

FMB adopts guidelines on belief statements

by Art Toalston

A Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board trustee committee has adopted guidelines to help missionary candidates write clearer statements of belief during the application process.

The trustees' mission personnel committee adopted the guidelines during the board's June meeting at Tulane University prior to the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in the Louisiana Superdome.

The guidelines stem from trustee action last August creating a committee to annually review the missionary appointment process. The guidelines will be listed in a cover letter to accompany a "Sharing of Christian Beliefs" questionnaire traditionally used in the Foreign Mission Board's screening of missionary candidates.

The two-page questionnaire, which has undergone periodic revision by the agency's staff in the past, has asked applicants to state their beliefs about God, Jesus, the Bible and other doctrines as well as Southern Baptist cooperative work.

Now, the guidelines will list specifics to be addressed in each section of the questionnaire.

The section on the Bible, for example, previously asked candidates to: "Describe your views of the Bible. How do you use the Bible in your personal life?" Now, the guidelines for the Bible section ask candidates to address: "Inspiration, authority, reliability, purpose, miracles, historical narratives, use in your personal life."

Regarding Jesus Christ, the new guidelines ask for comments on his nature, uniqueness, birth, life, death, resurrection, second coming and "your relationship to him."

Trustees also expanded the questionnaire to include a separate section on cooperative Southern Baptist work, which previously was part of the section on the church. The cooperative work guidelines ask missionary candidates for their views on association, state and national conventions, Cooperative Program, and "your involvement." The Cooperative Program is Southern Baptists' longstand-

ing channel for churches to fund foreign and home missions and other denominational causes.

The Mission Personnel Committee, in adopting the guidelines, "did not have a desire to fit anybody into a certain mold," said its chairman, Paul Sanders, pastor of First Baptist Church of Geyer Springs, Little Rock, Ark.

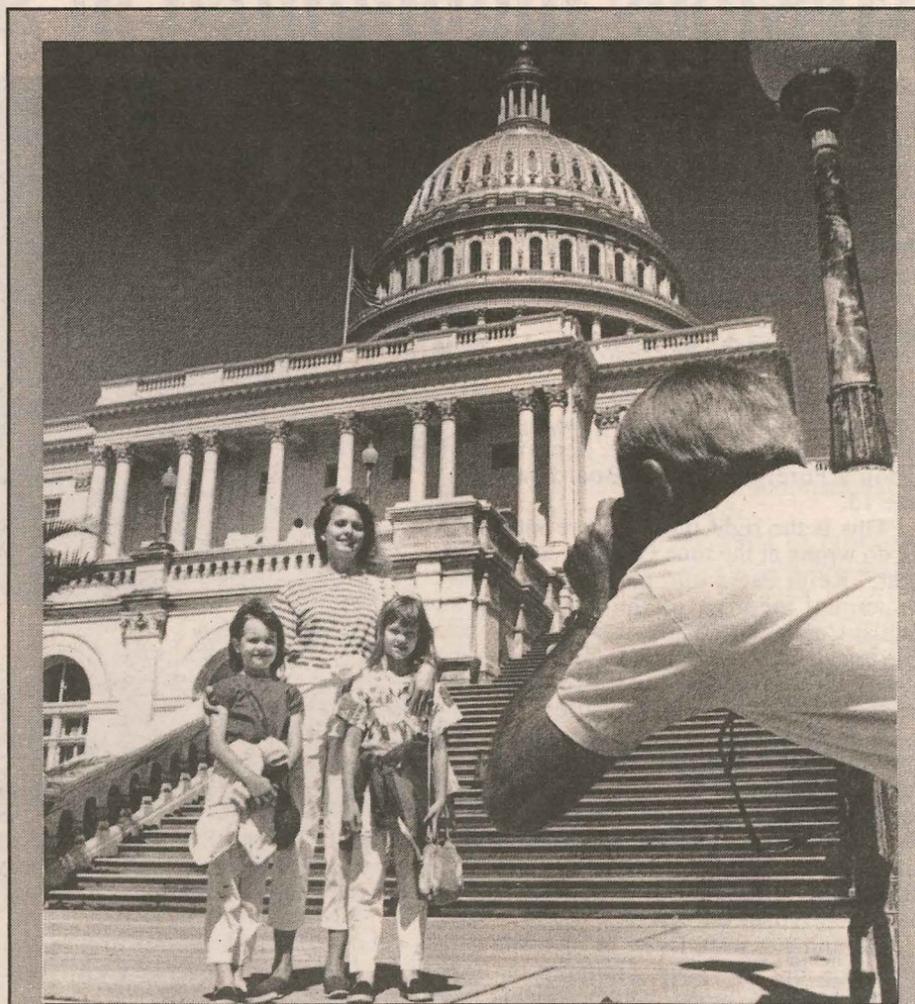
But the committee did want missionary candidates "to be more definitive in writing their beliefs," Sanders said, "so the staff and trustees know what (the candidates) believe about basic Baptist doctrines."

Sanders stated that Foreign Mission Board staff members handle most of the screening of missions applicants and that the staff often has had to seek amplification of initial written statements.

Harlan Spurgeon, Foreign Mission Board vice president for mission personnel, agreed that staff often has requested clarifications from candidates.

Spurgeon noted that the proposed guidelines were drafted by staff members. The trustee committee, before its vote to adopt the guidelines, expanded them to include the matters of creation and salvation. Spurgeon said the guidelines are neither "an adding to nor a taking from" the standards missionaries traditionally have been called to meet.

Sections on personal witnessing and the Baptist Faith and Message underwent little change. (BP)



CELEBRATING CITIZENSHIP—Southern Baptists will observe Chirsian Citizenship Sunday July 1. Sponsored by the Christian Life Commission, the day focuses on Romans 13:1, with "Ordained of God" as the theme.

McCarty: Party perceptions deceptive

by Marv Knox, Editor

Appearances were deceptive when Barry McCarty climbed up on a chair and called to order a victory celebration of Southern Baptist Convention conservatives, the SBC parliamentarian said later.

"Order, order. I call this group to order," McCarty shouted above the noise in New Orleans' Cafe du Monde June 13, at the end of the second day of the SBC annual meeting. "After all, I am the parliamentarian."

Afterward, other Southern Baptists who witnessed the event expressed outrage that the convention's paid parliamentarian would participate in what appeared to be a partisan political function. McCarty told Western Recorder his participation was merely coincidental.

"I am under 24-hour-a-day call to the (SBC) president," said McCarty, a Church of Christ minister and president of Cincinnati Bible College. "I accompany him wherever he goes."

Of his participation in the conservatives' victory celebration, McCarty explained: "I was just passing by, waiting on an order of donuts. A gentlemen, whom I don't know, asked me to get their attention. He said he had a presentation to make."

The presentation was the gift of framed certificates of appreciation to Houston judge Paul Pressler and Dallas educator Paige Patterson, who met years ago in that cafe and planned the strategy to control the SBC. During the New Orleans meeting, their forces won the SBC presidency for the 12th straight year.

"I was not an invited guest," McCarty noted. "I was with the president

(Jerry Vines), who was an invited guest.

"I had no official part in what was going on. The president gets parliamentary questions and has to do business, so I travel with him throughout the day."

Some Southern Baptists expressed their displeasure with McCarty and the conservatives, even during the celebration. "Shame, shame, shame," they shouted, before being drowned out by conservatives, who sang a verse of "Victory in Jesus."

At least one observer confronted McCarty and Pressler in the cafe with his interpretation of the events there.

"I said, 'You know what took place here, and it was inappropriate,'" reported Jay Robison, a messenger from Penile Baptist Church in Valley Station, Ky. "McCarty's participation in such a celebration in a public restaurant was a breach of Christian ethics and integrity. The jubilant gloating by the participants was embarrassing, es-

pecially in front of non-Christians."

Robison's frustration continued the following day. He made at least four attempts to report the incident to fellow SBC messengers, seeking a point of personal privilege, but was not recognized twice and had his microphone cut off twice.

McCarty told the Recorder he does not believe he is partisan. "At the convention, I crossed back and forth over the lines of skirmish," he said. "I can be seen with everyone from Roy Honeycutt to Adrian Rogers." Honeycutt is president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville; Rogers is a former conservative SBC president.

McCarty has been the SBC parliamentarian since 1986. Last year, he was paid about \$14,500 for his services. Recently, he was hired by the executive committee of Southern Seminary's trustees. "I am looking forward to working with their trustees and Dr. Honeycutt," he said. "I like him."

Lottie Moon gifts increase but miss goal

Southern Baptists gave about \$80.2 million to the 1989 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions, which pays nearly half the cost of running the denomination's world mission program.

When financial books closed May 31, Southern Baptists had sent \$80,197,870.78 to help finance mission work throughout the world. The amount represents a 1.79 percent increase over 1988 receipts and is the highest total yet for the annual offering.

