

## Dan Francis, Don Mathis to keynote state's deacon-pastor-spouse retreats in February

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

Two eastern Kentucky Baptist pastors will be featured speakers at two deacon-pastor-spouse retreats scheduled for next month.

Dan Francis, pastor of Winchester's Central Baptist Church, will address participants attending the retreat Feb. 17-18 at Cedarmore Baptist Assembly, near Bagdad.

Don Mathis, pastor of Corbin's Central Baptist Church, will do the same at the Feb. 24-25 retreat at Kentucky Dam Village, near Gilbertsville.

Both events are sponsored by the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Family Ministry and Church Administration Department. Both will pursue the same theme: "Doing Church in the 90's," according to John Lepper, department director and retreat leader.

Lepper said the sermons and special interest conferences at the two retreats will "challenge participants" to be "proactive rather than reactive" in ministry. How church leaders can work together to shape ministry for the next decade is a primary objective of the two events.

Francis, 36, a native of Franklin, Oh., is a graduate of Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights; the University of Louisville and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, both in Louisville. He has been a youth minister and assistant pastor of churches in Newport and Ft. Wright, Ky. and pastor of Hill Grove Baptist Church, Guston, Ky. He is married to the former Neva Jeanne Little of Ludlow.

Mathis, a native of Hopkinsville, is a former president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He has served his present pastorate since 1979, having earlier been pastor of Southside Baptist Church, Princeton, 11 years. Married to the former Sharon Daugherty of Ohio County, he is a graduate of Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, Tenn., and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is a member of the elected Baptist Sunday School Board trustees and is chairman of its administration committee.



Francis



Mathis

The February deacon-pastor-spouse retreats will both offer participants opportunities for selecting three of six small group conferences. While the subjects are the same for both retreats, in some cases the leaders will change. The six conferences:

—"Planning Deacon's Meetings and Work," Charles Belt, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville (both locations)

—"Shaping the Church of the 90's," D. G. McCoury, pastoral ministries consultant, Church Administration Department, BSSB, Nashville (both locations)

—"Wise Counsel" (a new Church Training equipping center module), Jim Clontz, associate director, KBC Church Training Department, Middletown (Cedarmore); Douglas T. Strader, director, KBC Church Training Department, Middletown (Kentucky Dam Village)

—"Growing in Relational Skills,"

Curtis Warf, pastor, First Baptist Church, Richmond (Cedarmore); John East, director of missions, Ohio River Association (Kentucky Dam Village)

—"Conducting a Spiritual Directions Emphasis," William H. Rogers, director, KBC Minister-Church Support Division, Middletown (both locations); and

—"Women Who Care," Burley McCoury, Nashville.

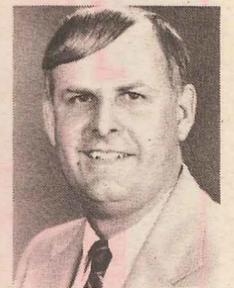
Overnight accommodations at Cedarmore range between \$23-\$30, depending on facility and number of people per room, plus meals (\$11.25 daily). There is a \$1 charge for commuters for insurance and use of facilities. Rates at Kentucky Dam Village range between \$30.92 (single) and \$40.02 (double) to \$109.14 for cottages sleeping several persons. Meals are extra.

For a reservation form, contact the Church Administration Department, KBC, Box 43433, Middletown, KY 40243, telephone (502) 245-4101.

In addition to the deacon-pastor-spouse retreats scheduled next month, two more have been set in the fall by the Family Ministry and Church Administration Department. They are Sept. 15-16 at Cedarmore Baptist Assembly and Sept. 29-30 at Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly, near Aurora. Program details on these retreats will be announced later.



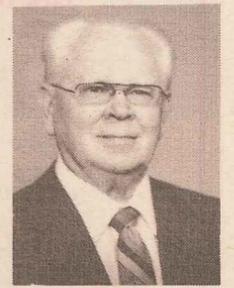
Kruschwitz



Clontz



Jaggers



Colvin

## Committed disciples object of conferences Jan. 26 at Winchester

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

Boones Creek Baptist Association and the Church Training Department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention will jointly sponsor an area school of discipleship Thursday, Jan. 26.

Meeting at Central Baptist Church, Winchester, the event is set for 7 to 9:15 p.m.

Participants will have opportunity to select two of seven 55-minute conferences from the following:

—1989 SBC Doctrine Study: "The Doctrines Baptists Believe," led by Verlin C. Kruschwitz, associate director, Boyce Bible School, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville;

—Training Sunday School Workers in Evangelism, Ker Whitehouse, pastor, Corinth Baptist Church, Boones Creek Association;

—How to Minister to New Church Members, Curtis Griffis, associate pastor for education, Central Baptist Church, Winchester;

—How Church Training Can Help Your Church, Jim Clontz, associate director, KBC Church Training Department, Middletown;

—How to Prepare Your Church for Revival, Bill Jaggers, director, KBC Evangelism Department, Middletown;

—Ingathering: Reclaiming Inactive Church Members, Wendell Romans, pastor, Boones Creek Baptist Church, Boones Creek Association; and

—Baptist Ideals: Distinctives of Our Faith, A. B. Colvin, retired denominational servant, Middletown.

The area school of discipleship purposes to help church members become committed disciples for Christ, according to program leaders. Participants will also receive information on making better disciples of other Christians in their churches.

A nursery will be provided, and refreshments will be served between conference sessions.

Although pre-registration is not required and the event is open to persons of all associations, those who register by Jan. 24 will receive a free copy of the 1989 SBC doctrine study book, "The Doctrines Baptists Believe." Notify: Church Training Department, KBC, Box 43433, Middletown, KY 40243.

## RA congresses Feb. 27-Mar. 3 pursue racing theme at eight sites

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

"Racing Toward the Goal of Missions" is theme of eight regional Royal Ambassador conferences set for late winter across the commonwealth.

According to Robert Y. Simpkins, director, and Rob Carr, associate director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Brotherhood Department, a racer competition will be central focus of these annual supper events this year. Each one begins at 5:30 p.m. and ends at 8:30 p.m. and, for a \$1 fee, include a sloppy joe meal.

Every Royal Ambassador, high school Baptist young man and adult will have



Simpkins



Carr

opportunity to participate in the RA Racer competition, said Carr, by creating his own model car prior to the congresses. Instructions are available from the state Brotherhood Department.

Congresses will include several other events. Young men will be supplied information at the congresses on summer camping and young men's rally opportunities scheduled later.

Reservations should be made in advance by RA groups with the Brotherhood Department at Box 43433, Middletown, KY 40243, stating which congress they plan to attend. Dates and locations:

**Northeastern region**—Feb. 27, First Baptist Church, Paintsville

**Southwestern region**—Feb. 27, First Baptist Church, Mayfield

**Western region**—Feb. 28, First Baptist Church, Madisonville

**North Central region**—Feb. 28, Cynthia Baptist Church

**Southeastern region**—Mar. 2, Central Baptist Church, Corbin

**Southern region**—Mar. 2, Calvary Baptist Church, Glasgow

**South Central region**—Mar. 3, South Greensburg Baptist Church

**Central region**—Mar. 3, First Baptist Church, Shelbyville.



**Baptist Seminary, College and School Day Feb. 19 focuses on 71 educational institutions sponsored by Southern Baptists. Together they have about 6500 professors and administrators and more than 190,000 students.**

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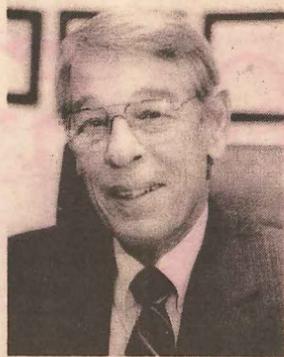
January 17, 1989

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# sanford's perspectives

## New study material available



Jack D. Sanford

The Historical Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention has released 10 pamphlets under the title, "Foundations of Baptist Heritage." These new materials should serve all Southern Baptists as good resource material for a study of who we are, where we came from and what we hold dear in our faith.

Titles of the series are, "Lordship of Christ;" "Biblical Authority;" "Salvation by Grace;" "Priesthood of All Believers;" "Religious Freedom;" "Believer's Baptism by Immersion;" "Responsible Church Membership;" "Autonomy and Cooperation;" "Evangelism and Missions" and "Congregational Worship."

Authors include seminary professors, pastors and denominational workers. Over all, the series

touches the main points of Baptist life and belief. It would make a good study course or Church Training emphasis since the material is concise and lends itself to discussion.

We commend the Historical Commission and its executive director, Lynn E. May Jr. for this important contribution to our life. We know this series will receive good marks from all who take time to read and study the material. We urge pastors and ministers of education to take a look at the possibilities for wide distribution of this material among our people. This is a day which demands we know more about our heritage in order to preserve it and pass it along to those who come after us.

## Take time for the evangelism conference

The Kentucky Baptist Convention evangelism conference will be held Feb. 27-28 at Eastwood Baptist Church, Bowling Green. It is essential that all pastors and many lay people attend this meeting to increase our passion for evangelism.

Newly-elected evangelism director William Jagers has planned an inspiring program with competent speakers who will challenge all who take time to attend the meeting. This is Jagers' first effort as our new leader in evangelism and we owe him the courtesy of good attendance, but more than that, we owe it to our churches and to ourselves to be as informed, as competent and as dedicated in evangelism as possible.

When one takes a hard look at what has happened to evangelism in our ranks the past few years it is obvious to the most casual observer that we have lost something significant. Have we lost the zeal for lost souls? Have we turned away from winning lost people to Christ? Have we let other things take away our passion for proclaiming the gospel to lost people? What has happened to us?

