

SBC panel urges zero growth goal and nearly removes BJCPA funds

by Marv Knox and Dan Martin

Faced with mounting convention-budgeted but unfunded capital needs and stagnant resources, the Southern Baptist Executive Committee has adopted a zero-growth goal for the denomination's 1989-90 operating budget.

The Executive Committee has approved a \$137,610,000 Cooperative Program basic operating budget goal for the 1989-90 fiscal year. That amount is the same as the basic operating budget for the 1988-89 fiscal year, to begin Oct. 1.

The Executive Committee approved the 1989-90 national goal during its fall meeting Sept. 19-20, "subject to review and/or modification" at its winter meeting Feb. 20-22. As agreed in February, the budget will be presented to messengers to the SBC annual meeting next summer.

SBC agencies, meanwhile, have requested a total of \$148.9 million in Cooperative Program operating funds for the 1989-90 fiscal year.

Executive Committee leaders cited four primary reasons for the zero-growth budget goal—a weak economy, a mountain of capital, a weak economy, an unexpectedly successful annuity program and denominational strife.

Whatever the factors, the Executive Committee's alternatives are limited, William F. Harrell, of Abilene Baptist Church, Martinez, Ga., said: "We're falling more and more behind. Common sense would tell you there's nothing to be gained by adding more money to a budget we're not meeting. We don't need to keep piling deficit on top of deficit."

"We thought it would be best to bite the bullet with a zero-based budget and count on increased income to meet our capital needs obligations."

In other action, the simmering feud over the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs erupted anew during the fall meeting of the Executive Committee.

The committee took five actions regarding the Southern Baptist Public Affairs Committee and the Washington-based BJCPA, including one which, if

adoption, would have stripped the BJCPA of authority over its \$400,000 allocation from the SBC.

The action to immediately strip direct SBC funding from the BJCPA and give the money to the PAC for "distribution under its discretion and authority" was approved on a 10-2 vote in the business and financial plan workgroup.

When the workgroup action came before the business and finance subcommittee, it again drew debate. Convention attorney James P. Guenther gave a legal opinion which said the Executive Committee does not have authority to override the SBC, which during its 1988 annual meeting approved the budget that includes a line item directly fund-

ing the BJCPA.

A compromise was worked out after subcommittee Chairman David Hankins of Lake Charles, La. said he would rule the motion out of order and urged members to work out an alternate plan.

The compromise creates a five-member committee—to be appointed by Hankins, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church—which will report back to the subcommittee at its spring meeting Feb. 20-22, 1989. The study committee was directed to develop "an alternate plan to accomplish the program and distribution of funds traditionally assigned to the BJCPA and to consider such other matters concerning the PAC and the BJCPA as it deems necessary."

Lottery a bad bet KBC president tells deacons, pastors

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

Kentucky Baptist Convention president J. Howard Cobble warned a group of deacons, pastors and their spouses the proposed state lottery is "contrary to the way this world was put together."

Calling it "bad biblically and morally" Cobble commented: "When the state's largest newspaper tells you the lottery is a bad bet you'd better listen."

Addressing a weekend retreat Sept. 16-17 at Cedarmore Baptist Assembly, the pastor of Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown, urged his audience to "work actively" against the lottery.

"If we as Baptists and Christian people will be there to vote, we can stop it," he claimed. He encouraged his listeners to return to their churches and ask them to give money immediately to Citizens Against the State Lottery (CASL), a statewide group incorporating many faiths and other groups opposing the lottery issue.

In prepared remarks to the conference of more than 150 deacons, pastors and their spouses, Cobble posed the question, "Is there anything in the church that is worth my time?" He surmised that the church is worth one's time, money and commitment because "God makes a difference in life."

Cobble said: "Invest your life in the church. The work you do there is going to endure."

In a small group conference on "Deacons Caring for Their Pastor," Guy Futral, consultant in the KBC Church Relations Department, suggested that "all pastors are human and subject to the same struggles as anyone else."

Preachers are not "magic partners with God," Futral exclaimed. "They face the same emptiness and needs that you do." He encouraged participants to understand the pastor "can't be everywhere all the time, can't pastor the whole community, simply can't do it all."

"Become active in sharing his ministry," Futral concluded. "Get involved in the work your pastor was called to do by offering the gifts you have where you are."

In another small group session on "Covenant Marriage," Dan and Niva Francis, of Winchester, called that a "tune-up for marriage."

"Covenant Marriage" is not marriage counseling, according to Francis, pastor of Winchester's Central Baptist Church. "It's not for those whose marriages are in trouble," both Francis agreed.

Their conference was an introduction to how a church can implement its study over a 13-week period.

Niva Francis declared that "your partnership is the only love of God some people will ever see."

The Cedarmore retreat was preceded by nine hours of specialized instruction by Baptist Sunday School Board staffers for 15 persons. Each received certified deacon training and will be available to orient local deacons.

1989 deacon-pastor-spouse retreats: Feb. 17-18, Cedarmore; Feb. 24-25, Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park; Sept. 15-16, Cedarmore; Sept. 29-30, Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly. All are under auspices of the KBC Family Ministry and Church Administration Department, John Lepper, director.

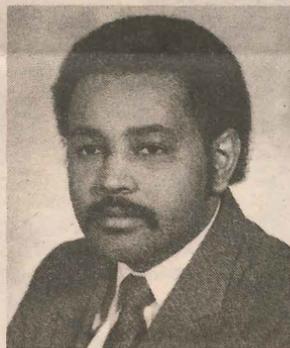
Year End Report Cooperative Program and Mission Offering

Year	CP	TO	HC	LM	AA	EB
87-88	16,353,012	737,375	19,622	2,317,560	1,058,363	559,428
86-87	15,760,914	735,897	25,091	2,160,486	1,038,986	538,977
Change \$	592,098	1,478	(5,469)	157,074	19,377	20,451
Change %	3.76%	0.20%	-21.80%	7.27%	1.86%	3.79%

TO—Thanksgiving Offering, Homes for Children
LM—Lottie Moon
EB—Eliza Broadus
HC—Hospital Charity
AA—Annie Armstrong



Bennett



Walker



Johnson

Collegians to convene in Lexington

by Todd Deaton, Staff Writer

An estimated 900 college students are expected to gather at Gardenside Baptist Church, Lexington, Oct. 7-9 for the annual Kentucky Baptist student convention.

This year's program, which sports the banner "My Faith in Action," features a trilogy of inspirational messages by evangelist Dave Bennett emphasizing making life commitments.

Bennett, a campus of Albuquerque, N. M., was a native minister and Baptist Student Union director at Southwest Missouri State University and Arizona State University, 1970-77, and a national evangelism consultant for the Home Mission Board, 1977-81. Since then he has held a church staff position in Texas and a pastorate in Colorado.

Other principal speakers are T. Vaughn Walker, pastor of First Gethsemane Baptist Church, Louisville, and assistant professor, Carver School of Church Social Work, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; and Charles H. Johnson, director of the Student Ministry Department, Baptist Sunday School Board.

Musical highlights for the weekend include concerts by Mack and Shayla Blake. The Ruston, La. couple have

made three records and performed at Ridgecrest (N. C.) Baptist Assembly. They were recently recognized as "Outstanding Christian Artists" by the ACTS network.

Students will have the opportunity to attend two seminars from nearly 20 interest areas offered during Saturday morning's session. Topics include: "Transitions: life after BSU," "Children and Alcoholics," "Confronting Morality: dealing with one's sexuality," "The Dating Game," "Ordering Your Private World," "Discerning Your Gifts" and "Is it OK to Doubt?"

Registration for the meeting opens at 6 p.m., Oct. 7, with the first session slated for 7:30 p.m. Recreation at the Christian Life Center of Lexington's Immanuel Baptist Church will follow.

Saturday's sessions start at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. The afternoon is free.

Sunday morning's session begins at 9 a.m. and concludes at 10:20 a.m. to encourage students to worship with host pastor James Heard and the congregation of Gardenside Baptist Church.

Hunter Bates, a senior at Eastern Kentucky University, is state BSU president and will preside over the Lexington meeting. Don Blaylock is director of the state Student Department in Middletown.

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sanford's perspectives

World Hunger Day



Jack D. Sanford

October 9 has been designated "World Hunger Day" in Southern Baptist churches. It is a special time when all of us are honored to share some of God's bounty with people across the world who are dying of starvation.

This will mark 10 years we have noted a special day for hunger emphasis in our churches. During that time we have made an impressive record, but we can take no respite since hunger stalks the world as a constant specter of death.

Among the things we have done the most outstanding is to make our people aware of others

directly for that purpose. This is worthy of thought since so many "relief" operations siphon off dollars before they have a chance to provide relief for hurting people. What this means is that our hunger efforts are characterized by integrity and honesty which must always be so.

A factor which may surprise some Baptists is that hunger is not only the problem of drought-stricken Africa. It is a continuing, menacing problem in our own land. For example when the Foreign Mission Board demonstrated what \$10 would do to help relieve hunger, the example was

East Baptist Center, Louisville, Ky. In our own state \$10 will buy enough formula for an infant for eight days. And there are infants in Kentucky who do not have enough to eat.

