

Severns Valley, Long Run earn most certificates for study course

One church and one association in the Kentucky Baptist Convention ranked among the top 25 churches and associations in the SBC receiving church study course awards for 1988-89, according to Baptist Sunday School Board statistics.

Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown, J. Howard Cobble, pastor, ranked 13th in the SBC and first in Kentucky for total study course awards earned with 984, records compiled in the awards office in Nashville show.

Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington, Ted Sisk, pastor, ranked second in the state with 543. **Lone Oak First Baptist Church, Paducah**, Willis Henson, pastor, was third with 529.

Long Run Baptist Association, Louisville, Russell Bennett, executive director, ranked 19th in the SBC and first in Kentucky with 3866 awards.

Other top Kentucky associations: **Elkhorn, Lexington**, Harold G. Polk, executive director, 2392; **Severns Valley, Elizabethtown**, Allen and Delores Baugh, directors of missions, 1754.

Texas led all state conventions in total church study course awards for 1988-89 with 91,159. Florida was second with 74,367. Georgia was third with 71,857.

Second Baptist Church, Houston, Tex., led the SBC in total study course awards with 3339. Second Baptist Church, Griffin, Ga., followed with 1407 followed by Central Baptist Church, Decatur, Ala., with 1299.

Among the top 25 SBC associations, Union Baptist Association, Houston, Tex., ranked first with 10,508 awards. Tarrant Baptist Association, Ft. Worth, Tex., was second with 7627. Jacksonville (Fla.) Baptist Association ranked third with 7378.

For the year the number of persons enrolled in the study course system rose 11 percent over 1987-88 to 1.3 million, according to William R. Cox, church study course coordinator at the board.

Cox said 131,897 people or an average of 2500 per week entered the study course award system this year. He said people from more than 100 countries are now in study course training.



WELCOME—On a West Berlin commuter train Southern Baptist representative Jim Smith (c) greeted some of the estimated million East Germans visiting the West Nov. 11-12. Many shopped for consumer goods; others walked the city in amazement.

Some E. German Baptists leave; others push change

by Mike Creswell

Virtually every Baptist church in East Germany has lost at least one family in the mass exodus to the West, but other members are remaining to fight for democracy.

A key meeting of New Forum, largest of four new political reform groups that have sprung up in East Germany in recent months, has been scheduled at Cantian Street Baptist Church in East Berlin in late November. Siegfried Reichelt, pastor of the church, strongly supports the drive toward democratization in East Berlin.

The New Forum meeting is expected to be less controversial than it might have been earlier, observers said, because the group has been recognized as a legal entity by the East German government.

Christian young people have been involved in prodemocracy demonstrations that have rocked East Germany in recent weeks, according to pastor Helmut Rogalski of Brandenburg and Renate Werner, a member of Birkenhainer Street Baptist Church in Dresden. Mrs. Werner said her three children have taken an active part in the protests. Meanwhile, her husband, an engineer, has had to work long hours because so many people have left the company where he works in Dresden, she said.

Although no Baptists have taken a leading role in the current political struggle, Baptist pastors generally have agreed to support the Lutheran Church in its efforts to mobilize public opinion peacefully.

A significant percentage of evangelical East German pastors have opposed taking a political stance, however. Also, some East Germans would prefer to keep religious influence out of the efforts to organize.

Few church members attended services Nov. 12 at Mattern Street Baptist Church in East Berlin because so many had gone to West Berlin, reported pastor Erhard Bachmann.

Dietrich and Gertraed Prescher, members of Cantian Street Baptist Church, were among many Baptists visiting West Berlin churches Nov. 12.

Prescher, a chemist, said he and other East German Baptists had feared a sharp reprisal from the East German government after one million East Germans demonstrated peacefully in East Berlin for change. One reason the crackdown did not come, he said, was that the churches involved had urged peaceful protests. But an even stronger factor was that Soviet tanks no longer backed up the East German government, he added.

"The people of East Germany have awakened. They were like dead people for the past 30 years. Now they're awake," he said.

Estimates of how many Baptists have left East Germany range as high as 1000 but observers said the actual number likely is only a few hundred. Yet even the loss of a few hundred Baptists, most of them young, will be significant in a country where Baptists number only about 12,000.

Many of the people emigrating have come from southern East Germany, where living conditions are worse and where Western television is not available as it is in areas near West Berlin.

In Zeiss, East Germany, a 70-member Baptist church has lost 20 members. In Zwickau a church lost 40 members. Mattern Street Church in East Berlin has lost 15 members.

Some East German Baptists reportedly are angry at members who leave for the West, calling them "turncoats" and pressuring members not to leave. During a service at 330-member Charlottenburg Baptist Church in West Berlin Nov. 12, an East German visitor prayed that conditions would so improve in East Germany people would not want to leave. Pastor Horst Joost urged Christians to use the unsettled conditions in West Berlin for evangelism.

At least one member did just that. Gertrud Vegener opened her apartment to the many East Germans lined up at a bank to get money, offering them refreshments, use of the bathroom and a place to rest. She also passed out Christian literature and spoke of the gospel; one East German woman accepted Christ as savior. (BP)

Pressler to wage war against drugs

Paul Pressler, vice chairman of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee, has been named to the President's drug advisory council.

Pressler, a Houston, Tex. appeals court judge, is among 27 members of the new council announced by President George Bush Nov. 13.

"The council will assist the President and director of national drug control policy William Bennett in the development of our national drug policy," according to a statement from the White House press secretary.

Pressler indicated he would accept a part time appointment in the Bush administration in mid October when he turned down the President's nomination to head the U. S. Office of Government Ethics. At that time Pressler cited family considerations and his "obligation to serve out the term (on the Executive Committee) to which I have been elected by Southern Baptists" as reasons for declining the ethics post. His Executive Committee term expires in June 1991.

Among members of the council are chairman William Moss, president and board chairman of the William Moss Corp. of Texas; Adm. William J. Crowe Jr., retired chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Tom Landry, former coach of the Dallas Cowboys; gospel singer Sandi Patti; Jonas Salk, inventor of the polio vaccine; Roger B. Smith, chairman and chief executive officer of General Motors; and Robert C. Wright, president and chief executive officer of the National Broadcasting Co.

Baptists Committed taps Jimmy Allen

Jimmy Allen was elected chairman of Baptists Committed Nov. 16 to succeed Winfred Moore, retiring pastor of First Baptist Church, Amarillo, Tex.

Allen, 62, resigned as president of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission. He had been SBC president two years. He is now president of Faith and Family Communications Inc., Ft. Worth, Tex.

Speaking about the decade-long infighting among Southern Baptists Allen said the struggle may have started with theological concerns but the "so-called cure turned out to be worse than the disease.

"Presslerism' is the use of secular political methods and power tactics sowing seeds of distrust within a family of faith," Allen said.

"After 10 years of 'Presslerism' we are known more for political confrontation than spiritual compulsion. Now is the time for the Southern Baptist Convention to unify and go forward," he said.

Houston, Tex. judge Paul Pressler is credited with orchestrating the 10-year fundamentalist national level takeover of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Baptists Committed was formed in December 1988 to articulate a new vision of inclusiveness among Southern Baptists based on historic principles and a clear commitment to missions, evangelism and education. Some of the historic principles include belief in the Bible as God's inspired word and final authority in matters of faith and practice; priesthood of the believer; autonomy of the local church; and separation of church and state.

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The God who moves the walls

The near unbelievable events that have swept eastern Europe in these last weeks have renewed hope that democracy and freedom for millions of people may be a step closer to reality. The opening of the Berlin Wall, that hated symbol of the repression and dictatorship of the Communist societies, will remain the image of these events stamped into our memories. The flow of persons from the east to the west, the jubilant faces of dancers atop the wall, the hands with hammers chipping away at concrete and steel—all of this may seem to some the result of changes within the political system of the Soviet Union. Indeed every observer is grateful for any contribution toward freedom regardless of its source.

However, for the Christian observer, the events in eastern Europe are only the latest manifestation of the activity of God in human history. We believers in the God of history know that what we are observing is the hand of God, not the hand of man. God has been moving the walls in human experience for a very long time.

When the ancient Hebrews faced the waters of the Red Sea, those waters were described as a wall by the writer of Exodus; God moved that wall to liberate his people. When the Hebrews took their promised land, the walls around Jericho were flattened; God moved the wall to welcome his people unhindered into the land. When the Hebrews put more stock in the security of the walls of Jerusalem than in him, the walls were breached by Babylonian armies; God moved the walls to humble his people. The psalmist sang of the love

of God as a strong wall that protected his people. In the life of Jesus God continued his demolition of walls with the destruction of Temple regulations, racial boundaries and class distinctions. The apostle reminded all believers in Ephesians that Christ had broken down the dividing wall of hostility between human beings and their God and between one another.

We are therefore confident that the walls that are being removed in eastern Europe are crumbling by the power and love of God. As we give him thanks, we should remember that wherever walls are built God will destroy them. Physical walls of oppression and political slavery? They will go. Walls of mistrust prejudice in our own society? They will go. Walls of misunderstanding and separation in families? They will go. Walls of the mind and spirit, imposed even by a pastor or a church or a great denomination? These, too, will go. Nothing—absolutely nothing—can ultimately stand in the way of the God of freedom through Jesus Christ. The Baptist character of freedom may be our greatest gift to our time. That character was bestowed on us by God himself.

Wall builders do not rate very high on God's list and those of us who feel that we are being walled in should have the confident and patient faith of the ages. In Christ we have been set free and that freedom will endure. Let us watch the progress of freedom of body, freedom of mind and freedom of soul knowing that God's wisdom is wiser than man's, his power more powerful and his victory more certain. Let all the walls of human making come down!

Warning label law's effects muted

Last year the Congress passed a law requiring all alcoholic beverage containers to carry a warning label. The label warns expectant mothers of the dangers of alcohol consumption to their unborn child and also warns that alcohol may impair one's ability to drive an automobile or operate machinery. Southern Baptists have lobbied for such a required label since 1974. The effect of this law has been diminished, however, by the ruling of regulatory agencies that the label may be placed on the reverse side of the container and may be of such a small size as to make its effect negligible. What the liquor industry could not accomplish in Congress, it is accomplishing through the regulatory agencies. This development is a travesty.

Five thousand newborns a year suffer from fetal

alcohol syndrome; thousands more suffer lesser effects of alcohol consumption by expectant mothers. Hundreds of thousands of persons of all ages suffer from alcohol related automobile accidents. An industry that spends millions making alcohol appear socially acceptable now is subverting the intent of the law of the land. Baptists might want to remind their congressman and senators that the interpretation of the law now in effect is not appropriate. Our message ought to be: enforce the law and warn consumers of the risks of alcohol consumption. While you're at it, drop a note of thanks to the Christian Life Commission for their good work in keeping this issue before us.

