

Glori Bean of Redland Baptist Church, Derwood, Md., demonstrates the Southern Baptist Single Adult Day theme of "Singles: Committed and Free." Single Adult Day will be observed Sept. 11 in many Southern Baptist churches. Miss Bean, who attended a national Single Adult Convention in Nashville over the Memorial Day weekend, and other singles spent an afternoon painting tiny Fern Baptist Church, located on the outskirts of Nashville.

## Fiscal close prompts appeal to treasurers

by Jack D. Sanford, Editor

The good news for Kentucky Baptists is that the 1987-88 Cooperative Program receipts have already exceeded the 1986-87 year. That is reason for rejoicing since several state conventions are behind in giving, some significantly.

The down side of this is that the percentage of Kentucky Baptist Cooperative Program giving continues to edge downward. During the five-year period 1978-79 through 1982-83 Cooperative Program giving increased an average 10.5 percent. The most recent four years, 1983-84 through 1986-87, averaged only 5.2 percent annual growth. At this point it seems unlikely the 1987-88 year will equal that 5.2 percent average of the past four years.

The Kentucky Baptist Convention business office reported that as of noon Aug. 19 Cooperative Program receipts totaled \$15,878,384 for the 1987-88 budget year, which closes Wednesday Aug. 31. That is \$502,246 below budget

requirements with eight working days remaining before the end of the fiscal year.

One of the serious questions raised by Cooperative Program giving is this: What percentage of these gifts will the KBC send along to the Southern Baptist Convention? The KBC has set a goal of 60% SBC-40% KBC which requires an increase of .625 percent each year until the goal is achieved.

Executive secretary William W. Marshall requested the budget and finance committee postpone a decision to implement the increase until after all 1987-88 receipts are in. The request was made in April because at that time it did not appear Cooperative Program receipts would match previous years. The committee agreed and will meet Sept. 8 to review the situation.

Marshall told Western Recorder, "It is my opinion that if the growth in giving increases by as much as three percent, and that is very possible—even likely—at this point, then the budget and finance committee will probably be willing to recommend some increase in the 1989-90 budget.

He also stated, "It is also my opinion that the budget and finance committee will need to look carefully at whether a .625 percent increase to SBC causes should be recommended. It is possible they may feel the need to reduce that percentage somewhat, though not eliminating the increase entirely."

Only a few days remain to achieve a significant increase over last year's percentages. With books closing on the 1987-88 fiscal year Aug. 31, church treasurers are urged to send Cooperative Program allocations to the Middletown office as soon as possible.

Since several state conventions have cut back SBC percentage and have seen a steady decline in Cooperative Program giving the fact that Kentucky is as close as it is to significant growth in a down year is seen as good news. Marshall declared, "Should Kentucky Baptists make budget this year or even come close, they will once again demonstrate the strength of our fellowship and our commitment to a world missions program through cooperation."

## Mississippian to help Kentucky meet needs as families try to cope

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

Building strong and intentional family ministries is the aim of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Haworth Conference this fall, according to conference director John Lepper.

Meeting the challenge of changing family needs will be the focus of the overnight session at Cedarmore Baptist Assembly, near Bagdad, Ky., Oct. 3-4. Theme of the event is "Family Ministry in Your Church."

Lepper, director of the KBC's Family Ministry and Church Administration Department, says the conference's purpose will be met through lectures and small group discussions. The program is specifically planned for pastors "and other caregivers," allows Lepper.

In addition to general sessions, participants may choose to receive four hours of training in one of the following areas:

- Parenting by Grace
- Covenant Marriage
- Family Enrichment in Your Church
- Family Caregiver (Counseling)

J. Clark Hensley, of Clinton, Miss., a family ministry consultant with the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Jackson, will address Haworth Conference participants on three occasions. Subjects: "Family Ministry Then and Now," "The Sure Approach to Evangelism and Growth" and "Challenge for Family Ministry."

Hensley has been a pastor and director of missions. From 1966-82 he was executive director of Mississippi Baptists' Christian Action Commission, responsible for the state convention's Christian family life emphasis. He is presently a contract consultant to the Mississippi convention responsible for administration of family ministry programs.

Also addressing Haworth conferees will be William H. Rogers, director of the KBC's Minister-Church Support Division, Middletown. Subject: "Intentionality in Family Ministry."

Leaders of the four optional track conferences: Gerard Howell, pastor, Bellevue Baptist Church, Owensboro; Dan and Niva Francis, pastor and wife, Central Baptist Church, Winchester; Gary Hauk, supervisor, family enrich-

ment section, Family Ministry Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville; Jim Hightower, consultant, pastoral ministries, Church Administration Department, Baptist Sunday School Board.

The agenda opens Monday at 2 p.m. and concludes with lunch at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday.

A \$15 per person deposit must accompany reservation requests made to: Cedarmore Baptist Assembly, Rte. 1, Bagdad, KY 40003. Lodging is available in motels ranging from \$23 per person (4 per room) to \$32.75 (1 per room). In Boone Lodge, the rates range from \$27 per person (4 per room) to \$38.50 (1 per room). All overnight rates include three meals.

Commuters are charged \$1, plus meals.



Hensley



Rogers



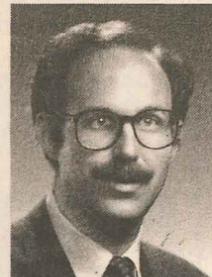
Howell



Francis



Hauk



Hightower

## 'In God We Trust' to be dropped?

An ad placed in the July 22 edition of USA Today has awakened a decade-old controversy over the motto "In God We Trust" on U. S. currency.

The ad, placed by the National Legal Foundation, claimed Madalyn Murray O'Hair is preparing to renew her attempts to have the slogan taken off currency in the United States. It asks concerned citizens to send in ballots that in turn will be sent to Congress.

Robert Skolrood, the Foundation's executive director and general counsel, told Baptist Press that although no suit has been filed yet, Mrs. O'Hair's organization, American Atheists, is planning to renew its attacks.

Mrs. O'Hair brought suit against the

federal government in 1978 to have the phrase removed from the nation's currency. After losing the case in a federal district court, an appeal was turned down.

John Murray, president of American Atheists, said one of the organization's chapter presidents does plan to file suit against the government again, and the organization is pledged to help with the suit. Murray said his organization has three main targets in its effort to secularize the government: to remove "under God" from the pledge of allegiance, to remove "In God We Trust" from U. S. currency and to change the national motto from "In God We Trust" to "E Pluribus Unum." (BP)

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August 23, 1988

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# sanford's perspectives



Jack D. Sanford

## The Last Temptation is big business

The Last Temptation of Christ is a movie which will probably make a pot full of money for Universal Pictures in spite of serious protests by certain religious leaders and the equally serious negative attitude from certain segments of the Christian community.

The opposition to the film has already stirred interest where there was none before. The opposition is based upon a script which was not used in the picture but was purported to be the official script and upon certain derogatory depictions of Jesus as unstable, a sinner who is confused about who he is and fantasy sex scenes between the Lord and Mary Magdalene.

Universal has moved forward by one month the release date of the film in order to take advantage of the high interest now apparent in the entire country.

Pre-release information and the comments of those who viewed the film at its release last week leads one to conclude the film is no doubt an affront to the faithful and is an interpretation of the life of Jesus most Baptists would find repulsive and obnoxious.

The available information leads one to conclude that no doubt the film is just one more juvenile, sophomoric effort by Hollywood to cast aspersions on the Christian faith and attempt to titillate the public with naughtiness. This has been the pattern of film makers for years and the way Christians and the Christian way are presented in modern films leaves one cold with fury and disgust.

The information we have makes it certain Baptists will find the film not worth the price of admission, but it will make millions anyway mainly because we have not done the one thing we could have done to hurt the entire process.

We could have squelched the film and guaranteed its financial failure if we had taken a personal interest and done something of real value on our own.

The Last Temptation of Christ would be a colossal financial failure if Christian people, one by one, face to face, would tell local theatre owners they will not see The Last Temptation of Christ and they will not enter the theatre for one year if the film is shown. That will put this film on the

shelf to gather dust, not make millions.

That is a lot tougher than signing a petition. It is a lot more demanding than making a phone call to some distant place and speaking with someone not known nor seen. It is a personal investment of time and energy and it often means confrontation with someone in the community who is a friend. But it is effective and we have not done it in the numbers we must.

This kind of economic boycott is language even the most jaded materialist can understand, even Hollywood film-makers who live or die by the dollar.

Yet Christians, for the most part, have been involved in demonstrations, petition signings and have followed the lead of certain religious leaders who are constantly hollering about anything and everything done by the entertainment industry. Often these moral watchdogs are correct in their concern, but they are perceived as the little boy who cried "Wolf" so many times he was ignored when the wolf did appear. Not many decision-makers pay a lot of attention to those who are constantly yelling but who do little to change the economic picture.

If you have deep convictions about a film which is purported to ridicule and belittle the Lord Jesus, tell your local theatre owner you will not only boycott his place for a year but will ask your friends to join in the effort.

Everybody understands that language because "money talks" and Christians should be wise enough to use the weapon most likely to be effective. Your absence from the theatre says much more than your name on a petition.

This sort of protest is not nearly so appealing as some "spiritual crusade" which takes to the streets and gets a lot of publicity. But mark it down, it will do the job. The only problem with this solution is that it demands a personal effort by the faithful and we have not been too eager to do this in the past.

The question is: Do we feel strongly enough to stick out our own neck and tell the person who runs our local theatre we will not patronize the business because a film has been shown which degrades our Lord? Time will tell.

## The inevitable has become reality

For years we have heard it said there are two sure things: death and taxes.

Make that three: death, taxes and an increase in everything we use in daily life. That third thing has now reared its ugly head in the offices of Western Recorder. We have been forced by the economic realities of our day to increase the price of a subscription to the state paper.

Beginning with the new fiscal year Sept. 1 we must now charge \$8.00 for a single subscription and \$6.00 for a subscription on the church plan. This is a one cent per week increase and hopefully will be the last for years to come.

The increase is made necessary because of sky high postal rates and increasing print costs. We pass this along to all our readers in the firm belief a one cent per subscriber increase is better than an increase in Cooperative Program funding. We

want to protect the mission monies of the convention and thus feel this is the best way to accomplish our goal.

We regret this move but ask your understanding and hope you will continue to subscribe to the second oldest Baptist state paper in America and, in our opinion, the best of the lot.