Funds given for hunger relief are necessary, but money for prevention of hunger is also essential. We must continue developing ministry in such areas as nutrition, personal hygiene, irrigation, farm management and food storage. These are not very glamorous but they are essential if the plague of hunger is ever reversed. That reversal will come only as people learn how to produce, store and use food properly.

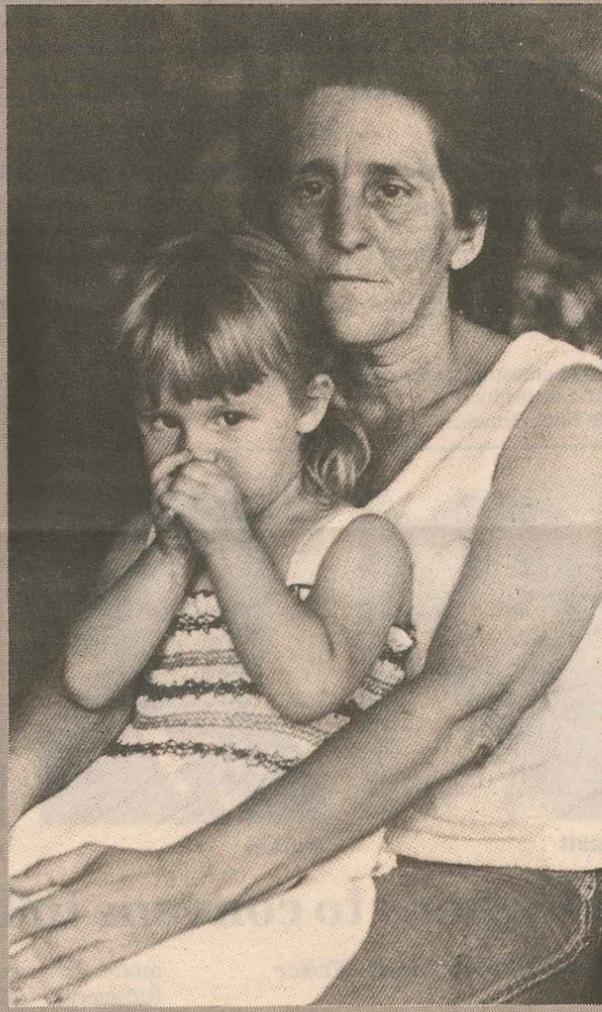
The money we have given for world hunger relief is staggering. Since the first observance of World Hunger Day in 1978, Southern Baptists have given a total of \$63.7 million through our mission boards.

Once again we have the opportunity to put our faith into action in practical ways. When World Hunger Day is observed in your church think of how much food you waste, how much junk food you buy and how picky we are about our food.

'...No Such Thing as an Ugly Potato...'

"There is no such thing as an ugly potato to a mother whose children are hungry. Yet in our country, where the numbers of hungry continue to grow larger, there are literally millions of pounds of ugly potatoes being dumped to rot. These potatoes are hauled away by the dumptruck load because they are not perfect enough to meet the grading standards demanded by the average American consumer. Some are too small. Some are oddly shaped. Some have become slightly sunburned. So these perfectly good potatoes are thrown away because there is no market for them."

—Reverend Ray A. Buchanan, Codirector, Society of St. Andrew, Big Island, Va., testimony before the Domestic Task Force, Select Committee on Hunger, House of Representatives, 100th Congress, First Session, Washington, D. C., August 5, 1987.



who are in need. Prior to the emphasis on world hunger many Southern Baptists had no idea millions of children starved to death every year. Now we know and in our new knowledge we have attempted to do something redemptive about this tragic situation.

We have used both our Foreign Mission Board and Home Mission Board as springboards for help to hungry people at home and abroad. We have the assurance that 100 percent of every dollar we raise for hunger relief goes through these boards

Note the caption on the photo below and read the text. A misshapen potato is rejected by most of us but welcomed by those who are truly hungry.

Perhaps we should also think of our Christian stewardship to show compassion on people who hurt. It is not enough to feel guilty when we indulge. We must go beyond that and practice the love of neighbor commanded in the New Testament. One way to do that is to give generously to help feed the world's hungry people. They too are brother and sister to all of us.

western recorder

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mountains to the mississippi



The Lexington Ice Center in Lexington, Ky. has a thirty-six hole biblical theme miniature golf course. Tom Christopher, owner of the Ice Center from First Baptist Church, Danville, designed the course.

revivals

A deaf-led revival, mini concert and workshops are scheduled at **Immanuel Baptist Church**, Lexington, Friday, Oct. 7, at 7 p.m. through noon Sunday, Oct. 9. The minister is Ray Bearden from Alexandria, Va. The Silent Touch Choir from Houston, Tex. will be featured in mini concert. A speaking interpreter will be provided for the hearing. The public is invited.

missions

Karen Wilson, journeyman to Paraguay, has arrived on the field to begin her two year term of service as an elementary teacher (Casilla 1415, Asuncion, Paraguay). She is a native of Madisonville. Before she was employed by the Foreign Mission Board in July, she graduated from Georgetown College.

ordinations

Sulphur Springs Baptist Church ordained **Bruce Campbell** as deacon. Richard McKenny is pastor.

First Baptist Church, Ashland, was to ordain **Jay Young III**, Sept. 18 as deacon. Pastor is Bill Messer.

Thornhill Baptist Church, Frankfort, ordained as ministers **Robert Louis Lippert Sr.** and **Gardner Mark Daniel** Aug. 7. Lippert is the church's minister of education and a student at Boyce Bible School. Daniel is minister of youth and a student at Southern Seminary. William Hartung is pastor.

personnel

Garnett Moss accepted a call as pastor of Elkton Baptist Church. He has been interim pastor since April. He is a native of Hopkinsville and a retired Army chaplain.

First Baptist Church, Prestonsburg, called **Thomas Foy** as minister of music and youth. Stephen Hopkins is pastor.

Mike Godby accepted the call as minister of youth at Calvary Hill Baptist Church, Stanford. Morris Trayner is pastor.

Tony Steele, former pastor of Beechridge Baptist Church and associational Church Training director for Shelby County Association, is pastor of Mundefville Baptist Church.

Christopher Jay Johnson accepted the pastorate of First Baptist Church, Russell. He was associate pastor of Bethlehem Baptist Church, Louisville.

M. A. Pemberton, resigned as pastor of Alsie Baptist Church, Williamsburg.

Seymour Wattenbarger resigned as pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, London.

Frank Kirby accepted the pastorate of New Palestine Baptist Church, Crofton.

Bethel Baptist Church, Calhoun, called **James Dugas** as pastor.

Oak Grove Baptist Church, Paducah, accepted the resignation of pastor **Kyle Rudd** who has accepted a church in Humboldt, Tenn.

Mark Kitts resigned as pastor at Mays Lick Baptist Church, Mays Lick, to accept a church in Knoxville, Tenn.

Elbert Lee James has been called as pastor of Edgemont Baptist Church, Bluefield, West Va. James was pastor of First Baptist Church, Clay, for nine years. During that time, the church completed a Sunday school addition and remodeling program of the church facilities and the \$3,000,000 cost is now debt free. First Baptist, Clay, also increased cooperative giving to 18% and participated in the Kentucky-Kenya partnership.

James has been actively involved in Kentucky Baptist life for more than 22 years. Friends may contact him at his new address (2507 Jefferson Drive, Bluefield, West VA 24701).

Libby Lancaster Eaton, a native of South Carolina, has been named manager trainee with the 63-store Baptist Book Store chain. Currently she is working in the Louisville store, where she has been a book sales clerk since 1984.

Born in Spartanburg, Mrs. Eaton was reared in Greenville and Greer. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Lancaster of Greer. She earned the BA degree in business administration and the MACE degree in Christian education at Southern Seminary. She is married to Douglas C. Eaton of Louisville.

First Baptist Charlestown, Ind., called **James Emery White** as pastor. He has

been interim pastor since March. White is a recent graduate of Southern Seminary where he received the MDiv degree. Currently enrolled in the doctoral program, he has worked on the administrative staff the past two years as assistant director of prospective student services.

A native of North Carolina and son of Dr. and Mrs. R. H. White of Raleigh, he is married to the former Susan Elizabeth Tuttle. The Whites have one daughter, Rebecca, with a second child expected in December.

Edwin Poindexter, manager of the Louisville Baptist Book Store since 1986, has been named manager of the Birmingham, Ala., Baptist Book Store, effective Oct. 1. He will succeed Jean Hall who retires Sept. 30.

A native of Winston-Salem, N. C., he joined the book store chain staff in 1981 as a manager trainee in the Raleigh, N. C., store. He became manager of the Lutherville, Md. store, where he worked until assuming the Louisville post.

Poindexter earned the BA degree at Campbell University, Buies Creek, N. C., and the MDiv degree from Southeastern Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C. He and his wife Betsy have three sons.



White



Mrs. Eaton



James



Poindexter

congregations

Lyndon Baptist Church, Louisville, presented the premiere of "The Work of the Ministry," written by Phillip Landgrave Sunday, Sept. 18. The musical was written to celebrate the ministry of Hugh Goldsby who pastored Lyndon Baptist 36 years. Goldsby will retire in December.

Bracken Baptist Mission, Minerva, has been leading the Bracken Baptist Association in baptisms—and it's only two years old.