There are no simplistic answers but one thing

is certain, unless we capture our lost enthusiasm for making disciples we will only go further down hill as God's people. No one suggests an annual evangelism conference is the total answer. However it is one small step toward recapturing the essence of New Testament Christianity which is to make disciples and teach them to observe the Lord's commands.

If the church does not make provision for the pastor and staff to attend this meeting it should be ashamed. This is far more important to the real work of the church than many other events and meetings which take our time. Make time and money available so the leaders of the church can share the hours of inspiration and challenge which will be presented at Bowling Green.

We pray for Bill Jagers and for all who have responsibility for this meeting. Our prayer is that God will lead with power and that the result will be a new surge of evangelistic concern among Kentucky Baptists which will result in many souls won to Christ.

## Make your will now

January is the traditional month in which Southern Baptists are asked to consider making a will and, of course, remembering the work of Christ in the final disposition of worldly goods.

From one who has had recent experience of death believe me, it is one of the prime ideas we toss about. Death often comes without warning and leaves no time to make final arrangements for settling the matter of material goods.

We urge all Kentucky Baptists, whether you have wealth or not, to make a will. In fact wealth is no determinant of who needs a will. All people need a will if they own anything—an automobile, a house, a bank account. The size of the estate does not determine who should or should not have a will. All people need a will so that what they do have will be properly taken care of at the time of their death.

The denominational emphasis on will making is designed to see that the Lord's work is taken

care of in final dispositions of property. That is worthwhile and we accept that concept. In fact Western Recorder would be glad to be beneficiary in the will of anyone who wants to see this work continue with strength. But there are also other reasons for a will, not the least of which is the relief it gives those who remain.

In our personal experience we have learned that when a parent leaves a will the children have no trouble settling the estate and getting on with their own life. When there is no will trouble abounds and the wounds of death heal more slowly.

So make your will now. Richard Carnes, executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation, will gladly help you and give valuable information to all who ask. And include the institutions and agencies of the Kentucky Baptist Convention in your will so that your witness through these agencies will continue until Jesus comes.

### western recorder

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## Meppets on mission—with grace in hand

by Denise Spencer  
State Correspondent

"Amazing grace, how sweet the sound. . . ." As the solo continued the small singer swayed to an upbeat version of the old hymn. Dressed in a tuxedo and sunglasses, he flung his arms wide in the joy of that grace.

So began another performance by the puppet ministry of Mt. Elmira Baptist Church.

Not yet two years old, the "Meppets" have already traveled many miles to tell of God's grace. The acronym stands for "Mt. Elmira puppet people enjoy telling the story." The Long Run Association church has eight puppeteers, ranging from adolescents to young adults.

Four of these members are "charter puppeteers." They banded together in August 1987 in response to pastor Don Daniel's challenge to begin a new ministry.

Daniel related, "The effectiveness of puppet ministry first struck me when I was in college. I saw how children who were disinterested in a sermon would listen intently to a puppet. Ever since that time, puppet ministry has been a dream of mine."

When Daniel became pastor of Mt. Elmira that dream was revived by a puppet who appeared each year in vacation Bible school. The puppet traditionally popped out of a box to tell the Bible story each day. Daniel soon called for volunteers to start a ministry. He contacted the associational office for assistance and was referred to Laquita Havens at Farmdale. She brought the Farmdale puppets to Mt. Elmira and shared information. In a few weeks eight

aspiring puppeteers attended a workshop at Hurstbourne Baptist Church. Inspired, they began making and purchasing puppets.

Since that time the Meppets have performed in various churches, malls, libraries and a Salvation Army shelter. Each new program is shown to their own congregation. The Meppets are also frequently used at Mt. Elmira to make announcements to Sunday school classes and worshipers. Whatever the audience, the group commonly receives compliments regarding the professional quality of their performance.

Daniel speaks with pride of the puppeteers' dedication. One cast member recently delivered her baby after performing the night before!

One of the keys to the Meppets' success has been the involvement of the whole church. The congregation quickly authorized the purchase of puppets and other equipment. Members built a portable stage and voted to buy the ministry a new sound system. Women have assisted with costumes. Mt. Elmira offers support through attendance and publicity as well. The church averages 40 in morning services but may have 100 or more when the Meppets perform.

Daniel has remained active, being narrator for the group and working to publicize and schedule shows.

The puppeteers purchase tapes and pantomime to the recorded voices. They design their own programs for each performance. Meppets rehearse a minimum of 10 times to make each new show ready. One show is done three to four times, so the group now has a repertoire of nearly 20 scripts.



Meppets share God's grace through songs, Bible stories and skits.

Beginning rehearsals are done in front of a mirror with the stage curtain removed. Director Kay Underwood helps others evaluate the effectiveness of movements. All members work together through trial-and-error to finalize blocking and choreography.

The puppets have taken on personalities all their own. Puppeteer Todd Vandygriff explained that puppets are given different names to suit their roles, but some of them have the fate of being "type-cast." For example, "Stella's always kind of whining."

Daniel's initial dream was to make the gospel understandable to children. Vandygriff estimates the Meppets are geared to the needs of children and adults "about half and half. Children enjoy the songs more, while adults will relate to the skits."

Why did Mt. Elmira take on this particular ministry? "We're supposed to be salt," Daniel explained. "Too often we

want to keep the salt in the box. This is our way of getting out of the box." Daniel stated that since his congregation is so small, many other types of ministries would not be feasible, "but this is something we can do. This is our ministry—our outreach."

Daniel's daughter, Tonya, is also a puppeteer. She offered advice to other aspiring puppet groups. "You have to have the time and money to put into it . . . and a strong arm! You must be willing to work at it and the church has to be supportive."

Daniel added some cardinal rules of puppetry. "There are some things puppets never do: puppets never pray and they never extend the invitation."

He hopes the Meppets will be an inspiration to other small churches. "Everything we've learned, we've learned from other churches. We hope our ministry will show other small congregations this is something they can do."

## Prison ministry was "made to order" for Concord

by Pauline Stegall  
State Correspondent

The situation was made to order for Concord Baptist Church. And Concord was the answer to Jones' prayers.

"God brought us all together," affirmed Bob Lowery, pastor of Concord Baptist Church, Hopkinsville, Christian County Association. He spoke of a chain of events which led to the establishment of the West Kentucky Farm Center Baptist Fellowship.

Members of Concord Baptist had indicated interest in becoming involved in a prison ministry. Lowery contacted J. Bill Jones, his pastor while he was growing up in Princeton First Baptist Church. Jones, now retired from the pastorate, works as a church starter strategist with the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

The timing was good. Jones had just

learned of a special need at the West Kentucky Farm Center, a minimum security prison located between Fredonia and Eddyville.

Baptist ministry was established at the Center. Caldwell-Lyon Association had held services there for years.

"The ministry grew out of the Brotherhood. Our men went there monthly," stated Harold Greenfield, director of missions. "We held Bible study, seminary extension courses and six or seven years ago, with the help of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, we employed a part time chaplain."

For the past three years Doyle Eddings has filled this position. Eddings, pastor of New Bethel Baptist Church, Caldwell-Lyon Association, has been giving about 10 hours a week to the prison ministry.

The work grew as Eddings developed the organization of the project. Last

summer he led a revival team and saw an average attendance of 25. There were rededications and conversions. Survival Kits, which Eddings considers invaluable, were used as follow-up material.

"When the men were saved, some got excited about the Lord and the Word and wanted to be baptized. They wanted to take the Lord's Supper and one man wanted to place his tithe," Eddings continued.

It was at this point that Jones visited a prison service and became aware of the need for some type of fellowship. Since the inmates are not allowed to attend church outside the premises, he believed the solution was to find a sponsoring church for a fellowship group.

Bob Lowery enthusiastically presented the proposal to his members who received it unanimously.

Twelve members from Concord went to the Center Oct. 24. With 12 inmates, a mission fellowship was formed. Members were received in a watchcare relationship with Concord. They, and all future members, would be under the shepherding of the mission pastor and would have full fellowship. At that time, four men received baptism and the Lord's Supper was served.

The group meets for Bible study each Tuesday and Thursday evening in a small room and once a month in a larger area with a few members from Concord in attendance. The main function of Concord is to provide the level of support necessary to help the mission church carry out its own ministry among the residents. It also provides financial support for such things as literature, Christmas presents, fellowships and

personal needs. Concord is careful to avoid giving the impression of "taking over."

Eddings is mission pastor. "Some of these men are really on fire for the Lord," Eddings declared. "Two or three are the most committed men I have ever met. One man applied for the position of clerk. He wasn't too excited about the Lord. But the Lord led me to choose him. Since then, the fellow has seriously gotten into Bible study and has been unquestionably rehabilitated. His primary concern at the present is to reach his family for the Lord."

"Another man has really blossomed since he was saved. He hadn't had any scriptural background, so he said, 'Chaplain, you will just have to teach us.'"

A third inmate, recently released, has been reunited with his family, purchased a mobile home and is doing well.

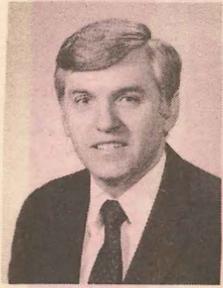
Some of the men have been interceding about spiritual needs of their peers and have seen direct answers to their prayers. They are extremely evangelistic and practice relationship evangelism, sometimes on the weight pile or on the recreation field. Occasionally they must be cautioned about their methods and warned not to use "strong-arm" tactics. They are reminded "what you are" will have more effect than "what you say."

In addition to the mission fellowship, the Direct Missions Department, KBC, has assisted in organizing three ministries at housing projects in Princeton. The sponsors are First Baptist Church, Princeton; Sugar Creek Baptist Church; and Second Baptist Church, Princeton.



