

People won't attend just anything anymore, pastors, deacons told

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

A Baptist Sunday School Board leader has cautioned Kentucky Baptist pastors and deacons against a "me-ism" philosophy.

Bob Sheffield, consultant in the board's Church Administration Department, Nashville, decried the rise of the "feel good" preacher and "feel good" singing. He claimed both came into prominence in churches in the decades of the 70s and 80s.

"The whole church is going to have to mobilize in the 90s if we are to reach our land for Christ," Sheffield said. He spoke during the Kentucky Baptist deacon-pastor-spouse retreat Sept. 29-30 at Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly, Aurora.

"The church is not a complete success until we have reached everybody and all have become a functioning part of the family of God," he went on.

Turning to another area which he included under the broad topic of "Shaping the Church of the 90s," Sheffield declared: "We've also got to raise the level of our Sunday school teaching. People won't just come to anything anymore. They don't want to be bored."

While several preachers in the Jonathan Creek conference suggested that the worship service is chiefly instrumental in attracting and influencing nonChristians to a given church, Sheffield acknowledged that "the Sunday school would dispute that." He suggested that leaders should give greater priority toward planning for worship and Bible teaching experiences to draw and win more lost persons.

Sheffield led two of five small group interest conferences during the weekend event planned by the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Family Ministry and Church Administration Department, Middletown, John Lepper, director. Other conference leaders included Gates Bowman, pastor, First Baptist Church, Eddyville; Tim Clark, minister of education, Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown; and Diane Cottrell, minister of music and youth, Immanuel Baptist Church, Elizabethtown.

Worship leader for the weekend was Rick Shannon, pastor of Second Baptist Church, Greenville, who opened the retreat speaking on the name *Christian*.

"When you became a Christian," said Shannon, "you took on the name of Jesus Christ. He came to deliver you from the bondage of this world's ethical standards. There is so much in this world we need to be delivered from."

He continued: "*Christian* describes those who have had Adam's blood drawn from their veins, replaced by the blood of the Son of God which was shed on a cross. We used to be sons of Adam but we've been adopted into the family of God."

Finally, Shannon surmised, the name requires us never to turn back to our old ways again.

"Change your conduct or change your name. Have you decided to be a Christian? Make no provision for retreat."

Music for the pastor-deacon-spouse retreat was led by Steve Littlefield, minister of music, First Baptist Church, Murray.

Three pastor-deacon-spouse retreats are planned for 1990: Feb. 16-17 and Sept. 14-15 at Cedarmore and Feb. 23-24 at Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park, Gilbertsville.

Single adults: 'forgotten minority' by most ministers and churches?

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

Are single adults the most ignored members of a Southern Baptist congregation?

Two speakers at the Haworth Conference, an annual two-day event sponsored by Kentucky Baptists' Family Ministry and Church Administration Department, suggested they are. The 1989 conference was held Oct. 2-3 at Cedarmore Baptist Assembly, Bagdad.

Jerry Hayner, former campus minister at Cumberland College, Williamsburg, now a North Carolina pastor, discussed four questions singles frequently raise about the church:

- The church does not understand singles.
- The church is afraid of single adults.
- The church is too family oriented.
- The church doesn't know what to do with divorce.

Hayner, pastor of Forest Hills Baptist Church, Raleigh, has written a book on including singles as a planned part of a church's ministry. Hayner and Timothy Cleary, single adult consultant in the Baptist Sunday School Board's Family Ministry Department, Nashville, cited statistics about the growing numbers of single adults.

Said Cleary: "Never marrieds' probably are the least targeted lost persons in our churches today." He identified all single adults as the "largest unchurched part" of the adult population in the U. S.

Citing figures, Cleary claimed 35% of the American population between the ages of 18-64 is single. If those beyond age 64 are added, 49% of adults are single. He said 4.5 million persons are Southern Baptist single adults.

"Yet," Cleary went on, "they (singles) are working on the same agendas as you and I, only they are working on them solo, not as a couple."

Crowd of 827, 25 decisions highlight state BSU convention

by Lawanda Smith, Staff Writer

Robert Don Hughes, associate professor of communications and mass media at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, combined drama and humor in four addresses before the 62nd convention of the Kentucky Baptist Student Union.

Hughes centered his messages around missions, emphasizing the convention's theme, "As You Go," meeting on the campus of Southern Seminary Sept. 29-Oct. 1.

While 827 students registered for the convention, Kentucky Baptist Student Department director Don Blaylock acknowledged that "many more were present." He observed that about 25 public decisions were recorded during an invitation extended at the close of Hughes' Saturday night message.

In a business session earlier that day students adopted an \$82,500 summer missions budget for 1990. The amount will be raised primarily by local BSUs across the commonwealth and five in-state student mission teams. The budget supports Kentucky Baptist students who will serve overseas, across the nation and within this state next year. Students gave \$892 to launch the 1990

summer missions budget while at the convention.

In addition they approved positions for state, home and foreign summer missions work, including a six-member Brazil team. Positions for the five in-state teams were approved.

Testimonies by 1989 student summer missionaries, special music, workshops, planned recreation and free time were included on the BSU weekend agenda.

At the convention's opening session, Hughes encouraged the students not to compare themselves with others. "Be yourself," he urged.

"Often we play the spiritual stock market," he noted. "We compare ourselves to other Christians and we are glad we're better."

But he reminded the students that Jesus said whoever would be great must be a servant. "God's justice is not just, not fair," Hughes admitted. "We should be glad we don't get what we deserve."

In a later address, Hughes asked: "Do you ever wonder if God knows your name?"

He then painted a "before and after" picture of the Old Testament character Jacob, allowing that the "old" Jacob was an arrogant young man, full of spiritual pride, himself and dishonesty.

When Jacob admitted, "My name is 'cheat,'" he was being honest with God about who he was and what he had done with his life, Hughes said.

Jacob the cheater limped away from his contact with God, Hughes noted. He gave God the glory instead of himself. Jacob had undergone transformation, Hughes stressed, adding, "Jacob needed to repent, not repaint. He met God face to face honestly."

Later, stressing missions involvement, Hughes admonished, "As you go, be listening."

"If you aren't a witness now," he questioned, "why would going across the ocean make you one?"

Hughes said he feared many Christians have a *centripetal* view of missions: "If you want to know God, you come to us."

"Jesus Christ established a *centrifugal* view of missions," he asserted. "He implied that you are going to go. As you go, do what you are called to do."

"If you are going to listen, you need to be plugged into the source of power," Hughes emphasized. "Form a relationship with Jesus Christ who will empower you to listen."

In a final address, he offered, "Attempt great things for God; expect great things from God." It works, he surmised, as long as you have God's expectations.

God can take just about anyone and do what God wants to do, he continued. It is God who does it.

"There are a lot of us—and especially is this true when we are young—who think God has entrusted me with the obligation to carry the gospel," he noted. "There's not any one of us that's more important than any other."

Phil Landgrave, composer, arranger and professor of church music at Southern Seminary, led music for the weekend BSU convention. Christian composer and recording artist Larry Bryant of Nashville entertained students at a Saturday night concert.

Next year's BSU convention is planned Sept. 28-30 in Bowling Green at Eastwood Baptist Church.

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in the interim

Something good can come from this

The recent action of the Mt. Zion Association to "disfellowship" First Baptist Church, Corbin, has alarmed some observers and encouraged others. Those who are alarmed express concern for the autonomy of the local church and view the action of the association as an unwarranted intrusion into local church decisions. Those who are encouraged view the action as an appropriate step toward uniformity in the interpretation of scripture by churches who comprise the body of fellowship within an association. The fact that the church dismissed is pastored by a former president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention makes this case of more than passing interest.

The truth is that Mt. Zion Association was acting exactly in accordance with Baptist heritage and procedure. Unique among Baptist bodies, the local association is the place for doctrinal decision-making. Baptists have gathered in local associations according to commonalities of faith and practice. We have gathered in state and national bodies according to the commonality of mutual work. The state and national bodies have never been places for doctrinal uniformity, though current trends in Southern Baptist life ignore that important part of our identity and heritage. Not so with local associations. The Mt. Zion Association was acting properly, according to Baptist heritage, when it decided that First Baptist Church, Corbin, did not hold in common a particular point of faith and practice with the majority of that association. One may decry the decision, one may debate the merits of the case, but one may not say that it was not the business of the association to take the action.

There is a deeper issue at stake in this event than the issue of the ordination of women. That issue is the nature of a local Baptist association, and more particularly, what binds our associations together. Kentucky's associations have become largely geographical in organizations that exist not only for local concerns but also as convenient promoters of the state and national programs and ministries. That characteristic may be appropriate, but in these chang-

ing times one has to wonder if geography alone is a powerful enough glue to hold fellowship together.

The time may have come when we recognize that associations must be more than geographic entities. Associations, according to Baptist heritage, are groups of local churches related to one another by a common faith and practice. Within a common geographic area—a county for example—one can find churches with differences, especially in matters of church order. As social change proceeds, these differences are likely to increase and will be accompanied by increasing tension between those of different points of view. It will be helpful to the cause of Christ if responsible pastors and laypersons alike seek the road of reconciliation and peace by recognizing and dealing with this inevitable process.

Rather than seeing "orphan church" develop, new associations could be developed—not in the spirit of disharmony, but in the spirit of growth and development. Associations are not compelled to stop at the county line in their identity; they may be spread over a wide geographic area so long as the member churches have a commonality of faith and practice. This possibility could be the positive element that comes out of the Mt. Zion/First Baptist, Corbin, incident.

If such a trend develops the Kentucky Baptist Convention should welcome new associations as full partners in our common work in our state. There is nothing sacred about the number of associations, nor is there any importance given to "territory" by the gospel. Since our common characteristic in the KBC is our devotion to the work of Christ new associations would strengthen—not weaken—our ministry. The cause of peace among the brethren would be served and positive relationships could grow out of the ground of division. Besides all of this, Kentucky Baptists in local associations would be living up to their heritage as followers of Christ who voluntarily band together to accomplish the task of missions. It is time we seek new paths of peace to achieve our calling.

Richard W. Bridges

western recorder

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mountains to the mississippi

personnel

Ronald E. Melton has accepted the pastorate of Sharpe Baptist Church, Blood River Association.

