

After bus tragedy, state churches have few choices

by Mary Royals Driskill
Staff Writer

There has been little change in bus policy or usage among Kentucky Baptist churches since the Radcliff bus tragedy that claimed 27 lives May 14.

Even with the newly instated regulations issued by Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, actual use of church buses has not changed significantly.

"The only policy is inspection," said David Herald of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet in Frankfort. All church buses are required to pass inspection before they can be legally operated. Buses operating without inspection clearance will be subject to penalties. Churches have until Oct. 15 to make appointments for inspection.

"After that time, (if caught operating the bus) you'd be subject to a fine," said Herald. Churches can schedule appointments for inspection after that time but cannot operate them without passing inspection.

The inspections are based on the U. S. Department of Transportation guide to safety regulations. "It's a general maintenance type inspection of the bus," according to Herald. Included in the TC 92-10 form are checks for turn signals, all indicator lights, horn, tire tread depth and proper inflation, mirrors, wipers, fire extinguisher, brakes, steering, wheels, exhaust system and fuel tanks. Under fuel tank inspection, support straps and hangers, fuel line and general tank condition are checked. Shielded or steel caged tanks are "noted." Buses made prior to March 1977 are not required to have a cage.

Churches who own buses have little recourse if the buses do not pass inspection. If repair costs are too high, churches may consider other alternatives. Westport Road Baptist Church, Louisville, did.

"It's a poor investment to start with," said Jimmy Haynes, member of Westport Road. "I called the Department of Transportation," said Haynes. They in-

structed him to take the bus to a weigh station for inspection. He had the bus checked out before taking it for inspection and found out "it was not feasible to fix it." Three different people looked at the bus and made offers. The bus was sold for scrap to a junk dealer. Westport Road received less than \$1000 for the bus.

One alternative is purchasing a newer, safer diesel bus. Carpenter Bus Sales said they will consider trade-ins on old buses for new buses. They did mention there was "not much of a market for used buses."

Another option is chartered or rented buses for long distance trips. A round trip rental bus complete with driver, insurance and gas to Cincinnati can cost under \$500.

For churches who frequently use their buses, additional safety features are an option. Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown, took that option.

According to Severns Valley pastor J. Howard Cobble, they took the initiative

and put additional safety features on their old buses. Guards were placed on the gas tanks and a new diesel bus with modern safety features was purchased. All of the old gas buses have been limited to in-town use, mostly for bringing people to church.

Several churches are having their buses inspected and continuing to use them as usual. While every church is required to have their buses inspected, not all are required to rethink their policies regarding use. Of a dozen churches contacted, only one had taken additional safety precautions. Some are continuing to use the old gas buses for out-of-town trips.

Many factors could be considered in deciding church bus policy: inspection procedures, anticipated cost of repairs, cost of insurance and maintenance, safety features, anticipated compensation for sold buses, cost of rental or charter buses, cost of a new diesel bus, and—most importantly—the 27 lives lost in the Radcliff bus tragedy.

western recorder

Kentucky Baptist Convention
Vol. 169, No. 40, October 11, 1988

Lay people to retire indebtedness of \$1.2 million at Walnut Street

by Jack Sanford, Editor

Kenneth Chafin startled the congregation of Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville, Sunday, Oct. 2, with the announcement that a small group of lay people had pledged \$1.2 million to pay off the church debt by the end of the year.

Chafin, pastor of Walnut Street less than six months, declared the movement to pay the debt was totally from lay people without any campaign and with most of the solicitation done by the lay people.

One layman did not like to spend \$100,000 each year on principal and interest and so offered to help pay the debt and then went on to enlist others in the project. The group who finally came up with the funds was a diverse group of about 15 couples.

Chafin declared the group "represent

great diversity in age, vocation, experience and length of time in the church. All were intensely interested in the project but not all were able to give at the present time because of various good reasons. Those who were able to give pledged cash, stocks, bonds and the gift of land. All these will be translated into cash with which to retire the debt."

In a statement to Western Recorder, Chafin emphasized the importance of lay people in the life of the church. He insisted they had the potential in every church to make a tremendous difference in the way the church moves forward. The small group who pledged funds for debt retirement relieved about 1100 families who had been giving above their tithes each week for the past six years to retire the debt.

Among the things the pastor hopes to accomplish with additional funds made available by the elimination of the debt service is increased program money. The Walnut Street congregation has extensive inner-city ministries to children, homeless people, street people, persons with marriage problems. Additional funds will enrich and expand these ministries and open avenues for new work, particularly among ethnics who live in Louisville.

Cooperative Program giving is expected to increase as the church moves forward with a planned percentage increase each year. This increase will be larger because it will come from larger budget funds now that debt retirement is no longer necessary.

Chafin declared evangelism his major emphasis and noted additional funds would enable the church to move into creative programs of evangelism. Chafin was evangelism director for the Home Mission Board and dean of the Billy Graham Schools of Evangelism for many years. His concern for winning people to Christ and discipling them into active Christian faith is well known among Southern Baptists.

Chafin concluded by declaring, "I am thankful to God we will be able to enter 1989 with nothing on our minds but winning this city to Christ."



The scene one night at Owensboro Bailey Smith Crusade.

Bailey Smith crusade records 650 decisions at Owensboro

by Todd Deaton, Staff Writer

Daviess countians witnessed more than 650 people make decisions for Christ Sept. 11-16 at the Bailey Smith Crusade in Owensboro.

Atlanta evangelist Bailey Smith preached to the almost 4000 people in attendance on each of the crusade's six nights. Mike and Faye Speck from Tulsa, Okla. led the music and New-Song, a contemporary Christian group from Atlanta, presented mini concerts Sept. 12-13.

More than 6000 people attended on youth night Sept. 13 when 215 persons accepted Christ. Crusade personnel served pizza to almost 3000 young people before the service.

Sixteen Southern Baptist churches in Daviess County and three Southern Baptist churches in nearby Ohio and Henderson counties sponsored the crusade, along with three Assembly of God congregations and two black Baptist churches.

In preparation for the week-long

rally, youth speaker Rick Gage, son of Southern Baptist evangelist Freddie Gage, presented his "On Track" assembly program concerning substance abuse, suicide prevention and teenage pregnancy in area middle and high schools. He spoke to nearly 10,000 youth Sept. 8-13.

Kentucky Wesleyan College hosted an area youth rally Sept. 8 led by Al Holley, contemporary gospel musician from Atlanta, Ga., and Gage, to encourage attendance at the crusade. A total of 500 young people and 100 counselors were present. Seventy-four decisions for Christ were recorded.

Gage also led a "cruising for Jesus" cruise through Owensboro Sept. 10. He said he wanted to "freak out the freaks" with the message of Jesus.

Crusade chairman was dentist Terry L. Norris, member of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Owensboro. Cochairmen were Wendell Rone, retired pastor and member of First Baptist Church, Owensboro, and L. C. Gray, full time evangelist and member of Parrish Avenue Baptist Church, Owensboro.

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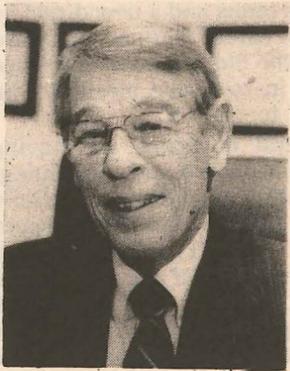
October 11, 1988

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sanford's perspectives

Minding your own business



Jack D. Sanford

The Oct. 4 issue of the Indiana Baptist, state paper of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana (SCBI), carried an article by James Hefley which reflects the absolute disregard for peace and goodwill held by certain members of our Baptist family.

Hefley, under the sponsorship of newly-elected SCBI executive director Mark Coppenger, who is also serving as interim editor of the paper, presented the first of what apparently is intended to be a regular column and had the gall to reissue a comparison of Louisville, Kentucky churches which he made several years ago in one of his books.

He compared the baptism records of Crescent Hill, Broadway and Deer Park Baptist churches with those of Highview, Ninth and O and Valley View. He identified the first group as "moderate" and the second group as "conservative."

In light of the Peace Committee report this seems out of place, unnecessary and totally without merit. It is not only unnecessary but is really a matter which serves no practical purpose other than to further divide us.

What possible gain could there be for anyone when one church is compared with another in any area? In his comparison of these Kentucky Baptist churches, Hefley notes that what he calls moderate churches, with large numbers of seminary-related members, have a baptism record which falls below those he characterizes as conservative. He then raises the ugly question, and I quote him directly, "Does this mean that the more seminary personnel in a church, the fewer the baptisms?" What gross insensitivity to the community of faith to castigate teachers and administrators by implying they have no love for lost people nor zeal for evangelism and to further imply their membership in a local church weakens that church's evangelistic thrust.