Richard W. Bridges

western recorder

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baptist news briefs

Ridgecrest and Glorieta offer summer employment

Applications are being accepted at Ridgecrest (N. C.) and Glorieta (N. M.) Baptist conference centers for the 1990 summer staffs.

Glorieta applicants must be age 17 or older and be available to work from May 27 through Aug. 18, although those who can work until Aug. 24 will be given first preference. Applicants for the Ridgecrest staff must also be age 17 or older and be available to work from May 27 through Sept. 3.

Available positions at both conference centers include food services, day camp, preschool, recreation, housekeeping, registration, business offices, conference support and sound and lighting technicians.

For information: Summer Employment, Glorieta Baptist Conference Center, Box 8, Glorieta, NM 87535, (505) 757-6161 or Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Box 128, Ridgecrest, NC 28770, (704) 669-8022.

KBHC names director of Elizabethtown facility

Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children named Bob Milburn as treatment director of the Baptist youth ranch in Elizabethtown.

Originally from the Louisville area, he graduated from Pleasure Ridge Park High School. He received a BA degree in philosophy and religion from Kentucky Wesleyan College, Owensboro.

Before joining KBHC Oct. 2, Milburn was program director at Owensboro Day Treatment. He also worked as a juvenile counselor four years: almost three years with Hardin County Day Treatment and one with Green River Boys' Camp near Morgantown.

Milburn pastors Harvest Baptist Mission, started by Franklin Crossroads Baptist Church, Severns Valley Association. He previously pastored Rough River Baptist Church, Custer.

Parents demand comp for Korean fire deaths

Two more children have died from injuries suffered in a Baptist kindergarten fire in Seoul, South Korea, bringing to six the number of children killed by the fire that swept through the second floor of Seoul Memorial Baptist Church Oct. 16.

Eight children remain in critical condition in Seoul hospitals. Doctors do not believe their injuries are life-threatening but cannot predict how long the children might be hospitalized. Fifteen other children injured in the fire were treated and released from four area hospitals.

"There have been arms and legs amputated already," said Southern Baptist missionary Cloyes Starnes of those hospitalized. "There are many badly burned faces and bodies."

Angry parents of fire victims are clamoring for compensation of \$50,000 for each child killed or injured in the fire. If granted, the total compensation figure would exceed \$1.5 million. The church had no insurance.

Demonstrations by parents of victims on the church grounds have forced the congregation to move its services to the playground of a nearby elementary school. Sundays the parents gather at the church entrance to prevent members from entering the building.

The cause of the fire remains unknown. But in Oriental tradition of placing blame, school principal Ohm Hyum Suk is being held in a Seoul prison. Her family members and friends hope her trial will be scheduled within three months but it could take much longer. (BP)

William Carey College gets \$4.1 million loan

William Carey College has secured a \$4.1 million loan from a consortium of Mississippi banks which, according to participants, will place the financially-troubled Hattiesburg-based college back on a sound financial base.

The loan, signed Nov. 13, will be paid from money due to Carey from the Mississippi Baptist Convention. Instead of giving Carey its higher education funds from the state convention budget, the convention board, acting on a request from Carey trustees, will write monthly checks to the lead bank in the consortium.

Technically, the convention board is simply assigning to the banks a portion of what the board would have paid Carey had the loan not been made. However, Carey needed the loan to refinance its operations.

Carey would otherwise receive about \$800,000 as its portion of Mississippi Baptist Convention funds. (BP)

CSI requests workers for China teaching posts

Cooperative Services International, the Southern Baptist aid organization, is looking for 86 long term and 50 short term workers to fill needs in China for 1990. Most of the positions call for teaching English as a second language.

The long term teachers are needed for one- or two-year assignments at Chinese colleges and universities. Applicants should have teaching experience, preferably at the college level. They should either have experience in teaching English as a second language or certification in the field. Application packets must be completed by Feb. 8.

Short termers will go to China for five weeks next July and August after a four-day orientation in the United States. Working in teams, they will instruct Chinese teachers of English in such things as grammar, phonetics, diction and American culture and idioms.

CSI officials prefer that applicants for the short term program have the equivalent of a bachelor's degree in education. These applicants also must be able to pay their own expenses.

For information: CSI 90, Box 6841, Richmond, VA 23230, (804) 353-0151.

N. C. Baptists defeat Wingate name change

By a 3-1 margin, North Carolina Baptists refused to change their constitution to allow trustees of Wingate College to name the school Cannon-Wingate University.

Carolyn Gaddy, a retired history teacher at the college, spoke against the name change. In her address, she supported her opposition to the name change, citing the way trustees had handled the action in a special session Jan. 24, 1989.

"This is the first time that a name change has come to the convention un-

blessed and unrecommended (by the general board). It is a flawed recommendation which cries out for further consideration by the trustees at Wingate," she said.

William Thomas Harris, founder of Harris-Teeter grocery chain, collapsed on the platform and was pronounced dead about two hours later following his appeal to the messengers to sustain the change in the name for the future growth and development of the school.

Funeral services were held at Pritchard Memorial Church Nov. 16. College leadership has declined any public statement on the convention's action regarding the name change until a time of respect has been paid to Harris. (BP)

BSSB's Trotter dies during planning meeting

Don Trotter, director of the Sunday School Growth and Administration Department at the Baptist Sunday School Board, died Thursday, Nov. 16 after suffering an apparent heart attack during a project planning meeting.

Trotter, 60, marked his 25th anniversary with the board in September.

Trotter had been participating in a meeting with the Great Commission Project task force planning a Sunday school growth training project when he apparently suffered a heart attack during a break.

He is survived by his widow Joanne Watson Trotter; a son, Doug, a student at Samford University, Birmingham, Ala.; and two daughters, Donna Ann, a student at the University of Tennessee Medical Center, Memphis; and Dara, a student at Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro. (BP)

Mississippians unite to battle gambling

A group of about 130 Mississippians linked by opposition to legalization of gambling have organized to promote their cause.

The Mississippi legislature is slated to consider in January a proposal to rescind the constitutional ban on gambling in order to help fund an educational reform package proposed by Gov. Ray Mabus. Part of the funding for the package would be from a state-sponsored lottery.

The antigambling group was called together by Paul Jones, executive director of the Mississippi Baptist Christian Action Commission, Jackson, and Donald Wildmon, executive director of the American Family Association, Tupelo.

The group, made up of several denominations, decided to call itself Citizens Advocating Responsible Economics and agreed to utilize a post office box to avoid too close an identification with any one denomination.

Each one denomination group, according to a general agreement among participants, will suggest one or two people to serve on a steering committee. That committee was to meet in mid November "to develop and clearly define the purpose of the organization and to begin the process of producing materials and communicating our position on the lottery issue to citizens of Mississippi," Jones said.

"If the pastors within the next month do not stand in the pulpit and give the people the facts and aggressively call our people to action, we're going to get beat, and we deserve to be beat." (BP)



Curtis C. Mooney
President
10801 Shelbyville Road
Middletown, KY 40243

homes for children

Thank you Kentucky Baptists

Across our great state literally thousands of people have given a gift to children in the past weeks and more will give as the Thanksgiving offering continues to be collected.

We have no way of personally thanking individuals who brought food for our food drive or those people who give through the Thanksgiving offering at church, so I want to take this means of saying thank you for making this ministry possible.

I do not yet have a total for the food drive and we are still receiving food. Food collected last year was valued at \$26,810 and so far this year our best estimate is that it will exceed \$27,500. We had to send out an extra truck to pick up all of the food.

Each year we depend upon many others to help us collect both the food and the Thanksgiving gifts.

The directors of gifts across our state help us to promote both offerings and many allow their offices to serve as collection points for food. That is a tremendous chore and we appreciate their efforts.

The pastors, church treasurers and other church leaders must also do extra duty to help with both the food drive and the Thanksgiving offering. We send materials to each church past up at the end of October but they must put up the materials, schedule a special emphasis and handle the gifts which come in. Without their work the offering would not be possible.

This year we want to extend a special thank you to Greg Earwood, pastor of First Baptist Church, Murray. He wrote a sermon which pastors could use in whole or in part to present our work for children.

During this time of emphasis many of our staff have had to work long hours to get everything ready. I want to personally thank them for their hard work.

Our Kentucky Baptist work is a cooperative effort. All of us working together make a difference for children. Thank you for being part of that team.

State convention reports

NORTH CAROLINA

Messengers to the 159th annual session of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina elected officers by narrow margins, passed three resolutions, defeated a name change for Wingate College and mourned the death of one of its laymen.

W. T. Harris, 81, collapsed on the platform after delivering an appeal to the messengers to support the name change for Wingate College. He was rushed to a hospital where he was pronounced dead at 1:20 p.m., about two hours after his speech.

Gene L. Watterson, pastor of First Baptist Church, Shelby, and first vice president of the convention the past two years, defeated two opponents by 21 votes to win the presidency on the first ballot.

Opposing Watterson were Eugene Ridley, pastor of Long Leaf Baptist Church, Wilmington, and president of the 1989 state pastor's conference, and Billy H. Cline, pastor of Merrimon Avenue Baptist Church, Asheville, and a trustee of Southeastern Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C.

Watterson was endorsed by Friends of Missions, a group which describes itself as "mainstream Baptist." Cline was supported by Conservative Carolina in Gastonia. Ridley was supported by Robert Tenery, pastor of Burkemont Baptist Church, Morganton, and editor of the Southern Baptist Advocate newspaper, and his followers, who gather under the name of Baptists United.

For the first vice president W. Randall Lolley, pastor of First Baptist Church, Raleigh, and former president of Southeastern Seminary, defeated James Johnson, pastor of West Asheville Baptist Church who said he was not identified with any group, and George McCotter, a Lillington layman who broke with Friends of Missions and joined with Conservative Carolina Baptists.

Bruce Whitaker, retired president of Chowan College, was elected second vice president. He defeated Joe Lennon, a layman from Wake Forest who is president of Christian Action League and a member of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission, and Bea McRae, a laywoman from Lumberton and former state Woman's Missionary Union president.

The base budget is \$27,250,000 with \$1,050,000 as a preferred item for the Ministers Expanded Church Annuity Plan and an extra challenge budget of \$1 million. Of the base budget, the same dollar amount—\$9,585,000—is designated for Southern Baptist Convention causes in 1990 as in 1989. The percentage to the SBC is 35.17 of the base budget, with a 50/50 division between church establishment in the state and the SBC if the \$1 million challenge phase is reached. (BP)

MISSISSIPPI

Messengers to the annual meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Convention in Jackson Nov. 13-15 elected a Jackson pastor as president and passed a 1990 budget of \$19.5 million without discussion or opposition.