Bellevue Baptist Church, Northern Kentucky Association, called **Dan Schlosser** as associate pastor and youth director.

T. A. Thacker is new interim pastor of First Baptist Church, La Center, West Union Association. Thacker has previously served on the KBC executive board and has been moderator of Long Run Association.

Wiley B. Faw Jr. is no longer pastor of Polly Ann Baptist Church, Lincoln Association.

Forest Chilton left the pastorate of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Owen County Association.

Old Cedar Baptist Church, Owen County Association, announced that **Marvin Boggs** is no longer pastor.

Gary McAbel accepted the pastorate of Beech Grove Baptist Church, Owen County Association.

Revel Dawson III is no longer pastor of Gratz Baptist Church, Owen County Association.

Hardin Lowe is now interim pastor of Glencoe Baptist Church, Ten Mile Association.

Buford Dunavent is now pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Owen County Association. He leaves Craft Colly Baptist Church, Pine Mountain Association.

Jack's Creek Baptist Church, Enterprise Association, called **Kendall Brainard** as pastor.

Danny R. Withers accepted the call to pastor Pikeview Baptist Church, Freedom Association. He leaves Poplar Grove Baptist Church, Russell County Association.

Oliver Sanders is now pastor of Black Lick Baptist Church, Breckinridge Association.

Hoyle Smith is no longer pastor of North Evarts Baptist Church, Upper Cumberland Association.

Tracy Gross is new pastor of Central Baptist Church, Upper Cumberland Association.

Pigeon Fork Baptist Church, Shelby County Association, announced that **Michael Chittum** is no longer pastor.

Tilmon Bargo left Paint Hill Baptist Church, Lynn Camp Association.

Roy D. Allen is now pastor of New Home Baptist Church, Booneville Association.

Gerald Jones is no longer pastor of Jones Creek Baptist Church, Upper Cumberland Association.

Ashland Baptist Church, Greenup Association, is no longer pastored by **Phillip Haney**.

Gilbert Sowers resigned as pastor of Eastside Baptist Church, Bates Creek Association.

J. Michael Raley is no longer associate pastor at Hurstborne Baptist Church, Long Run Association. He goes to Sanders Baptist Church, Whites Run Association, as pastor.

Rockbridge Baptist Church, Central Association, is now pastored by **David Jones**.

Chris Carroll is no longer pastor of Bel-fry Baptist Church, Pike Association.

Boyd Manion has come out of retirement to pastor New Hope Baptist Church, Allen Association.

George Robertson left Milltown Chapel, Monroe Association.

Bethel Baptist Church, Allen Association, called **Terry O'Neal** as pastor.

Jack Loveday resigned as pastor of Northside Baptist Church, Bell Association.

Bethel Baptist Church, McCreary Association, announced the resignation of pastor **Leonard Harmon**.

Cornelia Parrish of Taylorsville will celebrate her 100th birthday Oct. 16. Mrs. Parrish was married to the late Allen Mack Parrish who pastored churches in Greenville, Taylorsville and Paducah. After her husband's death she was housemother at Sigma Kappa House of Georgetown (Ky.) College for 20 years.

Jim Lee is new pastor of Sulphur Springs Baptist Church, Ohio River Association.

Emmaus Baptist Church, Ohio River Association, is no longer pastored by **Steve Watson**.

missions

The Foreign Mission Board has appointed **Mrs. Nancy Francisco** to a one year mission as an English worker at the Baptist Center in Japan. Mrs. Francisco was married to the late Clyde T. Francisco, former professor at Southern Seminary, Louisville.

Ron Abrams, pastor of Rockford Lane Baptist Church, Long Run Association, was one of nearly 50 people who spent two weeks working with Southern Baptist churches in Indonesia. The project was a partnership sponsored by the Foreign Mission Board and the Well-spring Mission Volunteers Foundation. The mission team was made up of pastors from Missouri where Abrams was a pastor at the time of his appointment.

congregations

Eighteenth Street Baptist Church, Long Run Association, recognized members with perfect attendance to Sunday school. Pins were awarded to eight individuals whose perfect attendance ranged from one to 30 years.

Those receiving pins and the number of years of perfect attendance: Emma McCullum and Ann Gaddis, one year; Delores Smith, three years; Mary Stark and Linda Stark, 11 years; Beatrice Wright, 27 years; Curtis Thompson, 28 years; Cora Thompson and Nancy Thompson, 30 years.

Oct. 1 **Trinity Baptist Church**, Northern Kentucky Association, held a special homecoming to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the merger between Calvary and Trinity Baptist churches. Wilton Shelton Jr. is pastor.

Wilmington Baptist Church, Northern Kentucky Association, recently held a special 185th anniversary service. John Elmore delivered the congregation which is pastored by John Justice.

Spring Creek Baptist Church, Blood River Association, raised its associational gifts from \$15 to \$50 and Cooperative Program gifts from \$1000 to \$1800.

associations

Sept. 6-7 **Liberty Association** celebrated its 150th annual meeting. The association is comprised of churches from Barren, Hart and Metcalfe counties. The 350 messengers to the meeting were addressed by Bill Whittaker, president of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, Pineville, and Barkley Moore, president of Oneida (Ky.) Baptist Institute. John Nunley is the association's newly elected director of missions.

Freedom Association dedicated its 1988 annual in memory of W. O. Mers. Mers, who pastored two churches in the association and was moderator on several occasions, died July 31.

ordinations

Gary Miller and **David Bolton** were ordained to the ministry by Binghamtown Baptist Church, Bell Association. W. B. Bingham II is pastor.

Henderson Memorial Baptist Church, Christian County Association, ordained **Wilmer Lantrip** as deacon. Douglas M. Anderson is pastor.

Oct. 24 **Chuck Lovejoy** will be ordained to the ministry by Harlan Baptist Church, Upper Cumberland Association. Roy Carlton is pastor.

Lone Oak Baptist Church, West Union Association, ordained new deacons **Harper Housman**, **Phil Spees**, and **Don Stacy**. Willis Henson is pastor.

Wayside Baptist Church, Greenup Association, ordained pastor **Caudle J. Adkins**.

deaths

Stephen Copass, son of Rev. and Mrs. Wyman Copass, died Sept. 24. Copass is the pastor of Farmdale Baptist Church, Long Run Association.

revivals

LaVerne Butler conducted revival services for **Wingo Baptist Church**, Graves County Association. Two professions of faith were made. Barry Hardison is pastor.



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

clear creek chronicle

Football chaplain

Whenever the Union College football team goes out to play, a Clear Creek graduate is on the sidelines encouraging them to victory. The team chaplain is James Vandy, pastor of East Barbourville church.

Talk with Vandy a few moments and you will catch his excitement of working with college students. Since 1987 he has directed the Baptist Student Union. His work takes him to campus six hours a week and provides a unique opportunity for a Baptist pastor in a Methodist school. Vandy recently reported to the North Concord association, "These are not all 'our' young people but they are someone's youth. More importantly they are persons for whom Jesus Christ died." During the last 12 months 1047 students were involved in personal conferences, Bible study and outreach ministries. Ten area churches used student groups for worship and youth activities.

The student ministry has naturally overflowed into the life of East Barbourville church where Vandy returned for the second time as pastor in 1982. Forty students regularly attend worship. During summer training the church hosted the football team and coaches for a big dinner in the National Guard Armory. Vandy has baptized the head football coach, defensive coordinator and three players. One team member acknowledged, "You don't know how hard it was being in church Sunday and not be a Christian." The next Sunday, while home in Fleming-Neon, the student was converted and baptized.

In high school Vandy was called to preach under the ministry of Clear Creeker Maynard Head. Too young to attend Clear Creek, James enrolled at Spencerian Business College and gained valuable skills later used for 15 years as Laurel County deputy clerk.

Approaching 21 and planning marriage Vandy came to Pineville. His second year on campus began with marriage to Connie Whicker and they moved into the "honeymoon cottage" which now houses the Dental Clinic. Since graduation in 1968 they have worked with churches in London and Pennington Gap, Va.

Through student ministry and football James Vandy lives out the dynamics of a player-coach in the game of life.

Kentucky Baptist leaders

Brazil's warmth still lingers with first partnership members

by Lawanda Smith, Staff Writer

Even though they returned to Kentucky Sept. 13, the first team to participate in the Kentucky/Brazil foreign missions partnership is still buzzing about the warmth in Brazil.

But it's not the climate they are talking about. It's the hospitality of the Brazilians.

Kentucky Baptist Convention personnel who were among 19 participants in evangelism teams that worked with 20 Brazilian churches agree—the openness of the Brazilians left a lasting impression.

"They are some of the most loving, giving people I've ever met," reminisces James Jones, of Campbellsville, president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. His team ministered with both

affluent and poor people, but Jones found both groups equally warm and receptive.

"Brazilians really love and respect Americans," he allows. "They are open to receive the gospel and they see Americans as a drawing card."

"Brazilians are greatly honored to have Americans in their homes," adds Calvin Wilkins, partnership coordinator of the KBC Direct Missions Department, Middletown. "They take pride in saying, 'We've had Americans, believers in our home.'"

Wilkins is convinced the initial evangelism team broke down barriers. "Some Brazilians had an image of Americans as rich and 'untouchable,'" he admits. "American television has fostered that image. But they felt like we were one of them by the time we left. They found we have small churches like



Cordell



Jagers



Jones



Simpkins

they have and that we have similar family lives."

"They always want to serve you something—strong coffee, fruit drinks or cake," Wilkins chuckles. "They served us some of the best food they ever eat and they served it with love."

Although the teams stayed in hotels, they were afforded ample opportunity to eat meals, share fellowship and witness in homes. Kentuckians and Brazilians visited door-to-door in the mornings and afternoons, mainly sharing Christ with nonChristians. Revival services were conducted in the evenings, much like crusades in the states.

A total of 114 conversions and 419 rededications and other decisions were recorded in 20 churches. Teams also held services in prisons and hospitals as well as open air services. Wilkins recalls that on his last evening in Brazil, one church blocked a whole street off for worship service. Members moved pews, light and sound outside to accommodate over 300 people. In addition, Kentuckians distributed several hundred Portuguese and bilingual tracts.

Delores Spears, of Paducah, president of Kentucky's Woman's Missionary Union, met with the WMU president of the state convention of Esperito Santo and with WMU groups in churches. The groups discussed ways for Brazilians to minister to their own people and ways to involve more women and girls in missions.