The only thing remotely similar to this comparison is the annual publishing in the state paper of Cooperative Program and other statistical data from the churches in the state convention. This

differs greatly from Hefley's comparison since the state-sponsored reports do not make comparisons and never contain any editorial comment.

Why Coppenger enlisted Hefley to spread this sort of journalism is beyond us, but then again what happens in Indiana is not really our business except they have stepped over the bounds of good taste and maligned Kentucky churches.

By the same token what happens in Kentucky is none of Coppenger's nor Hefley's business either. Indiana Baptists must surely be wondering why Kentucky churches are discussed in their state paper when the Baptists of Indiana are paying Hefley and Coppenger to attend to the affairs of the Baptists of Indiana.

The fact that such comparisons would be made in a Baptist state paper indicates just how far we are from any sort of peace in our larger Baptist family.

Does this mean now that conservatives are firmly in control of convention affairs we will be constantly subject to this sort of abusive journalism? If that is the case we are in more desperate trouble than most of us realized or were willing to admit.

We are personally acquainted with the pastors of all the Louisville churches mentioned by Hefley. One church is without a pastor at this time. Of those pastors who remain in the city we have never heard a single one of them make such comparisons in order to tout his own work nor put down a fellow minister.

Hefley may be a seasoned, experienced journalist but he would serve all of us better if he would mind his own business. What happens within local churches in Kentucky is our concern, not his.

Hefley and Coppenger both have an obligation to adhere to the Peace Committee report which Southern Baptists adopted by an overwhelming vote. If Hefley is going to write in a Baptist state paper and Coppenger is going to support him, let both of them exercise the same restraint and sensitivity the rest of us try to use in an effort to bring us together.

Four more weeks

Four weeks remain before we go to the polls and vote on a proposed amendment to the Kentucky Constitution. As you know the amendment seeks to legalize a lottery for Kentucky.

As of this date no specifics have been made public regarding how the lottery would be set up, what manner of governance it would have, how the money raised would be distributed. What we are asked to do is grant the legislature and the governor complete freedom to do whatever they please concerning a lottery.

Neither the governor nor his staff have been willing to talk publicly about the details of the legislation which he will propose.

Aside from the fact that our Bible teaches us gambling is wrong, Christians should also be up in arms because of the frightening social implica-

tions of a lottery. Many poor people, hoping against hope to rise from poverty through a rich strike, will be dropped even further down the social ladder because they will spend money they do not have pursuing the elusive dream of striking it rich in the state lottery.

Kentucky Baptists must work hard these next four weeks to see that people in every local church have information about the lottery and that they are registered to vote and have a way to the polls. This is the least we can do in an effort to block this cancer from attaching itself to the body of our state.

If the lottery vote succeeds we will have only ourselves to blame since Christian people in Kentucky are numerous enough and have enough votes to kill the thing.

western recorder

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Carlisle Ave.'s Pursiful isn't 'playing games'

by Todd Deaton, Staff Writer

When it comes to winning people to Christ, Larry Pursiful isn't "just playing games."

Pursiful, minister of activities at Carlisle Avenue Baptist Church, Louisville, has discovered sports can provide creative opportunities for evangelism.

"Every year Americans are spending millions of dollars on leisure time activities such as golf, basketball, softball, fishing and hunting. Why don't Southern Baptists use these recreational activities as vehicles for spreading the gospel?"

"I don't think you can reach all lost people with crusades, revivals and Sunday services," Pursiful adds. "A larger percentage may be reached on their own 'turf' by doing what interests them."

Pursiful shared the idea with Robbie Spear, minister of activities at DeHaven Memorial Baptist Church, LaGrange. Spear prompted him to check out the possibility of starting a sports evangelism basketball team as part of the Kentucky-Kenya partnership. The two ministers received approval from Kentucky Baptist Convention personnel in January 1987 for their organization, Kentucky Baptist Sports Crusaders.

Pursiful set to work scouting and recruiting Baptist basketball players from state high schools, colleges and churches for a 13-day mission trip to Kenya in May 1987. Twelve participants completed a witness training program before departure.

The Crusaders sponsored 12 basketball clinics and played six games against the Kenya national basketball team, losing only once, and seven games against local basketball clubs.

While Pursiful's team was scoring points on the court, it was winning victories for Christ in the stands. Team members shared their testimonies dur-

ing half-times. After the game the 12 players would spread out among the spectators and share the plan of salvation in small groups.

"The players shared their faith with more than 28,000 people and saw about 700 decisions made for Christ," Pursiful estimates.

But, the sports evangelism ministry didn't end when the team returned from Kenya. The Crusaders now play a regular game schedule and have conducted basketball clinics all over Kentucky.

"During the basketball clinics the Crusaders teach the fundamentals of the game to people. At a mid point during the two- to three-hour session, the whole group stops and a team member shares his testimony and tells people about Christ. At the end of the clinic the Crusaders present the plan of salvation," Pursiful explains.

"I've seen so many people come back to church and make commitments to Christ because of their love for sports," Pursiful states. The team won about 100 people to Christ last year, he claims.

"I'm partial to this form of ministry because sports has been a large part of my life," he admits. Pursiful's own testimony is the story of how a champion of the court became a champion of the faith.

A 1962 graduate of the University of Kentucky, Pursiful led the Wildcats to a 23-3 season, a SEC title and a top-five ranking. His list of court accomplishments includes making the All-Conference team and being named most valuable player at the UK Invitational Tournament his senior year.

He went on to play for the Phillips 66ers, a semiprofessional team based in Bartlesville, Okla., before leaving in 1966 to coach high school basketball in Hodgenville, Ky.

After eight years of coaching, Pursiful decided to open a hardware store in Elizabethtown and a shoe store in Eliza-

bethtown, 10 miles away. He later sold the hardware store, opened another shoe store in Louisville and moved to Elizabethtown to better manage the businesses.

Pursiful joined Severns Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethtown and was later asked to chair its recreation committee. When the church's minister of activities resigned in 1983, he was called upon to lead the ministry almost two years.

This experience sparked a call to ministry in the 45-year-old layman. "People began asking me if I had ever considered being a minister of recreation," he says. "I wrestled with God for three miserable months. I couldn't sleep or eat. Finally, worn and distraught, I consented, 'God, if this is what you want, I'll give it a shot.'"

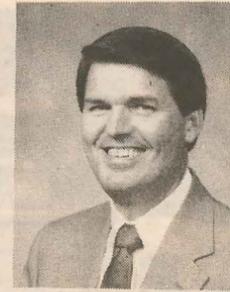
After attending Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Pursiful accepted the position at Carlisle Avenue in mid 1987.

"It was a great marriage from the start," Pursiful comments. "Carlisle Avenue's Christian Life Center was less than two months old and I was eager to begin recreational programs. The Lord has blessed this ministry in ways you wouldn't believe."

His sports evangelism ministry is also thriving. The ministry now includes softball and Pursiful anticipates adding other sports, which will include activities for women.

Pursiful has an even larger vision. "I foresee the possibility of sports evangelism ministries developing in every state convention, using all types of sports," he says.

In addition to leading in forming sports evangelism ministries and recruiting quality players to participate on teams, Pursiful suggests interested persons can support these ministries by backing the programs financially, volunteering to assist with clinics and supplying resources and uniforms.



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

clear creek chronicle

New York to Pineville

Folks ask about our adjustment from Orlando to Pineville. We're doing fine. So is second year Clear Creek student Samuel Macri. He moved from New York! In a recent student meeting Sam noted, "The hardest thing for me has been learning to live in a strange land. These roads are strange. I can't use New York ways. I'm learning about people."

As a teenager Sam faced the reality of sin. Religion provided no solution. "I regularly walked through great cathedral doors and pled for God to forgive me, but my life did not change. I met two Christian men on a roofing job. They surrounded me with love. I learned about the personal Jesus." In his bedroom one evening Sam stared at a crucifix on the wall and prayed, "Jesus, if you are there, please change me. I was changed. For the first time I had power to say no to sin. I saw others who needed him and asked the Lord to send somebody to tell them. The Lord said, 'The way I work this is to send you.'"

For 10 years, the Macris witnessed through Clinton Road Baptist Church, New Hartford. The pastor left and a period of decline brought more responsibility. Sam was "chairman of deacons without any other deacons." New growth eventually came to the church.

What brought them to Pineville?

Sam's call to preach brought a desire for preparation. Sam inquired at his state convention office about a Christian school. He read Clear Creek's name on an Education Commission list of SBC schools. Family, friends and church leaders encouraged him to seek a "regular college." Visits to others campuses ceased "when we drove onto the Clear Creek campus. Others said no, God said yes." Appealing factors included our size, family emphasis and Bible curriculum.