Even so, the total missed the \$81

million goal. The increase in 1989 over 1988 also failed to keep pace with the four to five percent inflation rate in the U. S. and even higher inflation rates in many countries where Southern Baptist missionaries live and work.

The last time the offering total reached or exceeded its goal was in 1981. The actual 1989 tally amounted to about 99 percent of the goal. To reach the 1990 goal of \$86 million, Southern Baptists will need to increase their giving by about 7.2 percent this year. (BP)

Street _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____

June 26, 1990

Are you moving?
Please give us three weeks' advance notice. Clip this portion with your old address label, supply new address above, and send to Western Recorder, Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253.

Missions highlighted at SBC convention activities

Focus on missions is a usual highlight of activities at the annual Southern Baptist Convention. SBC 1990 continued the tradition as the Foreign Mission Board, Woman's Missionary Union and Home Mission Board took part in convention activities in New Orleans. Reports from each show missions continues to be a priority for the SBC.

FMB's Parks says, 'do right thing'

Southern Baptists must do the right thing while God has provided the right time, the president of the denomination's Foreign Mission Board said June 13.

"This is the right time, and we must not do wrong at the time God has called right," Keith Parks told messengers to the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention. Parks was the keynote speaker in the board's annual report to the convention, which featured the appointment of 34 missionaries.

To do the right thing, Southern Baptists must make greater sacrifices, Parks said. He compared Southern Baptists to the Ceausescu of Romania. The former Communist dictator and his wife were executed last Christmas day after living an opulent lifestyle while their countrymen starved.

"He and his wife lived in obscene opulence, the fur coats, diamond-encrusted heels of shoes, golden faucets in their bathroom, three-page menus for their daily meal and menus for their dogs while people starved in the streets outside their palace," Parks said.

"God has given to Southern Baptists much wealth. We will be more guilty than the Ceausescus as we shamelessly wallow in self-indulgent luxury while a lost and dying world goes into eternity with no knowledge of Jesus Christ.

"Just as God has judgment on them, God will pass judgment on us who have the wealth of the world at our disposal but have refused to share the gospel with the people of the world."

In his challenge to the missionaries, Parks explained why he believes this is the right time. "Everything has been prepared for the spreading of the gos-



Dellanna O'Brien (l), executive director of the SBC Woman's Missionary Union, warmly greets WMU members as they enter the New Orleans Convention Center for the auxiliary's annual meeting, June 10-11. (SBC photo by Clay Allison)

pel in a way that I submit to you has not been true since that right time when God sent Jesus," he said.

He cited changes in Eastern Europe and Asia as examples of God's timing. He cited further openness in Cambodia, Vietnam and Sub Saharan Africa, where half of the population could be Christians by the year 2000 if current trends continue.

These opportunities mean Southern Baptists must respond beyond anything ever done before, Parks said. "Make no mistake about it. Every religion and philosophy in the world is well aware and trying to capitalize on this new openness." Southern Baptists face the open doors, Parks reported. "There are great unreached people groups waiting. We have set our commitment to reach 300 of them; we now have people assigned to 19. (BP)

WMU has mission heart

Missions is to Southern Baptists what the heart is to the human body, about 4000 members of the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union were told at their annual convention June 10-11 in New Orleans.

To illustrate the convention theme, "Hearts of One Accord," the WMU called on Joann Goatcher, a physician and former missionary to Thailand.

"The heartbeat for missions must begin at home and flow out to a lost nation and world," Goatcher said. "The first place it can be blocked is right in our own hearts and our own churches. It will not go past the church door if there is unforgiveness, a closed hand and a hardened heart."

The women's auxiliary marked its 102nd year by welcoming its new ex-

ecutive director, Dellanna O'Brien, and unanimously re-electing Marjorie McCullough of Alexandria, La., to her fifth term as president. Both are former missionaries.

Pattie Dent of Clinton, Miss., also was re-elected to a fifth term as recording secretary.

O'Brien emphasized the importance of "keeping missions education alive in the hearts of our children. The hope of our convention is in the commitment of its young people."

The closing speaker of the meeting, R. Keith Parks of Richmond, Va., told participants Baptists must quit "deceiving themselves" by allowing their culture to interpret Christianity, rather than allowing their Christianity to guide culture. Parks is president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

"We have assumed some things about Christianity," Parks said. "We have assumed that Christianity is a comfortable lifestyle."

If Baptists will correct the cultural misconceptions and focus on the reasons for missions "we will have hearts of one accord," he added. (BP)

HMB focuses on church starts

A top Southern Baptist Home Mission Board official challenged Southern Baptists June 12 to get serious about winning America for Christ.

Charles L. Chaney, vice-president for extension, said the board is ahead of the pace needed to meet its goal of having 50,000 churches by A.D. 2000. Last year it started new churches at the rate of three and a half churches every day, he noted.

Chaney listed three reasons why Southern Baptists should commit themselves to higher levels:

- "Because of our constant obligation to the lost." Some have estimated that as many as 170 million Americans do not know Jesus Christ as their Savior, he said. This means that only four other nations in the world have greater non-Christian populations than this country, he said.

- "Because of the current opportunity we have in this nation." For the first time, one denomination has the numerical strength and ethnic diversity to reach the nation for Christ, he said.

- "Because of our commitment to the Great Commission." Chaney traced the development of churches in the early church, noting that wherever the disciples went they made other disciples and planted churches. (BP)

Avoid overload, error, Vines tells SBC messengers

by Ken Camp

The Southern Baptist Convention must be alert to the tendency toward "organizational overload and doctrinal error" or be destined for the "garbage dump of denominations," outgoing convention president Jerry Vines said June 12.

Vines, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Fla., delivered his presidential address on "the glory of the church" at the opening session of the SBC annual meeting.

"Those denominations that affirm the inspiration, inerrancy and infallibility of scripture have a bright future. But those that do not are destined for the garbage dump of denominations."

Unless churches remain vigilant in protecting doctrinal integrity and local identity, he said, the denomination could become a "mustard tree monstrosity with bureaucratic branches infested with blasphemous birds."

While denominational loyalty is desirable, Vines said, it must not supplant loyalty to Christ and the Bible. Furthermore, he stressed that the choice of Sunday school literature used, the degree of financial support for cooperative mis-

sions endeavors and the organizations present in a congregation all are prerogatives of local churches. Churches must not allow themselves to be intimidated by "bureaucratic bullies" because of their choices, he said.

Youth to "Celebrate Life" at summer music week

by Lawanda Smith, Staff Writer

For the first time in at least five years, the Kentucky Baptist Convention's church music department will conduct youth music week this summer.

Slated for July 16-20 at Cedarmore Baptist Assembly, the week-long event is being reinstated by requests from church music leaders. Youth in grades 7-12 are invited to participate.

"Celebrate Life" will be the theme for the week. The camp youth choir will present an updated version of that musical drama written by former Louisville composer Roger Red. This year marks the 18th anniversary of the musical's original release. The choir's performance is scheduled Friday morning,

At the same time, Vines said that congregational independence should be tempered by interdependence on like-minded churches cooperating in missions and benevolence. "We can do together what we cannot do alone," he said. (BP)

July 20 at 11:15 a.m. at Cedarmore.

"Youth music week will be a unique blend of worship, youth choir, music classes, recreation, fellowship and spiritual growth," said Jim Cordell, department director.

Included on the program: Roger Walworth, the department's youth music consultant, camp director; Louie Bailey, minister of music, Crescent Hill Baptist Church, Louisville, choir director; Allen Walworth, pastor, First Baptist Church, Huntsville, Ala., camp pastor; Kevin Landgrave, associate minister of music for youth, Lyndon Baptist Church, Louisville, guest artist and accompanist.

Landgrave will provide synthesized accompaniment for the musical, which he developed along with Red. Accom-

paniment also will include bass guitar and percussion. According to Cordell, the Kentucky youth choir will be the first to use the newly-developed musical charts.

In addition, each evening Landgrave will present a "celebration" featuring electronic music.

The department has enlisted additional faculty to teach music classes and help develop music skills for youth. Also, an instrumental ensemble will be organized.

Total cost for the week is \$70, including insurance, meals, lodging, music and t-shirt. For additional information and registration forms, contact the Church Music Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, Box 43433, Middletown, KY 40253, (502) 245-4101.

Honeycutt pledges to keep dream alive at Southern

by Pat Cole

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary president Roy L. Honeycutt told the school's alumni that despite uncertain times in the denomination he will devote "every ounce of my energy to keeping the dream alive at Southern Seminary."

In an address to record crowd of 1865 at the school's annual alumni and friends banquet June 13, Honeycutt stressed he plans to "live with hope no matter how hopeless times may seem."