Bob Simpkins, director of the KBC's Brotherhood Department, was granted an audience with the mayor and town council of Linhares. Simpkins recalls that the pastor of First Baptist Church, Linhares, captured the vision of evangelism with abounding enthusiasm. Meeting with Simpkins and the mayor, who came from a nonChristian background, the pastor urged the mayor to work with First Baptist Church to create job and education opportunities in order to get people off the street.

"Things we take for granted as Baptists are big concepts for Brazilians," Simpkins notes.

Jim Cordell, director of the KBC's Church Music Department, and William D. Jagers, director of the Evangelism Department, and Jagers' wife Dodie worked on one team at two different churches. Cordell was much impressed by the Brazilians' music in worship.

"The smaller churches had no piano or organ but used omnichords (like an autoharp) and hymn players," he recalls. A small youth instrumental ensemble of drums, bass guitar and lead guitar accompanied congregational hymns in one church.

Sometimes Cordell led hymns in English while the congregation sang in Portuguese.

"I was uncertain about that," Cordell remembers, "but it worked. I told the story of the song through an interpreter and then we sang. The congregation recognized the melodies and the message is the same in both languages."

Jagers says the experience that left the most impression was probably his visit to the mission work in Sao Pedro, an extremely poor village.



Spears



Wilkins

"I'm so glad our Cooperative Program monies are at work there," he declares. "The mission has plans for a church building but right now they are meeting in a tent. Baptists have a hospital for medical care and own another house used for children—for their development—to feed, clothe and watch after them. Baptists minister spiritually and physically."

The group counts the trip a success for several reasons. Not only Brazilians made decisions.

Jones stresses that both he and his wife came back with a new commitment to missions and the Cooperative Program. "We were always committed," he says, "But we are even moreso now."

"The highlight of mission work I have done was to work with two young men on my team, Darren Wan and Mark Sanborn," Simpkins relates. "Each felt they could not do enough. They both preached; one service resulted in 23 decisions. One of the men feels a call to career foreign missions."

And what opportunities may Kentuckians who go on future trips expect?

There are still many needs to be met in Brazil. John Dyke, Benton contractor, will recruit construction teams for chapels and the new orphanage. Medical teams will work with the mission in Sao Pedro. Teachers are needed to teach interpreters conversational English. Cordell says revival teams need more music ministers. There will be opportunity for Kentucky churches to help financially. In short, Wilkins says, "Teams in 1990 will offer different kinds of projects that a person with any kind of talent and commitment can plug in to."

"Future groups may expect for life changing experiences," he continues. "They will be treated like royalty. They will leave part of themselves there and many will want to go back. Saying goodbye was an emotional experience. The people got so attached to us."

"The services will be a revelation to some," he admits. The music is lively, and all the congregation participates. Young people show strong commitment to the church. Many of the people are under age 30. Most pastors are young, some single.

"Brazilians are very open to the partnership and are looking forward to Kentuckians coming," notes Jones. "Future teams can expect to be very welcomed."

"My strongest impressions are of warm and friendly people," Jagers concludes. "Many doors have been opened for Kentucky Baptists to share Christ. The needs are there."

christian education

georgetown college

Final enrolment figures for the 1989 fall semester at Georgetown College are higher than preliminary figures indicated in an Aug. 31 report from the registrar's office.

According to registrar Winnie Bratcher Georgetown has a fall enrolment of 1562 students—up 26 from the earlier report. This final figure marks the highest total opening enrolment in the history of the Kentucky Baptist institution.

Represented in the fall enrolment are 1130 undergraduates and 432 graduate students who come from 20 states and 11 foreign countries.

High school juniors and seniors from Kentucky are invited to attend the 12th annual VIP Day at Georgetown College, Saturday, Oct. 21.

The yearly visitation to the campus enables prospective students and their parents the opportunity to tour the Georgetown campus and to meet and talk with faculty. A program filled with vital college entrance information and entertainment, VIP Day also features interviews and auditions for fine arts grants, sessions on financial aid and competitive exams for science and math scholarships.

Registration for the day-long event begins 8:30 a.m. in Cralle Student Center. The opening session follows at 9:45 a.m.

For more information: Admissions Office, Georgetown College, Georgetown, KY 40324, (502) 863-8009.

campbellsville college

Campbellsville College will host Fall Preview Day for high school juniors and seniors, their parents and others who might be interested in attending Campbellsville College, Saturday, Oct. 21 beginning at 9 a.m. in the college's Alumni

Building.

Trent Argo, admissions counselor, said Fall Preview Day is a time when those interested in attending Campbellsville College can tour the campus and get to know faculty and staff members.

The day's schedule includes musical entertainment, campus tours, academic and financial aid advisement, a free lunch and a free football game in the afternoon.

Students will receive academic counseling in their areas of study, Argo said, and professors in those areas will be there to talk to them.

southern seminary

Night of the Star, one-act Christmas opera written by American composer Mary Caldwell, will be presented Nov. 14 and 16 by the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary Workshop in Church Music Drama.

For family enjoyment this small dramatic gem tells the Christmas night story of the youngest Bethlehem shepherd, Jonathan, portrayed in this production by 12-year-old Kim Bowen, sixth grade student at Westport (Ky.) Middle School.

Jonathan meets the littlest angel, sung by Val Andrist, who has missed the heavenly choir concert because of a broken wing. Jonathan repairs the damaged wing and joyously witnesses all the angels, including the smallest one, as they repeat the "Glory to God in the Highest" chorus for his benefit.

The cast of 18 also includes Allyson Crosson (Gabriel), Choi UnYong (Nathan), Mark Andrist (Benjamin), Kim Bowen (Jacob), Ron Threadgill (Roman Guard), Martha Threadgill (Slave girl), Debbie Merritt, Molly Bennett, David Wirth, Marty Cathey and Amy Scott (angels) and Ron Guthrie (the story teller).

There is no admission charge. Performances begin at 8 p.m. in Heeren Hall, Cooke Music Building. The public is invited.

baptist forum

Sojourner gives testimony

My name is Tamara Fox, 15 years old, of Ridgcrest Baptist Church in Beaver Dam. I was assigned by the Home Mission Board as a sojourner for 10 weeks in resort ministries at Daytona Beach, Fla. this past summer. God changed my life through this experience and I'll never be the same.

I worked with four BSU students from Mississippi State. We performed sand-n-surf clubs (backyard Bible clubs), Monday-Friday; beach recreation ministry; boardwalk ministry; day camps; clothes closet at a Baptist center; shared in nursing home ministry; supervised youth groups and taught Sunday school in an assigned church each Sunday.

We were 24 hour missionaries and we should be that at all times. God touched many lives through our ministries. He sent me there for several reasons.

My goal at the beginning of the summer was to be able to lead at least one person to the Lord. God gave me that opportunity to win a little girl, 12 years old, to him. I was bubbling over. I told God if that was the only person I would win personally to him, that my summer was spent to its fullest.

God taught me so much. Every need I had I was to take to him and seek his face for guidance and try always to share his love.

Love was the basis of the summer of '89; no matter where we went we made sure everyone we came in contact with knew that Jesus loved them.

Joshua 1:9 says, "Have I not commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage. Be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed, for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

Tamara Fox
Beaver Dam

One cracker at a time

I've gotten into the habit of opening my packages from home at the corner store—called kahgey in Korean—down the hill from where I live. The shopkeeper has a sharp knife that she uses to clean fish. It's far sharper than mine and better for ripping through thick customs declaration tape. Besides, the women that sit out in front of the kahgey (sort of a bread, milk and dried squid shop) love to see whatever it is that I've gotten from home. If it's clothing, the tailor next door will do alterations on the spot. If it's food, they at least have to look at it.

Such was the case with the package one of my family's neighbors sent. Inside we discovered extra crunchy Peter Pan peanut butter and a big box of Keebler Town House classic crackers. There was no looking at this food. Women, carrying babies on their backs, came out of their houses wanting to try it. The restaurant matron from the other side of the kahgey brought out a small plastic spoon and got the first bite. For a second I thought I was in a cross between commercials

for Life Cereal and E. F. Hutton. The restaurant owned declared the American concoction edible and we had a party. The kids were more interested in playing with the white popcorn packaging stuff, and the women, I think, discussed the fact that I live alone and have no children.

Before long the old man of the neighborhood looked out his second story window and waved at the crowd gathering below. I bounded across the street and up the stairs with a peanut butter cracker. We bowed a few times, then he finally ate it. I think the peanut butter got stuck to the roof of his mouth pretty bad but he seemed to enjoy it anyway.

Sometimes I wonder if I'm really making a difference in my neighborhood. But how many people can say they gave an 80-year-old man his first peanut butter cracker. Maybe that's what ministry is: one peanut butter cracker at a time. But none of it would be possible without the folks who sent the peanut butter.

Ginny Whitehouse
Missionary Journeyman
Taejon, Korea

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Send resume and preaching tape to Mountain View Baptist Church, Box 520, Lancaster, NH 03582.

Ron Holden, Chairman
Pastor Selection Committee

Reviewing Pennington case

Recently an editorial appeared in Western Recorder dealing with rejection of Greg and Katrina Pennington for appointment by the Foreign Mission Board. There followed a news release announcing an open letter from faculty members of Southern Seminary to Foreign Mission Board trustees expressing "profound sorrow" over the board's denying appointment.

In view of concern expressed by these two sources, readers deserve answers to the following questions:

Did you talk to the Penningtons? Did you examine the Penningtons' file compiled by the Foreign Mission Board? Did you talk with the Foreign Mission Board staff? Did you talk with the trustee subcommittee responsible for this action, specifically the chairman? Did you talk with the chairman of the Foreign Mission Board? Did you talk with a cross section of members from Northwest Baptist Church, Ardmore, Ok.? Who re-

ported to you that rejection was based on ordination of Katrina Pennington and adverse references from Enon Association in Oklahoma? If Baptist polity dictates trustees "be responsible to the candidates' congregation and not to the local association," how does a seminary faculty justify such a strong resolution apart from a local church?

Answers to these questions will enable Kentucky Baptists to determine if you had adequate facts for commending or advising.

