

Russellville votes wet or dry Mar. 16; Baptist support sought

by Betty Anderson
State Correspondent

Russellville citizens will have opportunity to again be a dry city Mar. 16. The town has been wet since 1983.

Laymen, banding together as Concerned Citizens Against Alcohol, have been intensifying their efforts as the day for the vote draws nearer. Meeting each Thursday night, the group began last fall with monthly sessions after submitting the necessary petition for calling the election. Last week they went door-to-door with handbills and signs.

While the group has not been pushing the religious issue of alcohol, its members are made up, for the most part, of individual church members from all denominations. The group has received some technical assistance from the Temperance League of Kentucky and has used office machines of Bethel-Logan Association.

Saturday, Mar. 10, at 2 p.m., Concerned Citizens members and support-

ers will march in downtown Russellville. Sunday at 2 p.m. a supporter from the state of Washington, Gene Amundson, will preach the famous Billy Sunday temperance message in DeGraffenreid Auditorium. He will also be preaching on radio and again Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the auditorium. To dramatize presentations, he dresses as the Grim Reaper.

Jerry Crawford, heading the citizens group, a local contractor and owner of Quality Construction Co., Russellville, asks the support of other Kentuckians through participation in the march. From the Lexington area the Kentucky Women's Christian Temperance Union has announced intentions to join the march.

Crawford feels the vote will be 2-1 in favor of returning to a dry status. In the 1983 campaign the election was lost by 152 votes. Eugene Reynolds, Bethel-Logan director of missions, also is optimistic.

Claude Witt, director of the Temperance League, emphasizes the need to get people out to vote. "It's no different

from a presidential or a governor's election. People have to get to the polls. The same apparatus (voting machine) is used."

Proponents for keeping Russellville wet cite the benefits voting 'yes' will bring. It will keep open seven liquor stores and 25 outlets—restaurants, supermarkets and convenience stores. Therefore, Logan counties won't have to drive to Bowling Green for alcohol. This, they say, has minimized alcohol-related wrecks in the county. Taxes from alcohol sales brought \$90,000 per year in revenue, but Reynolds says this money is used in paying four police officers. Legalized liquor sales will keep out bootleggers, supporters say, but Reynolds points out this has also proved untrue.

State police statistics show Russellville's drunken driving arrests to be up 200 percent. Total liquor-related arrests are up 300 percent when illegal sales and public drunkenness is included.

"When we get to the point in America we have to depend on revenue from

the most dangerous drug, we're in a terrible situation," Witt declared. He also noted president Bush's signing of a proclamation Dec. 11, 1989 declaring drunken driving a national crisis.

As Temperance League director, Witt is in Frankfort much of the time where Senate Bill 163, dealing with drunken driving, is under consideration. House Bill 115, aimed at destroying local option laws, has also been debated this session.

A recent Gallup poll, Witt pointed out, revealed 45 percent of those who claim to be Baptist drink. Of these homes, 25 percent have marital and family problems.

"We're doing a little bit, and the Lord's doing the rest," Crawford said of Concerned Citizens. Members of the group have contributed the bulk of needed funds themselves. Anyone wishing to contribute may write to the group, Concerned Citizens Against Alcohol, 205 Bethel Shopping Center, Russellville, KY 42276. For further information, call Crawford at (502) 726-8521 or Reynolds at (502) 726-2392.

western recorder

Kentucky Baptist Convention
Vol. 164, No. 10, March 6, 1990

Executive Committee says slash BJCPA to 13%

by Marv Knox

Southern Baptists will face a "clear alternative" regarding their religious liberty voice when they gather for their annual meeting this summer in New Orleans.

They will be asked to vote on two items—a new budget and a change in a program assignment—that would move the Southern Baptist Convention's primary religious liberty/First Amendment platform from the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs to the Christian Life Commission.

The proposals were approved by the SBC Executive Committee during its winter meeting Feb. 19-20 in Nashville.

The financial recommendation contains a \$341,796 reduction in SBC budget funds allocated to the Baptist Joint Committee, a nine-denomination religious liberty organization in Washington. The proposal would drop the convention's contribution to the BJC from \$391,796 to \$50,000, a 87.24 percent reduction.

It also includes a \$365,328 increase in funding for the Christian Life Commission, the convention's Nashville-based moral concerns agency, which has a Washington office. The CLC would get \$1,262,836, a 40.70 percent gain from the current \$897,508. The increase is comprised of the 1.89 percent growth in the overall SBC budget, plus funds that would be transferred from the BJC.

The budget proposal will be paired with a recommendation that would

change the CLC's program assignment, allowing it to address religious liberty issues as well as Christian social ethics.

The combined proposals represent "the clearest alternative...concerning how we will do our religious liberty work," said David E. Hankins, chairman of the Executive Committee's business and finance subcommittee and pastor from Lake Charles, La.

The BJC has been a point of contention within the convention most of the past decade.

Detractors have said the BJC is too liberal, faulting it for not supporting school prayer and antiabortion amendments, as well as not siding with them on several legislative issues. They also have said it is not as accountable to the SBC as it should be and that the SBC provides a disproportionate share of BJC funding.

Supporters have said the BJC strictly upholds the historic Baptist belief in church-state separation and cannot get involved in moral concerns except as they involve religious liberty. They have said it is accountable to the SBC through its trustees, more than one-third Southern Baptist, and that the SBC's level of financial support is fair because of the comparative sizes of the SBC and the eight other Baptist denominations.

The alternatives have been less than clear, Executive Committee members noted. Three special committees have studied the BJC since 1986 and messengers to SBC annual meetings have turned back efforts to defund the BJC.

The Executive Committee has proposed and rescinded plans for creating an SBC Religious Liberty Commission. At the winter meeting the Executive Committee defeated a plan to more than quadruple the budget of the SBC Public Affairs Committee—the 18-member committee through which the convention relates to the BJC—which would have given PAC members a more active role in addressing religious liberty.

The latest alternative—increased funding and an expanded program assignment for the CLC; decreased funding for the BJC—will take effect when the convention's fiscal year begins next October, if a majority of messengers to the New Orleans annual meeting agree. Longtime observers predicted BJC defenders will have an uphill battle, since an Executive Committee budget proposal has not been overturned in decades.

The Executive Committee decided to publish an eight-page statement drafted by its officers that gives a rationale for making the change. They later agreed to allow publication of a minority report that is to defend sustaining the level of BJC support.

The statements will be published in the May issue of The Baptist Program, the Executive Committee's magazine; in the "Book of Reports" and "Daily Bulletin," which will be given to messengers to the New Orleans meeting; and in a brochure, which will be available upon request from the Executive Committee, 901 Commerce St., Nashville, TN 37203. (BP)

Related story, page 14

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March 6, 1990

Are you moving?
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Cindy Kline (c), member of East Toledo (Oh.) Baptist Church, works with youth in the church. She enlists some to help at her printing business, to experience working in a Christian environment. With her are Janelle O'Hara (l) and her sister, Melissa. Life Commitment Month in April encourages youth to consider career options with Christian service.

HERE'S HOPE INSIDE

- **FRONTLINE:** Call to evangelism won't come up short
- **State Evangelism Conference:** Over 1400 attend Here's Hope kickoff

in the interim

Executive Committee's decision on BJCPA sets off tremors

Meeting two weeks ago in Nashville, the SBC Executive Committee set off tremors in the SBC through its action on the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs. The committee approved the previously announced proposal to cut that group's Cooperative Program allocation from \$396,781 to \$50,000. The funds cut from BJCPA were redirected to the Public Affairs Committee and the Christian Life Commission. The only surprise in the action was that the PAC received only \$25,000 with the rest going to the CLC. This recommendation, which was passed on to the SBC annual meeting in New Orleans this summer, has a number of ominous effects.

The most obvious effect of this decision is that it will further polarize an already deeply divided convention. This recommendation guarantees that the New Orleans meeting will be characterized by a spirit of division. The issue of the BJCPA will be used by both sides as a rallying cry for attendance and votes. Both sides will describe New Orleans as a crucial meeting. This proposal may even loom larger than the contested presidential race between Morris Chapman and Daniel Vestal. For several years, the SBC has turned down drastic proposals concerning the Baptist Joint Committee. The issue, however, continues to be brought before Southern Baptists even though its sponsors know it will be divisive. By their action, the Executive Committee contributed to the division rather than helping lessen it.

If the recommendation passes in New Orleans, other effects can be expected. The sponsors of this attack on the BJCPA undoubtedly believe that this reduction of funds will lessen its effectiveness as a spokesman for Southern Baptists on issues of church and state. True, these cuts will set off a crisis for the BJCPA. However, the crisis will be temporary and not permanent. The BJCPA has such wide and deep support in the convention that its future will not be in doubt. It will survive because Southern Baptists, acting as individuals and as churches, will see to it that sufficient funds are made available to keep the BJCPA ship afloat. What's more, these same folks will continue to identify with it as their representatives in matters of church and state. A side casualty of this development will be the CLC. This respected agency did not ask for or promote its new assignment in matters of religious liberty and church and state. Many Southern Baptists, loyal to the BJCPA, will be critical of the CLC in its new assignment. If the idea of the Executive Committee is to mute or destroy the BJCPA as a force in Southern Baptist life, that objective will fail.

A more serious effect is that this proposal, if passed, will for the first time place a substantive issue of the division within the SBC before the state conventions. The real earthquake will hit this fall at state convention meetings when supporters of the BJCPA will bring recommendations to their states for direct funding to supplement this cut in SBC funds. This is a prospect absolutely unneeded. No one can predict the results in each state, but a patchwork quilt of alternative funding schemes may result. The BJCPA issue may be the spark that sets confrontational fires in the various states. No one in his right mind wants this to happen, but the Executive Committee's recommendation will result in the enlargement of the crisis. Until this moment, the crisis in the denomination has been one of national leadership and policy. Only rarely has it surfaced in the various states. But now, the Executive Committee has set the stage for an intensification of the controversy.

What troubles many dedicated Southern Baptists is that the continued attacks on the BJCPA appear to have the character of a personal vendetta against James Dunn. The record of the BJCPA in its service to Southern Baptists is clear. This little group, underfunded and understaffed, has helped our institutions and agencies save millions of dollars through its intervention on various tax and retirement matters. This little group has assisted state conventions and saved thousands of dollars in legal fees. This little group is the most highly respected church-state agency in Washington with a record of positive and helpful contacts with all levels of government. This little group has remained loyal to the Baptist ideal of separation of church and state. And therein lies the rub: current leadership of the SBC has a different philosophy of church-state relations than our historic position. In their view, the BJCPA must go because it simply refuses to give in to this new philosophy. Southern Baptists should be standing up and cheering for this little beleaguered group that refuses to yield on traditional ideas.

What to do? Messengers in New Orleans will be well advised to defeat the Executive Committee's recommendation. They should do it for the sake of peace. The issues in this recommendation are far larger than the role of the BJCPA; they are as large as the Cooperative Program itself. The tremors set off by the ill-conceived Executive Committee's recommendation could result in earthquakes more serious than anything we have experienced in the last eleven years.

Richard W. Bridges

western recorder

(ISSN 0043-4132)

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Western Recorder is published weekly by Western Recorder Inc., Box 43969, Middletown, Ky., except for one week in July and December. Second class postage paid at Louisville, Ky.

Postmaster: Send address changes to Western Recorder, Box 43969, Middletown, KY 40253.

Subscriptions: Single, \$7.88; foreign, \$8.50; church budget, \$6.00. Payable in advance, except church accounts, which require tax exemption number.

Advertising: Rates available upon request. Institutional columns on an inside page are paid space.

Directors: Richard Bridges, Bowling Green, chairman; Greg Earwood, Murray, vice chairman; Glenn Mollette, Pikeville, secretary; Bill Crosby, Erlanger; Denzel Dukes, Paducah; Glenn Durham, Harlan; Paul Godsey, Burlington; Garnett Hulette, Frankfort; Don Mantooh, Morehead; Isaac McDonald, Hodgenville; John Searcy, Franklin; George Smith, Leitchfield.

Conservatives map strategy to win at SBC

More than 250 conservatives from 21 states mapped strategy in Atlanta Feb. 22 for the election of Morris Chapman as next president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Chapman, pastor of First Baptist Church, Wichita Falls, Tex., recently announced his willingness to be nominated. John Bisagno, pastor of First Baptist Church, Houston, said he plans to nominate his fellow Texan as the conservative standard bearer.

The 256 conservative pastors and laypeople were invited to the meeting by Charles Stanley, pastor of First Baptist Church, Atlanta, and former president of the SBC.

Another former SBC president, Adrian Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., presided over the gathering, and current SBC president Jerry Vines, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Fla., gave greetings to participants over a telephone hookup.

"The meeting was to reaffirm our goals and directions," said Fred Powell, senior associate pastor of the Atlanta church and organizer of the gathering.

"We wanted to assess the situation as to where we are and what we can expect in New Orleans," site of the 1990 annual meeting of the SBC, Rogers told Baptist Press.

"There were three basic things we feel we need to do," he added. "First, we need to refocus the issue on the Word of God. The central issue is the Bible. It is not a matter of separation of church and state, the priesthood of the believer, women ministers or anything else, as important as they might be.

"The issue is...the theological issue, and the heart of the theological issue is Holy Scripture. We need to keep the focus on that, because there are those who are trying to shift the issue.

"The second thing is the duplicity of the moderates (who are) crying out

against political maneuvering and who are doing more and at greater expense than has ever been done."

He quoted a statement made by moderate candidate Daniel Vestal, pastor of Dunwoody Baptist Church in suburban Atlanta, that politics is "immoral" and said: "There is talk of exorbitant amounts of money being spent...with flying around, whistle stops, organizations with paid full time workers.

"I don't say they don't have the right to spend their money; the point is they are doing the very thing they decry so much."

The third point of the meeting, Rogers said, "was that we talked about Morris Chapman and that he is indeed the one we felt was surfaced after prayer and discussion. Fred Wolfe was there and very much encouraged support for Morris as the candidate."

"Little rumors have been floating that Fred (Wolfe) was bypassed for Morris (Chapman). The moderates would like to believe there is division in our camp but assurance was given there is none."

