

Opportunity knocks on Louisville's door for ministry to deaf community

by Mary Royals Driskill
Staff Writer

"Many people are intrigued with the language but not the people," said Vesta Bice, director of Deaf Opportunity Outreach. And she's right.

"Most of us who are hearing are afraid of a handicapped person," Miss Bice added, "because we don't know how to approach them."

For real ministry to deaf to occur, it must be done by the deaf. That's the purpose of D.O.O.R. It not only provides ministry to the deaf but ministry opportunities for the deaf.

"Opportunities for deaf in missions service are limited," said Miss Bice. "This is a place for deaf who feel called to ministry."

In 1983, eight mission service volunteers began a five-year project to reach the deaf in Texas. Their goal was to communicate the gospel to an estimated 250,000 deaf persons in Texas. As a result, every major metropolitan area has a deaf church. There are 19 preaching points for the deaf and 110 churches which provide interpretation for all or part of their services.

There are an estimated 8000 deaf and hearing-impaired people in the Louisville area and 371,680 in the state. Kentucky has 40 Southern Baptist churches which offer interpreted services. There are two deaf mission congregations at Lyndon Baptist Church, Louisville, and Erlanger (Ky.) Baptist Church. In Danville, there is a Bible study for deaf. D.O.O.R. hopes to add to these numbers.

Moving headquarters from Houston, Tex. to Louisville will bring more than outreach opportunities to the deaf—it will bring opportunities for theological education as well.

Boyce Bible School, part of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, set up a program in 1979 to train deaf students. Using interpreters hasn't proved effective. The class teaching sign language has been very popular among the hearing students. But it takes more than interest in sign language to reach the deaf.

Boyce Bible school will provide classes for the deaf this fall—taught in sign—not interpreted. Four classes will be offered. The dream is that eventually

deaf instructors will be secured to teach the classes. That's one more step in the direction of "deaf reaching deaf," according to Miss Bice.

"D.O.O.R. gives them practical experience in ministry but they need theological training in ministry, too," said Miss Bice. "Boyce really undergirds our training."

Scholarships are being offered which will include lodging and tuition. In return, the students will work on weekend ministry teams in Kentucky, Ohio, Tennessee and Michigan.

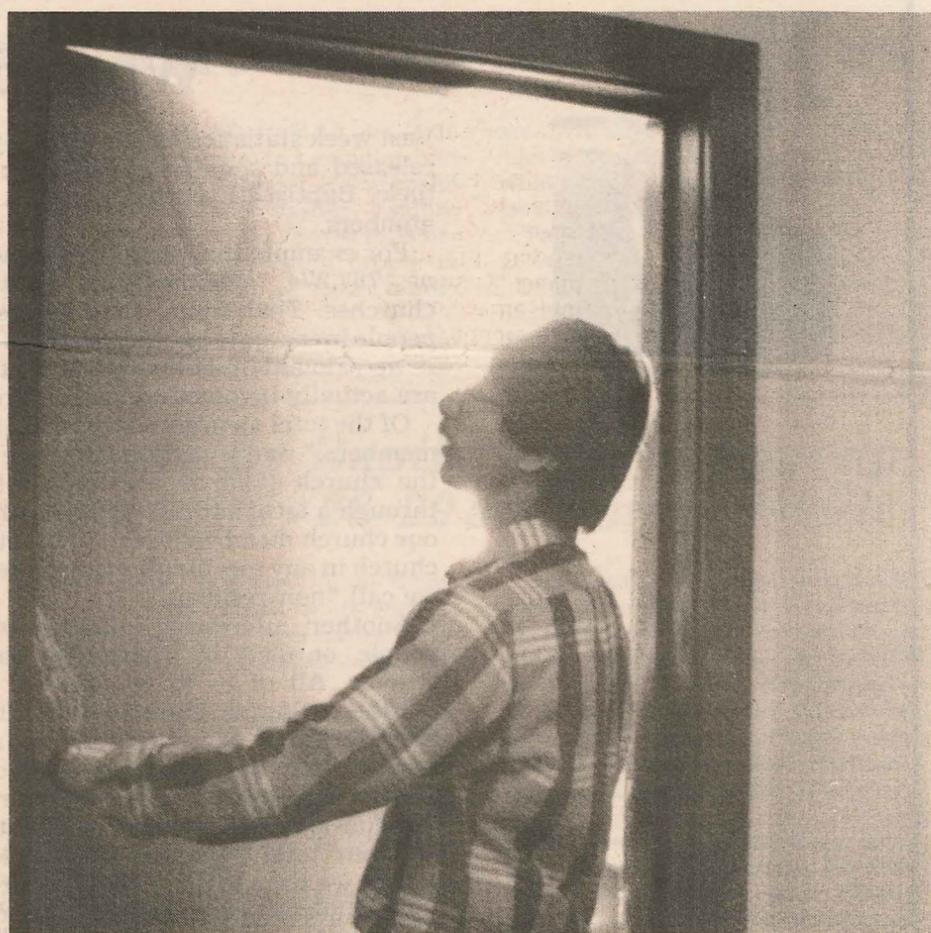
D.O.O.R. has three ministry teams: church planting, church support and Silent Touch, an evangelistic choir. Silent Touch is booked three years in advance. Miss Bice hopes to see two more choirs started to meet the demands. This team travels eight months of the year. The immediate goal is to get organized and secured here in Louisville. There are some hearing members on the administrative staff. As part of the Home Mission Board's Mission Service Corps, D.O.O.R. raises its own funding.

Team members work with D.O.O.R. for two-year terms. "They want to find out if this is something they want to pursue," said Miss Bice. The majority return to complete their education. She noted five members are in seminary now.

Our society hasn't been open to letting deaf take care of themselves, Miss Bice noted. For instance, we take high school deaf students and select fields of study for them. This only adds to their frustration of not having independence. Even in our churches, we force them into passive roles by not letting them take leadership roles.

"Ministry to the deaf is a real pioneer area. The concept of planting deaf churches is so new," said Miss Bice. But D.O.O.R. has been successful in doing just that.

She says the deaf community is very



Ronnie Stoops, member of Silent Touch, hangs a new door on their offices at Fourth Avenue Baptist Church.

invisible. If you're not familiar with the deaf community, you may not be aware it exists.

The deaf are very willing to introduce you to other deaf—if they believe you are sincere in your intentions. According to Miss Bice, we must be willing to realize that the deaf are people just like us.

The hard part of deaf church planting is not in getting people to come. "The hard part comes in training them," emphasized Miss Bice. "Most come with no church background. Most of the congregation is lost. That's when the real work comes."

It may take five to 10 years to mature a deaf congregation. "That's when a lot of people bow out," said Miss Bice. Every aspect of the church service must be explained. But this leads to independence. "When they assume ownership, they begin to serve."

Miss Bice noted there is a real sense of pride in the deaf community. "They are bound together by common experiences and barriers. They provide opportunities to experience life in their community."

Opportunity only knocks once—but only if there's a door. For the deaf community, now there is.

Ad hoc committee in E'town discusses BJCPA

by Jack Sanford, Editor

Approximately 25 people attended a public meeting in the chapel of Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown, Monday, Apr. 17, to discuss the relationship between the Kentucky Baptist Convention and the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs (BJCPA).

The meeting was called by Howard Cobble, pastor of the host church, and chairman of an ad hoc committee appointed at last year's Kentucky Baptist Convention meeting in Owensboro. The committee was created to study a motion made by Malcolm Lunceford, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, Frankfort.

Lunceford had asked the KBC to provide funding for the BJCPA which suffered budget cuts as a result of action taken by the Southern Baptist Convention last year in San Antonio. He specifically asked the convention to provide \$2500 from unrestricted funds this year and additional funds in future years on a "proportional share" basis if BJCPA funds continue to be withheld by the SBC.

After lengthy discussion on the floor of the convention the motion was referred to an ad hoc committee made up of Cobble; David Nelson, pastor, First Baptist Church, Owensboro; Eldred

Taylor, retired executive director, Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children; Ted Sisk, pastor, Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington; Don Mathis, pastor, Central Baptist Church, Corbin; James Jones, pastor, Campbellsville; Eugene Siler, federal judge and member of First Baptist Church, Williamsburg; and, serving as KBC staff advisor to the committee, William Marshall, executive secretary-treasurer, Kentucky Baptist Convention. Each member of the ad hoc committee except Marshall has served as president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

The committee heard several people express various points of view regarding the BJCPA and the role Kentucky Baptists should have with regard to help in funding the SBC agency. By predetermined design and public announcement, the committee did not engage in discussion nor debate with the speakers, but simply heard what those present had to say and accepted the remarks as fact-finding information to help them in the attempt to formulate a recommendation to the KBC. The committee will meet at a later date and present its findings and offer a recommendation to the convention at its annual meeting Nov. 14-16 at the Civic Center in Frankfort.

Persons who addressed the committee included Malcolm Lunceford; Don

Polaski, member, Crescent Hill Baptist Church, Louisville; Floyd Price, pastor, Buck Grove Baptist Church, Brandenburg; Stephen Shoemaker, pastor, Crescent Hill Baptist Church, Louisville; Allen F. Harrod, pastor, First Baptist Church, Bellevue; Charles Boetler, state court judge and member of First Baptist Church, Madisonville; J. Chester Badgett, pastor emeritus, Campbellsville Baptist Church; Richard Bridges, pastor, First Baptist Church, Bowling Green; Steven Watkins, graduate student at University of Louisville and graduate of Southern Seminary; David Smith, member, Crescent Hill Baptist Church, Louisville; and Roy Lewis, member, First Baptist Church, Ashland.

At the close of the meeting the ad hoc committee met to plan the future course of action open to them. No report was issued from the committee and no future date for other meetings was announced.

Correction

We failed to report that trustees of Southern Seminary granted Danny Stiver tenure as professor of philosophy. We regret this oversight and apologize to Brother Stiver.

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sanford's perspectives

What do the numbers mean?



Jack D. Sanford

Last week statistics for the church year 1988 were released and some interesting facts about Kentucky Baptist life emerged from a study of these numbers.

For example the record reveals we have a total of 767,274 members in Kentucky Baptist churches. That figure tells us we are a strong people in the state but that may be a bit misleading if we calculate just how many of those members are actually involved in local churches.