Despite the denominational controversy, he said, he can maintain hope because "biblical hope means to wait on God."

Honeycutt's remarks came on the heels of a controversy-ridden trustee meeting at the Louisville seminary in April and after the election of a conservative president of the Southern Baptist Convention for the 12th straight year. The denomination's seminaries have been a primary target of criticism for conservative forces in the denomination who have controlled the SBC presidency.

Although the seminary's trustees voted in April to affirm Honeycutt, they passed resolutions critical of two professors and gained several key offices on the board of trustees. Just prior to the meeting, Honeycutt and several professors came under attack in a document written and circulated by seminary trustee Jerry Johnson of Aurora, Colo.

"I intend to face realistically and pragmatically where we are in the denomination," said Honeycutt. Supporters of the seminary have little chance of changing the denomination through

the annual presidential election, he said, noting "political forces" now firmly control presidential balloting.

Nevertheless, he emphasized the seminary needs alumni support "now

as never before in the history of this seminary."

Honeycutt said the seminary needs more adequate funding and new sources of funding. He predicted Cooperative Program unified budget receipts will become "less dynamic month by month and year by year. Whether or not we are able to maintain the vision, I think it is worth keeping alive" as long as possible, he said.

Southern Seminary has never tapped the full resources of its alumni, he said. Southern alumni are not powerless in the midst of the denominational struggle, he maintained.

"We simply need to redefine the ways we use power and the objects we seek to achieve," he said.

Honeycutt pledged to work "creatively and cooperatively" with the seminary's trustees. Yet he vowed not to do anything that would violate his conscience.

The trustees, he said, can make or break the seminary. Honeycutt said he will remain as president as long as "God gives me grace" and as long as he has trustee support.

Honeycutt promised to continue "reaching out to all Southern Baptists" in his leadership of the seminary.

Emanuel McCall, director of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's black church extension division, Atlanta, was elected president-elect of the seminary's national alumni association.



Southern Baptist Theological Seminary president Roy L. Honeycutt told the school's alumni he plans to devote "every ounce of my energy to keeping the dream alive at Southern Seminary." (Southern Seminary photo by Tony Aja)

Here's Hope marks beginning for Faith Baptist Mission

by Lawanda Smith, Staff Writer

Here's Hope revivals in Kentucky produced fruit.

Following the spring revivals, churches are reporting professions of faith in Christ, spiritual rededications, additions by letter.

Even new churches and missions have been started.

William Jagers, director of the Kentucky Baptist evangelism department, reports Here's Hope revivals resulted in four church starts in the state.

One of the four is Faith Baptist Mission in Middlesboro. The new mission is much more than a result of Here's Hope, observers say. Members are targeting families in low-income multi-housing units, continuing to bring the hope of Christ to that community.

The story of the mission's beginning is a story of hope and growth.

In March several men who lived in a low-income multi-family housing unit in Middlesboro began conducting home Bible studies three or four nights a week. The men were members of area Baptist congregations, most from Gap Creek Baptist Church.

The Bible studies flourished almost immediately, and as a result, several individuals expressed interest in gathering for church services. Bell Baptist Association director of missions Bruce Walzer began looking for a sponsoring church to help the group organize as a mission.

He found one in West Pineville Baptist Church, with around 300 members and a "heart for missions."

West Pineville did not set out to sponsor a mission as a result of its Here's Hope revival. Yet after the revival, the church became aware of Faith Mission and its need for a sponsoring church. With prayerful consider-



The congregation of Faith Baptist Mission in Middlesboro presently meets in a vacant building near a multi-family housing unit. Begun as a result of Here's Hope, the mission is committed to ministry with low-income families.

ation and some encouragement from pastor Mike Sledge, who had previously done mission work in Ohio, West Pineville took on the project.

Hardly anyone believes the combination of getting together was coincidence. From its inception, Faith Mission has experienced continuous revival. The group met Apr. 15 for its first worship service in a vacant block building near the housing unit. Thirty-six people attended the service, and three made professions of faith.

The second week, four more made professions of faith. All seven were baptized at a nearby creek that day.

The third Sunday, Faith began Sunday school and new-member training. About 50 attended worship, and seven more people made professions of faith. They were baptized the fourth Sunday. All together, more than 20 people have accepted Christ.

Mission pastor Larry Kidwell was a

member of Gap Creek and part of the Bible study group that began the mission. Kidwell was an almost obvious choice as pastor. He previously had been a pastor in Tennessee, for 13 years had preached on a Middlesboro radio station and had helped in area "tent meeting" evangelistic outreaches.

Kidwell credits much of the mission's growth to hard work. Members are focusing exclusively on bringing hope to residents of low-income housing units. They want to reach people other churches may not have reached, Kidwell explains. Indeed, the people are zealous in reaching out to the community, he says, noting, "They are just willing to work."

According to Kidwell, 27 people knocked on 200 doors in two hours the first evening they went visiting.

During the second visitation, some of the members encountered a young truck driver who didn't seem interested

in Christianity. Still, he was troubled all week. After he completed his week's "run," he drove his 18-wheeler to the mission building even before he went home. The fourth worship service had already begun when the young man entered the building, exclaiming, "You're not going to heaven without me." He was baptized that morning.

If such experiences are not revival enough, the mission held its own Here's Hope revival May 20-27, with an average of 80 in attendance. Evangelist Freeman Clark, pastor of Tugglesville Baptist Church in Hulan, conducted services.

Although Faith is a mission of West Pineville, the sponsoring church has not aided its mission financially. Sledge describes the role of the sponsoring church as providing guidance and giving the group credibility as a Southern Baptist mission.

"We want to help them get started on the right foot," he explains, but adds, "We allow them total freedom in baptizing their converts and things of that nature."

Faith already is contributing to the Baptist Cooperative Program unified budget. Members are negotiating to buy property to construct their own building. Kidwell says they plan to build without going into debt.

Faith plans to continue ministering to low-income families. Members are beginning new outreach home Bible studies in the area's 10 units. Kidwell says they also plan to conduct a bus ministry to every unit.

Faith Mission was begun through Here's Hope revival. Yet the work is not just the result of Here's Hope. The mission is continuing to say "Here's Hope" to a community in need of the hope of Christ.

World events provide valuable lessons of liberty

Editorial

Marv Knox

Tchingk, tchingk, tchingk. We heard the old, familiar sound of hammer on concrete for the millionth time.

But last November, hammer and concrete became a massive liberty bell, ringing the thunderous peal of independence. This time, the hammer was in the hands of a grinning East German. The concrete was the Berlin Wall. Together, they tolled a symphony of freedom.

While we listened, others picked up the tune. Its sound, so sweet and clear, shattered the wicked bonds of tyrannical governments, swelling to a crescendo of liberation.

From Eastern Europe, to Southeast Asia, to South and Central America, brave citizens rang the bell of independence, beat the drum of freedom, blasted the trumpet of liberty.

How did you feel as you listened from your living room each night? That brave tune—which most of us thought had been silenced by oppressive curtains of cruel governments—sprang to life again. Astounding, wasn't it?

Against such a dramatic backdrop, our Independence Day will be especially significant for many Americans next week. A day off from our jobs, fireworks, hotdogs and "Stars and Stripes Forever" all are delightful. But new-found freedom tastes sweeter than the best apple pie and comes almost as dear as motherhood.

If we are observant this Fourth of July, we'll take time to reflect on what we've learned from our freedom-loving friends around the globe.

Several lessons come to mind:

- Freedom is expensive. We saw blood in the streets—a dictator's blood, innocent victims' blood, soldiers' and civilians' blood. People paid their own lives to buy for others what millions take for granted. Freedom of religion, speech, travel, vocation, leisure and all other freedoms never come "free."

- Government is not God. Countless citizens trusted in the governments that fell this past year. Even the "godless Communists" placed their faith in a form of government that eventually failed them. Idolatry was not a golden calf, but a protective state; not a monument to Molech, but a maypole and "mutually assured destruction." Guess Who proved stronger than what.

- Absolute power never is absolute. The Communist Bloc seemed impenetrable, particularly for those of us with memories limited to the Cold War. Who would have thought that people long persecuted to break free from rulers who controlled military, economy, information? The unthinkable happened.

- History can reverse itself. This lesson is a corollary to the previous one. Conventional wisdom indicated that freedom lost never would be regained. Once a nation stepped behind the wall of totalitarianism, it never could return. But events of 1989-90 proved that theory wrong. Time and again, the bravery of the people reversed the courses of their nations and loosed the bonds of domination.

- Citizens—the little people—hold the power. Humility stared despotism right in the eye, and despotism blinked. The will to be free outlasted the means to dominate. Secret police and military

might kept them at bay for a time, but the commoners eventually threw the tyrants out.

