron estimating quantities and "sometimes waiting up to the deadline to order. But because of EASY, I feel safer in placing a late order, and we have decreased the amount of wasted literature."

Just as few persons would choose to use the pony express in a time when overnight delivery is available, church literature customers may decide to choose computerized ordering over air mail.

Tom Williams, minister of education and associate pastor of First Baptist Church, Austelle, Ga., is so enthusiastic about the EASY Order System that he drives 90 minutes one way to place his church's order.

"I know when I leave the book store that my order is already in process," he said. "It bypasses a lot of manual steps, both with the post office and at the board."

For Deborah Riddle, a secretary in the children's ministry office at Johnson

Ferry Baptist Church, Marietta, Ga., ordering church literature through the Baptist Book Store has provided an alternative to the board's toll-free corporate order telephone number.

She said she doesn't get a busy signal as often in calling the book store telephone number. "For a church secretary, that is a real plus," she observed.

Greg Norton, manager of the Atlanta Baptist Book Store said approximately 500 churches placed church literature orders through the store during the year-long test program for the EASY Order System.

For many persons who are long time Baptist Book Store customers, the reassurance of "having someone they know, whom they can trust, to help them place the order seems to provide more confidence than does dealing with a telephone voice," he observed. "And there is no additional cost to customers. A five percent discount is offered when payment is sent to the store, just like payment made with a printed order form mailed to the board."

Just as few persons would choose to use the pony express in a time when overnight delivery is available, church literature customers may decide to choose computerized ordering over air mail.

"At Baptist Book Stores," Norton said, "We give the customer an option."

Church literature and other items from Baptist Sunday School Board catalogs may be ordered by using the toll free number, 1-800-458-BSSB. Standing orders for dated church literature materials may be placed through the toll free number or through the EASY Order System used in churches or at one of the 63 Baptist Book Stores.



Of-Honored Todd Allen Reflects Upon Four Happy and Productive Georgetown College Years

We have printed below the full text of Todd Allen's message to the Georgetown College Commencement crowd numbering more than 3,000. His message touched all of the principals attending the occasion. Allen, cited by the College for his leadership skills as an undergraduate, drew the whole crowd around him when he offered a tender and warm recollection of the "real" Georgetown to the 251 degree candidates.

On behalf of the Georgetown College class of 1988 I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to this joyous, yet, in a sense, apprehensive occasion. We are happy that you have so willingly shared of your time to celebrate with us in these last few moments of our "Georgetown College Experience." This day brings with it a sense of accomplishment, perhaps combined with a touch of sadness. What better way for us to commemorate this event than with those who have challenged, enlightened, disciplined, and supported us during our college years.

Today I face one of the most difficult tasks that has ever been asked of me. I am extremely honored to have been selected by my graduating class to speak at this given time. This means more to me than you will ever know and for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, I thank you.

I have never at one time read so many quotable quotes, philosophical poetry, or success stories in all my life. I soon realized that no book could ever express what I truly wanted to say. So, what I am about to say comes straight from my heart. With these last fleeting moments with you, I would like to share our Georgetown encounter, including memories of yesterday, what graduation day means, and what the future may have in store for us all.

As I think back over the past four years, for some of us a little longer, I recall a multitude of wonderful memories. As freshmen we entered the inaugural year of Dr. W. Morgan Patterson. He was inducted as the twenty-second president of Georgetown College. It was a year filled with many festivities. We were told by Dr. Patterson that we would serve as freshmen together. Well, today we embark on new horizons while bidding him farewell. Dr. Patterson, we express our gratitude to you for your love and devotion to Christian education.

With our transition to college, we immediately were faced with things such as meals that just weren't quite as good as Mom's, dramatic dorm life, and countless co-curr's. We made our new friends and each one added something exclusive to our lives. All those dances, little social gatherings around campus, and various organizations helped us find our niche among what we consider our circle of friends. We've experienced the thrill of victory with our athletic teams, especially reaching the final four NAIA National Basketball Championship.

We have also experienced the agony of defeat through the occasional disappointments of college reality. In addition, we have seen Georgetonians work together to renovate historic Highbaugh Hall so future students can

share in its beauty and heritage.