Mt. Olivet Baptist Church is the sponsoring church. Two other Kentucky churches have been involved in supporting the Bracken Mission. Immanuel Baptist Church, Frankfort, and Richmond Baptist Church, Bowling Green, have assisted in revivals, day camps, worship and in financial support.

Part of the Mission Kentucky effort, the mission church meets in a double wide trailer on a small plot of land. Pastor of Bracken Baptist Mission is Paul Gray.

Arthur Ridge Baptist Church, East Bernstadt, was scheduled to hold homecoming Aug. 28 and a singing Aug. 20.



James H. Cox
Associate Editor

fourth estate

The aging process, II

Anyone old enough to remember Art Linkletter's House Party will recall he asked lots of leading questions. One day he inquired of a youngster, "Who is the most beautiful woman in the world?" On live TV, the bright-eyed child shot back, "My mom used to be, but now she's 36 and that's all finished!"

As we pointed out two weeks ago, many of us are preoccupied with reversing time, or at least, appearing to be younger than we are. The late Agnes Durant Pylant, who lived to a ripe old age and was Southern Baptists' first professional promoter of church recreation, may have done so well at the aging process because of her attitude. At 60 she wrote a delightful little volume called *Gee Whiz, I'm Old!* At 70, she authored a second, *Three Score and Ten*. Her healthy outlook about aging is personified in this lilting rhyme she shared at Ridgecrest 30 years ago. Perhaps it will make you smile as it did me:

*How do I know my youth has been spent?
Because my get-up-and-go has went.
But in spite of it all I'm able to grin
When I think where my get-up-and-go
has been!*

*Old Age is golden I've heard it said
But sometimes I wonder as I go to bed
My ears in a drawer, my teeth in a cup
My eyes on the table until I wake up.
My sleep dims my eyes, I say to myself
Is there anything else I should lay on
the shelf?*

*But I'm happy to say as I close my door
My friends are the same as in days of
yore!*

*When I was young my slippers were red
I could kick my heels right over my head;
When I grew older my slippers were blue
But I could keep going the whole night
through.*

*Now that I'm old my slippers are black
I walk to the corner and puff myself
back*

*The reason I know my youth has been
spent?*

*My get-up-and-go has got-up-and-
went!*

*But I really don't mind when I think
with a grin*

*Of the places my get-up-and-go has
been!*

*Since I have retired from life's compe-
tition*

*And resigned myself to my present
condition.*

*I get up seach morning, dust off my wits
Pick up the paper and read the obits;*

*If my name is missing, I know I'm not
dead*

*So I eat a good breakfast and go back
to bed!*

baptist news in brief

Foreign missions may starve to death

Almost 76 years ago, Southern Baptist foreign missionary Lottie Moon literally starved to death.

Today, the same thing that happened to Lottie Moon could happen to foreign missions if Southern Baptists do not do something about it, said Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union.

Weatherford has just returned from a two-week visit to China, including the Shantung Province where Moon lived and worked and ended up giving her life, meal by meal.

"Things aren't much different today from when Lottie Moon was in China," she declared. "Those who go and give their lives end up paying, while we who are here in our comfort are not willing to sacrifice to let them survive."

Moon gave up her means of survival—her own food and money—because no extra funds were available to help feed the people. And because the FMB was facing tight money in the early 1900s she did not want to ask for additional funds. The same is true today as Southern Baptists missionaries will not ask for more funds when finances are tight.

The difficulty of Moon's daily existence became even more real for Weatherford as she traveled by air-conditioned motor coach between Pingdu and Qingdao. Pingdu is the village where Moon last lived and Qingdao is the port from which she set sail for home. She never made it. She died of

starvation on board ship in the harbor of Kobe, Japan.

Just as in Moon's day not enough money is available. The FMB's budget has been slashed 12 percent across the board in recent days.

Southern Baptists have not met the foreign missions offering goal for six years. This year's goal of \$84 million is \$14 million more than last year.

Weatherford said she felt there was reason for hope because Southern Baptists can do whatever they want to do. The motivation for extra giving will come when Southern Baptists get beyond the convention's theological/political controversy and get on with the cause of missions, she stated.

"Our investment of lives and money were not wasted in China. Even when the church as we know it was not visible, it was still there," she said.

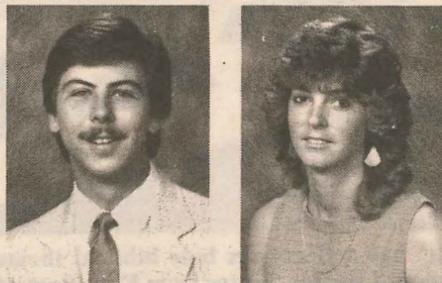
During her visit one pastor rejoiced with her that on the previous day, a Sunday, 60 new believers had been baptized. Similar success stories are being told by other Chinese nationals who have carried on the work started by Moon.

But if Southern Baptists do not "come to the rescue of foreign missions now and give the money necessary to support the missionaries, foreign missions could face the same fate that Moon faced," Weatherford avowed. Already foreign missions is starving. "Lottie Moon is starving again," Weatherford pointed out. (BP)



Miss Butler

Fugate



Keys

Miss Kimball

CLC directors elect Land on 23-2 ballot

On a 23-2 secret-ballot vote, directors of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission Sept. 12 elected Richard Land of Dallas as the new executive director-treasurer of the Southern Baptist moral and social concerns agency.

Land, 41, who has been vice president of academic affairs at Criswell College, an arm of First Baptist Church of Dallas, will assume day-to-day direction of the agency about Oct. 24.

In presenting Land as the choice of the eight-member search committee, Joe Atchison, a director of Baptist associational missions in Rogers, Ark., told commission members, "We (the search committee) decided from the beginning that we were not going to let any political fallout or any other thing keep us from going for the most qualified man... God's man. Richard Land is the unanimous choice of the search committee."

Following the vote, Atchison told Baptist Press the "atmosphere of the meeting was markedly different in a very positive, upbeat way," from the tense meetings of January and September 1987. (BP)

Kentuckians appointed by Home Mission Board

Four Kentuckians were among 43 people appointed as US-2 missionaries by the Home Mission Board in August.

Marsha Butler of Morehead was appointed to serve in Hilton Head, S. C. William Fugate of Madisonville was appointed to serve in Ashland, Ore. Gary Keys of Louisville was appointed to serve in Plantation, Fla. Debbie Kimball of Lexington was appointed to serve in Detroit.

Miss Butler is a recent graduate of Morehead State University in Morehead. She served as a summer missionary in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Miss Butler is the daughter of Paul and Aletheia Butler of Catlettsburg.

Fugate is a recent graduate of the University of Louisville. Since 1987 he has been a personal consultant at the International Center in Louisville. Fugate served with the Kentucky Baptist Convention during the summer of 1987. He served with the Foreign Mission Board in Kenya during 1986 and with the Home Mission Board in Minnesota in 1985. He is the son of William and Judith Fugate of Madisonville.

Keys is a recent graduate of Georgetown College, where he has been a resident assistant since 1986. He also served as a music director with a Georgetown College summer youth team throughout the state. He is the son of Marvin and Erma Keys of Louisville.

Debbie Kimball is a recent graduate of the University of Kentucky, Lexington. Since 1985, she has been an administrative assistant for Transportation Cabinet in Lexington.

6 states post percentage gain for HMB giving

Gifts to the Southern Baptist Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for home missions may record their lowest increase in nearly two decades if the current giving trend is not reversed, Southern Baptist Home Mission Board president Larry Lewis told the agency's executive committee.

Lewis told the directors if contributions continue at the present rate for the remainder of the year, the board will receive an estimated \$30.4 million, or 81 percent of the 1988 goal of \$37.5 million.

Lewis noted that during the past 15 years, gifts through the special offering have increased an average of 11.3 percent, or 5.15 percent when adjusted for inflation. The annual offering for home missions has not reached the goal since 1981.

Reasons for the trend cannot yet be determined, Lewis said, but he added early returns from the denomination's 10 largest-giving states have not kept up with inflation or last year's percentage increase. "What happens in these 10 key states determines giving trends for the entire denomination," he said.

At this time last year, the top 10 states in giving reported an increase of 10 percent, but current figures for the same time period show this year's receipts running at only 0.36 percent. Of the top 10 states, six reported increases and four reported decreases, Lewis said. Kentucky posted the largest percentage gain with 5.71 percent, while slight increases were registered by Florida, South Carolina, Georgia, Texas and Virginia.

The four leading states reporting decreases were Mississippi, Tennessee, North Carolina and Alabama. (BP)

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CLC embarrassed by Caine's comments

In a discussion of a pamphlet which discussed capital punishment the CLC not only voted to drop the pamphlet but also experienced embarrassment because of the opinions expressed by one of its members.

Commissioner Curtis W. Caine Sr., a medical doctor from Jackson, Miss., warned his colleagues about the use of "traditional words used to deal with

CLC drops Surgeon General's AIDS report

The Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission has stopped distributing the "Surgeon General's Report on AIDS." The ethics agency voted to pull the AIDS report during its annual meeting Sept. 13-14 in Nashville.

The AIDS report, prepared by U. S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop, had been reprinted and distributed by the CLC in a 28-page booklet. A CLC forward to the booklet says: "Warning! This pamphlet contains explicit language related to physical anatomy and human reproduction and should be used by responsible adults. The CLC has printed this report as a service to concerned Christians, not as a guide to Christian morality."