- Freedom is limited; tyranny is limited. For decades, dictators thought they had their subjects under control. Little did they realize they never could control the minds of the people. They overlooked the will of the spirit, the vision of the soul. So, while their physical worlds were held hostage, the oppressed did not surrender their freedom to hope, dream and strive for liberty. And, despite their power, the despots could not contain that freedom.

- Faith is a catalyst. Protestant laypeople in Europe, Catholic priests in South America and people of faith worldwide rang the bell of freedom this past year. Their faith in God—moreover, the God of their faith—proved mightier than bullets, water cannon, secret police, torture chambers and all the instruments of oppression. Our God once again revealed Himself as Lord and Master of the universe, as He who lives in the lives of beings—even those who refused to acknowledge Him.

- We cannot take human conditions for granted. Just as freedom can be obtained, it can be lost. Just as our world neighbors captured liberty, we can forfeit it. Just as God ultimately will prevail, He does not guarantee who will have political independence.

This Independence Day—and this Christian Citizenship Sunday, celebrated July 1 in churches across the Southern Baptist Convention—we would do well to think upon the lessons of freedom we have seen the past year. We thank God for the wonderful gift of freedom, just as we pledge to remain vigilant and responsible—free citizens in a free country.

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.—Marv Knox, *Editor*

Remove trouble-makers

I am at a loss to understand what is meant by the term "academic freedom." Every book in the Bible is a corrective document. If the apostle Paul were alive today, he would quickly condemn such an expression. Paul was certain that the churches were properly and correctly indoctrinated.

Long years of experience in the ministry has taught this writer that a properly indoctrinated church is a growing church. There is too much theory and not enough theology in our churches today.

Reading our denominational papers, it is often difficult to decide what is really going on. For some time, this writer has been hearing different people express their disgust at the bicker-

ing that we have been hearing for the past eleven years. In I Corinthians 3:1-3, the apostle Paul lost patience with the church at Corinth for their constant bickering like spoiled children. In Matthew 18:15-17, Jesus said that if there were those in a church who were divisive influences, give them fair warning, and if they continued to cause division, treat them as an heathen man and a publican—in other words, throw them out.

Too many churches, instead of throwing out the trouble-makers, dismiss the pastor.

Walter M. Averett
Lexington

'Wall' parable comes true

Two years ago, at the Southern Baptist Convention in San Antonio, the convention sermon focused on a story of a

king who discovered that one of his many castles was in a state of disrepair. Over the years, looters had stolen precious items and vandals had marred the castle's beauty.

The king commissioned servants to construct a protective wall around the castle. Some time later the king returned. The wall had been completed with precision, but the castle was gone. The servants built the wall with bricks from the castle. In an attempt to protect the castle, the castle was destroyed.

Ironically, not only zealots but also vocational climbers have constructed a wall of so-called theological orthodoxy around the Southern Baptist Convention. In the process, they have destroyed the denomination. Having built the wall, they have destroyed the castle.

Fundamentalist pharisees have crucified a denomination. Fortunately, we serve a God who promises a resurrection. The form of that resurrection is yet to be seen.

Mark Waters, pastor
Ballardsville Baptist Church
Crestwood

Gay exodus may continue

Southern Baptist churches that openly welcome gays and lesbians are churches that welcome Christ. It makes pernicious sense that religious leaders who denigrate the spiritual validity of gays and lesbians would expect the same of their political leaders with regard to a citizen's liberty. Fortunately we still have a national conscience stating liberty and justice for all, not just for the heterosexual religious right.

How sad that gays and lesbians as church members and silence their souls to the persecution and emotional and verbal abuse of SBC "men of God." How tragic that some gays are returning to the church and family only to die. Gay children and teenagers are still doomed to suffer needlessly with the self-hate which continues to be taught through open oppression or the lack of gay positive leadership.

Pastors need to preach specific acceptance to their congregations. Members need to ask their pastors to nurture them toward awareness, under-

western recorder

(ISSN 0043-4132)

MARV KNOX, *Editor*

JAMES H. COX, *Associate Editor*

RAY L. HAYES, *Business Manager*

C. R. DALEY, *Editor Emeritus*

Western Recorder is published weekly by Western Recorder Inc., Box 43969, Louisville, 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, Louisville, 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 Mantooth, Morehead; Isaac McDonald, Hodgenville; John Searcy, Franklin; George Smith, Leitchfield.

guest editorials

Practice Christian humility; work together

by Jerry Hopkins

Controversy in the Southern Baptist Convention isn't new! There has always been controversy and the effort to control the convention.

These questions come in the heat of controversy—Who is right? Who should one believe? What should we do? Who is wrong? Could both be right? Could both be wrong?

Much has been said about personalities in the controversy. Condemning and sarcastic comments have been made. Conservatives and moderates continue to disagree. In the minds of some, the Southern Baptist Convention is the object of "rescue." Obviously power and control are involved. Even when the purity of the gospel is involved, we should be careful of both power and control.

Jesus warned about the corruption of power. Anthony Campolo's book *The Power Delusion* is about Christians and power today. Rebecca Manley Pippert correctly wrote in her foreword to this book that a central manifestation of sin today is "our neurotic need for control." She said: "We feverishly seek to manipulate, to be in charge."

Yet, for all of the controlling we attempt, we can never seem to control what matters most: our relationship to God, our marriage, our children's destiny, our career. The irony is that the more we clamor to be in charge, the more we squeeze the life out of everything that is precious to us." (p. 5)

Jesus was at the mercy of those in power in His day. He called them to

task for their injustices, inhumanity and insinuations. He found Himself on a cross. Because we are saved and evangelicals does not exempt us from "the power delusion," or from sin, or from putting one another on crosses.

The response of religious leaders to Jesus was more vicious than the Romans. It is the same today. Those who have been in church work very long know that a church fight is the most vicious of conflicts. No conflict in the corporate world can be as mean. It is even worse when one can justify this evil with "it is the Lord's will," or "it is for the Word of God." But when there are legitimate concerns, as expressed in the Peace Committee's report, we must recognize that contending for the Word of God is not wrong.

There is much fleshly behavior, much stubbornness, much anger in our convention toward those who are leading. There are some New Testament passages which we would do well to pray over and put into practice in our lives. Speaking the truth in love is difficult. I know this—love is the salve that soothes and solves difficult situations

A good word for our newly elected president Morris Chapman would go a long way toward healing. It has always been my conviction that after the majority has spoken we should work together. The Cooperative Program is not just a way of giving money, it is a way of working together. Anytime a minority, however large, continues to fight, there will be problems. It is the mark of Christian grace and a kind spirit to work together. It is the Cooperative

Program in action!

The Baptist Joint Committee and the vote to reassign the religious liberty issue to the Christian Life Commission is a matter of unhappiness for some. This will test us as a convention as to whether or not we are really committed to the principle of cooperation. Do we really support the Cooperative Program? Now there is an opportunity to see if we will work together, or if we will see the unravelling of the Cooperative Program's fabric.

Threats to begin designating funds to the Baptist Joint Committee will test our commitment to the cooperative principle. It is much like a church fight where folks try to get their way by voting with their pocketbooks. It dishonors the Lord as much as the charge of manipulation and "takeover" tactics made against conservatives.

This could be the finest hour for Southern Baptists as we demonstrate the gift of Christian humility and the Spirit of Jesus toward one another. We can do nothing positive for Jesus and His kingdom if we continue criticizing, backbiting and gossiping. The best thing that we can do is to speak well of our brothers in Christ, refusing to cast them in a poor light. We can practice Christian humility and respect for brothers and sisters with whom we disagree and determine that we will work together for the greater cause of Christ and for the declaration of God's inerrant Word.

Hopkins is pastor of Reidland Baptist Church, Paducah

Reconciliation unlikely; build new structure to praise God

by Malcolm Lunceford

We all went to New Orleans with high hopes, and pre-convention meetings were inspirational. The initial convention session on Tuesday morning promised a fairness from the presiding officer which was disarming, for experiences of the last few years have conditioned some of us to steamroller tactics. Jerry Vines seemed to want to be fair, and this spirit lasted until the third point of his address. Rhetoric to please the crowd surfaced, and, like the Romans in the coliseum watching the animals tear the flesh from early Christians, the crowd shouted for blood. And they got it.

The spirit of the convention deteriorated from that point resulting in questionable behavior from "both sides of the aisle." Every vote was won by the "ruling party," and each announcement of victory was celebrated with applause, shouting and fist pumping. (I thought I heard, "We're number one.") Two decisions will illustrate.

The Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, the voice of religious liberty for Southern Baptists in Washington for more than 50 years, was dumped when its mission and funds were given to the Christian Life Commission. Older heads will remember the work of Dr. George Truett and Dr. Louis Newton who gave much of their lives to make this a strong voice in church-state separation. The BJC has not deviated from the principles promoted by these great Baptist leaders of by-gone days, but a part of the SBC has lost that understanding of the doctrine of religious liberty.