The Macris relocated from a remodeled home to a small cottage on Holly Hill. Darlene's longtime dream, a dishwasher, was left behind. Sam is a master cabinet/furniture maker and some student and faculty homes now enjoy the results of his craftsmanship. Darlene works in the library. Their sons, Lance, 7, Jeffery, 4, enjoy many friends.

Sam describes his classroom experience "like God took the top off my head. I hang on every word. I'm learning skills with which to build a ministry." Ministry may lead them back to New York. The Macris demonstrate Christ's power to cope with any adjustment. "We've learned when you follow the Lord, he will take care of your needs."

"Dios te ama" (God loves you): news for Hispanic ears

by Mary Royals Driskill
Staff Writer

According to the U. S. Census Bureau the Hispanic population has increased 34% over the past four years. With a population increase of more than one-third, there is an estimated 19.4 million Americans of Hispanic background, or more than eight percent of the total population. One church in Louisville is ministering to some of those 19 million Hispanic Americans.

Venezuelan Ludwing Villamizar is pastor of the Hispanic church which meets at St. Matthews Baptist Church, Louisville. He has been pastor there since 1985. The ministry began as a Bible study group in the fall of 1983.

One of the Home Mission Board's Lazer projects (an intensive effort to locate a particular language group), the ministry centered on the Hispanic population of the Louisville area.

Their approach to outreach is lifestyle and tracking sources and contacts. "We build up a network of relationships," said Villamizar.

They recently sent letters from a mailing list of 200 members of the Latin American Club of Louisville. The 1982 census listed a population of 2000 Hispanics in the Louisville area. Many His-

panics learn of the ministry by word of mouth.

The Hispanic ministry began meeting on Sundays in addition to Friday evenings Aug. 28. Friday services are less formal with an emphasis on children's activities. "Friday services function as an outreach program in itself. They get a taste of what we do and realize this is a Hispanic community," said Villamizar. Then they come on Sundays. It's almost like having two congregations.

"Every week," said Villamizar, "we discover clusters of families we haven't reached." Villamizar's wife and director of Sunday school, Helen, even finds contacts in the grocery stores. She invites any Hispanics she encounters.

"Remember the Great Commission?" she asks. "This is it."

The Villamizars encourage each member to participate in outreach. "A man who is a mechanic knows hundreds of people," said Villamizar. "He's always inviting people."

The Villamizars' two boys assist in outreach. They invite other Spanish kids to the church. "We are a team, no?" insists Helen.

The primary concern for the Hispanic ministry is not only to communicate the gospel, but to do it within the Hispanic culture. "The main thing is to provide an adequate environment for worship with our language and style," said Vil-

lamizar. "We want to develop a definite identity as a Southern Baptist, Spanish-speaking congregation."

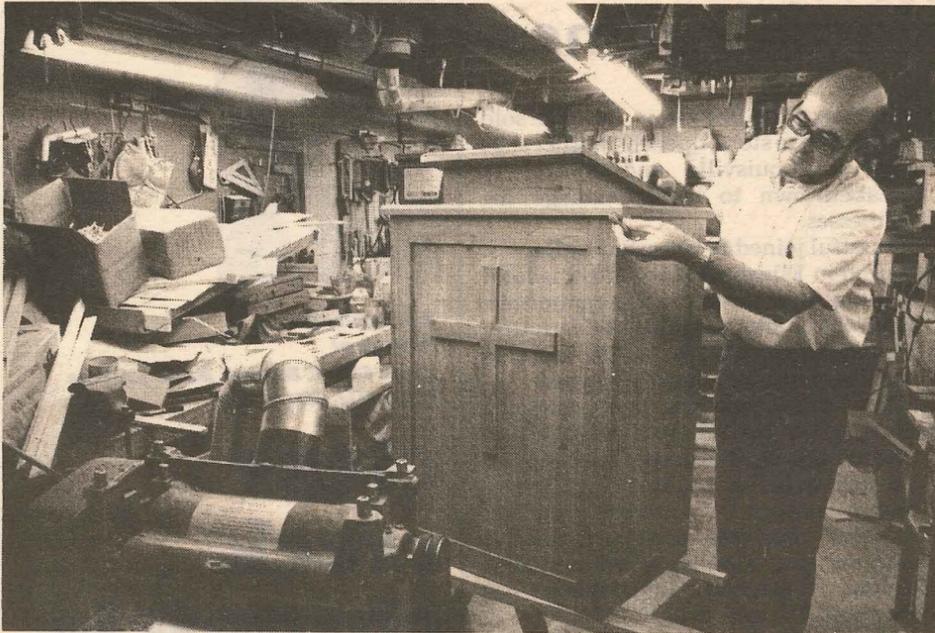
"Our goal is to be a spiritual support for the Hispanic people," said Helen, "a family, a spiritual support group. No other organization can give this. I believe we are meeting this need."

The ministry reaches beyond the congregation to hospitals, campuses and businesses. Villamizar is often called on to interpret for Hispanic patients or Spanish-speaking people who need counsel in business affairs. His primary function becomes mediation.

The ministry is on its way to becoming a full church. They have a WMU, Sunday school and hope to conduct vacation Bible school this summer. Their WMU uses the Spanish materials produced by WMU, SBC every first Friday for services. "That's the best Friday," said Helen. She believes their WMU reaches many women. The group will sponsor a toy sale as a mission project this December in conjunction with United Crescent Hills Ministry. They hope to start a Mission Friends group soon.

This Hispanic ministry is looking to the future. "We want to be a full-fledged church," said Villamizar. He prefers to call it a "Spanish-speaking" church, not "Hispanic." He says it's better that way. "We want to be an inclusive church" where everyone is welcome.

mountains to the mississippi



John Hack, a native of Leitchfield, Ky. and a consultant in the Baptist Sunday School Board's Church Architecture Department, stands on a pulpit he made for Grace Baptist Church, Rogers City, Mich., as a personal mission project. Hack made the pulpit, a communion table, two offering plates and a clock from Northern White Cedar, wood native to northern Michigan area.

personnel

Thom Rainer has resigned as pastor of Hopewell Baptist Church, Louisville.

White Oak Baptist Church, London, called **Kevin Reynolds** as pastor.

Eighteenth Street Baptist Church, Louisville, called **Danny Creech** as pastor.

Tony Beach has been called as youth minister by First Baptist Church, Leitchfield. George Smith is pastor of the church.

First Baptist Church, Burkesville, called **Phillip Rowan** as pastor. He comes from Franklin, Ky., where he served as pastor of Cave Spring Baptist Church.

John Allen has been called as minister of education/administration by Hurstbourne Baptist Church, Louisville. Robert Montgomery is pastor of the church.

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

Parkwood Baptist Church, Louisville, called **Eric Lethco** as pastor.

Joseph K. Estes resigned as pastor of Grace Baptist Church, Paducah.

First Baptist Church, Calvert City, called **Jackie Wayland** as minister of music and youth.

Sherrill Coursey accepted the call as minister of music at Briensburg (Ky.) Baptist Church. Don Short is pastor.

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

Jewell Barrett has resigned as pastor of Harmony Baptist Church, West Paducah. Barrett has been pastor at Harmony 19 years and has moved to Nashville, Tenn.

Paul Schmidt has resigned as pastor of Second Baptist Church, Greenup Association, and has accepted the pastorate of Hyland Heights, Catlettsburg.

Marrowbone Baptist Center director, **Greg Whitetree** was recognized at Ridgecrest (N. C.) Baptist Conference Center during home missions week as Outstanding Christian Social Minister in the United States.

Fred Hill resigned as pastor of Good Hope Baptist Church, Eubank.

Robert Dyer resigned as pastor of Glenwood Baptist Church, Eubank.

Colson Mission, Whitesburg, called **John Erkitz** as pastor.

Jerry Brenner has accepted the call as minister of youth from Buckner Baptist Church, LaGrange.

Eddie Price has accepted the call to pastor Rolling Hills Trailer Park Mission, Sulphur Forks Association.

Harrods Creek Baptist Church, Crestwood, has called **Larry Darnell** as director of youth and children.

Ferrill Davis has accepted the call as pastor of Milton (Ky.) Baptist Church.

Sligo Baptist Church, Pendleton, has called **Larry Davidson** as minister of youth.

Rose Hill Baptist Church, Ashland, has called **Gary Southard** as minister of education/evangelism.

L. T. Fincher resigned as pastor of Faber Baptist Church, Rockhold.

Jesse Alford resigned as pastor of Flat Creek Baptist Church, Rockhold.