Of the total members only 546,258 are "resident members," that is people whom we declare live in the church field or are known to the church through a local address. Thus about 30 percent of our church members are not in fact related to the church in any meaningful way since they are what we call "non-resident."

Another interesting number is the 368,966 people enrolled in Kentucky Baptist Sunday schools. All of us know the real measure of a Southern Baptist church is the strength of the Sunday school. This organization is the principal source of new converts, it is the place where stewards are developed and it is the source from which the church recruits leaders in ministry. If less than half our total members are enrolled in Sunday school we have little to brag about.

Consider the reality even of Sunday school enrollment. In the typical Kentucky Baptist church Sunday school attendance is about half the enrollment. If that is the case state-wide then we can safely say no more than 184,483 are actively at

work in the major organization of the local church. If that is true we are not in very good shape to win our state, the nation nor the world to Christ. And it must be true since these figures are the actual ones reported by the churches.

For years we have said 20 percent of the people do 80 percent of the work and give 80 percent of the money. The current figures indicate those figures are frighteningly correct and we are not the strong, vigorous force we would like to be in the life of our state.

Of course numbers mean what you want them to mean and numbers can be manipulated to say what you want them to say. The numbers in this case indicate however that we have little to boast about in our ministry of discipleship and Christian growth. There is work to do and the place to begin is within the local church. Here we must develop believers who participate in the life of the church and carry to the marketplace what they have learned of the Lord in the gathered assembly.

The numbers should humble us and put us on our face before the Lord. Perhaps then we will see "resident" members increase, Sunday school enrollment begin to match members and Sunday school attendance begin to reflect our real strength. Until then we continue to count 767,724 Baptists in Kentucky for bragging purposes but actually we are only 184,483 strong in the real work of the Lord. That should make none of us happy.

One of those days!

It was one of those days all of us have, a day which makes us wonder just why we ever got out of bed.

It really started the night before because I forgot to turn on the electric blanket and the temperature went down to a not so comfortable frost level. I squirmed all night and awoke in the morning feeling as if I had been in a wrestling match all night.

The misery was compounded when I turned the cold water faucet the wrong way and got zapped with an icy blast that sent great shivers through my entire system. The shower was a complete bust.

To make matters even worse I inadvertently sprayed under-arm deodorant on my hair and hair spray under my arms. I've had stiff arms and smelly hair all day and coworkers looked at me askance whenever I walked by. I noticed it about mid-morning and have stayed in my own office for the remainder of the day.

Margaret shared in the buffoonery by dropping the orange juice and making a mess on the kitchen floor and throughout the refrigerator. Our breakfast was not one of the memorable times in our long marriage.

As if all the world was on some binge of idiocy today a little bird perched on the widow sill outside my office and looked as if he had not one friend in the universe. He must have failed in his early-bird quest for a worm and so joined me in

the doldrums of a bad day.

By this time I was thoroughly swept up in self pity and more grouchy than a bear awakened before the hibernation had run its full course.

Believe me that is a sad state of mind for a Christian. And that thought convicted me of my own stupidity. Why would a person with so much that is good feel sad because of a few blunders and a few wrong turns, most of which are common practice every day. Not that under-arm and hair spray are usually applied in the wrong places but normal life has its ups and downs.

I did what every true believer must learn to do . . . I went to the scripture for nourishment and instruction.

It was Psalm 103 which turned the day around, put me in a prayer mood and made me confess the sin of complaint. When the day ended the Lord had indeed redeemed my attitude and I went home to paint the garage with thanksgiving in my heart that I had a garage to paint.

That ancient psalm states clearly the way of happiness and contentment for every Christian. The psalm writer declared, "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits." That is what turned the day around and I thank God for the living word which indeed is life, hope, joy and peace for all who believe.

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baptist news in brief

KBHC opens two new satellite offices

by Beth Prassel

Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children recently opened two satellite offices, extensions of KBHC's Community Services Division. The offices serve families in the Lexington and northern Kentucky areas, according to Mike Dixon, central region coordinator for Kentucky Baptist Homes. First Baptist Church, Lexington, and First Baptist Church Erlanger, provide space for the offices.

Dixon is available from 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. each Wednesday in Lexington and each Thursday in Erlanger. He can make personal contact with pastors, families and social workers in each area to determine placement for young people in short term, long term or foster family care.

With more localized ministry, Dixon can better evaluate family needs in each

area. He says the offices allow him to "get a feel for each region, to learn what's going on, what the specific problems are and ways we can help."

Those interested in contacting Dixon at one of the satellite offices may call (606) 252-0805, Lexington, or (606) 727-5532, Erlanger. Local calls can be forwarded to the central office in Middletown.

Kentucky Baptist secretary group meets July 28-29 at Campbellsville

"Expanding Horizons" is the theme of the third annual conference of Kentucky Baptist Secretaries Association, July 28-29 at Campbellsville College.

Registration begins Friday, July 28, at 3 p.m. in Stapp Hall lobby. Opening general session begins at 4:30 in the alumni building, college theater. Conferences conclude with lunch and installation of officers at noon Saturday.

Small group conferences include hands on with computers, the secretary's role and relationships and communications and publications.

Overnight registration fee is \$40 and commuter fee is \$30. Conference fee includes \$15 advance registration fee, accommodations at the college, meals and program costs. Reservations may be made by contacting Kentucky Baptist Secretaries Association, Miss Clara A. McCartt, treasurer, Box 7454, Louisville, KY 40207.

The event is sponsored by Kentucky Baptist Secretaries Association with assistance from Family Ministry and Church Administration Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Judge dismisses claims against FMB

A judge has dismissed several claims in two lawsuits filed against the Foreign Mission Board last year by a former missionary.

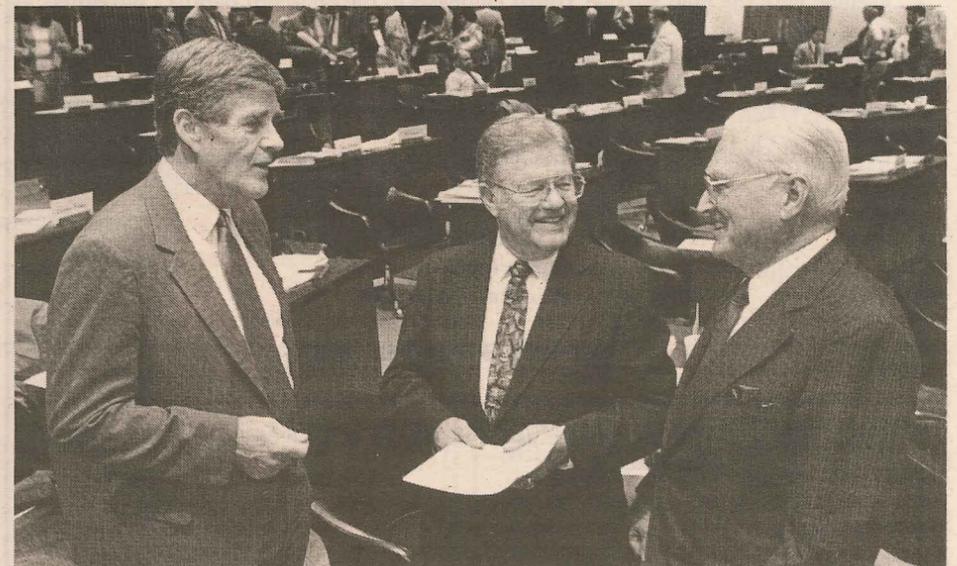
In orders entered Apr. 3 following a Mar. 20 hearing, Richmond, Va. Circuit Court Judge Randall G. Johnson dismissed the claims of intentional infliction of emotional harm, conspiracy and outrage filed against the mission board in suits by Diana Wade and her four children.

The dismissed claims accounted for some \$100 million of the \$141 million sought by Mrs. Wade in the two suits. Judge Johnson retained other allegations of breach of contract and negligence in the suits for further hearings. He also dismissed claims for negligent infliction of emotional harm but granted Mrs. Wade and her children 21 days to amend these claims if they can. Sub-

sequent hearing dates have not been set.

The two suits claim a representative of the mission board was told that Mrs. Wade's former husband, G. Thomas Wade Jr., had sexually abused the couple's oldest daughter but did not report it to Mrs. Wade or to police. The suits say that the board's representative asked Wade to get counseling, but the missionary refused, promising the abuse would not continue. Later, the suits allege, sexual abuse of two younger daughters and a son occurred.

The Wades were missionaries in Kenya and Botswana from 1976 until their return to the United States in 1984. The board requested Mrs. Wade's resignation after her husband voluntarily submitted his resignation in August 1985. The resignations were effective Jan. 31, 1986. The couple now is divorced. (BP)



William J. Reynolds (center) and W. Hines Sims (right) enjoy a visit with Wesley L. Forbis, editor of "The Baptist Hymnal," between sessions of the hymnal committee meeting at the Sunday School Board. Reynolds was editor of "Baptist Hymnal," 1975 edition, and Sims edited "Baptist Hymnal," 1956 edition. "The Baptist Hymnal" is scheduled for publication in 1991.



James H. Cox
Associate Editor

fourth estate

Derbymania

I came down pretty hard on our choice of Las Vegas as site of the 1989 SBC annual meeting. Lest the reader think I am blind to the annual activity that erases all resemblance of sanity in Kentuckiana, I'll add some thoughts about games of chance played locally.

What started as a horse race more than a century ago has evolved into a frenzied festival of maniacal proportion. The community's obsession with this pagan folly now begins more than a week prior to the "big day." But media hype is launched long before the cocktail parties draw out-of-town celebrities from entertainment, political and sports arenas. Before the eyes of the nation scrutinize our claim to fame, we are subjected locally to waiters competing against each other in a silly display of keeping champagne from spilling out of glasses perched on loaded trays. In another spectacle we witness rats with the presumed intelligence to outrun one another. A little more sane are boat and balloon races, a parade, barbecue and humpteen dozen more Derbymania spinoffs.

I think I maintain about as much civic pride as the average individual. The accomplishments of this region in government, social reform, sports, entertainment, religion, education, medicine, transportation, commerce and the arts offer me a sense of joy. In short, I love where I live.

At the same time, I agree with my Louisville-born minister, now in his third local pastorate, who verbalizes the good things about our fair town each spring. Eventually he turns to Derbymania, suggesting, "For this week alone, I am absolutely ashamed and embarrassed to be a Louisvillian."