Questions were raised when a pastor from a non-cooperating Baptist church was allowed to make the report as chairman of one of the most powerful committees of the convention (Committee on Nominations). The ruling from the parliamentarian was that he was elected in 1989 and was required to fulfill his duties even though not a messenger. By the same ruling, taken to extremes, if our

newly elected president joins another faith this year he will be eligible to preside at the SBC in 1991. Somehow, that doesn't seem right.

I came home from New Orleans convinced that reconciliation is most unlikely, yet with a strange peace. The energies which we have expended defending the agencies, institutions and individuals from unwarranted and vicious attacks can now be turned to building a new and positive structure through which the Lord can be praised.

I will not go where I'm not wanted. I cannot support that which deems me unfit to serve. I refuse to give to an organization or institution which will use what I give to attack my principles or my faith.

When the judge said twelve years ago, "We're going for the jugular," he was on target. The jugular has been severed. Now, we bleed.

Lunceford is pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, Frankfort.

baptist forum

standing and forgiveness. Deacons need to seek spiritual discernment so they may intuitively lead. The exodus of gays and lesbians from Southern Baptist churches may well be necessary if the spiritual mortar of unconditional love is not offered freely.

*Mark Reynolds
Louisville*

'Pettiness' embarrasses congressman

As a western Kentucky Baptist, it is indeed embarrassing that some of our present Baptist leaders are so narrow-

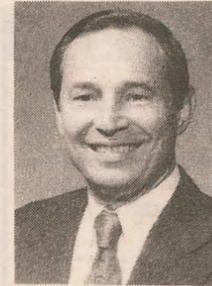
minded and nearsighted that they would offend the president of the United States. It was nationwide news that Southern Baptist officials were contemplating withdrawing their previously extended invitation for President George Bush to address the Southern Baptist Convention simply because the president chose to invite representatives of groups whose lifestyles are opposed to our theology to a White House ceremony. The president later declined the invitation in lieu of the controversy.

While I personally do not endorse the

activities or goals of these gay and lesbian groups, I do have a respect for the president of the United States. The president heads our government which represents many different types of people.

Those Wellesley College students who protested Mrs. George Bush's being invited to give their commencement address and some of our Baptist leaders obviously have something in common—pettiness.

*Carroll Hubbard
U. S. representative
Washington, D. C.*



**on
mission
together**

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

No one knew his name

We celebrated Father's Day a day late because of our travel schedule from New Orleans. By the time we arrived Sunday night and had unloaded the car, it wouldn't have been much fun anyway.

But Monday night we had the pleasure of being with all of our children, either in their home or ours.

"Happy Dad's Day," each said, accompanied by a big hug and kiss. And I'll be the best dressed golfer on the course when I finally get around to it. The kids have been chiding me that the clothes I choose aren't "young" enough. I remind them I am 58 and I don't have a 32 waist anymore!

When they had all gone home and we finally crawled into bed, I commented to Alice how nice it was to have a home, a bed, a mate and children who call me "Daddy."

Lying there, trying to catch up on a little reading, I noticed the following article in the Courier-Journal:

"Louisville police and the Jefferson County coroner's office are trying to identify a body found about 3:40 pm yesterday in a parking lot at Ninth & Market streets.

"Deputy coroner Robert Carter said the man, who appeared to be in his late 50's or early 60's apparently died of natural causes.

"Carter said the man was five feet, eight inches tall, weighed 140 pounds and had light blue eyes and gray hair. He was wearing a blue-and-red checked shirt, brown corduroy pants and brown cowboy boots.

"The man had been using crutches because he had an injured right leg, Carter said.

"He said the man had been seen before at several mission houses, but no one knew his name.

On the chest across from the bed were the gifts our children had given me for Father's Day. I had taken the cards to re-read before putting them with others we keep.

"Dad!" I have a name. I am known to some folks who are very dear to me, folks who will weep someday when my time comes to die. Maybe even some grandchildren who will remember me as "Granddaddy."

It doesn't seem fair to die like this crippled one found in a parking lot downtown.

"O Lord! Somehow I pray that this 'unknown' one was known to you and that, through some faithful witness, he knows you!"



James H. Cox
Associate Editor

fourth estate

Dark ages

It may be too late to tell this story, but I feel the urge. In sharing it, I'm not trying to point fingers or to make heroes of anyone.

The time is May 1966; the place, Cobo Hall, Detroit, Mich. Southern Baptists are meeting in their northern-most location. Yours truly is working in the convention's Baptist Book Store exhibit adjacent to the cavernous hall.

Shortly before the presidential election we hear a rumor that my pastor may permit to be placed in nomination. I am surprised, having heard no mention of it at home. But indeed, he is nominated, and elected.

Later, Fred Kendall, fellow church member and SBC registration secretary, tells me: "You will be pleased to know that our pastor never lifted so much as a little finger to get himself elected."

He recounts how the minister arrived late the night before, having been detained at home by a funeral. By then his downtown hotel had already canceled him out. After 11 p.m. he found a room in a distant hotel.

Some friends approached him about the presidency the day of the election.

My admiration for that preacher rises sharply as I hear that this is his initial contact with "the process."

This true story might have been told about the "contenders" at most of the conventions we attended prior to 1979, in the "dark ages." Back slapping, hand shaking, baby kissing and walking hand-in-hand with an admiring spouse seemed all the campaigning some aspirants needed to elect them to the SBC's highest office. Seldom did most of us know who would run until we heard the nominating speeches from the podium. The office sought the man, not the man the office. Most years, you simply had the feeling the Lord was well pleased by the thing.

That's history. With the discovery that the appointive powers of the presidency could be used to achieve specific agendas, the rules changed. Overt politicking which would have been reprehensible to most Baptists in the dark ages is now definitely the name of the game, for today's winner has opportunity to capture so much more.

Comparing the decades of the 60s and 70s with the 80s and 90s, my opinion is it's a mistake to say we were living in the dark ages back then. For Southern Baptists who labored in harmony beside one another in accomplishing great tasks, the real dark age is now.

Baptists asked to put Jesus ahead of SBC controversy

The size of Southern Baptists' hearts is doing more damage than the size of their controversy, Jay Strack said at the closing session of the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting June 14.

Applying his comments to "both sides of the aisle" in the convention controversy, Strack, an evangelist from Dallas, challenged Southern Baptists to put the message of Jesus Christ ahead of business as usual.

"I believe and try to say when asked that the real problem in our convention is that some of us have forgotten what it is like to be lost and alone," said Strack. "No one cares for my soul."

"I wonder, Southern Baptists, how many more nights we can go to bed dry-eyed when so many people cry themselves to sleep" feeling no one cares for their soul, Strack asked.

Many Southern Baptists "go to bed

dry-eyed" because they have "misunderstood the major theme of the Bible....misjudged the snares of our adversary,...misinterpreted the Great Commission" to proclaim the message of Jesus, and "misconstrued the consequences of a lost soul," Strack said.

"It's one thing to discuss the Bible," he said. "It's one thing to say this is how we feel about the Bible. But I'm going to ask you, could it be that you have really misunderstood the basic theme of the word of God?"

The basic theme, he said, is redemption of non-Christians through Jesus Christ. That, he continued, is what Southern Baptists should emphasize rather than controversy or business as usual.

"How can we have preaching as usual?" he asked. "How can we have convention politics as usual? How can we go through the motions?"

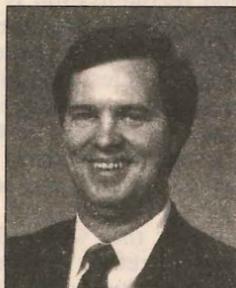
"If some of us talked to as many people about Jesus as we have talked to about what's happening in our convention, New Orleans would have never, ever, ever been the same.

"I wish the day would come when we leave an area, when we leave a city, when we leave a convention or when we leave where we are and move on to another place of service that it could be said of us, 'That man, that woman left this place full of the doctrine of the blood of Jesus Christ.'"

Noting that people on the "both sides of the aisle" always say after conventions that they want "to get back to the main thing," back to "Bold Mission Thrust," Strack thundered: "If we could get some of the hell out of our mouths and God begins to lay the reality of hell in our hearts, you and I would be different men and women for the cause of Jesus Christ." (BP)

WOW

WIN OUR WORLD



DEAN FINLEY
NATIONAL COORDINATOR

WOW Advance Training is 13 weeks of personal evangelism training for youth of all ages and their leaders. It was developed by the Personal Evangelism Training of the Home Mission Board to prepare youth for the challenge of Continuing Witness Training (CWT). The WOW workshop is for ministers of youth and youth Sunday School outreach leaders. The training is being offered in a few select places in the United States. This workshop will certify participants as equippers to use both the WOW Event and WOW Advance Training materials. Participants must attend all training sessions to be certified. WOW Advance materials can be ordered only by a certified equipper.