Western Recorder has been quietly raising an endowment fund to help offset the expected price increases of the future. To date many Kentuckians from every section of the state have contributed to our endowment fund. If you want to join them send a check to the Baptist Foundation, marked "Western Recorder Endowment Fund." Your generosity will enable us to reduce our need for Cooperative Program funds. That will be a day all of us look for.

**western recorder**

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20 years past retirement age

## Day of rest dawns for 86-year-old pastor

by Kima Jude, State Correspondent

When George Grubbs preached his last sermon as pastor of Ivory Hill Baptist Church in Estill County, Boones Creek Association, last month, he resigned instead of retired.

Grubbs—and, as he points out, already retired—was had been for years.

But retirement for Grubbs encompassed a multitude of ministries.

As Ivory Hill's preacher he engaged in personal Bible study to prepare two Sunday sermons and a mid week study twice a month. "My preaching doesn't come easy," he says. "I have to do a lot of studying."

He wrote, typed and published a weekly church newsletter, which included information not only about his own church members but also about residents of the community. Then he distributed the newsletter which he subsidized. Some he hand delivered.

He visited in the community and drove to hospitals to visit the sick. He recorded his sermons on cassette tape and took them to shuttles.

He wrote an inspirational column for the local weekly newspaper.

Now Grubbs has decided to resign those jobs. At 86, he's decided it's time to add rest to retirement.

Grubbs was already officially resigned when he accepted the pastorate of Ivory Hill, a congregation he had pastored some years earlier. The struggling congregation was delighted when their beloved former pastor, now back in the area, dropped in for visits. Soon he was asked to be their interim pastor. Before long they requested his services as pastor.

The stint stretched eight years until ill health forced Grubbs to seek rest. He suffers from hearing loss. His leg aches from an auto mishap. He just doesn't feel as good as he once did. When it came time to preach, "I got where I dreaded it a little." He needed rest.

But none of these things prevented Grubbs from performing a formal finale of his ministry. Two weeks before he preached his last sermon July 31 he baptized a teenager and 70-year-old woman. In the last month he baptized three persons.

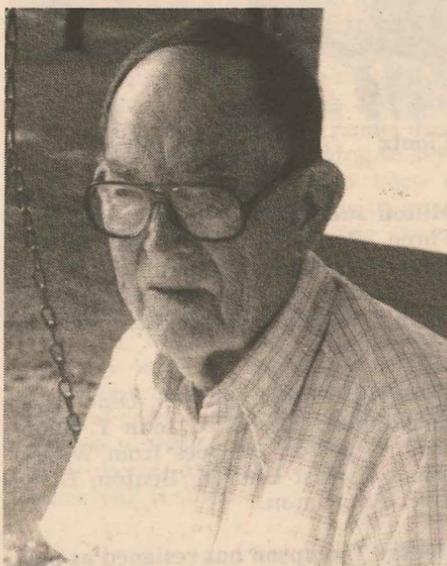
Grubbs was 21 when he was converted and baptized into the fellowship of Harrodsburg (Ky.) Baptist Church. He was licensed by Salvisa Baptist and ordained by Smithfield Baptist.

His first pastorate was at Blue Lick Baptist Church in Casey County. He was followed by several other pastorates in Kentucky, Ohio and South Carolina.

He also was district missionary for Casey, Lincoln and Rockcastle counties and was superintendent of missions for Horry Association (South Carolina) and Ohio River Association. He also worked with the rural church program in Somerset.

A graduate of both Cumberland and Campbellsville colleges, he also taught school 20 years. He and his late wife have two daughters, Geneva Durham and Ruth Jenkins. Grubbs recently attended the 50th wedding anniversary of his eldest daughter.

Grubbs said he officially retired more than 20 years ago but retained an adequate income so he was able to



Grubbs, who will be 87 Oct. 1, recently resigned as pastor of Ivory Hill Baptist Church in Estill County.

continue his ministry with smaller churches, helping them with their financial burdens.

For example, when he pastored one small congregation his financial independence allowed them to pay him the same small salary for eight years.

"I'm a country preacher," Grubbs says. "I grew up in the country. I was here when these country churches began to wake up." In fact, Grubbs has been instrumental in enlightening congregations himself.

"One of the things I've majored on is

getting people to know what we're up to," he claims.

Therefore, Grubbs has bought about 20 subscriptions of Western Recorder for Ivory Hill members, a dozen or so copies of The Commission magazine and a few subscriptions to MissionsUSA magazine.

"He makes sure we know what's going on in the association, the state and the Southern Baptist Convention," says Betty Brooks, Ivory Hill's Women's Missionary Union director.

It was Grubbs who pressed her into organizing WMU at Ivory Hill five years ago and promoted missions at the church. He taught missions studies, brought in missionary speakers and pushed his people to new levels of giving.

"Now," says Mrs. Brooks, who also is WMU director for the association, "we're learning to do it all."

The Ivory Hill congregation presented Grubbs with a gift of money which they hoped he would use for a trip. He plans to retain his membership at Ivory Hill and remains in the community.

Grubbs describes his 10-year pastorate of New Salem Baptist Church in Lincoln County as a highlight of his ministry and quotes 2 Tim. 1:12 as his favorite scripture:

*For I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I've committed unto him against that day.*

The thought sustained Grubbs during his 62-year ministry. And now his day of rest has dawned.

## Shaffer Missions Week results in commitments

by Greg Hodnett

Missions Week at Shaffer Baptist Camp, Daviess-McLean Baptist Association, July 25-29 was "a success and well worth the effort," according to Sharon Westerfield, Missions Week director. Camp staff and counselors provided for the physical and spiritual needs of 60 campers, ranging in age from third to sixth grades.

Mrs. Westerfield noted several results for the week, including one recommitment to a mission career and one conversion. "Billy Stone invited Jesus to be his savior and Lord," she added, "and that makes the week a success." Billy attends services and activities at Hall Street Baptist Church, Owensboro. He also led the camp in total incentive points with 185.

Incentive points are earned by campers and groups upon completion of assigned projects and extra credit activities. Mary Kay Husk and Kendal Kennedy placed second and third, respectively, and five other campers received 100 points each.

Other activities are provided for physical and spiritual growth. Such activities include daily private and group worship, drama, swimming, basketball, hiking and music. Mrs. Westerfield, who turned down a promotion with the Owensboro Public School System to continue working at Shaffer Camp, said

the students as well as their counselors are very committed to missions.

Nine counselors, including a four-member team from Georgetown (Ky.) College, "have worked long hours to make Missions Week successful," said Mrs. Westerfield, who has missed "only two or three years of camp in 13 years." When asked why she continues to work at the camp each year she cited "success stories" such as Jenny, her 13-year-old daughter, and Kendal Kennedy, who renewed her commitment to her call as a missionary during this year's Missions Week.

Mrs. Westerfield said she has a dream for Shaffer Baptist Camp which includes the eventual addition of facilities as needed. Referring to a day camp in 1987, she said, "We expected 30 campers; we prepared for 60. More than 175 campers showed up! We had to do more than a little improvising."

Shaffer Baptist Camp, whose 1988 schedule runs from June 4-Oct. 4, conducts a planned program and purpose. For this reason visitation by parents and friends is discouraged. However, retreats for the summer can be scheduled after Oct. 15 and church picnics can be scheduled after Jan. 1.

Anyone wanting to participate in camp activities, including volunteering to work, can call the camp director, Dan Hughes Jr., at (502) 927-6513 or write Daviess-McLean Baptist Building, 1003 Scherm Rd., Owensboro, KY 42301.

## Tri-state revival wins large crowds

by Mary Royals Driskill  
Staff Writer

Bell Association was involved in a Tri-State Crusade for Christ July 10-17. Kentucky, Virginia and Tennessee joined forces drawing crowds of 1800 to 2000 to hear speakers at Bell County High School Stadium. Crusade officials report 37 professions of faith and 37 rededications.

Rain did little to keep attendance down and may have made the stadium more comfortable. Carolyn Logan, secretary, Bell Association, said the rain would fall until time for services, then the sky would clear and temperatures would cool. "It's been amazing," she said. "Everyone's been talking about how the Lord was really looking after us."

According to Bell Association officials, planning started two years ago when the Bell executive board voted to begin work on an area wide crusade. What began as a Baptist associational effort became an interdenominational event. A kickoff banquet was held May 14 for more than 300 committee workers, pastors and laypersons from four denominations. Publicity began in June with a door-to-door canvass of the county.

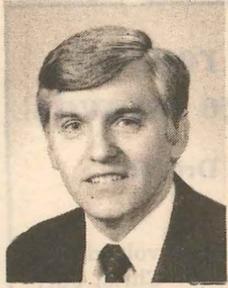
The crusade started with a prayer rally July 9 and ended July 17 with "Victory Night." Crusade speaker was Jack Stanton, former first vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention. Stanton is also director of the institute of evangelism at Southwest Baptist University, Bolivar, Mo. Stanton has worked with Billy Graham in the United States and abroad. "This has been one of the greatest things to happen to this community," said Stanton. "We had a great number of decisions, all denominations have been working together and the lay pastors took a strong initiative."

Other speakers included Lt. Clabe McClary, decorated Vietnam veteran, and Chris Wampler, defensive linebacker for the USFL's Jacksonville Bulls.



Tri-state crusade personalities pictured are (l to r) Jamall Badry, music director; Truman DeBord; and Lt. Clabe McClary.

# mountains to the mississippi



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

## homes for children

### The joy of giving

Earlier this summer Eldred Taylor and I had the pleasure of meeting for the first time with a young businessman and his wife who had made three substantial gifts to the child care ministry. In talking with this young couple, the husband made the statement that he and his wife had learned the joy of giving. Eldred and I discussed this for several days. That actually was a statement of a basic Christian value, but one not often expressed and especially by a person so young.

We are told in II Corinthians 9:7 that "God loves a cheerful giver." The joy and happiness we feel when we reach out from ourselves to help others is something which can be learned only by experience.

This summer three of our boys from the Spring Meadows campus, under the leadership of child care worker Scott Shouse, had an opportunity to experience the joy of giving. Thanks to the generosity of Kentucky Baptists and some scholarships from the sponsoring organization, the boys participated in the first Riptide International Christian Camp held in San Diego, Cal.

The camping experience itself was unique and the trip will be something which the boys will always remember. However, I believe the most meaningful experience of the week was the day they spent helping to build a house in Mexico. The home was for a lady named Georgia, who was then living in a house with plywood walls and a plastic roof. Her bed was a plywood board and she cooked her food over a 50 gallon drum. Her bathhouse was literally a hole in the ground.