Messengers also approved resolutions opposing a proposed state lottery; supporting Baptist Press, the news service of the Southern Baptist Convention; and keeping a hands-off position concerning

the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, a religious liberty/separation of church and state coalition of nine Baptist bodies in the United States and Canada.

Eddie Hamilton, pastor of Oak Forest Baptist Church of Jackson, was elected president of the convention in a runoff against Tupelo businessman Larry Otis, a member of Calvary Baptist Church.

Otis later was elected first vice president, defeating Hardy Denham, pastor of North Long Beach Baptist Church. Talmadge Smith, of Brookhaven, director of associational missions for the Copiah and Lincoln associations, was elected unopposed as second vice president.

The budget is \$19,581,130 with 36.53 percent—\$7,152,987—going to support the worldwide missionary, evangelistic and educational causes of the SBC. This is a half percent increase over the amount given in 1989, based on a 1989 budget which was revised downward by \$1 million in August because receipts did not reach budget projections.

A line item of \$115,095 in the budget will go to Clarke College, which has operated in the red for most of the past 20 years. Clarke, a junior college in Newton, is operated by Mississippi College which receives all the funding for Clarke but keeps separate books. (BP)

OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma Baptists approved a 0.25 percent increase in giving to Southern Baptist Convention causes during their annual meeting Nov. 13-15 at Eastwood Baptist Church in Tulsa.

The 1990 budget calls for 44.25 percent, or \$7,301,250, of the state convention's \$16.5 million budget to be sent to SBC mission ministries. The remaining 55.75 percent will be used for state missions.

This is the third year Oklahoma has approved a \$16.5 million budget goal. The goal was not met in the previous two years.

All three of the convention's top officers were elected without opposition. Hoyt Aduddell, pastor of Wilmont Place Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, was reelected president. Anthony Jordan, pastor of Northwest Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, was reelected first vice president. Bob Shoemake, of Henryetta, director of missions for North Canadian Baptist Association, was elected second vice president. (BP)

ILLINOIS

Messengers to the 83rd annual meeting of the Illinois Baptist State Association approved a list of financial proposals, including one that lowers the percentage of Cooperative Program unified budget gifts being sent to the Southern Baptist Convention.

IBSA's \$6,327,054 budget for 1990 calls for 59.75 percent of undesignated Cooperative Program receipts to be used for ministries in Illinois. The remaining 40.25 percent will be sent to the SBC for national and worldwide ministries.

The 1989 ratio was 56.4 percent for IBSA and 43.6 percent for the SBC, but \$360,000 in "preferred items" were exempted from the ratio. The 90 budget has no such items.

Messengers also voted to convert the state newspaper, the Illinois Baptist, to circulation by paid subscriptions. The

paper, now funded through the Cooperative Program, will change to paid subscriptions Apr. 1, 1990.

The salary scale for the IBSA staff was raised five percent, allowing staff members to receive merit raises of up to five percent in 1990.

Messengers reelected president Charles West, pastor of First Baptist Church, Bethalto, and vice president Rodney Osborn, layman from Woodland Baptist Church, Peoria. Marti Bingham, laywoman from First Baptist Church, Vandalia, was elected recording secretary; Dennis Blankenship, pastor of Lincoln Southern Baptist Church, was chosen assistant recording secretary. (BP)

COLORADO

Colorado Baptists will end 1989 about \$1 million less in debt than when the year began, executive director Charles Sharp told participants at the 34th annual meeting of the Colorado Baptist General Convention. But, Sharp added, the convention remains about \$1.4 million in debt and budgeting will continue to be tight.

Sharp painted an improved financial picture for the 315 messengers who attended the Oct. 31-Nov. 2 annual meeting at Riverside Baptist Church, Denver.

The convention has experienced financial difficulties for several years brought on in part by a declining economy in Colorado and in part by poor over-the-counter investments by the Colorado Baptist Foundation and Church Loan Corp.

In the 1988 annual meeting messengers trimmed the budget to bare bones, cut five staff positions and made the Woman's Missionary Union into a self-supporting auxiliary in an effort to pay off indebtedness and stabilize convention finances.

Sharp told messengers to the Denver session part of the debt was paid when property owned by the foundation was sold and the \$940,000 proceeds were used to pay bank loans which had been entered into to pay off bond issues. (BP)

VIRGINIA

Messengers to the annual meeting of the Baptist General Association of Virginia adopted a report which calls for "substantial dialog about serious matters" concerning the relationship between the BGAV and the Southern Baptist Convention.

A record number of messengers heard an interim report from the committee appointed to monitor response to the 1988 BGAV memorial to the SBC.

The committee on the denominational crisis, appointed last January by president Jean Woodward of Richmond, recommended that the BGAV nominate two people to suggest to the SBC president for appointment to the national committee on committees."

The president's committee on denominational crisis, forerunner of the current committee, recommended two people for appointment last year but SBC president Jerry Vines of Jacksonville, Fla. did not appoint them to the committee.

Nominated for consideration by Vines for appointment to the 1990 committee on committees are Neal T. Jones, pastor of Columbia Baptist Church, Falls Church, and chairman of the crisis committee; and Miss Woodward, 1988

BGAV president and ex officio crisis committee member.

Messengers adopted a proposal to amend the BGAV bylaws to make such nominations an annual assignment of the BGAV committee on boards and committees.

Michael Allen of Baptist Temple Church, Alexandria, made a motion that the BGAV request the crisis committee to initiate discussion with other state Baptist groups to prepare a contingency plan for gathering and disseminating news should Baptist Press be unable to do so in the future. The motion passed with no debate. A later resolution, also adopted, expresses support for Baptist Press and opposes "any intimidation or threat" that endangers a free press for Baptists.

Messengers adopted a \$16.3 million 1990 budget which represents a one percent increase over the 1989 budget total, but is four percent more than anticipated 1989 receipts. The budget makes the SBC annuity/protection plan a preferred item, meaning \$660,000 will be taken off the top of money going to SBC causes to allow the BGAV to match church staff members' contributions to the annuity plan.

Raymond Spence, pastor of Second Baptist Church, Richmond, was elected president; R. Stuart Carlton, pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Salem, first vice president; and William L. Ross, pastor of Vinton Baptist Church, Vinton, second vice president. (BP)

FLORIDA

J. C. Mitchell, pastor of the 4500-member Frist Baptist Church of Winter Park in metropolitan Orlando, was elected president of the Florida Baptist State Convention during its annual meeting Nov. 13-15 in nearby Kissimmee.

In addition to Mitchell presidential candidates were Jack Snell, pastor of Hendricks Avenue Baptist Church, Jacksonville, and Theresa Buss, a laywoman from First Baptist Church, Vero Beach. For the past year Snell has been chairman and Miss Buss has been recording secretary of the state board of missions, the convention's 99-member executive body.

Mitchell, who garnered 60 percent of the vote, was nominated for the office by Daytona Beach pastor Bobby Welch, president in 1988. Mitchell said he is a member of the conservative movement as well as the antiabortion movement within the Southern Baptist Convention.

Al Townsend, layman of First Baptist Church, Niceville, was the first incumbent in 45 years to be reelected to a second consecutive term as first vice president. Nancy Langford, wife of a Panama City pastor, was elected second vice president. Dale Kinsey, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Clermont, was tapped as recording secretary.

The 2003 registered messengers unanimously passed a \$24,866,644 budget goal for 1990 and a \$23,024,670 basic budget. 49.25 percent of the budget is allocated for national causes; 50.75 percent is designated for statewide causes. In a decision made at the 1988 state convention, messengers voted to back off of a 50/50 split of Cooperative Program unified budget funds, following several years of evenly dividing funds between SBC and state causes. (BP)

SBTS student is spouse of SBTS prof

by Beth W. Prassel

It's not unusual for Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children to provide field placement for a Southern Seminary social work student. It is unusual, however, when the student is married to a seminary professor, has done four years of doctoral research at Oxford University and is a native of England.

Paul Harris went to work in community services at KBHC in September as part of his seminary education. He plans to work the entire academic year in order to fulfill the requirement for his first field placement in the social work program.

Harris is a native of Breechwood Green near the city of Hitchin, England. After earning the MA degree in theology from Regent's Park College, the Baptist college at Oxford, Harris entered Oxford's doctoral program in 1980.

In 1982 Karen Smith, a Southern Seminary graduate, arrived at Oxford to begin her doctoral studies. At that time Miss Smith was the only woman research student among an all male group.

"It was something totally new," says Harris. "It took a little getting used to."

After the two met and became acquainted, however, they became close friends. They worked together and attended church together.

After four years of research Harris withdrew from the program and took an administrative position in the graduate studies office at Oxford.

He and Miss Smith remained friends throughout the remainder of her studies. When she completed the DPhil degree in December, 1986 she returned to the states and in January, 1987 she began teaching church history at Southern.

The relationship did not end, how-

ever. The two continued to communicate through letters and telephone calls.

When Miss Smith returned to England in August, 1987 for the conferring of her degree she invited Harris to visit the states and spend Christmas with her family that year in Georgia.

"I've always said that he liked my family so much he decided that perhaps he would marry me," Miss Smith says, laughing.

"Yes," agrees Harris, joking, "I decided she must be okay."

Plans for marriage were announced the following Easter during Harris' second visit to the states, this time in Louisville.

The two were married at New Road Baptist Church, Oxford, England Aug. 6, 1988. After a two-week honeymoon in England and Wales Miss Smith and Harris said goodbye at the airport.

Miss Smith returned to Louisville to continue teaching. Harris could not join her until the marriage license and other important documents were filed in the immigration office and until his visa was granted.

When she was told it would probably be four to six months before Harris was allowed into the country Miss Smith did all she could to speed the process.

"I started contacting senators. I had everyone I could think of writing letters saying the visa application was valid, we were honest people and that it was a straightforward case."

Although friends in both countries were supportive of the couple they admit "it was a rough start."

Miss Smith went back to England in October for a visit. When she got off the plane Harris greeted her with news that he had gotten his visa. Only the day before he had been summoned to the U. S. embassy for an interview. After spend-

ing the week together, Miss Smith returned to Louisville. Harris followed a week later, arriving Nov. 1, 1988.

Harris says he "was already struggling about what the future held, about whether to change jobs in Britain . . . For a long time I felt a call to the ministry but could never quite focus that call. Nothing seemed to make sense."

When he arrived in Louisville he investigated several programs at the seminary. While reading the course description of the church social work program Harris says the words "sort of leapt out of the page." He decided this type of ministry fit his personality and interests.