Registration is \$28, postmarked 30 days before the workshop, and \$38, up to 14 days before the workshop. Full refund of registration up to the 14-day deadline. No registrations or refunds will be made after the 14-day deadline. Registration fee includes all materials. It does not include travel, food or lodging. Workshops with less than 20 participants will be rescheduled. To register, send registration form and check payable to Home Mission Board. Mail to Home Mission Board, SBC • Personal Evangelism Department • WOW Registration • 1350 Spring Street, NW • Atlanta, GA 30367-5601.

(tear off)

Please call 404-898-7707 for other dates and places.

Registration Form:

October 1-3, 1990
Gardenside Baptist Church
Lexington, Ky.

Name _____
Address _____
City, State, ZIP _____
Telephone Number (____) _____
Workshop Date _____
Workshop Location _____



HOME
MISSION
BOARD, SBC

Office for Evangelism, Kentucky Baptist Convention
Bill Jagers, Director Billy Compton, Associate

Sunday School Board launches centennial celebration

The centennial celebration of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board was launched June 13 in the Louisiana Superdome in a pageant which elicited nostalgic memories of days gone by.

Dramatic presentations on Vacation Bible School, BYPU and hymns by B.B. McKinney all pointed messengers to look at their past, particularly in areas where the Sunday School Board has grown to provide leadership over the past 100 years.

In the Wednesday morning report of the denomination's education and publishing agency, a Dixieland band led a parade of groups representing the past and looking to the future.

Mule-drawn carriages carried actors representing the early presidents of the Sunday School Board. Groups of employees and trustees of the board also marched in the parade, along with children on a hay-wagon pulled by a tractor.

James L. Sullivan and Grady C. Cothen, the only two living ex-presidents of the Sunday School Board, rode in the parade in cars typical of when they served at the agency.

Lloyd Elder, president of the board, told messengers he is reminded of the work of the Sunday School Board at every turn as he visits in local churches. From the hymnals to pew Bibles to choir music to literature in Sunday School classes to "Home Life" and other magazines in the lobby of the church, Elder said he sees many ways the Sunday School Board "touches the lives of Southern Baptists."

Some of the memories of denominational giants and familiar experiences were presented to messengers with the

help of The Company, a drama group from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex.

At the end of the parade which started the Sunday School Board report, messengers heard the familiar stand-up chord which has been used in virtually every Vacation Bible School to signal the time to say the pledges to the American and Christian flags and to the Bible. Messengers then participated in the pledge to the Bible and were seated with the sit-down chord.

Brief vignettes then introduced messengers to board presidents from J. M. Frost, who borrowed \$5000 from his wife when he first started to work, to Elder.

Sullivan, who headed the board for 22 years and was elected president of the Southern Baptist Convention the year after his retirement in 1975, said the greatest contribution of the board to the denomination "will not be found in buildings and size, but in commitments made to Baptists."

"Those commitments include producing Bible-based, Christ-centered, God-honoring publications," Sullivan said. "The board also has been committed to producing programs which minister to people everywhere, in every city, village and community."

And, the board has helped "develop a vocabulary so that people could communicate with each other in an understandable way," Sullivan concluded. "These are the contributions to which the board has been committed and faithful and continues to be."

Herschel H. Hobbs, former SBC president who is pastor-emeritus of

First Baptist Church in Oklahoma City, was introduced to close the report with prayer. Hobbs has written almost 1200 Sunday School lessons, more than any other writer.

Darrel Baergen, director of the Center for Christian Communications Studies at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Ft. Worth, Tex., was narrator for the special report.

WE'VE HELPED START MORE OUTREACH MINISTRIES THAN SOME DENOMINATIONS!



For nearly forty years, we've been showing churches how to get (and pay for) the smartest buys in transportation for all kinds of bus ministries—from choirs to athletics, from Sunday School to programs for Seniors.

With offices in Nashville, Charlotte, Atlanta and Anaheim, we are the biggest mini-bus dealer in the country. But we're more than that. We are transportation consultants to churches everywhere.

SO, HOW CAN WE HELP YOUR CHURCH?

Good question. And the answer's easy. Just give us a call. We'd be delighted to offer you a free analysis of your church's transportation needs, and, helpful hints on raising money to pay for a church bus. And there's no cost, no obligation.

We're convinced that we can help you find the smartest way to meet those needs, while enhancing your church's image and increasing the effectiveness of its ministry in the process.



1228 Lakeview Drive
Franklin, Tennessee 37064
615 • 790 • 8990 1 • 800 • 641 • 0989

Women in Ministry merge with center

Southern Baptist Women in Ministry members approved constitutional revisions that will allow their organization to merge with the Center for Women in Ministry, based in Louisville.

Approval of the revisions—as well as worship experiences and workshops around the theme "Welcoming the Stranger...Sojourners in the Fellowship of God"—took place during SBWIM's eighth annual meeting June 9 and 10 in New Orleans.

As SBWIM has changed and grown through the years, it has seen a need for more structure, said Betty McGary, outgoing president.

In addition to providing for the SBWIM-CWIM merger, the changes were designed to provide for more membership involvement on the steering committee; more continuity of leadership; increased visibility and influence of the organization; and greater clarity or consistency of language. (BP)

The Baptist Pastors Fellowship

at

GEORGETOWN COLLEGE

presents

"The Pastor and The Baptist Heritage"

Tuesday, July 10, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

featuring

- Did I learn in seminary all I need to know about Baptist?
- What are basic Baptist distinctives?
- Preaching Helps



Dr. W. Morgan Patterson

- \$10.00 fee—includes lunch
- Warm fellowship
- For more information, call Steve Cook at (502) 863-8041.

mountains to the mississippi



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

clear creek chronicle

SBC connection

The prospect of securing new students encouraged our exhibit at the New Orleans SBC. If we get another family like Jim and Mary Jefferies, it will be worth it.

Jefferies grew up in Louisville and was converted at Kenwood church. At age 12 the family moved to Wisconsin where he completed high school and a two year technical school. He and Mary Evan married in 1967.

"I told the Lord all I could do was work with my hands so we decided on missionary technology." While at La-Tourneau College, Tex., Jefferies helped churches with music.

Mrs. Jefferies graduated from nursing school in 1964 and worked in hospitals. The Jefferieses moved to Ohio and soon began a seven-year ministry of music at University Church, Beaver Creek. Jefferies had heard about Clear Creek through an uncle, an Ohio director of missions. "When I saw the Clear Creek sign at the 1986 Atlanta convention booth I remembered my uncle's encouragement. I talked a long time with a student in the booth and during the next hour of the convention I devoured the catalog," Jefferies recalls.

The Jefferieses have had a full four years. Mrs. Jefferies managed the campus clinic for two years and the past year worked at Corbin Baptist Hospital. During their first semester East La-Follette (Tenn.) Baptist Church called Jim as minister of music; Mary played the piano. They directed a fully graded choir program.

The Jefferieses were in campus choir, handbells and the Clear Creek Singers. They have directed the campus children's choir. One of the highlights of their musical training was the 1987 choir tour.

Jefferies appreciates "the diverse background and experience of the Clear Creek faculty and the ability to relate one on one with them." He is glad the school requires a Bible major for all graduates. "I came to Clear Creek to prepare for ministry and you can't be fully prepared without the Bible," Jefferies commented.

The Jefferieses brought two teenage girls to campus; they leave with a son-in-law and a grandchild. Their daughter Shannon married Kenny Dugan. All four graduated May 11.

What will be the result of our New Orleans exhibit?

congregations

George Bond preached morning worship services June 17 at Erlanger (Ky.) Baptist Church. He pastored Erlanger from 1943-46 and in 1945 helped start Kento-Boo Mission. Erlanger is celebrating a century of ministering, 1890-1990.

Flemingsburg (Ky.) Baptist Church celebrated its 150th anniversary June 17. The Miller Family, London, presented special music and the church dedicated its annex building after pot luck lunch. Howard C. West is pastor.

Rose Hill Baptist Church, Ashland, awarded six scholarships to high school and college students: Virginia Conley Memorial Scholarship, Mindy Kimberlain; Elmer Robinette Scholarship, Deana Boyd and Kimberly Coburn; special scholarship, Tracy Rogers; Lawrence Creech Memorial Scholarship, Melissa Adams and Janet Cremeans.