"Our bottom line is there's better material," declared Alma Ruth Morgan, a homemaker from Bartlesville, Okla. and the commissioner who made the motion to drop the report. "We're not knocking Koop. We're going for total abstinence; no pamphlet printed or mailed by the Christian Life Commission should promote anything except sex within marriage."

Commissioners believe the Surgeon General's report "contains assumptions about sexual morality" and does not reflect "CLC standards concerning heterosexuality and sex within marriage," said Richard Land, newly elected CLC executive director.

The commissioners instructed the staff "to give information about AIDS included in the Surgeon General's report without compromising our position about moral sex between a man and a woman within marriage." (BP)

programs of this commission."

Speaking of "race relations," Caine said: "We have to be very careful that we do not get caught in the trap that is closing in around us about apartheid in South Africa, which doesn't exist anymore and was beneficial when it did, because it meant separate development."

"We have to be very careful that we don't be caught up in the endorsement of—quote, 'the reverend,' unquote—Martin Luther King." He called the martyred civil rights leader a fraud.

Caine also cautioned against use of the term "world hunger," saying, "Starvation has been used since time immemorial to control people." He cited communist regimes in the Soviet Union and Ethiopia as examples and claimed, "The first communist cell in the U. S. was the U. S. Department of Agriculture."

Of "peace," he said: "If you look in the English/communist dictionary, you see 'peace' means anything that promotes communism. . . . Using 'world peace' may be endorsing one world government, . . . one world educational system, . . . one world money and . . . one world atheist religious system."

And of "poverty," he added: "Sometimes Christians who are soft-hearted steal from those who have and give to those who have not. That is not Christian."

Commissioners responded with silence to Caine's discourse. Richard Land

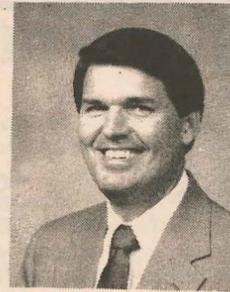
later told Baptist Press he believes nobody responded to Caine because commissioners were grieved and embarrassed "that a commissioner would embarrass this way and embarrassed that he would say such things." He also noted that it was clear to all commissioners "that this is an isolated opinion not shared by anyone on the board." (BP)

RTVC board OK delay of ACTS sale closing

Trustees of the Radio and Television Commission approved a 45-day extension for closing the sale of the ACTS television network, adopted two operating budgets for the 1988-89 fiscal year and heard reports of a major telemissions effort in the Peoples Republic of China scheduled for this fall.

Meeting in Ft. Worth, Tex., Sept. 13, the commission accepted a \$100,000 payment from Friends of Acts, a San Antonio, Tex., based investment group, in exchange for amending the ACTS sale contract to extend the date of closing from Sept. 15 to Oct. 30, 1988.

If the sale is concluded by Oct. 30, the payment would apply toward the \$10 million payment scheduled at closing. If Friends of ACTS should fail to complete the sale by the revised termination date, the \$100,000 would be nonrefundable, commission spokesmen said. (BP)



Bill Whittaker
President
Clear Creek Baptist Bible School
Pineville, KY 40977

clear creek chronicle

Missionary Baptists in word and deed

Convention president Jerry Vines' recent call for the churches to increase their giving through the Cooperative Program is a much needed word from our leaders. For 63 years the Cooperative Program has proven to be Southern Baptists most effective channel of mission support. Ponder the amazing diversity of mission work these funds support: state convention workers, children's homes, hospitals, student work, Christian education, home and foreign missions, church planting and much more. A Cooperative Program dollar touches more lives than any gift we can make. I am thankful to have served churches who believed the only direction to move Cooperative Program giving was higher.

In 1981 as Kentucky Baptist Convention president, I thrilled to see our state convention vote to increase the percentage going outside our state to Southern Baptist Convention causes. Kentucky has steadily progressed toward the 60-40 percentage goal. During the past five years, the percentage amount coming from the churches has declined. The result means a reduced amount of funds for every member of the convention family.

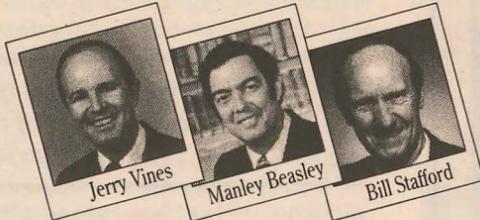
The Cooperative Program is important to Clear Creek. It is our second largest source of income and stabilizes all we do. About one-fourth of our budget comes from the Christian Education portion of the Kentucky Baptist Convention budget. Clear Creek receives 2½ cents of every dollar sent by cooperating Kentucky churches.

Clear Creek teaches our students the wisdom of cooperation. They are encouraged to be Missionary Baptists in word and deed. About 350 Kentucky Baptist pastors are Clear Creek graduates. Harlan Avera became pastor of Steubenville Baptist Church, Pulaski County, one month before his May 1987 graduation. He followed Clear Creek alumnus Robert Spradlin who served the church seven years. In the past 18 months, church receipts have increased from \$32,000 to \$62,000 and mission giving has gone from 15½ percent to 20 percent. Fifty-eight people have joined the church.

Harlan was called to preach at age 30. With two daughters, the family came to Clear Creek. His pastoral leadership demonstrates the results we desire from all our graduates. Increase your Cooperative Program giving and have a larger investment in men like Harlan Avera.

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Note: All Owensboro hotels and motels provide free HBO and Cable TV in rooms. None of the above properties offer X-rated, pay-for-viewing video.

*Has limited number of non-smoking motel rooms. Request when making reservation.

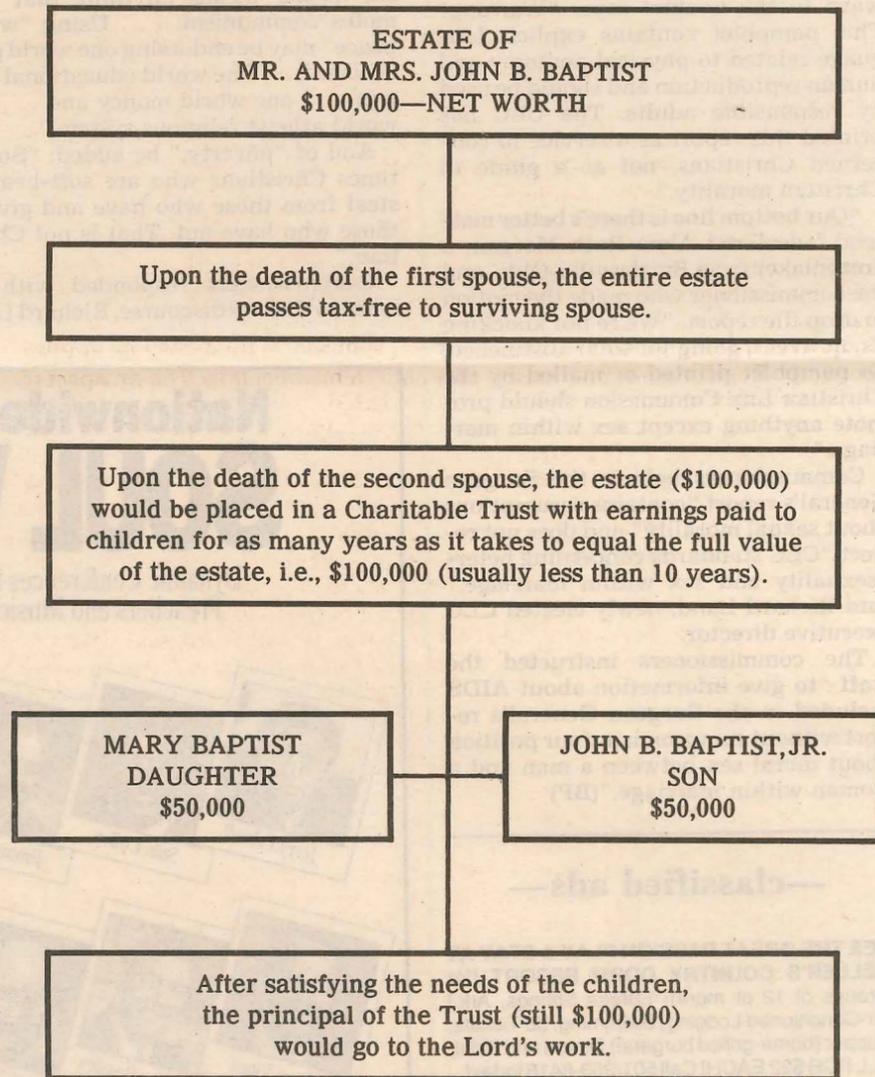
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Jet age pulpit exchange teaches pastors new ways

by Todd Deaton, Staff Writer

For almost a century Americans and Europeans have debated the "correct" side of the road on which to drive. Last month, Jim Lewis, pastor of Westport Road Baptist Church, Louisville, and Rodney Sawtell, pastor of Colchester Baptist Church in England, discovered that neither way is correct—there are just two ways of doing the same thing.

Lewis and Sawtell, who consented to participate in a jet age pulpit exchange for three Sundays in August, also learned that the same principle applies to denominational polity.