Mareburg Baptist Church, Mt. Vernon, has called **Richard Reynolds** as pastor.

First Baptist Church, Lewisport, has called **Martin Robertson** as pastor. He goes from Strongsville (Oh.) Baptist Church. He and his wife Stephanie have two children, Wes and Brett.

Russell Slack has accepted the position of minister of youth at Ormsby Heights Baptist Church, Louisville. He will be attending Southern Seminary. He goes from First Baptist Church, Waetherford, Okla. He and his wife Valarie have one son, Preston.

White Lick Baptist Church, Berea, has called **Edward Wayne Hubbard** as pastor.

Shoney Oliver has resigned as pastor of Delmont Baptist Church, Cadiz, to accept the pastorate of Liberty Baptist Church, Eddyville.

David Ransdell has resigned as pastor of Garfield Avenue Baptist Church, Louisville, to pursue additional studies. **Gogo Benson-Jaja**, associate pastor, is now pastor.

congregations

Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Todd's Point, celebrated its 125th anniversary Aug. 14. Lewis Walters, Louisville, was main speaker at the morning worship hour. Chris Hanna, Louisville, reports total attendance of 112 for the day.

First Baptist Church, Mt. Washington, observed its 150th year Sept. 25 with an expanded morning worship service and dinner on the grounds, followed by a celebration service in the afternoon. Guests included former pastors Herman Jacobs, Dwayne Conner, Wendell Romans and Alfred Sparkman. Also participating in the celebration were former staff members Norman Coe, Bill Moxley, Ken Bailey and Ron Collins. David Byrd, Eldred Taylor and Jack Sanford were also on the program. Pastor of the church is David Clay.

A lay revival team from Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville, completed a mission at First Baptist Church, Lexington. Lexington pastor James Woolums Jr. reported two professions of faith and numerous rededications during the weekend meeting.

deaths

William H. Morton, 73, professor emeritus of biblical archaeology at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, died Sept. 22 following an extended illness.

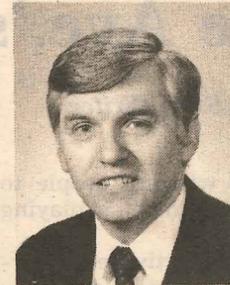
In 1958 Morton was the second faculty member enlisted by Midwestern Seminary in Kansas City, Mo. He retired from full time teaching in December 1983 but continued as senior professor through July 1985.

He graduated from Southwest Baptist University, Bolivar, Mo., in 1934 and Southwest Missouri State University, Springfield, Mo., in 1938. He earned master's and doctor's degrees from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville. Prior to coming to Midwestern Morton served on the Southern Seminary faculty from 1948-58.

Roy M. Gabbert died Aug. 29 in Owensboro. He had been pastor of several congregations including Lancaster Baptist Church, First Baptist Church of Greenville and the Seven Hills Baptist Church, Owensboro. He had been a member of First Baptist Church, Owensboro, since his retirement in 1963. He was also known for his paintings of baptistry scenes throughout Kentucky.

Thelma Fox, widow of Baynard F. Fox, died Sept. 30 in Florida. Her husband was the first KBC annuity director in the 1950s and early 60s.

Margaret Lambert died in September. She was the wife of John Lambert, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Loyall. Services were held Sept. 28.



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

homes for children

Lunch with dad

Today I took a very special person, my daughter Andrea, to lunch. To celebrate her birthday I met her at school and we went to one of her favorite restaurants, Taco Bell. It was a very special time for just the two of us.

Between associational meetings, class at night and studying on the weekends, I have felt guilty about not spending enough time with my family. I am determined to find a way to be with them more.

A number of people who have walked in this pathway before have told me how important it is to spend time with my children. The need was never expressed more poignantly than two weeks ago when I heard Arlin Ness, president of Starr Commonwealth Schools in Albion, Mich., and president of the National Association of Homes for Children, tell of the August death of his 17-year-old son, Tim, who died tragically during football practice.

I have become more aware of how precious each day is with my family. Though I know my work is important, I realize if I neglect my duties as a father, nothing else I may do in life can replace the relationship I have with them.

Many children today grow up with so little time spent with both parents. Our society seems to demand too much from parents, to the point that often the children come last. Unfortunately, healthy children cannot be raised that way. A healthy child requires significant daily interaction with parents who can take time to listen and understand as well as interact with him/her. When both mom and dad, or as in so many cases mom alone, is worn out from a long day at work, there is little time for anything except a quick meal, bath and bed. The weekend is then spent catching up on chores missed during the week.

Families everywhere, including my own, must begin to seriously examine parenting roles. We want to give children a good education, a nice place to live, and some of the things we did not have. All of those are good things to give, but if the cost is that which the child needs most, quality time with the parents themselves, then we have truly misplaced priorities.

I encourage you to spend more time with your children. You can never regain the opportunity you missed today.

Kentucky churches discover summer is the prime time for mission trips

by Suzanne Darland
State Correspondent

Many Kentucky churches are deciding that summer is prime time for mission trips and ministry.

This is the second year youth and adults from Lewisport Baptist Church, Blackford Association, and Church of Aurora, a suburb of Cleveland.

Seven adults and 27 youth bedded down in the dorms of nearby Hiram College while they held Backyard Bible Clubs twice a day.

"We were able to share Christ with a lot of kids who were not used to being told Jesus loves them," recalls Derek Staples, Lewisport's minister of youth.

The church has had a partnership for the past two years. Last year 20 men went and worked on the sanctuary while others led the Backyard Bible Clubs. Lewisport loaned the church \$70,000 for construction materials.

Staples indicated one of the most rewarding experiences this summer was seeing youngsters, which the group had led to Christ last year, attending activities at the small church. Since the July 19-26 trip this summer, one unchurched family that hosted a Backyard Bible Club has become Christian.

Members of Hawesville Baptist Church, Blackford Association, did not go quite as far on a mission trip. They led vacation Bible school at Tell Street Baptist Church, Tell City, Ind., only five miles away across the Ohio River.

"We drew from every walk of life," stated Hawesville pastor Phillip Basinger. "They fell in love with our young people."

Hawesville has been sending \$300 monthly to the struggling congregation for three years. The hard work seems to be paying off. The church called a bivocational pastor and in August it burned the note on its mortgage.

Basinger said Hawesville chose to support Tell Street after closing a mission in Cannelton, Ind.

Kentucky Baptist Convention staffers helped Hawesville select Tell Street because "there are not many Southern Baptist churches between Hawesville and Evansville, Ind.," Basinger noted.

In the Bible school arrangement, Tell City members provided refreshments while Hawesville youth taught. Several rededications were recorded.

A chance dinner conversation prompted six members of Severns Valley association churches to serve as counselors in a children's camp in eastern Montana in June.

Associational directors of missions Allen and Delores Baugh brought home the request and sought volunteers to fill slots normally held by summer missionaries.

Several Montana pastors were also on retreat that week in Makoshika State Park, said Dave Duda, director of Severns Valley associational children's camp 10 years. "They did the cooking," Duda related.

About 65 children stayed with the counselors in cabins for boys and a lodge for the girls, all without air conditioning.

"The temperature was 114 one day," Duda chuckled. Friends back home told them the area had been noted as the nation's hot spot.

But they would return "in a heartbeat," said Joe Galloway, minister of music at Tunnel Hill Baptist Church. Two counselors lead a girl to Christ and others won the friendship of a boy who had run away earlier that week. He still writes letters to the team. Other churches represented were Rineyville Baptist, which lent the team its van, and Buffalo Baptist.

Some members of Hardinsburg Baptist Church, Breckenridge Association, also felt this summer's heat wave.

They sat on a roadside in 100-plus degree temperatures waiting for the host church—200 miles away—to pick them up.

The axle of a borrowed trailer had begun to smoke on the group's trek to Ashtabula on Lake Erie in northeastern Ohio.

"A hundred yards more and the wheel would have fallen off," related A. O. Macy, one of the 19 youth and adults who led vacation Bible school July 18-22. The trailer, hitched to the church van, held supplies and food.

Five hours later members of the host Ashtabula and escort the caravan.

This is the third year that groups from Hardinsburg have been conducting projects at Ashtabula. Last year some members held vacation Bible school and a revival at night while others roofed and painted the church.

"This year VBS workers also led a lay revival in the evenings at Ashtabula, an area where not many adults go to church," Macy noted.

In June a group of men and youth went to London, Ky. to paint the outside and repair the roof of Mill Street Baptist Church, a black congregation.

A puppet show in the city park each evening was used to invited youngsters to vacation Bible school at First Southern Baptist Church, Kingman, Kan.