The four men who worked to form the West Kentucky Farm Center Baptist fellowship (l-r): Harold Greenfield, director of missions, Caldwell-Lyon Association; Doyle Eddings, pastor, New Bethel Baptist Church; Bob Lowery, pastor, New Concord Baptist Church; J. Bill Jones, church starter strategist.

# mountains to the mississippi



**Curtis C. Mooney**  
Executive Director  
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## homes for children

### The ultimate pressure

As I read the paper over the weekend, I happened to look at the obituary page. I was struck by the suicide of one young man aged 17 who had been an honor student in his school. My thoughts ran from "How could this have happened?" to "What a loss."

More teenagers die in this nation from suicide than from any other single cause. One survey of 10,000 eighth to tenth graders found that one out of seven teenagers have attempted suicide.

In Plano, Tex., a fast growing very affluent suburb near Dallas, there have been so many children who have killed themselves that the school system is training teachers and counselors to try to prevent what has become an epidemic.

Why would children from the most affluent families with seemingly everything to live for be taking their own lives in such great numbers? To me part of the answer lies in the tremendous pressure being placed on children to yield dividends for their parents. David Elkind in *The Hurried Child* notes that parents are pressuring children "to perform, to mature and to succeed in ways that lend prestige to parents."

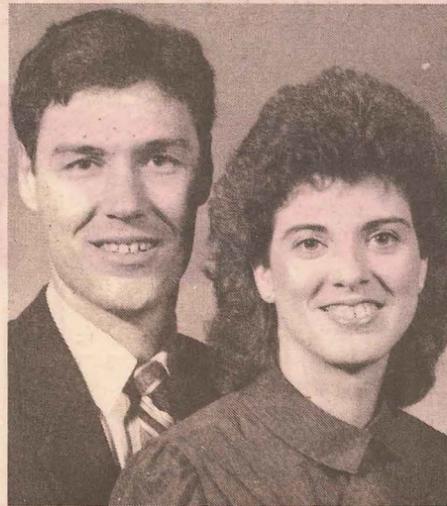
Such pressure and the stress it brings are a part of life but what seems to be happening today is that children are coming under tremendous pressure to succeed at younger ages. What might be appropriate for a college student is not for a high school or an elementary student.

In an age when both parents work, so little of their time is available for the children. If that time is spent on demanding greater performance, it may lead to a life situation where the child lives in constant stress.

That stress when coupled with what seems to adults to be insignificant circumstances may lead a child to take his or her own life. The youth do not have the life experience to see the bigger picture of life.

We as parents and church families must examine the pressure we are putting on our children. Is it appropriate for their age? Do we want them to succeed because it is best for them or do we want them to make us look good?

Teenage suicide is a very real problem today, one which would cause all parents to look more closely at their children's lives.



**Dr. and Mrs. George H. Martin**

### missions

**Dr. and Mrs. George H. Martin** were appointed missionaries by the Foreign Mission Board Dec. 13.

The Martins will live in Indonesia where he will teach in a seminary and they will be involved in a variety of outreach ministries.

Since 1985 he has been pastor of Kosmosdale Baptist Church, Long Run Association.

Born in Albany, Ga., Martin is the son of Myrtice Martin of Lakeland, Fla. and the late Bertram G. Martin. He received a BS degree from Florida State University, Tallahassee, and MDiv and ThD degrees from New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary.

He has been on the supplementary teaching staff at New Orleans Seminary and the auxiliary faculty at William Carey College, Hattiesburg, Miss. He also pastored Ft. Green (Fla.) Baptist Church.

Born in Winnfield, La., Mrs. Martin, the former Donna Shaw, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James T. Shaw of Shreveport, La. She received a BS degree from Louisiana State University School of Allied Health Sciences, New Orleans. She also attended Louisiana State University, Shreveport.

Since 1985 she has been a physical therapist at Saints Mary and Elizabeth Hospital, Louisville.

The Martins have two children: Paul Austin and Sarah Elisabeth. The family will go to Rockville, Va. in January for a seven-week orientation.

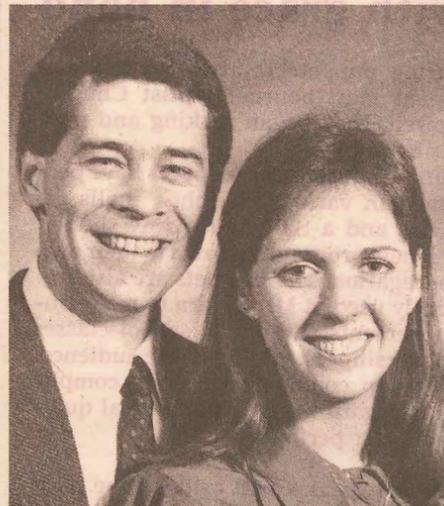
**Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Palmer** were among 31 people named missionaries by the Foreign Mission Board Dec. 13 at Central Baptist Church, Richmond, Va.

The Palmers will live in the Philippines where he will be working in agricultural development and they will be involved in a variety of outreach ministries.

Palmer attended Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville. They are members of Melbourne Heights Baptist Church, Long Run Association.

Born in Jackson, Tenn., Palmer is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald D. Palmer of Waverly. He received a BS degree from Union University, Jackson, and an MS degree from Murray (Ky.) State University. He has been a graduate assistant at Murray State University and a Foreign Mission Board journeyman in the Philippines.

Born and reared in Camden, Tenn., Mrs. Palmer, the former Regina Moore, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilburn H. Moore. She received a BS degree from Murray State University and achieved registered nurse standing by examina-



**Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Palmer**

tion in Kentucky. She has been a nurse in Murray and in Dickson, Tenn. and a journeyman with her husband in the Philippines.

The Palmers have two children: Daniel Jeffrey and Sarah Elisabeth. The family will go to Rockville, Va. in January for a seven-week orientation.

### congregations

**Southeast Lexington Baptist Church**, a mission of Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington, Elkhorn Association, reached several goals in 1988. The church held its first service Apr. 10. The mission church gave \$6524 to the Lottie Moon offering. Average worship attendance for 1988 was 57 and Christmas worship attendance was 102. Three church members participated in the Kentucky-Kenya partnership. Novella Bender, retired foreign missionary to Nigeria, is a member of the mission congregation. John Mark Toby is pastor.

Guest speaker at Louisville's **Valley Station Baptist Church**, 5415 Valley Station Rd., Sunday, Jan. 29 at 10:45 a.m. will be Carolyn Weatherford. She is executive director of the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union. Charles Shacklette is pastor of the church.



**Loyall First Baptist Church, Upper Cumberland Association** dedicated a new outdoor sign. The sign was donated by the James Meeks family in memory of Jimmy Meeks who died earlier this year.

### personnel

Southern Heights Baptist Church, Elkhorn Association, called **Brian Shoemaker** as minister of youth and music. Shoemaker is a graduate of Cumberland College and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He goes from Cumberland College where he was director of alumni affairs. He is married to Julie Ann Davis Shoemaker. Al Griffin is pastor.

**John Wall**, 79, retired in January after 42 years in Kentucky churches.

He received a silver tray from Severns Valley Association at a Christmas dinner Dec. 6.

His most recent pastorates have been in Severns Valley Association: Middle Creek Baptist Church for the past 11 years and Vertrees Baptist Church for three years prior.

He was ordained in 1946 at Gethsemane Baptist Church, South District Association, and pastored Muldraugh Hill Baptist Church, Central Association; Steubenville Baptist Church, Wayne Association; Buffalo Baptist Church, Severns Valley Association; Ashland Avenue Baptist Church, Northern Kentucky Association; Dry Ridge Baptist Church, Crittenden Association; and Cane Valley Baptist Church, Russell Creek Association.

He has also been on the state convention executive board for three terms. He will be available for supply work.

A reception was held at Middle Creek Baptist Church Sunday, Jan. 8 to honor Wall and his wife.

First Baptist Church, Barlow, West Union Association, called **David Akers** as youth minister. Donald E. Phelps is pastor.

**Wallace R. Lyle III** resigned as pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, West Union Association. He is a student at Mid-Continent Baptist College, Mayfield.

Grace Baptist Church, West Union Association, called **Joseph K. Estes** as pastor.

**Norman Ellis** is interim pastor of Grand Rivers Baptist Church, West Union Association.

**Ronald W. Green** resigned as minister of music and youth of First Baptist Church, LaCenter, West Union Association. He accepted a similar position at Southside Baptist Church, Caldwell-Lyon Association.

**Gary Childress** resigned as pastor of Spring Bayou Baptist Church, West Union Association, effective Jan. 8 to accept the pastorate of Trinity Baptist Church, Christian County Association.

Olaton Baptist Church, Ohio County Association, called **Paul Lawrence Jr.** as pastor.

**Taylor Bristow** is interim pastor of West Providence Baptist Church, Ohio County Association.

**Bill Collett** is new pastor of Ages Baptist Church, Upper Cumberland Association. He goes from New Riverside Baptist Church, Upper Cumberland Association.

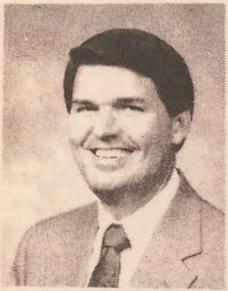
New Liberty Baptist Church, Liberty Association, called **Weldon Greer** as pastor. He goes from Lonoke Baptist Church, Hart County Association.

**Derek Staples** resigned as minister of youth and education at Lewisport Baptist Church, Blackford Association. He goes to First Baptist Church, St. Petersburg, Fla., as associate pastor and minister of outreach.

**R. J. Burpoe** resigned as pastor of Grace Baptist Church, Blood River Association. He goes to Bell City Baptist Church, Graves County Association, as pastor.