He usually adds, "If Southern Baptists in Kentucky focused a little of the attention they give to Derby-related activities on lost people they could make a tremendous impact on our region." But all of us know it is far easier to join the beautiful people and be a spectator or an active participant, even in circuses gone wild. It's community "spirit," and party-goers carry the keys to the city.

Now we have Lotterymania, too. I contend that if we hadn't had the horse race we wouldn't have embraced this concept as quickly as we did.

Some see no harm in any of it, of course, and unfortunately that includes some Baptists. But gambling is inherently evil, preying upon its converts as an insidious obsession, attacking hearts, minds, pocketbooks and next of kin. Derbymania anesthetizes the citizenry, making evil at least temporarily appear as "respectable" sin. Maybe in time we will recognize that what we thought was Camelot wasn't really that at all. But somehow I doubt it.

Crusader Saturday Spectacular to be held Sat., May 20

The first Crusader Saturday Spectacular featuring a golf scramble, auction and barbecue will be Saturday, May 20, beginning at Tanglewood Resort Golf Course, Taylorsville, at 8 a.m.

Entry fee for the tournament is \$35 per person and will include green fee and cart for 18 holes, tickets to the chicken barbecue and other golf items. Team awards will be given for first, second and third place.

Festivities will continue at 76 Truck Stop, LaGrange, with dinner from 3-6 p.m. and the auction from 4:30-6-30 p.m. Dinner is \$5 per person.

All money raised will go to the Kentucky Baptist Sports Crusaders ministry. Victory goal is \$15,000, step beyond goal \$17,500 and hallelujah goal \$20,000.

Businesses and individuals are asked to sponsor this event. Those interested in sponsoring or donating items for the auction may call Robby Speer at (502) 222-9932.

FMB appoints 50, delays Belgian seminary talks

Fifty new foreign missionaries were appointed Apr. 11 before an overflow crowd of 7000 in Little Rock as Arkansas Baptists played host to a meeting of Foreign Mission Board trustees.

More than 6400 people packed the main Little Rock Convention Center exhibition hall, while others watched on closed-circuit television screens in an overflow area. At the close of the service 251 people made spiritual decisions, including 110 who committed themselves to explore career mission service.

The only cloud over the otherwise tranquil three-day trustee meeting was the possibility of confrontation between FMB president R. Keith Parks and Criswell College president Paige Patterson, an FMB trustee. Parks expressed concern in March over the college's option to purchase a seminary in Belgium.

The confrontation did not materialize in this meeting, but Parks and Patterson huddled for 25 minutes with trustee chairman C. Mark Corts and other board officers during a break in the board's business session Apr. 12.

After the break, Corts announced that a report will be given in the May 22-24 trustee meeting. The report will include what Patterson is doing in regard to the purchase of the Belgian property as well as Parks' concerns about its impact on Baptist work in Europe.

"It is premature for us to discuss this today," Corts said. "We will know more about the disposition of the property in May." In the meantime, he said, board officers will discuss the matter with Patterson and Parks. (BP)

baptist forum

A plea for housing help

Edwina and I are SBC missionaries to the West African country of Burkina Faso. You were at our appointment service at Rupp Arena two years ago. We also traveled with you on the bus to Kansas City and Dallas.

We are planning on furloughing from Aug. 1, 1990 to the middle of the following January. We would like to furlough in and or around the Louisville area. I have written several Louisville churches and also Southern Seminary asking if their furlough houses are available and as of now have received no reply.

I am writing to ask if you or someone at the KBC might know of some other possibilities for us. We are open to house-sitting or renting. We would also

be open to working in an association in a rural section of northern Kentucky. I know you are very busy right now with the upcoming convention in Las Vegas but would you please keep us in the back of your mind or pass our letter on to someone else? We sure would appreciate it.

Our mailing address is, Larry and Edwina Rowell, Mission Baptiste, 01 BP 580 Ouagadougou 01, Burkina Faso, West Africa.

Larry Rowell
Burkina Faso

Editor's note: If any church would like to have this couple in a missionary home or has any other suggestion for them, write directly to the Rowell family at the address in the letter above.

Another call for the same thing

Lonnie and Fran Turner, Southern Baptist missionaries on furlough from Zambia, Africa are in need of housing in Lexington, Kentucky near the University of Kentucky where they are attending classes. They need housing from November, 1989 to June 1, 1990 at which time they will be returning to Zambia.

Our mailing address is: Lonnie and Fran Turner, 113 North Main Street, Lawrenceburg, KY 40342.

Lonnie Turner
Zambia

Celebration for Ralph, Lynda Bethea

Ralph and Lynda Bethea left Mombasa Apr. 12 on their way home for furlough. They will be moving into a missionary home in Denton, Tex., around the mid-

dle of June.

On June 3 Ralph, Lynda and the children will be in Louisville for a short visit. We have planned a picnic in their honor and would like each of you and your families to join us on this special day. Details are below.

Picnic date is June 3; time is 11 a.m.; location is 9106 Wendell Ct., Jefferson-town, KY 40299; phone is (502) 491-2012.

RSVP and indicate how many are coming and what you will bring. Choose one of the following: meat, bread, desert, beverage, vegetable, salad, chips or paper products. Plan to bring enough for 20 servings. You might also want to bring folding chairs.

To get to our home take Taylorsville Road South. One block past Six Mile Lane turn right onto Glesson. Go two blocks to stop sign, turn right. First house on the left.

Linda and Tom Russell
Jeffersontown

Seminary Provost responds to criticism

I respond to a letter in Baptist Forum, Mar. 28, by Gene Crowder regarding "a new education proposal." He expressed concern over what he assessed as "a very troubling situation" which he felt he observed at Southern Seminary. I do not know what he observed or upon what he based his opinion. At any rate, for what it may be worth, I wish to express an opposite view.

As provost of Southern Seminary I reported to the trustees in their annual meeting in April that I felt the seminary was doing the finest academic work it had done during the past 30 years and

perhaps in all of the seminary's history. A trustee subcommittee which interviews the Faculty Liaison Committee annually also made a very positive report to the trustees. Reports coming to our deans and to me from our faculty and students show excellent morale and express the belief the climate for theological education on our campus is very healthy.

While we all would strive for improvement I think we have evidence to question the negative assessment made by Crowder. Certainly I see no reason to believe that the acceptance of other seminaries into the Southern Baptist Convention family of seminaries would serve to improve theological education on our campus. Currently we experience an atmosphere of openness to the diversity of points of view and we believe any search for truth in an atmosphere of freedom requires such openness. This should not cause us concern but rather should cause us reason for rejoicing.

C. Willis Bennett, Provost
Southern Seminary
Louisville

Summer missions venture by BSU

The Baptist Student Union of Elizabethtown Community College will have a benefit concert of gospel music Apr. 30, 1989 at the Pritchard Community Center, Elizabethtown. Time of the concert is 3:00 p.m. and admission is \$3.00

Rick Thompson, president of the local BSU chapter and a member of Severns Valley Baptist Church, stated that proceeds from the sale of tickets will help send student summer missionaries to various mission points around the world. One student from the Elizabethtown campus, Cynthia Ann Jones, member of Blue Ball Baptist Church, will work this summer in Mission Kentucky in the Covington area.

Seven gospel singing groups will perform and the public is invited to attend.
Bryant Rudolph, Director
Elizabethtown

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baptist news in brief

FBC Pikeville honors late pastor's wife

One hundred and thirty-five people filled Friendship Hall at First Baptist, Pikeville, Apr. 9 to pay tribute to Mrs. Gladys Howerton. For several years she has been known as one of the grand ladies of the mountains.

A member of First Pikeville since 1928, she has been more than an average member.

In August 1928 she married E. L. Howerton who had already been pastor since 1921. The marriage to Howerton began a long relationship with her church that continues to this day.

Her deceased husband served the Pikeville congregation 32 years, retiring in 1953. Those were days when Southern Baptists were still extremely new to the mountains and mission opportunities were great. "Since Bro. Howerton did not drive, one of my jobs was taking him from place to place," remembers Mrs. Howerton. "We drove all over the mountains preaching at Marrowbone, Allen, Shelby, Mouthcard and many other strategic preaching points."

The ministry of E. L. Howerton is certainly remembered by this congregation with many of the current senior adults coming into the church under his ministry. He went on to be with the Lord in 1963 leaving his son Elis Paul, a pastor in Louisville, and Mrs. Howerton to carry on the work.

The day of recognition began with the song, "Serve the Lord with Gladys," (Gladness). A time of testimony followed with long time member Lillian Romer sharing past reflections. "For the past 60 years Mrs. Howerton has been a big part of my life. I remember her coming to Pikeville as our beloved pastor's bride. Through these years she has been active in all phases of our church life. She feels her calling was to be a

devoted wife, a faithful pastor's helper, a loving mother and friend to all. She has fulfilled that calling and now in her senior years she continues to work as the Lord enables her."

Nellie McNeil, an active deacon's wife and leader in the WMU, compared Mrs. Howerton to Prov. 18:24: "There is a friend who sticketh closer than a brother." She recalled, "I have known Mrs. Howerton for over 40 years. She is a true friend. We have laughed and cried together. We have shared our secrets and gone many places together. We have prayed for each other. I have found Mrs. Howerton to be a fine Christian friend and I love her very much."

Mary Fern Childers coordinated the day's activities. She observed, "I have always been a great admirer of Gladys Howerton. She has been willing to share her love and knowledge with young Christians who are struggling to find their place of service in God's work."



Mrs. Howerton receives a gift of appreciation.



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

clear creek chronicle

Mrs. Gladys Howerton

When I became a Christian she was active in the WMU, Sunday school and many other things. I have tried to emulate her over the years and continue to strive to become more like her in service to my Lord."

Gladys Scott, a long time member of the church remarked, "She was always encouraging new members to take part in all the activities and offices."

While some adults have retired and felt a need to no longer serve their church such is not true with Mrs. Howerton. Long after her husband went on to be with the Lord she continued teaching her class, leading in WMU and is currently directing the church's shut-in program to over 30 homes. She is Pike Association's WMU treasurer and a constant faithful prayer warrior for the church.