Wolfe, pastor of Cottage Hill Baptist Church, Mobile, Ala., at first surfaced as the conservative candidate, but withdrew a few days before his candidacy officially was to be announced.

Wolfe told Baptist Press he "spoke a word on behalf of Morris. He is God's man...and I think he will be the man to lead us."

The meeting, according to Wolfe, was "very positive. It did not deal in personalities. It was not a bash Dan Vestal meeting; it was an informative meeting for people involved in the conservative movement."

Powell said the meeting "wasn't so much a pep rally for Morris (Chapman) as to keep our act straight, to keep on target."

Chapman was called a "thoroughbred conservative" by Rogers, who urged participants to "get behind God's

man."

Rogers told the gathering, "I believe we will see in New Orleans the greatest victory ever seen" (for the conservatives), and added that another conservative victory—to go with 11 years of electing conservative presidents—will mean an end to the SBC conflict.

However, he added, "Conservatives realize they cannot take anything for granted and will do everything they can to have every messenger possible present in New Orleans."

James Hefley, a freelance writer from Hannibal, Mo., told the Word and Way, newsjournal of the Missouri Baptist Convention, Stanley announced to the gathering he will nominate Richard Lee, pastor of Rehoboth Baptist Church in suburban Atlanta, for vice president. Hefley said several other names were discussed but no candidate agreed on.

Hefley also said conservative leaders expressed concern about the announcement of Carolyn Weatherford Crumpler as moderate candidate for first vice president. He said fear was expressed she would attempt to establish a precinct type organization in each state through Woman's Missionary Union since she is the former executive director of the WMU SBC.

Leaders pledged to monitor WMU to make sure it is not used for political purposes, Hefley said.

In addition to Stanley, Rogers, Wolfe and Vines, the gathering also was addressed by Paul Pressler, a Houston appeals court judge and vice chairman of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee.

"The judge reported on the recent (Feb. 19-20) meeting of the Executive Committee and the actions taken regarding the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs," Rogers said.

Also announced during the meeting, the Memphis pastor said, was establishment of a new publication, The Southern Baptist Communicator. (BP)



James H. Cox
Associate Editor

fourth estate

Tampering with time

I was reading the newsletter of First Baptist Church, Paducah, last November when a most innovative idea caught my attention. An article noted that, because so many church members travel over the long Thanksgiving holiday weekend, most of them leaving town on Wednesday, midweek activities for that week only were being rescheduled for Tuesday night. In fact, that was the third year the church had done that.

What an ingenious plan! Choirs could continue rehearsing Christmas music without missing a beat; the family fellowship supper so many enjoy was not interrupted; prayer meeting, teacher training, mission activities and the like could go on with a normal "crowd" instead of a "skeleton crew."

I wondered: Couldn't the timing be altered for other similar occasions to better accommodate the schedules and plans of even more people?

Years ago I heard of a church which turned the annual shifts to and from Daylight Savings Time to benefit church members. The dilemma of deciding whether to move clocks ahead or behind was resolved when everybody went to Sunday school at their customary hour. At the close of the worship service following Sunday school, everybody reset their watches together—an hour forward or backward.

Some congregations have large numbers who frequently travel on Monday holiday weekends. This is especially true at Memorial Day and Labor Day observances. To avoid lower attendance at Sunday night services on those weekends why not postpone Sunday night activities until Monday night? People may prefer gathering for a late afternoon picnic with vesper service and maybe other outdoor activities at the holiday weekend's close.

When Independence Day falls between Tuesday and Thursday an outing might be substituted for the midweek activities.

If Halloween threatens a traditional church meeting night (Sunday or Wednesday), consider rescheduling church activities one night earlier or later to avoid low response.

Nowhere is it engraved in stone that Baptists must pray at a certain hour on Wednesday night or observe Discipleship Training on Sunday evening or worship at 11 o'clock on Sunday morning.

The clock can be your ally. Offering people creative alternatives to time-honored ways they've always done things could strengthen their participation rather than diminish it.

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

Near tragedy reflections

I would like to reflect on the carbon monoxide poisoning incident introduced in the Feb. 6 issue of Western Recorder.

Such events are not meant to be morbidly dwelt upon but to let this pass by without reflection would be poor stewardship.

1. I had a confidence that whatever happened the Lord would take care of me and my family. There was a freedom from worrying about the things I could not control, a confidence that things were under his lordship. But the fact that life could end at any time does make me want to be more conscious of making each moment count and each contact with others more meaningful. Perhaps there are some additional things here he would like to do through me. Unfinished work? If so, then I am

probably on his list of unfinished projects!

2. My family and friends are going to be more precious to me. In the selfishness of my sometimes workaholic preoccupation with the ministry of serving and encouraging others (which may sometimes be best translated as "needing to be needed"), family and friends often take a back burner. I am now making more quality time for my family and others around me.

3. Our near tragedy became a temporary distraction in the selection process. In fact, it might have been good preparation for being a summer missionary. Certainly a summer missionary must "hang tough" for the duration.

4. This was my first experience under the care of the Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) and I hope my last. But I am impressed with their prompt grasp of the situation and their

very competent care. We were in good hands.

I am thankful there is a God who is willing to share our crises and our celebrations. He wants to call us "his family" and "his friends!" I am also thankful to be part of a church and a community that cares and doesn't mind showing it.

Gene Parr
Baptist campus minister
Morehead (Ky.) State University

Thanks for approach

I seldom write letters to those who write letters but I felt I must tell you how much I appreciated your "In the interim" article in Western Recorder Jan. 30. Your straight forward yet loving approach to the matter is the kind of strategy that may one day save our convention from a major division. I pray so anyway. Thank you for your interim leadership at the Recorder and also thank you for sharing some of your Spirit-lead wisdom with us!

James R. Ruby
Lexington

baptist news briefs

BHF
BAPTIST HOSPITALS FOUNDATION



Preconceived ideas

"He doesn't know what he's talking about! She couldn't be right! Look where she works! Don't trust him! His religious ideas are far out! You must be kidding! What do they know? He comes from the wrong side of town!"

We have all heard statements like these, aimed at individuals that, in some cases, we hardly know. Preconceived ideas have caused us, sometimes, to make wrong decisions. Preconceived ideas have often stood in the way of the truth. I am sure there are preconceived ideas about Baptist Hospitals Foundation. Hopefully those will be clarified by this column.

FACT: Baptist Hospitals Foundation is committed to assisting the Baptist Hospitals of Kentucky in providing the best care possible in a Christian environment. Western Baptist Hospital, Paducah; Central Baptist Hospital, Lexington; Baptist Hospital East, Louisville; and Baptist Regional Medical Center, Corbin treat over 1000 inpatients daily in the name of Jesus.

FACT: The Sunday School Charity Fund can help indigent care patients only if you contribute through your church or send your check directly to us. The Kentucky Baptist Convention has designated Mother's Day as a special offering. Patients need your help all year long.

FACT: Jesus and his ministries are at the center of Baptist Hospitals Foundation's daily activities. Dedicated board members and management work toward informing interested persons about the needs they can help satisfy.

FACT: We have volumes of information that are yours free for the asking: *Life Insurance; The New Tax Shelter, Planning Your Bequest, Estate Planning for the 21st Century, Investment and Taxes.*

FACT: We welcome your letters, requests, phone calls, encouragements and criticisms. Without your input we would be unable to match the needs of the hospitals while also assisting you.

FACT: The Foundation wants you to pray for the management teams, doctors, staffs and patients. Your kindness can be expressed with gifts that have and will make a difference in the life of others.

Any questions or comments concerning this article, Baptist Hospitals, Inc., or Baptist Hospitals Foundation, should be directed to Charles W. Cox, Jr., Vice President of Baptist Hospitals Foundation, BHI Corporate Complex, 4007 Kresge Way, Louisville, KY 40207 (502) 896-5000.

Media library seminar set for Nashville

A national media library seminar has been announced for Nashville, Tenn., Mar. 22-24.

Registration may be made by mailing a \$60 registration fee for each person to Church Program Training Center, Box 24001, Nashville, TN 37203. Hotel information will be provided to registrants.

State single challenge features an open 'DOOR'

Among the many scheduled program leaders for the Apr. 20-22 Kentucky Single Challenge, the state single adult convention which will meet at the Holiday Inn South in Louisville, is Silent Touch, a signing-singing ensemble of deaf persons from DOOR (Deaf Opportunity Out Reach). DOOR is now nationally-based in Louisville.

Silent Touch is an evangelistic team which engages in concerts, workshops, visitation and witnessing. The group, which is comprised of mainly single adults, has performed at Ridgecrest, Glorieta, the May 1988 Southern Baptist Singles Convention in Nashville, the 1989 National Acteens Conference in San Antonio, Tex., Deaf Way in Washington, D. C., the Southern Baptist Conference on the Deaf, as well as several state conventions.

DOOR is a nonprofit organization which is affiliated with the Home Mission Board's Mission Service Corp. All its members are volunteer.

Registration for Kentucky Single Challenge is \$20 per person before Mar. 20 or \$25 after that date.

For additional details, contact the

Family Ministry Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, Box 43433, Middlesboro, KY 40253.

Virginia Baptists meet SBC liaison committee

Virginia Baptists and members of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee liaison committee met for more than four hours Feb. 19 before deciding another meeting is needed to further discuss issues of concern.

The dialog session stemmed from a "Memorial from the Messengers of the 1988 Baptist General Association of Virginia to the Messengers of the 1989 Southern Baptist Convention," which expressed five issues for SBC consideration and response.

During the 1989 annual meeting of the SBC, the memorial was referred to the Executive Committee, which established an eight-member liaison committee to receive "any and all such communications for consideration ..."

In its September 1989 meeting, the liaison committee adopted a statement, prepared by its chairman, Julian Motley, pastor of Gorman Baptist Church, Durham, N. C., which set out parameters of its work, but did not, during that meeting, meet with the Virginia representatives.

In the February meeting, the 10 members of the Virginia denominational crisis committee plus two state denominational workers met with the eight-member liaison committee to discuss the five points of concern, as well as the parameters established by the liaison committee in September.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Motley reported to the Executive Committee: "The committee engaged in substantial dialog in an open, forthright

and conciliatory atmosphere and shared mutual expressions of appreciation at the close of the meeting for the spirit and manner in which the discussions were held.

"It was the consensus of the joint group that further dialog should be scheduled and plans were initiated to arrange another meeting ... The liaison committee, in a subsequent meeting, took steps toward the preparation of a substantive response to the issues raised ..."

After polling the members of the two committees, the two groups will convene another dialog session either May 14-15 in Nashville, or immediately prior to the 1990 annual meeting of the SBC, on June 9, in New Orleans. (BP)

Exec Committee budget drains BJCPA allocation

The Southern Baptist Executive Committee has proposed a \$137 million unified budget for the convention's 1990-91 fiscal year.

The \$137,332,523 Cooperative Program allocation budget will be presented to messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in New Orleans this summer. If approved, it will go into effect Oct. 1.

The Executive Committee ratified the proposal during its winter meeting in Nashville Feb. 19-20.

The proposed Cooperative Program allocation budget goal is 1.89 percent larger than the current \$134,787,543 goal. The new goal is based on actual Cooperative Program receipts for the latest fiscal year completed, which ended last Sept. 30.

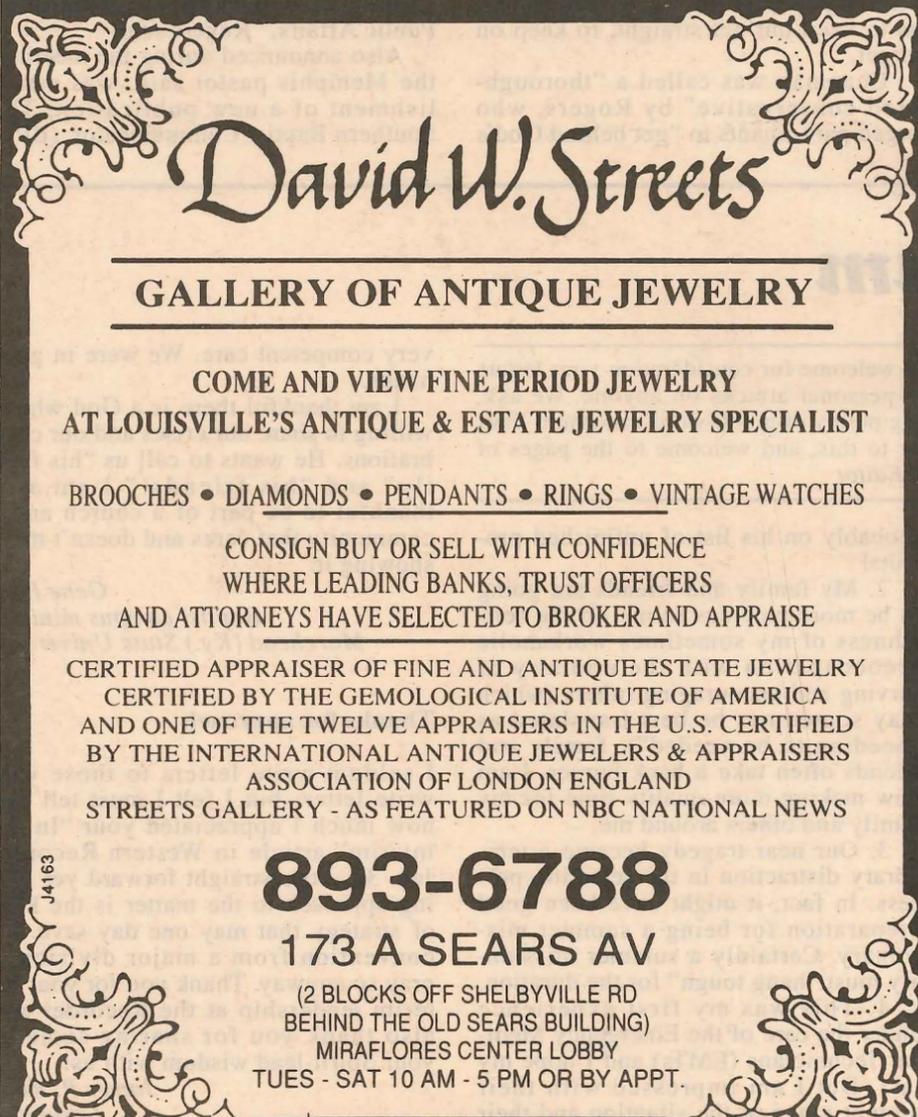
The Cooperative Program is disbursed to three boards, six seminaries, one foundation and seven commissions. Five other organizations receive funds through the convention's operating budget, which is funded by the Cooperative Program. All but four of the recipients are to receive 1.89 percent increases.