One-hundred-one etchings by Salvador Dali from the private collection of Mr. and Mrs. William P. Mulloy Sr. were displayed at Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville, Sunday, June 10. The display was part of the church's 175th anniversary.

revivals

Here's Hope revival at Knoxville Baptist Church, Williamstown, resulted in seven professions of faith, one addition by letter and three rededications. Evangelist was William Carter, Frankfort. Pastor is Dwight Parker.

deaths

Benjamin Bryan Hilburn, 92, of Louisville, died June 4. He was a member of Hurstbourne Baptist Church, Louisville, retired pastor and former chaplain at Baptist Hospitals, Louisville. He also taught at Campbellsville (Ky.) College. Survivors include his wife, Genevieve Eure; a son, Richard; a brother, William; and two grandchildren.



May 20 Hebron (Ky.) Baptist Church broke ground for a new 8800 square foot educational building. Completion on the \$413,000 structure is slated for late fall. Pictured above are (l-r) Mason Boots, treasurer and building committee member; Gene Conrad, building committee; Kim Gilkison, Trinity Corp., Louisville; Mark Keith, pastor; Carl Pepper, trustee chairman.



Eunice and Eddie Sumbler (l) and Terri and Wayne Sibley attended an orientation for Southern Baptist chaplains and spouses at the Home Mission Board, Atlanta, sponsored by the HMB Chaplaincy Division. Sumbler is chaplain with the U. S. Army, Ft. Campbell, and Sibley is chaplain at Baptist Regional Medical Center, Corbin.

George C. Wiles Sr., 73, of Pleasure Ridge Park, died May 24 in Louisville. Wiles was a member of Hillview Baptist Church, Louisville, and an executive board member for Long Run Association. Survivors include his wife, Catheryne Blankenbaker; one son, George Clay Jr., Louisville; and two sisters, Alliene Roberts, Louisville, and Eunice Livers, Brandenburg.

personnel

Jennie Stillman, soprano, missionary to Indonesia, and Jeffry Johnson, pianist, will present a recital June 29 at 8 p.m. in Heeren Recital Hall, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville. Johnson is organist at Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville.

Seibert K. Sullivan resigned as pastor of Altona Baptist Church, Calvert City. He will be available for supply, revivals and other activities. Address: 11300 Saloma Rd., Finley, KY 42736, (502) 465-2682.

Eddie Fort is new minister of music at Glasgow (Ky.) Baptist Church.

Greg Woodbury Jr. is new pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Manning, S. C. He goes from Jordan Baptist Church, Sanders, Ky.

Weldon Greer resigned as pastor of New Liberty Baptist Church, Edmonton.

LeRoy and Jean Albright of Georgetown, missionaries to Mexico, are featured speakers at the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union conference June 23-29 at Ridgecrest (N. C.) Baptist Conference Center.

Memorial Baptist Church, Frankfort, called Monty Carter as minister of youth.

St. Matthews Baptist Church called Alice Kirkpatrick-Bremer as full time minister of education.

Chip Pendleton resigned as pastor of Buckner Baptist Church, LaGrange, to go to Buena Vista (Va.) Baptist Church. Buckner called Jesse Stricker as interim pastor.

Eighteen Mile Baptist Church, LaGrange, called James Roy Corley as pastor.

Ralph Morris resigned as pastor of First Baptist Church, Bronston. He goes to Island Creek Baptist Church, Manchester.

Antioch Baptist Church, LaCenter, called Carey Steele as associate pastor.

Ross L. Range announced his retirement from the pastorate of Ashland Avenue Baptist Church, Lexington.

Jimmy Clem resigned as pastor of Coxtan Baptist Church, Harlan.

Dennis Johnson resigned as pastor of Riverside Baptist Church, Dayhoit. Mathias Williams is the church's new pastor.

Roy Macken Jr. resigned as pastor of Augusta (Ky.) Baptist Church.

Philip Fraley resigned as pastor of Slaty Point Baptist Church, Morehead.

Salem Baptist Church, Irvine, called Jerry Smith as pastor. He was ordained May 20 at Friendship Baptist Church, Irvine.

Means Baptist Mission, Frenchburg, called Gregory Waltermire as pastor. He was ordained May 6 at Jeffersonville (Ky.) Baptist Church.

Ivory Hill Baptist Church, Irvine, called Marvin Neal as pastor. He was ordained June 3 at Friendship Baptist Church, Irvine.



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

sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR JULY 1, 1990

Life and work series

Treat all persons justly

James 2:1-7 James used the expression "my brethren," which affirmed that it is displeasing to God to favor one Christian above another because of external differences. James did not hesitate to reprimand his readers for glorying in people because of their professions, possessions or accomplishments. He was anxious to bring to an end the practice of showing respect of persons in the assemblies of Christians. Since God is not a respecter of persons, His children should certainly refrain from selfish partiality in their treatment of others.

James 2:9-13 Rich and poor should

meet for Christian worship on common ground. It is our Christian duty to honor spiritual worth rather than worldly standing. According to verse nine, it is a sin to show preference to any person in the Lord's house simply because he or she has wealth. While the worldly-minded prefer outward display to inward spirituality, and therefore court the special favor of the prominent and the influential, devoted Christians refuse to yield to this temptation. All the people have and are, whether they are rich or poor, they owe to the Lord.

James contended that real faith would result in good works. Anything which is called faith that does not result in works is not the kind of faith commended by God and revealed in His servants. Faith and works are united inseparably. If a person has saving faith, it is certain to manifest itself in good works. To profess to have faith and, at the same time, to be destitute of practical living and charitable giving is to prove that the profession is false and worthless. If we claim to have faith, we are under obligation to prove that we do.

Our love must express itself in a practical manner. We must, as we have opportunity and ability, seek to alleviate distress and need. It is not enough in saying, but in doing. If one closes his or her heart to the appeal of the needy, the love of God does not dwell in that person.

International series

Get Wisdom at all cost

Prov. 4:1-13 Moses urged the fathers that proper education and training of their children were of tremendous importance. He urged them to instruct

their children in the knowledge of what God required of them. To train young children correctly requires much knowledge, wisdom, time, patience and energy. Right living in the family requires correct instruction from the parents, obedience from the children and conformity to the will of Christ by all.

David's personal interest in the religious instruction of Solomon should shame parents today who either neglect this responsibility or commit it to others outside the family. Careful instruction and proper discipline of children are an evidence of true affection of parents. Respect for godly parents brings credit to the children, honor to the parents and blessings to the community.

God's word teaches that one of the primary responsibilities of parents is to instruct their children. Parents should live in conformity to the teachings of God's word and then convey its messages and principles to their children. Whether or not they realize it, parents are making an impression on the minds of their children by their attitudes, words and actions. Both parents should realize that nothing can take the place of home training.

Our Lord is worthy of being acknowledged with our hearts, our intellects and our lives. We should trust our Lord, serve Him with our talents, praise and honor Him with our gifts. If we expect the Lord to lead us, we must let Him determine our thoughts, mold our character and control our lives. Obeying His instructions will build Christian character so that it will be beautiful, strong and able to withstand the assaults of Satan. Through their noble examples, instructions, admonitions and exhortations parents can have wholesome and permanent influence over their children.



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

homes for children

Gilead Baptist Church

Gilead Baptist Church is not your typical rural Baptist church in Kentucky. Located about one- and one-half miles southwest of the small community of Glendale, the first thing one notices is the graveyard with headstones dating back to before 1850. The church itself was founded in 1824.

Now those facts alone do not make it unique, for there are older Baptist churches and many Kentucky Baptist churches are rural. What makes it a special place is the role it has played in the lives of the thousands of children who have lived at Glen Dale Children's Home.

Actually, before it was home to the children's home's youth, it served as the home congregation for Lynnland College, which began in 1864 and closed the year before Glen Dale began on the same property.

Can you imagine your church having one family that at times has numbered over 200 and today, counting staff, would be around 80-90 people? The family members are not there for long periods of time and you really cannot count heavily upon that family to add a great deal to the church treasury.

Instead the family requires a lot of Sunday School space, space in the sanctuary and a lot of the staff's time. The family members frequently change, so new relationships constantly have to be formed and at times tested.

Throughout these many years and literally thousands of people, Gilead Baptist Church has continued to serve the children and staff of Glen Dale well. Many youth have found our Lord through the witness of the church, and staff have found a church home where they are supported at a time when they have had to give so much of themselves to the care of children who have great needs.

This child care ministry owes Gilead a special commendation for the tremendous and at times thankless role it has played and continues to play in our work.



75 years of caring



Barkley Moore
President
Oneida Baptist Institute
Oneida, KY 40972

oneida journal

Watching God at work

Both the father and mother of Chris are college professors in a Baptist college. Dan has grown up in the home of a Baptist preacher, his parents dedicated to full time Christian ministry. Both boys are fine young men who have had loving parents, wholesome homes. Neither boy has ever been in serious difficulty.