At KBHC Harris assists with intake studies for children being placed in long term care. He handles some general inquiries and referrals and might place some children in shelters. He also might take responsibility for a foster care family and undertake the home study of a family for an adoption.

Harris will lead a half-day training seminar for house parents and child care staff in November. The session will



Paul Harris with wife Karen Smith, SBTS church history professor.

cover adolescent depression and the awareness and prevention of suicide.

What does Harris plan for the future?

"I'm not exactly sure," he says. "It will mean finding work in the local area while we're still at seminary. I'm considering child care. And if I do my next (field) placement with the aging, in geriatrics, then I could try to find work in that area."

Shelbyville teen knows what a difference one year can make

by Duanne Puckett

One year ago Angela Doyle was anxious, like most college freshmen, to pursue all that life had to offer.

It was then that she found out life has its ups and downs.

The daughter of Max and Deanna Doyle of Shelbyville had always had minor problems with nausea and fatigue. But the active-minded youth thought leading a hectic schedule playing basketball, excelling in school, participating in church activities and spending time with friends had been the reason.

When her legs began to swell last October she figured, "I was catching the freshman 15," referring to the weight gain some college newcomers experience.

She found out differently. The 18-year-old was hospitalized near Chicago where she was enrolled at Lake Forest (Ill.) College. Since doctors first thought it was hepatitis Miss Doyle didn't think it was serious enough to have her parents make the six-hour trip from Shelbyville.

But when doctors became puzzled by the test results she summoned her mother and father, who stayed by her side through the rest of the ordeal, one that began with hidden fears Oct. 15, 1988 and that didn't end with a sigh of relief until June 22, 1989.

Miss Doyle can talk about it now with no qualms even though last October she was a bit insecure. It was then she was flown from Chicago to Louisville where doctors determined she had Wilson's disease which affects the liver.

"It wasn't even a disease I was familiar with, like cancer; at least then you know what you're in for," she said. "Wilson's is so rare I just kept thinking, 'What do I do now? Do they give me a shot and send me home?'"

It was all very frightening," she said. It became even more frightening when doctors talked of a liver transplant. "I knew the odds weren't very good, the

medicine was costly and that my whole body would change after the transplant. So even after the transplant I knew it wasn't over. Not like a broken bone."

She found out about broken bones, too, when she was involved in a car accident Mar. 3.

Her right leg was severely broken, requiring a pin to be implanted for support. A trip to Richmond, Va. to discuss the liver transplant had to be postponed but Miss Doyle never revealed her anxieties or fears.

She explained, "I always felt God would take care of it."

She believes he did.

In June Miss Doyle and her family headed for Richmond for the long-awaited transplant discussion. After four days of tests she was determined the doctors would say the transplant wasn't needed any time soon. She laughs now and remembers her disbelief, yet relief, when the doctors said the transplant wasn't needed at all.

The medication rejuvenated her liver and she was on the road to recovery.

Now one year later Miss Doyle is back in the college routine. She lives in a Louisville apartment and attends Jefferson Community College. She also works at Humana Hospital University of Louisville for a doctor who treated her after the auto accident.

Miss Doyle is living one day at a time now, realizing the ordeal was a learning experience if anything. "I've learned to be patient. I'm not a big planner anymore. I used to look four years in advance; now I'm thankful if I get one semester over with.

"If someone had told me a year ago what I'd be facing, I would have said, 'Take me now; I can't handle that.' But you learn, I've learned, you have to go on. You don't know what you can handle until you have to."

Reprinted from *The Sentinel News, Shelbyville*. Duanne Puckett is news editor.

Creativity and transition topics at annual ministers' wives retreat

by Beth Wyatt, State Correspondent

"Creative Transitions" was theme for the third annual ministers' wives retreat at Cedarmore Baptist Assembly Oct. 27-28.

About 100 ministers' wives, all who have experienced many transitions, came from 28 associations across the commonwealth.

Carolyn Weatherford Crumpler, who was the pastor's wife with the shortest tenure but who is no novice to Baptist work, chose "Change in the Fast Lane" as her subject for opening worship. Mrs. Crumpler is former executive director of Woman's Missionary Union.

The message of "How I Love You," theme song for the two-day event, was evidenced in word and deed. Joyce Cordell, Shelbyville, directed spirited and energetic music. At the close of the event, Mrs. Cordell expressed how overwhelmed she felt to stand before a support group with such responsibilities and dedication.

Dee Gilliland, KBC's Woman's Missionary Union director, charmed her conference attendants with a seminar on making a wardrobe that meets with transition and has a flair for every occasion. Mrs. Barbara Chafin, Louisville, spoke on avenues of creativity, while Mrs. Emily Tuck led a seminar on parenting and celebrating Advent as a family. Bill Rogers, KBC's Minister/

Church Support Division director, led conferences on managing personal stress and Don Spencer, KBC's Annuity Department director, spoke to money affairs.

Donna Duncan, Eminence, used her expertise in quilt making, showing and telling all the creative things that can be accomplished. Nashville's Susan Langford's conferences "Lost in the Worlds" and "Marriage in the 1990s" received standing room only attendance.

Cedarmore's dining room was decorated extensively by Mrs. Carol Zuberer, Russellville. Mrs. Joyce Stack, along with wives of the Owen and Ten Mile associations' ministers, furnished homemade refreshments for the Friday night fellowship and for breaks. Mrs. Zuberer and Mrs. Stack have been active in planning the retreat since its inception three years ago.

According to Nancy Futral, Middletown, retreat coordinator, the retreat is a time of encouragement, fellowship and ideas for wives. The dream of Mrs. Futral is to have churches and associations promote and support the annual event, making it the same type of spiritual tonic ministers find during their various meetings.

Next year's retreat is planned Oct. 19-20 with Esther Burroughs of the Home Mission Board's Evangelism Department as keynote speaker.

baptist forum

To all who would write to Baptist Forum: We welcome for consideration your letters on any subject, provided they do not make personal attacks on anyone. We ask, however, that you accommodate a longstanding policy of a 300-word maximum limit for published letters. Thank you for adhering to this, and welcome to the pages of Western Recorder.—James H. Cox, Associate Editor

Disagrees with preschool letter

As a mother of young children and an early childhood educator as well as the lay preschool coordinator at Walnut Street Baptist Church, I would like to respond to the recent criticism in your paper of the practice of baptizing preschoolers and young children.

While it is true a young child does not clearly understand the theological implications of his/her decision to follow Jesus, I do not believe that is a prerequisite for accepting Jesus as savior. Very few adults have a clear understanding of the theological and scholarly ramifications of the act of salvation when they take that first step to the altar.

In this day when our very young children are bombarded with so many decisions from the world at an early age how can we keep them from the decision to follow Jesus at a young age also? Public kindergartens are teaching about sexually transmitted diseases as a part of their family living curriculum. Society expects young children to make decisions about issues which are much more difficult for a child to understand than the fact that Jesus loves him/her.

Instead of discouraging the salvation

experience in young children let's encourage our young children to follow Jesus at a young age and stay in the church. Rather than discounting these young decisions as an "easy and shallow practice" let's give them a strong follow-up of training and teaching so the teenager who accepted Jesus at an early age does not suffer a "delayed confusion" but rather is a strong, dynamic Christian with years of Christian growth behind him/her.

Marilyn James
Louisville

Prayer request for planters

My wife and I are church planters with the Home Mission Board. We are serving in Macomb Township, Mich., a fairly affluent and very unchurched suburb of Detroit. About 1½ years ago we began New Hope Baptist Church. We currently have a core group of 25 adults and though blessed by their commitment, we have yet to seriously impact our growing community. We have learned much about who we're trying to reach and what it's going to take to reach them. We have a complete program mapped out that will present some unique opportunities to reach the unchurched.

Probably the most important thing we've learned (and learned again) is the need for prayer. Realizing that prayer will be foundational to our success, the Lord has impressed us to enlist 5000 people who will commit themselves to pray for us, our church and our community.

David Bollenbacher
11946 Lewlund Dr.
Sterling Heights, MI 48078

New appointees plan furlough

Greetings from the beautiful country of Nigeria, West Africa. Carrie and I are thrilled to be your Southern Baptist missionaries serving the Lord in a nation of nearly 120 million people, the most populated nation in Africa. Many of you know me as a Kentucky Baptist pastor for over 25 years.

We are now in language study of Hausa till around May of next year. Although furlough is some ways off we are seeking to make plans toward furlough in Kentucky. We are making contacts seeking to locate a church and/or college who might have furloughing missionary residences. If you have such accommodations or know of such we would appreciate discussing the possibility of spending our furlough with you.

As of now we have two possible furlough dates: (1) late July or early August 1992 through late February or early March 1993, or (2) June 1993 through May 1994.

My wife and I were appointed to Nigeria Feb. 14, 1989, where I am na-

tional church growth consultant for the Nigerian Baptist Convention and national coordinator of theological education by extension. After language study we plan to live in Kaduna and my wife will become a teacher in our Baptist pastor's college.

Charles Hedrick
Baptist Mission
Box 396 Zoria, Nigeria

A lot was exposed

After reading the Nov. 7 article on "Real Evangelism" it is apparent why we have such controversy within our Southern Baptist Convention. The article contained numerous references to those members who did not adhere to the beliefs of the conference leaders, causing me to question if this wasn't actually a pep rally for the fundamentalist agenda.

I was disappointed to find out that our Southern Baptist brothers found it necessary to invite others outside our convention to join them in attacking their fellow members. We will not win the world to Christ exhibiting behavior such as this. Jesus said that the world would know we are his disciples by the love we have for one another. Only through a deep concern and love for those who are lost will we be able to lead a lost and dying world to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. May the Fundamentalists, Moderates and Liberals be replaced by Southern Baptists committed to reaching the world for him.

Mark D. Ricketts
Shepherdsville

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MARCH	#	TYPE	TEAM NEEDS
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15-28	90802	Evangelistic Projects	2 teams of 2 per team
	90803	Construction Projects	3 teams of 10 per team
APRIL			
5-18	90804	Evangelistic Projects	10 teams of 2 per team
MAY			
3-16	90805	Family/Marriage Enrichment Conferences	10 teams of 2 per team
17-30	90806	Leadership Conferences	5 teams of 1 or 2 per team
	90807	Evangelistic Projects	5 teams of 2 per team
31-6/13	90808	Medical Projects	3 teams of 5 per team
JUNE			
14-27	90810	Construction Projects	5 teams of 10 per team
	90811	Evangelistic Projects	5 teams of 2 per team
14-7/16	90800	English Teaching (prefer qualified teachers)	8 teams of 1 per team
JULY			
5-18	90812	Evangelistic Projects	5 teams of 2 per team
AUGUST			
16-29	90813	Medical Projects	2 teams of 5 per team

Contact: Calvin Wilkins, Partnership Coordinator; Kentucky/Brazil Partnership
P.O. Box 43433; Middletown, KY 40243-0433; (502)245-4101 ext. 314 or 339



mountains to the mississippi

personnel

Ralph Avenue Baptist Church, Long Run Association, surprised **Penny Foster**, church secretary, with an after church reception. She has been church secretary 25 years.