# christian education

## Sharing Jesus a prerequisite to NOBTS graduation



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

### clear creek chronicle

#### Your will be done

I never met Bertha Mae Wright and Charles I. Henry but they have blessed my life and the ministry of Clear Creek. 1988 estate bequests from these two western Kentucky Baptists totaled \$254,000. The sovereign Lord sent it our way in a time of significant need. These gifts were the result of sound teaching on Christian stewardship. Mrs. Wright heard it in First Baptist, Owensboro and Mr. Henry received it from Madisonville First Baptist.

Everyone will "leave their wealth to others" (Psalm 49:10). A Christian has the opportunity and responsibility to decide the proper dispersion of his possessions. The question "whose shall these things be?" can be answered while we live. The answer can be given through a will which legally commits the individual's intentions. Without such a document the decision is left to the state. The state lays aside personal sentiment, emotions, intentions and adheres only to the law. Each of us has something that will go to someone. Irresponsible stewardship leaves the decision to others.

Margaret Applegarth said of a Christian will: "It takes a lawyer, in the end, to phrase it legally but it takes a Redeemer to plan it regally-immortal things in your mortal hands." Bequests made and causes benefited by your will can reflect Christian faith and values. A vital Christian testimony continues after death, until Jesus comes.

Each year most of our students receive scholarship grants and workshops made possible by interest from permanently invested estate gifts. A \$2000 bequest will supply almost \$200 in scholarship funds. Unrestricted bequests offer flexibility to meet current needs or building projects. Trust funds are needed to endow teaching positions, provide operation costs, underwrite mission partnership teams, library expansion and many other needs.

Personal stewardship does not stop at death. "Whether we live or whether we die we are the Lord's" (Rom. 14:8-9). Each Christian is accountable for the manner in which his possessions are disposed. It is a blessing to give now. Now is also the time to prepare a Christian will and let your faith speak after death. Our staff or the Kentucky Baptist Foundation is available to assist you.

"I had never led anyone to the Lord before I came to New Orleans Seminary" is a classic response Charles Kelley Jr. hears every semester from at least one of his students.

As assistant professor of evangelism at New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary, Kelley is responsible for organizing a class every student must take to graduate, "Continuing Witness Training." The seminary also requires all its students to participate in gospel visitation and personal evangelism. "Every evangelism class requires five verbatims because we believe you can't learn to witness without actually doing it," said Kelley. These verbatims are dialogs of actual instances in which students share about the love of Christ.

Active personal evangelism is a necessity "because it's the only way you really learn how to do evangelism. When you're out there toe-to-toe with the lost person, the Holy Spirit becomes your instructor and that's the kind of classroom we want to set up," Kelley explained.

"Anyone who doesn't ever plant any seed won't ever see a harvest," Kelley said.

"We're trying to address our convention's problem of (a decline in) evangelism. We're trying to get pastors, music leaders and missionaries to (feel at ease) sharing the gospel. We hope in the long run it will help revitalize our convention's commitment to evangelism.

"Evangelism is every Christian's responsibility; therefore it is every minister's responsibility."

In a typical semester Continuing Witness Training teams from the seminary work with 25 churches, knock on 3500 doors, talk to 1500 people and lead 100 people to faith in Christ, said Kelley, noting, "We're planting seeds I think will result one day in a revival in New Orleans."

Teams from the seminary work closely with local churches in their visitation. As a result new Christians are linked with churches to help nurture their faith

in Christ and churches have an extended outreach ministry.

"One of the founding purposes of New Orleans Seminary (was) to evangelize the city of New Orleans. This is our way of involving every student directly in the task of evangelizing the city," Kelley said.

Some students who plan to be ministers could not give the plan of salvation or scripture references before taking his classes, he said. And every semester, at least one student will lead a person to Christ for the first time in his life.

"The value of doing this in an educa-

tional setting is it allows people to talk and reflect about their experiences," he said. Also, in a classroom situation, everyone is learning, so unsuccessful experiences are not uncommon and students feel comfortable asking for help from the professor.

And because of the unique location of the seminary, students are exposed to the problems of urban evangelism in the process. "Once a student goes door-to-door for a semester in New Orleans, they'll not encounter a lot that will surprise them the rest of their ministry," said Kelley. (BP)



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Those who wish to make a memorial gift through Cumberland College may do so by sending the gift, in any amount, to Cumberland College, Box 191, Williamsburg, Kentucky 40769. The amount of the gift is, of course, held in confidence. Upon receiving your LIVING GIFT, the College will notify the family that you have made a donation.

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# baptist news in brief

## All-State youth choir auditions set

High school youth interested in the All-State Youth Choir program this summer should register for auditions to be held Feb. 11, 18, 25, Mar. 4 and 11.

Youths must be active members of churches in the Kentucky Baptist Convention, having completed the 9th, 10th, 11th or 12th grade and successfully complete an audition.

Auditions will be held Saturday, Feb. 11 at Ashland Rose Hill Baptist; Louisville Melbourne Heights Baptist; Paducah Lone Oak Baptist; and Corbin First Baptist.

Feb. 18 auditions will be held at Bowling Green Eastwood Baptist in connection with the state youth choir festival.

Feb. 25 auditions will be at Madisonville First Baptist and Mar. 4 at Lexington Immanuel Baptist. Both of these au-

ditions are in connection with two state handbell festivals.

Auditions will conclude Mar. 11 at Florence Baptist; Henderson Immanuel Baptist; Somerset First Baptist; and Hazard First Baptist.

Auditions will begin at 10 a.m. and continue until all have been heard. Auditions consist of a solo selected by the youth and the sightreading of a hymn picked by the auditioner.

Audition registration forms may be obtained from the Church Music Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, Box 43433, Middletown, KY 40243.

The audition fee is \$5. The audition registration form must be mailed two weeks prior to the selected audition date.

## Urgent request for teachers in China

Cooperative Services International, the Southern Baptist organization which provides personnel and services to countries where missionaries do not work, has received more requests from colleges and universities in China for English teachers than it can fill with current applicants.

The Chinese schools are seeking teachers of English as a second language for terms ranging from 10 months to two years, beginning next August. They include such institutions as the Shanghai Institute of Mechanical Engineering, Tianjin University, Shenyang Industrial

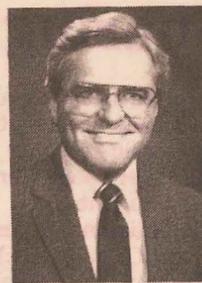
Institute and Henan Medical University in Zhengzhou.

CSI relates directly to some Chinese institutions and also provides teachers through the Amity Foundation, which was formed by Chinese Christians and other Chinese citizens to serve the needs of their society.

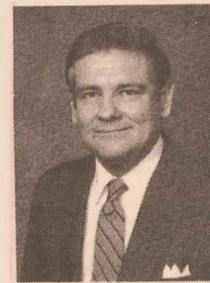
Applicants should be college graduates. Certification in teaching English as a second language also is preferred but not required. Interested persons should write CSI '89, P. O. Box 6767, Richmond, 23230, or call Glenn Prescott at (804) 353-0151.



Pollard



McKeever



Fuller

## National doctrine conference set for Feb. 20-22 in Charlotte, N. C.

"The Doctrines Baptists Believe" will be the focus of the 1989 National Baptist Doctrine Conference to be held Feb. 20-22 at First Baptist Church, Charlotte, N. C.

The conference, sponsored by the Baptist Sunday School Board's Church Training Department, begins Monday afternoon, Feb. 20, and concludes Wednesday at 11:30 a.m.

Speakers include Roy Edgemon, director of the Church Training Department and author of the 1989 Baptist Doctrine Study textbook; Charles Fuller, pastor of First Baptist Church, Roanoke, Va.; Frank Pollard, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss.; Joe McKeever, pastor of First Baptist Church, Charlotte; and Bill Stephens and Art Criscoe of the board's Church Training Department.

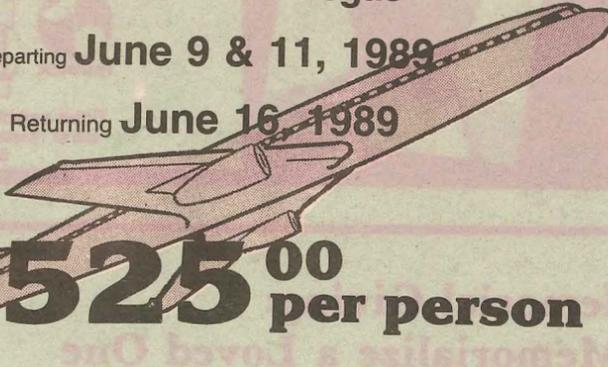
Topics to be addressed include God's sovereignty, the Bible, the doctrine of the fall and sin, the doctrine of Christ, the doctrine of atonement, the doctrine of salvation, doctrines of heaven, hell and judgment and the doctrine of the second coming.

The conference is planned to provide educational enrichment about key doctrines and to help pastors and church leaders prepare to conduct Baptist Doctrine Study in their churches, according to Steve Williams, conference coordinator.

No advance registration is required. For more information, write to Williams at the Sunday School Board, Church Training Department, MSN 150, 127 Ninth Avenue North, Nashville, TN 37234.

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## "Editorial voice" of laity ceases its publication

Baptist Laity Journal, the "editorial voice" of Laity for the Baptist Faith and Message, ceased regular publication Dec. 31, 1988, according to Randy Fields, chairman of the Texas-based Laity For.

The announcement came after formal organization of a new organization Dec. 15-16 in Dallas called Baptists Committed to the Southern Baptist Convention. Fields, a San Antonio attorney who participated in the organizational meeting of Baptists Committed, told Baptist Press: "Laity For will not cease to exist. It will continue to be a voice for disseminating what we feel is the proper information. In the past, Baptist Laity Journal has not been used for hard news; it has been an editorial piece. It has been a voice to counteract some of the other editorial material coming from the other side (of the SBC controversy)."