Three exceptions involve changes in the way the Executive Committee proposes to finance the convention's efforts on behalf of religious liberty. The budget includes an increase of \$1296, or 5.47 percent, to the SBC Public Affairs Committee, bringing the allocation to \$25,000; a decrease of \$341,796, or 87.24 percent, to the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, lowering its total to \$50,000; and an increase of \$365,328, or 40.70 percent, to the SBC Christian Life Commission, raising its allocation to \$1,262,836.

The other exception is Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Mill Valley, Calif. It is to receive a \$48,872, or 1.76 percent, increase which will bring its allocation to \$2,833,413. Golden Gate's base increase is 1.89 percent, but it did not get an increase on the \$200,000-per-year special allocation it is to get for five years.

Except for the discussion on the budget and some program assignment changes involved with the religious liberty issue, the Executive Committee approved 29 items in 35 minutes. (BP)

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David W. Streets

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Retired editor Owen succumbs in Nashville

Richard N. Owen, former longtime editor of Baptist and Reflector, news-journal of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, died Feb. 26 in Nashville.

Owen was editor of the Tennessee paper from 1950 to 1968, when he retired. He was 91.

Previously he was pastor of churches in Milan, Elizabethton, Paris and Clarksville, Tenn.

He was a native of Covington, Tenn. and was a graduate of the University of Tennessee at Knoxville and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

He is survived by a son, Richard N. Owen Jr. of Nashville, and a sister, Elizabeth O. Sims of Richland, Ga. (BP)

Westbury again PR man at Union University

Joe Westbury, associate director of news and information for the Home Mission Board, has been named director of public relations at Union University, Jackson, Tenn.

Westbury, who has been a news writer for the Atlanta-based missions agency four years, returned to the Tennessee Baptist school March 1.

A Union graduate, he was formerly director of public relations for the school from 1976 to 1983.

The Orlando, Fla. native began his career as a news reporter and religion editor for The Jackson Sun before joining the Union staff. He later was associate editor and the editor of World Mission Journal for the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission in Memphis, Tenn. During his years at the HMB he also was associate editor of MissionsUSA magazine. (BP)

WMU executive director welcomes 'monitoring'

Woman's Missionary Union executive director Dellanna W. O'Brien said Feb. 28 she welcomes monitoring of WMU.

Southern Baptist Convention conservative leaders, during a meeting in Atlanta Feb. 22, expressed concern that Carolyn Weatherford Crumpler, an announced candidate for SBC first vice president, would use her position as former national executive director of WMU to establish a "precinct type organization in each state through WMU," according to James Hefley, a meeting participant.

Conservative leaders pledged to monitor WMU to make sure it is not used "for political purposes," Hefley said.

"I welcome any and all people who want to monitor WMU for any purpose," Mrs. O'Brien said. "I am confident that once individuals completely monitor our organization their commitment to missions—not controversy—will be challenged." (BP)

1990 VBS ASSOCIATIONAL CLINICS

| Association | Date |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Allen | May 7 |
| Bell | May 22 and 24 |
| Bethel & Logan | April 30 |
| Blackford | May 3 |
| Blood River | May 7 and 8 |
| Caldwell/Lyon | May 7 |
| Christian | May 8 |
| Crittenden | April 23 |
| Daviess-McLean | May 8 |
| Franklin | May 8 |
| Graves County | April 23 |
| Green Valley | May 14 (two clinics) |
| Greenup | May 1, 3, 7 |
| Henry County | May 7 |
| Laurel River | May 5 |
| Little Bethel | April 10 and 11 |
| Little River | May 14 |
| Monroe | May 8 |
| Northern Kentucky | May 7 and 15 |
| Ohio County | May 17 |
| Ohio River | May 7 |
| Ohio Valley | May 15 |
| Pulaski | April 30 |
| Pike | April 30 and May 1 |
| Russell Creek | May 3 |
| Three Forks | May 8 |
| Warren | April 17 |
| Wayne County | May 14 |
| West Union | May 7 |

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FOR LOCATION AND TIMES

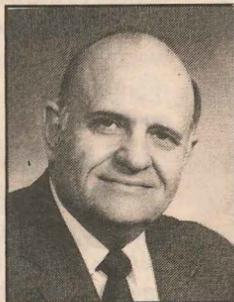
Kentuckiana Global Mission Rally

March 13, 1990

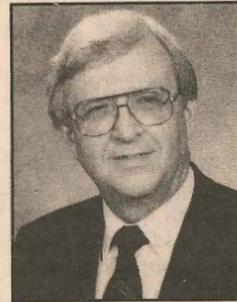
Southern Seminary Alumni Chapel

7:30 p.m.

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President,
Foreign Mission Board



Roy L. Honeycutt
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- Youth considering missions service
- Adults contemplating volunteer or career missions

Some said it was a miracle

by LaVerne Arnold

It was the time of day when the glowing red sun was beginning to soften, sending out fluffy streaks of brilliant pinks and purples across a lazy blue sky. It was sunset over the rolling waters of the mighty Atlantic Ocean as it bathed the coast of The Gambia, West Africa—yet it was sunrise.

Let me explain.

Making their way down the sandy incline to the ocean on a Sunday afternoon in September was a happy line of men and women on their way to be baptized by missionaries Bill Arnold and Donald Davis. The time was 5:30 p.m.; friends and relatives had been told in advance to meet at this spot on the beach because this was not to be a normal happening in The Gambia Sunday afternoon on this tourist-laden beach. Seven Muslim men and two Muslim women who had been hearing the gospel under a large mango tree with Baptist Mandinka Language Fellowship had publicly declared their personal faith in Jesus Christ; one newlywed couple had asked for baptism and church membership in Glory Baptist Fellowship, coming from different denominational backgrounds in their native land of Ghana.

So it was to the beat of a drum by a Gambian Christian and the singing of "He is Lord" that the miracle happened, that this group of believers one by one went under the baptismal ocean water at sunset, to come forth and find that it was sunrise in their souls—a new day, a new beginning, a new adventure with Jesus as Lord of their lives.

Sam Annor, 32, was the fifth child of seven children born to a cocoa farmer in Ghana, West Africa. Annor lived in The Gambia, where he taught mathematics at The Gambia High School in the capital city of Banjul. His mother died when he was only 12, but not before she gained a promise from her husband that young Annor would have a proper education. He attended a prestigious Catholic institution, graduating in 1976 with a strong desire to continue his education in America. However, he was compelled to do one year of national service at Nkwatia Secondary School in Ghana before continuing his formal education. It was here that he first saw his wife, Victoria, a student.

Mrs. Annor, the daughter of a police officer in Accra, Ghana, was noticeably "attractive, intelligent and absolutely respectful," reported Annor. "When I first told her that I would like to marry her when she finished school, she immediately stopped talking to me and persistently ignored me. I knew she was doing this out of shyness, so I continued to be gentle with her."

After moving to the United States and conducting six years of courtship through the mail Annor returned to Ghana and eventually married Mrs. Annor. He brought her to Glory Baptist Fellowship in The Gambia. Annor had already been many times to the home of missionaries Bill and LaVerne Arnold, sharing his questions about Jesus and the need for Christ in his life. After praying with pastor Arnold for the Lord to have complete control of his life, Annor expressed his desire to become an active member of the church. Mrs. Annor expressed the same desire and so became the first to step out into the

oncoming tide for baptism that Sunday afternoon.

Modou Bojang was sitting in a bedroom of the home of missionaries John and Emily Lorch studying scriptures when he gave his heart to Christ. Yusupha Jammeh believed while attending a Christmas presentation at the Mandinka service. Ousman Badjie had still a different story.

Badjie was the tall, very thin Gambian watchman at the Baptist Community Center in Serrekunda, The Gambia. Every day he opened the gates to men, women, boys and girls as they came to participate in many different programs aimed at their mental and spiritual awakening. Missionary Donald Davis was the vocational training instructor as well as the pastor of Mandinka Language Fellowship. Davis "practiced" his Mandinka sermon each week on a friend at the center who also knew English, unaware that watchman Badjie was listening to every Mandinka word.

One day pastor Davis was listing the names of those attending the Mandinka services in a small spiral notebook. Suddenly Badjie asked, "Is my name in your book?"

"No, it is not," Davis responded, "but since you hear the sermon each week here I suppose I could write your name in this little book."

Several weeks later Davis was overjoyed when Badjie stopped him and said, "I want to be a Christian." Badjie accepted Jesus into his Muslim heart. His name was recorded in the book of life.

Badjie, previously solemn and sad-faced as he opened the gates for center members, afterward showed a toothless grin as he greeted people with "Yesu chi biir" (Jesus inside), pointing to his heart.

So it happened that sunrise came at sunset on an afternoon in The Gambia—indeed a miracle which will live on in the lives of these 11 believers as they begin each new sunrise with Jesus.

Bill and LaVerne Arnold were appointed missionaries to Ghana in 1956 where they served until 1967. They were reappointed to Nigeria in 1984, serving there as mission treasurer and mission secretary until 1988 when they were transferred to The Gambia. During the years between mission work Arnold was business manager at Highlands Baptist Hospital and Baptist Hospital East. Mrs. Arnold is the former LaVerne Hutchens, of Bowling Green. They attended Georgetown (Ky.) College and Arnold is a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

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HERE'S HOPE TODAY

Kentucky's Baptist Women "not just sitting around"

by Suzanne Darland
State Correspondent

Look through *Here's Hope*. *Jesus cares for you* Home Mission Board materials and you won't find Woman's Missionary Union mentioned once.

But without an army of WMU members in churches, the simultaneous revival effort won't be nearly as successful, maintains Carol Noffsinger, state WMU consultant.

"We're not just sitting around and praying," she intoned.

WMU members are urged to participate in *Here's Hope* in five ways:

- People search/scripture distribution.
- Cultivation. Adults and teenagers are asked to make a public commitment to pray for and visit on a regular basis with individuals, with a goal of bringing them to Christ during the revivals.
- Personal witness training.
- Evangelistic visitation. Adults and teens are urged to participate in evangelistic witnessing, and serve as counselors during the revivals.
- New church/Sunday school member events. The WMU is asked to schedule a June event to welcome prospective members reached through the revival.

While the state office and mission magazines have promoted these activities, "the involvement varies from association to association and church to church," commented Miss Noffsinger.

In Long Run Association, the WMU sponsored a personal witnessing conference Feb. 10 that drew 120 women

and 25 Acteens.

"WMU members are doing whatever needs to be done in their churches," noted Long Run associational WMU director Linda Sorenson. "They're putting together prospect lists and searching for avenues to not just invite people to church, but to truly meet the Lord."

She noted this year's WMU theme, *Reach, Teach and Touch in His Name*, "ties in with *Here's Hope*" perfectly.

Ann Moffett, WMU director for First Church, Shelbyville, used her WMU connections to lead successful prayer retreats in her capacity as prayer chairman for Shelby County Association's steering committee.

Five prayer sessions were held for women in various churches in September and October, then an associational prayer breakfast was held Jan. 13.

Almost a year ago she contacted "trusted women" in each of the association's 25 churches, asking them to find four others in their church to commit to the Daniel Prayer Team plan promoted by the Home Mission Board for the simultaneous revivals.

From those contacts, almost 1000 cards were sent from the association signifying individual participation in the prayer plan.

She crafted the prayer sessions to emphasize personal reflection. "Thank goodness for WMU training," she chuckled, "there were no directions from the HMB." Participants received envelopes directing them to spend time quietly contemplating their day. She

led in group and private prayer.

"I wanted them to leave in a spirit of prayer," she explained.

Associational WMU members provided breakfast for the coed January prayer meeting for 76.

The associational Baptist Women's director is in charge of Elkhorn Association's prayer breakfast in April, said Jane Allison, Elkhorn's WMU director. She added that it's one of the largest and most important associationwide activities connected with *Here's Hope*.

She said the association's WMU has also encouraged women to be active in their church's revival plans.

"Every meeting we've had for more than a year we've promoted the Daniel Prayer Plan and encouraged WMU ladies to help in their churches," echoed Ann Harmon, WMU director for the Shelby County Association.

"We've left it up to each church, but we're encouraged."

First Church, Shelbyville, recently combined WMU Focus Week, traditionally held each February, with a commitment service for the *Here's Hope* revivals.

"This was the first time women were involved in the worship experience," noted Mrs. Moffett.

At the invitation, members received a *Here's Hope* logo pin in exchange for a commitment to pray and participate in the church's people search and scripture distribution events.

"It was a tremendous experience, a spiritual, moving service," she added.

HMB vp encourages use of 'total penetration' for *Here's Hope* revival effort

by Mary Royals Driskill
Editorial Assistant

More than 60 directors of missions and directors of evangelism attended one of several dialog lunches during the state evangelism conference Feb. 27. Darrell Robinson, vice president, Evangelism Section, Home Mission Board, Atlanta, was the speaker.

Robinson said he is seeing a "movement back to God" around the nation. He noted three things as his "heart-beat" of concern to see America return to God: we need a spirit of revival power, a strategy for reaching people and a structure for renewing priorities.

Robinson urged the directors to mobilize the local church for reaching the lost. He emphasized the need for "total penetration of an area and involving the people in total participation." Total penetration, he explained, is to saturate an area with evangelistic efforts. Total participation is not everyone visiting but everyone being involved.

Setting priorities for evangelism is a matter of making decisions on three issues: time, money and people.

"We have an event mentality," Robinson stressed, "rather than long range plans and strategies (for evangelism). Everybody in the church can be involved in reaching people."

"The team is in place to reach every person in the United States for Christ tonight," Robinson suggested.

