western recorder

Kentucky Baptist Convention
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Flood waters take their toll on midstate Baptists

by Suzanne Darland
State Correspondent

By Wednesday, Feb. 15, members of First Baptist Church, Lebanon Junction, in southern Bullitt County, had moved everything out of the basement.

A piano was hauled to the pastor's garage. Kitchen equipment was brought out.

Then as the swollen Rolling Fork began pouring into the prepared basement, members turned their attention to the first floor of a Sunday school wing and the pastor's office.

Tables, chairs, children's toys and teaching materials were all moved to higher ground.

The water kept creeping higher. Thursday they loaded the church pews into a borrowed tractor-trailer rig, rolled up the sanctuary carpeting, shipped them to a nearby warehouse and waited.

In the end, the backwater from some of the state's worst flooding in years "came within one to two inches of going into the sanctuary," related K. C. Fehl. He and two other church members were pumping water out of the basement last Tuesday (Feb. 21). Water in there was at one time to the ceiling. Sunday school rooms had two feet of swirling muddy water in them before it receded.

And by Tuesday, flood water still lapped within 12 feet of the church, covering an access road and half of the church parking lot.

"It's been a wild week," detailed tired pastor Ken Forey. "Everything else stopped. The flooding took priority."

Lebanon Junction was one of the communities hardest hit by the flooding. Red Cross trucks were set as distribution points for aid to flood victims, while National Guardsmen kept looters and sightseers out of flooded areas.

Yet even though many members' homes had been ravaged by flood waters, a group of Lebanon Junction Baptists, 87 of a usual 120, met for worship. They borrowed the sanctuary of the community's Methodist church, which had survived unscathed, for a 9:30 a.m. service. That evening, members of the area Assembly of God joined them for a joint service there.

As the swollen Rolling Fork River recedes in Bullitt County, members of First Baptist Church, Lebanon Junction, are grateful their sanctuary was spared while some of the state's worst flooding—reaching churches and members—occurred.

Forey said he told the Methodist pastor that the Baptist and Assembly of God churches "had been immersed. You've only been sprinkled."

Longtime member J. I. Samuels called the devastation the worst since the famed 1937 flood, which left high water reminders in many Kentucky cities.

As he and Fehl supervised a volunteer fire department pumper truck, chugging water away from the church, they recalled how volunteers helped move church furniture and materials to higher ground.

Three pianos still perched on landings to escape water in the Sunday school annex.

"I think every piano in town has been donated to this church," chuckled Fehl.

Forey said more than 20 volunteers helped with the moving. Now they'll be needed for cleanup and moving back in.

The church secretary took drawers from her desk and set up her office at home. The Sunday school rooms have been mopped and trustees are trying to determine how much sanding the buckled wood will need.

The propane tank floated away and there's no electricity for heat to dry the rooms.

Forey said he's optimistic the cleanup will progress quickly. But he recalls the helplessness of watching the river overtake the church:

"We could just see the basement filling up with water and couldn't do a thing about it," he recounted.

Across the interstate in Boston in Nelson County, flood waters were also listed as especially bad.

But Greg Garrison, pastor of Mt. Moriah Baptist Church there, said most looked on the flood as a "major inconvenience." The church and much of the main part of town sits on a hill, so water ran off.

But flood waters covered all roads to town, effectively blocking access.

"Everyone was dry in town," he explained, "but we couldn't get in or out."

That meant Garrison, also a student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, left Wednesday morning and couldn't return until Saturday when church members met him at I-65 in a truck and traversed the newly uncovered, but still wet, roads.

Lebanon Junction and Boston were just two of the communities the state Brotherhood Department's mobile disaster relief unit served throughout the ordeal. Immediately after the flooding, about 10 volunteers from across the state pulled two trailers up to Youngers Creek Baptist Church in eastern Hardin County, and began serving hot meals.

By Feb. 18 they had moved to Shively Heights Baptist Church in Louisville to team up with the Louisville area Red Cross to distribute meals to flood victims across the state.

Jim Fox, state coordinator of the disaster relief unit, estimates 1800 meals have been cooked and shipped daily "to about one-fifth of Kentucky, up and down the river," since then.

The Red Cross furnishes the food while 50 or so volunteers who have been trained by the Brotherhood Department across the state, cook and help deliver it in Red Cross trucks.

If not for them, he pointed out, much of the relief fare would be sandwiches.

"They have no way to cook it," he noted. "We are it."

And, he maintained, "A body has to have a hot meal. You don't want a sandwich when you're cold and wet."

The unit would stay and work "until it's over," he added.

In Larue County's community of Athertonville, where a number of families were evacuated, Athertonville Baptist Church pastor James Coffey said the church was untouched.

"But it came real close," he added.

The house across the street was flooded.

Several Hardin County churches called off Wednesday services Feb. 15 as the rains continued and access roads were closed.

In Colesburg, Colesburg Baptist Chapel was a storage place for area residents' furniture. Sitting on a hill, it escaped flood damage. The community's only other church marked 3½ feet of water in the sanctuary, ruining even the pews that had been placed on makeshift tables.

Members of Gilead Baptist Church in Glendale began gathering at the church as early as Monday night two weeks ago. The Nolin River is 100 yards behind the church, pastor John Paul Brady explained, and ground water had already begun seeping into the basement.

The next morning they took doors off their hinges and began moving pianos, chairs, tables and a refrigerator from the basement kitchen, fellowship hall and Sunday school classrooms.

Even though members brought pumps and worked tirelessly to prevent it (one man stayed 36 straight hours) the basement was still flooded.

Some staff and boys from the nearby Glendale Children's Home also helped. Others from the home brought food.

Brady commends the entire community for uniting in a common goal. "But we were almost pumping water out for it to come back in."

He noted that there were as many workers there that Wednesday night "as we usually have for prayer meeting. But they weren't there to pray."

'Performance-oriented' guidelines place responsibility back on members

by Marv Knox

Operating under new "performance-oriented" guidelines, the Southern Baptist Executive Committee has proposed a 2.05 percent decrease for the convention's next budget.

The new guidelines link Cooperative Program budget goals to previous receipts. Consequently, the 1989-90 goal has a ceiling of $134,787,543, the amount received during the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30, 1988.

The current Cooperative Program basic budget, set according to "goal-oriented" procedures, has a $137.6 million target. Following the same budget-setting procedure, Southern Baptists have not met the overall Cooperative Program budget for most of this decade, have built a backlog of capital needs commitments and have fallen below the pace of inflation.

The Executive Committee approved new budgeting procedures and the 1989-90 Cooperative Program goal during its Feb. 20-22 meeting in Nashville. Both actions are subject to approval by messengers to the convention's annual business session June 13-15 in Las Vegas, Nev.

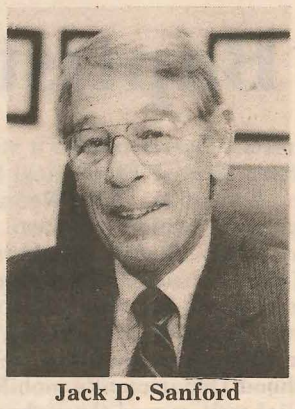
The proposed Cooperative Program budgeting procedure has two parts. First, it mandates that the goal for the Cooperative Program's "basic budget" —operating funds distributed to 18 convention organizations, which conduct evangelistic, missionary, education and church-starting ministries world-wide —be "no greater than the Cooperative Program receipts for the last fiscal year of record."

Second, it directs that from 1990-91 forward all Cooperative Program income received in excess of its basic budget be distributed equally between its "program advance" and "capital needs" budgets.

The procedure puts the responsibility for the convention's financial future where it should be, he added. "We do not have a committee establishing goals that are unattainable. The challenge shifts to the people, not a committee."

"The Cooperative Program is not just a budget line," said the Home Mission Board's Larry Lewis. "It is a lifeline of our mission work. (BP)

sanford's perspectives



Jack D. Sanford

Good news in Kentucky

The word this week is good news. The good news is for all Kentucky Baptists because a troublesome trend seems to have been reversed, or at least slowed.

Bill Jaggers, director of the Evangelism Department of the KBC, announced this week that total baptisms for Kentucky Baptist churches in 1988 totaled 15,412. That is an increase over the 1987 figures of 616, about a 4.2 percent increase. Thus the downward trend of the past few years has been reversed, at least for 1988.

It surely is not a record number of baptisms for a single year, nor is it the kind of figure we think is the best we can do, but at least we were able to win more people to Christ and baptize them into our churches last year than we were able to do the previous year. That in itself is worthy of note.

Certainly the encouragement of this increase in baptisms will help us prepare for the simultaneous revivals scheduled in 1990. Nothing succeeds like success and this sort of success measures the true purpose of the churches in our convention. We will surely make the necessary plans for careful evangelism next spring and hopefully see a baptism increase in 1989 as well.

Let us praise the Lord for this good news and at the same time let each of us renew our vows of faith and loyalty to Christ and commit ourselves to winning others to the Lord. That is the only way the good news of increased baptisms will continue. And surely we all want to hear that kind of good news more frequently.

An "insulation" service for the pastor

Julian Pentecost, editor of the Virginia Religious Herald, wrote an interesting editorial which has stimulated thought and is passed along with the hope it will help all of us see more clearly the relationship we want in the church. Pentecost wrote the following:

"In a publication delivered to our office there was a news item stating a church had conducted 'an insulation service' for its newly-called pastor. We read it with interest and enjoyed a good chuckle.

"If a congregation had the power to insulate its pastor, what goals might it involve?

"For one thing a pastor needs to be insulated against the loss of a compelling sense of his call from God to Christian ministry. With a clear and strong conviction that he is doing what God desires and where he wants it done, one can weather most any storm.

"A pastor also needs to be protected from any erosion of his commitment to and love for the persons God has entrusted to him as undershepherd.

"If the bonds between pastor and people are marked by mutual acceptance, affection and affirmation, the relationship will be 'a thing of beauty and a joy forever.'

"It is no less important that an insulation service for a pastor should have as one of its objectives preventing him from being trivialized into uselessness.

"Someone has distinguished between church business and the business of the church. The former has to do with organizational structures, committees and boards, policies and procedures.

"The business of the church is worshiping, evangelizing, discipling, teaching and ministering. Every pastor knows the struggle to keep in proper perspective his involvement in church business and the business of the church.

"If a pastor is to survive the pastoral ministry in today's culture he must have a trustworthy defense system against vindictive, destructive criticism.

"Constructive criticism given in love by sensitive, supportive people is not the issue here. There is no pastor who does not need the benefit of such counsel in order to grow.