Twenty-one youth and adults from Blue Ball Baptist Church, Severns Valley Association, led VBS July 18-22, drawing about 50 each day.

Blue Ball pastor Bo Gray held a revival the following week, with almost 75 in attendance at the fledgling mission.

This is the third year Blue Ball's youth group has led Bible school, each time at a different church.

"These mission trips are a growth experience for youth," Gray recommended. "The youth do all the teaching. They grow closer together."

Lisa Robertson, a three-year veteran, taught preschoolers.

"We always grow closer to Christ. It's hard to leave sometimes," she admitted. Miss Robertson saves her baby sitting money for each summer's trip because "I want to tell people about Jesus. The world needs to share more love."



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christian education

VISION 2000 surpasses \$125,000 goal

Campbellsville College's faculty, staff and administration involved in its VISION 2000 financial campaign had a victory celebration Sept. 12 when it was announced a challenge goal of \$125,000 had been surpassed.

Don Bishop, athletic director and assistant professor of physical education and athletics and campaign chairman, said the challenge goal had been surpassed with pledges of \$128,003.

"I thank you from the bottom of my heart," said Bishop. "I'm thrilled to be a part of this college and to work with people like you."

Bishop, who's been at Campbellsville College since 1968, said, "I believe in the institution, and I believe we're producing some good people from what they're doing (following graduation)."

Ken Winters, president of the college, said he was impressed with the level of involvement of the faculty, staff and administration when he was deciding about coming to the college as president.

Robert Mills recognition set at Georgetown park

Friends of Georgetown (Ky.) College are invited to a ceremony to name its residence park in honor of former president Robert L. Mills Oct. 21 at 5 p.m. at the park's entrance on Jackson St.

Mills was the 20th president of Kentucky's senior Baptist college. He served an unprecedented term of 19 years, 1959-78.

Residents of Owenton, Mills and his wife, Millie, are active members of First Baptist Church, Owenton.

Ruschlikon funding effort proposed

European Baptists have approved a major new funding effort for financially troubled Baptist Theological Seminary in, Switzerland, expressing a desire to maintain the school in its present location near Zurich.

The seminary is operated in a partnership between the European Baptist Federation and the Foreign Mission Board. The Foreign Mission Board, which owns the seminary property, is expected to consider the funding plan at its October meeting.

The funding effort was one of two major actions taken by the federation's General Council during its annual meeting Sept. 29-Oct. 2 at the West German Baptist Family Center near Frankfurt. Twenty-one Baptist Unions in Eastern and Western Europe make up the EBF.

By approving a mortgage/investment fund-raising effort for the financially troubled seminary, the European council expressed its desire to maintain the school at its present location rather than selling the property and relocating elsewhere in Europe.

In 1987 the school's expenditures totaled 1,512,131 Swiss francs (almost \$1 million U. S.) while the income was only 1,389,000 Swiss francs. The Foreign Mission Board is a major contributor to the seminary and several faculty and staff members are Southern Baptist missionaries. The drop of the U. S. dollar's value by 35 to 40 percent over the past three years has, in effect, reduced the level of support from the Foreign Mission Board and other Baptist entities in the United States.

The financial plan adopted would authorize the seminary to borrow 18 million Swiss francs against the property, then invest the money in European cur-

Lawrence Hall of Elizabethtown, chairman of the board of trustees, told those attending that he "liked to be associated with success."

"This is the kind of staff to work with. You've set a good example for the alumni, trustee and community campaigns," he said.

The faculty division, led by Drewry Meece, professor of education and chairman of the professional studies division, has contributed or pledged \$54,780. The staff division, led by Sharon Gowin, assistant to the director of admissions, has given or pledged \$36,523. The administrative division, led by Dan Flanagan, vice president for religious life and counseling, contributed or pledged \$36,700.

Cumberland music prof receives music doctorate

W. Edwin Bingham, assistant professor of music at Cumberland College, has received the doctor of musical arts degree in woodwind instruments from the University of Kentucky. Bingham has been a member of the Cumberland College faculty since 1979 and pursued his doctoral studies under the direction of Ronald P. Monsen.

During his tenure at Cumberland Bingham has been director of the Jazz Workshop, the Chamber Orchestra of the Cumberlands, and the Handbell Choir. He has conducted several musical stage productions including Menotti's *Amahl* and the *Night Visitors* and Donizetti's *Elixir of Love*.

New counselor joins staff at Georgetown College

Andrea Royalty, a native of Lawrenceburg, Ky., has joined the staff at Georgetown College as an admissions counselor, according to David Forman, dean of admissions and financial aid.

Miss Royalty will provide recruiting services to high school students in western Kentucky and Indiana.

A 1988 graduate of Georgetown College, Miss Royalty is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Royalty of Lawrenceburg.

Homecoming features reunions, musical

Alumni, students and friends of Georgetown College will soon gather together on the campus for the 1988 Homecoming Weekend, Oct. 21-22. Among a multi-colored tapestry of trees and stately buildings, fellow classmates will once again be reunited to share a few tall tales and memories of their days at Kentucky's senior Baptist liberal arts college.

Featured at this year's homecoming will be an alumni buffet and a theatrical production, "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," which will occur Friday evening from 6-8 p.m.



Learning how to use the Campbellsville College's BiblioFile is Rolland Bennett, librarian at Asbury College. Standing (l to r) are Irvin Murrell, head librarian at Campbellsville's Montgomery Library; Doug Broome, director of technical and media services at Campbellsville and Douglas Butler, librarian at Asbury.

Campbellsville computer "loves books"

"Welcome to the Montgomery Library Catalog" is how the BiblioFile greets the Campbellsville College community.

The BiblioFile is a computer system of which the students, library staff and other users are proud. And Campbellsville College is one of three colleges or universities in the state to own one.

The BiblioFile, which is a play on words meaning 'book lover,' is a computer system installed in late August that will eventually take the place of the card catalog, said Irvin Murrell, library director. It is referred to as the "Intelligent Catalog."

Murrell said the system scans the library's shelves, saves materials for a bibliography, uses word combinations and cross-references and shows you where a particular book is located in the library. It gives the viewer a campus calendar for convenience.

"The BiblioFile is an on-line public catalog equivalent to the card catalog but much more sophisticated," said Murrell.

The computer contains about 12,000 book listings currently and has 96,000 to go. The library staff hopes to have the system completed by June 30, 1989.

Doug Broome, director of technical and media services at the library, is

given credit for discovering the BiblioFile system.

Murrell said, "Doug saw an ad for the system and began researching its possibilities. The system proved to be the best set-up of all others researched."

Broome said the system is easy to work, and he has used students from his self-discovery class to experiment with it. Broome said students are excited about the system.

"I think it is great," said Margie Crawford, a senior from New Jersey. "It is so easy to use and saves a lot of time. I find things with it that I wouldn't think of looking for in the card catalog."

The computer for student use cost \$2500. Broome said the library is looking forward to being able to purchase five more computer stations for its patrons at similar costs per unit.

The entire BiblioFile system costs \$10,000, Broome said.

The library will have access to information that is up to date at any given time with this system.

The five extra terminals will include a circulation system, interlibrary loan program and a security system, Murrell said.

Murrell said the system is available for use during regular library hours and has no charge at present for printing.

Cumberland dedicates building

Cumberland College was to dedicate the Classroom Building as the Fred C. Andersen Memorial Building Oct. 10, according to Cumberland College presi-

dent Jim Taylor.

The building, purchased in 1983, was previously the Williamsburg Independent School. It was renovated and occupied in 1984 by the departments of art, education, psychology, health and sociology. The development offices, Cumberland College Theatre and intramural gymnasium and offices also occupy the building.

"The foundation created by the late Mr. Fred C. Andersen has assisted this college unselfishly since 1969," according to Taylor. "I can't thank the Andersens enough for their tireless devotion. What would we do without the most meaningful help which has come time and time again to rescue us as we face a multitude of needs in providing educational opportunities for our mountain youngsters? Enough good cannot be said of Mr. and Mrs. Andersen, Mr. E. C. Swanson and this foundation."

Saturday's events will include a special reunion for the men of Pawling Hall, class reunion brunches for the classes of 1969, 1974, 1979 and 1984, and an alumni art show at the college art gallery.

Highlighting the weekend will be a 1 p.m. afternoon game matching two fierce competitors—the Georgetown "Tigers" and the Cumberland College "Indians" at Hinton Field.

Further information about homecoming weekend may be obtained by contacting the Alumni Office, 400 East College Street, Georgetown, KY 40324.