Only eternity will reveal the measure of our influence in this life. For Mrs. Howerton it will surely take a long measure to size up her's and her husband's success in the mountains.

The counselor

Lexington counselor Bob Humphries defines pastoral counseling as "a platform from which to experience God's power." Since January his platform has included Clear Creek. Humphries came each Thursday for private counseling sessions and a two hour marriage enrichment seminar. Sessions contained candid sharing and practical advice. Students and staff appreciate the presence of a counselor from outside the ongoing school life.

Pastoral counseling was not the career Bob Humphries started. He pastored for nearly eight years and discovered his gifts could be better used as counselor. "God has organized the church and distributed gifts among its members. He will use them in a mighty way if individuals allow. Some problems are developmental but many problems are sin based. Psychology has good tools but they can only be effective through Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit. Some churches bring in psychology like a trojan horse but the real power will be done by the Holy Spirit." Humphries encourages students to be sensitive to hurting people who often feel uncomfortable in our churches. Counseling techniques modeled by him will likely find use in local churches.

Humphries married Shirley Joyce Chiles and she usually accompanies him to campus. "People make the place. Dr. and Mrs. Chiles have made this a special place for our family and it has been my privilege to share my gifts. I have been strengthened by Clear Creek." Distinguished professor and Mrs. H. C. Chiles have certainly enjoyed the extra family time.

The counseling development at Clear Creek grew from the awareness that minister families offer better care in the church if they openly face their own problems and work through them. Humphries also perceived counseling needs for families who enter the ministry years after marriage and a previous career. His local church emphasis, 15 years of counseling experience, clinical training at the UK Medical School and deep appreciation for Clear Creek enhances our student preparation. The Holy Spirit sent this counselor along side us. We look forward to his return next semester.

WORKING SMARTER—NOT HARDER

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Sponsored by Sunday School Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, Chip Miller, Director

Sunday School Convention in Louisville draws

by Mary Royals Driskill
Staff Writer, and contributors:
James H. Cox, Associate Editor,
Lawanda Smith and Greg Hodnett,
Staff Writers, and
Holly Oliver, Graphic Artist

The state pastor-staff Sunday school convention Apr. 14-15 at Louisville's Walnut Street Baptist Church drew more than 500 interested in improving their Sunday schools.

General sessions, specialized conferences and opportunities for fellowship filled the two-day event with ideas and strategies for Sunday school growth. With the theme "Foundations for the Future" more than 30 conferences addressed issues from outreach to space shortages but the main focus was getting a clear vision of growth.

Resources aren't the problem, according to Tim Clark, minister of education, Severns Valley Baptist Church. Clark led an early bird conference on "How to Enlist, Train and Motivate Lay Leadership."

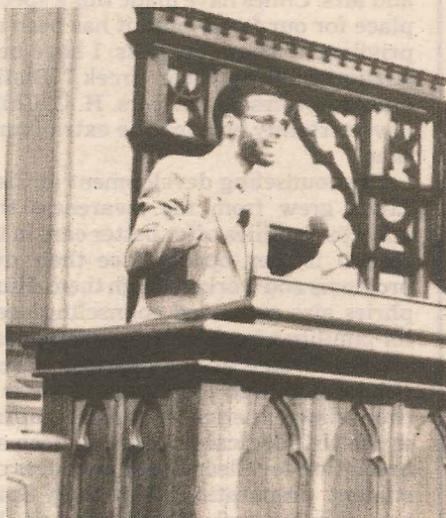
He believes "God has placed in every New Testament church all of the resources needed to do his work in a magnificent way."

"I came to learn new ideas on Sunday school and develop and cultivate them (in my church)."—

Danny Creech, pastor, Eighteenth Street Baptist Church, Louisville

He suggested several ways to activate those resources in Sunday school. Saying "Sunday school work in our churches is the most important work we have," he gave some "rights" of the Sunday school worker. Each has the right to be enlisted face to face, not in the hallway two minutes before the choir comes in. Each has the right to a full explanation of all the requirements and expectations of a worker. Clark insisted if we tell workers up front what is expected then the job will be taken seriously. He also suggested the workers be enlisted by the person to whom they would be responsible.

Clark gave four questions to ask potential workers: 1.) Will you be regular in attendance? 2.) Will you attend weekly workers' meetings and make adequate preparation to teach? 3.) Will you participate in training provided for you? 4.) Will you be involved in outreach



Frank Thomas encouraged listeners to continue construction, not on buildings—but on ourselves.

and witness?

A banquet Friday evening featured Perry Sanders, pastor of First Baptist Church, Lafayette, La.

Speaking on the topic "A 20th Century Strategy of Evangelism," Sanders noted two dangers we face in the Southern Baptist Convention: that we might



More than 500 converged on Louisville for the Sunday school convention held at Walnut Street Baptist Church Apr. 14-15.

change the message of evangelism and that we refuse to change the method of evangelism. He encouraged pastors to have "soul winning interviews" after sermons and for Sunday school teachers to leave room in class time for testimonies.

The opening session Friday night featured a mini-concert by the Kentucky Baptist Chorale; welcome by Ken Chafin, pastor, Walnut Street Baptist Church and Chip Miller, director, Sunday School Department, KBC; and message by Gary Young, pastor, First Southern Baptist Church, Phoenix, Ariz.

Mental ruts may be the problem in our vision, according to Young. He stressed that part of our difficulty in Sunday school growth is "bondage mentality." He said it is characterized by "a tendency to adopt quotas without setting goals."

He also suggested we may be prone to "grasshopper mentality" or seeing everything in multiples and having no depth perception. Young suggested we "lead people to stop focusing on the bigness of the giants and focus on the bigness of God."

Young encouraged "promised land mentality" in moving into the dreams and visions we have for our churches. When faced with a plateau in his church, he considered three options: leave the church, stay through retirement, or "move into the promised land." He opted for the promised land and offered the same three choices for us.

Thinking of inactive members as more than just a number was one view offered Friday night in the conference "How to Keep Sunday School Members After They're Enrolled" by Wally Miller, associate director, Sunday School Department, KBC.

Miller said our biggest problem lies not in resources but in utilizing them. He reminded participants of several tasks of Sunday school: reaching people for Bible study, teaching the Bible, witnessing, leading members to worship, and interpreting the work of the church and denomination.

Instead of removing names from the Sunday school roll, Miller suggested: re-

double efforts in outreach, encourage care groups to adopt inactive members in prayer, seek the reason for absence, rekindle fellowship, remember special occasions and consider adding inactive members to a class where they might feel more comfortable. He remarked dropouts will "stop dropping out when

som into more cell groups, creating rapid growth. The ratio of teachers to students is about 1:8. The largest church in the world has a ratio of 1:5. As soon as a group reaches 8 or 10, a new group begins. Vaughn said these churches are outgrowing and "outpraying us." We need to adjust our vision of what filled really is.

Piland looked at the book of Nehemiah to find "basic bedrock principles" for building.

I came because "I owe it to the 46 churches in my association to be the best I can be."—

Glenn Ford, Associational Sunday school director, Little Bethel Association and Sunday school director, Liberty Baptist Church

He asked, "Do you know exactly what your job is? Do you honestly know why you're there?" Piland noted Nehemiah knew why he was there. God called him to the work, he was a man of deep prayer, Nehemiah and the people worked as a team and God gave him a vision.

He continued: "When you've got it in your heart and God's called you to do it, you can embrace anything." He noted he would "rather have green willingness than experienced indifference" in workers.

Piland encouraged the audience to follow the principles set forth in Nehemiah.

If numbers are any indication of interests and concerns, then Jim Hawkins' conference on "How to Deal With the Ineffective Worker" sheds light on common problems faced by Sunday school workers.

Hawkins, executive associate, KBC, began by asking participants, "What is an ineffective worker?" Responses ranged from uncommitted to overcommitted, from late to negative. A key characteristic of the effective worker is spiritual growth. Hawkins stressed that the workers' time is being fought for. He

they realize they are more than a number."

Saturday morning's session began with music by Jenny Tanner Nolen and messages by John Vaughn, professor of church growth, Southwest Baptist University, Bolivar, Mo., and Harry Piland, director, Sunday school division, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville.

Vaughn began asking questions based on the story of the invitation given to the banquet feast: "What does God mean by 'house'?" and "What does God mean by 'filled'?"

He then took the audience on "a trip around the world" using the audience to illustrate his points.

Beginning in Chile, Vaughn illustrated concepts of what filled means to different churches. If they have too many people and too little space, they



John Vaughn illustrated the concept of a "filled church" using members of the audience. He explained our concept of full is about 80% short.

have a teacher in every third pew. Vaughn helped the audience understand this better by asking someone in every third pew to turn and face their "class." This is how teaching is done in crowded churches in Chile.

"We have got to stop having this small church mentality," stressed Vaughn. "We need some pregnant churches."

He suggested our problem is vision and our perception of what filled means. In Korea, cell groups continue to blos-

also noted our perception of a situation will determine our response. "We are working with people's perceptions," he stated. Workers may be doing what they perceive is right or good for the church but it may be light years away from what leaders had in mind. He advocated nurture as the answer for ineffective workers and unclear perceptions of goals.

Sunday school workers want to be a part of a group sharing in spiritual growth. They want to see results, be af-

aws more than 500 . . .

and a picture of what Sunday school can be

firmed and constantly rediscover Christ's activity in their lives. They are giving up family time or bowling night for Sunday school preparations and want to be confident in their ministry. All of these areas, Hawkins noted, deal with the heart and the spirit. To keep workers prepared, motivated and effective, attention must be paid to their feelings and spiritual growth. Hawkins suggested these helps for nurturing: discipling, searching out gifted teachers instead of just "filling slots," preparing them before they begin, coaching them as they teach, sharing empowering information such as ideas and people and celebrating their abilities.

Daryl Heath, consultant, small church section, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, hummed a few bars and asked listeners to sing along in a conference entitled, "Making the Small Church Hum."

He emphasized majoring on the basics of Sunday school work. In a study of churches that had broken out of the plateau stage, those involved stated they were simply "doing the basics but working at them harder."

Heath noted "churches that really hum are doing the basics."



Clay Hughes, pastor, Providence Baptist Church, listened to pointers on growth.