Bill Hancock
Louisville

Note: The editorial in question was based on Baptist Press information, information from the Foreign Mission Board news service, personal interviews with Foreign Mission Board staff, communication with the chairman of the Foreign Mission Board and pastor of Northwest Baptist Church, Ardmore, Ok., at the time of Mrs. Pennington's ordination. The Southern Seminary information was reported in a news story.

Western Recorder editorial committee

Change in prayer life

The recent tragedy at the Standard Grave has touched so many lives in a very real way. The victims, their families and friends, employees at the plant, police officers, emergency medical professionals, doctors, nurses, reporters and many more have been deeply scarred or changed by this tragic event. My own life was unable to escape the tragedy, and as a result I have changed.

I had just returned home from studying at the seminary library. It was 1 p.m. and the voice on my answering machine was tired, but urgent: "Can you come into the station tonight? The shooting has us backed up and we're short staffed." I thought to myself, "What shooting?" I called the station and heard the tragic news. My safe little world at SBTS had protected me from the horror of the day. People all across the city had been dealing with this for several hours and I had just received the news!

The dedicated professionals in the newsroom looked physically and emotionally drained. "Why?" I wondered. This was just another tragic news story

that a journalist learns to keep at a distance without becoming emotionally involved.

The news sounder went off at 7 p.m. and I began to deliver the news. As I read the names, one by one, I realized that these were real people in Louisville! During the commercial I silently uttered a prayer, "God get me through this newscast and the rest of them." Later in the evening I realized how selfish I had been in my prayer life of late. The bills, classes, family and church concerns occupied most of the space in my prayers. They seemed so small now.

What happened to the Terry Waites of the world and the rest of the hostages in Lebanon, the president's drug plan and Congress, an impending hurricane in the Atlantic, the homeless and the hungry right here in Louisville? Where were all of these on my list? It's so easy to forget the needs of others when our own are so close and so real. This day would signal a change in my prayer life.

Monty Carter
Louisville

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homes for children

Children in poverty

The Oct. 1 issue of the Louisville Courier Journal Sunday magazine had an article about families living on the edge of poverty.

I was struck by one young family that had married young and now have two children. They are working but frankly the income just does not cover even the necessities of life. There is no money for health insurance, no money to fix the old car and paying the utility bills is a constant difficulty. Even buying the food necessary for life is difficult for such families.

I have to wonder about the future of those two young children. How will they be able to make it in a society that in the future will demand so many more skills than even their young parents must possess today?

In the Oct. 2 issue of the same paper there was a wire service article about the latest report from the House Select Committee on Children, Youth and Families in Washington. The report begins, "Despite the economic recovery of the 1980s, millions of children in the United States remain in poverty, unhealthy, uneducated and unable to participate in the highly technological economy of the future."

The report notes that one child in five lives in poverty, but one out of every two black children and one out of every four preschool children live in poverty. Children make up the "single largest poverty group in the nation."

The lack of prenatal care for many young infants is increasing at an alarming rate, thus insuring poor health for many of our nation's children. When you add to poverty and poor health the rise "in homelessness, youth violence and the emergence of drug addiction and AIDS among babies," one realizes that it is a terrible time to be a child in our nation.

We as a nation must begin to realize that our children are our future. Our neglect of children today, their poverty, poor health and lack of education will be costly obstacles to overcome when they reach adulthood.

Dilday wants openness but board seems doubtful

Trustees of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary will be asked to go into executive session Oct. 17 to discuss the "whole problem of political activity" by president Russell Dilday.

The request for an executive session was introduced in an 85-page memorandum mailed to trustees in late September by chairman Ken Lilly, a physician from Ft. Smith, Ark.

Dilday met with the three trustees of officers—Lilly; Damon Shook, a pastor from Houston; and John McNaughton, a businessman from Ft. Worth, Tex.—in mid August to discuss the possibility of a special called meeting to discuss Dilday's "political activities," particularly a May 2 speech before a moderate political group and an article he wrote prior to the 1989 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Lilly said "some of the guys (trustees) wrote me letters" complaining about Dilday's appearance at a rally of Baptists Committed to the Southern Baptist Convention May 2 in Nashville, which brought about the mid August meeting.

"I tried to be as nice about it as I can," Lilly said. "I went to Russell (Dilday) to try to solve some of the problems. I think they could be a lot less if they were handled in a quiet way rather than in the press, but Russell's attitude is that

if you get it all in the press, it will make a big difference.

"Well, it's not going to change anything; the guys still want to talk to him about all of this."

All participants in the Aug. 15 meeting agreed not to talk to the news media about the meeting. In his memo, Lilly wrote: "You will note the usual activity of the president to 'try the case' in the liberal media even before we have time to act on it. This seems to happen every time we try to solve problems quietly."

Lilly added he has "no malice in my heart, no axe to grind. I want to believe we can meet with the president (Dilday) and come to an understanding. I want for the trustees and the president to meet together."

The cover letter notes trustees "will want to hear his (Dilday's) fascinating explanation as to how his political speech was not political."

Dilday said he opposes the call for an executive session. "When I came 11 years ago, all of the meetings of the trustees were closed. I insisted they be open to anyone wanting to attend, and an executive session should only be called in matters where it might embarrass the person about whom we were talking," he said.

"Executive sessions should never be a way of avoiding public awareness of what the board was doing or to keep the press, faculty, staff or interested con-

stituents from being informed about what is happening.

"I would not be embarrassed if this (political activity) is discussed. I hope the board will not vote to make it a closed session because I think Baptists have every right to be fully informed about the work of their institutions."

Dilday added: "I trust the integrity and genuineness of these board members. I cannot believe they will come in with their minds made up or with a view of taking any strong action.

"I am a staunch conservative, and the only things I have spoken out against—even as I reflect on this (Lilly's mailing)—is that which was destructive, divisive, unChristlike, contrary to the gospel and contrary to our Southern Baptist heritage." (BP)

October people search part of "Here's Hope"

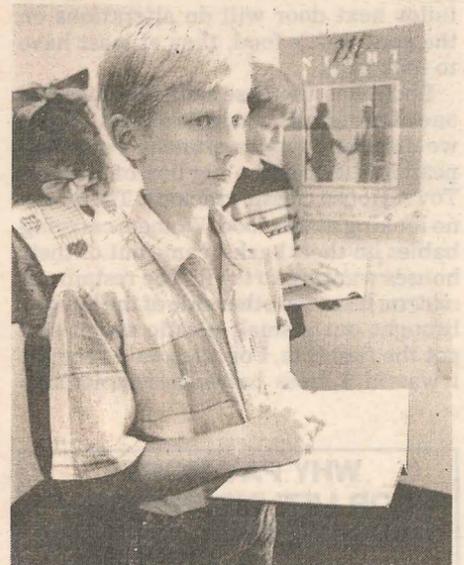
In October Kentucky Baptists will cover towns and cities as well as rural areas with New Testaments as a part of "Here's Hope. Jesus Cares for You" revival emphasis. The scripture distribution will take place in conjunction with an evangelistic people search activity.

Projected date is Oct. 22, though some churches and associations will conduct it on another Sunday. Caldwell-Lyon and Greenup associations will use Oct. 15 to do the people search as part of the activities of a Sunday school growth campaign.

The project takes one and one-half to two hours on a Sunday afternoon. Preparation has been taking place in many associations for several months. Committees have carried out assignments relative to territory, materials and personnel.

Follow-up to the October activity will include Sunday school prospect visitation and contacting, cultivation of prospects, evangelistic visitation and Sunday school enrolment. Hopefully many of the prospects discovered in October will be harvested before or during the "Here's Hope" revivals in March and April, 1991.

Help is available for your church or association to plan and prepare for a people search. Call the Sunday School Department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, (502) 245-4101.



Clayton Danner, 11, prepares for Bible drill exercises which will be demonstrated during an "M" Night rally this fall at Second Baptist Church, Arkadelphia, Ark. Also participating in the Bible drill are Amy Bridges, left, and Robert Newton, both 11. "Committed to Discipleship" is theme for this year's "M" Night which will be observed by many associations during November.

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Christmas will come early for the Ron and Kimberly Smith family who are recipients of a house constructed by employes of the Home Mission Board. Kimberly and son Ronald Craig get a glimpse of the new home they will share with other family members in early December.

HMB staff builds house for needy Atlanta family

With eyes on the sky and on the tools in their hands, Southern Baptist Home Mission Board employes joined ranks in late September to build a house for a needy Atlanta family.

Nearly 100 board employes donated a day or two during the week of Sept. 16-23 to construct the home for the Ron and Kimberly Smith family.

Patches Roe, who directs the board's credit union and was the project treasurer, reported employes had pledged the \$15,000 needed for construction but actually raised \$17,000.

No Home Mission Board funds were expended on the project. The seven planning committees met during lunch and before and after work. Employes who helped build the house used vacation leave.

An average of 22 board employes worked on the project daily, using their

vacation time and personal finances to help the needy family. The venture was coordinated by Habitat for Humanity, which matched the volunteers' financial contributions.

The house was constructed in a low income neighborhood southeast of Atlanta known as Cabbagetown. The former mill community will be the site of seven Habitat houses, with the board's home the first to be completed. (BP)

Ministers' wives dinner is Nov. 14 in Frankfort

The Kentucky Baptist ministers' wives dinner will be held Tuesday, Nov. 14 at First Baptist Church, Frankfort.

Dinner begins at 5 p.m. and cost is \$6. Martha Wilkinson is invited to be speaker, with Mrs. Brereton Jones as alternate. All wives of ministers and ladies employed by Baptist agencies are invited.

Reservations and fee should be mailed by Nov. 7 to Julia Whitworth, 457 Versailles Rd., Frankfort, KY 40601. Tickets may also be purchased at the Kentucky Baptist Convention at the Frankfort Civic Center until noon Nov. 14.

White House sticks with Pressler's nomination

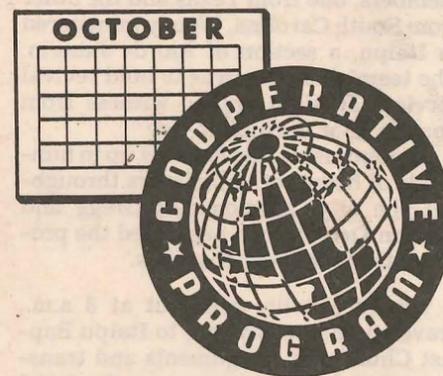
The status of the possible nomination of Paul Pressler to head the federal Office of Government Ethics is unchanged, despite conflicting reports about the possible nomination by President Bush.