Emphasis helps Baptists celebrate unique giving plan

by James L. Austin, vice president, Cooperative Program Promotion, Stewardship Commission, SBC

Cooperative Program Month is a time to celebrate the accomplishments of cooperation among the more than 37,000 Southern Baptist churches in the past, to bridge the gaps of understanding in the present, and to initiate participation in the future of Cooperative Program supported ministries.

How serious Southern Baptists are about world missions has been demonstrated many times since the establishment of the Cooperative Program.

We have intensified our efforts to accomplish the Great Commission by the end of this century through an emphasis called Bold Mission Thrust.

The Southern Baptist Convention, at Kansas City, in 1977, adopted the following Bold Mission Thrust statement: The Southern Baptist Convention has accepted the challenge of sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ with every person in the world by the year 2000. The Cooperative Program must be the primary channel for providing the financial resources.

Providing resources to meet this exciting challenge requires boldness in prayer and giving on the part of every Southern Baptist. Planned Growth in Giving seeks to encourage over 37,000 churches to enlarge annual undesignated budget receipts to \$20 billion and the Cooperative Program to \$2.5 billion by 2000.

Phase II of this emphasis will emerge in the 1990s as Planned Growth in Giving/Evangelism, an attempt to develop every Southern Baptist into a growing Christian by guiding them toward responsible living through giving and witnessing.

One of the mysteries of cooperation in support of mission is that it strengthens the participating church and its members. When resources are shared through the world-wide programs, church members receive a sense of personal involvement and an increased vision.

In order to develop the cooperative spirit in your congregation during October challenge church members to:

• ASK the appropriate person/persons (pastor, church council, etc.) to make this year's Cooperative Program Month the most effective in the history of your church.

• PRAY continually for Cooperative Program ministries along with over 7500 missionaries supported through this system.

• STUDY a special Cooperative Program booklet that has been designed for churches to use during October 1988. The title of this booklet is "Share His Word Through the Cooperative Program." It consists of two main sections

and is ideal for either individual or group study. Part 1 deals with what the Cooperative Program is, how it was developed, how it works and what its achievements are. Part 2 deals with ministries supported as a result of our churches sharing through the Cooperative Program. Copies of this booklet can be obtained from your state convention stewardship office. If the booklets are not available from your state office, order them from SBC Stewardship Services, 127 Ninth Avenue, North, Nashville, TN 37234. The cost is 25¢ each, plus shipping charges.

• BECOME BOLD IN GIVING to your church.

• LEAD YOUR CHURCH to take bold steps forward in sharing through the Cooperative Program by increasing the percentage of the church budget for world missions.

• PARTICIPATE in the activities of your church during its celebration of Cooperative Program Month each October.

BOLD MISSION THRUST must be envisioned in the hearts of individuals and local churches or it will never become a reality.

This announcement is neither an offer to sell nor a solicitation of offers to buy any of these securities. The offering is made only by Prospectus.

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Copies of the Prospectus may be obtained by calling or writing the Home Mission Board.

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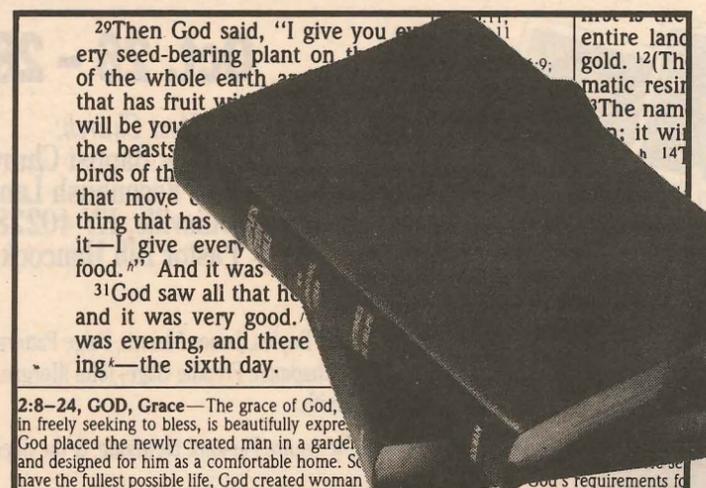
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baptist news in brief

BJCPA counsel warns against bias

A Baptist church-state attorney has issued a warning that a recent mailing sent to Southern Baptists could lead churches to jeopardize their tax-exempt status.

Oliver S. Thomas, general counsel for the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, warned that an insert in the mailing comparing the views of presidential candidates George Bush and Michael Dukakis amounted to political bias that could lead Internal Revenue Service investigators to consider revoking the tax exemption of churches that distribute it.

The person who oversaw assembly and mailing of the packet to an estimated "50,000 to 60,000 Southern Baptists," Fred Powell, senior associate pastor at Atlanta's First Baptist Church,

disagreed with Thomas' assessment that the comparison amounts to bias.

Powell claimed: "The intent of this is to get Christians to vote. It is stated clearly that they are to vote as they feel led. No one is implying that you should vote for one candidate or the other. Strongly conservative people will vote for one; someone with more liberal leanings will vote for the other. We are not telling people to do anything but to vote."

Thomas said while most of the mailing is legal, it falls short of the law in its presentation of the views of one of the presidential candidates in "pejorative, inflammatory language" and in "caricaturing" the candidate's position in a "biased manner."

"I've discussed these materials with prominent church-state attorneys from other denominations who agree that any church that distributes them would be jeopardizing its tax-exempt status," Thomas said. "That's the real problem with this letter. Churches are being encouraged to use something that could easily lead to an IRS investigation and possible litigation. (BP)"



Southern Baptist missionary Bruce Oliver and animal scientist Elisa Queiros inspect a poultry section of a model farm in Brazil. The farm is part of Southern Baptists' \$3 million, five-year Living Water Project to rescue thousands of starving Brazilians from the effects of a long drought. Through the project farmers have introduced a dozen vegetable varieties into their fields. "Living Water" also includes medical care, vocational classes and seminary extension classes.

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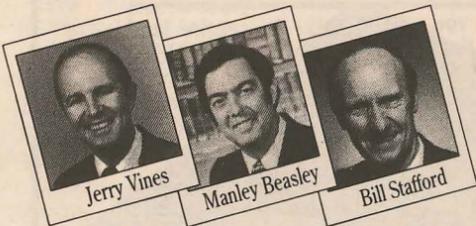
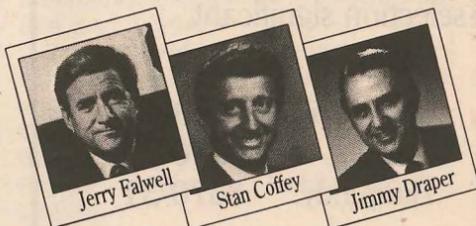


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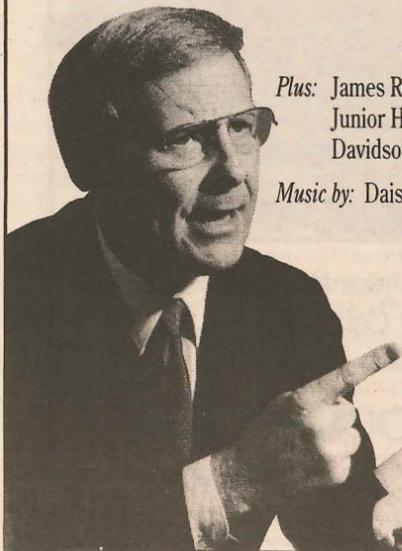
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Telephone 502/897-7305

AN OPEN LETTER TO ALL LOTTERY OPPONENTS!

Dear Friends:

Here are the facts.

1. We can defeat the Lottery Amendment! Recent polls tell us that if our voters turn out on November 8, we will defeat it!
2. We have narrowed the gap by 24 percentage points, and the shift rate is increasing. As lottery facts get to people, they reconsider on the basis of new knowledge.
3. Getting these facts to all Kentucky voters takes people and money.
4. Our grass roots campaign relies on small donations from a lot of Kentuckians.
5. In both organizing and fund raising, we've greatly depended on pastors and churches.
6. A few churches have been great. Most have done nothing. Only 52 Baptist churches in Kentucky have contributed \$300 or more.
7. We know that pastors and church boards have been warned that if they help Citizens Against State Lottery, they may lose their tax exemption. (This is an empty threat, a political dirty trick: since we're a Political Issues Committee rather than a Political Action Committee, church contributions are allowed under IRS regulations.)
8. But because of this threat, many pastors and churches have refused to help a cause they believe in.
9. So we now appeal to you again--to every church lottery opponent in Kentucky. We need \$150,000 to get the winning message out.
10. We ask you to send us a check immediately, so that we can send lottery facts to all Kentuckians, through newspapers, radio, and TV.
11. We promise you that at the end of this campaign we will publicly announce the names of all churches that have sent us over \$300 and publicly account for every nickel spent.