Robert Dever is no longer pastor of Ridgewood Baptist Church, Long Run Association.

Valley View Baptist Church, Long Run Association, called **Tony Trunnell** as pastor.

Tony Hough resigned the pastorate of Lynn Acres Baptist Church, Long Run Association.

Norman Douglas accepted the call to pastor Trammell Creek Baptist Church, Russell Creek Association. He leaves Barren Run Baptist Church, Severns Valley Association.

Bob Gray resigned as pastor of Blue Ball Baptist Church, Severns Valley Association.

Kevin Birney is new pastor of Edmonton Baptist Church, Liberty Association.

West Point Baptist Church, Blackford Association, is no longer pastored by **Randall Brown**. He moves to Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Ohio County Association.

Lamar Lyon resigned as pastor of Liberty Baptist Church, Sulphur Fork Association.

Jim Barnette is new pastor of Harrods Creek Baptist Church, Sulphur Fork Association.

Cove Baptist Church, Long Run Association, called **Paul Adams** as youth pastor.

Steve Mastin resigned as pastor of Barretts Creek Baptist Church, Ohio County Association.

Concord Baptist Church, Ohio County Association, called **Eddy Young** as pastor.

Chris Carter is new pastor of Second Baptist Church, Hartford, Ohio County Association.

Rosine Baptist Church, Ohio County Association, is now pastored by **Lawrence Veteto**.

Larry Embry resigned as pastor of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Bethel-Logan Association. He is available for supply preaching.

Jim and Ann Dean are new directors of youth and children's ministries at Russell Cave Baptist Church, Elkhorn Association.

Emmaus Baptist Church, Ohio River Association, called **Robert Engler** as pastor.

Wayne Hunsucker is new minister of education and youth at Ormsby Heights Baptist Church, Long Run Association. He leaves Cedar Grove Baptist Church, Nelson Association.

Richland Baptist Church, Union Association, is now pastored by **Mark Allison**.

Binghamtown Baptist Church, Middlesboro, Bell County Association, will hold a special celebration Jan. 7. The church's pastor, **W. B. Bingham II**, will mark his 40th year as pastor of the church. In spite of a severe visual handicap, Bingham has led the church in increasing its membership 10-fold. He has preached nearly 4000 funerals and the church has averaged 62 baptisms annually.

D. M. Aldridge is interim pastor of New Hope Baptist Church, Boones Creek Association.

Georgetown Baptist Church, Elkhorn Association, announced the resignation of **David Bishop**.

Pollard Baptist Church, Greenup Association, called **Warren Dean** as interim pastor.

Bill McCoy submitted his resignation to Chadwicks Creek Church, Greenup Association. Bob Ellis is new pastor.

McDowell Baptist Church, Enterprise Association, is being served by interim pastor **Bailey Sadler**.

Donald Johnson is no longer pastor of River Ridge Baptist Church, Upper Cumberland Association.

After being ordained at Indian Creek Baptist Church, Lynn Camp Association, **Utah Profit** is pastor of Horse Creek Baptist Church, Lynn Camp Association.

Ray Miller and his wife Ruth will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary Dec. 24. Miller has pastored several Kentucky churches. A reception will be held in the couple's honor Dec. 16, 2-5 p.m. at Ninth and O Baptist Church, Louisville.

congregations

Georgetown Baptist Church, Elkhorn Association, will open its new library in January. Richard Allison is pastor.

Liberty Baptist Church, Caldwell-Lyon Association, celebrated its 135th anniversary Oct. 15. Shoney Oliver is pastor.

Eastwood Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Warren Association, celebrated high attendance day Oct. 29 with a record Sunday school attendance of 657. Jim Haskell is pastor.

The children and youth of **Oak Island Baptist Church**, Northern Kentucky Association, will perform the musical "Case of the Missing Christmas" at General Butler State Park Lodge, Carrollton, Dec. 2 at 5 p.m. Wayne Whaley is pastor.

ordinations

Good Hope Baptist Church, Taylor County Association, ordained as deacons **Mike Russell**, **Jeff Newton** and **Jerry Netherland**. George Gaddie is pastor.

First Baptist Church, Whitesburg, Three Forks Association, ordained **Maurice Caudill** to the ministry. Thomas Stokes is pastor.

Sam Harrison was ordained a deacon by Elkhorn Baptist Church, Taylor County Association. James Collison is pastor.

Mexico Baptist Church, Ohio River Association, ordained **Danny Bebout**, **Edwin Shewcraft** and **Wayne Wheeler** as deacons. Archie Brock is pastor.

John Brainard was ordained a deacon by Lancaster Baptist Church, South District Association. Bob Rush is pastor.

Concord Baptist Church, Christian County Association, ordained **David Cunningham** a deacon. Bob Lowery is pastor.

Jim Coursey was ordained a deacon Oct. 9 at Immanuel Baptist Church, Elizabethtown, Severns Valley Association. Charles Darland is pastor.

associations

Hillview Baptist Church, Hadley, and New Gasper Baptist Church, Rockfield, are new churches of Warren Association.

Irvine Association's crusade resulted in three professions of faith and 12 commitments. Bob Hamblin was evangelist.

missions

Gerald and June McNeely will retire as missionaries Feb. 1. They can be reached at 10605 Ledbury Ct., Middletown, KY 40243 or by phone at (502) 244-3759.

Dr. and Mrs. S. G. Shephard have retired as missionaries and are now residing in Florida. Their address is 303 N. Broadway, Deland, FL 32720.

Mary Sue Meuth, a native of Henderson County, has completed furlough and returned to Hong Kong. Her address is 169 Boundary St., Kowloon, Hong Kong.

Kenneth and Divina Park, natives of Paducah, are on furlough from Chile. They can be reached at 756 N. 22nd, Paducah, KY 42001.

Wendell and Betty Smith, natives of Hardin County, can be addressed at Box 54, San Pablo City, Laguna 4000, Philippines.

deaths

Carline Spears, retired director of missions from Allen and Monroe associations, died Oct. 30 after suffering a massive stroke. Spears' funeral was Nov. 1 in Scottsville.

Lyman Smith Allen, retired pastor of Immanuel Baptist Temple, Henderson, Green Valley Association, died Nov. 9. He passed away at his home after a long battle with cancer. Allen retired in 1980 after pastoring the church 34 years.

revivals

Poplar Grove Baptist Church, Russell County Association, reports one profession of faith during revival services led by pastor Brent Gumption.



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

clear creek chronicle

More Thanksgiving testimonies

"Praise the Lord for healing my hands of arthritis. They hurt so much last semester I couldn't squeeze out a wash cloth. Now I don't have the problem." Mrs. Jane Dawson, sophomore, Cambridge, Oh.

"Dr. Earl Clark said in class whatever we have must be given to the Lord. Last night on my knees I gave God a long time dream. I realized the dream may not be part of his way but if so it will be there when the time comes. I am going through growing pains now as a Christian. I took my hands off the dream and God can do with it whatever he desires." Robin Harmon, freshman, Providence.

"I asked friends to pray for me to have preaching opportunities. About two weeks later I was asked to preach in Williamsburg. They told me the church would probably give me \$40 for both services. I was just glad to preach. The night before I borrowed \$20 because I was busted and I had only that bill with me on Sunday when the offering was taken. I hesitated—'Lord that's my transportation money'—but he said, 'Give it.' I borrowed \$10 more for gas to return that evening. There was a great spirit in the church. As I left a man gave me an envelope which I assumed would be \$40. We stopped for gas on the way home and I looked in the envelope for money. There was a \$60 check and behind it a \$20 bill! I thanked the Lord and looked again to find a \$100 bill. I almost cried. The Lord kept his promise." Billy Howell, freshman, Princeton.

"December 1987 was a traumatic time for me and my wife. Just before Christmas she had surgery for brain cancer with extensive chemotherapy and radiation treatment. We were told she would be fortunate to live six months. I praise the Lord because Friday she turns 25." John Beth, freshman, Tucson, Az.

"Thank the Lord for using me although I am unworthy. When I came to Clear Creek I told the Lord, 'I don't want a church; I just want to study.' He said, 'It's time.' So we are doing the best we can with the Lord's help. The church hasn't had a baptism in nearly three years but two weeks ago I had my first baptism." Tony Day, senior, Ermine.

christian education



James H. Cox
Associate Editor

fourth estate

Lottie and Laurie

Let me quote from a personal letter received not long ago from missionary Laurie K. Taylor in Brazil.

We only have one pediatric ward at the hospital and it's for neurological cases. Last week there was a little girl there named Adriana. Adriana's mother literally abandoned her at the hospital knowing she was to have brain surgery. Then another adult patient told Adriana that she would surely die during surgery! The little thing was huddled in the corridor crying into a towel when I went to visit her. I held her and promised to go with her to surgery and to care for her in I.C.U. The doctor got only 90% of the brain tumor and she has a terrible prognosis. Pray for her, please.

I took my Acteens on their first one-day mission trip to Alto Alegre, the little desert village that I'm so involved with. I literally saw them blossom before my eyes! Without a doubt, God will call some of them to be pastor's wives, missionaries, etc. They are all poor as can be, but they worked that day with kids who have literally nothing and it touched them in a most special way. They returned home thanking God for the blessings he's given them!

Laurie Taylor is one of four journalism interns I've had the honor of working alongside who have gone to the foreign mission field. Recently, she and her husband Johnny, a former Kentucky minister of education, and their three children returned to the states for a first furlough. She concludes her letter like this:

Words aren't adequate to express what's in my heart. Do you think I'll ever be comfortable sitting in a padded pew with chandelier hanging overhead? Will I ever get used to the luxury of the American lifestyle again? Will I ever be able to accept the thousands of dollars we spend on recreational facilities, choir robes, stained glass and landscaping when I've seen people here do so much with so little?

I can't answer those questions and I won't justify what we've done at home to make church comfortable and attractive for the masses. I suspect it may take a different approach to appeal to various cultures.

At the same time, when I read letters like hers, I want to dig deeply into the pockets of my jeans and find some extra dollars to place in a Lottie Moon envelope so more Lauries can go on the field. Won't thousands of you who read these words do the same during the season of prayer for foreign missions?