"One's mindset of the church tends to become parochial. Our lives become wrapped up in one town and one country," Sawtell explains. "An international pulpit exchange is beneficial to both congregations since a pastor from another country brings the churchmanship of his people to share. Hence, the global village becomes more aware that all our lives are intertwined by the gospel, even though we are separated by thousands of miles."

Lewis relates his most meaningful experience came when he was asked to officiate the Lord's Supper. "I administered the Lord's Supper to a strange church, a strange people," he says. "Sitting around the Lord's table to eat and drink from the cup made me realize we are united by Christ, we are brothers and sisters in the Lord."

Lewis, however, did note some differences between English and Southern Baptists, particularly in worship styles. Colchester had no Sunday school hour, just an 11 o'clock service. Following an object lesson, children ages 16 and under would leave the sanctuary to go to Sunday school classes. The adult service would usually last until about 12:30 p.m.

"That's really not that long when you consider that in the states we have 50 minutes of Sunday school followed by a 15-20 minute break and then an hour-long worship service," Lewis surmises.

The Colchester congregation also appeared to be rather "progressive," compared to most Southern Baptist churches. "Colchester had four women deacons. In fact, the church constitution says it must have at least two women on the board of deacons," Lewis asserts.

While Sawtell hopes English Baptists can capture the zeal Southern Baptists have for missions, church growth and building programs, he thinks the cultural exchange may benefit Southern Baptists as well.

"Among English Baptists membership in a local Baptist church still has meaning and significance," claims Sawtell, who has pastored the 300-year-old church for nine of his 20 years as an ordained minister. "In England every member is expected to be active in church, while in America a church may have as many as 3000 members of which only 800 attend regularly.

"Perhaps Southern Baptist lay persons can relearn what church membership means and discover how to apply it to their daily lifestyles," he suggests.

"In the United States 20 percent of the people do 80 percent of the work and giving," Lewis acknowledges. "Yet in England when there are 400 members on the church roll—as in the case of Colchester—400 people participate regularly in worship.

"What we're talking about is a difference in the perception of the value of church membership," he assesses. "By



Kyle Hubbard (r), chairman of deacons at Westport Road, bestows honorary citizenship of Louisville upon Rodney and Margaret Sawtell (center) and their three sons, (l to r) James, Mark and Paul.

their actions, the English indicate belonging to a particular fellowship is a privilege and along with it is a responsibility to support and attend. Since it is so easy to join a Baptist church in America, people tend to take membership for granted.

"Membership has to mean something," Sawtell adds. "In my country we do not give an invitation after every service. If someone is interested he applies for church membership. The prospect is then visited and counseled about his Christian pilgrimage before he is invited to join."

Baptists are still very much in the minority in England. However, contemporary Baptist life is characterized by dynamic growth, charismatic renewal and ecumenical progress.

Sawtell is particularly excited about the recent ecumenical progress. "We are witnessing an ecumenical factor uncommon in the United States. There is a new openness to joint mission efforts with Episcopalians, Methodists, Presbyterians, Congregationalists, Roman Catholics and the Salvation Army," he claims.

"We do not deny or compromise our distinctive Baptist beliefs, but we feel Baptists need to make their contribution to the cause of Christ and do so clearly in a country where the opportunities for the Kingdom of God are numerous," Sawtell explains. Only about three percent of Britons are regular churchgoers, he says.

Bill Gooch, moderator at Westport Road, found the cultural exchange between the pastors and the two congregations to be unusually rewarding.

"So often we get used to a ritual and think that's the only way something can be done just because that's the way we've always done it. That's just isn't so," he advocates.

"While I don't think our pastor or Sawtell would change the way their denomination does things, they have been exposed to new and different ways of doing things."

Westport Road chairman of deacons Kyle Hubbard agrees, "The pulpit exchange caused us to be more aware of Baptist work in England. We are descendants of English forefathers, yet we don't often hear about the work of English Baptists."

Hubbard was pleased to learn from Colchester's secretary that Jim Lewis and his wife Alois were equally well received. "All was well except that some

of the members have sore ribs. Our congregation got a lot of laughs out of that report since most of us are familiar with Lewis' habit of hugging people real hard," Hubbard muses.

The Louisville attorney confides he was pleasantly surprised by how eagerly the Sawtells, particularly their three sons, were accepted by members of Westport Road. "In a very short time the Sawtells had become a part of our church family," he states.

"Their kids blended in extremely well with the other youth," he says. "Our young people were preparing for a musical entitled 'Friends' and the Sawtells' children frequently participated in the rehearsals. While I am sure their kids often experienced culture shock to an extent, our kids were really sad to see them leave.

The Sawtells eldest son, Paul, 16, became keenly aware of cultural differences while swimming at a local pool. "Girls here tend to be much more forward than those in England. One girl just walked right up to me and asked me out for a date," he volunteers. "In England they are much more reserved."

While Sawtell and his wife Margaret emphasized getting to know people who live in a foreign country, Paul and his younger brothers, James and Mark, stressed another advantage of international pulpit exchanges—sightseeing.

The English family visited Mammoth Cave, Red River Gorge, Natural Bridge,

Cumberland Falls and Shaker Village. They also toured Lexington, spent a day at Kings Island, attended a Cincinnati Reds baseball game, and decided to remain in the states an extra week to visit Disney World.

While in Great Britain the Lewises also took some time to do some sightseeing. They visited Windsor Castle, Canterbury Cathedral, Buckingham Palace and Cambridge University. The Louisville couple also saw the white cliffs of Dover, took a dip in the North Sea and jumped the channel to spend some time in Paris.

The Sawtell/Lewis exchange was precipitated by a similar jet age linkup involving David Beer, pastor of a Baptist congregation at Frinton on the Sea, England, and Ron Higdon, pastor of Broadway Baptist Church, Louisville in July 1987.

When Sawtell shared his interest in doing a similar exchange with a pastor in the United States, Beer advised him to contact Lewis, an acquaintance of Higdon, and volunteered to serve as liaison.

"I agreed to go to his church to preach and to let him come to mine and say whatever he felt led by the Spirit to say. We traded the keys to our cars, houses and refrigerators and said, 'Make yourself at home,'" Lewis explains. "It was an adventure since I had never met the fellow!"

Sawtell advises, "It is essential that one be recommended for this kind of exchange. Someone has to know both pastors and the churches involved."

The two pastors also agreed they would provide their own travel to and from their destinations and their time would be scheduled as vacation leave so neither of the churches would have to assume any financial responsibility for the arrangement. In addition, each would pay for his sightseeing ventures.

Ministerial responsibilities included primarily preaching at all Sunday services during the three weeks. Neither would be requested to do weddings or funerals during their stay abroad.

"It is relaxing for the pastor to be able to just bring a series of messages to a congregation," Sawtell asserts. "One is not responsible for visitation and church administration—just preaching the word—and that's a joy in itself.

"There is also a growing feeling among lay people that exchanges of this nature are right and that God is leading in these endeavors," he concludes.



Alois (l) and Jim Lewis (r) chat with new friends in front of Colchester Baptist Church in England.

baptist forum

It is sin to gamble

Survey after survey and public opinion polls indicate a lottery is coming to Kentucky. Moreover, the surveys and polls show church people, including Baptists, favor a lottery.

Pollsters say we must find reasons other than religious and moral to oppose the lottery. I find that disgusting. What better reason could a Christian have to oppose the lottery than religious or moral?

We are not talking religious liberty here. We are talking basic theology. Gambling is a sinful activity and cannot be justified because one might think the gamble is for a good cause.

When the preacher or religious leader has to seek to convince Christians or members of churches to vote against the lottery for reasons other than Christian principles—the church is hurting.

God willing, the Temperance League of Kentucky will never be found watering down or explaining away the basic Christian teaching that it is sin . . . sin to gamble and to drink alcohol.

The time has come for Christians, with all Christian love to join the fight, face the enemy and defeat him at the voting booth on Nov. 8.

Calude M. Witt
executive director
Temperance League
Louisville

our concerns on religious freedom and church-state issues, is experiencing difficulties.

The reason is the cut in funds allocated by the Southern Baptist Convention over policy disagreement by some within the present SBC leadership.

The question is: Has the good done by the BJCPA merited our continued support? What have they done to help us?

One thing they have done is to search for ways to treat religion in the public schools which has resulted in a landmark publication on the proper treatment of religion in public schools.

Another thing being done which will benefit churches, institutions and ministers is that their general counsel is chairing a committee for the Internal Revenue Service to help train agents to understand the unique problems of the church-state relationship in tax matters.

A third thing of importance the BJCPA has done is to help work out the Equal Access legislation which permits religious groups to meet, as do other clubs and groups, in school facilities. This is significant legislation. They have also worked with federal agencies to protect the overseas income of our missionaries from double taxation.

The BJCPA has rendered valuable service to ministers, churches and institutions in the struggle of church and state issues.

Therefore I believe the work of this agency is worthy of our support, if not by denomination, as is the apparent intention, then by specific help from our churches or state conventions. They

need help now since their first step of defunding begins in October. They have served us well. Let us help them now.

John Dunaway
Corbin

Praise for a dedicated woman

Regarding the article about Kay Trisler:

How disappointed I am that Western Recorder did not take a stand in support of a woman as director of missions in an association. Why the hesitancy when Western Recorder takes on the Southern Baptist Convention and the proposed state lottery? Is this any less a commitment of Kentucky Baptists?