We're appealing to your convictions and your courage. Please, do not be intimidated by threats from people working for a state-owned lottery in Kentucky.

Many thanks!

VOTE
NO
NOV. 8

Jim
Jim Fugitte, Campaign Chairman
Citizens Against State Lottery
4010 Dupont Circle, Room 166
Louisville, Kentucky 40207

Public affairs call-in series debuts on KET

KET takes a new approach to its public affairs programming when *This Is Kentucky* debuts Monday, Oct. 17 at 9/8 p.m. CT. On the premiere episode a panel of experts will discuss the lottery proposal in Kentucky.

Panelists joining producer/host Dick Brown for the debut of *This Is Kentucky* will be Philip Thompson, campaign director for Citizens Against the State Lottery and James Fugitte, chairman for Citizens Against the State Lottery. The pro-lottery faction will be represented by Robert Allphin, a Louisville businessman.

"*This Is Kentucky* is KET's first on-going public affairs series to allow viewers to speak directly with panel members," says Brown. "Each week *This Is Kentucky* will present a timely topic and ask viewers to respond, in much the same manner as CNN's *Larry King Live*."

Relief Center formed for Jamaica disaster

The Foreign Mission Board has set up a collecting center for food to be sent to Jamaica at Lynchburg Baptist Church, 4800 Lynchburg Road, Winter Haven, FL 33881. The pastor is Ron Patterson, 813-956-1077.

The collecting center requests food only. Offerings should be sent to the Foreign Mission Board and designated for Disaster in Jamaica.

Some 180 churches and 21 parsonages had their roofs damaged or completely destroyed. The FMB will be sending volunteers to help repair these buildings. Food will continue to be sent for three months.

Tennessee elects Lowrie as executive director

D. L. Lowrie, director of the state missions commission of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, has been elected unanimously to become executive director-treasurer of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Lowrie, 53, a native of Tennessee, was elected during a called meeting of the TBC executive board Sept. 29. He will succeed Tom J Madden, who will retire Apr. 30 at age 70. Madden has been the TBC's top executive since Jan. 1, 1979.

Lowrie is a native of Bluff City, Tenn., where his parents still live. He is a graduate of East Tennessee State University in Johnson City and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex. He has held pastorates in Tennessee and Texas and was pastor of First Baptist Church, Lubbock, Tex., before assuming the BGCT post in 1986.

Abortion protest arrests include a CLC trustee

A trustee of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission was arrested Oct. 4 along with 343 protesters in renewed efforts to close Atlanta's abortion clinics.

James Wood, pastor of Mt. Vernon Baptist Church, Atlanta, and a member of the denomination's moral concerns agency since 1986, was arrested with 138 other protesters outside the Hillcrest Clinic in midtown Atlanta.

Wood is the first Southern Baptist pastor known to have been arrested in the protests. He was released in less than 24 hours, an improvement over earlier conditions.

As the protest at Hillcrest was underway, Wood left picketers and blocked the entry to the clinic. He dropped to his knees and began praying. Police dragged him across the pavement to a paddy wagon as onlookers wailed and prayed for those being arrested.

The interim executive director of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission has commended the "prophetic witness and commitment to nonviolence" of commissioner James Wood.

Robert Parham, who has been interim director of the Southern Baptist moral and social concerns agency since June, told Baptist Press:

"From the whipping posts of New

England to the Birmingham jail, Baptists have given witness on moral issues through nonviolent civil disobedience. It is a legitimate and exalted form of prophetic Christian involvement in the world.

"Many Southern Baptists may not see eye-to-eye on the issue of abortion. But all Southern Baptists ought to affirm the biblical truth and Baptist tradition that a believer must follow the dictates of conscience, even if it results in the violation of the law of the state. To be Baptist has meant and must continue to mean freedom—freedom to obey Christ rather than Caesar."

Parham said of Wood: "James Wood has stepped from behind the security of the pulpit into the vulnerability of the public square, leaving behind rhetoric for tangible action." (BP)



James H. Cox
Associate Editor

fourth estate

Mountaintop experiences

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help (Ps. 121:1).

Former Kentucky stewardship leader Robert J. Hastings interviewed heads of the 20 SBC agencies for a series of profiles in *The Baptist Program*, a monthly magazine for church and denominational leaders. After all the articles had run, Hastings wrote a summary of his experience.

He found several common threads in the backgrounds of those he interviewed, he said. One of them was that Ridgecrest (N. C.) Baptist Assembly could be identified as a place life-changing decisions were made by several of these national leaders.

Ah, mountaintop experiences to prepare for valley needs. Have you had them?

From an early age I have been attending state and national Baptist encampments. Memories linger of some of my family's best 'vacations' at Baptist assemblies in places like Green Lake, Wis., Pass Christian, Miss., Southport, N. C., and others.

The girl I married was introduced to me through her summer staff experience in New Mexico's enchanting Sangre de Cristo Mountains at Glorieta. Earlier, she spent several summers staffing at Falls Creek Baptist Assembly, in Oklahoma's rustic Arbuckle Mountains.

The five summers I was on the Ridgecrest staff had a remarkably profound effect on me. They helped me grow spiritually, mentally, socially, independently. Looking back, I would not take a million dollars for them.

The psalmist said it well: *This is the hill which God desireth to dwell in; yea, the Lord will dwell in it for ever (68:16).*

I remember an afternoon nearly three decades ago when four staffers climbed Mt. Kitasuma overlooking Ridgecrest to survey the miles of grandeur visible from that vantage point. As we reached the summit, we were surrounded by an overwhelming awe and respect for God's marvelous Blue Ridge Mountains. It didn't matter that each of us had been there many times before.

In the stillness and loveliness of that majestic peak, no one spoke. From far down the hillside we heard the strains of the assembly carillon pealing out "I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked." Somehow, it seemed to me that someone had surely chosen that song with the four of us in mind.

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness (Ps. 48:1).

Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord; . . . and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths (Mic. 4:2).

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Denise George, a professional writer, resides in Birmingham, Alabama. She is the co-author of *Dear Daughter* and compiler of *When Night Becomes As Day*.

Steven C. Carreker is pastor of First Baptist Church, Boone, North Carolina. He is a stress management seminar leader.

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BROADMAN



Barkley Moore
President
Oneida Baptist Institute
Oneida, KY 40972

oneida journal

So happy it shows!

Have you ever written a letter to the Oneida Baptist school? We love to get mail to get feedback on our efforts. Even an occasional negative letter is instructive. One never gets too old to learn.

A recent much appreciated letter from a parent said: "I could see a difference in our son last weekend. He was so happy and it shows. I know the word is making a difference in his life. I know Jesus is the only way for anyone to be a success and to be happy on this earth. Jason did not speak any negatives even when telling of his paddling! He said he did not know much about the Bible, but says his grades will be coming up because he is going to work on them. I praise you all and the work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of all those young people being trained for God's army."

A graduate of the 106 member 1988 class who was with us seven years writes:

"To everyone at Oneida, thank you for giving me a place to plant my roots and to grow. Oneida was fertile ground for me.

"You taught me more than just book knowledge. I learned what it is to take care of myself in the dorm. I learned responsibilities because you gave me opportunities. I learned the importance of God's word through daily chapel. I learned to make my own decisions by considering the differing circumstances concerned.

"Oneida, you were foster parents to

me. You taught me to love my own parents because you know the importance of family.

"How does a person express the gratitude felt after having been given life? You showed me Jesus and his love. You gently urged me to take up my cross and follow him. I received a friend that goes with me everywhere, feels all the feelings I feel, laughs when I laugh and comforts me when I hurt.

"You gave me other friends, too. You gave us so many opportunities to be with each other and for us to grow together. Though we are apart, we have Oneida to come back to and heaven to look forward to.

"You taught me that learning never stops. Though I am through with high school and will be through with college eventually, my mind will continue to hunger for knowledge because you taught me to fear the Lord thus 'the beginning of wisdom.'

"Thank you for countless other lessons learned through your ministry. You will always be my school and the place I go home to."

We don't succeed with them all even though we receive each in faith that we will succeed. We struggled mightily with a rather high-tempered young man who was sure he would always hate everything about Oneida. Eventually he had to leave because of his refusal to cooperate with us. Defeat is always so crushing. Yet often there is victory even in defeat. Recently the following letter came from this same young man of so much potential:

"I'm at a job corps center getting my GED and a skill in house building. I'm finally staying out of trouble and trying to get my life straight. There is a chaplain here that once preached in that church where you took me. I asked him if he knew you. He said yes. He said you are a fine man. I said I know.