He said Laity Journal will cease to be published on "a regular basis, but we plan to publish under that name or a more representative name in the future. I anticipate it will be published at least once and maybe a couple of times prior to the SBC in Las Vegas (1989 annual meeting)."

Laity For also closed its office in Dallas effective Dec. 31.

"J. Neil Rodgers (who has been the only staff member of Laity For) will no longer be associated with us as an employe of the group, nor will we have an office in Dallas," Fields said, adding the organization "may establish another office, eventually." Baptist Press was unable to contact Rodgers, who has been employed by Laity For for the past three years.

On another matter, Fields commented Baptists Committed "has been discussing having an office of some kind in Nashville, and the possibility of having through that office a source of news dissemination. That is an alternative in the event Baptist Press is fully and completely taken over and dominated by ultrafundamentalists."

He commented, however, that Baptist Press is continuing to operate "in a very credible manner, in my opinion." Baptist Press, the news service of the Southern Baptist Convention, is part of the structure of the SBC Executive committee, which has offices in Nashville. (BP)

## Strangulation—not fire causes missionary's death

San Angelo police have charged a 35-year-old parolee from Houston with murder in the Nov. 9 strangulation death of Mrs. Ona Jones.

Jerry Don Faye, 35, was arrested Dec. 20 on a burglary warrant in an unrelated case but gave a voluntary statement about the death of Mrs. Jones. Faye is being held in Tom Green County Jail on charges of murder and burglary of two other habitations.

Mrs. Jones, 57, a retired Southern Baptist missionary who was in Zimbabwe 32 years, was found dead in her burning house at the Baptist Memorials Geriatric Center in San Angelo shortly before 3 a.m. Nov. 9. Her husband, Sam, was away attending a Bible conference at Alto Frio Encampment.

At first it was thought she was a victim of the fire, but San Angelo fire investigators determined the blaze had been deliberately set and an autopsy revealed Mrs. Jones had been strangled to death. (BP)

## SBC centrist coalition forms; coordinator named

About two dozen Southern Baptists from around the nation—saying they represent the mainstream in the Southern Baptist Convention—met in Dallas in mid December to form what they call a "centrist" coalition.

The organization, to be called Baptists Committed to the Southern Baptist Convention, also hired a full time "coordinator," David Currie of Paint Rock, Tex., to "get the movement underway in the states."

A news release issued by Currie after the Dec. 15-16 meeting said the group will "direct its message toward the 'broad center' of Southern Baptists who are disenchanted with the fundamentalist takeover of the convention and yet do not wish to abandon the convention or start a new denomination."

Winfred Moore, pastor of First Baptist Church, Amarillo, Tex., called the December meeting and will be chairman of the group. An executive committee will be named later, he said. Moore, former first vice president of the SBC and twice candidate for president, said: "We are traditional, mainstream, conservative Southern Baptists who are deeply committed to this convention and its historic principles. These principles, which are our heritage and legacy, and which must be preserved if our convention is to survive, include the priesthood of the believer, the autonomy of the local church, the separation of church and state and cooperative missions."

## Increase misses '88 goal—goal not met since 1981

Catch-up contributions in November and December pushed total Southern Baptist gifts to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions to a record \$30.8 million at the end of 1988.

Even though the \$30,854,398 was a record for the offering, total gifts fell short of the \$37.5 million goal for 1988 and did not keep pace with a 4.5 percent inflation rate, Home Mission Board president Larry Lewis noted.

Lewis announced the final tabulations during a meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union executive board in Birmingham, Ala., in early January.

The \$30.8 million is an increase of \$611,192, or 2.02 percent, over the \$30.2 million given through the offering in 1987.

Lewis said he was pleased that Southern Baptists responded to an appeal in September to dig deeper into their pockets and catch up on the offering.

In September, Lewis said that if contributions continued at the same rate for the rest of the year, the board would receive an estimated \$30.4 million, an increase of only \$151,000, or 0.5 percent. That amount would have been the lowest percentage increase in Annie Armstrong Offering giving since 1970, when the offering dropped 1.6 percent, he said.

Instead, when final 1988 figures were tabulated, the 2 percent increase ranked the third-lowest in the last 25 years. Offering gifts decreased in 1970, and increased only 1.37 percent in 1967.

During the past 15 years, gifts through the special offering have increased an average of 11.3 percent each year, or 5.15 percent when adjusted for inflation, Lewis noted. The annual offering for home missions has not reached its goal since 1981. (BP)

"Surely Southern Baptists can stop fighting and unite under these principles which have historically defined us as a group. With contributions down, baptisms down and unity shattered, enough is enough. Southern Baptists want and deserve a group to lead us out of this despair, a group which is truly committed to all that Southern Baptists have been in the past and which has a vision of cooperative mission for the future which includes all Southern Baptists. We support the restoration of our convention, not its destruction."

Although the news release said the group formally organized at the December meeting, a group also calling itself Baptists Committed to the Southern Baptist Convention sent out a mass mailing to more than 34,000 Southern Baptist churches in advance of the 1988 annual meeting of the SBC. The mailing included a 10-minute recorded cassette tape from Moore and a brochure produced by Baptists Committed to the Southern Baptist Convention. The mailing stirred controversy in the SBC because of various charges the brochure made against conservative leaders.

Paul Pressler, a Houston appeals court judge who was specifically men-

tioned in the brochure, responded to Baptists Committed by noting: "It appears to be a reorganization of the same people who for 10 years have been resisting a return to biblical theology. Baptists need to be working together to promote the Cooperative Program, evangelism and missions, not starting new political organizations that will be divisive and counterproductive to the welfare of the convention."

Richard Jackson, pastor of North Phoenix (Ariz.) Baptist Church, said he attended a small meeting of six people in advance of the larger meeting to discuss the issues but did not attend the organizational meeting.

"We talked about what they were going to talk about," Jackson said. "I went to the meeting because I want a place for loyal, committed Southern Baptists to belong."

Randy Fields, a San Antonio, Tex., attorney and chairman of Laity for the Baptist Faith and Message, said, "I see Baptists Committed as a loose cooperative effort between many groups. We are not a monolithic body, but various groups who do not agree on everything. We see ourselves as centrists, representing the mainstream." (BP)



## DATING TODAY

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"Dating Today" is a joint production of the Family Ministry and Church Administration departments of the Baptist Sunday School Board.

# baptist forum

## Mission church commends Glendale

I am writing you a note because I feel the good church the Lord has allowed me to pastor for seven-and-a-half years deserves recognition for her love in mission-giving. The church has doubled its mission giving in these years and is now giving 30-35 percent of its annual receipts to Southern Baptist mission causes, locally and abroad. But this is not the reason I am writing.

I want to commend the Glendale Children's Home for their fine work and urge other pastors to invite the "Homeland Singers" from Glendale to visit their churches.

The Glendale group visited Kevil Baptist Church in October, giving testimony and song. In November, members of Kevil Baptist gave cattle to Glendale and gave a love gift to Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children of \$10,854. Kevil is not a large church, running just over 100 in Sunday school, but her people have BIG hearts, and I rejoice in the Lord for them.

J. Duane Holland  
Kevil

## Help SBC Committee on Nominations

Your Nominating Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention has the responsibility of nominating people to the different offices of the SBC. If you wish to make any recommendations you may send the information to either Lester Nash, 1942 Clay Street, Henderson, KY 42420 or Ronald E. Meridith, 2935 Goose Creek Road, Louisville, KY 40241.

Lester L. Nash  
Henderson

*Editor's Note: Nash asked this to be run and Western Recorder is pleased to comply and thus invite Kentuckians to submit nominations to the two men named above. These men are responsible for submitting nominations for Executive Committee membership and*

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trustees for the Foreign Mission Board, Sunday School Board, Annuity Board, Southern Seminary, Southeastern Seminary, Golden Gate Seminary and the Radio and Television Commission.

## Praise for a teacher

In a gesture that is long overdue I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the work of Ira V. (Jack) Birdwhistell, campus minister at Georgetown College.

In my few years as a student and campus ministry intern at Georgetown, I have been very fortunate to reap many benefits from the rich wisdom of Jack Birdwhistell. His caring involvement, his ability to communicate and his unassuming openness is, as far as I am concerned, a model for all ministers.

As a current minister of youth I hope to follow his lead in sharing the love and challenge of Jesus Christ.

It is my hope that Georgetown College and the Kentucky Baptist Convention Student Department realize the gem in their midst.

Tony Curnutte  
Ft. Mitchell

## Explanation demanded

I am writing upon request of the Graves County Baptist Association to make known our stand to the Kentucky Baptist Convention officers and Western Recorder concerning the educational report presented by Jerry Hopkins during our last meeting. We as Graves County Baptists are confused with the stand of Kentucky Baptists voting down an educational report. Such an action as this without an explanation to Mid-Continent Baptist College disturbs this entire association.

We are appalled to know that while we unite to seek the salvation of souls in places of missions this world over, and of late the link-up with Kenya, we could turn down a single educational report without caring for souls in our own state.

This shows us just how united we are as Kentucky Baptists. This also shows us how indifferent so many are to the western part of our state and the work being done here.

We believe much political action was taken against this college during our convention. This, as many have said, is a reflection of how the convention feels about western Kentucky churches. We believe a course of action should be taken to rectify such a division that has been brought about from an educational report.

We do not take lightly the disrespect shown to Mid-Continent Baptist College. This college represents a life work to a great network of men and women representing over 500 churches. I know this has been brought to your attention more than once. We need an explanation as to why this report was turned down.

I hope to hear from you so I may address our association and that we may address our churches.

Barry Hardison, Clerk  
Graves County Baptist Association

## Recognize diversity

As a history major, I like your editorial of Dec. 20 and join you in a crusade for more study of our history.