I also question whether the same report were being written about a male as volunteer DOM if the words "respecting authority" and "sustaining those who hold rank" would have been used.

Kay Trisler is obviously a dedicated, called, mission-minded Christian who wants to reach out to others and share Christ's love. Our denomination needs more women like Kay in leadership positions, and yes, in positions of authority as well.

Jean Cravens
Lexington

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

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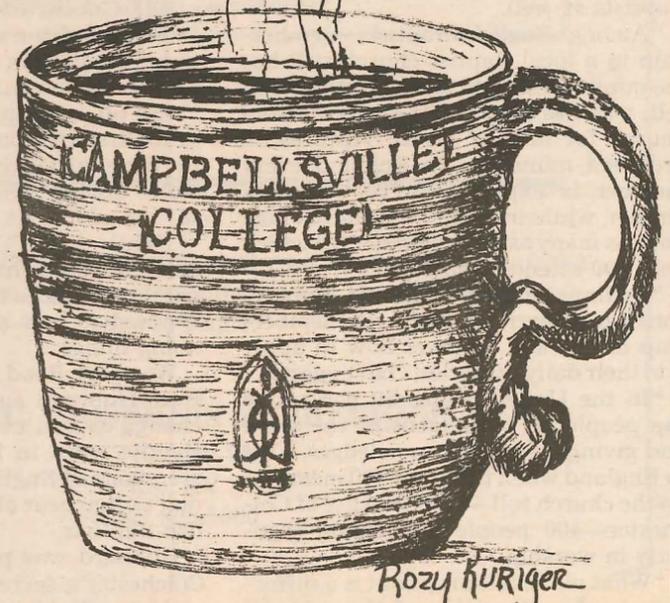
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County seat church exceeds all records

by Beth Wyatt
State Correspondent

Manchester is a typical eastern Kentucky county seat town with narrow, crowded streets and the Baptist church and courthouse on the same block. However, Manchester Baptist Church is different.

The stately brick building sets atop a hill surrounded by attorneys' offices and municipal parking lots. Yet they have found room in the back yard to erect a building since no other property is available. The records show 335 members and Sunday school attendance has exceeded that number more than once.

The members' joy is one of the determining factors in the substantial growth of Manchester Baptist. This dedicated group has experienced rough times but has allowed the preaching of God's word to prompt them to grow. They have experienced the joy of realizing some visions in their life time.

Six years ago the Sunday school attendance was 85. Today the average attendance is 240. In the same period of time the church has been remodeled adding a balcony and upper room to accommodate more people.

The offerings have more than doubled and mission giving has quadrupled. Last year the total mission gifts totaled \$65,654. Of that amount \$2456 went to the Cooperative Program and \$2300 to Oneida Baptist Institute.

The church has satellite Sunday school classes scattered across town. Dedicated members handle that phase of the ministry. Mrs. Lil Rawlings works with Senior Citizens in the High Rise Apartment Complex. Lawanna Owens teaches at the Nursing Home; and Butch Canner, at the housing project. Canner, a Cumberland College senior, is music and education director at Manchester Baptist. He is responsible for training outreach workers.

This summer Canner led a group of

eight young people through training, a commissioning service at the church and an eight day mission adventure in Cleves, Oh. They saw 28 people saved.

Each Wednesday night mission activities are available for young people. On rotating weeks 50 to 60 kids ride the buses into town to study Bible, missions and music. The leaders also rotate, making it possible for them to be present in adult Bible study every other week.

Recently, a plot of land was purchased for \$450,000 and ground was broken for a \$225,000 educational facility that will include recreational facilities for all ages on its second floor. According to a spokesperson for the group, more than half of the money has been given and the people expect the facility to be completed and paid for by next year.

Roger Williams is pastor of the

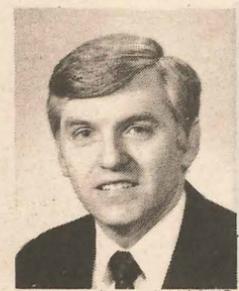
Booneville Association congregation. A native of adjoining Jackson County, he has been at Manchester six years.

Williams said, "The uniqueness of our situation must be credited to the Lord and our people. They have not been afraid to scoot over and allow some new or younger person to perform with no threat to their 'seat.'"

"We realized our county seat church had to take its place among the sister churches not above them. The reputation of aloofness and conceit is not found. It can't be if we are to have an option for prospects."

Williams continued, "You have to minister to folks, point them to a vision and convince them they love one another."

That is what has made Manchester Baptist different.



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

homes for children

Do the best you can

On the day I left for college I had one of the most important conversations of my life. I visited with my grandfather, Ernest Parrish, who had had a stroke the previous week. My grandfather was a man I admired greatly.

On this morning I do not remember all we talked about, but I will always remember his final words to me. They were, "Do the best you can." That was the final advice my grandfather ever gave me for three weeks later I received a call from my father telling me he had died.

In the 23 plus years since that morning, those words have served as some of the best advice I have ever been given. As I have assumed the three major positions in my child care career, including the present one, the only thing which I have ever promised is that I would do the best I could.

In reality there is nothing any of us can really promise more than that. We are not in a position to know the challenges which we will face in life nor the disappointments and joys we will know. Chuck Swindoll in his book, **The Quest for Character**, notes there are no absolute guarantees in life and that living and risking go hand in hand. There are times when we would like a money back guarantee on the decisions we make, but that is really not possible.

Doing the best you can does not mean comparing yourself with someone else, but with an inner measure which only you and God can truly know. Someone else may think something is a great accomplishment, but only you know if it was really your best. Whether you do better than someone else or you are an utter failure in the eyes of men, in reality if you have done your best, the final outcome is beyond anyone else's judgment.

For children coming to Baptist Homes for Children we can set many goals and make great plans, but in the end we have no real control over their lives. The best advice and the best help we can be for them is to challenge them to be the best they can be and to seek God's guidance for direction in their lives. In the end they do not have to please me or anyone else. Only they and their Lord can judge failure and success.

Thank you, "Daddy Ernest," for some of the best advice I have ever received.

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Barkley Moore
President
Oneida Baptist Institute
Oneida, KY 40972

oneida journal

Stored in heaven

Reading old diary entries brings back many long forgotten events and emotions. They, like pictures, capture and preserve a moment in time.

An elderly former teacher, who first heard our founder speak as a 15-year-old girl in Ottawa, Kan., was back for homecoming and gave me her diaries covering her Oneida years. She first came here by horse and wagon.

Also, I was allowed to xerox a copy of the diary entries of a former teacher and president of Oneida covering 15 years of Oneida history, extending back more than 50 years ago. Fascinating!

I was blessed with the opportunity to read diary entries of a former Oneida teacher who has served with me. They give some real insights, some names are changed:

"8-27-75: Busy as we are here, our days are so full one has no time for boredom. Am praying for Johnny as only our Lord knows how someone feels who grew up feeling rejected and unloved. Please, Lord, help him to find the importance of himself. Help us as Christians to be more understanding and more loving. Many of us having grown up with

love find it difficult to comprehend the world of unloveables. Classes were pretty good today. Lord, help me to do my best with these young people. Help them learn to apply themselves to their work and help me not to fail someone I'm thankful for."

"8-28-75: I'm so thankful God has given me the opportunity to be here at Oneida. Please Lord, help Mrs. — to be more understanding and loving. Kids don't really mind being corrected, but rejection hurts! Today Susie is on my heart. Help her, Lord, to get over her homesickness. Thank you for allowing me the privilege of the devotion in homeroom this morning. Bless what I said."

"8-29-75: I took Joe's bus route this morning and it's truly beautiful seeing the sun rise over the white clouded hills. It is a joy being around the kids up Red Bird Creek. Father, bless that boy that had to be sent home last night. Help him to know we mean the best for everyone, and we can't let them go on breaking our rules. Help me to do better with my fifth period class. Above all help me to love each one even when I must discipline them. Bless Mr. Moore and Mr. Halcomb as they lead us here. Keep our school filled with thy spirit."

"9-3-75: Thank you Lord. Fifth period was more orderly. Please give me more love and patience."

"9-4-75: It was a day without any great troubles. I wish I could get to know each one more personally. Oh, Lord, to have more wisdom. . . ."

"9-5-75: Today Nancy is on my heart for prayer. Help her to accept Christ as her personal savior, to lead her in all areas of life, fill her with peace. I enjoyed Mrs. DeJarnette's devotion this morning."

"9-6-75: Thank you, Lord, that you love us, imperfect as we are. I pray for Joey. If he could accept Christ as Lord of his life, he could not be so filled with self, but could think of others. I've failed him so badly. I pray for guidance."

"9-9-75: I'm thankful, Lord, that you hear our little prayers and you answer. I have found our prayers are stored in heaven and last forever. It is so important for us to pray. Rev. 5:8; Rev. 8:3-4. I pray for our school and our leaders, also for my husband as the head of my house. I pray for our president and the leaders of our nation, that they may be filled with God's spirit, and that others may know how great is God."

Reprinted from Western Recorder, Sept. 18, 1984.



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

sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR OCT. 2, 1988

Life and work series

What is the gospel?