"Many pastors with decades of experience still recall with gratitude the wise and gentle ministry of caring lay persons during their early years of service. These messengers of God said what needed to be said and they did so with authentic compassion.

"In far too many congregations today ministers are the recipients of intense anger and hostility which they did not generate and for which they are not responsible.

"It would be a welcome development if a church through an insulation service could provide assurance to its pastor that he would not be subjected to the intimidation of small-mindedness expressing itself through pettiness, narrowness and meanness.

"For a congregation to set apart its pastor in a service of installation is altogether appropriate because of the uniqueness of his call and responsibilities. Such a practice is in keeping with Baptists' belief that a pastor is a layman called of God and ordained by a congregation in order to fulfill his ministry.

"A pastor is a member of the church he serves and as a member it is his privilege and responsibility to be a contributor to and a recipient of the congregation's spirit of community (*koinonia*).

"It is wrong for a congregation to isolate the pastor and his family from the others who constitute the community of faith. To deny them the acceptance, affection and affirmation so essential to the well-being of the human spirit is to severely limit their ministry and cause heartache to all concerned."

Editor Pentecost has given us food for thought and offered a model for good pastor-church relationships. We offer a prayer that all Kentucky Baptist church members and all Kentucky Baptist pastors will think about the relationship they have with each other and find the will of God for harmony and cooperation. Only thus will we see the kingdom come and sinners brought to the Lord of life.

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A result of airport expansion

Hope or hurt? Forced move brings both to community

by Mary Royals Driskill
Staff Writer

Sixteen churches in the Highland Park area of Louisville are moving. They're leaving the community. They have to. Standiford Field, one of two airports serving the Louisville area, will be expanding—and there won't be any community left.

Highland Park First Baptist Church has been at its present location, 4461 Park Blvd., since 1916 when it was constituted as a church. It began as a mission of Broadway Baptist Church in the late 1800s.

Pastor Harold Jones estimates 28 to 30 percent of his congregation will also be affected by the airport expansion and will have to move. "The plan is to bulldoze the whole area," said Jones. "If the community is gone, there's no resale value with the church building. This community will be obliterated."

The first word on the move came in the summer of 1988. City representatives and airport authorities met with the church and passed out circulars in the community. They even set up an information office in the community to answer questions. "The citizens were quite upset," said Jones. "They've (the city) tried to give us an idea of their schedule."

According to the Lousiville and Jefferson County Relocation Office, approximately 1100 properties will be involved in the relocation process. This area is one of three selected as part of the Urban Renewal project. Relocation administrator Melissa Herman said the areas were selected based on environmental considerations. Noise, industry, the railroad and pollution were cited as some of the environmental factors. Appraisals are in process now and Mrs. Herman stated 150 appraisals per month are being conducted by authorities. She indicated the office intends to make official offers to residents at the rate of 150 offers per month in order "not to flood the market for people looking for homes."

When given a firm offer by the city, residents will have up to one year to accept or reject the offer. If accepted, they will have 90 days before they are required to move. Included in the benefit package for residents will be a fair market value of their property, moving expenses or their equivalent and entitlement, which is the dollar amount above the value of a comparable home. After approval of the Urban Renewal project, the city will begin making offers. Mrs. Herman anticipates the actual relocation process will begin as early as this fall.

The city has not given the church or residents any firm offers on the appraisal value of the properties as yet. The community anticipates official word on their appraisals sometime this spring. "We're going ahead with plans," said Jones.

The idea of moving isn't new to the members at Highland Park. About five to 10 years ago the church growth program began to look for new property. It was becoming apparent the community was on a decline. Most of the residents were now renters instead of owners and the community was becoming more industrial than residential. The whole face of the community was changing. Between the fairgrounds, highways and businesses, moving became a real possibility.

"We decided to minister here as long as there was a community to minister to," said Jones. The idea was that the new property would serve as a mission project of the church. When the mission grew and the community surrounding Highland Park continued to decline, the mission would become the mother church and Highland Park would become the mission center. "We had anticipated a move," said Jones, "but not this soon."

The church purchased 30 acres of land on Billtown Road south of Gene Snyder Freeway about two years ago. "We will lose one fourth to one third of our membership," remarked Jones. "It's going to hurt the church but we have to look at the long haul."

Many of the community members affected by the move have lived in the Highland Park area more than 50 years. "The long term older residents are the ones who hurt the most," emphasized Jones. "There's a lot of fear." Church secretary Linda Harris added, "It's hard for them to pack up and move after 65 years."

The church is discussing the possibilities of sending vans back into the community to pick up the older residents who may not be able to drive to the new location. But soon, there won't be any Highland Park community left.

"I grew up in the church. I became a Christian 50 years ago," states Katie Walters, a member of Highland for more than 50 years. "It really breaks my heart to think we've got to give it up. It's been part of my life." Mrs. Walters and her husband Alvin are just two of the residents who will have to move. They are losing not only their church but their home as well.

"I saw changes but I didn't want to see," said Mrs. Walters. "I told my grandchildren, 'One day there won't be any more Highland Park.'"

She was right.

Many of the residents affected by the move want to stay in the south end of Louisville. Most of them have no idea where they will move. A senior citizens' club meets every Tuesday at Highland Park Baptist Church. Almost all of the Walters' friends are members. Moving will mean separation from those friends.

The Walterses have been going to the seniors' club for 17 years. They have activities, games, food and most importantly—friends. "We have a wonderful fellowship," beams Mrs. Walters. "We hope to keep in touch. Sometimes that's hard to do."

Mrs. Walters is accepting the idea of moving—but it's been hard. "We thought the highway was going to get us but it didn't," she said. Then they found out about the airport expansion. "At first I'd go to bed with it, I'd wake up thinking about it. Now I just feel like it's going to happen though I hope it doesn't." Mrs. Walters has a widowed daughter who lives close by. She'll have to move as well. "We'd like to be close together (when they move). We need to be close."

Many of the community residents who will have to move are elderly, like the Walterses who are 82 and 84. Special considerations are necessary in finding a new place to live. Many can't climb steps or travel well. The Walters' home is only three blocks from the church. The drug store and bus stop are even closer. Getting settled into a new community will be tough—especially for the elderly. "It just seems like something's being taken out of your life," said Mrs. Walters. "We thought we'd be here the rest of our lives. There are so many memories. I don't want to be around when they tear things down."

The members of Highland Park realize how difficult the move will be. Now they are focusing on the future—and the future is on Billtown Road.

"In the long run, it will be good for the church," said Gary Wooden, growth director and 42-year member of the church. "It's sad but the total move will be a good thing."

When the church began to look for new property it investigated "growth areas" in the city. All growth charts pointed to the east end. It began looking for a semiresidential area and purchased the land on Billtown Road. Wooden admits the decison to move, even under favorable circumstances, wasn't easy.

"It's been a real emotional issue. We'll lose 30 percent of our membership due to the longer drive," remarked Wooden. The drive takes about 25 minutes from the present location. He said even several years ago the members didn't want to recognize the deterioration of the community. Despite the ominous signs, the announcement from the city that the church would be forced to relocate was a shock.

"About 12 years ago the deacons began to look at the church and its ministry. We began to notice things in the community. There was a downhill trend," said Wooden. "If we were going to stay in that area we would have to change our entire ministry." Wooden feels the ministry would have to refocus on social ministry instead of trying to minister to a middle class congregation. "If we just stood there then the church would reach a point of stagnation. We needed to look ahead."

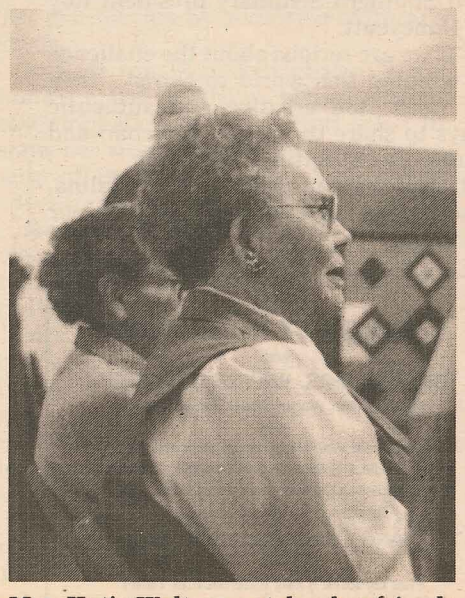
Looking ahead means looking to Billtown Road. "In the last year, over 16,00 homes have been committed to that area," stressed Wooden. "The growth commitment we see will provide an excellent opportunity."

The church plans to build a 400-seat sanctuary which may expand to another 200 if needed. It plans educational facilities and possibly an activity center. There is plenty of space for recreational and retreat buildings too. It looks toward a January 1990 completion date.

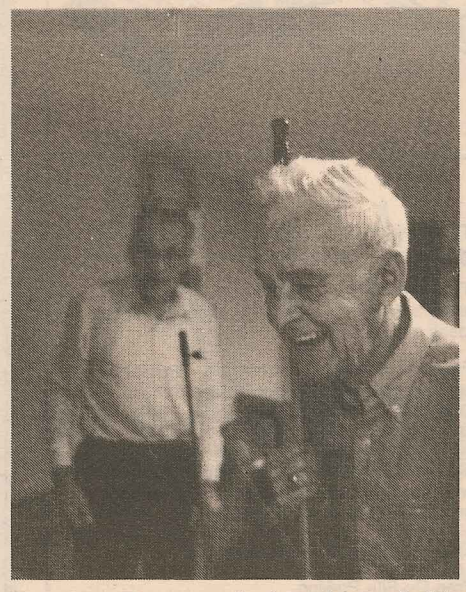
Members recognize the need to restructure their ministry, even in this growth area. They plan to distribute brochures to the community to acquaint them to the church.

Pastor Jones believes the church will need to become more evangelistic to succeed in blooming in the new area.

"The city tells us the new area will be the next new growth area in the county. We're counting on that," Jones declared.



Mrs. Katie Walters watches her friends try to beat her team in darts. Everyone plays and everyone seems to win.



Herman Bowman insists he and his partner (in the background) Marvin Walridge are the champion shuffleboard players.

Mrs. Louise Mills is Mrs Walters' daughter. She and her parents go to the seniors' club every week. She, too, will be forced to move.