My hope is that the spiritual, physical and emotional lives of millions may be restored because Lottie Moon, Laurie Taylor and hundreds like them said, "I'll go!"

campbellsville college

Bowling Green artist Delaire Rowe, instructor at Western Kentucky University, is displaying an exhibit of oil paintings entitled "Trees" Nov. 27- Dec. 15 at Campbellsville (Ky.) College's Gosser Fine Arts Center Gallery.

The exhibit is open to the public from 8 a.m.-noon and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday or by appointment and is free of charge.

william carey college

James W. Edwards, who has been interim president of William Carey College in Hattiesburg, Miss. since June, was elected Nov. 2 as president of the institution with a three-year contract.

Edwards, 51, succeeds J. Ralph Noonkester, who retired after 33 years as president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention school.

Before assuming the interim presidency Edwards, a native of Bowling Green, Ky., was president of Edwards and Associates in Nashville, a firm specializing in educational and financial consulting.

Previously he was academic vice president of Union University, Jackson, Tenn., and Dallas (Tex.) Baptist University. He also was senior vice president of finance and chief operating officer of the Radio and Television Commission, Ft. Worth, Tex.

southwestern seminary

A radical faith stemming from "a spirituality born in exile" stands at the center of the Baptist heritage, a Southern Baptist Theological Seminary professor said in a Nov. 8 chapel address at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex.

"Spirituality is not an end in itself; it is the means whereby human beings experience faith in Christ, unite together for worship and ministry and relate to life in the world," Bill Leonard of Louis-

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Evangelism begins at home. Kentucky Baptists are working with 41 ethnic churches, missions, and ministries. These represent 14 different language groups including 24 deaf ministries. Let's all work together to reach the lost in Kentucky in the Here's Hope Revivals in 1990.

ville, professor of church history, said in an address sponsored by the Theological Fellowship at Southwestern as part of the group's annual lecture series.

"They were exiles, those first Baptists in the new world, the scourge of Christian America," Leonard said, adding their plight was personified by one of their best known leaders, Roger Williams. Considered a religious radical and heretic by the Puritan leaders of Massachusetts, Williams was thrown out of the state in 1636 and banished to the "howling wilderness" of New England. Two years later he had founded the city of Providence, R. I. and established the first Baptist church in America.

Despite its successes Baptist spirituality has not been without its blind spots, Leonard said. "One of the great ironies of American history is that many of the same Virginia Baptists who went to jail over the freedom of religion also owned slaves," he said. "The same people who demanded absolute religious freedom began to qualify the freedom of human beings."

Leonard said Baptists today can learn a lesson from these past mistakes—beware of the majority and turn loose the gospel.

baptist theo. seminary

A Richmond, Va. congregation that recently disbanded to join with another church has voted to give nearly \$100,000

of its assets to the fledgling Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond.

Calvary Baptist Church, which began its shared ministry with the sister congregation Oct. 1, took the action during its final business meeting. Most of the funds will come from sale of the church's property.

The Southern Baptist Alliance-sponsored BTR is raising funds in an effort to open its doors in August 1990. During their last meeting the school's provisional directors agreed to the 1990 date "provided sufficient funds are available."

cumberland college

April Brinks, a senior at Cumberland (Ky.) College, was chosen to present former Kentucky governor and Cumberland alumnus Bert T. Combs with the Outstanding Alumnus of Kentucky (OAK) Award at a ceremony Oct. 13 at the Brown House in Louisville.

A history and English double major at Cumberland, Miss Brinks is vice president of Phi Alpha Theta historical honor society and a member of Sigma Tau Delta English honor society.

The OAK awards are presented to individuals who earned undergraduate degrees from Kentucky colleges or universities and have earned national stature in their chosen fields. The awards are sponsored by Kentucky Advocates for Higher Education.

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James and Daisy Watt: first Kentucky/Utah-Idaho volunteers

by W. T. Moore
State Correspondent

James and Daisy Watt believe Utah-Idaho is one of the most challenging yet difficult mission fields in America. They spent 10 weeks there last summer as the first volunteer workers in the proposed partnership of Kentucky Baptists with the Utah-Idaho convention. Watt was interim pastor of First Baptist Church, Soda Springs, Id. They volunteered as a result of an article in Western Recorder.

Soda Springs is a town of 5000 near the Utah border. It is 93% Mormon. There are three large Mormon wards (churches) and five other small churches in the town. The main source of employment is salt mines. There is considerable turnover in population.

The Baptist church was at a low ebb when the Watts arrived. "We had a high attendance of 32, which the people said seemed like Easter, and four additions, which they felt was a revival," stated Watt. One of the additions was a 73-year-old man who was baptized in a backyard swimming pool. He is now a faithful supporter of the church.

Soda Springs church called a full time pastor while the Watts were there. They have identified four places to start missions, from 15 to 55 miles away. The nearest Southern Baptist church is 55 miles away.

The Watts indicate church people were most friendly but there was some hostility from the general population. Baptist revivals in the area have been disturbed by persons challenging the minister's statements.

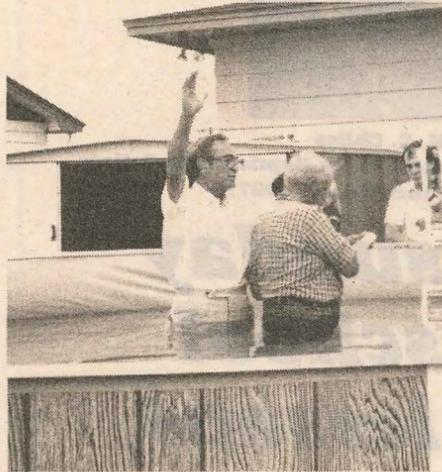
A pilgrimage to Lily Baptist Church

by Walter McNeil

As I approach threescore years and ten, I have accomplished a mission that has been on my mind since I was a young adult—a visit to Lily Baptist Church between London and Corbin. Recently, I visited this church in memory of the 100th birthday of my mother, Marie McBrayer.

In many of my waking moments as a child, mother told us about the community of Lily and the Sunday school she attended when a child. She taught us "diligently, speaking of them when she sat in the house, or walked by the way, when she laid down and when she rose up."

Grandfather McBrayer was superintendent of the Lily Mining and Manufacturing Company. He died of a short illness when a young man. He became legendary to me since this was years before we children were born. The general manager of the company was Lyman Parks, who moved to Lily from Louisville with his family. Mr. and Mrs. Parks were active in Sunday school work; Parks was superintendent of the Sunday school and Mrs. Parks taught the children. She was the daughter of Basil Manly, founder and president of Southern Seminary. The Parks had a son, Floyd, who was in the children's Sunday school class with the McBrayer sisters; he later became Major General Floyd L. Parks, airborne chief of staff in World War II, European theater. The Lily church history indicates that Sunday school began in the 1890s and the Parks family could have been instrumental in



Watt baptizes 73-year-old in backyard swimming pool.

Director of missions for the area is Earl Jackson. His territory includes Utah and one third of Idaho. He flies his own plane to be able to cover it.

Watt was pastor and missionary for 38 years in Kentucky before retiring. He has been director of missions in Pike, Graves County and Muhlenberg associations. He says: "I am grateful to Kentucky Baptists for allowing me to serve those years and we want to use our retirement years in volunteer service as long as we are able."

After two months at home in Owensboro the Watts have left to spend the winter in the Palm Springs area of California where they plan to do volunteer work. Their home church, Livermore Baptist, has commissioned them as volunteer outreach workers.

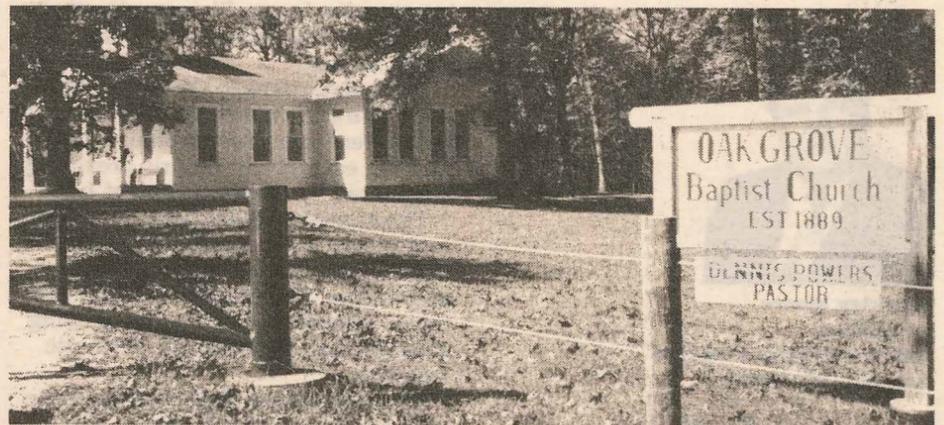
starting the Sunday school there.

As I sat in Lily Baptist Church, listening to pastor Wilmer L. Evans, I was overwhelmed inside with emotion, knowing that mother sat nearby many years ago. I listened closely to the message and at the same time, flashbacks came of the training in our home—the songs mother taught me, "Jesus Bids Us Shine," "Jesus Wants Me for a Sunbeam," "Brighten the Corner Where You Are," "In the Garden," "The Old Rugged Cross;" the memory of Bible stories—Joseph and his coat of many colors, David, Daniel, the Psalms, the ministry of Jesus and the verse she repeated over and over to me, "Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good." She quoted it so often that I believe the apostle Paul must have gotten it from her. I made my profession of faith at the age of 12 and never harbored a doubt about the heavenly transaction.

Aside from the spiritual, she taught us these jingles—"A wise old owl lived in an oak; the more he saw, the less he spoke; the less he spoke, the more he heard; why can't we be like that old bird?" and "Early to bed, early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise."

I came away deeply humbled that morning in Lily, realizing that I am the beneficiary of a children's Sunday school class at Lily many years ago, taught by the daughter of Basil Manly.

Walter McNeil is a deacon, First Baptist Church, Pikeville.



Times and the countryside have changed but the mission of Oak Grove Baptist Church, Irvine Association, remains the same.

A pioneer in missions: Oak Grove Baptist Church celebrates 100 years

by Beth Wyatt
State Correspondent

Old fashioned singing, preaching and dinner on the grounds was enjoyed by hundreds of members, former members and friends during the 100th birthday celebration of Oak Grove Baptist Church, Irvine Association.

"They came from Arkansas, Tennessee, Indiana and Ohio, and all over Kentucky," reported deacon Paul Jones. In honor of their forefathers, LeEtta Warren, Alesia Maschino and Kenny Whitaker, were among those on the program.