Vocational evangelists endangered species?

by Denise Spencer
State Correspondent

Junior Hill, vocational evangelist from Hartselle, Ala., spoke at a dialog luncheon for vocational evangelists Feb. 27 in Louisville.

Keeping his message brief, he brought several points for discussion:

- The vocational evangelist must be impeccable in character.
- The vocational evangelist must be submissive in following God's leading.
- The vocational evangelist must pray earnestly for God to use him.

Hill pointed out that vocational evangelists come under close scrutiny, not only from the laity but from other ministers as well. "When we leave a church we must be careful to leave an unspotted, untainted testimony." He talked of being sensitive to God's leadership and faithful in the small things one is asked to do. An evangelist should seek success on God's terms, not by worldly standards.

During the discussion Hill encouraged his audience to remember the vocational evangelist has particular gifts to be used in the body of Christ. He acknowledged "evangelists are primarily reapers." As such, they must respect those who have planted and watered before them. Hill remarked, "A guy really needs to be careful when he goes to a church that he puts himself under the leadership of that pastor."

Hill admitted, "It's a very difficult day for vocational evangelists." He cited underlying financial worries the self-employed evangelist faces, as well as the growing trend among churches to have fewer, shorter revivals. "The vocational evangelist as we have known him is an endangered species."

EVANGELISM CONFERENCE COVERAGE

On this page and the three which follow you'll find Western Recorder's traditional state evangelism conference coverage interspersed with our weekly variety of *Here's Hope* articles. Several Western Recorder correspondents were on the scene at last week's annual preaching marathon, Feb. 26-27 at Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville. Still more evangelism conference news follows in next week's edition. We hope you find our coverage comprehensive, readable, reflective of this important event whose theme this year was, appropriately, *Here's Hope. Jesus cares for you.*

They said it last week in Louisville

Southern Baptists are saying, 'We're having services, y'all come.' But it doesn't work that way. The Lord Jesus says, 'Go...tell.'

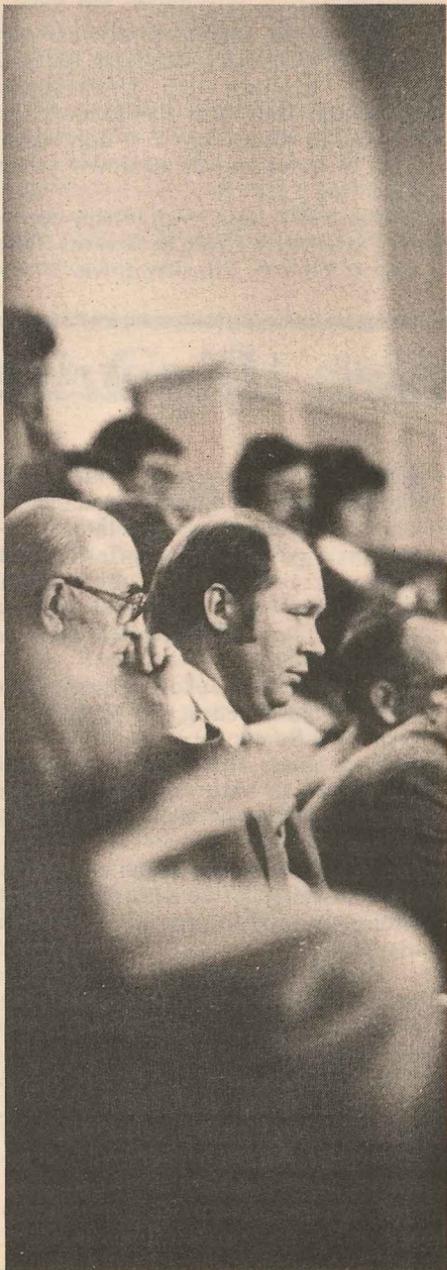
Darrell W. Robinson
Vice president, Evangelism Section
Home Mission Board, Atlanta

I believe there is hope for the cities because Jesus loved New York and Chicago and Louisville and Frankfort and Bowling Green just as he did Jerusalem.

David D'Amico
Billy Graham professor of evangelism
Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville

All you need to build a church are two things—Jesus and lost people.

Darrell L. Gilyard
Pastor, Victory Baptist Church
Plano, Texas



HERE'S HOT

HOPEFUL SIGNS

- The Office for Evangelism, KBC, reports approximately 200 attended a pastor's committee training session at Highview Baptist Church, Long Run Association Feb. 6.
- More than 120 attended a witnessing women lifestyle evangelism workshop at Beechmont Baptist Church, Long Run Association Feb. 10.
- Billy Compton, associate, Office for Evangelism, KBC, and director William D. Jagers report more than 40 in attendance at two sessions of prospect discovery seminars in Corbin Feb. 20 and Greenville Feb. 22.
- A Here's Hope rally in Greenville brought over 300 from four area churches: Second Baptist Church, New Paradise, Roland Memorial and First Baptist Church, Greenville Feb. 21.

LIFE IMPACT

In February 1973 Port and Patricia Wheeler of Elizabethtown celebrated their anniversary with friends at a country club. Leaving the party, Mrs. Wheeler caught her shoe in torn stairway carpet. She gashed her head on a wrought iron railing, tumbled down stairs and crashed into a brick wall.

She had a skull fracture and her left ear drum was leaking spinal fluid. After a week in the hospital Mrs. Wheeler recalls thinking, "God, I know you know I'm here. I'll never leave here alive unless you want me to live. It's all up to you."

A few hours later the leaking fluid stopped. She believed "God was healing me but I didn't have one person to share it with!" She explains, "I did not know what God was going to do, could do or would do." She had lived under pressure and "strived for perfectionism. Drinking was my therapy."

Through a casual conversation, Mrs. Wheeler learned of a weekly Bible study. The group was studying Romans. "One morning I knelt in my kitchen, cried and prayed for forgiveness. I got up realizing I was a whole person."

Approximately 18 months after his wife's hospitalization, Port Wheeler knelt in their bedroom and accepted Christ.

They are presently spending their Saturday mornings assisting with community surveys as part of Severns Valley Baptist Church's preparation for *Here's Hope. Jesus cares for you.*

Debbie Harris Quintin

DIRECTIONS

"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me... May they...let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me."

(John 17:20-21,23, NIV)

The best way to win America? Use laymen, preacher tells state evangelism conference

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

Sixteen major addresses, four testimonies and 17 music features—nine of them by a Florida couple—focused a packed house last week at Louisville's Walnut Street Baptist Church on *Here's Hope. Jesus cares for you.*

The state evangelism conference included the largest number of program personalities most could remember, many of them speaking twice. In one five-speaker session participants patiently sat for three-and-a-half hours, returning an hour later for their third session of the day.

While the Baptist Book Store and other exhibits did brisk business, it was evident conference enthusiasts went for the preaching. They were not disappointed. Most speakers sent them home with challenges to pull out the stops for this spring's simultaneous revivals.

A Texas preacher, Ralph Smith, of Hyde Park Baptist Church, Austin, addressed the Kentucky crowd three times.

Smith observed that seven out of 10 adults in America are not Christians while 75% of Southern Baptist churches have ceased growing.

He suggested that if the world is to be won to Jesus pastors are not going to do it. He argued that that was also true of seminary professors, directors of missions, executive secretaries and denominational workers. "They're with godly people all day," Smith exclaimed. "Your laymen come in contact with more unsaved people in a week than you pastors do in a year."

He urged pastors to enlist their laymen, admonishing: "The reason some churches never grow is that the pastor won't let go and share the responsibility with the laymen."

When God wanted something done, said Smith, "he enlisted a layman." He added, "You'll find that on virtually every page in the Bible." Smith concluded asking the pastors to "take the laymen, trust them, believe in them and use them in a mighty way."

In a later session, Lincoln Bingham,

Kentucky Baptist Convention cooperative ministries consultant, Middletown, indicated that many have "misconceptualized" the great commission, believing it to be "a good suggestion."

Bingham went on: "Christianity is a religion of all people—red and yellow, black and white, all are precious in his sight."

"It's not the color of your skin that matters," he explained. "It's where you're going that counts."

Bingham concluded that one of the successes among the black population has been the black preacher who has "stood firm and proclaimed the word of God."

Lavoid Robertson, of Sandy, Utah, evangelism director of the Utah-Idaho Southern Baptist Convention, shared information about the predominant religion in that area, Mormonism.

Sixty-five percent of the people claim to profess it. "If they truly believe that doctrine," said Robertson, "they are not Christians by any stretch of the imagination. They worship a god of flesh and bone. One of their favorite sayings is, 'As God is, man can become.'"

Robertson, who first went to that area to preach 25 years ago, said Mormons harassed him and his family so much, "I began to hate them." He asked God to change him or move him. "I'm still there," he said, "and I love the Mormon people now."

Noting the current three-year partnership Kentucky Baptists have recently begun with Utah-Idaho, Robertson said: "I'm glad to have a big brother in Kentucky. You don't know what it means to us to know you're there."

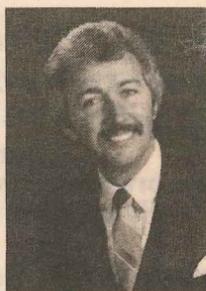
The 1991 state evangelism conference is set Feb. 25-26 at Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown.



Kentucky evangelist Short advises, 'If you're not

by Greg Hodnett
State Correspondent

Don Short, first vice president, Kentucky Baptist Convention, is booked solid for revivals this spring. He has grown accustomed to leading 45 revivals per year. Short is a full time vocational evangelist based in Eddyville.



Short

While such a busy schedule is now commonplace for Short, the early years were filled with anticaption as he, his wife, Kathy, and their three children adjusted to the demands of an evangelist's life. Since September 1980 Short says he has been "learning to depend on the Lord for everything."

When asked about his business organization he says, "I can't think of a single need the Lord has failed to meet in my life."

Short offers a description of his organization which he says "differs greatly from most evangelists."

First, there is the matter of promotion. Short is opposed to using exaggerated claims of "vast worldwide ministries and the like." Short prefers to use what he calls a "simple approach" to promotion. He uses word-of-mouth advertising and performs primarily one service—preaching in revival meetings.

Short also holds firm convictions about his organizational structure. He admits, "It is tempting for me to start using an evangelistic board and hire somebody to book my meetings, but that's just not me. And besides that, I remember when I was a pastor and a certain evangelist canceled out when he was invited to a bigger church. I don't want to do that to anybody."

Short deals personally with churches and pastors who call him about evangelistic meetings. He notes several policies which he follows in order to deal fairly with churches:

- Service is first come, first served. Short refuses to "bump" a small church when a bigger church calls later.

- Short is paid on a love offering basis. Although some churches prefer to pay a set amount and add travel expenses and lodging, the evangelist does not charge a fee.

- The church is asked to pray in advance of the meeting and begin the revival on a Sunday.

- Short sends a preparation packet to the church to aid evangelism committees and pastors as they prepare for revival.

With such a loose organization, how can an evangelist be sure there will be enough money to provide a living for his family?

The Shorts' attitude about finances is not unlike their attitude about organization. They insist, "The Lord will provide." Short, who "left a salary of \$30,000 a year to preach revivals for

FRONTLINE

HOPE TODAY

State's partnership with Utah-Idaho nets anticipation

by Denise Spencer
State Correspondent

Lavold Robertson, director of stewardship and evangelism for Utah-Idaho Baptist Convention, shared his personal hopes during his speech at the state evangelism conference Feb. 27.

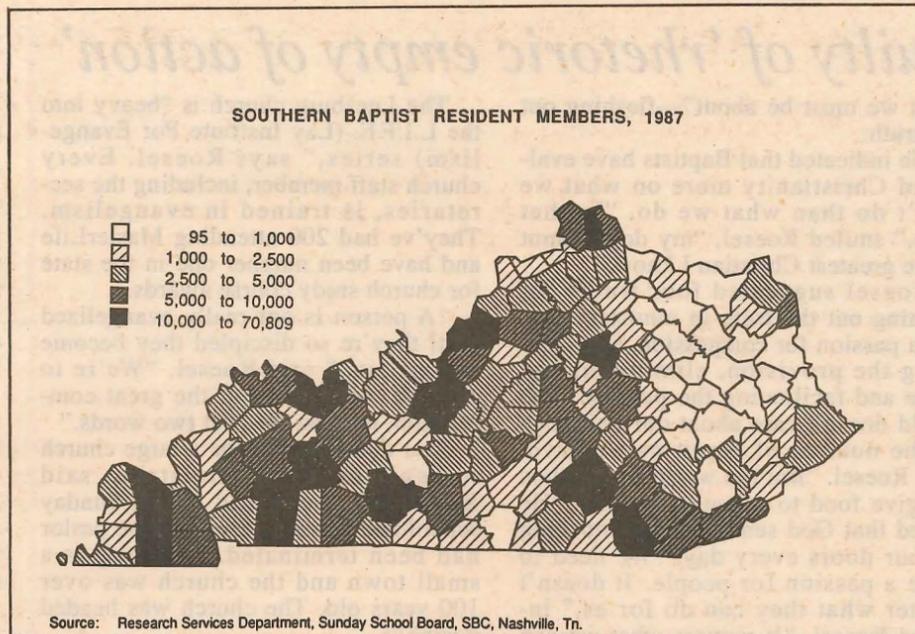
The Utah-Idaho convention is gearing up for *Here's Hope. Jesus cares for you*. To date 90% of its congregations are participating in simultaneous revivals. "We're really urging people to prepare for revival and believe as they do God will send revival."

Kentucky Baptists will be able to help with Utah-Idaho's *Here's Hope* revivals through the three-year partnership the two conventions adopted in November 1989. The Utah-Idaho convention covers 1400 miles and includes 94 churches and 30 missions. Robertson explained, "Many counties have no Southern Baptist influence at all. This is our first time to be linked to any other convention and we are thrilled."