Chester Pipes is president of the seniors' club. The city has promised to take the club to Otter Creek Park in April—all expenses paid.

christian education

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

clear creek chronicle

Home missions

The Week of Prayer for Home Missions and the Annie Armstrong offering impacts Clear Creek. One of our vans was purchased with home mission offering funds. An odometer reading of 100,000 and frequent repairs demand a replacement soon. Home Mission Board president Larry Lewis graciously told us funds were not available this time. The decline in Cooperative Program giving and a 1987 Easter offering that did not keep up with inflation were the reasons. How many other needs across America have gone unmet?

Many of our graduates are in Home Mission assignments. Pat Garland, '83, leads the Tug Valley (West Virginia) Association. This seven county area has 300,000 residents and 70% are without Christ. The association has grown from five churches to 10 churches and missions. All of Pat's salary and two other pastors are supported by Home Mission funds.

Ralph Dean Blankenship was a new Christian in a church training class and was asked to present a home missions story about work in an isolated part of Alaska. The Lord placed a desire in Dean's heart to work there. The family moved from Forks, Washington, to Clear Creek for ministry training. Dean and Nadine fulfilled their 17 year dream and moved to Alaska after graduation in 1987. Dean operates a sawmill to provide family support. Home is now Thorne Bay, a small village on Prince of Wales Island. The 400 person village has a school of 128 people. They shop in Craig 42 miles away, a trip that takes nearly two hours. Regular mail and adequate food depends on planes that get in and roads unclogged by snow. One week they were unable to get food and mail for four days because a big snow with a rapid meltoff had cut off the roads. The Blankenships give needed help to a local church. They teach, witness and work with music. Dean also preaches in associational churches. They were surprised to discover the area director of missions, Louis McClendon, was the same man Dean read about 17 years earlier.

"Pray That They May Believe" is more than a home mission theme. It represents a crucial need for America. Our prayers and giving can make a difference. Southern Baptist home missionaries are depending on us. Clear Creek is thankful for our part in this vital task.

SBTS to host special needs conference

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary will host a conference Mar. 13-15 on ministry needs of families in chronic stress.

"Families with Special Needs: Ministry in Situations of Chronic Stress," will focus on ministry with families trying to cope with addiction, disability, mental illness, mental retardation, chronic pain, depression and aging.

The event is sponsored by the Louisville seminary's Gheens Center for Christian Family Ministry and the Genesis Center, a Louisville behavioral medicine treatment center for chronic disease disorders.

Speakers include Cliff Kuhn, associate chairman of the department of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at the University of Lousiville; Wayne Oates, senior professor of psychology of religion at Southern Seminary; and Ann Putnam, national consultant for disabled persons for the Home Mission Board.

For further information, call the seminary's continuing education office at (502) 897-4315.

SBTS announces personnel changes

Robin S. Barnes, Louisville, has been named assistant director of prospective student services at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

Mrs. Barnes, a Christian education student at the seminary, will visit college campuses in five states to provide information about the seminary to persons who might benefit from theological education and ministry training.

In related personnel matters, Georgia native Stanley L. Roberts has been promoted to associate director of prospective student services and Alabama native Larry Gregg has been named assistant director of prospective student services.

Roberts, minister of music at Evergreen Baptist Church, Frankfort, has been on the prospective student services staff since 1986. Gregg, pastor of Little Clifty Baptist Church, Leitchfield, has also been pastor of Portland Avenue Baptist Church, Louisville, and has held other pastorates in Alabama and Pennsylvania.

Christian education dean resigns at SBTS

William B. Rogers Jr., dean of the School of Christian Education at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary since 1984, has resigned effective July 31 to return to full time teaching duties at the school.

Rogers, a native of Birmingham, Ala., went to the seminary in 1983 from the faculty of New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary. Prior to his teaching career, Rogers was on ministerial staffs of First Baptist Church, Alexandria, Va.; Western Hills Baptist Church, Ft. Worth, Tex.; and First Baptist Church, Longview, Tex.

Rogers will take a sabbatical leave before returning to the classroom as professor of history and philosophy of Christian education.

Seminary provost G. Willis Bennett said he expects a new dean to be presented for election by the seminary trustees at their April meeting.

SBTS names evangelism professor

David F. D'Amico, executive director of Metropolitan New York Baptist Association, has been elected Billy Graham professor of evangelism at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

D'Amico, 54, was approved unanimously Feb. 7 by the seminary's trustee executive committee. He will head the evangelism department at the school and direct the seminary's Billy Graham Center for World Evangelism. He will begin teaching this fall.

D'Amico succeeds Lewis A. Drummond who was elected in March 1988 as president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C.

A native of Argentina, D'Amico is a graduate of Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Tex., and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, where he earned MA and PhD degrees. He taught church history at Southwestern, 1968-75.

D'Amico directed ministry to internationals at Houston's South Main Baptist Church, 1976-85, when he became executive director of the New York association. He also has been pastor and interim pastor of several Southern Baptist churches, including four years as pastor of Iglesia Bautista Buena, a Hispanic congegation in Ft. Worth.

D'Amico's expertise in areas such as urban and cross cultural evangelism will help keep the seminary "on the cutting edge of contemporary evangelism," said Southern Seminary president Roy L. Honeycutt.

"If we are serious about the challenge of winning this world to Christ , then we must find creative and authentic ways to share the gospel in urban and multicultural settings," he said.

D'Amico is married to Ana Padalina, also an Argentina native. They have four children.

David Bratcher

Pastor won't let congregation retire—even after 150 years of ministering

by Bob C. Hardison

Can you imagine a man two years past retirement age saying, "These are the most rewarding years I've had in the ministry"? Well that's exactly what David Bratcher, pastor of First Baptist Church, Henderson, is saying as he climaxes an 18-year ministry.

Bratcher is leading Henderson First in a year of celebration during this its sesquicentennial. "It has excited the people," he notes.

They're enjoying the year but not sitting back on past laurels. A long range planning committee is projecting expanding educational space and remodeling existing classrooms. Bratcher is working hard to keep the church from experiencing a letdown period as he retires December 31 of this year. He won't let the congregation retire with him.

Bratcher is enjoying the relationship that has developed between him as pastor and the people through 18 years of weddings and funerals. Visiting and ministering in times of crisis has built a deep bond between this shepherd and his flock.

Thinking back through his years at First Baptist, Bratcher feels the mission the church started at Kingwood, West Virginia, has been a high point of his ministry. In 1979 they began the work as part of Bold Mission Thrust emphasis. Even though the mission officially organized into a church last year, Henderson First still contributes to the financial support of that work. In addition to contributions to all mission causes, Bratcher's church is furnishing $13,964 operating funds for the Kingwood church this year.

During his 18-year ministry the average age of the congregation has dropped 10 to 15 years. Bratcher sees the church's strong youth and children's programs as the primary cause of this healthy trend. Fifteen-year staffer Alan Chamness is minister of music and youth and supervises the senior adult work.

Bratcher attributed his long ministry at Henderson to a good core of leaders and dedicated church members. "I just can't praise them enough," he says. "They have helped me stay. The church is mature and the deacons have been a wonderful group to work with."

After his retirement, Bratcher and his wife Camille plan to continue living in Henderson. It has become home. Their two children Randy and Pamela Kay live in the area. Randy is minister of music and youth at Oak Hill Baptist Church, Evansville, and Pamela is a payroll clerk at Gamco in Henderson.

Bratcher also plans to do supply preaching and travel. He wants to enjoy his woodworking and gardening interests and to catch up on some project he's been putting off for the past 20 years.

Local banks give $285,000 to SBTS

Three local banks have contributed a total of $285,000 to Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's campus center complex.

The gifts include $125,000 from First National Bank/First Kentucky National Corp., $100,000 from Liberty National Bancorp and $60,000 from Citizens Fidelity Bank and Trust.

The contributions are part of "Commitment '90: The Louisville Challenge," a three-year effort aimed at securing $3.5 million for the campus center from the Louisville community.

The campus center, which will be built in three phases, will house comprehensive facilities for physical fitness and wellness, including a gymnasium, natatorium, racquetball courts, exercise rooms, locker facilities and elevated running track. The complex will also include a chapel, student cafeteria, conference rooms, banquet and private dining rooms, administrative offices, medical clinic, book store, student commons area and post office. Construction on the $15.9 million facility began in October. The first phase is expected to be completed by summer, 1990.

The seminary has secured more than $13 million in cash and pledges for the campus center.

Art exhibits enhance Campbellsville library

Art exhibits are a new addition to Montgomery Library at Campbellsville College.

Doug Broome, director of technical/media services at Montgomery Library, said the library staff has started using the wall adjacent to the front entrance to display the works of local persons. The exhibits are by invitation of library staff.

Broome said Jean Pennebaker, well-known artist in Alaska before coming to Campbellsville, is the first artist to show her works. Mrs. Pennebaker is the wife of Bill Pennebaker, professor of education at Campbellsville College.

Mrs. Pennebaker's exhibit consists of woodcuts, watercolors, acrylic, monotype, lithograph, trypich and silkscreen drawings and paintings.

Mrs. Pennebaker said she has always been creative in arts and crafts. She attended the University of Kentucky and graduated from the University of Alaska in 1986. Her main concentration in college was metalsmithing. She is now studying art at Campbellsville College.

The public is invited to view Mrs. Pennebaker's exhibit on display until Mar. 17.

Library hours are 8 a.m.-10 p.m. Mon.-Thurs., 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Fridays and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays.

Self fulfilling prophesy

Does a parent's belief about a child's ability influence what the child actually achieves? Research indicates that it may.

One study involved rats in a laboratory. The rats were chosen at random but the individuals who were to teach them to run a maze were told that one group was much brighter than the other. The results—the "brighter" group learned to run the maze much quicker and better.

In a school setting a teacher was told that one group of students had very high potential while another had low potential. In actuality the students had been selected at random. The high potential students' I.Q. scores and grades showed improvement under that teacher, while the low potential students on the average did much worse during the course of the semester.

In all of these cases the adults had no idea they were treating the subjects differently. In fact, many argued they had treated everyone the same.

We communicate in many ways besides words. In the case of a parent and child we subtly and at times unknowingly communicate we think one child is superior to another. Perhaps a parent may without realizing it constantly compare one child to another in a way which implies one child has less ability.

In our work with children the attitude which staff bring to a child makes a remarkable difference. If a child care worker views the child as a problem, then the likelihood that the child will cause problems is greatly enhanced. The reverse also is true. When staff place an emphasis on the positives in a child's life, the child gets that message as well.

As a parent it is extremely important to examine how you feel about a child and what message you give him. If you believe he has less ability or is prone to problems, you are increasing the likelihood he will fulfill your prophesy.