Together we have shared in the strongest of Georgetown College traditions such as reminiscing with old friends at Homecoming, entertaining our selves with the talents of fellow colleagues through the Mask-rafter productions, wallowing in the Student Foundation mud wars, enjoying the splendor of the Belle of the Blue Scholarship Pageant, competing in the invigorating Greek games, and yearning for a much needed spring break adventure.

Our education has developed from several sources. We have learned how to live with others through dorm life. Some have expanded their knowledge through labs and in field work. We have all experienced the common classroom-nurtured from the great world around us. We will soon realize, according to Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, "that our education begins when what is called our education ends." For many of us our college days have ended but for all of us our education has just begun.

We should not and can not let this day slip by without in some way expressing our gratitude and appreciation to those who have helped us to reach this special occasion. We especially need to thank our professors for the sharing of their knowledge that we may carry on as competent professionals in the world that awaits us. Many of them have been far more than teachers to us - they have been our friends. For this reason I must pause to thank some of those who generously and lovingly gave of themselves.

Johnnie Varner, professor, resident director, and comedian, first comes to mind. His challenging courses, wonderful wit, and love for others is evident. Dr. Suzanne Peal, through her positive attitude and constant cheerfulness led Phi Beta Lambda to its best year ever. Dr. Merle Clemons has a concern and love for students that is most admirable. Dr. Jim Heizer has always urged us to seek only the best of what life has to offer. Mrs. Margaret Greynolds, thank you for the sharing, caring, the teaching, and above all just being you.

We should also recognize those on campus who have taken the time to compliment us through personal notes. Mrs. Ora Lunceford, your love for Georgetown is greatly appreciated. Dean Donley, your glowing personality spreads happiness throughout this entire campus. Vice President Bert Hawkins and Joe Lewis, we are grateful for your appreciation for things accomplished at this school. The list goes on and on. All of you make the Georgetown College that this graduating class will forever foster.

Another group of people we need to think of are our parents and family members. Through their support, love and encouragement we have endured and successfully made it. They are realizing their dreams for us at this very moment. All those phone bills, laundry baskets filled with dirty clothes, tuition charges, common college complaints, asking for money, and trips back and forth to college are no more - with the exception of asking for money of course. It is with a great amount of love and reverence that we thank them for all they have done to get us to this point in time.



More than 3,000 enjoy Georgetown College's graduation on Gidding's lawn

Furthermore, we used to thank our friends. I believe Digarmo and Key, two contemporary Christian artists have summed it up best with the words of this song . . .

*Seasons come, days go by
people come and people go.
Though our paths lead us apart,
they will meet one day I know.
But I owe you so much
dear friend for all those
treasured times.
For you've made me a richer man,
having had you in my life.*

As for the future, it can only be determined by you. I wish an enriched life for each and every one of you seated before me today. A life filled with joy and happiness. A life free of fear, fear, free of worry. A life that is continually in the process of achieving worthy goals and is well-adjusted in life's major areas of development. I am assured that God has given us the necessary equipment to accomplish this kind of living.

Edgar Guest, who was called "the poet of the plain people," wrote the kind of verses that encourage us to believe in our potential. Listen closely to the words of this poem entitled "Equipment."

*Figure it out for yourself, my friend,
You've all that the greats of men have had,
Two arms, two hands, two legs, two eyes,
And a brain to use if you would be wise.
With this equipment they all began,
So start for the top and say, "I can."*

*You are the handicap you must face,
You are the one who must choose your place,
You must say where you want to go,
How much you will study the truth to know
God has equipped you for life, but He
Lets you decide what you want to be.*

*Courage must come from the soul within,
The man must furnish the will to win.
So figure it out for yourself, my friend,
you were born with all the great have had,
With your equipment they all began,
Get hold of yourself, and say, "I can."*

The challenge is to recognize and grasp your God-given equipment. Once utilized in strengthening your spiritual life, establishing goals, maintaining a positive attitude, nurturing a healthy self-image, and conveying the knowledge learned at Georgetown College, our lives will move forward in an exciting and exhilarating experience!

God bless you all!