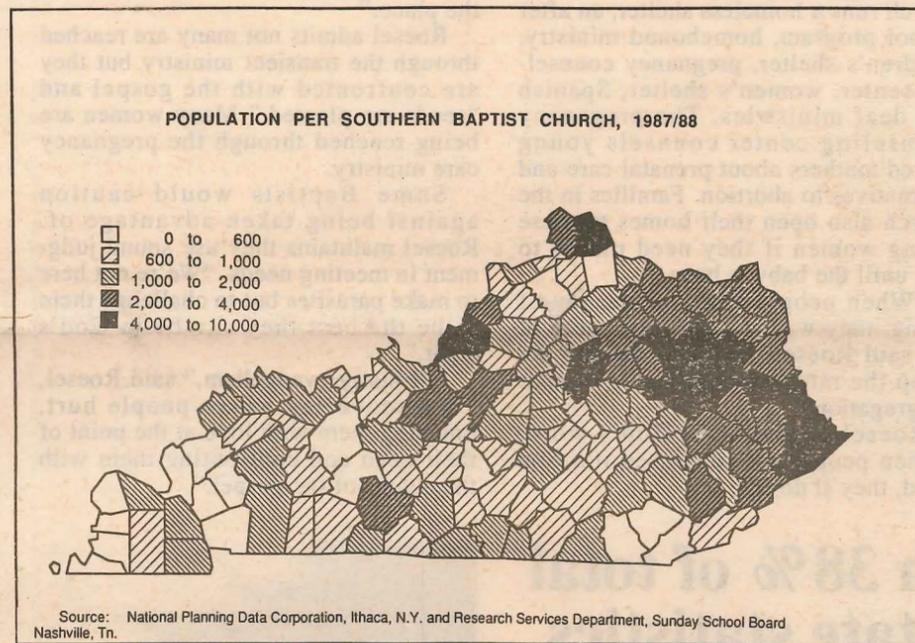
Nine churches have requested Kentucky revival teams for *Here's Hope*, and several teams have already been selected. "Some of these are struggling churches and really need encouragement," Robertson stated. He urged all Kentucky Baptists to become involved, at least through prayer. "The prayer support alone will be immeasurable."

Utah and Idaho Baptists have many needs beyond *Here's Hope*. Robertson listed the following: church building teams, vacation Bible school workers, Sunday school and Discipleship Training leaders.

Many Utah-Idaho congregations need pastors, even for an interim. "We have churches that are shut down because they can't afford a pastor. We need someone to come who's a retired individual to bridge the gap and bring membership up."



These graphs represent the total number of resident Southern Baptist members in Kentucky and the population per church in Kentucky. The darker the areas, the fewer churches per person. Currently, the total Kentucky resident Southern Baptist membership is 542,024. (See story, page 10.)



COUNTDOWN

- Long Run Association holds a *Here's Hope* rally Mar. 6 at Beechmont Baptist Church, 7 p.m.
- Nelson Association will sponsor a "Training Sunday School in Evangelism" seminar at Bardstown Baptist Church Mar. 10, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The seminar will be led by Billy Compton, associate, Office for Evangelism, KBC.
- Tates Creek Association will hold a *Here's Hope* rally Mar. 11 at First Baptist Church, Richmond, 6:30 p.m. William D. Jagers, director, Office for Evangelism, KBC, and Dale Cron, HMB, are speakers.
- Crittenden Association's *Here's Hope* rally will meet Mar. 16 at Williamstown Baptist Church at 7 p.m. Billy Compton, associate, Office for Evangelism, KBC, is the speaker.

PERSPECTIVE

Preparation for *Here's Hope* revivals throughout Kentucky gives women opportunities to use their particular skills.

Baptist women's concern for the lost is demonstrated by active involvement through personal witnessing. Many are consistent soul winners who practice lifestyle evangelism.

Others are active participants in ongoing visitation programs. Knocking on doors and telling people that Jesus does care for them is a vital part of their weekly schedule of activities.

These dedicated, consistently concerned, persistent women are members of Kentucky Baptist churches.

Thousands of Baptist Women have also committed themselves to praying daily for the *Here's Hope* simultaneous revivals this spring. Many have pledged their support through Daniel Prayer Teams, acknowledging only God can produce revival and hearts must be prepared.

Woman's Missionary Union, through the members of age level organizations, is playing an active role in getting ready for *Here's Hope. Jesus cares for you*. They are helping with the planning and preparation and they are participating in people searches, scripture distribution, Daniel Prayer Teams and associational prayer retreats and rallies.

Dee Gilliland
Executive director-treasurer
Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union

not sure God's called, better to do something else'

\$10,000," says the Lord provides through people. Short explains, "One week a farmer might kill a hog and give me half. The Lord always provides."

A former church member gave Short the land on which his mobile home rests. Short does not solicit funds from churches where he preaches.

Short offers some suggestions concerning finances for evangelists:

- Invite an evangelist as interim pastor during months which are traditionally not used for revival meetings.

- Schedule an evangelist for revivals during summer and winter months as well as traditional times. Short says these "off season" weeks yield positive results, too.

- Consider having an evangelist as your Bible conference leader or January Bible study leader.

- Make a place for a staff evangelist at your church.

Short believes these steps can help full time evangelists maintain a more consistent ministry.

The evangelist's family needs consistency, too. Short admits, "It is hard to leave my family each week. The fact is, I have to go out 45 weeks each year

in order to make it financially. It's hard on the family but I try to make it up to them when I'm home."

Short deals with the separation from his family "by calling them every day and making every minute count on Saturdays and times off." He has also taken his children on revival trips during the summer. In addition Short spends seven to 10 weeks per year at home substitute teaching at Lyon

County High School and doing church work.

Short will participate in *Here's Hope. Jesus cares for you* simultaneous revivals this year.

Short can be contacted by mail at Rte. 2, Box 168, Eddyville, KY 42038 or by phone at (502) 388-2452. He is booked for the spring but promises, "I'll preach anywhere I'm asked if we can simply work out a date."

Call to evangelism won't come up short

What would you do if the Lord asked you to uproot your family and live the life of an evangelist?

Evangelist Don Short's attitude about evangelism made it difficult for him to make the change. "I didn't like the image I had come to know as the stereotypical evangelist." However he began to pray that God would make it clear to him what he should do about his love for evangelistic preaching.

The Lord answered that prayer.

"As soon as we began praying seriously about this matter, the phone began ringing—it was one church

after another wanting me to preach."

His calendar rapidly filling up, Short began to sense God's call to full time evangelism. But one obstacle would still need to be overcome before he would be sure—he needed a home for his family.

Again the Shorts prayed.

In short order God answered their prayers. First a former church member donated a parcel of land. Then a lady from Tupelo, Miss. offered a mobile home at an extremely low price. Their needs met, the Shorts followed the Lord's leading.

HOPE QUOTE

"A simultaneous revival is an evangelistic effort in which churches in an area cooperate in a soul winning emphasis to touch their community. (They) are not the usual church revival meetings. Entire cities, counties and states may be exposed to the power of God as revival begins and spreads...."

Bill Mackey, director,
S. C. Evangelism Department

HERE'S HOPE TODAY

Southern Baptists guilty of 'rhetoric empty of action'

by Mary Royals Driskill
Editorial Assistant

"We Baptists are guilty of all kinds of rhetoric that is empty of action," said Charles Roesel, pastor of First Baptist Church, Leesburg, Fla., to a packed Walnut Street Baptist Church at the state evangelism conference Feb. 27.

"For many years we have been caught up in evangelism," stressed Roesel. But we need to understand the social gospel as part of the gospel. To the crowd of mostly pastors, Roesel admonished, "There's too much strutting in the pulpit and too little service in the streets."



Roesel

The Leesburg church has more than a half-dozen evangelistic outreach ministries. Ministry, he concludes, is a "means to evangelism" and not a substitute for it. Many people do not have an evangelistic heart, he explained, but they have "guilty hearts with fidgets." If they do something they feel better. "Once you recognize ministry as a tool of evangelism, it's not easy or a way out. It's a sacrifice and a way in," he said.

Roesel stressed that Christ was crucified between two thieves, not two candles in a cathedral. "For that is the kind of man he was and that's what his life was about. He could have talked about humility but instead he took a towel and washed his disciples' feet. The Lord Jesus fleshed out truth."

Roesel then said, "If we're Christians, Christ is living in us. And that is

what we must be about"—fleshing out the truth.

He indicated that Baptists have evaluated Christianity more on what we don't do than what we do. "In that case," smiled Roesel, "my dog Peanut is the greatest Christian I know."

Roesel suggested four truths for fleshing out the truth in ministry: having a passion for compassion, appropriating the provision, eliminating the pride and facilitating the purpose. The world doesn't care about our buildings or the number of baptisms we have, said Roesel. "But the world cares when we give food to a hungry person." He added that God sends people knocking on our doors every day. "We need to have a passion for people. It doesn't matter what they can do for us," insisted Roesel. "It matters what we can do for them."

Roesel hasn't always had a heart for the down and out. He confessed he used to try to deal with transients as quickly and easily as possible. Now his church runs a homeless shelter, an after school program, homebound ministry, children's shelter, pregnancy counseling center, women's shelter, Spanish and deaf ministries. The pregnancy counseling center counsels young unwed mothers about prenatal care and alternatives to abortion. Families in the church also open their homes to these young women if they need places to stay until the baby is born.

"When people discover the joy of caring, they want to get in on more of it," said Roesel. But how do you develop the mindset of ministry in your congregation?

Roesel begins with God's word. "When people are convinced it's God word, they'll do it."

The Leesburg church is "heavy into the L.I.F.E. (Lay Institute For Evangelism) series," says Roesel. Every church staff member, including the secretaries, is trained in evangelism. They've had 200 attending MasterLife and have been number one in the state for church study course awards.

"A person is not really evangelized until they're so disciplined they become evangelists," said Roesel. "We're to observe the totality of the great commission, not just the first two words."

You don't have to be a large church to begin outreach ministries, said Roesel. His church had 300 in Sunday school and was in a decline. The pastor had been terminated. Leesburg is a small town and the church was over 100 years old. The church was headed downhill.

"But if you start where you are, claim the opportunities you have and are faithful in the small things, then God will provide for the rest," assured Roesel. "Any place will do if God is in the place."

Roesel admits not many are reached through the transient ministry but they are confronted with the gospel and "seeds are planted." Many women are being reached through the pregnancy care ministry.

Some Baptists would caution against being taken advantage of. Roesel maintains they use sound judgment in meeting needs. "We're not here to make parasites but to challenge them to be the best they can be in God's sight."

"Ministry evangelism," said Roesel, "is discovering where people hurt, touching them with love at the point of their need and confronting them with the claims of the gospel."

Bivoc pastors gaining numbers in convention

by Suzanne Darland
State Correspondent

Thirty-six percent of Southern Baptist pastors are bivocational, holding a full time job in addition to pastoral duties, noted Charles Stewart, who led a meeting for bivocational pastors at the state evangelism conference. By the year 2000, half will be bivocational.

But they're a disproportionately represented group. Stewart, who was a bivocational pastor more than 30 years, commented that the five men present for the informal dialog is "typical" of such meetings. "The greatest need is for them to come and they're not able to get here," he explained.

"Some of the most godly, faithful men I know have never been heard from by this convention," he added.

But he thinks that will change. Churches that have bivocational pastors give more per capita to the Cooperative Program and baptize more per member than churches with full time pastors, he indicated.

Dwight Parker, a quality control analyst for the state and pastor of Knoxville Church, Crittenden Association, said he thinks that's because a bivocational pastor is able to have more of a shared ministry with his congregation. "I have the advantage and ability to say to people lovingly that I go to work on Monday just like they do."

Larry Orange, now pastor of West Broadway Church, Louisville, but a bivocational pastor for 26 years, is organizing the growing group for fellowship and support. He pointed out that the current trend toward small churches reaching ethnic and economic groups will depend on dual career pastors.

10 associations win 38% of total as BSSB releases state statistics

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

One out-of-state speaker at last week's evangelism conference—Darrell W. Robinson, vice president of the Home Mission Board's evangelism section, Atlanta—observed that Kentucky Baptists have "turned things around" in baptisms and are "moving in the right direction."

Perhaps. But it's too early for anyone to establish "bragging rights" yet.

In figures released last week by the Baptist Sunday School Board based on 1989 Uniform Church Letter (UCL) statistics supplied by nearly 2300 state congregations, Kentucky baptisms increased only 33 over the previous year—up from 15,412 in 1988 to 15,445 in 1989. That's a net gain of .21, or about a fifth of one percent. While Baptists rejoice over every soul added, there is another side.

Ralph Smith, another evangelism conference speaker, pastor of Austin, Texas' Hyde Park Baptist Church, may have put it in proper perspective: "At the rate Southern Baptists are winning people to Christ, if there were no more births and no more deaths it would take 300 years to reach America for Christ. And 4000 years to reach the world."

The UCL report indicated nearly two of every five persons baptized into a Kentucky Baptist congregation in 1989 lived in only 10 of the state convention's 78 associations. Of

15,445 persons baptized, 5880 (38%) were in these 10 associations.

By rank and number, the top 10 associations by baptisms numerically:

1. Long Run, 1236
2. Elkhorn, 798
3. Daviess-McLean, 671
4. Northern Kentucky, 606
5. Severns Valley, 515
6. West Union, 496
7. Graves County, 420
8. Warren, 394
9. Christian County, 391
10. Greenup, 353

Meanwhile, on the same report, in resident church membership Kentucky Baptists lost 4234 from their rolls last year, down from 546,258 in 1988 to 542,024 in 1989, a .78% decrease.

Eight of the top 10 were also among those with the highest resident membership. Put another way, at least two associations in the top 10—Graves and Christian counties—may be currently winning more converts with fewer resident members.

Top 10 in resident membership:

1. Long Run, 70,920
2. Elkhorn, 30,251
3. Northern Kentucky, 23,371
4. Daviess-McLean, 20,275
5. West Union, 16,978
6. Severns Valley, 13,335
7. Warren, 12,712
8. Blood River, 12,464
9. Greenup, 11,683
10. Pulaski, 11,370



Youth ministers share burden for teenagers

by Robin Oldham
Special Correspondent

Statistics reveal that the number of teens baptized each year in Kentucky declined dramatically between 1973 and 1988.

Youth ministers from across the state shared their burden for teenagers during a lengthy discussion at this year's Kentucky Baptist evangelism conference at Louisville's Walnut Street Baptist Church.