The church is located in a grove of oak trees about a mile east of Highway 421 in Jackson County. Found within its walls is a mission-minded congregation who leads the association in per capita giving but whose chief mission is to reach the lost.

Annie Jones, 85, was the oldest member present. Mrs. Jones has been in the neighborhood and church all her life. She remarked how she found her husband of 66 years in the church.

"We've been here ever since," she smiled. Jones, oldest deacon, is hospitalized and was unable to attend.

Lillie Wyrick, granddaughter of Shelton Anderson, one of the founders, remembered the church of her childhood: "The woods would be filled with horses. The dedication of the people in the early days was real. They traveled by wagon an entire day just to be at the annual meeting. We always had a housefull when it met here. Neighbors near the church always opened their homes," she finished.

The first meeting house, built of logs, was located about one half mile from the present structure. The membership in 1889 was 17. Near the beginning of this century, Oak Grove, with 110 members was the second largest church in the association. They pioneered in cooperative program giving with a gift of \$10 in 1930.

From 1924-30, the church sponsored Jackson County Baptist Institute, a boarding school. Records from 1926 show 12 girls lived in the dorm and paid \$1.25 per week for room and board. The boys boarded with neighbors. The school closed its doors in 1930 and the church moved to one of its buildings, the present location.

The church has a very active WMU, begun in 1933 with 19 members. The present group is led by Mrs. H. B. Edwards.

Five pastors have led Oak Grove during the past 100 years. W. H. Anderson, a founder and first pastor, served 41 years; F. R. Walters, 35 years; Dewitt

Johnson, 10 years; H. B. Edwards, nine years. Dennis Powers is the present pastor.

Bob Blevins, director of missions, challenged the group to remember but to look forward, attempting to reach people to the ends of the earth. He commended the church for their mission giving and their teachable spirit. "You are a group of hearers and doers," he said.

"We will work till Jesus comes and trust that others can stand here in 100 years and celebrate God's goodness," Powers challenged.

Backroads of memory go to Kentucky missions

by Harold Wainscott
Church Starter Strategist

I have a lot of beautiful memories of events that have occurred during my 55 years in the ministry. Many of these have to do with starting missions and new churches.

A. B. Colvin stirred the backroads of my memories recently as he sat across the table from me at the Northern Kentucky Association. He had been in east Kentucky conducting conferences at Virgie and Paintsville. He said, "Harold, I reflected this week that when you came to Pike County, Meta, Immanuel and Virgie weren't here. Now they are old hat."

He's right. They weren't. But the need was there. It would take a group of committed leaders to get them started. That group was in Pikeville church.

The mission at Meta began with a VBS in an abandoned store building, followed by a revival meeting in which 28 people made decisions for Christ. The mission soon grew into a church.

Immanuel Mission was started by a dedicated group, many of whom have maintained their membership in the church to this day.

Pikeville Church did not sponsor Virgie but it did sponsor another mission at the same time. It was an ongoing mission which never became a church but 75 people were baptized from the community of Ferguson Creek.

There are memories from other places. Some of our finest leaders from Central Baptist Church, Corbin, started Park Hills Church. First Baptist Church, Perysburg, Oh., now one of Ohio's strong SBC churches, had assistance and encouragement in its beginning by Latonia Church.

Thank you, A. B., for stirring the memories. Thank you, Lord, for making them possible.



Barkley Moore
President
Oneida Baptist Institute
Oneida, KY 40972

oneida journal

Rodeo cowboys!

It was rodeo time last weekend for a van load of Oneida boys. Farm manager Jack Tillman took his very hardworking agriculture class and several key students in the campus work crew to Louisville last Friday afternoon. Their destination was cavernous Freedom Hall and the annual North American rodeo championships with scores of cowboys and cowgirls participating from many states.

Ours was an excited group. It was the first rodeo experience for all of them except Tillman himself. As a young man he was an active rodeo contestant and our boys have seen the scars on his body that are badges of some by-gone falls from a bucking bronco.

Before the rodeo began the group got to see scores of different breeds of champion sheep, hogs and many other animals. Also they saw farm equipment of every description in what is annually the largest farm show in the world.

But of course the sight that most interested them were the beautiful horses, the ferocious bulls, the lassoing and the various colorful events of a rodeo.

Meanwhile back at ranch Oneida there was equal excitement. Unexpectedly a large helicopter landed on the school's athletic field. Out stepped Jim Rose, one of east Kentucky's largest coal operators. He was coming to attend Oneida's annual yearbook queen pagaent. His wife, the former Judy Rose, Oneida class of 1956, had arrived several

hours earlier by car. She came to act as a judge as did Melanie and husband Keith Adams.

The judges went to Oneida's historic Anderson Hall where the next several hours were spent in personally interviewing each of the 12 girls previously nominated by Oneida's student body.

The annual pagaent, first held in my junior year at Oneida, followed in a nearly three-hour program in a filled auditorium. The pagaent features the talent competition of singing, playing some musical instruments, dramatic readings.

The judges chose Holly Gritton as the 1990 Oneida yearbook queen. Miss Gritton first came to our campus in 1973, having just learned to walk. She is the daughter of principal Larry Gritton and his wife Linda, coordinator of our middle school program.

The outside judges discerned the same quality we have always observed as this young woman has matured year by year before our eyes. A nearly straight A student all her schooldays, she will be the valedictorian of this year's class.

Miss Gritton has been in the school choir for years and also very active in the Baptist student union and the fellowship of Christian athletes. She has earned athletic letters in basketball, softball and volleyball. Also she has earned letters as manager of our track and cross country teams.

First runnerup was Tracy Spencer from Knoxville. In her second year with us, Miss Spencer is cocaptain of our cheerleaders. Also she is active on our academic team, in BSU and FCA.

Second runnerup was Charlye Smither of Frankfort. Miss Smither has been at Oneida four years involved in band, concert choir, BSU and church choir. She has earned letters in swimming and track and became a certified life guard in Oneida's lifesaving program.

These three girls all plan to go on to college. Queen Gritton plans to work in education, Miss Spencer wants to study math and possibly serve with the Peace Corps. Miss Smither plans to be a nurse.

While all this was going on, our large FCA group was attending a convention in Lexington with Broadway Baptist and pastor Hogue Hockensmith extending hospitality, a place to sleep and breakfast.

With all that excitement, it was back to another week of hitting the books, sports events, work, daily chapel and all which makes up life at Oneida.



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

sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR DEC. 3, 1989

Life and work series

Following God's leadership

Acts 8:4-8 After the martyrdom of Stephen, the enemies of Christ and of his followers in Jerusalem launched a campaign to exterminate all Christians. Everywhere the persecuted and dispersed Christian went they preached the word of God and introduced the unsaved to Christ. Conspicuous among the dispersed was Philip the deacon, who fled to the city of Samaria, where he proclaimed the good news.

Acts 8:26-29 Just when Philip's evangelistic efforts were most successful and the prospects for the immediate future looked most promising, the Lord called him to leave Samaria and to go elsewhere. Without a single excuse or a word of complaint, Philip promptly answered God's call and obeyed him without knowing the real purpose of his journey.

Acts 8:39-40 Philip reached the place to which he had been sent just in the nick of time. Presently he saw a chariot coming towards him. When the Holy Spirit commanded him to "go near, and join himself to this chariot," Philip ran to the chariot. Riding in that chariot was an Ethiopian eunuch. He was reading aloud the 53rd chapter of Isaiah.

Mounting the chariot and seating himself beside the eunuch, Philip seized his golden opportunity by tactfully beginning with the very scriptures which the Ethiopian was reading and preached Christ to him, whereupon he accepted Christ as his personal saviour.

After Christ saved the eunuch, Philip taught him that it is the duty of every child of God to follow Christ in baptism. Desirous of conforming to the will of Christ, the eunuch was anxious to be baptized as a public acknowledgment of his faith in Christ. When they came to the place where there was ample water in which to be baptized, the eunuch requested Philip to baptize him.

International series

Born to bear witness

John 1:6-8 Christ is the source of all life and every living being is dependent upon him for the sustenance of life. Christ is also the source of all light. In the incarnation Christ was the light blazing in the darkness, but men would not receive the illumination which he brought. Through the intervening centuries Christ has kept on shining in the midst of the darkness.

John 1:19-23 John the Baptist had been commissioned and sent by God to prepare the way for the coming of the Messiah and to bear his testimony for him. When he preached in the wilderness of Judea, great crowds assembled to hear him. Some suggested that perhaps he was the predicted Christ so a deputation was sent to interview him and to ascertain whom he claimed to be. Without a moment's hesitation he declared emphatically that he was neither the Messiah nor Elijah, nor the prophet whom they were expecting, but that he was "the voice of one crying in the wilderness," dedicated to the task of delivering God's message to their hearts to the best of his ability.

John 1:29-34 John the Baptist pointed his hearers to Christ with the words, "Behold the lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world." Christ insisted on being baptized by John the Baptist in order to show in figure, at the beginning of his public ministry, what he would do at the close of that ministry. In reporting on Christ coming out of the baptismal waters and the heavens being rent asunder, John told about the Spirit coming upon Christ in a dove-like form, symbolizing peacefulness, meekness, gentleness, tenderness and love.



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

on mission together

Background Baptists

Presnall Wood is editor of the **Texas Baptist Standard**. I read each of his editorials. I think Kentucky Baptists will appreciate this one dated Nov. 8.

"Adding adjectives to the name Baptist is dangerous. Adjectives should be unnecessary. The name Baptist should stand alone.

"But that is not the way it is. Adding adjectives to the name Baptist appears to have no end—good Baptists, bad Baptists, backslidden Baptists, progressive Baptists, backrow Baptists, peaceful Baptists, fussing Baptists, giving Baptists, stingy Baptists, bantam Baptists (those who have refused to grow), loving Baptists and befuddled Baptists.

"There is at least one adjective that seems to fit on the name Baptists—'background.'"

"Background Baptists? Our churches and denomination are full of them. We

should be glad. Serving in the shadows is the style of background Baptists since they rarely chair a committee or become the recipient of an appreciation award.

"It appears the only desire of background Baptists is to serve the Lord Jesus Christ and forward his work. These are the salt-of-the-earth type of people who care not who gets the glory as long as the work goes on. Secure in Jesus, they go about the work of the Lord knowing that the real pay is in serving Jesus.

"Background Baptists are often overlooked and usually taken for granted. They are the people who always can be counted on to do what needs to be done.

"Who falls into the category of background Baptists? Some are obvious: church nursery workers, bus ministry visitors, ushers, Sunday school teachers, outreach leaders, Church Training leaders and so many others fill the bill as background Baptists.