Our boys worked all day in the hot sun and when the day ended, they did not want to leave. They wanted to forego the rest of their camping experience and stay until the house was finished.

The boys, of course, had experienced the joy of giving, and in such a unique way that I do not believe they will ever forget it.

For our children who are on the receiving end of others' generosity, it was wonderful to be able to give something to someone else who literally had nothing.

Thank you Kentucky Baptists for having learned the joy of giving. This ministry to children cannot exist without your generosity. Each of you who gives to our work has experienced the seeming paradox of the Christian life: It truly is better to give than to receive.

## missions

**Greg and Shelly Bruckert**, missionaries to Indonesia, are the parents of Jamie Marie, born May 27 (Jl. Cisangkuy 58, Bandung 40115, Indonesia). He is a native of Louisville and his wife is the former Shelly Michele of Oklahoma City, Okla. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1985.

**Jim and Betty McKinley**, missionaries to Bangladesh, have completed furlough and returned to the field (Box 99, Ramna, Dhaka 2, Bangladesh). They are natives of Kentucky. He is from Nora and she is the former Betty Cecil of Louisville. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1958.

**Frank and Kathie Thomas**, missionaries to France, have arrived in the states for furlough (150 S. Main St., Mauldin, SC 29662). He is a native of Atlanta, Ga. She is the former Kathie Brown of Cynthiana, Ky. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1974.

**Yellow Creek Baptist Church, Owensboro**, Daviess-McLean Association, assisted in day camp at Camp MACOBA, Huntsville, Ala. Twenty youth and six adults worked through the Home Mission Board in selecting a mission project for the summer. Two teams from Yellow Creek surveyed the needs in Huntsville prior to the mission trip. Director of ministries for Yellow Creek is John Davis.

## personnel

**Larry Harris** is the new pastor of Buena Vista Baptist Church, Lancaster, Mercer Association.

**Allen and Delores Baugh** have been named rural directors of missions of the year for the eastern United States. They are codirectors of missions for Severns Valley Baptist Association. The Baughs were recognized by the Home Mission Board during home mission week at Ridgecrest (N. C.) Baptist Conference Center July 13. Leon Boyd, director of rural-urban missions for the board, made the presentation, commending the Baughs for "outstanding service as lay people." The Baughs are believed to be the only husband-wife team working as codirectors of missions in the Southern Baptist Convention.

**Alva Puckett** has resigned as pastor of Lewisburg Baptist Church, Maysville, Bracken Association.



**Ted Sisk**, pastor, supervises groundbreaking ceremonies at Lexington's Immanuel Baptist Church July 24.



**Clontz**



**McKinley**

**Milton Judd** has resigned as pastor of Three Forks Bacon Creek Baptist Church, Lynn Association. Judd will be available for pulpit supply after Sept. 4 (Star Route, Box 194-A Summersville, KY 42782).

Dyer Hill Baptist Church, Ohio River Association, has called **John T. Sheppard** as pastor. He goes from Walnut Street Baptist Church, Benton, Blood River Association.

**Medley Thompson** has resigned as pastor of Union Baptist Church, Bracken Association.

**Jim Clontz**, associate director, Church Training Department, KBC, received his doctorate of education degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex., during commencement ceremonies July 15. His dissertation was titled "A Descriptive Study of New Church Member Training in the Churches Affiliated with the Kentucky Baptist Convention."

**Terry Carter** has accepted a call as pastor of Locust Grove Baptist Church, Christian County Association. Carter and his wife Pat have three children.

Macedonia Baptist Church, Owensboro, Daviess-McLean Association, has called **Pete Meulenburg** as minister of youth/music.

**Drew Martin** has been called as pastor of Russell Cave Baptist Church, Elkhorn Association.

Pickneyville Baptist Church, Ohio River Association, accepted the resignation of pastor **Joel Frizzell**, who has become pastor of Hopewell Baptist Church, Caldwell-Lyon Association.

**Stan Pigue** has resigned as pastor of Bethel Flock Baptist Church, Long Run Association.

**Larry Baker** has resigned the pastorate of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Buckner, Mo., and accepted the pastorate of First Baptist Church, Buckner. Baker is a na-

tive of Russellville and attended Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green.

**Bob Steadman** has resigned as pastor of New Salem Baptist Church, Laurel River Association.

Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church, Bracken Association, called **Peter Church** as pastor.

## congregations

**Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington**, Elkhorn Association, broke ground for a three-story addition July 24. The fellowship hall will accommodate assembly, dining and education. Membership is 3745. Projected completion date for the \$1,731,839 building is June 1989. Pastor is Ted Sisk.

**Walnut Street Baptist Church**, Owensboro, Daviess-McLean Association, recognized Carson Bevil on his 15th anniversary as pastor. A handmade quilt designed and assembled by the ladies of the church was presented to the Bevils along with a love offering.

A relatively recently-formed church in Harlan County is moving to a new location due to increased regular attendance figures. **Immanuel Baptist Church**, founded in September 1984, is building a new facility in Upper Elcomb.

The church started in a building on Sookie Ridge with an average attendance of about 15 people, according to the pastor, Arnold Martin. Immanuel now records attendance figures of 280 with 90 coming to church on buses. Land for expansion on the present location is not possible.

Construction for the 6000-square-foot auditorium has already begun. The auditorium will hold approximately 500 people. Another 500 people will be accommodated in the junior church, children's church and nursery.

**Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington**, Elkhorn Association, has a goal of raising \$10,000 for world hunger. For several months the children have been leading the way in fund raising. Ed Spalding, minister of children, hopes this program will teach children the importance of giving. Spalding was given a surprise birthday party June 10 by the children. Instead of one gift, Spalding received 133 envelopes containing \$437.61 for world hunger. Individual contributors have pledged to match funds raised. Immanuel is now well on the way to reaching its goal.

## ordinations

**Jim Bornert** was to be ordained to the ministry July 31 by Highview Baptist Church, Louisville, Long Run Association. Bornert and his family will be church planting in Shelby, Oh.

**Timothy Shirley** was ordained to the ministry by Allendale Baptist Church, East Lynn Association.

Kenwood Baptist Church, Greenup Association, ordained **Charles Jachimczuk** and **Roy Leslie** as deacons June 19. Pastor of Kenwood is Clyde Newman.

# baptist forum

## Look each other in the eye

It may be true that ultra conservatives stood on the outside for many years without vote or voice in the decision-making process. However, during that time I do not recall any moderates announcing they were "going for the jugular" in order to control the SBC and eliminate those who disagreed with them. But a small faction of ultra-conservatives said exactly that in 1979.

The problem in the SBC is not errancy. Those rare occurrences are usually promptly dealt with, as evidenced by the action of the Foreign Mission Board recently.

The problem is countless ultra conservatives publicly and maliciously accusing unnamed "liberals" in unidentified institutions and agencies of "error" when most cannot name a single liberal.

Jerry Vines, who with his backers vowed to eject alleged liberals from SBC agencies, was asked to name five liberals. He could not name one.

W. A. Criswell said, "Liberals call themselves moderates. However, a skunk by any other name still stinks." When Paul disagreed with Peter's doctrine he didn't go to a convention and preach about skunks. He confronted Peter, face to face, at Antioch.

I predict the current controversy will end when all Baptists, if they know an erring brother, open their Bibles to Matt. 18:15-18 and prayerfully obey the instructions.

Whether you consider yourself a fundamentalist, conservative, inerrantist, moderate or liberal, "If thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone . . ." To do otherwise is not biblical, not Baptist and certainly not Christian.

Richard A. Norris  
Louisville

## Help us locate some friends

Cumberland College is celebrating its 100th anniversary and will honor 100 of our most successful alumni during 1988 homecoming weekend.

It is our desire to contact surviving relatives of honored alumni who are deceased and inform them of the selection and invite them to the ceremony.

One of those about whom we need information is Edwin P. Morrow, who became the 40th governor of Kentucky in 1919.

He was born in Somerset in 1877 and died June 15, 1935 while visiting a cousin in Frankfort. He is buried in the Frankfort Cemetery.

He attended school in Somerset and went to St. Mary's College and Cumberland College. He later attended Centre College, University of Kentucky and University of Cincinnati Law School.

He married Katherine Hale Waddle, daughter of O. H. Waddle of Somerset. The couple moved to Somerset where he was appointed city attorney.

Anyone having information about Governor Morrow or his family is requested to contact me at Cumberland College, Williamsburg, KY 40769, or phone me at (606) 549-2200, ext. 4215.

E. C. Masden  
Williamsburg

## Historical-critical method is good

As our convention troubles roll on it seems many have sought to blame the historical-critical method of Bible study. The letter from Frank Crabtree in the Aug. 9 issue is an example. Jerry Vines' 1987 convention sermon is another.

I personally use this method of biblical interpretation and am not ashamed of it. In fact, I would be ashamed to not use this method.

This method of Bible study seeks to understand a biblical text within its historical setting and to ask important questions of the text in order to discover all one can about it. The critical aspect of this method is needed to root out the Bible reader's assumptions and prejudices that may keep the reader from seeing what the Bible is trying to say.

Sometimes our traditions keep us from seeing the truth God is trying to reveal through his word. The critical questions are necessary to keep us honest.

We Southern Baptists need to be tolerant of the diverse approaches to ministry and biblical interpretation. Satan is really having a good laugh at us right now. But what is sad is how our witness to the world has been damaged by deliberate distortions and blind zeal. When will it stop?

Paul Frick  
Richmond

## Manipulation dismantles convention

I'm mad. I'm a fourth generation Southern Baptist, reared in a Bible-belt church and educated in a Southern Baptist school. Church educational programs taught me to appreciate Baptist polity and doctrine and the cooperative way we do ministry. My church taught me to honor and respect the spiritual giants who led our institutions.

Now someone is dismantling our convention and I feel like a stranger in her midst. What really makes me mad is the way they are doing it: through open manipulation and conniving. What else can you call it when traditional orders of convention business are rearranged to give low profile to reports and leaders you don't like, and when convention hall doors are opened an hour early to let in your contingent?

It burns me that those now in control are borderline Baptist, more independent than mainstream. They give marginally to the Cooperative Program, start their own mission board, seminary and other agencies to compete directly with ours. Some of their churches even send their own missionaries, who give our Southern Baptist missionaries fits on the mission field.

To foster the dismantling, those now in control have used hype, sensationalism, innuendo and borderline lies both in public meetings and in print.