Of course not all of us would agree with the early part of Leon McBeth's work. Some of us are not yet persuaded Baptists arose ex nihilo from the fertile brain of John Smyth. We would hope

denominationally produced material would reflect that diversity!

As to our church-state situation, Yasser Arafat has given us the handle to work out a solution.

When he "recognized" Israel he wasn't just finding out about its existence, nor was he by any stretch of the imagination "endorsing" it. It was far from a "union of Israel and the PLO."

Government has a duty to recognize the diverse forms of religion existing in the state; it has a duty not to endorse any of them or all of them together.

Of course working out the specifics is where the water hits the wheel and is not as easy as making the statement. But most of us are not asking for endorsement or giving any. We just want recognition.

R. Charles Blair  
Director of Missions  
West Kentucky Association

## Praise for Mid-Continent

At the KBC meeting in Owensboro Jerry Hopkins gave the report on convention wide education and mentioned the name of Mid-Continent Baptist College in Mayfield. Later in the convention the name of the college was removed by vote of the convention. Technically it was probably o.k., but spiritually and cooperatively I feel it was bad judgement.

Hopkins did not mean any harm, because I know him better than that. He simply was sharing that Mid-Continent is part of education in Kentucky. In fact Mid-Continent is Southern Baptist education in western Kentucky.

When I surrendered to the ministry, the first person who came to our house was O. C. Markham, president at the college at that time. He shared how important it was for my brother David and myself to have a college education. In the first chapel service, L. R. Riley spoke and said, "Boys, we have a way among Kentucky Baptists, and Southern Baptists to support missions and it is the best in the world. It is called the Cooperative Program."

Several years ago churches in this area did not support missions as they should, but largely because of Mid-Continent education, western Kentucky is now one of the leading mission support areas.

The person who made the motion to exclude Mid-Continent's name does not understand Mid-Continent's role in Southern Baptist life. I would hope at the next convention there could be a nice resolution to support our college in prayer and cooperation in what we are trying to accomplish.

Our beloved president, Lavern Butler, is known as a Bible believing, Bible loving, conservative Baptist, and that is good theology to live with and die with. We love him and he loves pastors and is doing a wonderful job to make Mid-Continent a greater institution for the cause of Christ.

This is my personal feeling and I wanted to say a good word about the college where I was educated.

C. C. Brasher Jr., Pastor  
Briensburg Baptist Church

*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.*



James H. Cox  
Associate Editor

## fourth estate

### Winds of change, II

The winds of change that began to blow across the denomination in 1979 would create a storm the likes of which Southern Baptists had not seen since the days of Landmarkism and slavery. A hint of what was coming surfaced at a spring meeting of the Baptist Faith and Message Fellowship in Memphis, Tenn. The group's president, Harold Lindsell, called for liberals within the SBC to leave it, even if it meant losing 500,000 church members.

As if that didn't shock autonomous Baptists enough, a Baptist Press story prior to the SBC meeting that summer in Houston gave still more insight. Paige Patterson, president of Criswell Center for Biblical Studies, Dallas, and Houston appellate judge Paul Pressler had appeared in meetings in at least 15 states encouraging people to bring "a full constituency" of messengers to the convention. Their purpose: to elect an unnamed candidate "who believes in the inerrancy of the Bible." Candidates named by the pair as "acceptable": Jerry Vines, Bailey Smith, Richard Jackson, Adrian Rogers, Homer Lindsay Jr., John Bisagno.

A follow-up to the big meeting in Houston was held in Louisville that fall. Rogers, W. A. Criswell and evangelist James Robison addressed a Robison-sponsored Heart of America Conference at Southern Seminary.

A repercussion of the winds of change occurred at Georgia's state convention that year. Editor Jack U. Harwell survived heated attempts to fire him for alleged liberal views toward biblical infallibility. He was similarly supported in 1987 but fired a few weeks later by the Georgia Baptist executive committee. His termination, while extreme, was symptomatic of a controversy that has literally touched millions over the decade.

The nineties offer unlimited opportunities for cultivation and growth. If Southern Baptists are to meet their goal adopted in the mid-seventies of reaching every person on earth with the gospel by the turn of the century, time is short and the clock is ticking.

Will the controversy of the last decade negate the good we had hoped to do? Our experiences in the eighties undoubtedly will impact all we intend to accomplish in the century's final decade. Let us pray Baptists can run the race before them while it is day.

Louisa F. Tarkington said it for me:  
*I wish there were some wonderful place*

*Called the Land of Beginning Again;  
Where all our mistakes and all our heartaches*

*Could be dropped, like a shabby old coat at the door,  
And never put on again.*

# 'I told you so' may be heard in Kentucky

*D. J. Abernathy is executive director of United Christian Action, Jacksonville, Fla. His realistic appraisal of Florida's passage and implementation of a state lottery suggests how badly things can get in its first year of operation. It appeared Jan. 5 in the Florida Baptist Witness. There is little reason to believe Kentuckians who voted against a similar bill in 1988 will not soon have reason to also say "I told you so."*

by D. J. Abernathy

Nobody likes to hear the words "I told you so." But Florida was warned by every known means of the danger of getting into a state-operated gambling enterprise called the lottery.

The ugliest feature of the lottery is that the very agent that is supposed to protect the citizens from evil is promoting evil. The state government, which is in existence for the sole purpose of protecting the welfare of its people, has turned upon them like a pit bull that

goes his owner in the barnyard.

We cannot explain it away by saying, "The people got what they voted for." What will we legalize next?

Gambling is addictive and the state government has become addicted. If it were not enough to make the lottery available, we now are dismayed, embarrassed and chagrined to see the shameless promotion of the lottery in the newspapers and on television.

Even the confirmed lottery addicts in Florida are beginning to admit that we have been duped. To put the industry back on a paying basis after a nose dive in sales, the lottery industry will spare no expense to recruit more gamblers.

The building of a gambling clientele is like giving an underage kid his first cigarette or his first joint of marijuana. You might expect that of a bum in the alley, but who would think a judge, policeman or other image of law and order would do that? State government is doing a fast sell of the gambling business to innocent nongamblers. Once hooked they may be irretrievable. Why should the government entice people today to do what it would have put them in jail for yesterday?

The state government becomes a law-breaker because it fails to protect the citizen against the ravages of financial despair. If the state government were subject to the law of truth in advertising which it advocates, the state lottery would be declared illegal and the lottery commission would be indicted.

According to the *Wall Street Journal*:

"In order to attract financially unsophisticated people to the lottery, the state deliberately misrepresents the winnings in exactly the same way finance companies used to do their interest rates before the Truth-in-Lending Law. It is ironic that today not even the sleaziest moneylender is permitted to do things that state lotteries do as a matter of routine."

Rebecca Paul, commissioner of the lottery in Florida, brings all the big winners to the front pages of the newspapers and to the television screen. She has not told us, however, that for a recent \$54 million dollar winner to win, the rest of the ticket buyers had to lose \$108 million.

While the state government and the lottery commission are to blame, the press enters into the deception by accepting false advertising. The ads vigorously promote schemes to entice nongamblers to become gamblers and confirmed gamblers to gamble more. It is the most despicable government policy in the history of America.

The numbers racket that we have legalized and named the lottery is a disgrace to our state. Education in Florida, which was to have been the big recipient of funds, will never receive more than a token amount of money. Our new education for millions of innocent children that it is all right to gamble.

"I told you so." They are despicable words, I know. But I did.

## called to pray



Pray that new leadership will arise in our church and that we'll all have courage to witness as we should

here. Querétaro is a colonial city founded in 1531. Doors are closed to the gospel. Ask God for a breakthrough among the Queretanos.

—Mary Jane Allred, fraternal representative to Mexican Baptists

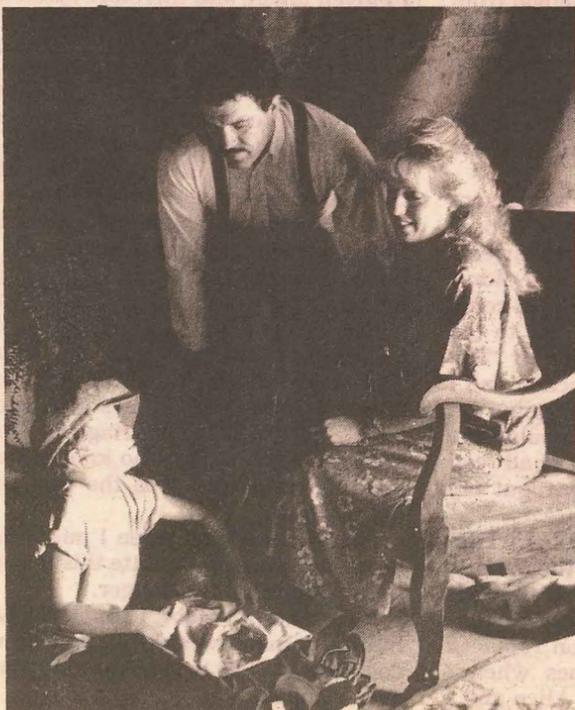


Call the PrayerLine 24 hours a day  
1-800-ALL-SEEK  
(In Virginia, 1-804-355-6581)

## The Boy Who Never Forgot . . . . . that January is make your will month

George Dame lived in Little Rock Arkansas as a child.

His family faced difficult times on several occasions. Gifts of food and clothing from the Second Baptist Church helped his family.



When he became an adult, Mr. Dame never forgot the expressions of love shown by the church. At his death in 1981 the church was notified that a perpetual fund, setup in Mr. Dame's Will, would provide income for the church to minister to needy families during the Christmas season.

Each year, church leaders, following the guidelines of the fund take needy families shopping with an allotment of approximately \$75 per child.

Year after year the fund has grown. In 1987 more than 950 children had a happier Christmas because Mr. Dame did not forget them in his Will.