Reports have circulated the nomina-

tion has been dropped but they have been countered by other rumors he still is in the running for the federal post.

In late July newspapers reported Pressler, a Houston appeals court judge and vice chairman of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, was being considered for the top government ethics post.

Other reports began to surface about a month later saying Pressler was too controversial for the job because of the role he has played in the conservative resurgence in the SBC. The reports have been countered by White House comments that he still is being considered. (BP)

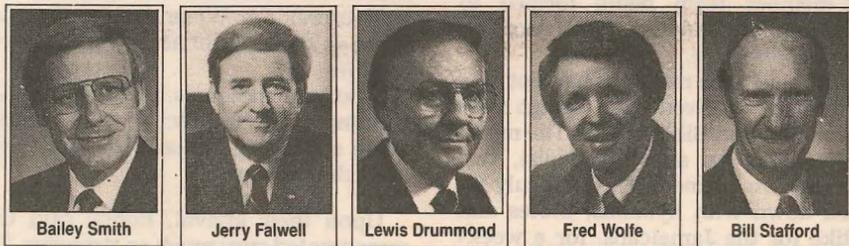


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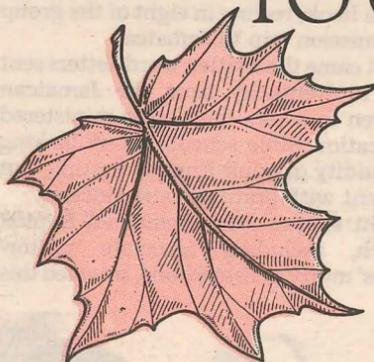
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Kentucky pastor maintains any Christian can witness in Brazil

by Pauline Stegall
State Correspondent

"Any person who knows they are saved and can read four verses of scripture can lead a Brazilian to Christ," Charles D. Woody, pastor of Salem Baptist Church, Ohio River Association, asserts.

Woody recently returned from Brazil where he participated in the Greater Rio crusade with 112 Southern Baptists from 10 states. With a team of two lay members, one from Texas and the other from South Carolina, Woody ministered in Itaipu, a section of Rio de Janeiro. The team's function was to hold revival services at night and to witness from door to door during the day.

Appointments had been set up in hundreds of homes of unbelievers throughout the city. Missionaries Gregg and Sharon Deering had organized the program through local churches.

Woody usually went out at 8 a.m., traveled an hour by taxi to Itaipu Baptist Church for assignments and translators, and didn't return to the hotel until after church services in the evening. Most witnessing was done in the "favalas" or slums; since 70% of Brazilians are poor, the average wage is \$21 a week. The area where Woody's team ministered was mountainous and they walked around, up, down and over steep dirt paths.

The dwellings of the poor were small, close together but very clean. The wealthy lived alongside the poor in many cases and their homes had high walls with wrought iron fences for protection from thieves.

"The people were so receptive to the gospel; we were in only one home where somebody was not saved," Woody marvels.

He cites an instance when they visited an older Christian lady and the baby sitter from across the street came over and was saved. On several occasions people would congregate in one home and many would pray to receive Christ.

Domingo was a young man dating a girl at Itaipu Baptist. He had been so impressed with the gospel messages he heard at church that he made three appointments for the missionaries, even though he himself was an unbeliever. After leading the team to the first appointment, he and the lady of the house became believers.

Going to one of the wealthier homes, the team was met by two ferocious dogs within a high fence. A lady and her daughter came out, insisting they were Catholic with no time to hear the missionaries. After some persuasion, the women invited the team in and readily received Christ as savior. They were so excited they forgot about the time element, served refreshments and insisted on showing Woody and his friends through the home.

Many people in Brazil claim to be Catholic, but most of them have never even been in a church. They usually base their claim on an ancestor who was Catholic.

At one extremely indigent home, a girl was in the yard crying because her mother was inside threatening suicide. Having slashed her wrists, she was planning to take sleeping pills. Her husband had left her for a younger woman and she remained in the slums, unable to cope. After prayer and counseling, the team discovered she was a member of

Itaipu church, but had quit going because she was ashamed of her husband's actions. Later in the week, she returned to church and made a recommitment.

On the last day of the crusade, the team witnessed to their faithful taxi driver. He gratefully accepted Christ.

The church at Itaipu was a large, one-roomed house converted into an auditorium. The group had begun a church 10 years ago but had not had enough money to complete it. All the funds received were put into the building fund. The pastor, Julio, who taught during the day and went to the seminary at night, did not receive a salary. He rode the bus two hours to get to church.

The services were spirited with organ and guitar music and lots of singing.

"The people bow their heads in prayer and meditation when the organ starts," Woody says with wonder. "So different from America."

The last night there were at least 150 in the service, but only three cars were parked in front. Most of the people walked three, four or five miles to attend.

Woody saw signs of great sacrifice on the part of the members just so the visitors could be treated well. One day the group had two servings of ice cream, and they realized, too late, that the cooks



Mission team to Itaipu church included (l-r) Hilmon Young, Laurens, S. C.; Louise Perkins, Littlefield, Tex.; and Charles D. Woody, Salem, Ky.

had done without dessert.

Brazilians highly respect Southern Baptists because they brought Christ to Brazil 108 years ago. They pattern their convention and churches after those in America. At the last service, the organist played "God Bless America" to express the gratitude of the people at Itaipu.

Woody was emotionally overwhelmed. "They did not know how casual most Southern Baptists are (about their religion) and how lost most

of America is."

The pastor of Itaipu church called the visitors together and asked them if they would consider asking their churches in America to help them complete their church. Eight thousand dollars was needed to complete the building. Rampant inflation had brought progress to a standstill.

Upon returning home to Salem Baptist Church, Woody communicated his strong emotions and deep convictions about the needs of the Itaipu church. The Salem Church of 250 members, a mission-minded group who gives 30% of plate offerings to the Cooperative Program, 10% to associational missions, generous special offerings and helps support two mission projects, was compassionate and eager to help. A special love offering was taken and \$8245 was raised in two weeks' time. Arrangements are being made to get the money to Itaipu.

Final reports of the crusade show 1680 people who prayed to receive Christ during the week. Woody reports 60 saved during ministries by his team. Hundreds received medical treatment. The Kentuckian is convinced that the Holy Spirit is doing an unprecedented work in Brazil.

"One of our greatest needs is for more people to serve as temporary missionaries," Woody states. He maintains more Southern Baptists need first hand experience on the mission field.

He hopes to go back next year and take some of his members with him.

Singles get the word on mission accomplished

by Kima Jude, State Correspondent

In the beginning was the word, Jesus Christ, the bonding element among a group of more than 300 singles at Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington.

Then there was the printed word, an article in Western Recorder, which became a hook, reeling in eight of the group for a mission trip to Jamaica.

Last came the written word, letters sent back to Kentucky from the Jamaican children to whom the singles ministered in vacation Bible school, letters lacking the fluidity of adult English writing, but eloquent with gratitude and sincerity.

Eight singles from Immanuel Baptist Church, including associate pastor/singles' minister Bret Robbe, traveled this

summer to Jamaica in the Caribbean to help conduct vacation Bible school and train Jamaican leaders in conducting them.

The impetus for the trip was an article in Western Recorder about a team from Henry County who also went to Jamaica to do construction. Robbe read the article and brought it to the attention of the singles group to whom he is pastor.

Already involved in local and state missions, members became interested in being actively involved in foreign missions. They got in touch with the Foreign Mission Board with the end result of an eight-member team being formed to travel to Jamaica to assist with vacation Bible schools there.

Robbe said team members had not previously been involved with foreign missions or vacation Bible school. The members included an anesthesiologist, two nurses and an engineer. They left July 14, loaded down with hymnals, Bibles and the like for the Jamaicans, for a week-long stay.

Once in Jamaica the team conducted vacation Bible school in three different churches, Slaters Hill, Spring Field and Townhead.

When they had arrived the team went through orientation instruction on the culture and history of the island. Then they enlisted children for vacation Bible school. One team member, Fred Good, donned a clown's costume to attract the children.

"Though the children had never seen a clown before, they slowly began to like this funny man," according to Robbe.

Vacation Bible school in Jamaica is conducted much the same as in Kentucky. However, teachers had as many as 50 in classes, often working without assistance.

He said it was wonderful to see the children apply lessons they had learned and spy crafts made in vacation Bible school hanging outside their homes.

Because there were so many children, Robbe said they "tried to teach them simple truths of the gospel of Christ."

In addition to the children, Robbe said they found opportunities to witness to other family members. Mornings were spent in vacation Bible school and afternoons were spent engaged in personal witnessing.

"Our opportunities to witness grew as the week went along. We talked, we shared and we found the people very willing to hear about the love of Jesus Christ."

Robbe said they enrolled about 575 in vacation Bible school that week and witnessed the conversion of many adults as well as children. When they left, they left those on the verge of accepting Christ, he believes.

Next year nationals, prepared by their training, will be able to lead vacation Bible schools in Jamaica on their own, according to Robbe.

Upon their arrival, Robbe said they were treated very much as strangers. The turning point, he said, was the "moment when we realized we had been moved from the outside in their minds to the inside."

The picture postcard Jamaica is difficult to find, according to Robbe, because in general it is a downtrodden third-world country. When they happened on such a spot, therefore, team members felt comfortable and at home in the environment more like their own. It was a revelation to discover how easy it could have been to forget their mission there, according to Robbe.

The group is already planning to make either a return trip to Jamaica or another volunteer foreign mission trip elsewhere.

In the meantime, however, there is the word. And there is the written word, letters from grateful young Jamaicans to singles who sacrificed part of their summer to them.



A clown costume helped interest Jamaican children in vacation Bible schools conducted by singles of Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington.

Strengthening my faith

Eyewitness to Hugo's destruction finds good in everything

by Jackie DeVine

Jackie (Moore) DeVine is a native of northern Kentucky where her father, Harold E. Moore, has been bivocational pastor of Licking Valley Baptist Church 25 years. Now a pastor's wife in Charleston, S. C., she relates the impact of Hurricane Hugo as she experienced it. Mrs. DeVine was BSU president at Northern Kentucky University and is a graduate of Southern Seminary.