At the SBC I picked up a copy of their slick, colorful gadfly which purports to be "America's Voice for Southern Baptists." It was full of shaded accusations, false reports of meetings, instructions on how to vote and who to/not to trust.

I am not only mad, I'm sad that the SBC I grew up with and love IS NO MORE! It is changed forever. And unless grassroots church members take action to wrest control away from the demolition crews quickly, in a very short time there will not be a remnant left.

Mike Harton  
Louisville

*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.*



## The fight against a state lottery could be over before it begins.

**T**he lottery issue in Kentucky will be decided at the polls November 8. **The campaign against the lottery issue could end before then. . . unless you help.**

A state-wide ballot issue is big business. Not only do we need an army of volunteers, we need money.

Citizens Against State Lottery (CASL), our voice against the lottery, needs money now to publish material, purchase media advertising and support the vast networks of people being formed to defeat the lottery amendment.

As president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, I urge you to contribute **now**, to keep the fight going.

Sincerely,

*J. Howard Cobble*

J. Howard Cobble, pastor  
Severns Valley Baptist Church

## Don't let that happen!

Tear out and mail, with your contribution, to:

CASL

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Louisville, KY 40201

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

Amt. of contribution (please circle):

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## Viewpoint

# Should Baptists resist "The Last Temptation"?

by Paul D. Simmons, professor of Christian ethics Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Should Baptists join the campaign to stop the showing of the film "The Last Temptation of Christ?" Critics have charged that it paints an impious portrait of Jesus that should not be tolerated. One has said we should boycott all holdings of MCA, the parent company, as a sign of our outrage. Already thousands of concerned Christians have called, wired or written Universal Studios to try to have it canceled.

The film is based on the 1955 novel by the award-winning author Nikos Kazantzakis, best known for "Zorba the Greek." It is a novel, not a Sunday school lesson. It is fiction—a secular writer's imaginative effort to portray Jesus as a human being.

Jesus' divinity is most often discussed among Christians, but they also believe he was "truly man," as well as "truly God." As John said, he was a real man whom "we have heard, seen with our eyes, looked upon and touched with our hands . . ." (1 John 1:1).

How Jesus is depicted as a man among others is clearly of concern to Christians. They will insist any treatment of Jesus be done in good taste and with proper reverence. If it is said he was lascivious or lecherous, that would be im-

pious and untrue and we should strongly protest. But if he is portrayed as a man sincerely engaged in the heroic struggle of faith, then Christians need not object. Such a story might help to recapture a neglected chapter in theology. It might even serve the cause of evangelism by making Jesus more accessible to the lost.

The purpose of the incarnation was to bring God to people in a way they could understand and relate to him in faith. Some Christians have a theology of Jesus that says he was actually God and only looked like a man. Thus, the common human experience of doubt, anger, sexual thoughts and uncertainty would have been impossible for Jesus. But that theology was long ago rejected as heresy. The Bible portrays Jesus as a man in every way. His humanity was not just an appearance or an act.

Temptation is also a part of being human. Was Jesus tempted sexually as the rest of us? The Bible does not say. But Heb. 4:15 does make it clear he was "tempted in every respect as we are." It is important that he was able to know temptation and that he could have sinned had he so chosen. The point is that he was tempted, but without sin. Would it be so horrible to think he might have wanted the joys of marriage and family as the rest of us?

Kazantzakis portrays Christ as a human being who struggles with life as the rest of us but comes through victori-

ous in God's plan. Jesus is willing to die rather than live with lesser joys; to choose God's way even though it is "unto death." What a savior! He knows temptations but shows me that I can also be victorious.

Is that a point the "resisters" either do not hear or do not want to believe about Jesus? Does their Jesus not struggle with temptation as we do? Is he above it all? Did he never think about marriage, never want children? Was he never tempted to the easy way? Was he unreal as a man, and thus removed from the human situation? Hardly.

The truth is that Jesus was every bit as much a person as we are and he went through the agonies and uncertainties of knowing God's will that we all do. Why else would he have prayed all night at times, or seek refuge and isolation so he could work through the dilemmas he faced? Asking us to oppose "The Last Temptation" because Jesus is said to struggle in faith is not a sufficient reason.

Another major issue at stake is whether ordinary Christian believers can be trusted to decide the merits of the movie. The effort to stop the movie seems to imply the rest of us should not see what someone else has not seen but has decided no one should see. Is this an effort to control what others can read or watch about Jesus? Other writers like Kazantzakis first allow their books

to be censored by an "official" religious committee?

The medieval church tried to control the beliefs of the faithful by censoring everything they should read. Books had to have the endorsement of the clergy. Baptists and other Protestants make their own minds up based on biblical evidence and openness of conscience to God. Are believers no longer to be trusted? Are they to be "protected" from the thoughts or insights of others.

The answer to the question as to whether we should resist the release of "The Last Temptation" is difficult. Most of us have not seen it so we are speaking out of ignorance. Perhaps the wisdom of Gamaliel should prevail (see Acts 5:33-39). If this is a sorry movie—full of impiety and falsehoods about Jesus—the truth will out. Believers throughout America will simply not support the movie and it will die an early death. Bible-reading, church-attending Christians are mature and informed enough to be able to discern whether this movie is "of God" or "of Satan."

That may be the problem here. Perhaps we should resist the "latest temptation" to do something foolish. Do not write or call Universal Studios unless it is to oppose those who do not trust your ability to distinguish between trash and truth.

## HUMAN NEEDS AWARENESS

Discover what Southern Baptists are doing to meet human needs in Kentucky, in our nation, and around our world!

### Time, Dates & Places-1988

7:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

• **September 15 (Thursday)**  
South Side Baptist Church,  
Covington

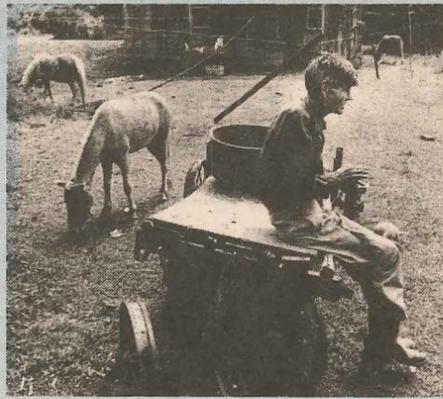
• **September 20 (Tuesday)**  
First Baptist Church,  
Henderson

• **September 19 (Monday)**  
Northside Baptist Church,  
Princeton

• **September 22 (Thursday)**  
First Baptist Church,  
Prestonsburg

### Conferences

- How to Find Local Resources to Meet Human Needs
- How Can Literacy Help in Meeting Human Needs?
- What Can My Church Do?
- How Can Baptist Men Help?



### Who Should Attend?

- Pastors and Church Staff
- Associational Directors of Missions
- Associational and Church WMU Officers and Members
- Associational Church Brotherhood Officers and Members
- Church Benevolence Committee Members
- Deacons
- Other Church Members Interested in Meeting Human Needs

### Program Personalities

Nathan Porter, National Consultant for Domestic Hunger, Home Mission Board, SBC  
Earl Goatcher, Consultant, Human Needs Ministries, Foreign Mission Board, SBC  
Bob Simpkins, Director, Brotherhood Dept., Kentucky Baptist Convention  
Ed Richardson, Christian Social Ministries Intern, Direct Missions Dept., Kentucky Baptist Convention  
Douglas Strader, Director, Special Ministries Dept., Kentucky Baptist Convention

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Dr. William W. Marshall, Executive Secretary-Treasurer

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# Murray mission team tests Brazilian waters in July

by Pauline Stegall  
State Correspondent

The night aglow with thousands of stars . . . a 13-hour boat ride up the Tapajos River, away from the Amazon . . . the nearness of the sun in a land close to the equator . . . Brazilian children singing "God is so Good" . . . and friendly natives, hungry to hear about the Lord, are among the memories that will live with the mission team members from First Baptist Church, Murray for a long time.

The Murray mission team ministered in Barreiras, Brazil seven days during July. "The Kentucky congregation has had ties with Brazil since the turn of the century," stated Greg Earwood, pastor. The brother of a former pastor, Boyce Taylor, had been a missionary there as had Richard Walker, a former pastor.

Interest in the trip, approved by the Foreign Mission Board, was initially spearheaded by Dan Shipley. He and Earwood planned for a year. Richard Walker, assisted by sons Boyd and Winston, arranged the itinerary.

Five Arkansas Baptists joined the Murray group as did two more Kentuckians and one Floridian. Each person was responsible for his own expenses.

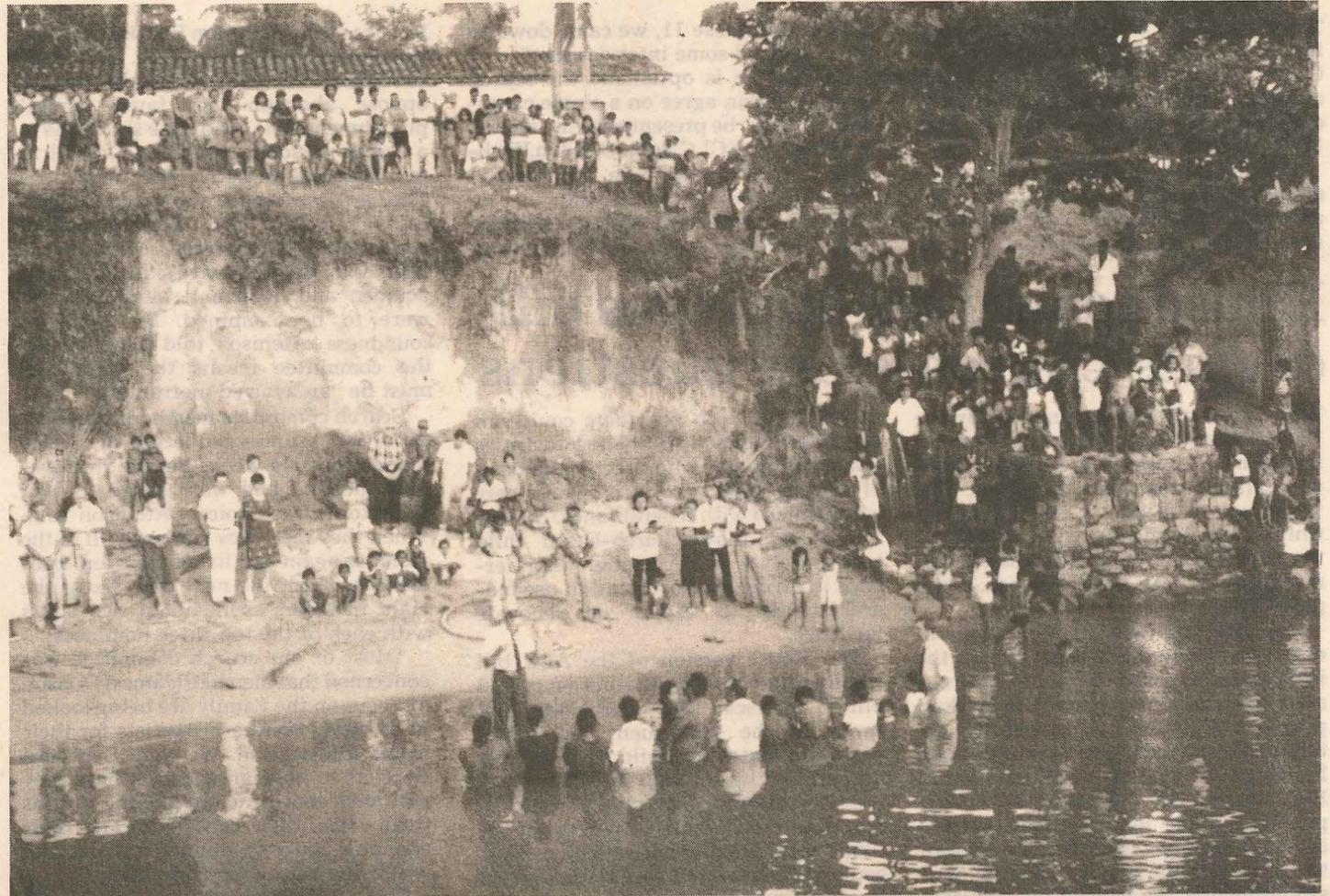
The people of the small village of Barreiras farm, fish and operate small businesses. Since the young people have to leave to find work, mostly children and older people live there.