Gal. 1:11-12 Paul insisted the gospel which he proclaimed was not of human origin. It had come to him by a direct revelation from God. When the Judaizers contended the gospel which Paul had been preaching was of human devising, Paul emphatically denied their accusation.

I Cor. 15:1-5 There were three facts in the gospel which Paul firmly believed and faithfully preached: Christ's death, burial and resurrection. After his death on the cross Christ was buried in the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea. His burial proved the reality of his death and the fullness with which he shared human experience. When Christ was raised from the dead, God saw that hundreds were able to testify they had seen and talked with him. In his defense of the supremacy of the gospel of Christ over the false teachings of his critical opponents, Paul faithfully preached the only gospel which has ever saved souls and transformed lives was the gospel of Christ.

II Cor. 4:5-7 Paul's enemies accused him of dishonesty. Knowing he had declared the truth, Paul boldly let his accusers know he fully intended to continue faithfully with the proclamation of the gospel of Christ. Paul wanted Christ to have the preeminence in his

life. He was confident he would be sustained by the power of God, regardless of any unfavorable circumstances he might encounter.

Rom. 1:16 Nothing kept Paul so humble and grateful as the knowledge he had been saved and made a chosen instrument to preach Christ. Believing that his great debt could be retired only by his faithful and fearless preaching of the gospel, Paul was ready to go anywhere and do anything for the glory of Christ. The power, purpose and product of the gospel prevented him from being ashamed of it. With a deep sense that all needed to hear the gospel, Paul acknowledged he was a debtor to all and was eager to share it with any who would receive it. Likewise, it is our privilege and imperative to share the gospel.

International series

A disappointing vineyard

Isaiah 5:1-7 The vineyard was on the slopes of a very fruitful hill. It had been fenced, painstakingly prepared, carefully planted and thoroughly cultivated with solicitous care. Soil, showers and sunshine, combined with the skill of the vinedresser, enriched the vines and they grew satisfactorily.

With all this careful preparation, the owner naturally had the expectation of a plentiful crop of choice grapes. But he was doomed to disappointment. When the time of vintage drew near, he found only wild grapes which might have grown without the husbandman. This fruit, which consisted of wild, inedible and injurious grapes, was of such a nature that he was ashamed of it and would have been richer without it.

This parable portrays the wonderful manner in which God provided for the Jewish people in Palestine. He looked for the fruits of righteousness and justice that corresponded with their privileges, but they produced noxious fruit instead. Unfruitfulness is bad enough, but pernicious fruitfulness is worse. Considering our advantages and privileges, God rightfully expects more and better fruits from us.

Isaiah 5:22-23 Very few evils have done more to blight human life than beverage alcohol. It has depleted more fortunes, wrecked more homes, blighted more lives and caused more heartache than any other single evil. Drunkenness is costly in money, dignity, decency and reputation. Poverty, heartaches, suffering, disease and death follow in its train.



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on mission together

Staying married

In some of my recent readings I came across an article which should be of interest to those who are concerned about "preacher turnover."

Getting married is still in vogue but staying married remains suspect, according to many marriage counselors across the nation. Francine Klagsbrun, in her book *Married People: Staying Together In The Age of Divorce*, outlines the secret of lengthy marriages.

She interviewed 87 couples who have been married over 15 years and isolated several "abilities and outlooks" which have contributed to lengthy marriages.

At least six of her eight categories for strong marriages between individuals also apply to a strong marriage between a pastor and a local church. Please note the unusual similarity.

1. **ENJOYMENT OF EACH OTHER**—Wives and husbands in lasting marriages

enjoy being together and talking to each other. Though they do not necessarily have the same interests, they find each other interesting.

2. **THE ABILITY TO CHANGE**—There is a flexibility among couples that stay together. They continue to decide "to be married to each other." They willingly choose to change when necessary to keep their marriage alive and vital.

3. **THE ABILITY TO LIVE WITH THE UNCHANGEABLE**—Couples who stay together have accepted the fact that their personalities, insights and solutions to problems are often very different but choose to minimize their differences in order to stay together.

4. **AN ASSUMPTION OF PERMANENCE**—Couples who stay married intended to stay together before they were married. Divorce was not a viable option. They have made a lifetime commitment.

5. **TRUSTING EACH OTHER**—To know that you are the most important person in the life of your mate makes

for a happy marriage. Trust presupposes "exclusivity."

6. **A BALANCE OF DEPENDENCIES**—Long marriages are built on one partner sharing his or her strengths with the other. When they talk about "needing each other" they are talking about strengths, not weaknesses.

The average American marriage relationship is far too short. By the same token, so is the average Southern Baptist pastorate.

Too many Southern Baptist congregations and pastors view the "pastor-church" marriage relationship as only an interlude between further marriages. It's a part of our problem!

When the minister-congregational relationship becomes "adversarial," it may be too late to hold the "marriage" together.

Churches and ministers would do well to arrange periodic "relationship reviews," where each can reflect, review and renew their covenant with each other . . . before it is too late.

The plight of a refugee

by Fran Turner, volunteer counselor, Lusaka, Zambia

"Madam, what am I going to do? I cry every day, life is just no good." These were words I heard Moto saying as she sat in front of me with her fifteen year old mentally ill daughter and her two year old.

Moto and her husband are refugees in Zambia. She is the only person in the family who does not have a physical or mental illness. The husband attends an out-patient clinic at the mental hospital twice each month and suffers from stomach ulcers and other physical problems. The fifteen year old daughter is totally unaware of the real world and what is happening around her because of her mental state. The two year old child is also a girl. She cannot sit alone, cannot say a word, and the "soft spot" in the top of her head is like that of an infant.

Moto has come to talk to me about the many problems she is having, especially the problem with Jeao, the mentally ill girl. Jeao has been in the mental hospital before, but was released a few months ago and now her condition seems to be worse than ever. She has become violent, even to herself. She cuts herself, destroys any clothing that is put on her, and runs away from home. She has burned the four blankets that the family possessed and now they are suffering from the cold weather. A few weeks ago Jeao ran away from home without any clothes on and was gone for several days. She was found with the help of friends.

Before the mother can wash, cook, or even care for the small child she must tie the girl and close her up in the house, otherwise the girl will do all kinds of things and can cause harm to herself and those close by.

While Moto talks to me, Jeao sits in her chair looking off into space, laughing and playing with the torn shoe.

The family is on a monthly income of about \$30 which is given by the Christian Council of Zambia and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. In addition to the \$30 the husband is given transportation money for the two visits he must make for psychiatric treatment each month. The family has to pay rent for the two rooms where they live, buy food and try to provide for other things out of the \$30.

Some refugees come to Zambia with little or no knowledge of English and communication for these people is a real problem in the beginning. Many enter this country with just the clothes they have. Many are sick from lack of food. Many times people who leave their home country with small children lose them in death due to the hardships they face along the way.

There is a lot of sickness among refugees. Most medical problems among refugee children are diseases related to or caused from malnutrition. Among adults there is a lot of mental disorders, sexually transmitted diseases/AIDS and tuberculosis.

Often times refugees arrive in Zambia with unrealistic expectations. Once they see the life of a refugee is very difficult it can be devastating.

Problems—the word is very much a part of refugees' vocabulary and life. Even with so many problems it is sometimes better here for most of them than where they have come from. Many have no choice. Many have no hope. A few are optimistic about being able to return to their home country one day. All are refugees.



Marian Phillips

Cancer takes missionary beyond her call

by Scott Collins

The cancer that invaded Marian Phillip's body more than 23 years ago causes her to speak softly these days. But the message she delivers is anything but weak.

Miss Phillips is a former missionary to Nigeria. In 1965 she was diagnosed as having lymphoma.

"With some people God is glorified because they have a miraculous healing," Miss Phillips said. "My miracle is that I'm able to live with cancer."

Miss Phillips had served one term as a Southern Baptist missionary when the cancer was discovered.

After 21 years of enduring wars, famine, drought and lymphoma, Miss Phillips was finally forced to relinquish her life-long dream of mission service.

"When God closes one door, he always opens another," Miss Phillips said. A volunteer at the North Carolina Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem, Miss Phillips works with other cancer patients, administering spiritual medicine.

"Whether it's listening or sharing or just being a friend, I have an open door," she said. "Because they know I have cancer I can share not only my experiences with the disease, but how I am able to cope with it through my faith. I can say, 'The Lord is in this and gives us strength.'"

"The key to living is confidence and trust in the Lord," she said. "I believe that everything that comes to me has come from the Lord. He has answered my prayer to serve him anywhere by giving me cancer and I have grown in my trust and understanding."

Pastor ministers to future Korean leaders

by Frank White

Thirteen years ago, Korean government leaders jailed Jung Yung Lee; today he is pastor of a Texas church ministering to potential leaders of the same government.

Lee is pastor of Southwest Korean Baptist Church in San Antonio and attended the Small Sunday School Leadership Conference at Glorieta (N. M.) Baptist Conference Center sponsored by the Sunday school division of the Baptist Sunday School Board.

The church ministers to the 600 to 1000 Korean officers each year who receive language training at nearby Lackland Air Force Base. Many of the officers go on to become leaders in the military-dominated Korean government.

In 1975, Lee, a popular singer with 12 albums and hit songs on the national charts, was jailed for cowriting a song critical of the government. He was released after 100 days in jail but was prohibited from recording and public per-

formances.