We are told in Proverbs 23:7a, "For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he." (KJV). How we really feel about a person comes across. What you really believe about your child's abilities does influence the child, even if you do not realize it. What you think and communicate to your child is a factor in his ultimate success in life.

baptist news in brief

1988 SBC statistics indicate gains in most areas

Although increases outnumbered decreases for Southern Baptists in 1988, the denomination appears to be mired in a period where statistically significant gains are elusive and long-term trends are flat, according to figures released by the convention's Sunday School Board.

In the gains column for the 1987-88 year, eight of the 10 key reporting areas were higher than the previous year, figures from 36,874 Uniform Church Letters received in the board's Research Services Department showed.

Increases included baptisms, where the total was 346,320, an increase of 7825, or 2.3 percent, over the previous baptism total of 338,495. This increase follows a decrease of 6.8 percent in 1987. Baptisms have dropped four of the last six years.

The church membership increase of 0.6 percent, or 90,726, brings the total membership in Southern Baptist churches to 14,818,496. This gain, of slightly more than two new members per church, is the smallest increase in church membership since 1930.

The number of churches in the denomination increased by 0.8 percent, or 281, to a new total of 37,567. The 111 net gain in the number of churches is the largest net gain in number of churches since 1965.

Sunday school, the denomination's largest program, decreased in 1988 by 0.4 percent, or 30,733, to a new total of 7,911,373. It was the biggest loss for the Bible study program since 1978. In 1986-87, Sunday school maintained a virtual status quo in enrolment, registering a 0.0 percentage change, with a numerical drop of less than 2000.

Church Training, which registered a similar break-even year in 1986-87, had a gain of 2.0 percent, or 39,801, to bring the total enrolment for the denomination's discipleship training program to 1,993,738. It was the first gain for Church Training since 1983, when an identical 2.0 percent increase was achieved.

Church music enrolment in Southern Baptist churches registered the 23rd consecutive increase, with a gain of 2.1 percent, or 35,724, to a new total of 1,774,018. Churches first reported church music participation on the Uniform Church Letter in 1957, when an enrolment of 553,021 was listed. Except for losses in 1960 and 1965, music enrolment has increased to become the third-largest program in Southern Baptist churches.

Enrolment in Woman's Missionary Union increased by 0.5 percent, or 6450, in 1988 to reach a total of 1,203,929. It was the third consecutive gain for WMU, which has gone up almost 39,000 since 1985.

Brotherhood enrolment declined by 8.3 percent, or 47,476, to a new total of 525,511. Changes in program age-grouping and the reporting process on the Uniform Church Letter affected the size of the loss for Brotherhood, said Martin Bradley, director of the Research Services Department.

Mission expenditures by Southern Baptist churches grew by 4.1 percent in 1988. It was an increase of almost $27 million, to reach a new total of $689,598,220. The percentage increases for mission expenditures for the past three years have been below increases of previous years, all of which were between 7.3 and 12.7 percent since 1972.

Total tithes, offerings and special gifts given through churches was $4,129,259,580, a 3.0 percent increase of more than $120 million over the previous year. (BP)

Southern Baptist Statistical Summary, 1987-88

	1987 Total	% 87-88 Change	1987-88 Numerical Change	1988 Total
Churches	37,286	0.8	281	37,567
Baptisms	338,495	2.3	7,825	346,320
Church Membership	14,727,770	0.6	90,726	14,818,496
Ongoing Sunday School Enrolment	7,942,106	-0.4	-30,733	7,911,373
Ongoing Church Music Enrolment	1,738,294	2.1	35,724	1,774,018
Ongoing WMU Enrolment	1,197,479	0.5	6,450	1,203,929
Ongoing Brotherhood Enrolment	572,987	-8.3	-47,476	525,511
Mission Expenditures	$662,691,289	4.1	$26,906,931	$689,598,220
Total Tithes, Offerings, and Special Gifts	$4,008,914,325	3.0	$120,345,255	$4,129,259,580

This statistical summary for 1987-88 shows gains and losses for Southern Baptists.

Singles conference set Memorial Day weekend

Single adults interested in learning how to "live successfully" could at the same time spend the Memorial Day holiday with others who are ummarried during a four-day conference at Ridgecrest (N. C.) Baptist Conference Center.

The Memorial Day successful single living conference, sponsored by the Sunday School Board's Family Ministry Department, will be held May 26-29.

Conference tracks are being offered for never married singles, single again people, single parents and dating and engaged couples. A conference for those wishing to commit to Christian service is also offered.

Leaders of single adults who are interested in learning more effective ministry techniques for singles will find a conference designed just for them.

Ron Churchill, pastor of First Baptist Church, Plant City, Fla., will be the Bible study leader during the main sessions at the conference.

Conference leaders will include C. Farris Jordan, a Christian psychologist from Knoxville, Tenn.; Marlea Rhem, director of counseling for the Waddell, Linder & Associates Counseling Center in Greenville, S. C.; Ron Mumbower, minister of counseling at First Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss.; and Jerry and Lana Wilkenson, counselors at Hoffmantown Baptist Church, Albuquerque, N. C.

The never married conference track is for young and median age single adults and the single-again conference track is for divorced and widowed persons, according to Tim Cleary, single adult consultant in the board's Family Ministry Department.

The single-parent family track includes an intergenerational conference, according to Cleary, who said children, grades five and above, should attend with their parents.

He said single parents who do not bring their children to the conference are welcome to attend.

To register, write Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Box 128, Ridgecrest, NC 28770.

1988 baptism increase

Bill Jaggers, director of Evangelism Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, reports a 4.2% increase in Kentucky baptisms for 1988. Last year's total was 14,796 with 15,412 reported this year.

WMU annual meeting theme: "In His Name"

The name of Jesus will be the focal point of the Woman's Missionary Union annual meeting June 11-12 in Las Vegas. "In His Name" will be the theme.

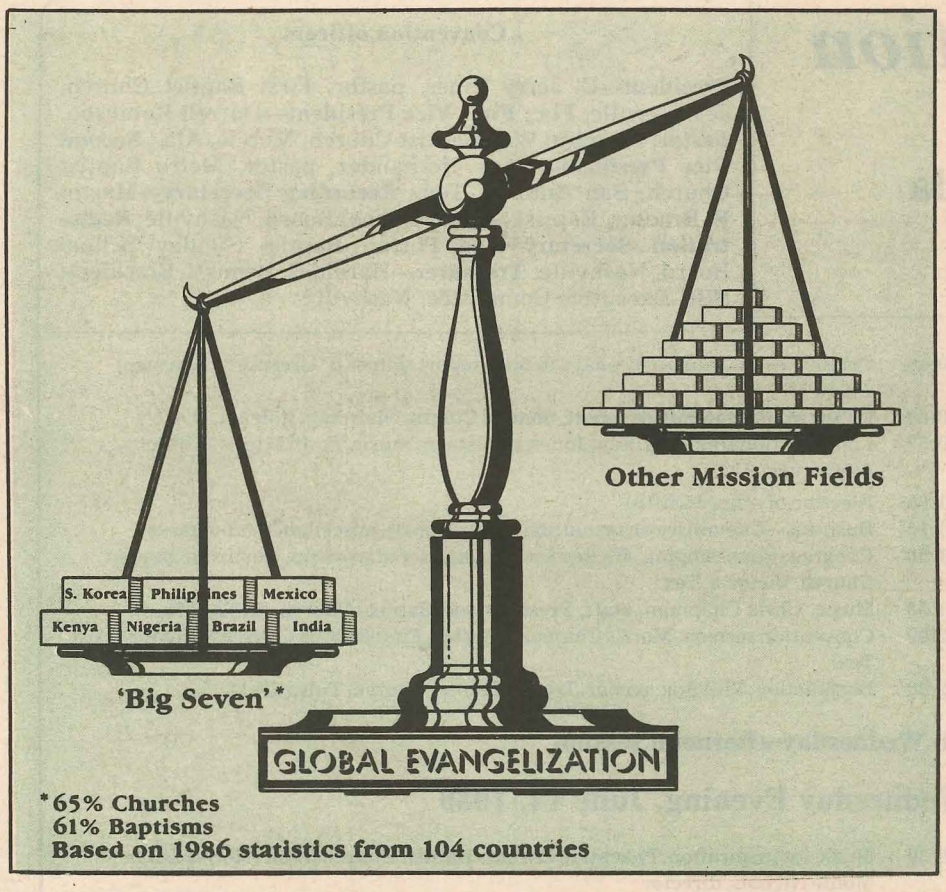
The first session begins at 2:20 p.m. Sunday, June 11, in the Rotunda of the Las Vegas Convention Center. The final session begins at 7 p.m. Monday, June 12.

Giving examples of ways Southern Baptists are proclaiming Jesus' name will be: Jack Johnson, Arizona Southern Baptist Convention executive director; C. B. Hogue, Southern Baptist General Convention of California executive director; and Ernest Myers, Nevada Baptist Convention executive director.

Highlighting the Sunday evening session will be a presentation of missions today, including the traditional and innovative methods used by Southern Baptists. Three missions leaders will speak: Larry Lewis, president of the Home Mission Board; Keith Parks, president of the Foreign Mission Board; and Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of WMU. (BP)

Address change

The Annuity Board announced a change of shipping address effective Feb. 11: 2401 Cedar Springs, Dallas, TX 75201-1427. The mailing address and telephone number are the same: P. O. Box 2190 Dallas, TX 75221-2190. General office: 214-720-0511. Toll Free: 1-800-262-0511. FAX number: 214-720-4666.



Church starts increase overseas

Baptisms related to Southern Baptist work overseas dropped almost 3 percent in 1988, but the number of churches grew 8 percent, according to Foreign Mission Board statistics.

Overseas baptisms totaled 197,863 in 1988, compared to 203,824 in 1987. The 1987 total topped 200,000 for the first time in the mission board's 143-year history.

Baptist churches overseas grew from 17,769 to 19,199 in 1988. Missionaries and overseas Baptists started about four churches per day, compared to nearly three per day the previous year. More than 3800 Southern Baptist missionaries were working in 113 countries last year.

Despite the decrease in baptisms, the overall picture looks good, considering that 2 million Baptists overseas are baptizing almost half as many people as 14 million Southern Baptists in the United States, said FMB president R. Keith Parks.

An average of one person was baptized for every 10.6 Baptist church members overseas in 1988. In the United States, 43 Southern Baptists were required to produce one baptism.

Another concern is that overseas church membership dropped from 2.15 million in 1987 to 2.1 million last year.