The workers lived on a two-decker boat, formerly used for excursions. They slept in hammocks, ate food prepared in the boat's galley and took noonday siestas for relief from the heat.

The volunteers were organized into three teams: construction, medical and evangelistic.

The construction team tackled a church that had only studs and a roof. Murray First had budgeted \$8000 for completing it. By the end of the week mahogany walls were up and several services had been held in the building.

The men on the construction team included Shipley, Stan Groppel, Paul Lyons, Paul Key, Bill Adams Jr., Kenny Imes, Perry Cavitt, Tip Miller, Vernon Nance, Ken Winters and David Young.



Baptismal service for 11 converts in Tapajos River, Brazil. Richard Walker faces candidates and Greg Earwood is at right.

(Winters was recently elected president of Campbellsville College.)

The medical team consisted of Richard Crouch, physician; Joe Rexroat, dentist; and James Courtney, optometrist. Crouch and his assistant, Barbara Smotherman, treated 397 patients.

"The water is bad; the river is used for bathing, sewage and drinking. Their health won't improve," Earwood shook his head.

Rexroat had two assistants, Robbie Rudolph and Gina Shipley. They were pleased they had access to a government-built health clinic, primitive as it was.

There was running water only a few hours each day. And there was some electricity. But, Rexroat's team managed to pull 320 teeth, distribute toothbrushes and teach what oral hygiene they could in a week's time.

Courtney, the optometrist, treated 153 natives for eye infections and diseases and fitted many with glasses.

Earwood preached on the street the first night. As the church building took shape, however, services were moved there. Even though the congregation sat on wooden beams the building was packed with people daily. Services were long because the natives liked to sing and listen to the Americans sing.

Mornings were for Bible school. More than 150 children registered initially, but by commencement time there were almost 300.

Afternoons were spent visiting door to door. Every home received a Bible, an evangelistic message and a Polaroid picture of the family.

Opal Howard, David Travis, Earwood and the workers from Arkansas were on the evangelistic team.

The testimonies were prepared in English, then translated to Portuguese. The natives were questioned about their faith.

"The people were extremely open to the gospel," Earwood said. "We had seven professions of faith in the first 10 homes we visited. We had 30 public decisions during the week—to say nothing of the other home decisions. The encouraging thing was that two-thirds of them were adults." Eleven were baptized in the river.

The pastor and a lay evangelist lived in Itaituba, several miles from Barreiras. The layman was to remain at the church for two months after the mission team went back to the United States.

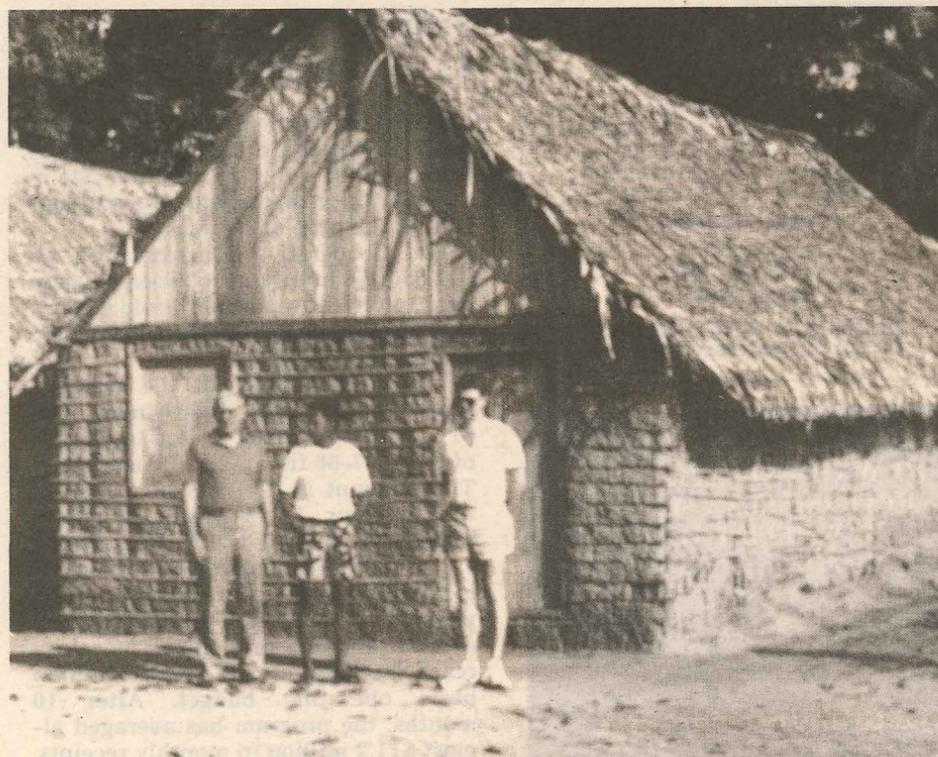
Before the dedication of the building a time capsule was prepared and put in

the wall. It contained pictures of the team, minutes and newsletters. A plaque and keys were presented to two church leaders.

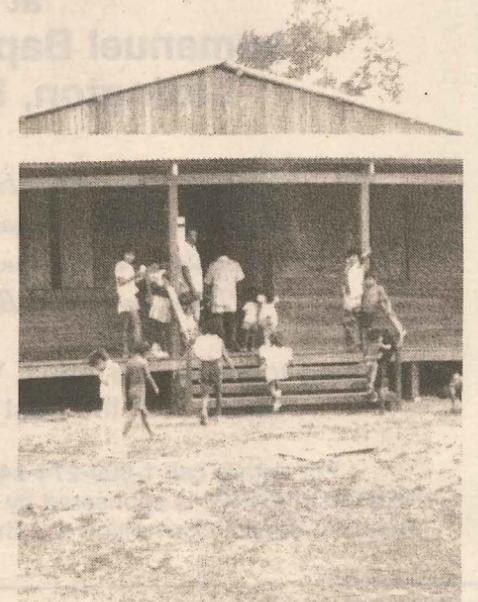
Walker said, "We are leaving them with the word of God; we are leaving them with the Holy Spirit."

Earwood related that the team feels its success was due to prayer support from Murray First. They counted at least 20 specific answers to prayer. A school building was opened to vacation Bible school and no one turned the team members away.

Back in Murray, Earwood, in a recent Sunday night sermon, used a significant text: "Persevere in prayer, with mind awake and thankful heart; and included a prayer for us, that God may give us an opening for preaching, to tell the secret of Christ . . ." (Col 4:2-3).



Paul Lyons, construction team; Enil, an interpreter and optometrist Jim Courtney stop in front of a typical Barreiras home.



Barreiras Church after completion by team by Murray First Baptist.

## baptist news in brief

### CLC search narrows exec field to three

The search for a new executive director for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission was narrowed to three candidates during a two-day meeting of the eight-member search committee Aug. 12-13 in Dallas.

"We met and carefully considered 11 nominees," said Joe Atchison, director of missions from Rogers, Ark. and chairman of the search committee. "After

considering those 11, we came down to three and did some interviewing."

He said he is optimistic the search committee can agree on a single candidate who can be presented to the annual meeting of the CLC Sept. 13-14 in Nashville. "I can't say for sure, but I am optimistic at this point," he said.

The committee announced its candidate qualifications during a news con-

ference at the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in June, noting the candidate—who must be male—should oppose abortion and favor capital punishment. The candidate should have a "clear personal testimony," a call to ministry and an active devotional life. The news conference also noted the candidate's family life, churchmanship, educational background, communications and administrative skills, political acumen and doctrinal soundness also were to be examined. By doctrinal soundness, Atchison told news media the committee means the candidate must be "an avowed inerrantist."

Search committee members were sent all of the resumes and letters of recommendation two weeks before their August meeting and were asked to pick their top three choices, Atchison said. When they met, they surveyed all of the resumes again and listed their top three choices. Then, the next day, six of the eight members spent about two hours with each of the top three nominees.

"Most of our search committee was concerned that men like (James) Dobson of Focus on the Family are being looked to by many Southern Baptists for their moral information. We want Southern Baptists to have an agency where they will have confidence in looking to it as their voice, their conscience and their educator. We are looking for a man who will bring our agency into focus."

The "difference between all of the men (nominees) and former executive Larry Baker is like daylight and darkness, there is so much difference," Atchison said. The search committee chairman, who has been designated as the spokesman for the group, said he believes the vote on a final candidate at the September CLC meeting will be accepted in "a better spirit" than was Baker's. While conservatives appear to have a 20-11 majority over moderates on the 31-member board, Atchison said he believes the vote will not be as divided as was Baker's election.