In the session, Billy Compton, of Middletown, associate director, KBC Office for Evangelism, encouraged youth leaders to create an evangelistic atmosphere among young people. "Don't be concerned if the number of truly dedicated teens is small right now," said Compton. "Remember, Jesus spent a great deal of quality time with 12 men."

Corky Alder, minister of youth and education at Main Street Baptist Church, Alexandria, added, "Youth are more than the church of tomorrow; they are an extremely important part of the church today."

The youth ministers stressed that once cultivation is done and the gospel is shared, teens are responsive.

Compton told of his experiences as a pastor and his desire to win young people to Christ. "Adults must set the example in Christian lifestyle," said Compton. "We cannot expect teens to reach others for Jesus if we do not."

We're all in this together



Pauline Stegall



Betty Anderson



Bill Moore



Denise Spencer



Greg Hodnett



Chris Barnett



Polly Ward



Glenn Mollette



Beth Wyatt



Jane Howell



Virginia Flanagan



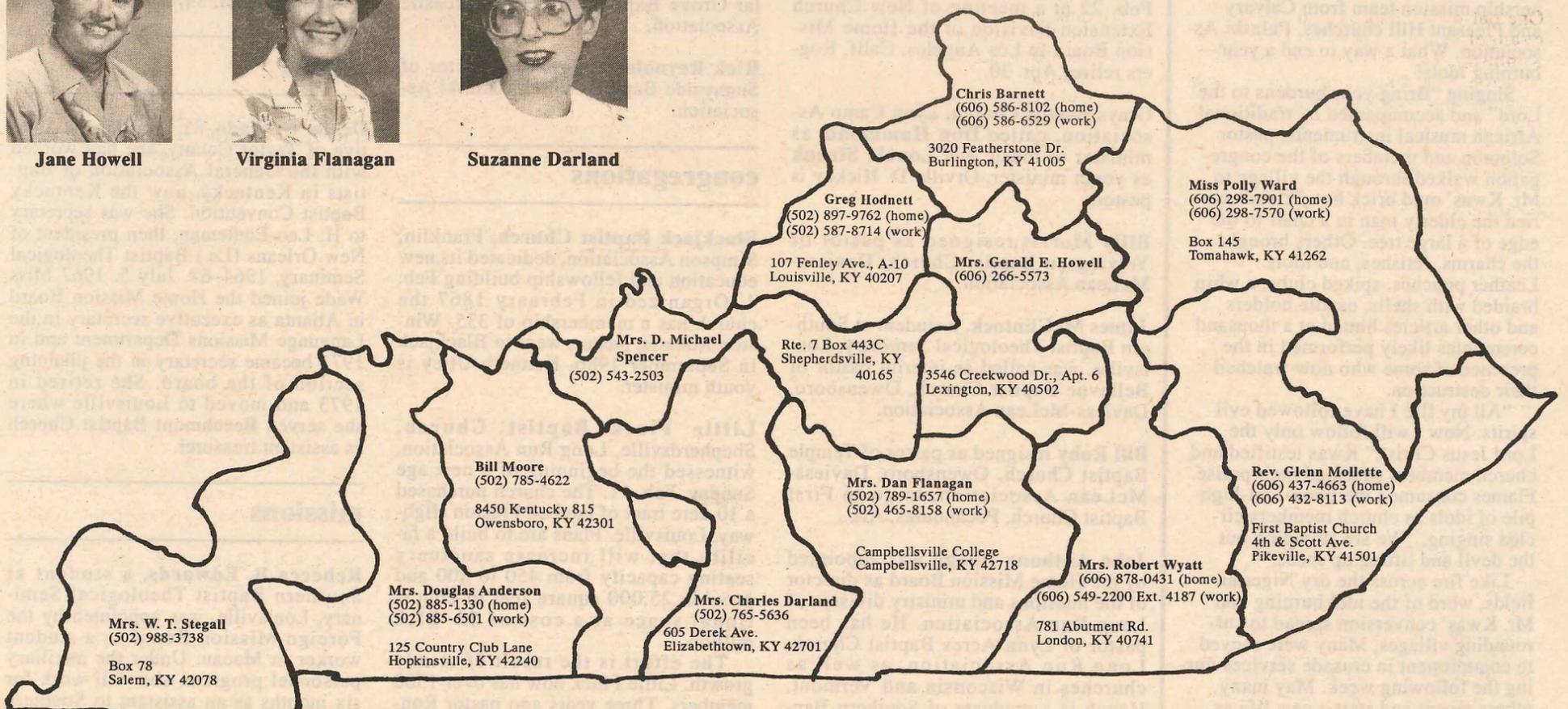
Suzanne Darland

Twelve Kentucky Baptists, journalists by trade either vocationally or avocationally, are committed to bringing us informative stories about timely subjects. These 12 Western Recorder state correspondents, strategically situated across the commonwealth, keep Kentucky Baptists abreast of what's going on among their people and their churches.

They're available to help you, your church and your association. You may call or write your regional correspondent with information you'd like to share with readers of your state paper. Ask your church to place your local correspondent on its mailing list for your church mail out. By helping each other, we all do a better job of keeping each other informed.

western recorder

People are important to us



mountains to the mississippi



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

clear creek chronicle

An idol burning

For decades Kyatau Kwas made his living concocting "medicines," performing rituals and placating the spirits, whom he allowed to rule his world. His sister and other Christians in the Nigerian village of Tanglang had vainly pled for his repentance from sin and to faith in Christ.

Long before daylight Dec. 17 a vision interrupted Kwas' rest. Two angels declared, "repent or you shall die in your sins."

A bright light filled the room and Kwas quickly sent for pastor Solomon, his brother-in-law and leader of the local Baptist church. The church prayer committee gathered and soon all rejoiced in the 80-year-old medicine man's surrender to Jesus Christ. Kwas immediately pledged to burn his idols in two weeks.

The idol burning occurred Dec. 31, my first Sunday in Nigeria with a partnership mission team from Calvary and Pleasant Hill churches, Pulaski Association. What a way to end a year—burning idols!

Singing "Bring your burdens to the Lord" and accompanied by traditional African musical instruments, pastor Solomon and members of the congregation walked through the village to Mr. Kwas' mud brick hut. Friends carried the elderly man in a chair to the edge of a large tree. Others brought the charms, fetishes, and idols. Leather pouches, spiked clubs, a whip braided with shells, candle holders and other articles hinted at a thousand ceremonies likely performed in the presence of some who now watched their destruction.

"All my life I have followed evil spirits. Now I will follow only the Lord Jesus Christ," Kwas testified and church members squealed their praise. Flames consumed the three-foot-high pile of idols as church members circled singing, "We are stomping out the devil and lifting up Jesus."

Like fire across the dry Nigerian fields, word of the idol burning and Mr. Kwas' conversion spread to surrounding villages. Many were moved to commitment in crusade services during the following week. May many others repent and start a new life as did Kwas.

revivals

A January lay-led revival at **Central Avenue Baptist Church**, Severns Valley Association, yielded five professions of faith and two additions by letter. Russell Adkisson, of Brandenburg, who has been coordinating lay-led revivals for 30 years, said 15 persons were involved from churches in Louisville, Columbia and Glasgow.

ordinations

Ben M. Birdwhistell was ordained a deacon at Sand Spring Baptist Church, Lawrenceburg, Anderson Association, Feb. 11. J. Terry Wilder is pastor.

Keith Withrow of Owensboro was ordained to the ministry Feb. 11 by Pleasant Memorial Baptist Church, Owensboro, Daviess-McLean Association. Randy Stallings, Pleasant Memorial pastor, preached the ordination sermon and Charles Parks, moderator of Daviess-McLean Association, gave the charge.

Bashford Manor Baptist Church, Long Run Association, ordained **Kenneth Zehnder** a deacon Jan. 28. Greg Pearson is pastor.

Melbourne Heights Baptist Church, Long Run Association, ordained **Mark Thames** to the ministry Jan. 28.

First Baptist Church, Franklin, Simpson Association, ordained **Ed Nichols** and **Charles Park** deacons Jan. 7. Ray E. Cummins is pastor.

personnel

Bill Rogers, director of the Minister/Church Support Division of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, received the 12th annual Victor Glass award for outstanding contribution in racial reconciliation. The award was presented Feb. 22 at a meeting of New Church Extension Division of the Home Mission Board in Los Angeles, Calif. Rogers retires Apr. 30.

Grays Baptist Church, Lynn Camp Association, called **Don Hammond** as minister of music and **Lonnie Strunk** as youth minister. Orville D. Hickey is pastor.

Billy Morris resigned as pastor of Yelvington Baptist Church, Daviess-McLean Association.

James McClintock, a student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, was called as interim pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Owensboro, Daviess-McLean Association.

Bill Roby resigned as pastor of Temple Baptist Church, Owensboro, Daviess-McLean Association, to go to First Baptist Church, Pocahontas, Ark.

John Anthony Hough was appointed by the Home Mission Board as director of the missions and ministry division of Long Run Association. He has been pastor of Lynn Acres Baptist Church, Long Run Association, as well as churches in Wisconsin and Vermont. Hough is a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville,

and is currently pursuing a PhD degree there.

Tom Patterson resigned as pastor of Poplar Grove Baptist Church, Lynn Camp Association.

Mathias Williams resigned as pastor of New Riverside Baptist Church, Upper Cumberland Association.

Aetna Grove Baptist Church, Lynn Association, called **James Cook** as pastor.

Ronald Idol is new pastor of Dunlap Baptist Church, Bell Association.

Fonde Baptist Church, Bell Association, called **Jimmy Baxter** as pastor.

Don Yates is new pastor of Stoney Fork Baptist Church, Bell Association.

John Chafin resigned as associate pastor of Unity Baptist Church, Greenup Association.

Dennis Borden resigned as pastor of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Mt. Zion Association.

Cow Creek Baptist Church, Boones Creek Association, called **Harold "Joe" Lahrmer** as pastor.

Ivory Hill Baptist Church, Boones Creek Association, called **Marvin Neal** as interim pastor.

Neal Prather is new pastor of Bethlehem Baptist Church, Tates Creek Association.

Gary Robbins resigned as pastor of Linefork Mission, Three Forks Association.

Milford Stanley resigned as pastor of Germantown Baptist Church, Bracken Association.

Roy Helm resigned as pastor of Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Rockcastle Association.

Jack Bruce resigned as pastor of Poplar Grove Baptist Church, Rockcastle Association.

Rick Reynolds resigned as pastor of Sunnyside Baptist Church, Pulaski Association.

congregations

Blackjack Baptist Church, Franklin, Simpson Association, dedicated its new education and fellowship building Feb. 4. Organized in February 1867 the church has a membership of 335. Winston Roberts, pastor, went to Blackjack in September 1986. Kenneth Utley is youth minister.

Little Flock Baptist Church, Shepherdsville, Long Run Association, witnessed the beginning of a new age Sunday, Feb. 11. The church purchased a 10-acre tract of land on Preston Highway, Louisville. Plans are to build a facility that will increase sanctuary seating capacity from 450 to 800 and provide 25,000 square feet of educational space at a cost of \$1-\$1.2 million.

The effort is the result of steady growth. Little Flock now has over 1500 members. Three years ago pastor Ronald Shaver arrived at the church, which

was experiencing a 10-year low of below 200 people in attendance. Through the work of the staff and congregation, attendance has grown to over 500 in Sunday morning worship. Shaver characterized Little Flock as a "boomer church" that has had a large increase in members aged 18-35.

Because of the growth, there has been some inconvenience. Parking is limited and the church has begun dual Sunday morning worship services. Beginning Mar. 4 there will also be dual Sunday schools.

Shaver said the church hopes to break ground within two years. Members will participate in the "Together We Build" fund raising program through which they hope to raise about half the cost. The rest will come from loans and other sources. Within three years, members hope to raise over \$500,000.

Little Flock Church has a history of change. Records document services held in August 1810. In 1843 Benjamin Summers gave the church the land where its current building stands. By 1927 a new sanctuary was added. An educational building was dedicated in 1956. The present sanctuary was built in 1964.

Highland Park First Baptist Church, Louisville, Long Run Association, will move to its new building in June. Mar. 25 the church will have a "Day of Remembering" with a commemoration service at 2 p.m.

In conjunction with the chemical and codependency recovery programs at Baptist Hospital East, **Walnut Street Baptist Church**, Louisville, Long Run Association, will sponsor an educational series titled "Understanding Addiction" at 5:30 p.m. on three consecutive Sundays beginning Mar. 11.

Counselors from Baptist East will discuss use, abuse and addiction; codependency: when "loving" hurts the family; and facing our own addictions. The series will meet at Walnut Street and is free and open to the public. For information: Baptist Hospital East information center, 897-8131.

deaths

Delma G. Wade, 81, died Jan. 1. A native of Taylor County, she had worked with the General Association of Baptists in Kentucky, now the Kentucky Baptist Convention. She was secretary to H. Leo Eddleman, then president of New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary, 1964-67. July 5, 1967 Miss Wade joined the Home Mission Board in Atlanta as executive secretary in the Language Missions Department and in 1971 became secretary in the planning section of the board. She retired in 1973 and moved to Louisville where she served Beechmont Baptist Church as assistant treasurer.

missions

Rebecca B. Edwards, a student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, was appointed by the Foreign Mission Board as a student worker in Macau. Under the auxiliary personnel program, she will work for six months as an assistant to Southern Baptist missionaries.



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

sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR MAR. 11, 1990

Life and work series

Redefining success

Mark 10:35-37 Striving for self exaltation and ambitious to obtain prominent places in Christ's kingdom, James and John asked Christ to pledge himself in advance to give them whatever they might desire. When Jesus asked what it was that they desired, they bluntly said "Grant unto us that we may sit one on thy right hand and the other on thy left hand in thy glory." Their selfish request for preferred positions in Christ's kingdom were made in ignorance of God's plan.

God does not reward his children according to their selfish desires, but according to their faithful service.

Mark 10:38 In his reply to their request, Christ replied "Ye know not what ye ask." They did not understand the cost of the places of honor they had requested, the suffering that preceded the glory. To teach them what was involved in their request, Christ inquired, "Can ye drink of the cup that I drink of and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?"