While in jail, Lee was led to accept Christ as his personal savior by his cellmate who had killed three people and was waiting to be hanged.

"A woman had witnessed to him and led him to Christ. He knew he would never get out to tell his story. He wanted me to let people know how God has saved him," Lee explained.

In 1982, Lee left Korea and went to San Antonio where, in 1984, he started the Southwest Korean Baptist Church with the support of Lackland Baptist Church and Rainbow Hills Baptist Church in San Antonio.

Lee said the church decided a ministry to the Korean officers would be a priority.

"While in the United States, they don't have family with them. They are alone and lonely. It is a great time to share the gospel," Lee explained.

Each Monday when a group of new officers arrive in San Antonio from Korea, members of the church meet

them at the airport to give them a ride to the base and invite them to church.

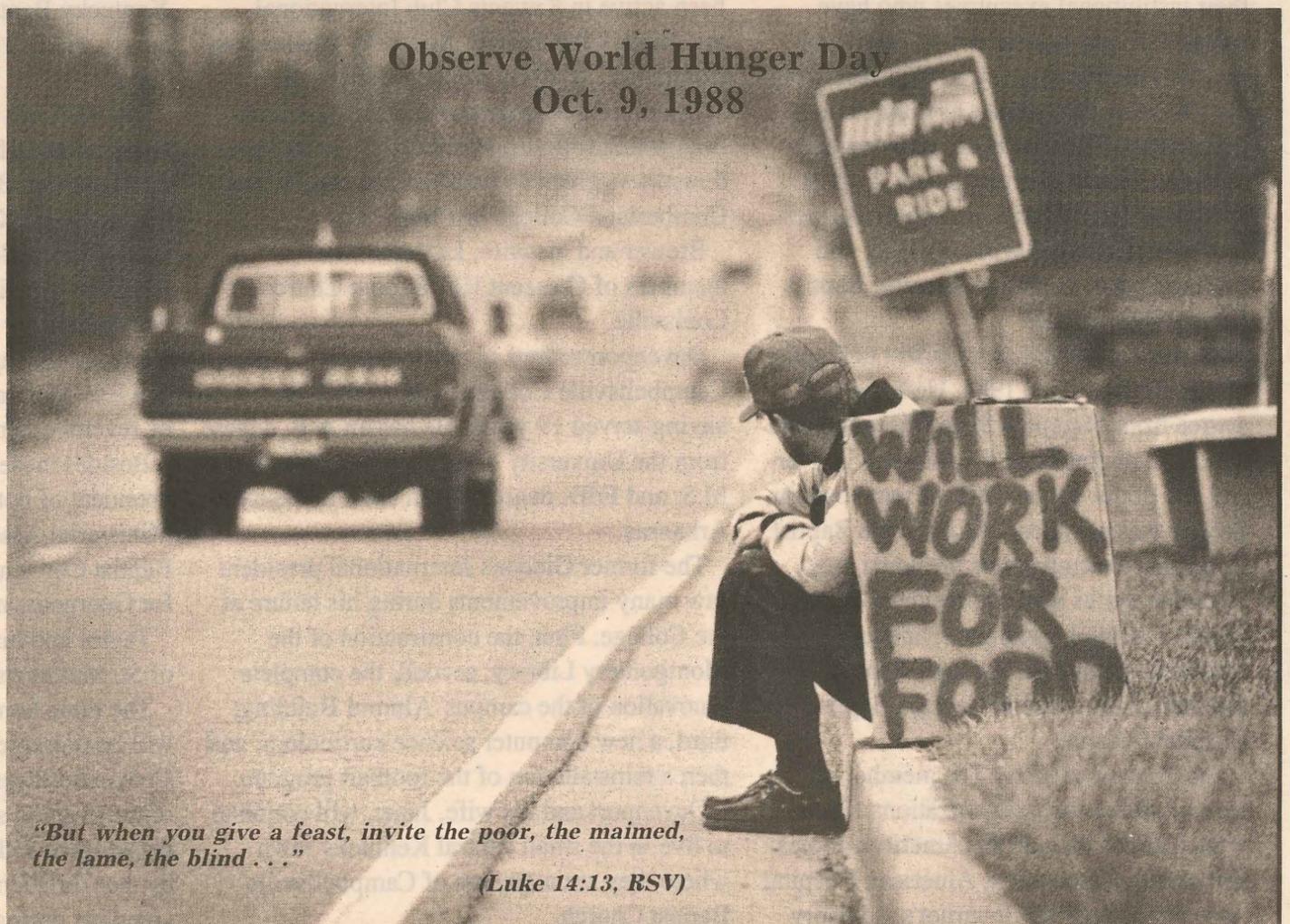
The church provides a Korean meal and fellowship time each Sunday morning. Usually between 12 to 50 officers are among the 140 persons in worship.

Many of the officers attend because they remember Lee as a singer or because they appreciated the friendliness expressed at their arrival, Lee said.

The church offers each officer a leather-bound Korean-English Bible if they promise to spend time reading it. Lee hopes the Bible and the involvement with the church during their stay will influence the officers once they return to Korea.

Many Korean officers have received Christ through the ministry of the church, Lee said.

Lee sees the ministry of the church as an opportunity to influence his country in a way he never could have while there. He hopes that one day he will be able to return to Korea to help develop Christian music for churches and their youth.



Observe World Hunger Day
Oct. 9, 1988

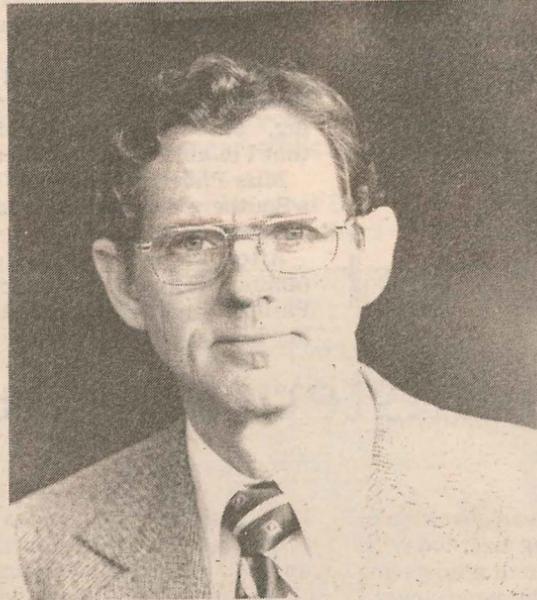
"But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind . . ."

(Luke 14:13, RSV)

CONVENTION FOCUS



Ben Brewer



Randy Davenport



Eldred Taylor

November 15 retirement reception will honor Brewer, Davenport and Taylor

Kentucky Baptists will honor three of their institutional executives who have retired this year at a reception following the Tuesday evening convention session in the Christian Life Center of First Church, Owensboro. Those executives being honored are: Ben Brewer, president, Baptist Hospitals, Inc.; Randy Davenport, former president, Campbellsville College; and Eldred Taylor, executive director, Baptist Homes for Children.

Brewer has served as president of Baptist Hospitals, Inc. since 1984. He has a B.A. degree from Memphis State University and a M.H.A. degree from Washington University, St. Louis. Prior to his present position, Brewer was president of Louisville Baptist Hospitals; executive vice president and administrator as well as president, Central Baptist Hospital, Lexington; and an administrator at both Western Baptist Hospital, Paducah, and Georgia Baptist Hospital, Atlanta.

The Tennessee native is a member of several professional organizations. These organizations include the American Protestant Health Association, American Hospital Association and the Governor's Advisory

Council on Medical Assistance. He also has been active in Kiwanis Club International, the Filson Club and the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce. Brewer, who is awaiting the selection of his successor and the transition time which follows before officially stepping down, was given an honorary doctorate from Cumberland College last May.

Brewer and his wife, LaVerne, are members of Crescent Hill Baptist Church, Louisville.

Davenport retired as president of Campbellsville College in late July after having served 19 years. He has an A.B. degree from the University of Louisville and both the M.S. and EdD. degrees from the University of Arkansas.

The former Gideons International president saw many improvements during his tenure at the College. First, the construction of the Montgomery Library; second, the complete renovation of the campus' Alumni Building; third, a new computer science curriculum; and then a reinstatement of the football program.

Davenport and his wife, Janet, will continue to live in the small central Kentucky town where they are members of Campbellsville Baptist Church.

Taylor retired as executive director of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children July 1. He had served in that capacity since 1981.

The McLean County, Kentucky native is a graduate of Eastern Kentucky University and Southern Baptist Seminary. Prior to his position with KBHC, he served as pastor of First Church, Somerset, for 23 years. He also has been superintendent of missions and evangelism for the Kentucky Baptist Convention, superintendent for missions for Daviess-McLean Association and also pastor of several other churches.

Besides these positions, Taylor is past president of both the Kentucky Baptist Ministerial Association and the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He has served as a trustee for Georgetown College and KHBC.

Taylor and his wife, Marjorie, are members of St. Matthews Baptist Church, Louisville.

The three honorees, along with their wives, will be presented to the Kentucky Baptist Convention messengers and guests at the close of the evening session, November 15. KBC messengers and guests are welcome to drop by the Christian Life Center and extend greetings during the reception.