"We are going to handle it in a way where there will be better acceptance and a better spirit," he added. "We feel like it is going to be completely open and fair." (BP)

### House committee approves bill, despite church-state questions

Three days of arduous markup by the U. S. House Education and Labor Committee has brought a \$2.5 billion child care bill one step closer to passage. The 19-14 vote to send the Act for Better Child Care Services—better known as the ABC bill—to the full House of Representatives was split almost along party lines.

Rep. Pat Williams, D-Mont., one of only two Democrats voting against the legislation, opposed the bill on church-state grounds. Throughout the markup process, Williams unsuccessfully attempted to amend the bill's church-state language. At one point Williams and Rep. James M. Jeffords, R-Vt.—the panel's ranking minority member and the only Republican to vote in favor of the bill—cast the only votes in favor of strengthening the legislation's church-state safeguards.

The church-state issue revolves around how to offer federal financial assistance to church-based child care providers without violating the First Amendment's ban on an establishment of religion. About one-third of all day-care services in the nation are provided by church-related facilities.

The bill's current language would allow church-related providers to receive federal funds through the ABC program as long as they avoid religious instruction, worship or other sectarian

activities. Church providers could not use federal funds to build new facilities and could not discriminate on the basis of religion against children whose care is subsidized with federal funds. But the bill would allow church-based child care centers to exercise religious preference in hiring employees and to use federal funds to repair or renovate facilities.

The House version of the ABC bill would authorize the distribution of \$2.5 billion in fiscal 1989—and additional funds in the subsequent four fiscal years—to states for child care services for children up through age 12.

Under the proposal, states would be required to distribute 75 percent of the funds as certificates with which parents could purchase child care services from licensed providers or as direct subsidies to day care providers. States would be able to use 15 percent of the funds to increase the availability of day care and 10 percent for administrative costs. (BP)

Rep. Dale E. Kildee, D-Mich., House sponsor of the bill, said the church-state question is how best to enable churches to participate in the program without violating the Constitution. He said the area of religion always has been dealt with somewhat differently in legislation, and he does not think child care should be asked to bear a heavier weight than any other social program. (BP)

### Music workshop to assist church music directors

The Church Music Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention and the Baptist Book Store is sponsoring KENTUCKYSING on Sept. 9-10, Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington.

The music workshop will assist church music directors in selecting choral and instrumental music for adult, youth and children's choirs.

The workshop schedule includes sessions on Friday, Sept. 9th, 12:30-9 p.m. and Saturday, Sept. 10, 8 a.m.-12 noon. A special concert featuring Twila Paris and Bobby Michaels will be presented Friday evening, 7:30 p.m.

Registration fee is \$30 per person including complimentary music packet, refreshments and concert. After Sept. 1, registration fee is \$40.

For more information and a registration form, contact Marilyn Harris at 1-800-274-2472.

### Elaine Greer to report as WR correspondent

A Carlisle, Ky. minister's wife has been named Western Recorder state correspondent in northern and northeastern Kentucky.

Making the announcement, James H. Cox, associate editor, said Elaine F. Greer will report for six associations in that area. She is the wife of G. Michael Greer, pastor of First Baptist Church, Carlisle.

The territory for which she is responsible includes Bracken, Crittenden, Northern Kentucky, Owen County, Ten Mile and Union associations. She succeeds Mrs. Conda Hitch who resigned to pursue an education at Southern Seminary.

Mrs. Greer, 37, is a native of Greenville, S. C., a graduate of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, Tenn., and is currently pursuing the MDiv degree at Southern Seminary.

She has been employed by the Direct Missions Department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention as a secretary. Earlier, she and her husband were Southern Baptist missionaries to Israel seven years. Mrs. Greer has contributed several articles to Southern Baptist missions magazines.

### July CP doubles U. S. inflation rate

Receipts for the Southern Baptist Convention's national ministry budget more than doubled the U. S. inflation rate in July. But its year-to-date total still lags behind the pace of inflation.

The Cooperative Program received \$11,650,278 in July, an 8.09 percent gain over July 1987, reported Harold C. Bennett, president and treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee.

July receipts brought the budget's year-to-date total to slightly more than \$111.9 million at the end of 10 months of the 1987-88 fiscal year, Bennett said. That amount is 2.78 percent ahead of the previous fiscal year's 10-month total. Inflation rate is about 4 percent.

The 1987-88 Cooperative Program allocation budget requires \$11.7 million per month to reach its \$140 million overall goal and \$11 million per month to reach the first phase of its \$132 million basic operating budget. After 10 months, the program has averaged almost \$11.2 million in monthly receipts. Those receipts put it on track to reach the basic operating goal but to fall \$5.7 million below the overall goal. (BP)

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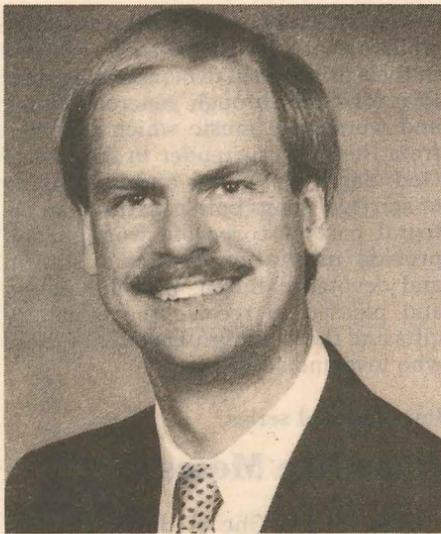
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Marc Whitt

### Georgetown names new public relations director

Marc C. Whitt has assumed the position of director of public relations at Georgetown College according to J. Richard Carlton, vice president for development. Whitt, a native of Paintsville and most recently a resident of Louisville, began his duties Aug. 8.

Whitt will coordinate media relations, advertising and college relations. In addition, he will work closely with the Georgetown administrative staff and faculty promoting marketing efforts of the college.

Whitt was previously director of communications at the Louisville Convention and Visitors Bureau. Earlier he was on staff at Cumberland College, Williamsburg, as the associate for church relations.

A 1978 graduate of Paintsville High School, Whitt received his master's and bachelor's degree in sociology and speech communications, respectively, from Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond.

Among his many hours, Whitt has received recognition in "Personalities of the South," "The International Directory of Young Leaders," "The Directory of Distinguished Americans" and was recently nominated to "Outstanding Young Men of America." He is actively involved with the Baptist Public Relations Association.

Whitt is married to the former Jennifer M. McGuire of Paintsville. The couple reside in Lexington.

### —classified ads—

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**FOR SALE:** Church pews: 28, 15'; 8, 13' X 9". Contemporary style. Newburgh Church, Louisville, KY 502-964-4638 church; 502-964-4467 home.

**FOR SALE:** Church pews: 30, 15' with center divider. Gothic style. Silver Street Church, New Albany, IN 812-944-1772. after 5:00 est.

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## 'Last Temptation' evokes strong reaction

Three Southern Baptists were among a group of religious leaders who previewed Universal Studios' controversial new film "The Last Temptation of Christ" during a private screening in Washington Aug. 11.

Based on Nikos Kazantzakis' novel, director Martin Scorsese's two-hour and 40 minute-film portrays Jesus as being torn by doubt over his messianic role. The movie ends with a 30-minute fantasy sequence during which Jesus faces his final temptation—to abandon death on the cross and instead live out his life as a husband and father.

Larry Braidfoot, CLC general counsel, said "The most objectionable thing about the movie is the manner in which Jesus is portrayed as indecisive," Braidfoot said. "It is not just a presentation of the humanity of Jesus.

"For the vast majority of the movie, he is an indecisive human being who is in varying ways influenced and directed by Judas, then John the Baptist, then Mary Magdalene, then a guardian angel who turns out to be Satan, then Judas again. In the fantasy sequence Jesus is unable even to detect the true identity of the angel who was in reality Satan. The movie is dominated not by the theme of Jesus' desiring a normal life, but of the temptation constantly urged by Judas until the very end to be a zealot."

James A. Langley, executive director of the District of Columbia Baptist Convention, commented, "The burden of the film is to portray Jesus as human, constantly engaged in a battle between spirit and flesh. Indeed his struggles, surely including sexual temptation, were real. Only in this way could he fully know our human condition.

"But contrary to the film, Jesus overcame the world and its lures and thus is our hope and our savior. Christians through the centuries have often neglected the humanity of Christ and thereby done a disservice to Christ and to the world. But to portray Jesus as a moral failure, as 'The Last Temptation' does, is heresy pure and simple."

Charles Worthy, pastor of Washington's Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church, said he questions whether something as sacred as the life of Christ should ever be fictionalized.

Braidfoot said the movie's treatment of sexual themes portrays women in a role that borders on being contempt-

ible. "Jesus went to the house of Mary Magdalene, the prostitute, apparently to join the dozen or more men gathered there in having sex with her," Braidfoot said. "He watches through a veil as she has intercourse with a number of men. The one who cleansed the temple is presented as passively watching while man after man dehumanizes Mary.

All three Southern Baptists objected to a scene in which Jesus hallucinates about meeting the Apostle Paul and denouncing his preaching about the resurrected Christ. In the movie, Paul insists that people's belief in the resurrection is more important than whether it actually took place. (BP)

## Court stalls action on missionary

The highest court in the Indian state of Karnataka has ordered a lower court to delay action indefinitely in a criminal case against Southern Baptist missionary Rebekah Naylor.

The high court's order came in response to a petition by Miss Naylor, a hospital administrator, and her legal counsel. The petition asked the court to drop charges accusing her of breaking a law governing the operation of factories by leading Bangalore Baptist Hospital to reduce its work force.

The order for an indefinite stay prohibits criminal action until the high court can hear the petition, which could

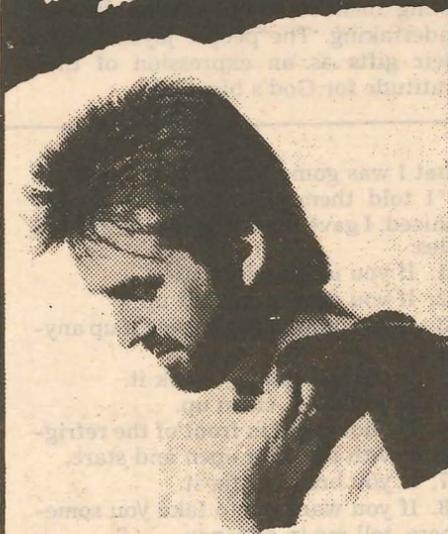
take up to three years. "Our lawyers are quite pleased with this stay order," said Miss Naylor.