Mark 10:39-40 Quickly they responded, "We can." By their response they revealed their ignorance of themselves when they declared their ability to drink "the cup" of his inward sufferings and "to be baptized with the baptism" of the outward sufferings imposed upon him by others.

Mark 10:41 We do not wonder that the other ten apostles resented the fact that James and John had tried to steal a march on them by asking for the chief places in the kingdom. Their indignation was natural because they thought an unfair advantage had been taken of them.

Mark 10:42-45 Christ was grieved by the jealousy and quarreling of the disciples. He reminded them that ambition for power belongs to the world. Christ reminded them that greatness comes through dedicated service to others in his name and through his power.

International series

Guided by the spirit of truth

John 16:12-24 After forewarning his disciples of their future persecution,

Christ told them that he was going to leave them. They were overwhelmed with sorrow over his forthcoming departure. For the encouragement of the distressed disciples Christ announced the good news of the coming to them of the Holy Spirit and assured them that the coming and presence of the Holy Spirit would be a great blessing to them. He even told them that it was for their benefit that he was leaving them.

Christ told his disciples that when the Holy Spirit came to them he would open their understanding, make things clear to them and lead them in the way in which they should go. Being of the same nature, mind, understanding and will as the Father and as the Son, the Holy Spirit would be in perfect agreement with both. He assured them that the Holy Spirit would guide them into all truth.

The believer is given a new mind, a new will and new affections. Power to live in close fellowship with Christ, to overcome worldly aspirations, personal ambitions, fleshly appetites and human weaknesses and to render acceptable services for Christ is provided for us by the Holy Spirit.

It is exceedingly important for us to remember always that the Holy Spirit is a person and not a mere influence. Thinking of him as a mere influence leads to self confidence and self exaltation, whereas the recognition of him as a person leads to self renunciation and self abnegation.

God the Father and Christ the Son are jointly concerned in everything pertaining to the salvation, peace, joy, comfort and welfare of Christians. The Holy Spirit takes the things of the Father and the Son and makes them beneficial to believers.



Curtis C. Mooney
President
10801 Shelbyville Road
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homes for children

The meaning of words

Did you ever notice how the meaning of words changes over time and how that difference in meaning as understood by the speaker and the hearer can make a big difference in what happens?

Recently I was in a board meeting for the National Association of Homes for Children. There was considerable debate about taking the word "home" out of the title or adding new words to the title. In parts of the country a children's home is looked at as old fashioned, almost akin to the words orphanage or asylum which is what children's homes used to be called.

Individuals from other parts of the country pointed out in pride that we are homes for children and that in an era of homelessness what better name could we be. Home was considered to convey a warmth that treatment center or children's facility just did not have.

Eventually it was decided to leave the word home in the title and consider recommending to the membership that "and services" be added to the title after the word home.

That debate and others like it make me realize how single words can convey many different messages and what is understood by one person to be a place of caring and warmth can be seen by others as an old fashioned "warehouse" for children.

It also made me realize how the words we use with our children may also be taken different ways. We speak of God as father to the youth we serve and picture him as loving and good. But what does the word "father" convey to a child whose dad beat him and threw him out of the house? When he hears us talk of a special relationship with our Father, does he turn us off because he hopes he never sees his dad again and has no use for anyone like him?

Sharing our faith or just communicating with people who are outside of our small circle who know what we mean can be a real challenge, but one we must meet.



Barkley Moore
President
Oneida Baptist Institute
Oneida, KY 40972

oneida journal

Their only chance!

"I'm sorry I didn't get to see you last weekend when I visited Oneida campus. I've helped send another young person to the caring people of Oneida. My friend's daughter is scared, confused and in need of structure and remedial education. She covers that up with a flip mouth and a tough looking appearance. I feel Oneida will be a very positive experience for her and she will do well in the Christian atmosphere of Oneida.

"I have the staff at Oneida to thank for helping my daughter through some

rough teen years. She has matured into a terrific young woman. She has a 3.0 average at her university. More importantly she is a Christian, reasonable, patient and happy young woman."

How wonderful to get such a letter! It gives us new courage as we struggle to help other girls and boys.

We get requests like the following quite frequently: "I am writing about reenroling my sons. I know from dealing with two other school systems that Oneida is where they can learn more. I hope also they will come closer to God. I am a single parent and I don't have sufficient parenting knowledge. Also I must be away at work 10-12 hours a day. My children need stern supervision. I'm just not doing a good job with them. I need to be with them more but I must work. My finances are a mess. I try but everything fails. Oneida is their only chance for a decent life, most of all for qualified guidance."

We are meeting the needs of these young men academically, physically, socially and, most importantly, spiritually. One can see them making progress daily. A very concerned mother continues to work hard and lend all the support that she can.

"Louise, because of your help, has become a wonderful person, daughter and full time student at a nearby university. She works full time at the Cincinnati ballet and carries a 3.6 GPA. She is free of drugs, alcohol and has regained her self respect. We will never forget the three years she spent at Oneida learning about God and the self discipline needed to 'work' within

our society. My husband and I are enclosing a small donation as a token of our appreciation."

Also some good word of another former Oneida girl: "I am a different person than I was this time last year because Oneida is a special place. While at Oneida I learned a lot about myself and I learned how to care about others. I miss Oneida, the people, the love and friendship. Before I came to OBI I did not care about my school work. I did not care about myself. Oneida changed that. I learned I had a future and that I could be somebody. I also learned there are two sides to a problem I had with my dad. Over the year he changed and I changed how we saw each other and things are better for us than I can ever remember.

"While at Oneida I accepted Christ. That choice will affect my whole life. I did so much better at Oneida than anywhere else I've ever been. I want to show others the joy I have."

A California mother writes: "We appreciate having a school like yours for our son and other young people. We appreciate not only the education but the kind of atmosphere and Christian influence there." Such a letter reminds us that California does not have a Baptist boarding school nor do 45 other states. There are several in Texas and Virginia, one in Tennessee and Oneida in Kentucky. We are very much "home" missions with students from 26 different states. Also Oneida is "state" missions with hundreds of students from all parts of the state and "foreign" missions with students from nine nations.



75 years of caring



**on
mission
together**

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

Bold mission thrust struggling but alive

Bold Mission Thrust was "given birth" by the Southern Baptist Convention in 1976. Its ambitious objective is to share the good news with every person on earth by the year 2000.

The following is a **partial** update on the progress of our **37,785** Southern Baptist churches.

REACH PEOPLE.

Goal 1. Ten percent increase in baptisms per year.

Report: Churches reported 351,107 baptisms during the 1988-89 year, an increase of 1.4 percent over last year.

Goal 2. 5000 new churches organized by Sept. 30, 1990.

Report: 434 new churches were started during 1988-89 and 1265 new church-type missions. At the end of the 1988-89 year, 5909 church-type missions were being sponsored across the nation.

Goal 3. 10 million persons enrolled in Bible study by Sept. 30, 1990.

Report: Churches reported a Sunday school enrolment of 7,936,015, a 0.3 percent increase over last year.

DEVELOP BELIEVERS.

Goal 1. Every church with continuing intercessory prayer activities.

Report: A total of 8703 churches reported such activity.

Goal 2. Four million persons enrolled in Discipleship Training by Sept. 30, 1990.

Report: Church Training enrolment in 1988-89 was 2,026,141, an increase of 1.6 percent over the previous year.

Goal 3. 20,000 churches conducting an annual stewardship emphasis by Sept. 30, 1990.

Report: During 1988-89, 14,271 conducted emphases, compared with 13,068 during 1987-88.

STRENGTHEN MISSIONS.

Goal 1. Three million persons enrolled in mission education by Sept. 30, 1990.

Report: The combined enrolments of WMU and Brotherhood in 1988-89 was 1,733,186 compared with 1,729,440 the previous year.

Goal 2. 7660 missionaries serving on United States and overseas mission fields by Sept. 30, 1990.

Report: A combined total of 7588 missionaries were serving at the end of 1989, a decrease of 106 from 1988.

Goal 3. 200,000 persons serving as short term volunteers by Sept. 30, 1990.

Report: In 1989, 58,361 were volunteers, a decrease of 1039 compared to 1988. However, the total thus far has reached **220,769**.

Executive Committee: one issue over three hours?

by Marv Knox

The Southern Baptist Executive Committee considered 17 motions, amendments or substitutions during its three-and-one-half-hour discussion of the religious liberty issue Feb. 20.

The debate revolved around how to direct funds and program assignments for religious liberty and First Amendment issues to the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, the convention's moral concerns agency; the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, a nine-denomination religious liberty organization in Washington; and the Southern Baptist Public Affairs Committee, an 18-member group through which the convention relates to the Baptist Joint Committee.

The committee first considered a Christian Life Commission program statement revision, along with recommendations to delete the Public Affairs Committee's program statement and to assign it five "operational guidelines."

Ann M. Smith, a layperson from Greensboro, N.C., opposed the changes. "The Baptist Joint Committee has earned its money," she said, noting the BJC's efforts to ease the tax burden on missionaries has saved the SBC \$10 million during the past eight years.

The changes also would "duplicate the programs, offices and personnel that already are functioning well in Washington," said Wallace E. Jones, a pastor from Bridgeton, Mo. He offered a substitute motion that would send the matter back to the Executive Committee's program and budget subcommittee with instructions for the BJC and the PAC to work out their problems.

Terry L. Davis, a pastor from Berlin, Md., said the proposed program changes would cost too much. "We're going to create three entities doing primarily the same thing," he noted. "It is a waste of money to try to resolve this by creating entities that will cost more money."

Fred H. Wolfe, the committee's secretary and a pastor from Mobile, Ala., disagreed. "We're just bringing our funding in line," he said, noting the new money shared between the three entities is only a 1.89 percent gain, the same as the rest of the convention's 1990-91 Cooperative Program unified budget allocations.

"The Christian Life Commission will accept its new role," he added. "We have not been satisfied by the representation we have gotten from the Baptist Joint Committee."

Jones' substitute failed 53-18, and the original motion passed 53-17.

The Executive Committee next considered the 1990-91 Cooperative Program allocation budget, the formula for distributing the convention's unified budget among its agencies and institutions. The proposed budget goal is \$137,332,523.

James C. Wideman, a pastor from Portsmouth, N. H., moved to amend the budget, transferring \$72,600 of the PAC's proposed \$96,600 allocation to the CLC. "If we are going to begin the process of moving the First Amendment responsibility to the Christian Life Commission, I see no need to move money to the Public Affairs Committee," he said. The PAC currently gets \$23,704.

Wideman's amendment failed on a 35-35 vote, with committee Chairman Sam W. Pace, an associational director of missions from Lawton, Okla., noting he had voted, since the tally was conducted by secret ballot.

Jones then moved to amend the proposed allocation budget by giving the three organizations each a 1.89 percent increase. That would give the PAC \$24,125, the BJC \$399,205 and the CLC \$914,479.

He offered five reasons for his proposal: sensitivity to state conventions and Southern Baptists who support the BJC; concern about more "division, hostility and confrontation" in the SBC; a feeling the "full story" of the relationship between the PAC and the BJC has not been told; belief his amendment was in keeping with the spirit by which SBC executives proposed the current budgeting procedure; and a need to "demonstrate that our bond as fellow Baptists is stronger than our biases" and to "demand that the BJC and the PAC clarify their working relationship through transparent and accurate reporting."

Jones' amendment failed and the overall budget proposal passed on uncounted hand votes.

During the budget debate, Ann M. Smith, layperson from Greensboro, N. C., had asked about the source of an eight-page document detailing the rationale for the proposed budget, citing the Executive Committee. Following the vote, Fred H. Wolfe, the committee's secretary and pastor from Mobile, Ala., responded that the officers felt "clear, understandable reasons for our decision" would be in order. "It (the document) is not binding on anybody," he said.

Don Whitt, a pastor from Milan, Tenn., proposed that the document be placed in the records of the Executive Committee. The motion passed 55-15.

J. Stephen Brumbelow, a pastor from Poca, W. Va., moved that the document be printed and distributed in The Baptist Program, the Executive

Committee's magazine; the "Book of Reports" and "Daily Bulletin," which are distributed to messengers to the convention's annual meeting; and in a brochure.

Following dinner, David E. Hankins, chairman of the committee's business and finance subcommittee and a pastor from Lake Charles, La., moved to table Brumbelow's motion in order to reconsider the vote on the budget.

Paul Pressler, the committee's vice chairman and a layman from Houston, urged defeat of Hankins' proposal and further consideration of Brumbelow's motion. The motion to table failed, 31-32.

Carl E. Compton, a pastor from Myrtle Beach, S.C., offered an amendment that would have removed a section of the document that discusses "various problems with the BJC," saying that section of the report is negative and deals with personality issues.

Pressler countered, "Too frequently we have let the press set the agenda" for discussion of the BJC, noting the Executive Committee needs to "say why we're concerned." He also said the document does not deal with personalities and that the only proper name mentioned is in a direct quote.

James F. Yates, a pastor from Yazoo City, Miss., said, "It sounds like a personal vendetta against one man" and asked: "Can everything in this be validated? We're going to look pretty foolish if it contains errors."

William F. Harrell, chairman of the committee's program and budget subcommittee and a pastor from Martinez, Ga., noted, "To cut this out is going to cut the guts out of the argument" for the budget proposal.

The vote on Compton's amendment failed 19-53.

Terry L. Davis, a pastor from Berlin, Md., opposed the publication. "We are doing what I would call a propaganda ploy," he said. "We are giving one side of the issue.... If we're going to bring peace and unity to the convention we ought not be instigators of this division."

Kenneth R. Barnett, a pastor from Lakewood, Colo., supported publication. "I believe our officers have given us complete, accurate, informed information," he said.

The motion to publish the document passed 39-20.

James E. Jones, a pastor from Campbellsville, Ky., proposed that a minority report "be given the same exposure as this document." Pressler offered a substitute that would encourage a minority report "signed by those individuals who are in agreement with the minority report."

Pressler's substitute carried with one dissenting vote.