Part of the basics include an adequate ratio of workers to enrolment, effective delegation of responsibility, a grading or grouping system using developmental stages, creation of new units designed to meet growth, expansion of space as growth potential increases, quality visits, degree and quality of involvement between teacher and class, realizing prospect enlistment directly affects at-

I came because "I'm a Sunday school teacher and we're working at trying to make our Sunday school grow."

Carol Perry, Sunday school teacher, First Baptist Church, Kenova, WV

tendance and a balanced application of all the principles involved.

Heath added the importance of leadership, noting the "break out" churches stated the pastor is the number one factor in leading churches out of the plateau stage. "Leadership is important. If you don't have an adequate number of leaders, you probably won't be a humming church."

He also noted the importance of forming new classes before the needs actually arise. If there is no nursery, couples with small children will not come. If the church has one young person, start a



Daryl Heath's conference told Sunday school leaders how to hum a few bars.

youth class. People will not go where they do not feel comfortable. "Running out of chairs or room doesn't have to come before it's time to begin a new group."

"Strategies for Growth" was the focus of conferences held by Neil Jackson, consultant, church growth section, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville.

One plan for growth is youth enrolling parents. This strategy calls for youth whose parents don't attend church to go out in groups of four to visit the parents. Jackson emphasized affirming youth and their efforts. He also suggested a youth blitz. Give youth one prospect card so everyone focuses on one prospect. The expectation is "you are wanted." He suggested telling them their name is on a chair in Sunday school and then put the name on a chair. Then the youth will focus on that one prospect for one entire month. Jackson noted the prospect will usually show up in Sunday school after three weeks. The secret to success "is involvement."

Jackson noted two "power groups" not being used in the church: youth and senior adults, reminding the audience that "recognition motivates." Other suggestions included enrolment cards in the pews, using visitor cards as enrolment cards and praying for prospects and ways to reach them.

Students and single adults may look the same but their needs are different according to Chris Henson, intern Sunday School Department, KBC, and Tom Smoot, associate director, Student Department, KBC, who led the conference "Strategies for Reaching Students and Single Adults."

Several concerns in reaching these groups include: keeping college students involved in church, reclaiming the divorced, reaching post-college singles and ministering to those who don't want to be identified with singles.

Smoot noted that needs of college students and singles, even of the same age, are different. They need different teachers. He suggested going to them instead of trying to get them to come to you. Try starting home Bible studies on campus. He mentioned using Baptist Student Union as an outreach point but not competing with it. College students continue to need nurturing and study but are also ready to teach and lead as well.

Miss Henson emphasized the overlap in age groups among singles. She suggested letting college and singles choose which department to attend. One key point is that small groups create growth. Starting new groups can help singles feel a part of the group and the church.

A suggestion for keeping students involved is a crossover program for transition age groups, such as junior and senior high school students. Another suggestion is allowing questioning and growth for the 18 to 22-year-old. Singles cover a variety of ages and circumstances: never married, divorced, separated and the widowed. They can be found everywhere, if churches will look for them. Miss Henson stressed reaching singles in "market place ministry." The ministry point is taking what the church has to offer and meeting singles where they are. Miss Henson and Smoot asked "is your church providing a place for singles?" By 1990, 50 percent of the adult population will be single.

"If your church isn't reaching singles,

I came "because I like the programs."

Mary Williams, Sunday school director, First Baptist Church, Jeffersontown

you're not reaching half the population."

The closing session featured messages by Kenneth Hemphill, pastor, First Baptist Church, Norfolk, Va., and Frank Thomas, pastor, New Faith Baptist Church, Matteson, Ill., and music by the Westend Baptist choir, Louisville.

Hemphill has led his church from 800 to 5400 enrolled in Sunday school. He asked the audience, "What does God intend the church to be and how can you become what God has designed you to be?"

You are a part of God's redemptive plan to build a church, he stressed. What happens in the life of a church body is eternal. He urged "get programs into context" and to "fulfill the great commission in context of my community in my Jerusalem."

He insisted we are a "commissioned" people and that commission is binding, not optional. He noted three aspects of

I came "because Sunday school is my life. I want to learn more about it."

Stanley Salchli, associational director 21 years, Franklin Association, and Sunday school director 27 years, Crestwood Baptist Church, Frankfort

the great commission: evangelize, congregationalize and educate.

"Sunday school is the most effective way of reaching all three objectives," stated Hemphill. Making disciples is the primary task and that assumes the task of evangelism, he noted. He encouraged the audience to "love them when we win them." He concluded saying growth happens through the Sunday school and ministry happens in Sunday school.

Thomas built his message on "Hypocrites Under Construction," focusing on the passage I Corinthians 6:9-11.

Thomas posed the question, "Lord, what would you have me do?" as I return from this conference. He said Sunday school is only one of the spiritual disciplines. We should worship every week, engage in Bible study every week, pray in order to learn the mind of God, be a proportional giver, get involved in one ministry instead of every ministry and develop the ministry of testimony.

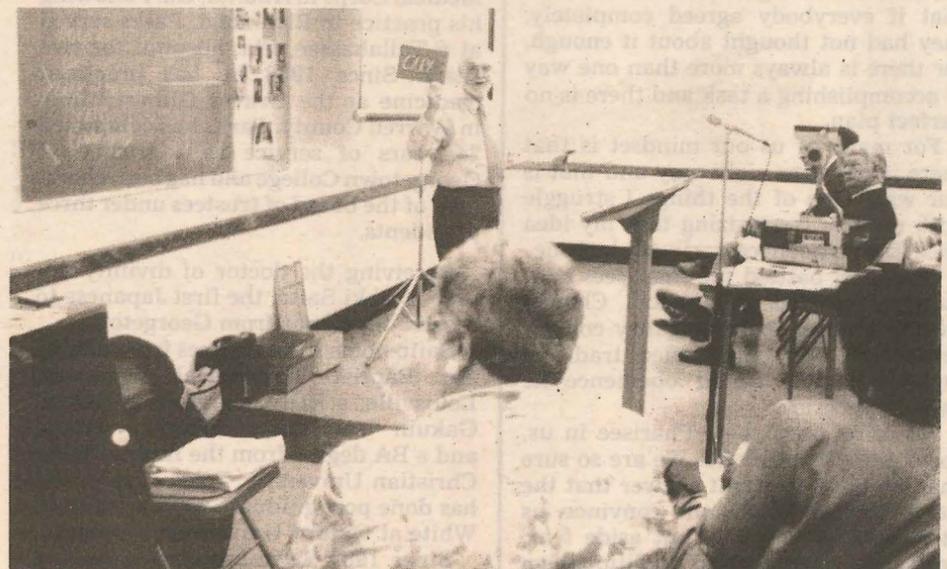
A basic requirement for church members, he noted, is integrity.

"Many people don't accept this because they haven't come into contact with a healthy Christian. The basic problem is hypocrisy." He defined hypocrisy as "professing beliefs and principles one does not have."

He illustrated this by saying we all are like mask wearers, a little hypocritical, as none of us are by nature like Christ.

"Christianity is natural to none of us," he observed. "Christianity is a mask we do not wear easily or naturally." He reminded the audience we will all be changed from the mask of Christianity to the reality of Christianity by the power of God. He urged listeners to "be a hypocrite but be under construction and renewal, not just satisfied staying a hypocrite."

If you came looking for what your Sunday school could be, you got an eye full at the Sunday school convention.



Good Sunday school workers know how to care, according to Wally Miller who led conferences on "How to Keep Sunday School Members After They're Enrolled."

christian education



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

homes for children

Innovation

"We've never done it that way before" are the last seven words of a number of organizations. We live in a fast changing world, yet people and organizations find it difficult to change.

There are basic values and truths which never change but in many other aspects of life we need to search for ways of doing a better job rather than finding ways to hold onto the past.

Recently I read the book, *A Whack On the Side of the Head*, by Roger Von Oech. This book provides some unique insights as to why we are not more creative and provides suggestions on increasing our creativity.

The author notes that we are often too concerned about finding the right answer or always being logical and practical to allow our minds to be creative. In our society we so frown on mistakes that most of us move too cautiously. We may not make too many mistakes but we don't get too far either.

Essentially he argues that we need to look for the second right answer to a question, for the first answer that comes to mind may do the job but not as well as other ideas would do. We would never come up with the other idea unless we forced our minds to move beyond the first idea we come to.

The founder of General Motors refused to proceed on projects when all of his staff were in agreement. He believed that if everybody agreed completely, they had not thought about it enough, for there is always more than one way of accomplishing a task and there is no perfect plan.

For many of us our mindset is that there is only one right way and that is our way. One of the things I struggle with most is recognizing that my idea once fixed is not necessarily the last one.

Our Lord battled the Pharisees constantly with his innovation. Charles Swindoll notes that what they considered truth our Lord called tradition and what they called obedience he called hypocrisy.

All of us have some Pharisee in us, some more than others. We are so sure that we have the right answer that the Lord himself could not convince us otherwise. We need to put aside fear, perfection, laziness and traditionalism and look for better ways of accomplishing our work.



Warren



Jennings



Moore



Parks



Saito



Yeiser

Georgetown College

Alex M. Warren Jr., senior vice president, administration, for Toyota Motor Manufacturing, U.S.A., Georgetown, will address those earning degrees from Georgetown College during commencement exercises Saturday, May 13 at 10 a.m., on Giddings Lawn.

First United Methodist Church pastor William R. Jennings, Frankfort, Ky., will give the 1989 baccalaureate message before those earning bachelors and masters degrees Friday, May 12 at 8 p.m. in John L. Hill Chapel.

Georgetown College will confer four honorary doctorates during commencement. Those to be honored are Barkley Moore, president, Oneida Baptist Institute; Paul J. Parks, physician, Bowling Green; Goki Saito, scholar, translator and pastor of the Japanese congregation, Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington; and Doris Yeiser, administrator and archivist, Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Barkley Moore has been at the helm of Oneida since 1972. Since Moore's presidency Oneida has become the fastest growing of the nation's long established boarding schools. Students are enrolled from 28 states and 10 countries totaling more than 500 girls and boys with a staff of 112.

Moore, himself an Oneida graduate, is the fourth generation of his family to be associated with the school since its founding in 1889. He attended the University of Kentucky for his undergraduate study followed by law school. He was honored by the University of Kentucky in 1971 with the Sullivan Medallion for service. Georgetown will honor Moore with the doctor of letters.