A labor reduction by 39 employees more than a year ago triggered a dispute between union workers and hospital officials. Angry workers hung an effigy of Miss Naylor at the hospital's front gates last June and burned it in December, the same month a warrant was served for her arrest.

Miss Naylor, a surgeon from Ft. Worth, Tex., who went to Bangalore after being appointed in 1973, said "the very issue of any hospital being a factory is ridiculous." (BP)

### LIVE - IN CONCERT

Wayne Watson



Friday, September 9

8:00 p.m.

Highview Baptist Church

Love Offering

**DO YOU  
MINISTER  
TO SHUT-INS?  
YOU COULD BE EFFECTIVE  
IN THIS MINISTRY WITH  
SOME TRAINING**

**SEPTEMBER 3, 1988  
AT CEDARMORE ASSEMBLY  
JAMES BERTHELOT  
OF  
SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD  
will train Baptists for  
ministering to  
homebound persons**

8:30 AM to 4:00 PM

Cost \$10 (including lunch, insurance)

Register: Sunday School Department, KBC  
Box 43433

Middletown, KY 40243-0433



**Barkley Moore**  
President  
Oneida Baptist Institute  
Oneida, KY 40972

## oneida journal

### Renewed like the eagle

Murdered! Many small children, teenage boys and girls, and even larger numbers of adults are being killed every day in some of the countries of our world.

God has used our school in recent years as one of his instruments in helping to save some foreign young people from probable and in some cases almost certain death. These have been able to flee circumstances almost unimaginable to us and have found their way to us. We were aware of some of them before they succeeded in getting across their country's borders.

Several years ago the 19-year-old sister of one of our students was deliberately and fatally shot in the family courtyard by soldiers of her government. The family was not allowed to even touch her body or to evidence any sign of mourning. They had to watch her body slowly decompose day by day. Reportedly all neighbors and friends who came to the home to express condolences to the family were arrested as "enemies of the government."

Recently a long letter came from a beautiful girl, now a graduate of our school, who might have died in her homeland but her life was spared.

"Oneida Baptist Institute has meant so much to my life. When I first came I didn't like it at all. In fact I hated that place. I was crying and complaining against God and wishing to be with my family. I was confused as to how I was supposed to act in a culture and environment so different. As time went on I got used to some circumstances, I made

some friends and began to have fun.

"But the time when I really got happy came about when I asked Jesus Christ to take my life and change me. He did change me. I am different. He gave me peace, joy and love. And this was when I finally realized the purpose of God in taking me to Oneida. OBI was a place for me, too. I did not have some of the problems that many have. However, I had a problem with my soul that no human could solve, and which for me couldn't be solved some other place but there.

"And, praise the Lord, he set me free and gave me the love I was searching for. He also gave me people who needed love. He helped me to love them and that was a great joy.

"Every member of the staff at OBI has helped me in some way and I'll always remember all of you in my prayers.

"I miss you all. I miss OBI very, very much. I wish I could be there more. Thank you for letting me go there. I left my country to save myself from dying, but God's purpose was to save my soul from going to hell.

"My gratitude for every help is great. May the Lord help you in everything you do. With loads of love."

Then with David of old she praised the Lord making reference to Ps. 3: "Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name . . . and forget not all his benefits: who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thine diseases; who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with loving kindness and tender mercies; who satisfieth thy mouth with good things: so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's. The Lord executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed."

More than 10 years ago a mother of several children died. The father abandoned the children months later and his whereabouts were unknown for nine years. We have two of the children here.

Their guardian of many years is a Methodist pastor. He recently wrote, while sending us a \$100 donation, the following: "I feel good about the progress the children have made and continue to make, and the education they are receiving at the school. The many opportunities available to them there provide many good experiences. Thank you for the interest you take and the motivation you provide."

Reprinted from *Western Recorder*  
August 10, 1983



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

## sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR AUG. 28, 1988

Life and work series

### Worshipping God

It was to the credit of Nehemiah and his coworkers and to the glory of God that the wall around Jerusalem was rebuilt in such a brief period of time. The people of God withstood numerous sneers, active opposition and despairing friends. That achievement was made possible by an unshakable faith in God, inspiring leadership, a corps of willing workers, enthusiasm for the task and a wonderful spirit of cooperation. Nehemiah and his collaborators put first things first and refused to allow anything to distract their attention and energies from that which God had committed to them. Their cooperative and enthusiastic spirit was due to the fact that they were working for their personal safety, religious liberty and national honor.

**Neh. 12:27** The opponents of the project were enraged. Nothing so angers the enemies of God as the progress of his work at the hands of his obedient children.

The worship leaders from the various villages were brought to Jerusalem to participate in a service of celebration and dedication. The men, women and children rejoiced greatly because of God's goodness and graciousness in enabling them to complete this difficult undertaking. The people joyfully gave their gifts as an expression of their gratitude for God's blessing.

**Neh. 12:43-47** At the dedication of the walls around Jerusalem, they rejoiced in their privilege of demonstrating their love for God, through generous giving and worshipful music which stemmed from their full surrender to the will of God. Sacrificial giving and the singing of spiritual songs both constitute an integral part of corporate worship and provide inspiration to God's faithful and devoted children. God is honored and pleased to receive the monetary gifts and the worshipful praises of those who love and serve him.

International series

### None like Moses

**Deut. 34:1-4** One of the most complimentary descriptions of Moses recorded in the Bible is "Moses the man of God" (Deut. 33:1). In compliance with the will of God, "Moses went up from the plains of Moab unto the mountain of Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, that is over against Jericho" (Deut. 34:1). From that vantage point God gave Moses a breathtaking panoramic view of the Promised Land, which he would never be permitted to enter because of his disobedience to God at Kadesh-barnea.

**Deut. 34:5-8** Having completed his task, it was time for Moses to die. God's word was fulfilled, and Moses died without entering the Promised Land. Following his death, God buried him "in a valley in the land of Moab, over against Bethpeor: but no man knoweth of his sepulcher unto this day."

**Deut. 34:9** In answer to the prayer of Moses, Joshua was selected, discipled and ordained as his successor. When the people listened to the instruction of Joshua, they knew that he was continuing to proclaim the commandments which Moses had imparted to him.

**Deut. 34:10-12** Moses' greatness is emphasized by the fact that "the Lord knew (him) face to face." That means that he enjoyed an intimacy with God which surpassed the intimacy that others experienced. God empowered Moses for the work which he assigned to him. From his success in the Lord's service, we should realize that our effectiveness in doing his work is dependent upon our submission to him and obedience to him. All of us can certainly profit by yielding ourselves to God and following the noble example of the great man of God, Moses. Like Moses, let us seek to do the will of God and promote the welfare of his people until we come to the end of this life.



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

## on mission together

### When dads are moms

Although it has been a while since I was a "young father," I found Dr. Robert Browning's article in *The Beacon* (Somerset First Baptist's weekly church paper) amusing and memory-provoking:

"Last week, Jackie was in Ridgecrest. All week. That meant I was the chief cook and bottle washer as well as the caretaker of three children.

"This was a new experience for me. My oldest child is 13, and in that period of time I cannot remember Jackie being gone or ill more than a couple of days at a time. I am fortunate and know it.

"Soon after Jackie pulled out of the driveway, I called the children together. I told them we needed to talk. They knew

what I was going to say. I still said it.

"I told them that we must get organized. I gave them a list of the ground rules:

1. If you use it, clean it.
2. If you drop it, pick it up.
3. If you didn't drop it, pick it up anyway.
4. If you get hungry, cook it.
5. If you cook, clean up.
6. Do not stand in front of the refrigerator with the door open and stare.
7. If you break it, fix it.
8. If you want me to take you somewhere, tell me in advance.
9. If you really want me to take you, write it down and give it to me.
10. If a neighbor is going, ride with them.
11. If a neighbor is going anywhere, go along for the ride.
12. Put dirty clothes in the utility room.
13. If you want them cleaned, put them in the washer.
14. Turn on the washing machine.

15. If you leave the yard, leave a note.
  16. Do not take the note with you.
  17. If a stranger comes by, do not open the door.
  18. If they have food, open the door.
  19. No fussing.
  20. If you have a problem, resolve it.
  21. If you cannot resolve it, do not fight.
  22. If you fight, do not use sharp objects.
  23. Be in by dark.
  24. Be in bed by 10:00.
  25. Brush your teeth.
  26. Use toothpaste.
  27. Do not call your mother.
  28. Do not complain when your mother returns.
  29. Pray your mother returns.
- "What a week that was! Within 24 hours after Jackie left, I had spent two and one-half hours in the emergency room getting Jason's hand sewn up after his bicycle accident, and I counted 28 dirty glasses in the sink. I am not sure the ground rules helped very much."



## Pastor mixes faith and politics

by Lisa Manuel

Some folks say politics and preaching don't mix. Others say they are a lot alike.

When Woodson McGuffee discusses the two, he knows what he is talking about. He is mayor of Gilbert, La., judge and pastor of First Baptist Church.

"I'm trying to walk a rope that hasn't been walked much by preachers," asserts McGuffee. To do that he says, "You've got to be out there where the action is to change things, but you've got to have the Lord there with you all the time."

He has been pastor at First Baptist Church, Gilbert, for three years and was elected mayor a year and a half ago.

The 40-year-old minister says he decided to run for mayor after a man told him, "No preacher could ever win it."

"That kind of disturbed me," he says. "I believe a pastor not only preaches and is a minister to his church, but he is a minister to his community." So he ran for the office.

But he faced opposition from preachers who disagreed with his decision. He reports: "I've been reprimanded for it. But you've got to realize I'm headstrong. I saw this as a mountain, and I thought I could climb it."

He won by a 66 percent vote.

About 10 percent of the 170 members of his church have come before him in court, and that presents problems, he notes: "Being a pastor and preaching in your church and getting along with your people is great. I've done it for 20 years. But to sit in the position of a judge, and your members come before you, then you look at them and hear that case, and you have to fine them or either place

them in jail. That's not pleasant, but you have to do it."

He also faces opposition from people who believe he fights for certain ordinances because he is a preacher. But he says he fights for ordinances such as open container laws because he is an American citizen, as well as a preacher.

The greatest benefit of being both pastor and mayor, McGuffee says, is that he can minister to everybody, regardless of race, creed or color. Although he has a policy of never discussing town business or politicking from the pulpit, he does minister to people who come to him at Town Hall with their troubles.