However, the declines in baptisms and church memberships can be blamed partly on uneven statistical reporting because of economic, political or internal problems—especially in major countries such as Brazil, South Korea and the Philippines, noted Clark Scanlon, FMB director of research and planning.

Highlights in the just-completed 1988 overseas report include:

—Brazilian Baptists finished the year with 4071 Baptist churches, the highest of all countries. Nigeria was second, with 3027, while Kenya had 1351; Korea, 1334; and the Philippines, 1239. Of 106 countries reporting, 58 counted a net increase in churches; 48 reported losses or no gains.

—Brazil also led baptisms, with 52,763, followed by Nigeria, with 27,960; Kenya, 16,089; and Tanzania, 16,001. Fifty-six countries reported increases in baptisms, while 50 reported downturns or no gains. Thirty-eight countries reported 50 or fewer baptisms.

—Southern Baptist missionaries began sharing the gospel with 22 new people groups in 15 countries. Baptist work moved into 110 new cities in 41 countries.

—The partnership between Kenyan and Kentucky Baptists resulted in numerous converts, with more than 25 percent culminating in baptisms. Church membership in Kenya increased by 32 percent to 75,334.

—Bangladesh, a Muslim country, witnessed a 37 percent increase in Baptist churches when 23 joined the Baptist convention. Much of the progress occurred among the Hindu minority.

An average mission congregation overseas organizes as a church in three years, he explained. In South Korea and Brazil, the birth-to-organization period takes between nine and 18 months. But in Japan it takes five to seven years.

The Foreign Mission Board appointed 358 new missionaries last year, down from 407 in 1987. The net gain in the mission force was 28 in 1988—compared to 83 in 1987—after subtracting retirements, resignations and deaths, bringing the total force to 3867 for 1988. Southern Baptists still are on target to meet the revised Bold Mission Thrust world evangelization goal of 5600 missionaries in 125 countries by the year 2000, Slack said.

The 10,813 volunteers in 1988 are a "bright spot in the report," Parks said, because volunteers develop into more enthusiastic church members and many become missionaries. Churches sending volunteers often form a stronger interest in missions and give more through the denomination's Cooperative Program unified budget and mission offerings, he said. (BP)

Do foreign missions differently, survey since 1950 suggests

Numbers alone—no matter how impressive—are not the best way to assess the effectiveness of Southern Baptist missionary work with overseas Baptists, a recently completed computer analysis of Southern Baptist foreign mission work from 1950 to 1987 shows.

The analysis recommends further strengthening of the Foreign Mission Board's evangelism, discipleship, and church starting efforts and deployment of more workers and resources to areas of the world where people have few opportunities to hear the Christian message.

Three years ago, FMB president R. Keith Parks voiced "serious doubt" about missions-as-usual in his report to trustees. Parks advocated change.

Missionaries and staff members began researching and rethinking the approaches to foreign missions. New strategies for communicating the gospel in today's world were proposed and approved by trustees, a process that is continuing.

The analysis of foreign mission work from 1950 to 1987 was undertaken by Jim Maroney, FMB evangelism and church growth consultant, and missionary Jim Slack, church growth director for Southern Baptist work in the Philippines.

The research shows numerical growth in Baptist work overseas has been "appreciable" over the years, but adds that a "more analytical approach . . . reveals poor growth" in most areas of foreign missions.

Overseas baptisms, for example, increased from 15,620 in 1950 to 203,824 in 1987. But the average annual growth rate decreased from 9.3 percent during the 1950s to 7.6 percent since 1970, according to Maroney and Slack.

Focusing on the 1970-1987 period, the researchers found that many believers who were baptized did not remain involved with Baptist congregations. Overseas Baptists reported 444,090 more baptisms than church members in those years.

Clark Scanlon, board director of research and planning, said the research supports current board strategy calling for analysis of church growth trends.

"These studies, made with openness and honesty, are for the purpose of analyzing where we are, where changes are to be made," Scanlon said. "Right now we are considering plans for 1990 and beyond that come out of the insights gained from these stud The researchers' findings also reflect lopsided global evangelization efforts.

Reviewing statistics from 1986 for mission work in 104 countries, Maroney and Slack noted that seven countries accounted for 78 percent of the increase in churches: Brazil, Nigeria, the Philippines, South Korea, Kenya, Mexico and India. (BP)

Southern Baptist Convention

June 13-15, 1989

Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, Nevada

Theme: "Going, Weeping; Sowing, Reaping"

Scripture: Psalm 126:6

Convention officers

President—C. Jerry Vines, pastor, First Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Fla.; **First Vice President**—Darrell Robinson, pastor, Dauphin Way Baptist Church, Mobile, Ala.; **Second Vice President**—Rudy Hernandez, pastor, Metro Baptist Church, San Antonio, Tex.; **Recording Secretary**—Martin B. Bradley, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville; **Registration Secretary**—Lee Porter, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville; **Treasurer**—Harold C. Bennett, president, SBC Executive Committee, Nashville

Tuesday Morning, June 13, 1989

8:30 Music for inspiration, Greg Buchanan, harpist, Overland Park, Kan.
8:50 Call to order
Congregational singing, John McKay, convention music director, Keller, Tex.
8:55 Prayer, Rex Holt, pastor, Central Baptist Church, Jonesboro, Ark.
9:00 Registration report and constitution of convention, Lee Porter, registration secretary, design editor, Sunday School Division, Sunday School Board, Nashville
9:05 Committee on order of business, John B. Wright, chairman, pastor, First Baptist Church, Little Rock, Ark.
9:10 Welcome, Mayor Ron Lurie, Las Vegas
9:15 Response, Gerald Harris, pastor, Colonial Heights Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss.
9:20 Announcement of committee on committees, credentials, resolutions and tellers
9:25 Theme interpretation, B. Gray Allison, president, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, Memphis, Tenn.
9:45 Executive Committee report (part 1), Harold C. Bennett, president and treasurer, Nashville
10:45 Introduction of business and resolutions
11:15 Congregational singing, Pat Roper, music evangelist, Greenville, S. C.
11:20 Music, John McKay
11:25 President's address, C. Jerry Vines, pastor, First Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Fla.
12:00 Benediction, Spencer R. Rogers, pastor, Delaware Valley Baptist Church, Willingboro, N. J.

Tuesday Afternoon, June 13, 1989

1:00 Evangelistic singers, Pat Roper presiding
1:35 Seminary vocal ensemble, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Phillip Landgrave, director
2:00 Congregational singing, Bill Keith, minister of music, First Baptist Church, West Palm Beach, Fla.
2:05 Prayer, John Jenkins, pastor, Southcrest Baptist Church, Southhaven, Miss.
2:10 Messenger information survey, Martin B. Bradley, recording secretary; director, Research Services Department, Sunday School Board, Nashville
2:20 Introduction of business and resolutions
2:30 Election of officers (first)
2:45 Committee on nominations report, Joe H. Reynolds, chairman, Houston
3:00 Congregational singing, Bill Crawford, minister of music, Central Baptist Church, Oak Ridge, Tenn.
3:05 Executive committee report (part 2), Harold C. Bennett
4:00 Congregational singing, Pat Roper
4:05 Business—committee on committees report, introduction of business and resolutions, miscellaneous business
4:45 Election of officers (second)
5:00 Benediction, Larry Wynn, pastor, Hebron Baptist Church, Dacula, Ga.

Tuesday Evening, June 13, 1989

6:30 Music for inspiration, Squire Parsons, music evangelist, Asheville, N. C.
7:00 Congregational singing, John McKay
7:05 Prayer, John Yarbrough, pastor, Tabernacle Baptist Church, Cartersville, Ga.
7:10 Election of officers (third)
7:20 Theme interpretation, Bobby Boyles, pastor, First Baptist Church, Moore, Okla.
7:40 Sunday School Board report, Lloyd Elder, president, Nashville
8:15 Congregational singing, John McKay
8:20 Foreign Mission Board report, R. Keith Parks, president, Richmond, Va.
9:20 Benediction, Barry Barron, pastor, Broadway Baptist Church, Gainesville, Ga.

Wednesday Morning, June 14, 1989

8:30 Music for inspiration, Old Time Gospel Hour trio, Lynchburg, Va.
8:50 Congregational singing, John McKay
8:55 Prayer, H. Gene Ray, pastor, Normandy Road Baptist Church, Royal Oak, Mich.
9:00 Election of officers (fourth)
9:10 Radio and Television Commission report, Jimmy R. Allen, president, Ft. Worth, Tex.
9:20 Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary report, Milton Ferguson, president, Kansas City, Mo.
9:30 Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary report, Lewis A. Drummond, president, Wake Forest, N. C.
9:40 Stewardship Commission report, A. R. Fagan, president, Nashville
9:50 Southern Baptist Foundation report, Hollis E. Johnson III, president, Nashville
10:00 Congregational singing, John Lee, minister of music, First Baptist Church, Lubbock, Tex.
10:05 Christian Life Commission report, Richard Land, executive director, Nashville
10:15 Brotherhood Commission report, James H. Smith, president, Memphis, Tenn.
10:25 Baptist World Alliance report, Denton Lotz, general secretary-treasurer, Washington, and Billy Kim, Seoul, Korea
10:40 Committee on denominational calendar report, James A. Green Jr., chairman, Jal, N. M.
10:50 Public affairs committee report, Samuel Currin, chairman, Raleigh, N. C.
10:55 Congregational singing, Sam Jones, minister of music, Faith Baptist Church, Anchorage, Ak.
11:05 Election of officers (fifth)
11:15 Business—Committee on resolutions (first report), miscellaneous business
11:50 Congregational singing, Mickey Ewing, minister of worship, Northside Baptist Church, Victoria, Tex.
11:55 Music, Chris Chapman, staff, Prestonwood Baptist Church, Dallas, Tex.
12:00 Convention sermon, Morris Chapman, pastor, First Baptist Church, Wichita Falls, Tex.
12:30 Benediction, Phil Box, pastor, Trinity Baptist Church, Tulsa, Okla.