"Someone says that the only thing

they can do is warm a pew. What would the church do without those who are faithful in attendance?

"Another says the only thing they can do is pray. Never, never minimize the importance of prayer.

"It is the same in the denomination, whether it be association, state or national convention. Often a few churches in the denomination are widely known, but all know the strength of the denomination is found in the many churches who faithfully and sacrificially support the cooperative work of the denomination knowing little recognition will come their way. It appears only a few pastors get to speak at many of the conferences and conventions while there are hundreds who could do a good job. Yet, those pastors who serve almost in the background comprise the strength of cooperative ministries.

"Background Baptists are important Baptists. It might be well to take note of them. They deserve it."

Lifestyles teach children about God

by Frank White

A consistent Christian lifestyle may be the most important tool for parents to help children understand God and develop foundations for faith, according to leaders of preschool and children's work at the Baptist Sunday School Board.

"When children grow up, they will remember little of what their parents told them, but they will remember more of how their parents made them feel," said Sybil Waldrop, manager of the preschool curriculum section in the Sunday School Preschool-Children's Department.

"If the parents' actions don't match the words children hear from them or from people at church, the actions will be remembered more than the words," she cautioned.

"Your child needs to see you behave as a Christian when you are experiencing different kinds of emotions," Mrs. Waldrop said.

When a parent tells a child to be honest and then tells him to say the parent is not home when the child answers the phone, he sees the inconsistency, pointed out Margaret McArthur, consultant for preschool and children's work in the Discipleship Training Department.

Leaders from several program areas offered advice on how to help children develop an understanding of God so that at the proper time and with the leadership of the Holy Spirit, they may accept Christ as their personal savior.

Through unconditional love and by building a child's sense of self worth, trust and faith, parents develop the foundations a child will need to trust God and accept his unconditional love later on, Miss McArthur said.

Parents must capture teachable moments as opportunities to talk with children about God in terms the child can understand, said Philip Waugh, editor of "Living with Children" and "Living with Preschoolers" magazines in the Family Ministry Department.

"Trying to convey God to a child takes a lot of creativity and patience. Teachable moments allow the parent to use something the child is asking questions about to show God's involvement," Waugh said.

However, to have teachable moments with their children, parents must spend time with their children, Rob Sanders, editor of children's materials in the Discipleship Training Department, pointed out.

Miss McArthur said the best experience and teachable moments often occur at unexpected times.

For example, children are captivated by the things of nature they can see in their yard. Their questions are a chance to share the wonder of God's creation, Waugh said.

However, the importance of lifestyle and teachable moments does not diminish the value of planned worship, prayer and Bible study times. The length and the structure of a family worship time must be tailored to meet the learning abilities and the needs of the children involved, Waugh said.

"The ideal is a 15- to 30-minute family worship time," he said. "But with young children that can be a most unworship-



David Meriwether uses a moment in the backyard of his home in Franklin, Tenn. to talk with three-year-old Laura about the wonder of nature. Children are captivated by the things of nature and their questions provide chances to share the wonder of God's creation, pointed out Philip Waugh, editor of "Living with Preschoolers."

ful time."

Mrs. Waldrop suggested involving young children by asking them to bring the Bible to the group, placing markers so they can turn to the passage or singing songs they know as ways to encourage involvement.

"Family devotionals are good only if the child feels he can be a part. The time needs to be a warm and loving time, rather than a structured, lengthy Bible study," he explained.

Music can be an aid for quiet times for family worship, said Bill Leach, manager of the preschool-children's section in the Church Music Department.

Children may be more willing to sing a prayer at meal times. Concepts children learn in songs often will be remembered clearly in adult years, Leach said.

In another area the leaders said parents, not churches, have the primary responsibility for the spiritual development of their children.

"God gave children to the parents, not to the church," said Bob Couch, consultant for weekday early education in the Church Administration Department.

"Spiritual development is a task given to the parents. The church must help parents know how to do it but parents don't give up their responsibility to the church. The church must supplement what the home does in helping children learn about God," Miss McArthur said.

The take-home leaflets from Sunday school and take-home periodicals such as "Beginning," "Living" and "Growing" provide stories, poems and songs related to Sunday school topics so parents can reinforce what the child has heard at church, Mrs. Waldrop said.

The Read-To-Me Bible produced by Holman Bible Publishers includes teaching pictures for preschoolers and

stories from the Bible written in terms the children can understand, Mrs. Waldrop pointed out.

The stories can be used for Bible times with younger children and help the child become comfortable with a Bible, she said.

The staff of "Home Life" is considering changes in the magazine's family devotional materials to better involve preschoolers and children, according to editor Charlie Warren.

Articles in "Living with Children" and "Living with Preschoolers" offer parents information about spiritual guidance, developmental stages, preparing for school and an overview of what children are studying in Sunday school.

Couple's parenting philosophy: planting seeds improves crop

by Terri Lackey

David and Ellen Griffin realize teaching their two sons about God and the Bible provides no ironclad guarantees about the future morality of their children.

But the couple believes conscientious planting usually improves crops.

"We realize all we can do is plant the seeds and that there comes a point when they are on their own," David Griffin said of his sons, Joshua, 10, and Jonathan, 5. "We want to give them a Christian basis and a system of values for making decisions later in their lives."

Each weekday evening following supper, the family gathers around the dinner table to study the Bible. The boys routinely memorize Bible verses and pray for missionaries.

Teaching their sons about prayer is important to this Georgetown, Tex. couple.

"We pray for missionaries, some of them our friends, and different people as situations arise," Ellen Griffin said. "We want to help the boys learn that God does answer prayers."

The Griffins say they believe it is their responsibility, not the church's, to teach their children about God.

"Home is the place where Christian values should be taught," Griffin said. "There is only so much that can be done at church with less than one hour to teach on Sunday mornings."

David Griffin is director of maintenance at First Baptist Church, Georgetown, where the family are members. Griffin also drives a school bus for Georgetown's public school system.

When selecting other materials for preschoolers and younger children, parents should avoid fantasies, Miss McArthur cautioned.

"There's nothing wrong with some good fun fantasy books," Sanders said. "But Bible stories shouldn't be presented in that way."

Videotapes also can be used to introduce Bible stories to children but should be presented factually and not with mythical characters.

Waugh said videos should not take the place of a Bible study time, but they may be used to prompt a discussion. He cited "The Pro Kids Show," a BTN Christian oriented variety program for children ages six through 12, as an option for home video use.

Ellen Griffin teaches Jonathan and Joshua at home in part "so we could teach the Bible and teach Christian values."

Because "society in general has abandoned traditional Christian family values," Griffin said, "we are doing our part in seeing those values are taught."

Just as with teaching their grade school studies, Mrs. Griffin said she has to be creative to capture the interest of her children in Bible study.

"To keep it interesting for the boys, we need more teaching tools than just the Bible," she said. "We use audio cassette tapes, magazines, games and music."

"They can definitely learn from music," said Mrs. Griffin who believes a memorized song or scripture verse is likely to be remembered and called upon during times of need in adulthood.

The Griffins said they often teach their sons about God by taking a real life learning situation and translating it into a Bible lesson.

Recently the family was forced to euthanize a dog they had had for many years.

"We used that as a teaching process to talk to them about death and how animals are different from people," Griffin said.

Griffin said the family often goes camping together and they are able to point out how "God creates complex and beautiful things."

Joshua and Jonathan's parents say all their work with the children would be fruitless if they did not live a Christian lifestyle and model good behavior for their sons.



Ellen, Jonathan, David and Joshua Griffin (l-r) study the Bible following supper each weekday evening.

SCENES FROM ONEIDA HOMECOMING



Oneida Marching Band preparatory to field show Homecoming Day, October 7, 1989.



Mario & Yvonne Combs Perri, Dearborn Heights, MI; Lucy Combs Murrell '46 (wife of Bruce Murrell '42), LeHigh Acres, FL; Oneida President Barkley Moore '58; Mary Ann Combs Baker, Somerset; Virginia Combs Wanitshka '43, Spring Hill, FL; Claire Ponder Combs, Dunnellon, FL, student of Oneida prior to W.W. I and mother of Yvonne, Lucy, Mary Ann, and Virginia.



Jesse, Katie, and parents Lynn Marie & Lynn Gritton, former OBI teachers, Lawrenceburg; Barry Williams '75, Stuart, FL, and his brother Sgt. Bruce Williams '78, Gainesville, FL back for Oneida Homecoming, October 7th.



Imon Mobley '50, Carlisle, OH and Maralea Arnett, OBI teacher 1948-52, Henderson, chat Homecoming day in newly dedicated "Maralea & Malcolm Arnett Hall", housing for Oneida staff "singles".



Betty & Harold Holderman, Elizabethtown, while being honored at Homecoming. The Holdermans served at Oneida 1959-72. Mr. Holderman was a teacher and also served as principal 1965-72. Mrs. Holderman served as Manager of the campus grill as well as assistant dean of girls.



Bill Cole, for whom new married housing was named and dedicated Homecoming Day, laughs with Anna Crum, age 94, of Ballardsville Baptist Church.

O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good; to him who alone doeth great wonders; to him that by wisdom made the heavens; to him that stretched out the earth above the waters; to him that made great lights; the sun to rule by day; the moon and stars to rule by night; O give thanks unto the God of heaven for his mercy endureth for ever.
Psalms 136



Matilda Hale Banks '49, Whitesburg; Betty Lou Webb '49 and husband, Bill Damrel, Winchester; Ray Brewster '55 and Ray's son, both of Louisville, in front of alumni registration table.



Harold Combs '45, Booneville, OBI teacher 1949-55, Principal and Dean of Boys 1962-64; Gilbert "Mutt" Samples, Burning Springs, teacher 1947-54, 1975-78, 1987 to present; Pat Hignite '57, Oneida, Manager of Friendship House and hostess of Anderson Hall; Carmon Davidson '56, Batavia, OH; Don Martin '56, Lakeland FL.



At Homecoming dinner were Roy Baker '50, Tipp City, OH; Laddie Joyce Gilbert '52, Pikeville; Coach Gilbert "Mutt" Samples; Marjorie Young Barrett '51, Somerset; Laura Samples, wife of Coach Samples, Burning Springs.

THANKS FOR AID IN FLOOD EMERGENCY

Oneida President Barkley Moore issued this statement today: "We are grateful for all who have responded to our losses through four floods in eight months. Rather than going out to buy potatoes for us, if you donate the same amount of money to us, we can buy many more potatoes or other food, as we buy wholesale, do not have the shipping costs, and do not have to pay taxes. With over 650 people to feed three times daily, we are grateful for all aid."