Each time you leave your home, does it ever occur to you that you may never live there again? It did not occur to me when I left my home in Charleston, S. C. Wednesday, Sept. 20. When my husband and I returned home from the church he pastors, we flipped on the television to hear dire weather reports and an almost tearful weatherman warning of a major hurricane headed directly for Charleston. We watched the TV in disbelief as the mayor came on the channel and informed us of the seriousness of the situation. "We will probably evacuate by morning," he advised "Traffic will be jammed for miles. If you can leave, get out as soon as possible."

Mark and I looked at each other. Expecting a baby Nov. 4, I was supposed to limit my travel. Continued warnings convinced us to leave within the hour. We felt sure we were high enough to escape any water, so we quickly prepared for hurricane force winds—taping windows, putting valuables in inner closets, moving furniture and lamps away from windows. Then, with one suitcase of clothes and a few books, we pulled out of Charleston at 10:30 p.m. to head for Spartanburg, S. C. and Mark's family.

For the next two days we lived in a state of prayer, fears and hopes. Safe in Spartanburg, we watched on TV as Hurricane Hugo's eye moved directly over our home in the historic old city of Charleston. Worried about friends, our home and our church, but not sure of what to do next, we waited a day before returning. During those two days of uncertainty, I thought about the meaning of faith as defined in Hebrews 11. If I believed strongly enough that the hurricane would miss Charleston, would it miss Charleston? It did not. If I believed strongly enough that our home would be spared, would it?

As we drove back to Charleston, the destruction began far inland. Even 80 miles from the coast, gas was hard to

find and once we found any, lines were long. Understandably, the closer we got to home, the less we talked. In silence Mark and I viewed the damage. Joy filled both of us when we saw our building standing! We could not get anywhere near it because the concrete block walls around a nearby soccer field, crushed like crackers, blocked our parking lot and all approaches to our door. The building rested in a sea of foul smelling muck. We climbed over the slippery rubble and pushed open our swollen door. Salt water, sticky black mud and sewage—the storm surge—ruined the contents of our first floor, but we literally jumped and shouted for joy and thanked God that our bedrooms upstairs appeared to be intact in spite of some minor leaks. Above all we were alive!

We quickly clambered out through the mud and debris to get in the car to go see our church. Miraculously, although dozens of trees littered the lot, the church stood, sustaining only minor flooding and roof damage. Then we began checking on our church members and distributing clean water, food and other much-needed items brought from Spartanburg. None of our people escaped property damage but only one member suffered serious losses. Many of our church members are avid campers and we found them pulling out camp stoves and chain saws and working with neighbors to clear blocked streets, patch roofs and share what little food they had. Finances presented everyone with a major problem. Almost every imaginable business was closed and what few were open would not accept checks or credit cards. Some disreputable folks charged high prices for basics like clean water and ice, further depleting cash supplies. Almost all our members were temporarily out of work and some jobs were simply gone forever.

Because of no power in the entire area for miles around, a curfew at 7 p.m. went into effect. Darkness and an eerie silence descended over the usually bustling city. Mark and I ate our vienna sausages in darkness and the only lights or sound came from police and National Guardsmen patrolling for looters. The neighbors in our area fled to other areas for the evening rather than stay in ruined homes. They were wise.

Church never meant as much to me as it did the first Sunday after Hugo. Mark and I were starved to see our people and hear their stories. We held each other, laughing and crying, thankful beyond

words that our lives were spared.

At first our own problems almost overwhelmed us. But while some people seemed to be spared, others lost everything. How could we feel sorry for ourselves when so many others were so hard hit? We had to count our blessings to avoid both self pity and paralysis from thoughts of all the hard work and uncertainty ahead.

One lesson I quickly learned was that of control. When I became pregnant, I left my job as campus minister at First Baptist Church School in Charleston to get ready for the baby. For months I planned, painted and prepared for our coming blessing. Suddenly I found my obstetrician could not be reached, baby items carefully chosen and collected

ruined, lamaze classes canceled indefinitely and our home unlivable. For years I thought I let God control my life. Now I realized how much of my life I tried to control, until control was ripped away from me.

At times, worry and tension filled me as I fretted over thwarted plans. Again and again Mary, the mother of Jesus, came to mind. If God saw fit to bring his precious son into the world with no place to live, no bumper pads, no disposable diapers and no lamaze classes, surely he could take care of my baby!

What about my questions about faith? Did my lack of faith cause Hugo to slam Charleston? No. But Hugo slamming Charleston has certainly strengthened my faith.

Kentucky volunteers respond to Hurricane Hugo disaster

by Tim Yarbrough

A Kentucky disaster relief unit has prepared and served thousands of meals to victims in the aftermath of Hugo, the hurricane that ravaged South Carolina.

Many South Carolina residents received their first food in days thanks to the efforts of Baptist Men mobile disaster relief volunteers from 11 states.

Cliff Satterwhite, associate Brotherhood director of South Carolina, said that by Sept. 25, disaster relief units had fed victims more than 30,000 meals. Many more meals have been served but have not been added to the official number reported because of weak lines of communication to disaster relief units in the field, Satterwhite added.

In addition to Kentucky's, mobile units responding to the state are from Tennessee, Alabama, North Carolina, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, Missouri, Arkansas, Ohio and Illinois. Baptist Men volunteers from South Carolina and Georgia are assisting in disaster relief efforts.

Kentucky volunteers are meeting more than physical needs in their disaster relief efforts.

"We have given out 272 New Testaments furnished by First Baptist Church in Columbia since we've been here," said O. A. Easterling, a volunteer from Somerset, Ky. who is a Brotherhood Commission trustee.

The Kentucky disaster relief unit, consisting of 14 people, has been located at Sumter (S. C.) High School. The unit had fed nearly 4000 people through Monday, Sept. 25.

Dennis and Gail Hallinan of Sumter said they felt fortunate to have survived Hugo's wrath. The Hallinans are members of Crosswell Baptist Church which has 15 to 20 volunteers assisting the Kentucky disaster relief unit serving food.

"We were on our knees in the center of our house for one and a half hours during the storm. Our house was saved although we lost all but two trees in our yard," said Mrs. Hallinan. "We didn't have worship service Sunday . . . we had a praise service because nobody was hurt."

Mrs. John Bahany of Sumter said the relief services provided her family with its first meal following the disaster.

"We ate breakfast here for the first time since Thursday. I was so happy I cried," she said.

An unidentified Sumter resident told relief workers: "We're thankful y'all are here. We don't know what we would have



Margaret Melton of East Barbourville (Ky.) Baptist Church cuts ham as she prepares to help serve food to the hungry at Sumter (S. C.) High School as part of the disaster relief to Hurricane Hugo victims. The Kentucky disaster relief mass feeding unit had fed more than 20,475 people as of Oct. 1.

done without you."

Brian Richardson, Sumter farmer, said without relief efforts he did not know how he would feed his family.

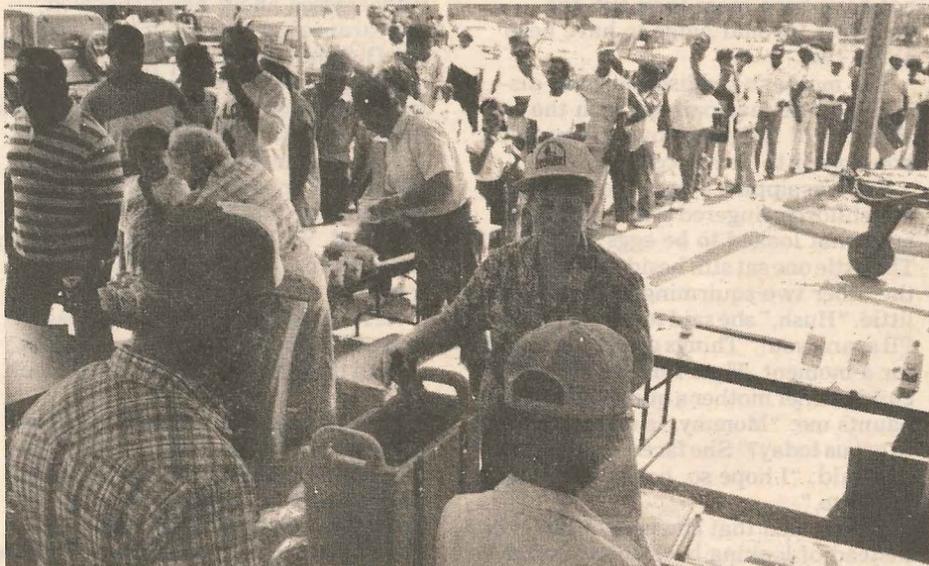
"It's a terrible thing," Richardson said. "I'm feeding my wife and four children (here)."

The Kentucky unit was delayed for several hours Sept. 23 after having engine trouble with a truck rented to pull its mobile unit. The truck was replaced and Kentucky volunteers arrived Sunday Sept. 24 at a command center set up at South Carolina Baptist Convention offices in Columbia.

Damage to homes, churches, businesses and other structures in Charleston and surrounding areas is extensive, Satterwhite said.

First Baptist Church, Charleston, the oldest Baptist church in the South, sustained massive roof and structural damage, Satterwhite said. Stained glass in many churches was broken and others received extensive water damage.

Monetary donations to assist with relief efforts should be sent to Hugo Disaster Relief, Brotherhood Commission, 1548 Poplar Ave., Memphis, TN 38104.



Beverly Bagnal (foreground) of West Palm Beach, Fla., serves lunch to a long line of people whose lives were jolted by Hurricane Hugo.



Barkley Moore
President
Oneida Baptist Institute
Oneida, KY 40972

oneida journal

More than conquerors

I awakened this morning after four hours' sleep with a powerful sense of God's presence. That was not lessened as I looked out the window to find a dark looking, cloudy filled sky with a slow drizzling rain coming down. God is the God of the rain as well as the sunshine. As I bathed and dressed, my mind raced over the various blessings of the past few days, many so unexpected, and I felt almost overwhelmed. I cannot quite explain the sensation.

As I left the house, our campus lawns were glistening with the moisture like a smooth green carpet. The grass is still so beautiful. With all the rain we have had the grass looks like it does in early spring. Our students have freshly mowed it.