No Wednesday afternoon session

Wednesday Evening, June 14, 1989

6:30 Music for inspiration, Peachtree Corners Baptist Church Choir, Norcross, Ga., Monte Nichols, director
6:55 Congregational singing, John McKay
7:00 Prayer, Bill Merrell, pastor, Country Estates Baptist Church, Midwest City, Okla.
7:05 Theme interpretation, Bo Whittington, homemaker, Marietta, Ga.
7:25 Business—Election of convention sermon preacher and alternate, and music director, 1990
7:30 Introduction of local arrangements committee
7:35 Presentation of past presidents
7:45 Presentation of newly elected SBC officers
7:50 Bold Mission Thrust report, Harold C. Bennett
8:00 Congregational singing, Monte Nichols
8:05 Home Mission Board report, Larry L. Lewis, president, Atlanta, Ga.
9:05 Benediction, James W. Jones, evangelism director, Baptist State Convention of Michigan, Southfield

Thursday Morning, June 15, 1989

8:30 Music for inspiration, Alan Celoria family, Jackson, Miss.
8:50 Congregational singing, John McKay
8:55 Prayer, Steve Taylor, pastor, Sandia Baptist Church, Albuquerque, N. M.
9:00 Business—Committee on resolutions (final report)
10:00 Education Commission report, Arthur L. Walker Jr., executive director, Nashville
10:10 Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary report, William O. Crews, president, Mill Valley, Cal.
10:20 Annuity Board report, Darold H. Morgan, president, Dallas, Tex.
10:30 Congregational singing, Jerry Ables, minister of music, First Baptist Church, Bossier City, La.
10:35 New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary report, Landrum P. Leavell II, president, New Orleans, La.
10:45 Southern Baptist Theological Seminary report, Roy L. Honeycutt, president, Louisville
10:55 Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary report, Russell H. Dilday Jr., president, Ft. Worth, Tex.
11:05 Commission on American Baptist Theological Seminary report, Arthur L. Walker Jr., secretary-treasurer, Nashville
11:15 Historical Commission report, Lynn E. May Jr., executive director, Nashville
11:25 Report on Southern Baptist Convention Canada planning group, Larry L. Lewis
11:35 Recognition of outgoing officers
11:45 Congregational singing, John McKay
11:50 Music, Jill Shirley, Shawnee, Okla., and David Phelps, Waco, Tex.
12:00 Message, Charles Stanley, pastor, First Baptist Church, Atlanta, Ga.
12:30 Benediction, Mark Brooks, pastor, Elmdale Baptist Church, Springdale, Ark.

Thursday Afternoon, June 15, 1989

2:00 Music for inspiration
2:25 Congregational singing, Pat Roper
2:30 Prayer, Gary Smith, pastor, Emmanuel Baptist Church, Enid, Okla.
2:35 Introduction of fraternal representatives
2:40 Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs report, James M. Dunn, executive director, Washington
2:50 Denominational press report, Alvin C. Shackleford, vice president for public relations, SBC Executive Committee, Nashville
3:00 Woman's Missionary Union report, Carolyn Weatherford, executive director, Birmingham, Ala.
3:10 American Bible Society report, John D. Erickson, general secretary, New York
3:20 Benediction, Joe Finfrock, pastor, First Baptist Church, Gentry, Ark.
Adjournment

mountains to the mississippi

James H. Cox
Associate Editor

fourth estate

An SBC wish list

This is about the time of year the proposed Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting agenda begins appearing in Baptist state papers. (See facing page.) For years I've thought there is a better way of scheduling our business than we now do it. I offer six changes which might improve our deliberations.

1. Instead of meeting Tuesday morning through Thursday afternoon, begin Friday evening and conclude Sunday afternoon, with no afternoon "off" as presently. Condense seven sessions into six. *Gain:* Participation by volunteer leaders would dramatically increase, putting more power into the hands of the "other 95%" of church members.

2. Program the presently diminished home and foreign missions emphases *before* the elections, after which multitudes now depart. Designate Saturday night as a great missions night. *Gain:* The impact would be weighty as collectively we experienced our great love for evangelism and missions. Politics would be at least temporarily defused.

3. Conduct Southern Baptists' largest single worship service Sunday morning. Include Bible study, a great choir and sermon. *Gain:* With our eyes on God, the mood would be set for a business session to follow which could glorify the Father.

4. Schedule the election of officers at the start of the closing session (Sunday afternoon). This would permit time for run-offs before the session concludes. The resolutions committee's final report could be brought after the elections. *Gain:* Obvious. When the business is done, 50-70% hurry away. Scheduling the present "main thing" last would decrease its "importance."

5. Move seminary alumni fellowships from Wednesday luncheons to Sunday evening dinners. *Gain:* Laypeople needing to be at work Monday could fly/drive home Sunday night. They wouldn't miss the alumni meetings (which aren't planned for them anyway), and wouldn't have "dead time" as now.

6. Rearrange auxiliary meetings now beginning up to four days before the SBC meeting. Start them Monday morning, concluding Tuesday noon or later. *Gain:* The "lesser lights" have overshadowed the main meeting far too long. Putting them last would diminish opportunity for both sides of the controversy to use their platforms to launch frenzied stampedes to the SBC ballot box.

Our present schedule has contributed significantly to the chaos in which we deliberate. Laypeople are disenfranchised, missions is not taken seriously and we've made it convenient to keep the machinery oiled by casting a few votes on opening day. There's got to be a better way of doing God's business.

personnel

Kenneth Whitehouse is pastor of Lee's Lane Baptist Church, Long Run Association.

Temple Baptist Church, Daviess-McLean Association, called **Bill Roby** as pastor.

Gordon Moore resigned as pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Allen Association.

Mouthcard Baptist Church, Pike Association, called **Kenneth Duggan** as minister of youth. He is a student at Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, Pineville.

Micky Ferguson is pastor of Russell Creek Baptist Church, Russell Creek Association.

Leon Eskridge is new pastor of Orville Baptist Church, Henry County Association.

Scott Courtney, a Southern Seminary student, is pastor of Sulphur Baptist Church, Henry County Association.

Rick Reynolds resigned the pastorate of Maretburg Baptist Church, Rockcastle Association.

Thomas Dwight Campbell is new pastor of English Baptist Church, Whites Run Association.

John Cook resigned the pastorate of New Bethel Baptist Church, Breckenridge Association, to become a home missionary in North Carolina.

Jerry Lacefield resigned as pastor of Oak Hill Baptist Church, Caldwell-Lyon Association.

James Cook resigned as pastor of Friendship Baptist Church No. 1, Caldwell-Lyon Association.

Milton Judd resigned as pastor of Three Forks Baptist Church, Caldwell-Lyon Association.

Scott Hamrick is new pastor of Franklinton Baptist Church, Henry County Association. A native of Florida, he earned his BA from Miss. College and is now a Southern Seminary student. Hamrick and his wife Wanda have two preschoolers.

George Atkins has resigned the pastorate of Newtown Baptist Church, Bell Association. **Doug Criswell,** a Clear Creek College student, is new pastor.

Danny Elton McClelland is new minister of music and youth at First Baptist Church, Junction City, South District Association. He goes from Forsyth, Ill.

Bruner's Chapel Baptist Church, Mercer Association, called **Steve Moscoe** as minister of music, youth and children. He has been minister of music at Kirksville Baptist Church, Tates Creek Association, and South Elkhorn Baptist Church, Elkhorn Association.

B. J. Bennett is new pastor of First Baptist Church, Clinton, West Kentucky Association. He goes from First Baptist Church, Greensburg, La. Bennett earned his MDiv and ThD degrees from New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary.

Dan McClelland has been called as minister of music and youth, First Baptist Church, Junction City, South District Association. He goes from Decatur, Ill.

Sunnyside Baptist Church, Pulaski Association, called **Rick Reynolds** as pastor. He goes from Marrietburg Baptist Church, Rockcastle Association.

Mike Farmer is minister of education and youth, Memorial Baptist Church, Blood River Association. He and his wife Gwen are recent graduates of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex. Farmer is a native of Martin, Tenn.

Bob Bailey resigned as minister of education, Walnut Street Baptist Church, Long Run Association, effective Mar. 15. He goes to Clifton Baptist Church, Long Run Association, as pastor.

Mike Osborne has resigned the pastorate of Hedgeville Baptist Church to go to Linden, Ala.

associations

Charles Simmons is new director of mission, **Graves County Association.** He goes from Hamlet Baptist Church, Blood River Association.

Simmons pastored Kentucky churches 31 years. He has been clerk for Ohio Association; Graves County board member of Kentucky Baptist Convention executive board; trustee of Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly; member of the advisory board of Cumberland College, Williamsburg; and Sunday school director, Blood River Baptist Assocation. He and his wife Roma Riley have four children: Rickey, Jerry, Tonya and Shanna.

missions

Bob Blevins director of missions, Booneville/Irvine Associations, went with five other men to Jamaica, Feb. 4-11, as part of Kentucky Baptist Builders. The group completed three churches and worked with carpenters from Florida and Georgia. In the church service Sunday night, there were 19 professions of faith.

For more information about going to Jamaica with Kentucky Baptist Builders, contact Blevins at (606) 598-6242.

ordinations

Rick Riddle and **Forest Stamper** were ordained as deacons of Erlanger Baptist Church, Northern Kentucky Association, Feb. 19. William E. Crosby is pastor.

Charles "Ed" Hamlin, pastor, Raikes Hill Baptist Mission, Taylor Association, was ordained Feb. 12 at Campbellsville Baptist Church, mother church. Charge to the candidate was given by James Jones, pastor, Campbellsville Baptist Church and president, Kentucky Baptist Convention. Thurman Eaton, a retired pastor, gave the charge to the church. Hamlin is a senior at Campbellsville College and has been pastor at Raikes Hill two years.

Bill Dreyer, Jim Hartman and **Roger Mason** were ordained deacons of Berea Baptist Church, Tates Creek Association. John J. Chapman is pastor.

Gilead Baptist Church, Severns Valley Association, ordained **D. R. Miller** a deacon. John Paul Brady is pastor.

Kenneth Millikin was ordained a deacon of Lola Baptist Church, Ohio River Association. Billy McDowell is pastor.

Emmanuel Baptist Church, Ohio River Association, ordained **Jim Tabor, G. H. McMican** and **Roger Drennan** deacons. Paul D. Cannon is pastor.

90-year-old double amputee baptized

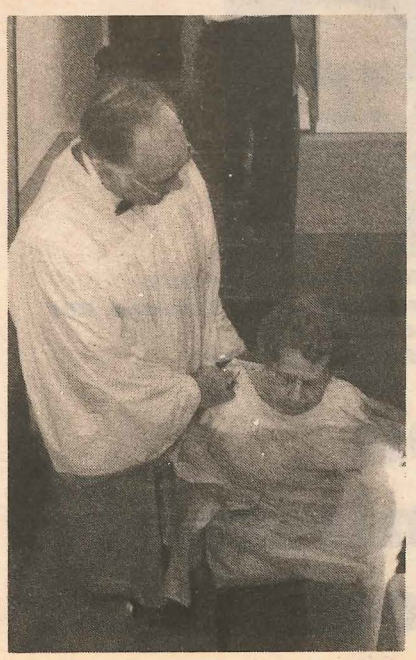
Elsie Mueller first experienced God calling her to faith in Christ during a revival conducted by Billy Sunday. Her heart was touched as the choir sang "Just as I am." But the 20-year-old woman refused to respond.