Bowling Green physician and graduate of Georgetown and the University of Louisville, Paul Parks will receive the doctor of laws degree.

Parks, born in Union City, Ky., had an internal medicine practice in Richmond, Ky. during the 1950s. That practice was interrupted between 1953-55 when he served in the United States Medical Corps in Atlanta, Ga. Following his practice in Richmond, Parks served at a Tallahassee, Fla. hospital for two years. Since 1958 he has practiced medicine at the Graves-Gilbert Clinic in Warren County. Parks has completed 24 years of service as a trustee of Georgetown College and has been chairman of the board of trustees under three presidents.

Receiving the doctor of divinity degree is Goki Saito, the first Japanese to receive the honor from Georgetown.

Saito holds three degrees from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville; a BDiv degree from Seinan Gakuin University, Fukuoka, Japan; and a BA degree from the International Christian University, Tokyo, Japan. He has done post graduate work with B. R. White at Oxford University, England.

Since 1987 Saito has been a visiting lecturer at Georgetown where he has taught courses in religion and Japanese.

He and his wife Keiko were missionaries in residence at the college 1987-88. Their daughter Mari is a student at Georgetown. Saito was trustee of the Japan Baptist Convention, 1981-84, and president of the Fukuoka Baptist Association, 1985-86.

Doris Yeiser will be honored with the doctor of laws degree.

Miss Yeiser has been on the staff of the Kentucky Baptist Convention since 1951 and has worked as administrative assistant to several executive directors of the convention. In 1986 she accepted the position of archivist for the KBC and consultant with the Executive Office. Although she retired in 1988 Miss Yeiser continues as the state convention's archivist. Born in Owensboro, Ky., Miss Yeiser belongs to many professional organizations: the Business and Professional Women's Club, St. Matthews; the Kentucky Federation of Business and Professional Women; the Council of Women Presidents, Louisville; the Women's Chamber of Commerce of Kentucky; and the Women's Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan Louisville. This year she is president-elect of the National Conference of Women in Chambers of Commerce which includes nine states. She is also chairman of the Long Run Baptist Association Historical Committee.

Cumberland College

Cumberland College graduate program announces its course offerings for the mini term, May 15-26.

Cumberland College offers a two-week mini term with classes Monday through Friday from 5 to 9 p.m. Students may preregister through the mail by contacting the Office of the Registrar or by enrolling the first day of class, May 15 from 2 to 4:30 p.m.

Six classes will be offered: Problems in Special Education/Working with Parents of Exceptional Children, taught by Robert Schoonover; Specialized Studies in Business, taught by Harold Hubbard; Drama as a Teaching Tool, taught by John Urquhart; The Disadvantaged Child, taught by Steve Mitchell; Problems in Elementary and Secondary Education, taught by Joann Seymour; and Methods and Materials of Teaching Social Studies, taught by Al Pilant.

For more information, call (606) 549-2200, ext. 4434.

Campbellsville College

Campbellsville College is once again hosting "Elderhostel," an educational program for those over 60.

Programs are scheduled June 18-24 and July 16-22.

Sylvia Morris, vice president for student development, is coordinator for the college's "Elderhostel" program.

Three courses will be offered each session. In June, the courses are: "Abraham Lincoln's Kentucky Connection,"

taught by Robert S. Clark, vice president for academics; "Early Religions in Kentucky," taught by Jerry Kibbons, professor of Christian studies; and "Elderhostel Health and Fitness," taught by David Cundiff, professor of health and physical education. This course will be repeated in July.

July courses are: "Civil War in Kentucky," taught by Mike Crain, director of alumni and church relations; and "Tracing Family History," taught by Ken Martin, assistant professor of music.

The fee of \$225 includes meals and housing in college residence halls for the week. Those wishing to commute have a reduced fee of \$50. There are no examinations during the courses and no college credit may be earned.

Field trips are planned for the courses. For more information, contact Sylvia Morris at: (502) 465-8158, ext. 6223.

Union University

Union University, Jackson, Tenn., will host a conference for youth leadership May 5-6.

This conference, "A Great Place to Start," will help churches do a better job of leading, teaching, training and understanding youth.

It begins Friday, May 5, with registration at 4 p.m. Preregistration will continue until May 1.

Personalities: Phil Briggs, chairman, Department of Youth Ministry, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; Rosemary Hoover, creative worship seminars; Scott Werner, who works with Centrifuge and the Church Recreation Department, Baptist Sunday School Board; Judy Wooldridge, Sunday School Department, Sunday School Board; Dane Blankenship, Church Training Department, Sunday School Board; Ralph Brown, minister, Brownsville (Tenn.) Baptist Church; and Ken Parrish, Union University student and an intern at Brownsville.

Cost of the conference is \$15 per person which includes a notebook. The maximum charge per church is \$50 plus the cost of notebooks needed.

Application forms are available by contacting Union University.

Beeson Divinity School

A Billy Graham chair of evangelism and church growth has been established at the Beeson Divinity School of Samford University, Birmingham, Ala.

Earlier this year evangelist Graham gave permission for the chair to be named in his honor, said Divinity School dean Timothy George.

A national search for the first person to hold the chair will begin this spring. Kenneth A. Mathews and Frank S. Thielman have been appointed to teach in the areas of Old Testament and New Testament, respectively, George announced.

UNTIL JESUS COMES UNTIL JESUS COMES UNTIL JESUS COMES

He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:6

For more than 16 decades your state Baptist news journal, **Western Recorder**, has been the principal means of transmitting news of interest among Kentucky Baptists. It continues a proud tradition today, telling Baptists the facts—accurately, honestly, rapidly.

But escalating postal, paper and printing costs threaten that freedom in contemporary times. These culprits are demanding more and more dollars which otherwise would be available to missions causes. In a recent year **Western Recorder** had to rely on the Cooperative Program for nearly \$2 of every \$5 it spent.

There is a way to reverse the trend, however—through endowment. Gifts to the Kentucky Baptist Foundation in **Western Recorder's** name will help the paper hold the line on rampant inflation.

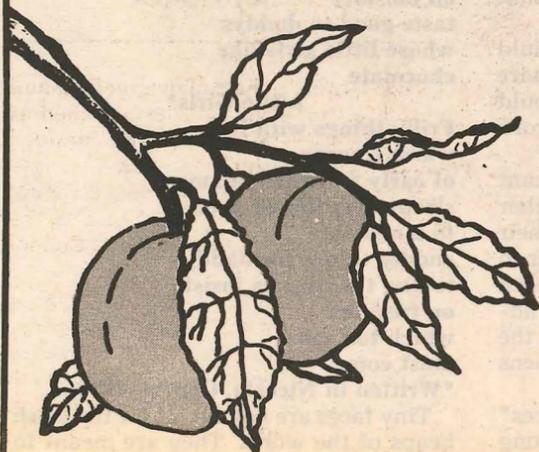
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Barkley Moore
President
Oneida Baptist Institute
Oneida, KY 40972

oneida journal

Oneida to present musical "The King and I"

The Oneida Players will present "The King and I" May 19-20, 8 p.m. on the Oneida campus as a part of Commencement weekend. Tickets will be \$2 at the door.

They have been working on the popular Broadway play and hit movie since January.

Veteran actor on the Oneida stage, Eric Rigney, will play the great man and King of Siam, Mongkut IV, who offered elephants to President Lincoln to help fight the Civil War.

Eric came to Oneida from Lexington six years ago as a tiny sixth grader and has been in every major drama production since. Now a junior he has also been in band and choir six years.

The adventurous teacher, Anna, who comes from England to teach the King's favorite children, will be played by sophomore English teacher, Suzzetta Tillman. Active in drama during her four years at Union University, Jackson, Tenn., she brings her acting experience along with voice training as a music minor to the role.

Middle school teacher Marlyn Capo will play the King's most powerful wife.

Playing the Crown Prince will be freshman Isaac Yoder. A recent winner in the State Bible drill at Cedarmore along with his younger brother, David. This is the first year at Oneida for the Yoder brothers. Originally of Amish background, they are devout Baptists today and their home is in a house near Big Hill, Madison County. Eighth grader David is an excellent fielder on Oneida's varsity baseball team.

Tuptim, youngest wife of the King, is played by freshman Celeste Lanhan, Springfield. Celeste has been in our drama program two years. It is a family tradition. Her sister Valerie played many roles on the Oneida stage.

Tuplim's young lover is Lun Tha, played by Rob Eshbaugh, a junior from Henderson.

Seventh grader Jeremy Weiss plays Lewis, son of Anna. He came to us from Palos Hills, Ill., and does a wonderful job with percussion in our marching and concert bands.

Twenty-eight young Oneida staff children will make their stage debut.

Home Economics teacher, Mrs. Kitty Stidham, her students, and some of our staff women have been sewing beautiful costumes for the King's Court since January.

Choir director Richard Burns has been overseeing the musical portions of the production. Pianists are Trish Schmittendorf, an OBI Middle school teacher the past four years and Mrs. Betty Hensley Bowling. Mrs. Bowling, an OBI 1954 graduate, last played at Oneida for the three-night production of The Sound of Music in 1985.

Assistant dean of girls Suzi Garrett, computer teacher Shari Smith, art teacher Lyn Sandusky and printer Steve May have all been involved in the production.

Supervising it all is Tom Jenkin, our drama coach, civics teacher and an assistant principal.

If you give us word in advance as to numbers, you may eat the evening meal in one of our two dining rooms as our guests. But I am sorry we cannot keep you overnight. Those facilities have been reserved for months.

Everyone who saw The Sound of Music four years ago was thrilled. If hard work and preparation count for much, and generally they do, The King and I should provide a delightful evening for you and friends.

Approximately 120 girls and boys will graduate Sunday, May 21 at 3 p.m. in Melvin Davidson Chapel following an entire week of graduation events.



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

sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR APR. 30, 1989

Life and work series

God keeps his promise

Josh. 12:1,6-7 Now that Joshua had grown old, somewhere between 90 and 100 years, and different portions of the land were still unconquered, God commanded him to distribute the remainder of the land of Canaan by lot among the nine and a half tribes before his death.

Josh. 14:5 It was God's intention that those who were weak should be treated with mercy and justice while those who were strong were expected to share their possessions and blessings. Each tribe was to receive the portion of the land which God wanted them to have. His choice was of one who knows each perfectly, who prepares the lot in advance and who holds it within his control. Joshua's great reward was in the consciousness that he had spent much of his life helping his fellowmen and striving to glorify God.