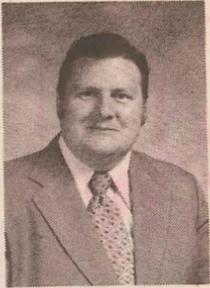
If you do not have a Will make one this month. Plan to invest in some ongoing ministry through the Kentucky Baptist Foundation.

Contact us today and let us help you help others.

Richard G. Carnes  
Kentucky Baptist Foundation  
P.O. Box 43433  
Middletown, Kentucky 40243-0433  
(502) 245-4101

- I would like more information on Wills and Estate Planning.
- I would like more information on the Foundation and the services it offers.
- I would appreciate a visit from a Foundation representative (without cost or obligation).

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_  
 TELEPHONE NO. (DAY) \_\_\_\_\_ (NIGHT) \_\_\_\_\_  
 CHURCH \_\_\_\_\_



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

## oneida journal

### A salesman writes

"You might not remember but my old company installed your first eight computers back in 1982. I hope that program has continued to grow. With school underway again, I know there is a need for additional funds to provide a quality educational program for your ever growing student body. Please accept this small gift."

Everyday we are surprised and delighted to hear from some of the most unexpected people. When we ordered our first computers we didn't have a dime or the promise of a dime for such. But they arrived just in time to have ready for the start of school that fall and by the time they got here we had enough money to pay for them. Had we not stepped out on faith and made the order when we did, another group of Oneida's students would have left us without any computer training.

Our computer program has grown many-fold and we can handle as many as 200 students daily, each working with the computers at least one hour. Many students spend two or three hours daily in our beautiful computer lab which is kept open each weekday evening until 9:15 p.m. and each weekend afternoon. The smallest sixth grader is free to use the lab just like the biggest senior.

The state of Kentucky does not include computer training as a requirement for graduation, but Oneida does. We also require at least one year of Bible study and a course in Appalachian studies in addition to state requirements.

A dear lady writes: "Recently I was

with the group from Severns Valley Baptist Church who toured Oneida campus. We enjoyed hearing the choir practice and the good lunch you provided. The work you are doing in giving young people opportunities is wonderful."

An active member of the Reformed Church in America writes from Denver, Col.: "I just finished reading the Oneida Mountaineer which I always enjoy. You will remember that I have visited your campus a couple of times. I support my own church projects but I am interested in Oneida also. Enclosed is another gift to use as needed."

From the state of Washington, a couple writes: "Our contributions won't be an excessive amount each month but we have decided to direct offerings to Oneida because we have heard so much about how God's word is being taught and lived and how effectively souls are being won to Jesus each day."

From Evansville, Ind.: "Thank you so much for sharing with us at our annual meeting of Southwestern Indiana Baptists. There were so many comments about your presentation. I do hope that people will do more than just talk. The enclosed check is for Oneida."

From New Richmond, Oh.: "We stopped at the Oneida Craft House last Thursday and bought your book Mountain Rising. It is so interesting. We plan to come back and see the entire school later."

From Hendersonville, N. C.: "It was so good to meet you the early part of August and to see a part of Oneida. I am very impressed that a great work is being done for the cause of Christ and the molding of young lives. I do plan to come back."

A former public school teacher writes: "My wife and I have decided to double our monthly gift to Oneida as long as we can. We know from our visits that you are doing a great service to the youth in your area and beyond. I average about 25 hours of weekly volunteer work at our local hospital."

The pastor of an Owensboro area church writes: "All our members want to thank you for laboring so faithfully for the Lord and for the great job that Oneida is doing. Our offerings may be used wherever they are most needed."

From Erlanger, Ky.: "Your film 'Oneida—A Special Place' was shown at our monthly meeting of Baptist Women. All enjoyed it very much. We are so glad to know that in spite of the drought, you had good gardens with plenty of vegetables and stored up for the winter."

May we hear from you?



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

## sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR JAN. 22, 1989

### Life and work series

### Exercising moral discipline

**I Cor. 4:18-21** Apparently Paul's announcement that he was sending Timothy led some of his proud and arrogant critics to conclude that he was afraid to face them himself. Paul let them know that he was coming to visit them if it were the Lord's will for him. All of his plans and purposes were subject to and contingent upon the will of God.

**I Cor. 5:1-2** It was a widely known and undisputed fact that there was in the church at Corinth a notorious case of incestuous immorality involving a young man and his stepmother. The members of the church did not show any disposition to deal with this disgraceful conduct of one of their members. Instead of mourning over the downfall of one of their members and the scandal which he had brought upon their church, the proud members went right on pretending that everything was all right.

**I Cor. 5:3-5** With righteous indignation Paul sternly reproved the church for her failure to do her duty in disciplining this sinful member.

**I Cor. 5:6-8** Paul suggested the church rid itself of the pernicious influence of this immoral member by excluding him from the membership. His removal from the membership of the church might

bring him to his senses and be restored to fellowship.

It is not surprising that many non-Christians do not have any respect for churches who condone those who live immoral and sinful lives. A church cannot be strong and Christ-honoring which does not maintain moral purity.

### International series

### Forgiveness: a measure of love

**Luke 7:36-50** Simon was a member of the popular, patriotic and powerful group called Pharisees. We are not told what motive prompted him to invite Christ to dine with him. Obviously, it was not because of admiration for or sympathy with Christ. Perhaps hostility caused Simon to be anxious to get Christ where he could listen to his words and observe his actions.

Christ accepted Simon's invitation and joined the other guests at the appointed time. When he entered the house the servants ignored him and self-righteous Simon withheld the customary salutation and welcome.

Hearing that Christ was in Simon's house, an unnamed woman who had been notorious for her life of sin and shame, came uninvited and stationed herself behind Christ at his feet.

Evidently previously she had listened to Christ as he had preached and was led to a personal faith in Christ as Saviour. She entered Simon's house to express her gratitude to Christ for forgiving her sins and transforming her life. She shed copious tears which rained down so abundantly that they moistened Christ's feet. She wiped away her tears from his feet with her long hair, then smothered them with repeated kisses as an expression of gratitude and affection for him. She also opened her flask of precious ointment and emptied its fragrant contents upon his feet.

Because Christ tolerated the attentions of a woman of such bad repute, Simon was greatly perplexed. Reading Simon's thoughts, Christ courteously remarked: "Simon I have something to say unto thee," and the Pharisee replied, "Master, say on." Christ then told the story of the man with two debtors, one of whom owed ten times as much as the other. Neither debtor could pay, so the creditor forgave both of them. Christ informed Simon that this woman had been forgiven much, and therefore loved him devotedly.

Passing into a new phase of life together deserves more than the "same old me." Not that the "same old me" is all that bad. But because somewhere within the two of us lies the capacity for each to lift the other to a higher level of affection, appreciation and pleasure. It's no crazy, romantic resolution accompanied by candlelight and music. Rather, it is a deep desire that springs from the awareness of an older man who knows that more of life is behind him than ahead of him; who knows that life is "gift" and a good marriage is God's greatest human gift; who knows that a good marriage deserves the best from the partners.

There was a time when I might have been embarrassed to write this for public consumption. No longer.

As a matter of fact, I think the Lord himself joins in with all of us who will covenant in 1989 to make our marriages even stronger.

Now, if you will excuse me, I guess I'll start with a stop at the florist.



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

## on mission together

### Roses

The first couple of days back in the office after New Year's were a bit of a drag. Nothing wrong; no nasty letters from constituency; and no urgent internal problems.

I suppose the "drag" came from the transition of "holiday" to "job." I think everyone I saw exhibited a bit of the "drag" with the exception, perhaps, of those mothers whose children were back in school. Their faces seemed radiant.

My last two columns were written before Christmas to accommodate Western Recorder's schedule so their staff

could have a holiday like everyone else.

Now I'm back at my desk writing what is really my first column in the New Year.

As I look back on the holiday season, I think I have less to regret than in previous years. I was told that I was sweeter, seemed to have more fun and didn't get as sentimental as everyone has come to expect. However, when I got to the part in our traditional reading of "The Littlest Angel" my voice cracked and I had to pause awhile before going on with it. I really think they all would have been terribly disappointed if I had read it from beginning to end without my "sentimental interruption."

No matter how hard I tried—and I did try—I could not prevent the empty, sinking feeling I had when all the kids were gone. But that lasted only 15 minutes, maybe. For it was soon replaced by the euphoria that comes when I realize that after 31 years, Alice and I are "free" again... well, almost. Thus my main resolution.

## Being first means giving up something—sometimes



Miss Mayhall

by Eric Miller

Janet Mayhall gave up her determination to get married and became the first Southern Baptist career foreign missionary appointed to work with the deaf.

She didn't plan it that way, but that's the way it worked out when Miss Mayhall was appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in December to go to Colombia.

### Times, they are changing says early friend of Church Training program

by Terri Lackey

At three years old, Ruth Prince was already actively involved in Church Training.

"I stood up and spoke—recited a poem really—in Training Union class. I can't really remember, but that's what my mother told me," said Mrs. Prince, winner of the annual Friend of Church Training Award given by the Baptist Sunday School Board's Church Training Department during year end meetings in Nashville with state convention leaders.

Mrs. Prince retired in 1986 after five years as a Church Training growth consultant from the North Carolina Baptist State Convention. Previously she was director of missions for the Bladen County Association, North Carolina 15 years.

Even in retirement Mrs. Prince continues to demonstrate her belief in Church Training. She now serves as associational Church Training director for the New River Association in Virginia where she and her husband Harry live during the summer months. They travel about 11 miles north from their home in Fancy Gap, Va., to attend Hillsville (Va.) Baptist Church where they are members.

Mrs. Prince and her husband take leave to Florida during the winter months. Even there she does not lay her enthusiasm for Church Training aside.