"Well, I hate to say it but you were right about being away from the school. Even though you want to get away, something always wants you to come back. Believe it or not, I really miss the place a lot. I learned a lot I couldn't in a public school. I learned more discipline (at Oneida) than I ever had in my life. I'm grateful I had a chance to come and meet people I really love.

"I'll be getting out of here in about a year and I'll be furthering my education in construction work, carpentry, welding, plumbing, electricity, concrete and landscaping. Would you consider letting me work for the school? I would deeply thank you. Thanks for everything."



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

sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR OCT. 16, 1988

Life and work series

Good news for Christians

Acts 9:20-22 Saul preached his initial sermon for Christ in the synagogue in Damascus. "Amazed" and "confounded" were the words which best expressed the reaction of his hearers. He rejoiced in the privilege of preaching that Jesus Christ was the promised messiah and the son of God. He sought to undo some of the damage he had done to the Christian faith.

Acts 9:26-29a When Saul attempted to unite with the company of Christians in Jerusalem, they were suspicious and afraid of him. It was only natural for them to think his professed conversion was only a trick and he was merely gathering evidence to be used in slaying other Christians.

Barnabas had investigated Saul's experience on the road to Damascus and found it to be genuine. He also discovered Saul had marvelous possibilities as a witness for Christ. Because Barnabas was willing to be a sponsor for him, the members of the church admitted him into their fellowship. How wonderful it

is to have someone stand by you in a time of need!

Acts 11:25-26 Some disciples went into the populous and wicked city of Antioch to preach the gospel. As a result many believed on Christ and were saved and the first Gentile church was established. When the tidings of these triumphs of grace claimed the attention of the church in Jerusalem, the leaders decided to send Barnabas to investigate the work being done there. When he saw how the grace of God was working, he encouraged the new Christians to cleave unto the Lord and to do his will.

Barnabas promptly departed for Tarsus and brought Saul back with him to assist in the Lord's work. These men of God devoted their energies to the discovery and development of these Christians, so they could give themselves to Christian service because of what Christ had done for them.

International series

Words of hope

Isaiah 40:1-5 Note the encouraging terms "my people" and "your God." Believers belong to God and God belongs to them. Even though these exiles had been chastised for their sins, God acknowledged they were still his people and he was still their God. His love for them was constant and his grace was never failing. God wanted to comfort them with the assurance of deliverance and restoration.

Isaiah was instructed to speak tenderly but emphatically to the people and inform them the period of their distresses was being terminated. The punishment they had suffered for their sins was drawing to a close. Their sins had been expiated by the grace of God and their iniquities had been pardoned.

When Christ came the first time his glory was revealed to some of the people in Palestine, but when he comes back to the earth "the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together."

Isaiah 40:9-11 Isaiah was commanded to declare the transitory nature of things of earth in contrast with the enduring purpose and the sovereign power of God. What a challenge and inspiration to know the ultimate purpose of God cannot be thwarted by human beings. The statement, "All flesh is grass," is a pointed way of expressing the frailties of humans. Whereas humans are transitory, the message of God is eternal and unchanging.



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

on mission together

By the roadside

It was not exactly the way I prefer to end my day in the office. The switchboard had been closed for some time; a few staffers were still in the building.

I had called Alice to assure her I'd be home by 6:00 to eat and watch the local news, something we do more often now that the nest is empty.

I placed a call to a friend who had been forced to terminate his pastoral ministry recently. Some of our ministry-support staff was trying to help them. I was grateful once again that Kentucky Baptists had, five years ago, agreed to provide some financial assistance to such persons. He struggled through his conversation, choking-back tears, but expressing hope along with his deep hurt.

They were making arrangements to find a place to live and had just a few weeks longer in the parsonage. They

were so close to retirement. If it was to happen, why not just a little later? But it had happened.

He talked. I listened, mostly. And when he said "good-bye," I wasn't sure he felt any better. Within me I "wanted" it to be better. But I felt helpless. They would be left to work through this devastation with friends; those whose sensitivities would become "helping hands" . . . invitations to preach a revival; to supply; to go before a church looking for an older pastor.

By the time I left the building, I was already pushing the 6:00 promise to Alice. As I headed out U. S. 60 and slowed down for the 45 mph limit through Eastwood, I passed a hitchhiker. I drove on by but soon my mind and heart caught up with my car. I stopped and backed up along the shoulder. Soon he was in the car and headed toward Simpsonville with me. Through conversation, I learned his car had run out of gas about a mile before Eastwood. He was going home and would pick up

the car tomorrow.

Simply put, he was "broke." He agreed for me to take him back to the car, get a can from his trunk, and take him to get some gas.

In a little while his dilapidated car was chugging along. I followed him to the service station to add more gas to get him home.

A man in his 30s, I judged, he had been laid off work several weeks ago. With children to feed at home, he had been out looking for work and, apparently, had found a job in Louisville where he would begin the next week.

A few miles before Simpsonville, he turned off. I honked.

Somehow the board car seemed too comfortable; my clothes too nice; my resources too plentiful. And, as always, the surge of discomfort when I know there are thousands—maybe millions—in our nation just like him . . . struggling just to make it.

I was late for supper. Alice understood.

Korean Christian leads Olympics

by Erich Bridges

Park Seh Jik won no gold medals in Seoul, but the Olympics might not have taken place without him.

His moment in the sun was brief—perhaps five minutes at the Olympic opening ceremonies as he officially welcomed the world to the games.

But Baptist layman Park Seh Jik may be the biggest winner to emerge from the 24th Olympiad. As president of the Seoul Olympic Organizing Committee, Park has carried the staggering task of bringing off a successful Olympics. And with the cooperation of much of the South Korean population, he apparently has succeeded.

"He's the Peter Ueberroth of Korea," says one Park admirer, recalling the American businessman who masterminded the organization and commercial success of the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games.

Only the second Asian nation to win the honor of playing host to the Summer Olympics—Japan was the first—little South Korea first faced the prospect of billions of dollars in preparation costs. Then came the possibility of a mass boycott by communist nations. Less than a year ago, the nation found itself in the midst of historic but violent political changes that threatened to sink the games entirely or move them to another country.

Despite these problems, plus continuing student protests and a relatively low turnout of foreign visitors, the Olympics went on in grand style.

The stakes were as high as they could be for the nation. The Koreans viewed the Olympics as a once-in-history chance to showcase for the world their determined journey from war-ravaged stepchild status to international promi-

nence. Much of the enormous pressure to deliver fell on Park and his 1000-member Olympic committee staff.

"I can see that God used the events of my life to lead me to this point," Park told *Decision*, the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association magazine.

Born near Taegu, Park spent his early years in Pusan. There he became a Christian through the influence of an Australian missionary. He fought in the Korean War as a teen-age volunteer, then became a cadet at the national military academy, where he founded and led a Christian fellowship association.

He rose steadily through ranks, earning two master's degrees along the way and retiring from the military in 1981 as a major general and commander of Seoul's Capital Security Command. In 1986 came the coveted presidency of the Olympic committee.

"He's a man of unusual leadership ability," says Southern Baptist missionary O. K. Bozeman, a longtime friend. "He recognizes talent and knows how to use it."

Despite his many responsibilities, he remains an active member and deacon at Seoul's Yoido Baptist Church, where he attends worship services and a 6 a.m. men's Bible study every Sunday. His family holds daily devotions at home.

"My faith is the foundation of everything I do," Park says. "It served as a sublime inspiration in our preparations for the Olympics. My only regret is that because of my schedule I occasionally miss my time for prayer. However, I try not to wander from the teaching of the Bible."

Bozeman adds that Park "speaks out every chance he gets for the Lord. He's very careful to let everyone know there's religious freedom in Korea and that



Korean Baptist layman Park Seh Jik won no gold medals at the Olympics. But as president of the Seoul Olympic Organizing Committee, he was the key leader in South Korea's gargantuan effort to put on the Games. "God used the events of my life to lead me to this point," he says.

everyone has the same opportunity he has. He's evangelistic in his own way. He doesn't go out and thump a Bible, but he lets you know he is a believer in Jesus Christ."

If their Olympic achievement symbolizes the Koreans' long trek to greatness, perhaps Park symbolizes the emergence of Korean Christians, who comprise a quarter of the population.



In Ethiopia Southern Baptists are helping introduce the "broad-bed" plow. Ethiopian Baptist veterinary technician Fakadu Ruda (second from left) shows a group of local farmers how to use the plow, which is actually a combination of two plows with "wings" attached to them. The wider planting beds and distinct drainage furrows that result increase crop yields.