Seventy years later God called her again during one of the weekly services conducted by the interim pastor and members of First Baptist Church, Highland Heights, at Lakeside Place Nursing Home, Highland Heights, where she resides.

Because she has lost both legs, Miss Mueller is a wheel chair patient. After transportation to the church, Miss Mueller rode her wheel chair down the aisle to make a profession of faith. On Feb. 5, she was strapped into an upright chair and lowered into the pool by two church members and was baptized by Harold Wainscott, interim pastor.

"The sight of a 90-year-old double amputee being baptized brought a lot of joyful satisfaction to those who gave of their time every Wednesday to conduct a service for the residents at Lakeside Place. It also reminds the rest of us that there are a lot of Elsies in the convalescent homes, trailer parks, apartments and condos who have put off all too long professing faith in Jesus Chrust," said Wainscott.

"That is just one more good reason why our churches should be reaching out to them in new missions. Many of these will never come to our churches or to Christ unless we go to them."



Barkley Moore
President
Oneida Baptist Institute
Oneida, KY 40972

oneida journal

A harsh letter

Some time ago an elderly lady brought a young man to our school. She was no kin to him. She was the mother of a former stepfather. The mother and stepfather did not bother to come. The father and stepmother made no effort to do so either. Almost never do we accept a child without at least one of the parents physically seeing our place and hearing what we have to say.

However, the mother who had the legal custody had signed all the necessary papers and sent them by the old woman. She was pledged to pay a certain amount each month, a fraction of our normal charge which is about one-fourth the true value of services rendered per month.

We made an exception to our normal policy. But subsequent experiences with both sets of parents, neither of whom were interested enough to see where their son was going to be, reminded us vividly why we have the policy of requiring parents to accompany their children.

We accepted the boy for a very small monthly fee but as time went by, we could not get even that. The mother's excuse was the father was not sending payments. Finally we sent the father and stepmother a small bill and got back a very harsh letter that it was none of their responsibility.

I wrote back: "We took your son and what is being charged is only a fraction of the cost. He couldn't eat anywhere for the amount we are charging and we are doing far more than feeding him. He has the benefit of an excellent program in the fastest growing boarding school in the United States. We are both a school and a home and Johnny (not his real name) certainly has need of both.

An old lady brought Johnny to us. If I understand correctly, she is no blood relation at all. She is the mother of a former stepfather of Johnny. Yet she was concerned enough to try to do something for this boy, your son. Her only income is a little social security. She thought you, his father, would help him at least a little. We find Johnny to be a fine boy and he seems to be doing well. As best I can tell he is happy here.

"People like you bring children into the world. Not even divorce excuses you from all responsibility to help with the proper upbringing of your child. Some court might excuse you. Stepmoms and stepdads often wish to be excused. Dads like you often forget their children or act like it is normal for someone else to have all the responsibility. While all this goes on, the child is made to suffer.

"You say things did not work out while he lived with you. Maybe not but he is still your son and morally you still have some responsibility for him and his situation. You should be grateful he is happy and doing well.

"Instead you have written us an angry letter as though we have done something wrong in trying to help him and have washed your hands of even paying a cent. We, who were perfect strangers to him, are helping him at less than 10 percent of true cost, and you, his father, are not willing to help for even a small part of that. It would seem that you would want to help.

"Do what your conscience dictates. We'll not throw Johnny into the street regardless of what you do. I cannot believe a father can act in such a way. But it appears that neither father nor mother, stepfather or stepmother, want to do anything for this boy. So it is left to strangers. God willing, we will do better than you have done. In fact, we already have."

Such people make one wonder about the human race. But then we remember the thousands of loving and responsible parents who have sacrificed that their children might benefit from the things Oneida offers. No program, public or private, offers children grades 6-12 the number of opportunities Oneida has.

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

sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR MAR. 5, 1989

Life and work series

Unity in diversity

I Cor. 12:14-27 From Paul's comparison of the church with the human body we are to understand that both are living organisms. In both the human body and the church each member has its own particular function. Proper function of each is necessary to the best interests of all the other members. They are to perform their respective functions for which they are fitted, for the good of the entire body and without any friction between them.

It is quite obvious that it is the divine intent for us to make the spiritual application of these facts which are very self-evident in the physical realm. Since the different parts of the human body cooperate beautifully, it is certainly unwise and sinful for a member of the church to yield to conceit, pride, jealousy, envy or covetousness. Just as a human body is healthy and efficient when each of its parts function properly, so members of the church should respect each other, sympathize with each other and work with one another. Members of the church should cooperate rather than compete in the work of their Lord. Their unity should spring from the Holy Spirit who not only regenerates but imparts one or more gifts to every saved person for the doing of the Lord's work on this earth. The Holy Spirit has many gifts to bestow upon the children of God, enough gifts for all of them to have all they will use. No Christian is ever justified in being envious of the gifts which another have received.

With genuine concern for those who encounter difficulties, misfortunes, sufferings and sorrows, one must strive to help them in their adversities and then rejoice with them in their victories and blessings.

International series

An appeal for acceptance

Philemon 4-20 This brief personal letter written by Paul to his dear friend Philemon while Paul was in a Roman prison, relates a beautiful story of intercession, forgiveness and restoration to fellowship. It is assumed that Philemon was a native and an inhabitant of Colossae in Phrygia who became a Christian under the ministry of Paul. The ties of love which bound them together were a source of great joy and comfort to Paul.

This well-to-do man owned one or more slaves. One of them, Onesimus, appropriated some of Philemon's property and ran away. Fearing punishment for his crime, he fled to Rome, hoping to get lost in the crowd. This fugitive came to Paul, who introduced him to Christ. Paul then sent him back to his Christian master, Philemon, to confess his sin and to be not merely a slave but to become "a brother beloved."

Knowing that Philemon could legally inflict on Onesimus the death penalty, Paul wrote this letter and sent it to him by Onesimus.

Approaching the matter which occasioned this letter very tactfully Paul urgently requested Philemon to receive Onesimus into his household in full standing as a "brother in Christ." His request implied it was not only eminently desirable for him to do so but as a Christian Philemon was under obligation to do so. Had he refused, Philemon would have been chargeable with a flagrant neglect of his duty.

Paul's letter revealed a tenderness toward the offender and at the same time a full awareness of the guilt of Onesimus and his real need to make restitution. Paul assured Philemon Onesimus was then able to prove himself profitable as a Christian servant and brother in Christ.

Paul expressed his personal willingness to assume entire responsibility for any indebtedness which Onesimus had incurred.

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

on mission together

Civil war parallels?

I did a lot of thinking on the drive home from Nashville last week where I observed sessions of the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee.

Running also through my **mind** was the book **Peach Leather and Rebel Gray,** based on the diary of a Woodford County confederate wife and the Civil War's terrible effect on her family.

Kentucky tried to remain neutral and, for awhile, sympathizers of both sides found it possible to live together. But in August 1861, Union General William Nelson established Camp Dick Robinson in Garrard County for the recruitment and training of Union soldiers. Governor Magoffin claimed this was a violation of Kentucky's neutral position and asked for its removal. President Lincoln refused. Within weeks, General Nelson instituted a policy of arresting Kentuckians merely for holding opinions favorable to the South. Many were imprisoned or fled. Two religious newspapers, the **True Presbyterian** and the **Baptist Recorder** were suppressed by military order, and **their editors sent to prison.**

In time, and until the end of the war, Kentucky was no longer a place for both sides.

What has the one (Executive Committee meeting) to do with the other (the Civil War)?

Kentucky is the "home" for about 750,000 Southern Baptists. While no one knows the exact proportion, some are favorable to the changes that are taking place in our larger Baptist "nation." Some are equally opposed. But the **large** majority has tried not to let the "war" break out within our Kentucky Baptist family.

The SBC Executive Committe voted last Tuesday by 42-27 to recommend to the SBC a new entity to be named the "Religious Liberty Commission." This action is the result of some dissatisfaction with the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, which for 50 years has been the Southern Baptist Convention's representative in Washington on First Amendment issues.

Later in the meeting, however, the Executive Committee voted 39-30 **not** to reduce the support to the BJCPA for the 1989-90 budget.

There are very strong feelings on both sides of this issue. The further reduction of funds to the Joint Committee is understood to be the source from which the new commission will be financed.

This issue **could** bring the war into Kentucky Baptist life. Somehow a way must be found to retain our mission **together** while dealing fairly and openly with this issue.

Pray that Kentucky's special committee finds that "way" for us.

The committee members are: Howard Cobble, James Jones, Don Mathis, David Nelson, Eugene Siler Jr., Ted Sisk, Eldred Taylor and Bill Marshall, ex officio.

Student uses 'street smarts' at Southwestern

When Warren McKethan talks about being smart, he's referring to "street smarts."

The victim of physical abuse, McKethan fended for himself on the streets of Dallas beginning at age 12. As a ninth grade dropout, he never learned to read or write.

At 16, McKethan married a 14-year-old girl. Not long after McKethan was married he did something completely out of character for himself—he bought a Bible.

"I gave it to Phyllis and to this day I don't know why," McKethan said. "I'd never been in church and knew absolutely nothing about the Bible."

McKethan is now at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary pursuing an associate degree in divinity.

McKethan's miracle was not an instant turnaround, but a long process that eventually led him to accept Christ.

To support his family, McKethan worked 14 years as a machinist at a Dallas factory. "It was an extremely tough time for me," McKethan explains. "I was working graveyard shifts and I felt locked into the job because I didn't have an education."

To ease his frustration, McKethan turned to drugs. He soon became an addict.

Searching for answers, he began attending a Baptist church. He went faithfully for six months and prayed continually for deliverance from his drug habit. But he refused to profess Christ as savior and was soon discouraged with his inability to stay off drugs.

Three days after giving up on prayer, McKethan overdosed. Lying in a hospital bed, he realized his need for salvation and walked out of the hospital on his own.

"I went home and fell on my face in my bedroom," McKethan remembered. "I prayed and asked the Lord to come into my heart."

He checked into a drug rehabilition center and began putting his life back together.