It is God who chooses our inheritance for us. "The lot is cast into the lap; but the whole disposing thereof is of the Lord" (Prov. 16:33). The recognition of the divine providence that is over us gives the sanctity of a higher meaning to life, provokes to thankfulness, rebukes discontent and distrust, restrains inordinate ambition and teaches respect for the rights and interests of others.

Josh. 19:49-50 "When they had made an end of dividing the land" both God and the people saw to it that Joshua re-

ceived his share as a reward. As a rule men of position and prominence like Joshua received their rewards at first but not so in this instance.

Josh. 21:43-45 In the division of the land God intended that fairness and justice be administered. He was vitally concerned that each tribe would receive the portion of the land that he wanted each to have.

International series

To the praise of God's glory

Eph. 1:3-14 In a masterful fashion this Epistle of grace and glory emphasizes the privileges and responsibilities of the believer in Christ.

Paul wrote this letter to one class—"the saints." Every person who believes on Christ to the saving of his soul is a saint.

Paul reminds us that God is the author or source of all blessings and that Christ is the medium through which we obtain these blessings. "All spiritual blessings" include all that the Father can bestow, all that the Son can provide and all that the Holy Spirit can apply. Blessings always come from God to man and never from man to God.

According to verses 4-6 the Father's part in our redemption was threefold. First is election to holiness (verse 4). The elector is God—"He hath chosen us." The time of the election was "before the foundation of the world" (verse 4). The purpose of the election is our sanctification—"that we should be holy and without blame before him in love" (verse 4). The ground of the election is the "good pleasure of his will" (verse 5). The object of the election is "the praise of the glory of his grace" (verse 6). A second part which the Father had our redemption was foreordination to sonship (verse 5). A third part for which we are indebted to the all-wise, loving and merciful Father is our acceptance in the beloved (verse 6).

Verses 7-12 contain an explanation of the part of Christ the Son in our redemption. To Christ we are indebted for forgiveness (verse 7), enrichment (verse 8), enlightenment (verses 9-10) and inheritance (verses 11-12).

Verses 13-14 set forth the Holy Spirit's part in our redemption. The Holy Spirit persuaded us to believe on Christ as Saviour and receive the salvation which was planned by the Father and provided by the Son.



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

on mission together

Tiny Faces

I have not been able to remove her face from my mind; her anguish from my soul.

Discovered at the bottom of a trash heap, barely alive, but aware that beside her were the lifeless bodies of her sisters, she was discovered. When ultimately asked what happened, from the precious lips of the four-year-old came the words—"Daddy cut me."

As the story unfolded, before this father's recent capture on the Mexican border, the public heard a story of jealousy, drinking and drugs.

Now, for as long as he lives, the tiny faces of his children will haunt him with a haunt I think I could not bear; and she must live out her life with a scar on her neck and in the memory of her father whom she will likely never see again.

With what agony must so many chil-

dren bear their burdens in our world today. What stories lie behind their eyes, still tormented by the pain of some terrible yesterday. Broken homes and shattered hopes grind endlessly and in ever expanding circles. We in America die a little more with each event, sensing that it is just the tip of the iceberg.

No more needful time in history could the church find a place to serve. No more tragic time in our nation's psyche could the Gospel find a place to do its work of healing.

No more prophetic and significant ministry can a father and/or mother have than to love each other and their children. No finer gift to the Lord or to a culture are children who have been loved and nurtured "in the fear and admonition of the Lord." Blessed is the church which nurtures and strengthens families.

There are no longer any "tiny faces" in our home—except in pictures along a wall; youthful photographs moving progressively toward adulthood.

And from a collection of my written reflections I call to mind those precious moments when they were timely and their lives were being formed:

Markings*

Markings
on her face
taste good to daddys
whose little girls like
chocolate.

Little Girls*

Frilly things with lace,
warm fragrance
of early morning pajamas
sleepy eyes kissed open
to a new day
cuddly things for daddys
to hug till squeals insist
on freedom
which too soon
must come.

*Written in Nicosia, Cyprus-1970

Tiny faces are not meant for the trash heaps of the world. They are meant to be loved by God and by those to whom he entrusts the responsibility.

Theater church offers more than a movie

by Joe Westbury

The marquee above the cinema heralds "Beaches," the latest Hollywood offering. But the main attraction on Sunday mornings is not Bette Midler.

The individual on stage each Sunday is Sam Williams, who presents the Christian gospel in an upbeat contemporary setting.

Cinema 21 is Del Cerro Baptist Church's latest venture in reaching San Diego's unchurched population. Area pastors more comfortable with traditional approaches have expressed surprise that Williams' method is working.

Not only has the experience attracted a steady following of 225 in its first four months, but it is now viewed as the

pacesetter ministry for churches of all denominations. Cinema 21 was the first church to meet in a theater in San Diego and others are now following its lead.

Del Cerro, which takes its name from the east San Diego suburb where it is located, had already established itself as being a progressive church, even at 30 years of age.

The congregation had started three new churches and helped restart another. It was known for its ministry with a Cambodian church, Spanish Kid's Club, a crisis pregnancy center, a Christian service center and ministries in three retirement centers and two nursing homes.

"We had been very successful in getting people to attend services in our

sanctuary but we had run out of space," Williams says. The church already had filled its 350-seat auditorium for two morning services and a third service seemed the only way to expand.

Then Williams had an idea.

Rather than adding another service he decided to look elsewhere for a building with a larger auditorium. His first move was to avoid the older churches that had plenty of space but were stereotyped as lacking relevancy.

The church then targeted the subculture it wanted to reach. It decided on a 25-45 age group of married and single adults who were established in their careers, owned their residences and were unchurched.

"We were looking for people who were settling into life and were beginning to feel something was missing, individuals who had a sense that they had arrived but discovered they wanted more than what the world was offering," Williams said.

After eliminating hotel conference rooms and other options Williams decided on a setting well known to area residents—the auditorium of a popular movie theater, Cinema 21, in nearby Mission Valley.

He and Phil Hester, a Southern Baptist newcomer to San Diego who had begun a church growth communications agency, began developing a marketing strategy to reach the target group.

The men, both graduates of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex., broke new ground when they went after their prospects.

They first chose to advertise on a popular radio station with a light rock music format. Next they placed ads in the entertainment section—not the reli-

gion section—of the Saturday newspaper.

Last they designed a direct mail campaign to 10,000 homes in their target group. Even the mailing was unique: a cassette tape featuring Williams' introduction of the church and a brief sermon excerpt that carried practical application.

From the first service Cinema 21 was a success.

The 100 Del Cerro members who began attending as a core group have since been joined by 125 individuals who were not attending anywhere. As an added bonus the shift of members from Del Cerro freed up space at the mother church for growth in those services.

Williams works the Cinema 21 service into his already crowded Sunday morning schedule. As soon as the 8:30 a.m. service ends at Del Cerro he drives 10 minutes to Mission Valley for the 9:45 theater service. Then he returns to the mother church for the 11 a.m. worship service.

Cinema 21's graded Sunday school classes are taught in rented rooms at a nearby hotel and Williams teaches an adult Bible study that relates directly to the sermon. Each Sunday the theater lobby is transformed into a nursery.

A simple reason for the success, Williams says, is Del Cerro's willingness to break with tradition.

Neither Del Cerro nor Cinema 21 uses 'come forward' invitations. Instead response cards are distributed and people receive a personal telephone call or visit by the pastor or a staff member.

"I don't pressure people to join because I don't work on commission," Williams says with a grin.



Sam Williams, pastor, Del Cerro Baptist Church, San Diego.

Senior adult music ministry deserves more than kazoos

by Charles Willis

Too often the senior adult music ministry in a church has consisted of a jug band and a kazoo choir, a minister of music who works extensively with senior adults told participants in a seminar at the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Lyndel Vaught, minister of music, First Baptist Church, San Angelo, Tex., began a study of the aging voice in 1971 and in 1979 he founded the church's senior adult choirs, the Glory Choir.

"Aging is not a disease," he told senior adult and music ministry leaders. "The aging years of life can be a robust winter. To be successful agers we have to have new experiences and relationships."

Vaught first started thinking about starting a senior adult choir when he moved to San Angelo and discovered a significant retirement community of former denominational workers including retired missionaries, he said. In learning of the responsible positions those people once had held Vaught said he came to the conclusion "there is more for the retirement years than playing in a jug band and wearing a funny hat."

Vaught started the Glory Choir with 17 members 11 of whom are still active in the choir that now numbers 119 people ranging in age from 62 to 92.

Of the original choir members he recalled discovering a spirit "that deserved more than just playing on little instruments. These people were growing

while getting older chronologically. They would do anything I asked if it seemed to be meaningful."

His belief that new people and new meaningful experiences help senior citizens grow is supported by psychologists and sociologists, he said.

"When senior adults have new experiences they don't live in the past," he said. "With senior adult music we are doing something that is more than music. We are teaching them to adapt, a skill that carries over into others areas of life."