Verses from the powerful eighth chapter of Romans echoed in my ears as I walked across campus picking up a scrap of paper here and there, also one pop can. Even in the rain I can't resist doing that. The campus is so beautiful that even a piece of litter is out of place. But with over 500 boys and girls, there is always at least one or two who are careless.

God's holy word, hid in my heart, made me step even faster because of the powerful assurance that every believer

in the Lord Jesus Christ can have.

"We know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?"

"Who shall lay anything to the charge or God's elect? It is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?"

"Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor height, nor depth nor any other creature shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Nearing the gym, a group of our boys headed for the farm on this Saturday morning threw up their hands with a big wave and matching smiles. They were gathered around our recently purchased used tractor-trailer truck on which was a tractor with hay-bailer I had never seen before. I was informed that these were new pieces of equipment for our school's use. Our farm manager and dean of boys left at 1:30 p.m. yesterday afternoon to pick them up, and arrived back at 6 a.m. I was not even aware of the gift or their trip to pick up the equipment until nearly midnight last night.

After the close of a week of revival preaching, powerful messages by Ray Edwards of nearby Lytleton Baptist, and over 40 professions of faith, two of my staff worked with me until 1 a.m. last night receiving telephone calls and making them as we coordinate preparations for our annual homecoming Oct. 7. The past several nights have been spent in similar fashion after the evening services.

Then I worked over 30 minutes auto-graphing copies of Darrell Richardson's "Mountain Rising," the story of the life of Oneida's founder James Anderson Burns and how the Lord has blessed the fruit of his labors these 90 years. Published in our own print shop, available in no book store, thousands of copies have been sold at \$17.75 each including tax and mailing.



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

sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR OCT. 15, 1989

Life and work series

The call to missions

Genesis 12:1-3 While Abram was living quietly in Ur supervising the company of servants who were looking after his flocks and herds, God called Abram to become the founder of a new nation through which he could work out his redemptive plan. Along with that call there came an invaluable seven-fold pledge. God pledged himself to make of Abram a great nation, to bless him, to make his name great, to make him a world-wide blessing, to bless those who blessed him, to curse any who might curse him and through him to bless all the families on the earth.

Exodus 19:3-6 God protected the children of Israel from their enemies and the plagues, provided for them the basic needs of water and food, provided for them a great leader in Moses, delivered them from bondage in Egypt, chose them for a specific purpose and guided them by a pillar of cloud or of fire.

Three months after the Israelites left Egypt they arrived at Mt. Sinai. There God assured Moses that he had great and numerous blessings in store for the children of Israel, provided they would obey him. God charged Moses to inform the people that if they were disobedient to him they would not have any right to claim or to expect his blessings.

Matthew 28:18-20 The 11 apostles

made their way to Galilee where they met Christ. To the group assembled Christ spoke the Great Commission which is recorded in these verses.

Christ announced that to him had been given all authority over the entire creation. Christ's program of making disciples and teaching them constituted a task that is universal in its scope, individual in its appeal, practical in its purpose and personal in its obligation. The enjoyment of Christ's presence is conditioned upon our advancement of his program.

International series

Final victory for God's people

Daniel 12:1 Among God's ancient people was "a righteous remnant" or minority, who kept God's laws and responded favorably to his true and faithful prophets, whose names were "found written in the book," who received the promise of rescue from their relentless foes. In spite of all the tribulations they were divinely assured they would emerge victorious.

Daniel 12:2 Verse two contains one of the clearest affirmations of resurrection that is recorded in the Old Testament. God's resurrection plan involves a resurrection unto life and a resurrection unto death. Those who died during the great tribulation, and "sleep in the dust of the earth," will not be forgotten, but shall arise from the grave.

Daniel 12:3 Verse three gives the blessed assurance that recognition and appropriate rewards will be given to God's faithful saints who give themselves in obedient service to him out of hearts of loving devotion. He rightfully expects those whom he has saved to live for him as long as their lives on this earth shall last. He will reward every Christian who serves him because of love for him.

Daniel 12:4-13 It was not surprising that Daniel was perplexed about many of the horrors which he witnessed during the time of the great persecutions during the administration of Antiochus Epiphanes who tried to annihilate God's people from the face of the earth. Like Daniel, many of those who would live in future generations would have difficulty in understanding the message which God had given to him. God commanded Daniel to "shut up the words and seal the book," thereby making it secure.



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

on mission together

At McDonald's

Heading south on Interstate 65 early Sunday morning I pulled off at the Shepherdsville exit and into McDonald's. Trying to relieve some of the stiffness of a high mileage month, I took a quick walk around the parking lot.

I had delayed having a second cup of coffee earlier knowing I would stop here. After purchasing the coffee I moved from the main counter to another to add cream and pick up a couple of napkins.

Standing there I noticed a woman and three small children sitting at a nearby table. Hearing some of their conversa-

tion, I lingered a little longer.

The oldest of the three children could not have been more than six; the youngest I would judge to have been about two.

The mother's reddish hair was disheveled, her face painted with the shadows of fatigue. I lowered my eyes, hoping not to be noticed.

She was sipping a cup of coffee while the children fingered with milk, juice and what looked to be eggs McMuffin. The little one sat still beside her mother, the other two squirming and fussing a little. "Hush," she said to the oldest, "or I'll spank you!" Things grew quiet again for a moment. Then I heard the middle child ask her mother a question that still haunts me: "Mommy, is daddy coming to get us today?" She faced her daughter and said: "I hope so, honey. He's supposed to."

It was then that she caught my eyes. Instead of looking back to my coffee I looked at her. It was one of those eternal moments when just one glance exploded

a thousand thoughts and feelings. And I wondered what she thought. Was she embarrassed about her disheveled appearance? I was dressed in a suit and tie. Did she suspect that I was a preacher? Did I remind her of her father? Was she "asking" for help? I look down again to break the stare.

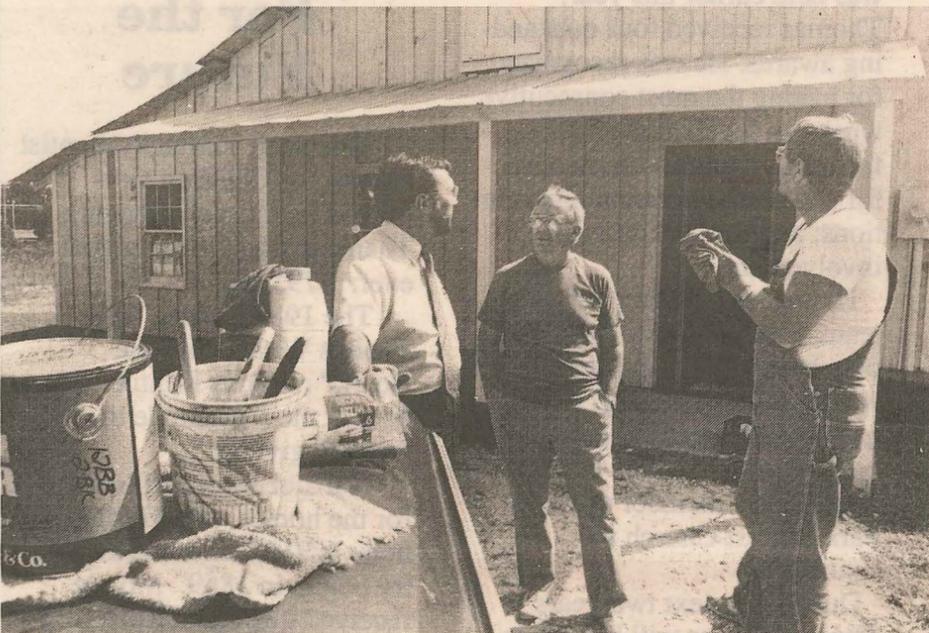
A part of me wanted to sit down and talk with her; another part of me rationalized that it might be misunderstood. We humans have an amazing capacity to rationalize away those irregular vibrations from God.

As I picked up my coffee and headed toward the door, I glanced one more time in their direction. She did not look up.

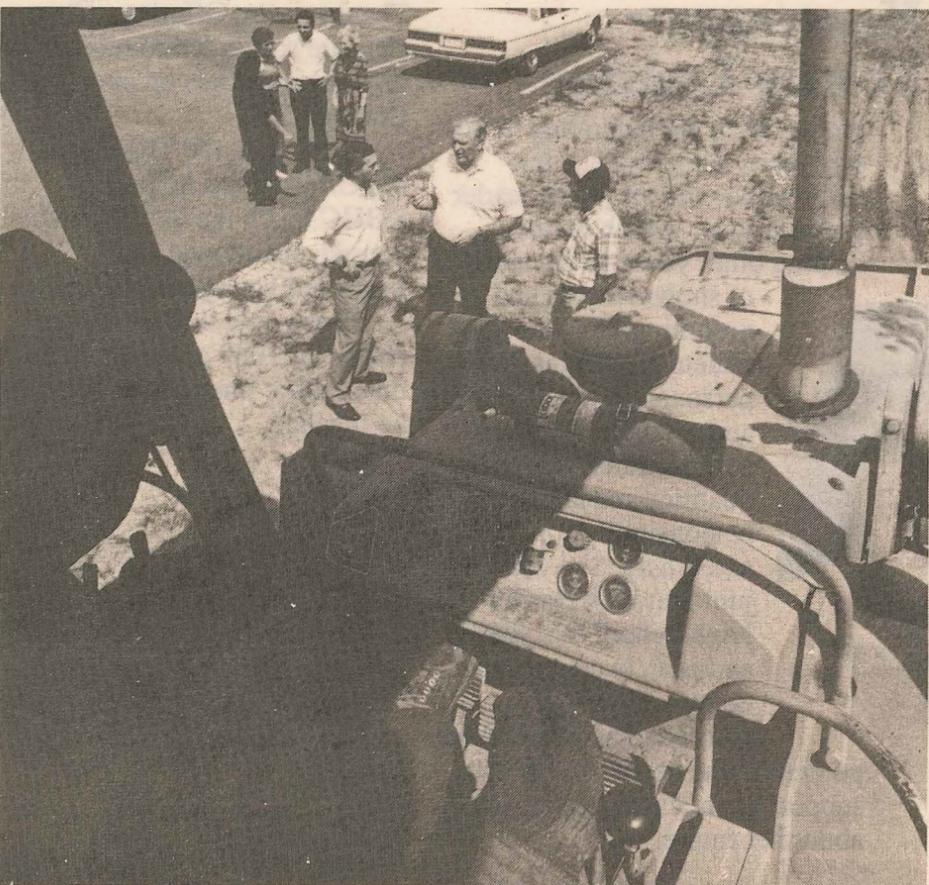
In a few moments, I was back on I-65 headed south to preach. I yet see the face of this young mother and I wonder if she has a support group; parents who can help; a Sunday school class; a church. I wonder if somewhere out there a caring group of Christians has discovered them.