Inspired by his new faith, McKethan got involved in church life. He joined Northview Baptist Church in Lewisville, started teaching Sunday school, took over the Royal Ambassadors program and joined the church choir.

"I felt the very least I owed to my Lord was to participate in his church," said McKethan. "But I felt that the Lord wanted more out of me. So I prayed for him to show me what to do."

A friend told him about Southwestern, where McKethan met Dan McLallen, director of admissions. McLallen helped McKethan enrol at the seminary, which McKethan described as "the hardest thing I've ever had to do in my life." Though he taught himself to read at age 25 with his wife's help, he said he still felt "totally unworthy" to attend seminary.

McKethan completed his first semester at seminary last fall. He feels called to help drug addicts and people forced to live on the streets.

"There are so many people out there that are just wanting to be loved, to know they're accepted no matter who or what they are," McKethan said. "They need to know that when Jesus Christ comes into your life, things can change. They have for me."

Warren McKethan talks with a man at downtown Ft. Worth Water Gardens.

Southern Baptist materials no longer "lily-white"

Use of art and photographs depicting ethnic people in Baptist Sunday School Board periodicals has almost doubled in the past three years but more progress needs to be made, according to the director of the board's black church and language work.

"Ethnics are not being addressed as well by any other denomination," said Bill Banks, director of the Sunday School Board's Special Ministries Department. "Southern Baptists have a chance to be more inclusive and make an impact with the increasing ethnic population."

Ethnic groups make up more than 40 percent of the United States population and represent about 10 percent of Southern Baptist membership, Banks said.

"We are perceived to be at the forefront of mainline denominations when it comes to reaching out to language and ethnic groups," Banks told Sunday School Board program leaders.

He cited a review of board periodicals that showed 9.6 percent of the pictures in the January-March 1989 quarter depicted ethnics. Of the 2274 pictures in 158 periodicals, 216 included ethnics.

Positive images of ethnic persons are being presented more frequently in Baptist Sunday School Board literature such as in these Church Training and Sunday school materials.

Photos included in the count are those with at least one person who obviously was Hispanic, Black, or Asian.

A similar analysis of the periodicals for the October-December 1986 quarter showed that only 141 of 2599 illustrations included ethnics, for a 5.4 percent representation.

Banks said he would like to see a continuing gradual increase of ethnics in periodicals of about 2 percent per year for the next five years.

Not only is the percentage of pictures with ethnics increasing, but the quality is improving as well, he said.

According to criteria used to evaluate the pictures, none of those in the January-March 1989 quarter presented ethnics in a negative way, Banks said. In the October-December 1986 quarter, 19 pictures presented a negative image of ethnics, while 40 pictures were considered neutral rather than positive or negative.

A negative image would be a picture which presents ethnics in a potentially demeaning or belittling way such as poor, down-and-out and receiving services, rather than participating in a church activity, Banks explained.

Also, most of the pictures in the January-March 1989 quarter presented ethnics in church activities rather than in home or foreign missions settings. In the October-December 1986 quarter, only seven pictures were judged to be in that category, while the others were missions pictures, Banks said.

Ethnics now are being portrayed in pictures as leaders, caregivers and participants in church activities, Banks said.

He commended editors and artists at the board for working to find pictures involving ethnics in local church situations.

A special ministries design section was created in the Church Program Services Art Department two years ago. Although the section's primary concern is the various language periodicals, it has an added benefit as a "source for helping other artists locate illustrations of ethnic persons," explained Doris Adams, section manager.

The section has developed a file of materials from southern California, New Mexico, New York, Miami, Chicago and Atlanta depicting Blacks, Koreans, Hispanics, American Indians and Chinese in various church activities, Adams said.

Samples of the materials are routed to other publication artists to make them aware of what is available, she said.

Although illustrations with ethnic people were used in language periodicals beginning in the late 1970s, English language material use of illustrations depicting ethnic people was not emphasized until 1983, Banks said.

Still, periodicals occasionally may be "lily-white" for a quarter, but the overall situation has changed radically, Banks said.

"In five years, we should be right where we ought to be with inclusion of ethnics in materials," he said. (BP)

Oneida Crowns 1989 Yearbook Queen

Maryam Tabatabai, a native of Iran, is the 1989 Oneida Yearbook Queen.

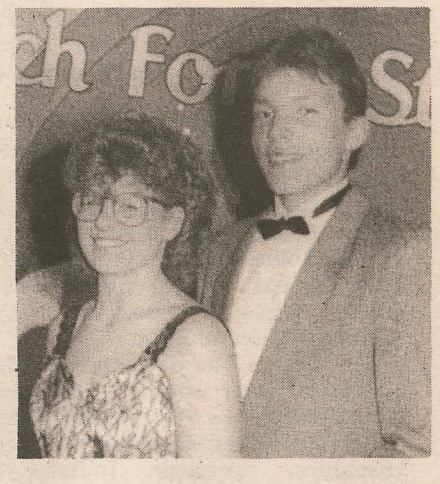
One of ten girls nominated by vote of the student body, she was chosen by a panel of three outside judges; two former Oneida teachers and a pastor.

Maryam tied another for top student of her class last year. She is a 16 year old senior and plans to be a medical doctor. Her brother Amir, also an Oneida graduate, has the same ambition and in his third year of college as a chemistry major has all A's with the exception of one B.

Besides being very active on the academic team and yearbook staff, Maryam is also a fine player on the varsity tennis and volleyball teams.

Having studied piano at Oneida, she played "Leibestraum" as a part of the competition in the nearly three hour annual yearbook pageant.

Maryam was escorted by all-state soccer player, Thanoo Ransikul, a 17-year old senior who came to Oneida three years ago from Bangkok, Thailand.



First Runner-up in the 1989 Yearbook Queen pageant was Carol Caraway, an 18 year old senior from Huntsville, Alabama.

Carol plans to attend Auburn University majoring in veterinary science.

Voted "most outstanding" sophomore by the faculty three years ago, Carol was chosen "most outstanding actress" in the 1987 Regional Drama competition.

Active in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Carol is a versatile athlete. She has received five varsity letters so far. Selected on the All-Conference team in cross country, she has also received coach's awards in track and cross-country and a "most improved" award on the varsity swim team.

Using her dramatic talent, Carol did a monologue titled "Which Way America?"

She was escorted by Oneida standout, senior Jeff Kelsey of Harrodsburg. Jeff's most recent achievement was ranking fourth in the 1988 cross-country state tournament, and first in the Mason-Dixon Games earlier this month.

Second Runnerup was Linda Lawson, a 17 year old senior, who has attended Oneida seven years, having first come to the dorm as a sixth grader from HiHat in Floyd County, KY.

Linda was voted by the faculty last year as the "most outstanding Junior girl" and also voted "most outstanding sixth grader" her first year. Her classmates have chosen her class favorite differing times including her freshman and sophomore years.

Linda plans to major in psychology at college and is both very athletic and very musical.

She has been in the choir and band all her Oneida years and in the choir Ensemble the last several years and given the Director's Choice award in choir.

Linda has earned a total of nine varsity athletic letters to date. She has been chosen all-district and all conference in basketball and softball. She has also received the "best shooting percentage" in basketball, the "Shagger of the Year" award in volleyball, and the coach's award in softball.

Linda is active in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. She sang "The Warrior Is A Child".

Her escort was Brandon Bowman, a sophomore from Bristol, TN active on the basketball and baseball teams.

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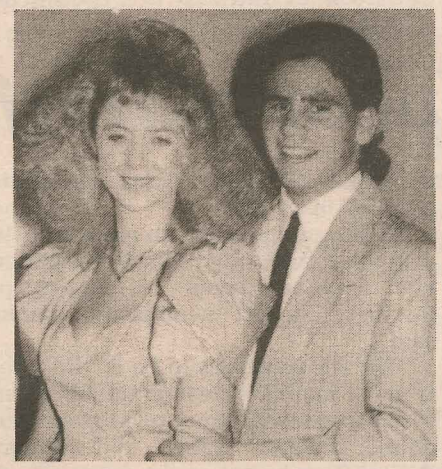
Debbi Garrett is a 17 year old senior who came to Oneida from Leitchfield her freshman year.

During her high school years, Debbi has been chosen on both the all-district and all-conference softball teams and received the "Miss Offense" award in softball. Also she has been on the varsity girls basketball, swimming and volleyball teams. She has been active in the FCA as well as in BSU, has received a total of seven varsity letters to date, and has completed the lifesaving course and served as a certified lifeguard.

Debbi has also been very active with the school choir that travels thousands of miles each year.

Debbi did some "clowning" around in costume including some fun with her pet "flea" during the talent competition. Her escort was 17 year old Mike Johnson of Birmingham, AL.

She plans to study to be a physical therapist or athletic trainer after high school.



Rachel Klise, an 18 year old senior from Anderson, IN, came to Oneida six years ago in the seventh grade.

She has participated in choir, the Flag Corps, cheerleading, played volleyball, been the softball team manager, and been active in BSU and FCA. She has studied piano and is on the yearbook staff.

College is also in Rachel's plans.

She sang "Raining On The Inside" and was escorted by Steve Kademoglou, an 18 year old senior from Chicago. Steve came in the eighth grade and was a goalie on our soccer team the past two years and also plays baseball.

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Bonnie Cook of Somerset came to Oneida as a freshman and is now an 18 year old senior.

She has played varsity basketball, cross country and softball. She was chosen on the All-Conference cross country team in both 1987 and 1988. She has received both the "most valuable runner" award in cross-country and the "most steals" award in basketball.

Also she has received "outstanding worker" awards in the work program and has been active in Baptist Student Union activities, the choir and FCA.

Bonnie plans to go to college to major in elementary education. She sang "My Father's Eyes" in the pageant program

Her escort was Darin Woods, the fourth generation of his family to live in Oneida's dorms. Darin is a native of Clay County and came at the beginning of his junior year. He is active in choir, FCA and other activities.

Margaret Rogers, a 17 year old senior, came to Oneida from Winchester her sophomore year. Her escort for the evening was Bill Music from Prestonsburg, in his third year at OBI and the top auto mechanics student.

Margaret plans to major in elementary education during her university years, and has been an Honor Roll student all her high school years.

She received the "Lady Mountaineer" award on the varsity softball team, the "Best Attitude" award for the "Flag Corps" team, and the "Peacemaker" award in cheerleading. She is treasurer of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and active in Oneida's BSU.

Margaret has received an "excellent" award for piano, and is also on the yearbook staff.

ONEIDA SUMMER SCHOOL
BEGINS JUNE 11