"There's more to ministry than in the church," he stresses. "We've got to get out of the confines of brick and mortar we're in and minister to the people."

Another benefit McGuffee sees in doing both jobs is he can make a contribution to society. "I can't holler for change because I am the one that can make the changes now," he explains.

A change he would like to see in religious leaders is that they regularly attend town meetings, instead of "just showing up when there's a controversy."

McGuffee's term will be up in 1991, and he says he does not plan to run for mayor again. "It (the office of mayor) should be spread around," he relates.

Although he won't run for mayor, he may run for another office, but he's not indicating which one. "Ask me in two years," he says.

And where will he be five years from now?

"I will never give up my joy of the call of God to preach. Politics? Yeah, it'll be around, because I'm not going to sit on the sidelines and grumble. I'm going to do something about it."

## Children need involvement in worship

by Frank White

When children are not involved in worship, they will likely grow to be youth and adults who do not or will not like to participate in worship.

Children need to be involved and taught to understand worship, explained Ann Tonks, a consultant in children's Sunday school work at the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Mrs. Tonks led sessions at one of three Sunday school leadership conferences this summer at Ridgecrest (N. C.) Baptist Conference Center.

Children often get the impression that the only time they can worship is in church, she said. "We need to give children a mindset of worship anytime, anyplace."

Children become bored in the worship service because they are not usually actively involved and understand little of what is going on, said Mrs. Tonks. Leaders should find ways to help children feel a part of worship.

While children's worship services are one alternative, Mrs. Tonks said it is preferable to involve children in the main worship service so they can be with their families.

"That way, the children become a part of family worship and a part of the cor-

porate worship experience," she said.

It may be that the pastor can have a children's worship time during the service or children can be involved in other ways.

"Many times, pastors only need to be reminded that the children are present in worship and should be involved," she said.

It becomes the responsibility of children's Sunday school directors and teachers to encourage the staff to involve children, she pointed out. At the same time, the Sunday school leaders should be teaching children about worship.

"We need to help them relate what they are learning in Sunday school with what goes on in the worship service," she said. A new publication from the board, "Children and Worship," offers suggestions on how to involve children in worship.

Children's worship groups or children's church are often the best alternative in situations where large numbers of children attend without parents, she said.

In addition to the worship experience at church, Sunday school workers should help guide families in a home worship time. Children can be involved in prayer, Bible reading, singing and family worship times at home.

## Missionaries support seminary training

by Elizabeth Watson

Some Southern Baptist foreign missionaries have found a way to further world missions by returning to Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex.

What the missionaries are returning is their gratitude to Southwestern for giving them a solid foundation for ministry.

Dale Moore, Rebekah Naylor and Elizabeth Truly are some of the missionaries who have recently contributed financially to Southwestern.

Miss Moore, who worked with youth and students in Nigeria 35 years, will retire next year. She has given a substantial gift to Southwestern in appreciation for what the school means to missions around the world and to her personally.

"I appreciate the classroom emphasis on missions—and it's not just from the

missions professors," Miss Moore said. "I also appreciate the 'missions volunteer' program."

Miss Moore, who was youth director at First Baptist Church, Dallas, before coming to Southwestern, was president of the campus Young Women's Auxiliary when she was a seminary student. She and classmates Keith Parks, Foreign Mission Board president; Pat Clendenning, Southwestern professor of psychology of religion and counseling; and Monte Clendenning, World Mission and Evangelism Center conference coordinator, made up the student executive committee and planned Lottie Moon emphasis weeks.

"That involvement helped shape my call to missions," Miss Moore said.

"I have appreciated Southwestern through the years, but have not made contributions," Miss Moore said. "Realizing that soon I'd be on retirement salary, I wanted to express my appreciation to Southwestern while I still could."

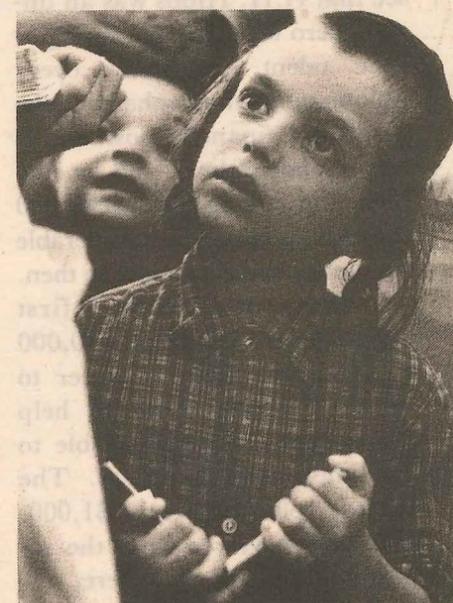
"My contribution is small when you take the many years I have been on salary since I left the seminary—it's just that when you're on the field you see so many needs. There just seems there is never a time to take time or money to express to the organizations that helped prepare you to go to the field," Miss Moore said.

"I know this is what God has wanted me to do," Miss Moore said.

Miss Naylor, a missionary to India since 1974, is head surgeon and administrator of Bangalore Baptist Hospital. She says she supports Southwestern because of its theological position and its strong adherence to the things I believe as a Southern Baptist," said Miss Naylor, whose father Robert was president of Southwestern 20 years.

Miss Truly, retired missionary to Nigeria, gives to Southwestern because the school "opened her eyes to the world."

"My hope is that Southwestern will remain true and faithful for everything it has stood for," Miss Truly said.



It's hard to say whether this boy will find the truth his eyes seem to be searching for. He is at Jerusalem's Western Wall, where Jewish people meet to pray.

## Cumberland College

## Centennial Celebration

# “A Bright Shining City Set On A Hill”



Cumberland College in Williamsburg opened its doors on January 7, 1889. In January of 1988 Cumberland College began a year long Centennial Celebration in honor of its 100 years of Christian educational service to its students.

As a part of this celebration, Cumberland College's president Jim Taylor has compiled and written a history of the College, "A Bright Shining City Set On A Hill" from which the stories below are excerpted. Continuing for several months, Cumberland College will feature brief stories taken from the history. These stories will appear approximately every two months as Cumberland College received its allotted space in the *Western Recorder's* Back Page Cycle.

## An Ever-Pressing Need

### JOHN NEWTON PRESTRIDGE

In September, 1893, forty-year-old John Newton Prestridge (1853-1913)



joined the Institute's faculty as Instructor of Bible. When Edwin Ellsworth Wood (1863-1940) resigned as President, Prestridge was elected to fill his post, serving in this capacity from September 1893 to October 1897.

Prestridge, a graduate of Howard College, also attended The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He was called to Williamsburg First Baptist Church in 1893. His wife Frances accompanied him.

During his tenure as president of the Institute, Prestridge also served as secretary of the Board of Trustees.

The June 11, 1896 edition of the *Western Recorder* reported that "the whole section (of southeastern Kentucky) is feeling the influence of President Prestridge and his teachers which send out about a hundred teachers each year."

In 1897 Prestridge resigned the presidency and his pastorate and went to Louisville to edit a weekly paper called the *Baptist Argus*. At the turn of the century Prestridge began a movement to form a worldwide congress for the Baptist denomination, and by 1905 the Baptist World Alliance was functioning with Prestridge

being dubbed, "Father of the World Congress."

Following Prestridge's resignation, Edwin Ellsworth Wood, who was vice-president, became president in 1898.

### H. H. HIBBS

Following Prestridge as pastor of the First Baptist Church was H. H. Hibbs



(1862-1936), a graduate of Southern Seminary. Hibbs also agreed to work for the Institute two months a year as a fund raiser.

### AN UNSUNG HERO IN A LABOR OF LOVE

As one reads the College's official records and articles from the *Western Recorder*, it is easy to see that H. H. Hibbs was an unsung hero who gave his strength, time, talent, and almost every waking moment to enhancing the Institute's financial position. It was a labor of love, and he succeeded in raising some \$200,000 through his efforts, a considerable sum today and even more so then.

One of Hibbs' first assignments was to add \$10,000 to the endowment in order to create a special fund to help youngsters who were unable to pay their own expenses. The Trustees pledged to raise \$1,000, and Hibbs was to raise the remaining amount elsewhere.

### AN AMBASSADOR FOR THE KING OF KINGS

Looking back one can just imagine Dr. Gatliff talking to Mr. Hibbs: "Brother Hibbs, I know there are wealthy folks like Mr. Rockefeller and Mr. Carnegie who are giving money away for legitimate causes up there in New York. Wonder if they could help us build this College for our mountain folks?" Hibbs, of course, was willing to give it his best effort; he never felt like a beggar but rather like an ambassador for the King of Kings, and he was willing to try his best to get that help, because, after all, his heavenly Father owned the cattle on a thousand hills.

### THE MAGNIFICENT OBSESSION

Gatliff and Hibbs then became partners in soliciting funds and shared a magnificent obsession for building a college for mountain youth. Looking back one finds that Hibbs received a pass from Mr. M. J. Smith, President of the L&N Railroad, in May of 1898 for the purpose of soliciting funds for the Institute, and he was on his way to the North to solicit gifts. Hibbs, of course, accepted the pass with the pledge that he would use it for the interest of the Institute only.

In 1900 the Trustees authorized Hibbs to raise \$1,000 a year for five years for an emergency fund for a faculty salary increase. In 1901 the Trustees sent Hibbs out to raise money for a girls' dormitory, for

repairing and adding to the College's buildings, and for increasing the endowment.

While Hibbs was busy at this task, Dr. Ancil Gatliff offered the Institute \$15,000, provided \$45,000 more could be acquired. Gatliff's money was used for a new building.

### THEY PUT THEIR MONEY WHERE THEIR MOUTH WAS

The Trustees not only sent Hibbs out to raise money but generally gave of their own personal resources until it hurt. In 1903 when faced with a need to remove the Institute's debt and a need to finish a dormitory and to repair Johnson Hall for the girls, the Trustees simply put their names down on paper for a total pledge of \$18,000 to be paid over three years.

By 1906 the money had been raised for a new dormitory, and Felix Hall was built to accommodate about ninety men. The building was named in honor of Dr. W. H. Felix, "a friend and honored member of the Board, a wise counselor, a generous contributor to the endowment, and a loyal supporter of the cause." Today a plaque is prominently displayed in the foyer of the building in honor of Dr. Felix even though the building is now called Mahan Hall, honoring E. C. Mahan of Knoxville, Tennessee.

*This story will be continued in Cumberland College's next Back Page.*