Truett Gannon, (r), pastor of Smoke Rise Baptist Church which has experienced rapid growth in its 20-year history, talked with Kenneth Coats from Abilene, Tex. and Bobbie Jo Cranford from Oklahoma City who helped the church develop Sunday school growth strategies during the Metro Sunday School Enrolment-Training Clinic.



Barry Thompson, (l), pastor of Greentree Baptist Church, talks with Dwain Boothe, (c), one of five volunteer staff ministers, and Ron Mull, Sunday school teacher, as they finish work on an old barn and former antique store the church will use for Sunday school space. The new mission participated in the Atlanta Metro Enrolment-Training Clinic, Sept. 16-24, before its first services Sept. 24.



When the Atlanta Metro Enrolment-Training Clinic team suggested Harvest Baptist Church needed more Sunday school space immediately, pastor Bill Burnett got work started the next day. Burnett, center in foreground, talks with team director Howard Fuller from Garland, Tex. and church member Tony Allen.

184 Atlanta Baptist churches participate in Sept. metro Sunday school outreach clinic

by Frank White

With more than 400 Southern Baptist churches in the Atlanta metropolitan area—including several of the denomination's largest—Southern Baptists seem to be doing their best work in the Georgia capital.

But in the traditional Southern Baptist stronghold, as in other major cities in the United States, the denomination is losing against a tide of population growth that has outdistanced Southern Baptist growth of the past 30 years, said Joel Harrison, director of church development for the Atlanta Baptist Association.

Based on 1988 statistics, about one of every 18 residents of the Atlanta metropolitan area is a Southern Baptist. That is a change from the 1950s when half the population was Southern Baptist, or even the 1960s, when one out of every three people was a Southern Baptist, Harrison said.

The Atlanta Metro Sunday School Enrolment-Training Clinic Sept. 16-24 was an effort to help 184 Atlanta churches locate prospects and develop a Sunday school organization to reach those people.

The clinic was sponsored by the Baptist Sunday School Board, the Georgia Baptist Convention and eight associations in the Atlanta area.

During a people search on Sunday afternoon Sept. 17, about 9400 canvassers from the 184 participating churches located 24,600 prospective members.

Also during the clinic, churches enlisted 1152 new Sunday school workers and created 820 new classes and departments to alleviate over-crowding or to accommodate new growth, said Joe Haynes, clinic coordinator from the board's Sunday School Division.

Harrison, the local coordinator, said churches made the commitment to do the hard work required for clinic participation because they saw the potential and the need for growth. "We saw churches begin to catch a vision for growth as they prepared for the clinic," he noted. "They have set some new goals."

Participating churches included large regional churches and suburban congregations as well as new missions.

Among the churches from the greater downtown Atlanta area were First Church of Atlanta, Second-Ponce de Leon Church, Wieuca Road Church and First Church of Decatur. Suburban churches included New Hope in Fayetteville and Johnson Ferry north of Atlanta. Missions such as Northbrook in Gwinnett County and Living Faith in the southeast area also participated.

Also involved were Hispanic, Korean, Laotian, Cambodian and deaf ministries striving to reach the diverse language populations of Atlanta.

During the clinic, 850 guest directors and age level specialists worked in teams at each church to train workers and suggest ways the churches could organize to more effectively reach their communities.

Some suggestions were being implemented immediately, said Barry Thompson, coordinator for the southwest region.

For example, Liberty Baptist Church in Riverdale was to vote Wednesday,

Sept. 27 on Sunday school organization changes recommended by the metro team to help the Sunday school grow, he said.

Several churches already have started moving walls and making other structural changes recommended by the metro teams in addition to the organizational changes, he added.

After the clinic team working with Harvest Baptist Church suggested the need for more Sunday school space, pastor Bill Burnett brought in a bulldozer the next day to begin preparations for placing a portable building on the church property.

Other results may not be obvious immediately, but in the next 18 months churches that have plateaued in enrollment will show growth and others will have accelerated growth, Harrison predicted.

"They will have more growth because the clinic has given them more tools for growth," he said.

Whether in the cities, suburbs or rural areas, we need to recapture the idea that reaching people with the gospel is a task of the Sunday school.

Thompson said many of the smaller churches realized for the first time during the clinic that they can call on others for help and advice for their Sunday school organization. "It helped the churches realize they are not out there on their own," he said.

The Atlanta clinic is the 13th metro clinic the Sunday School Board has conducted in the past eight years. Other are planned for Chicago in September 1990 and Dallas in September 1991.

Clinics following the metro model are being conducted by Baptist state conventions and local associations using workers trained in the metro clinics.

The clinics are only one effort to target major population centers for Sunday school growth, said Harry Piland, director of the Sunday School Board's Sunday School Division.

For example, the division plans to target churches in key cities and help revitalize churches that are not growing, Piland said.

The outreach communication plan and the related Broadman prospect services are designed to help churches contact people in their communities. Outreach Bible study, comprised of evangelistic short term Bible study groups for nonChristians, gives churches a tool for reaching people away from the church, Piland said.

"The future of the church is with the people sharing the gospel," he said. "Whether in the cities, suburbs or rural areas, we need to recapture the idea that reaching people with the gospel is a task of the Sunday school." (BP)



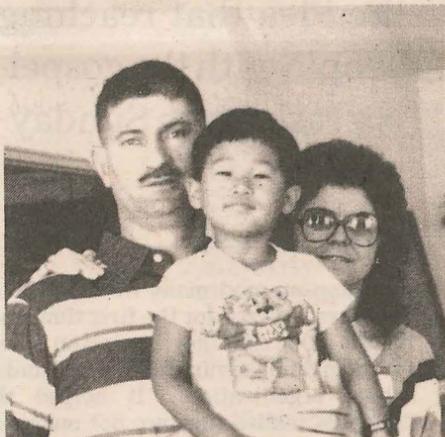
Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children Touching Lives Past, Present and Future



A Marine Comes Home

Carl Mosley lived at Spring Meadows from 1970 until 1975 when he left to go to live with Tom Morgan, then assistant principal at Eastern High School, during his senior year. Following this time he entered the Marine Corps, of which he is still a member, serving as heavy equipment operator.

His duty as a marine has taken him to many states, as well as to Japan, Korea, Scotland, England, and Norway. He met his wife Nora in Missouri, and adopted his young son James in Japan.



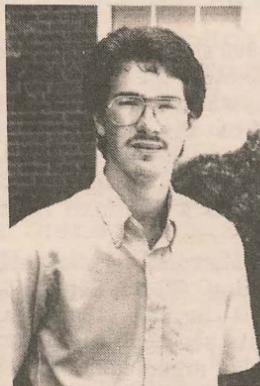
Carl, James, and Nora Mosley

Carl has especially fond memories of Houseparents Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Baker, now pastoring in Ohio, who, in Carl's words, "helped change me around a little bit. They showed us love which was what we needed at that time in our lives. They always had time for us when we had problems." The Mosleys keep in touch with the Bakers and with the Bakers' son in Ashland. Carl feels that Spring Meadows "was a starting point for me—gave me a little bit of roots."

Carl and Nora live in Quantico, Virginia, and they are youth workers in the Stafford Baptist Church, Stafford, Virginia.

Thomas Mayes: Award Winner

To Thomas Mayes, a resident at Spring Meadows, God's will in his life encompasses his work, his church attendance, keeping out of trouble, and "giving



it the best he has." He says, "God has helped me to get through a lot of things."

Thomas, now age 17, has lived at Spring Meadows since January of 1988. During this period of time he has made every effort to "live by the rules." As a result he is on level six, the highest level of attainment at the home.

At the awards banquet which was held earlier this year, Thomas received four outstanding awards. He was recognized for having the most consecutive weeks on levels five and six; for being the most courteous; for excelling in community relations; and for his Christian involvement.

Thomas is on a campus work team, and he likes to swim and play basketball. This year he will be a junior in high school and looks forward to going to college to study to be a biologist. He is a member of Deer Park Baptist Church in Louisville.

During the next two years Thomas Mayes will be preparing to face the larger world off-campus. Please pray for him during these challenging days in his life.

Loretta Kessenger: Promising Young Leader

Sixteen year old Loretta Kessenger says that when she was baptized at Gilead Baptist Church, it was "for real." Since then she sometimes finds herself "talking to others about Jesus." When she has problems, she prays and says, "I get it all out, and He understands. I feel better because someone listened to me. It makes me feel special that someone like God could really actually love me for the person I am."

She has prayed about God's plan for her life and feels He is leading her to be a child psychologist. She feels that the "rough times in life" she has experienced will be of help as she works with children.

Loretta has lived at Glen Dale

project from the beginning of her stay there. This year she has assumed the role of junior leader in this project, which involves helping other youth in the areas of showmanship and grooming. She is a good athlete, has a pleasing personality, and is bright and sociable. She has demonstrated leadership qualities and takes responsibility for herself and others. She will be a junior at East Hardin High School this year and is an excellent student.



Loretta has tremendous potential. She needs your prayer support as she faces decisions about her future.

Thanksgiving Offering Insures Care For the Future

This year, Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children aims toward its most challenging Thanksgiving Offering goal ever: \$795,000.

The 1989 theme, "Give Thanks With a Grateful Heart," reminds Kentucky Baptists to show gratitude to God through giving.

A major source of income for the homes, the offering helps KBHC continue a ministry begun in 1869. Money received through the offering will provide care for many young people in the coming year.

Many Kentucky Baptist churches have already begun preparation for support of the Thanksgiving Offering. Churches are scheduled to receive offering materials on or around October 24.

In the past, the Thanksgiving Offering has helped KBHC touch the lives of many abused, abandoned and neglected young people.

Please pray that we will reach our 1989 goal so that many other young lives may be touched.