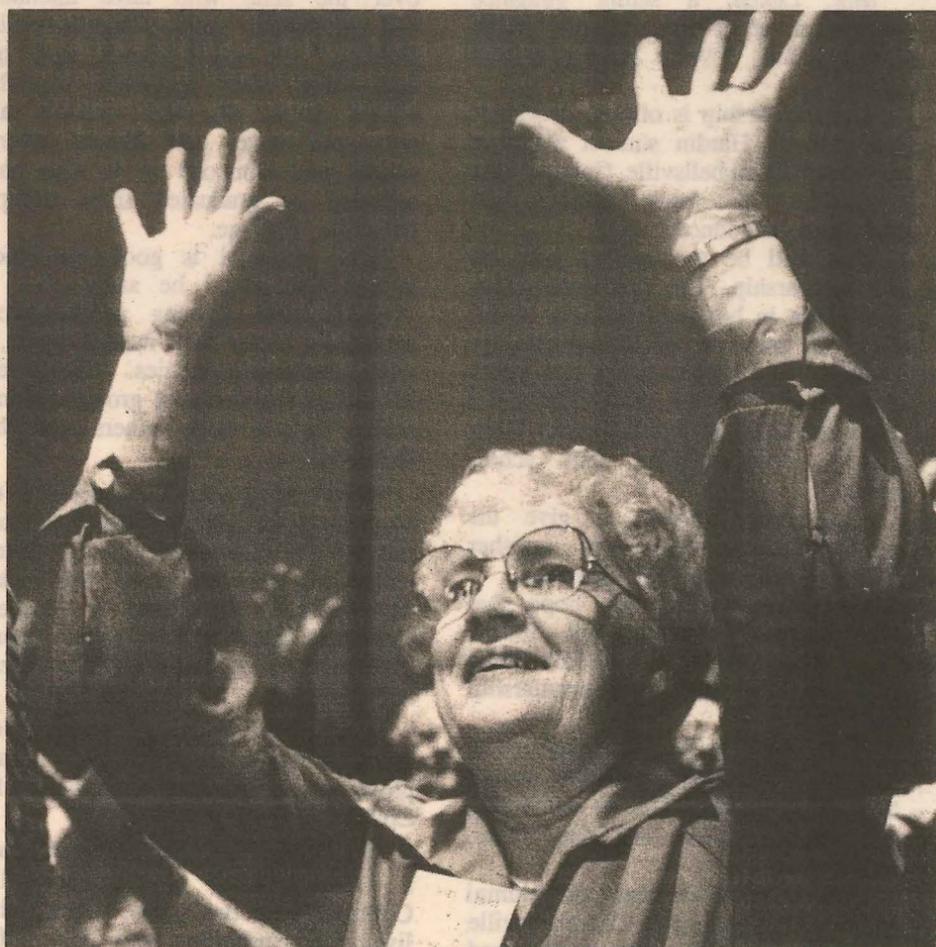
New people and new experiences come through travel as the choir accepts invitations to sing not only for other Baptist churches but also for churches of other denominations and for senior citizens' organizations.

With members paying their own way the choir has been to Mexico four times, where they helped start a church in 1984 and raised \$100,000 to pay for a building where some 150-200 people worship today. They also sang for Baptists in England, where one concert was held in the oldest church building in the country.

"One member joked that finally they had sung in a building older than they were," Vaught laughed.

This year, he said, will be the choir's third year to be the service choir for Aspen Bible Conference at Glorieta (N. M.) Baptist Conference Center.

Perhaps Vaught's greatest pride lies in the fact that one-third of the choir's



Elaine Bettis warms up with aerobic exercises prior to glory choir rehearsal.

30-song repertoire is material, both text and music, written by composers in the choir.

Working with senior adults has "transformed my life," Vaught said.

"They've shown me how to love and how to care. I've learned it's not how much I acquire that's important but how much I learn and how many experiences I have."

Campbellsville College alumni help students with scholarship

By Deana Duncan
Campbellsville College
Student Writer

"We want to help Campbellsville College and help a student."

Don Patterson, an English teacher at North Hardin High School in Radcliff, said this was one reason he and other Campbellsville College graduates employed by North Hardin High School decided to develop the North Hardin High School-Campbellsville College Alumni Scholarship.

Patterson, a 1963 graduate of Campbellsville College, said they wanted to "emphasize teaching as a career" and "encourage new and better teachers." However, the scholarship is not restricted to those who wish to major in education.

Sheryl Luken, also a 1963 graduate of Campbellsville College, said "there is a standard form based on grades and on American College Test (ACT) scores, and the scholarship is not necessarily based on need." "If there is no applicant, we can give the scholarship money to the College for someone with need."

Patterson said the scholarship is "established at a \$500 initial grant, but it varies each year."

Mrs. Luken, a senior guidance counselor at North Hardin High School, said, "We're hoping it will grow."

The scholarship is offered in March for a North Hardin student planning to attend Campbellsville College. (At press-time, this year's recipient had not been announced).

This will be the second year for the scholarship. The first scholarship was given in honor of Marilyn Keen, a 1962 graduate of Campbellsville College, who passed away two years ago. Brad Fox of Vine Grove, a 1988 graduate of North Hardin High School, received the first scholarship.

The group intends to give the scholarship in honor of another Campbellsville College alumnus.

Mrs. Luken said they hope that other school systems will follow North Hardin High School's lead and develop their own scholarship programs.

"Our goal is to encourage other people, other schools and other school systems to follow. This is something to reach throughout the state," Mrs. Luken said.

Mike Crain, director of alumni and church relations at Campbellsville College, said, "We are very pleased with the North Hardin High School-Campbellsville College Alumni Scholarship.

"We are grateful that these alumni feel so strongly about the education they received at Campbellsville Col-

North Hardin High School-Campbellsville College Alumni Scholarship Founders

Debbyee Darlene Blair ('75)
Brenda Wilson Gaddie ('68)
Bettina Maupin Marple ('66)
Dwayne Ellis ('64)
Fred Clyde Stein ('75)
Marlene Vick Lamb ('68)
Leo and Sheryl Crawford Luken ('62, '63)
Don Dean Patterson ('63)

Contributors

Betty Jean Tate ('72)
Shannon O. Campbell ('62)
Glenda Louise Routon Patterson ('69)

lege. As an alumnus myself (class of 1972), I know the pride they feel in their school and their desire to share Campbellsville College with others.

"We hope this idea catches on with our other alumni. It's a fantastic scholarship program."

"This is a good example of what other groups could be doing," said Phil Hanna, director of admissions at Campbellsville College.

"There are so many teachers all over the state who have attended and graduated from Campbellsville College," he said. Hanna said he and other staff members recently visited about 60 high schools all over the state and almost every school had someone in it who had attended or graduated from Campbellsville College.

"The potential is good for other groups like this," he said.

Hanna said "young people need something extra; they need a boost," with scholarship monies. "We'll see it (alumni scholarships) grow," Hanna said. "I just hope others get the message."

When asked why they decided to establish a scholarship fund, Patterson said, "It's (Campbellsville College) where we went to school. We make no apologies for being a teacher. Campbellsville College trains some of the best teachers in the area, and they may be the best."

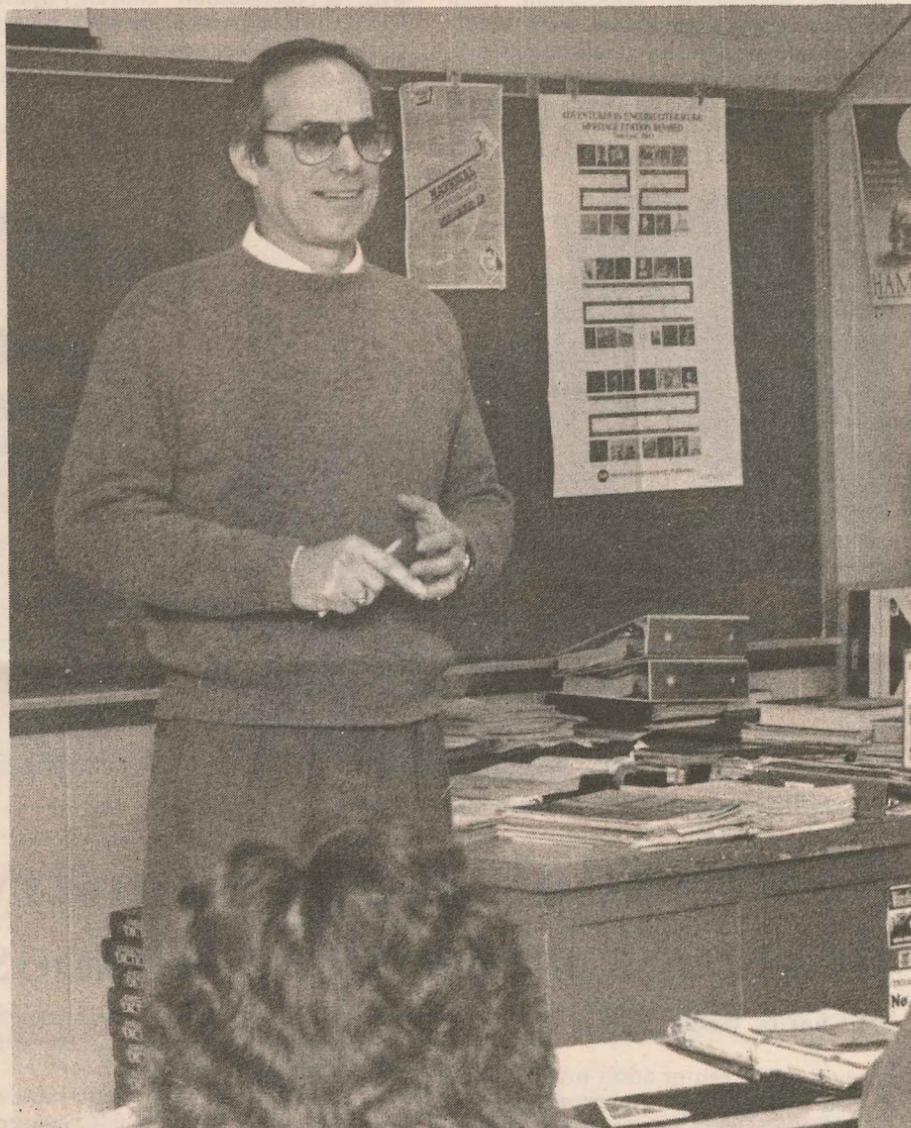
Mrs. Luken said, "We owe a lot to Campbellsville College. We're proud that we attended Campbellsville College."

Mrs. Luken and her husband, Leo, a 1962 graduate of Campbellsville College, have two sons, Greg who lives in Nashville with his wife, and Gerrek, a sophomore at East Hardin High School in Glendale.

Luken is a founder of the North Hardin High School-Campbellsville College Alumni Scholarship program. He previously taught at North Hardin

High School but is currently working with Project Second Chance, a federal program for high school drop-outs.

Patterson's wife, Glenda, is also a contributor. She is a 1969 graduate of Campbellsville College.



DON PATTERSON, a 1963 graduate of Campbellsville College and an English teacher at North Hardin High School, teaches a class. He is one of the founders of the North Hardin High School-Campbellsville College Alumni Scholarship. (Campbellsville College Photos by Deana Duncan)



SHERYL LUKEN, left, a guidance counselor at North Hardin High School, counsels Stacy Merren, a senior at the high school.