Hankins then moved to reconsider the budget. "I have had second thoughts on funding the Public Affairs Committee at this level," he said.

"I am one Southern Baptist who is ready for a change," he said. "I do believe we may not have given the clearest alternative to the Southern Baptist Convention concerning how we will do our religious liberty work."

The vote to reconsider passed 36-26. Hankins then moved to decrease the PAC's proposed allocation from \$96,600 to \$25,000, with the \$71,600 balance going to the CLC.

The budget amendment passed 44-25, and the new budget proposal passed 46-13. (BP)

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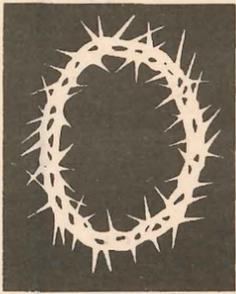
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I WILL TELL THE GOOD NEWS



Legacy of Annie Armstrong supports missions in Nevada

By Joe Westbury

RENO, Nev.—When Don Ledbetter moved to Nevada to help start a mission in 1965, he didn't know the legacy of Annie Armstrong would follow close behind.

Although their ministries are separated by more than 100 years, Ledbetter and Armstrong both took steps of faith in response to what they

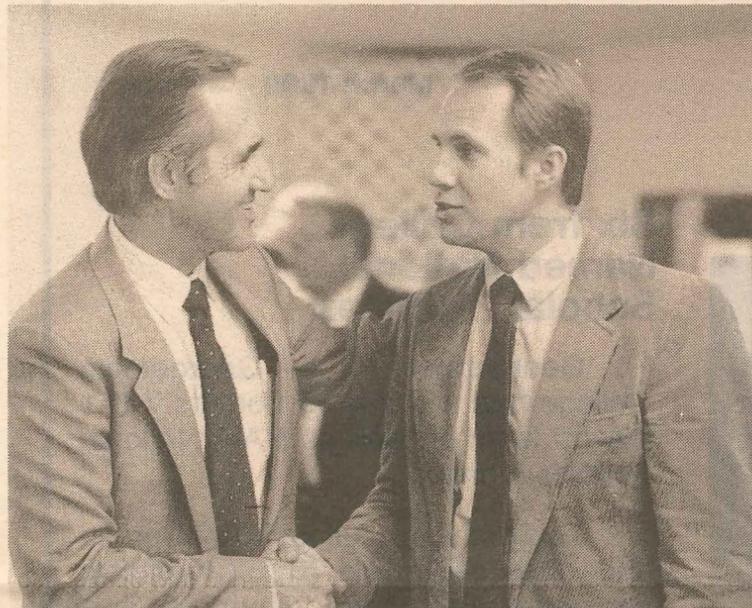
considered to be God's call.

Armstrong was the first national executive of Woman's Missionary Union, holding that office without pay for 18 years. Because of her influence in missions, Southern Baptists named their annual home missions offering for her.

That offering made a difference for Ledbetter when he made a financial sacrifice to start a Southern Baptist mission in Elko, Nev.

"I went there from Texas with no salary, and I painted houses so I would have an income," Ledbetter said. "It wasn't until a year later that I started receiving a small stipend from the Home Mission Board to help subsidize my expenses."

That \$100-a-month stipend, then called Church Pastoral Assistance, was funded in part by gifts to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions.



Home missionary Don Ledbetter (left), as director of evangelism for Nevada, helps pastors and churches as they try to reach the unchurched within the state. His role is sometimes that of encourager to pastors such as Lloyd Byers (right) of East Sparks Neighborhood Baptist Church in Sparks, Nev. Ledbetter's work is funded by gifts through the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.

In numerous instances across Nevada, the offering has made the difference between whether or not a mission would be started, said Ledbetter, who is now director of evangelism for the Nevada Baptist Convention.

"We couldn't have ever made it without Annie and the Home Mission Board's church loan department," he said as he looked back on the early days of Calvary Baptist Church in Elko.

When he first arrived on the church field, the congregation numbered 10 members—four from

his family. When he left almost 18 years later, the church was averaging 225 in Sunday School and had grown into one of the strongest congregations in Nevada.

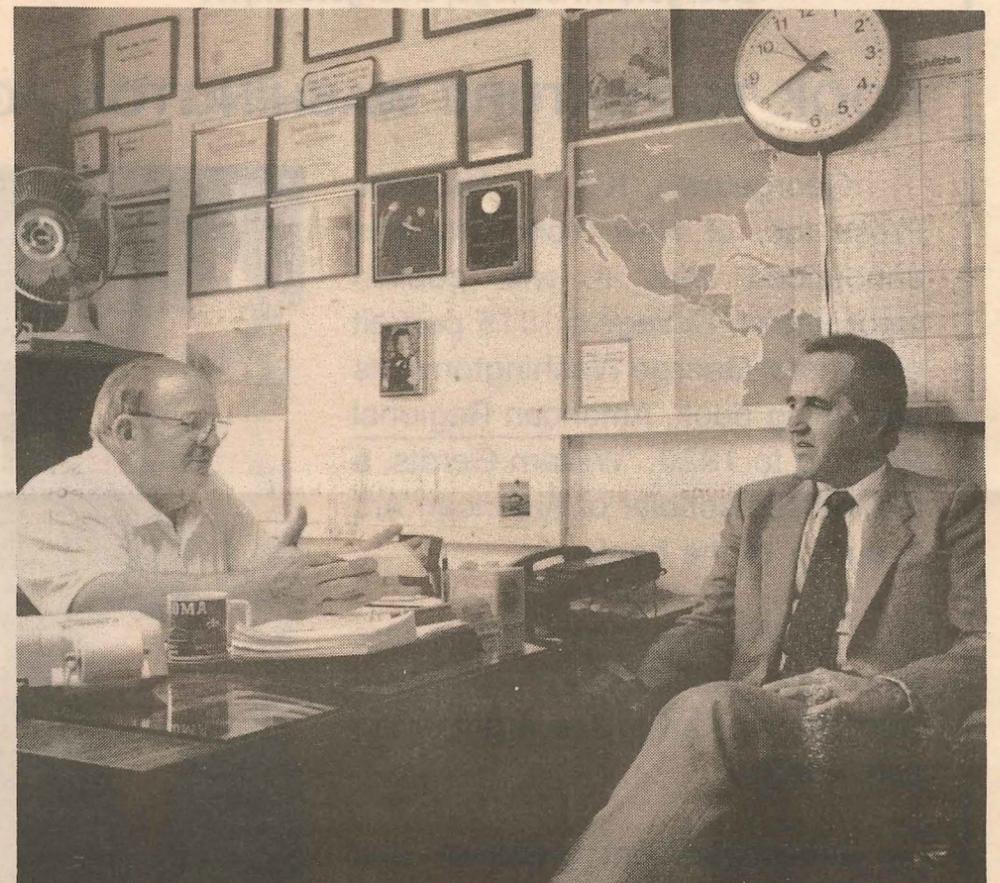
Ledbetter baptized 95 percent of the congregation, including John Randolph and his wife, Barbara. Today Randolph is the church's pastor.

The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering is a life-or-death issue for Nevada Baptists because the state remains a new-work area for Southern Baptists, Ledbetter said. Since the state convention is only 12 years old, it continues to receive a majority of its funding from the Home Mission Board.

"Annie Armstrong is our livelihood as far as the state convention is concerned. For every \$12 we budget, the Home Mission Board sends \$88 through Annie Armstrong, Cooperative Program and other funds Southern Baptists have provided," he explained.

"When I came to Nevada 24 years ago, we had 40 churches and missions. Now, largely due to the Annie Armstrong offering, we have about 120 throughout the state," he said.

Ledbetter helps churches develop an overall evangelism strategy that motivates congregations



Helping the more than 120 churches and missions in the state of Nevada plan effective evangelism strategies keeps home missionary Don Ledbetter (right) busy. Being a pilot enables Ledbetter to cover the vast territory of Nevada quicker. Here he visits with pastor J.R. Sammons (left) of First Baptist Church, Sun Valley.

I WILL TELL THE GOOD NEWS

Don Ledbetter

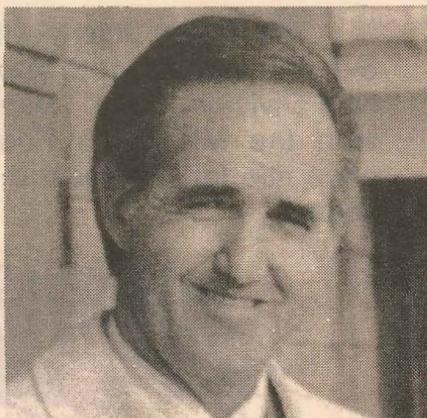
John Randolph didn't think he needed organized religion before he walked into his first Southern Baptist revival meeting nearly 15 years ago.

Randolph had privately accepted Christ in his study through reading the Bible, but he didn't want to be associated with the hypocrisy that he saw in the lives of church members.

That attitude changed when he became friends with Don Ledbetter, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Elko, Nev., where the revival was held. Ledbetter is a home missionary supported by the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions.

"Don was the first pastor I ever really knew. I thought pastors were wimpy and out of touch with reality, were not human, and were always trying to get you to do something you didn't want to do," Randolph said.

"I'm a studious kind of guy and knew my Bible, and Don's consistent exposition of Scripture impressed me. Until then, my goal in life was to enjoy life to the fullest, and when it got too bad, I would commit suicide."



The California native is grateful today that Ledbetter was there when he and his wife, Barbara, were searching for a deeper faith. They both made public decisions during that revival.

"Don taught me you can be human and Christian at the same time. He taught me grace—that you can really love another individual. He was open and honest with his emotions and was the first man I ever saw shed genuine tears of joy and grief," Randolph said.

"As I began to feel a call to the ministry,

Don told me of his own struggles and pain in accepting his call. I saw qualities in him I wanted to emulate because I had never been around a man who was so honest," he said.

Today, thanks to Ledbetter's ministry and to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, Randolph is pastor of that same church, which is one of the fastest-growing congregations in the state.

"This is a mean town with casinos and five houses of prostitution," Randolph said. "It took a man like Don to make a difference!"

Prayer requests

- Pray for God's anointing on the Here's Hope simultaneous revivals scheduled for Nevada March 18-April 8.
- Pray for the Calvary Baptist Church in Elko as they begin a building program. Pray that God will provide the resources to fund the building. New facilities will double the space of the church. The church needs additional space in order to minister to a community which is growing rapidly.
- Pray that God will provide an experienced, evangelistic pastor to begin a new church in the McQueen area of Reno.
- Pray that God will send pastors for the missions and churches in Nevada currently without pastors. About one-tenth of the convention's missions and churches do not have a pastor.
- Pray that the small churches in the Northeast and Lahonton associations will be able to participate in statewide simultaneous revivals. Many of the churches are strapped financially. Ask God to provide revival teams for them.

to greater missions involvement.

"We now go beyond the regular one or two revivals a year to include a variety of witnessing and discipling programs to equip the laity to share their faith," he said.

As Southern Baptists found during their door-to-door witnessing emphasis at the 1989 annual convention in Las Vegas, "Residents of Nevada are very receptive to the gospel—their main concern is to see if you are real or not, if you believe and practice what you preach," Ledbetter said.

"Our history shows that our potential for growth remains solid. We're one of the fastest-growing states by population due to the influx of industry and the mining boom," he said.

"The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering is the key to the growth of the Nevada convention."

**WEEK OF PRAYER
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Georgetown Focus

Georgetown College, Georgetown, KY

March 1990

BOOK TO FEATURE WASHINGTON PORTRAIT

Georgetown, KY. — Abbeville Press Inc. of New York City has announced that it will publish Georgetown College's 1815 portrait of General George Washington in its upcoming book, American Regional Painting to 1920. William Gerdtz, a recognized scholar of American Art, is author of the book.

The Washington portrait, a rare Asa Park painting, was given to Georgetown College as a gift in the early 1800's.

Art department chairman Jim McMormick has been seeking for several years an artistic benefactor who could help restore the environmentally damaged portrait.



Six from College Named National Scholar Athletes

Georgetown, KY — Georgetown College had six players from its 7-3-1 playoff team chosen as NAIA National Scholar-Athletes.

Two of the six, fullback Tim Cerullo and offensive guard Eric Chumbley, are repeat selections. Chumbley is a senior from Paris, Ky., majoring in chemistry and biology.

Also selected were: offensive back Randy Hubbard, a junior biology major from Hamilton, Ohio; receiver Mike Jeffers, a junior accounting/marketing major from Mason, Ohio; defensive end Bryan McKenzie, a junior communications major from Russell, Ky.; and quarterback Craig Mullens, a sophomore political science major from Walton, Ky.

The Tigers finished the season 7-3-1 and ranked 18th nationally in the final Division II poll. Georgetown also won the Mid-South Football Conference title for the second time in three years.

April 1st Deadline

Scholarships Available for Entering Freshman

Georgetown, KY — High school seniors planning to enter Georgetown College this fall will need to apply on or before April 1 if they wish to be considered for academic scholarships or performance grants. According to Martha Simpson, director of financial aid, substantial funds exist for entering freshman if they are seeking academic scholarships or performance grants in music, athletics, speech and drama, and art.

Academic scholarships, said Simpson, are based on a student's overall high school grade point average and ACT results.

Performance grants are awarded to deserving students by particular chairman and that department's faculty.

"We don't stop awarding financial aid

packages to students after April," said Simpson. "The college continues to make awards after that time based on the availability of funds. Students should, though, apply early."

Simpson also commented that entering freshmen should contact local businesses for scholarship possibilities.

Several businesses such as Wal-Mart and Farm Bureau, and community service organizations offer scholarships.

"Students should consult their high school guidance counselors for more information," she said.

For more information on financial aid possibilities at Georgetown College, contact Simpson at (502) 863-8027.



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| March 7 | "Alcohol and Advertising." 8:00 p.m. Hill Chapel |
| March 22 | "The Whitney Trio." 8:00 p.m. Hill Chapel |
| March 26-31 | "Maskrafters Theatre Production." 8:00 p.m. Lab Theatre. |
| March 26-31 | "Faculty Art Show." Georgetown Art Gallery. |