Mrs. Prince was instrumental in starting a Church Training program at Golfview Baptist Church, Lake Wales, Fla., a church located near Haines City, Fla., where she and Harry attend First Baptist Church.

As the youngest child of eight, Mrs. Prince believes her interest in Church Training was inherited.

A missionary couple in Venezuela, David and Jerry Browder, now are working full time with the deaf but when they were appointed in 1983 they were assigned to mission business services in that country. Several other missionaries participate in various deaf ministries. But Miss Mayhall is the first career missionary appointed specifically to work with the deaf.

"All my life I grew up thinking, 'I'll get married and have a family,'" says Miss Mayhall, of Magee, Miss.

For years, however God has been tugging at her heart to be a missionary, she explains. But she kept saying no to God and waiting for a husband, believing she would not find a mate on the mission field.

While attending seminary Miss Mayhall sometimes walked across campus intending to meet with visiting FMB missionary enlistment representatives. But each time she turned back. She knew she would say no when asked: "Are you satisfied with being single?"

"Eventually I met the man of my dreams," Miss Mayhall relates. He was a pastor. "I enjoyed being with him and was ready to get married. But I still had missions in the back of my mind and I really didn't see any way that could occur if I married him." The relationship ended after a few months.

Miss Mayhall finally committed herself to missions at a Christian singles' conference during a worship service in-

itation. The invitation hymn was "I Have Decided To Follow Jesus."

"I went up on the second verse, which says, 'Though none go with me, I still will follow,'" she recalls. "That meant a lot to me because I was telling God that I would follow him first and then accept whatever or whomever he brings into my life."

Miss Mayhall is taking to the mission field an unusual capacity to understand people of another culture, says Betty Law, FMB associate director for Spanish South America. The daughter of retired missionaries David and Ollie Mayhall of Magee, she grew up in Nigeria. She also worked as a missionary journeyman in Brazil.

The deaf are "a separate cultural group," Miss Law explains. "I think her ability to understand other cultures will be an asset to her in entering both the Spanish culture of Colombia and the deaf culture in Barranquilla and throughout Colombia."

After working as a journeyman, Miss Mayhall earned a master's degree in speech and hearing science at the Uni-

versity of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, and taught deaf students at a county school in Tifton, Ga.

Later she taught brain-damaged babies and children in Arlington, Tex. Before missionary appointment she was a missions education consultant and minister with Deaf Opportunity Outreach in Houston, an organization that starts churches for the deaf. She also was a staff member at Woodhaven Baptist Deaf Church, Houston.

Miss Mayhall will have to learn not only Spanish, but also Colombian sign language. "I don't think there will be any classes in sign language. It's going to have to come from deaf people themselves," she says. "I've got to get into the deaf culture and find some deaf people to learn from, which is the best thing anyway. I'm just going to have to trust the Lord."

The desire to be married has not gone away, Miss Mayhall admits. But one doesn't have to get married "to become a complete person," she adds. "Obeying God is my primary responsibility." (BP)

## Twins double the pleasure of service

by Scott Collins

When it comes to similarities, Dean and Doug Dickens share more than looks.

Both were called into Christian ministry. Both graduated from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and this fall, both are teaching at Southwestern.

Dean, a missionary to the Philippines, has joined Doug, professor of pastoral ministry at the seminary. Dean is missionary guest professor.

"He (Doug) has probably been more of an influence on me than he knows," Dean said.

But the brothers guarded against influencing each other into the ministry.

"I thought a lot about both of us going into the ministry simply because we are twins," Dean said. "But we're not doing a twinly thing."

That doesn't stop the brothers from also doing "twinly" things.

When Dean was teaching at Southwestern in the Early 1970s, Doug was working on his doctoral degree. Doug often used Dean's office and when students came in for help, Doug offered assistance to the unsuspecting students.

"My oldest sister said she was responsible for starting Church Training in our church (Antioch Baptist, Whiteville, N. C.) She said until they could get their Church Training materials, they used the Biblical Recorder (state Baptist paper of North Carolina). I guess they just studied what was happening in Baptist life."

In 1957, Mrs. Prince herself became a leader in Church Training as she assumed the duties of director of the adult department at Clarkton (N. C.) First Baptist Church.

"We did a variety of things to get them coming, like invite medical doctors or educational speakers to come in and talk. That's where I really got my start. That's where I realized Church Training was so important."

That belief has obviously not waned.

Mrs. Prince has participated in Church Training new start programs in North Carolina, South Carolina, West Virginia and New York. New start programs are sponsored by the board's Church Training Department and the state convention where they are held. They are designed to help a pastor without a Church Training program discover what he needs to start one.

"I remember how many of the churches cut out Church Training in the 70s, and I think right now we have a generation of Baptists who do not know what they believe. We just haven't trained them in what Baptist life is all about."

Mrs. Prince said she sees the times changing and believes churches are beginning to realize the importance of Church Training.

"Oh I am just so encouraged now. I think we are going to see a change, and it couldn't have happened at a better time," she said.



Doug Dickens (l), shares a light moment with his twin brother Dean. Doug is assistant professor of pastoral ministry at Southwestern Seminary and Dean is missionary guest professor this year.



# Clear Creek Baptist Bible College

## THESE DIED BUT THEIR FAITH STILL SPEAKS

Christian financial stewardship planning by two Western Kentucky Baptist lay people has resulted in significant gifts to Clear Creek. The estates of Mrs. Guy Wright, Owensboro, and Mr. Charles I. Henry, Madisonville sent the school \$254,000. Their estates also included Baptist Homes for Children, The Foreign Mission Board and Home Mission Board.

Bertha Mae Wright was a long time member of First Baptist, Owensboro and twice served as church WMU president. Mr. and Mrs. Wright were farmers but their deepest commitment was Southern Baptist mission work. Many years ago, she heard D.M. and Kay Aldridge speak about Clear Creek and became a loyal supporter. She often sent clothing to the school. Owensboro friends acknowledged; "Clear Creek was one of Mrs. Wright's first loves through the years." Mrs. Wright died October 13, 1987 at age 89.

1951 alumnus Archie Oliver first met Charles I. Henry in 1957. In recent years, the two worked together at Madisonville First Baptist where Oliver is Associate Pastor. Mr. Henry was a Deacon and a "tremendous teacher" in the Baraca class. In earlier years he was active in education and retired as President of Kentucky Bank, Madisonville. Henry was 94 when he died on March 21, 1987.

These funds have been applied to the Miracle in the Mountains campaign for payment on the Family Life Center. Appropriate memorials will be placed in the Center in appreciation of these contributions. Each day nearly one hundred people are beneficiaries of these estate gifts. President Whittaker and Vice President for Development Carvin Bryant are available to assist in the preparation of a Christ-honoring will. Contact them at (606) 337-3196.

## ALUMNI ACTIVE IN CONVENTION

The November, 1988 meeting of the KBC elected Clear Creek alumni to state convention positions.

- Noel Dodson '78, McKee, Committee on Nominations
- Mike Sledge '84, Pineville, Executive Board
- Jerry Browning '77, Liberty, Executive Board
- Harvey Pensol '75, Mt. Vernon, Executive Board
- Wayne Gullion '79, Glencoe, Executive Board
- W. B. Bingham, III '77, Middlesboro, Temprance League

Three alumni elected in previous conventions continue in positions:

- Sam Sowder '73, Mouth Card, Clear Creek Trustees
- Arnold Moon '59, Ludlow, Historical Commission
- Don Mantooth '64, Morehead, Western Recorder Board



### 1988 CHRISTMAS SHOPPING SPREE

One student noted the Clear Creek Shopping Spree was "a thrill of a lifetime." Alumni, friends, churches, Sunday School classes and WMU groups gave nearly \$11,000 to purchase gifts and sent other merchandise. The children (Moms and Dads, too) had a bountiful Christmas because so many cared to share.



### FOOD FOR ALL

(from left Wayne Whaley, Jim Whaley, Les Ellison, Steve Hubbard and Bruce Alvis.)

Booneville Association Brotherhood brought nearly 400 bags of groceries to the campus. All 24 churches responded to this project directed by Bruce Alvis '87, pastor of Island Creek church, Manchester. 1988 was a year for Clear Creek to be thankful for the help of Kentucky Baptists.



Student Life Dean Charles Rice welcomes Pastor Jerome Brown and staff of Rosemont Baptist Church, Lexington. The congregation decided to prepare Thanksgiving baskets for Clear Creek students and set a goal to cover the church pulpit area with food. The response was so generous the food overflowed to the floor and supplied enough for 30 families. Third year student C.W. Bartlett (pictured 4th from left), wife Dena and children Tiffany, Amanda and Jason are from Rosemont.

## A DEGREE AND MORE

1952 alumni Paul and Daisy Nevels have had an extra interest in Clear Creek since their daughter Jill enrolled three years ago. After graduation from Oneida Baptist Institute in 1981, Jill worked the summer as a BSU missionary in Washington. She returned and "settled into a job and worldly ways." The long time awareness God has something special for her to do would not go away. "I promised to go anywhere and do anything if he would help me. He was faithful to his word and in a few months I enrolled at Clear Creek. I was excited about starting school and made many friends. I was determined to get my degree and apply for the Foreign Mission Board Journey-

man program. God reminded me of my commitment to 'go or do anything' and he led me to first year student Marvin Haught."

Jill and Marvin were married on July 4 in a ceremony on the lawn of Kelly Hall. Jill graduates May 5 with a BA in Local Church Ministry and Religious Education. A student workshop provides part-time work in the Development office. Marvin is interim Youth Minister at Porterfield Baptist Church, Little Hocking, Ohio. The Haughts are excited about the arrival of a child expected in May. Jill acknowledges "surrender to God's will is wonderful."