Each boy came to us needing more individual attention academically. Neither was doing what he was capable of doing. Each was sort of drifting aimlessly and, consequently, was not very happy with himself. Both resisted the idea of coming to Oneida.

Neither Chris nor Dan had accepted

Christ as personal Savior. Since being at Oneida, both have received Christ into their hearts, have claimed Him publicly and have followed Him in baptism. Each normally has a big smile radiating a happiness they had not had before.

Dan and Chris are roommates. They still have a long way to go to reach their potential academically. But now they want to be good students. That has become important to them. Before, they simply did not care, like millions of their peers across the land.

Each boy has "found" himself, not only in the Lord but also in Oneida's work program. They have learned how to work here at Oneida and delight in doing so. Their achievements in our work program have given each of them a new self respect, a growing sense of worth.

For example, last summer Chris learned how to lay floor tile here. He has taught Dan how to do so this summer. In the past two weeks since the spring academic term ended, they have laid all new tile in the hallways of both the first and second floors of their dorm, also on the landings of the stairwells and in several of the student rooms. They are replacing tile laid 22 years ago, as part of a major renovation.

Learning from them is a third roommate, a new boy from Japan named Toshiaki. This young man is the son of a Buddhist monk. He and his father visited Oneida several months ago during our spring revival. They had been told of the work of this Christian school by a Moslem. They attended the revival services, neither understanding more than a few words of English, but their

fluent Moslem friend interpreting. The father was pleased with what he observed here that week in the classroom, on the athletic field, in our work program and, yes, in our chapel worship. The boy begged to come to Oneida from the day they returned to Japan.

So Toshiaki arrived in time to take part in the two week "work" program between the spring term and the start of summer school. Though he has never done any manual labor in his life, he is very bright. He is delighting his roommates as he is picking up the tile-laying skill, as well as English.

A fourth roommate is Mike. He is several years older than the others. His home was broken by divorce when he was a child. As has been true for millions of other boys and girls, that created many problems in his life. At one point he was in a Baptist children's home in Georgia. Conflict with a stepmother led to his being out of his father's home at age 16 and out of school. He experienced several years of working odd jobs, living here and there, scrambling just not to be hungry. He shared an apartment with a young man who once attended OBI. That is how Mike learned of Oneida's work, the school of the second chance. He came to us, like thousands of others have over the years, without a penny. But he wanted to learn and he was willing to work.

Today Mike is a very happy young man because, like Dan and Chris, he has accepted Christ. He also excels in our work program.

We do not recruit or advertise for students. We see God at work in each situation.

RECOGNITION OF KENTUCKY BAPTIST LEADERS

The KBC Obituaries Committee wishes to include in its 1990 report information on deceased persons who have served our Lord and Kentucky Baptists in a noteworthy manner. We are including persons who died during the convention year, September 1, 1989, through August 31, 1990.

These persons may be Kentucky Baptist ministers, missionaries, educators, laypersons, institutional leaders and staff and others whose Christian service has had an impact beyond the local church.

We need your help to gather the following information:

1. Full name of deceased
2. Date of death
3. Active or retired status in last position held in city, state where located
4. Name of church were member, association, state
5. Service or ministry worthy of recognition (briefly stated)

Please forward this information as quickly as possible to:

Calvin Perry, Chairperson
Committee on Obituaries
308 West Main St.
Alexandria, KY 41001

These obituary entries will be reported to the 1990 KBC annual meeting in Paducah. You are an important part of our network to gather information on those servants who deserve to be remembered among Kentucky Baptists.

We are grateful to you.

Calvin Perry, Chairman, 1989-90 Committee on Obituaries

SPECIAL

FIBERGLASS AND BAPTISTRIES STEEPLES

Free Brochures — Free Estimates

Write **Ketron Church Furniture**
or **3401 Montlake Dr.**
Call: **Knoxville, TN 37920**

Steeple Phone (615)577-8716



THANKS FOR CONTINUED BLESSINGS IN THE MINISTRY OF EVANGELISM!

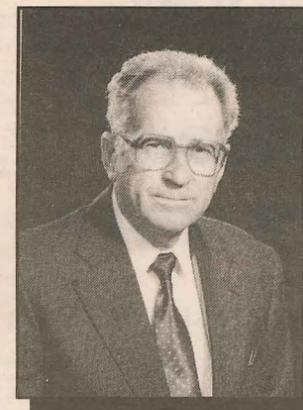
Jay Brown Evangelistic Association



Jay Brown
Evangelist/Revivalist

ASSOCIATION MINISTRIES

- Church Revivals
- Prayer Seminars
- Witness Training
- Combined revivals, seminars or witness workshops have been very effective.

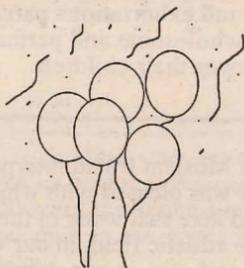


Harry Porter
Associate Evangelist

(Ephesians 4:11-12)

JAY BROWN EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
200 OXFORD PLACE, LOUISVILLE, KY 40207
PHONE (502) 895-0696

Come celebrate what we're doing for children.



Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children Child Care Days 1990

Glen Dale Children's Home

Saturday, July 21, 10:00 AM

Part of Glen Dale's 75th anniversary celebration.

Spring Meadows Children's Home

Saturday, July 28, 10:00 AM

For the first time: Child Care Day and Homecoming combined.

Fill out and return the form below by July 3.

Child Care Days Pre-registration Form

Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children
2801 Shelbyville Road
Ciddletown, Kentucky 40243
Phone: 1-800-456-1386



Name of church, organization or individual _____

Address _____

Number in group _____ Phone number _____

Campus you will visit: (Please check one.)
 Glen Dale, July 21, 1990
 Spring Meadows, July 28, 1990

KENTUCKY BAPTIST SECRETARIES ASSOCIATION

Fourth Annual Conference

July 26-28, 1990

Campbellsville College

"FOLLOW THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD"

This year's theme capitalizes on the movie, "The Wizard of Oz" and its three "seekers". We will be challenged to sharpen our MINDS, open our HEARTS and gain COURAGE to serve our churches and our Lord more effectively.

Three "tracks" are being offered:

I - Church Secretary Certification Seminar

Two modules will be taught at each of the next three annual conferences. Seminar Fee-\$35; Advance deposit of \$15 required. \$20 Balance due at retreat.

II - Church Office Administration and Associational Secretaries Diploma

Credit will be applied to the church study course diploma. Study book: *Being God's People*

III - Professional Development/Self-Improvement

A variety of workshops to learn new office skills; how to handle stress and burnout and how to look and be your professional best.

The conference runs from 5:00 Thursday to noon on Saturday. Join us for great fellowship and challenging workshops. Fees include lodging and meals (Commuters fee—just meals).

REGISTRATION FORM

KBSA CONFERENCE

July 26-28, 1990

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Lodging & Meal

Fees: [] Overnight \$60.00 Amount Enclosed
[] Commuter \$45.00 \$ _____

Advance deposit of \$15 is required which applies to total fee above.

Seminar Fees:

Check one: [] Track I \$15.00 \$ _____
[] Track II 0
[] Track III 0
Total Enclosed \$ _____

Mail To: KBSA, c/o Patty Brock
779 Mildred Street
Versailles, Ky 40383

KBHC college banquet introduces residents to continuing care program

by Beth W. Prassel

Former University of Kentucky basketball star Jim Master recently spoke to youth at the first Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children college banquet, held at Spring Meadows Children's Home, Middletown. Sponsored by KBHC's continuing care program, the banquet honored KBHC's high school juniors and seniors and current college students in continuing care.

"All of you are winners in here," said Master. "All of you have fought through adversity and some tough times. All you young men and women who are going to college, that's a tremendous advantage for you—a great opportunity. And that's what life's all about, the opportunities that you get."

He encouraged youth "to be the best you can be" and warned against temptations such as drugs and alcohol youth might face in college. "You can't be (your best) when you're on drugs and alcohol."

Master explained how he set goals throughout his life to achieve success in basketball. (Master was named Indiana's Mr. Basketball his senior year of high school and later accepted a basketball scholarship to U. K.)

"Set your goals high," he told the group. "But also set short term goals that you can achieve right away. You can

grow from that and get some success and some courage to go on. Don't be scared of failure. Get right back up on your feet and keep going. You're only a failure when you quit."

Master urged high school students to "see the opportunity these young men and women have by going to college. It really does open up more doors."

Three students told about their experiences in college under continuing care. Roger Eggleston, a former resident at Glen Dale Children's Home and a student at Cumberland College, told youth, "College is fun, but college is also tough. One of the main things I have learned in college is to say 'no,' one of the hardest words to say. You have to decide for yourself what's more important. Is it your grades or going out with your friends?"

Cindy Weddle, a former Spring Meadows resident, did not choose to be a part of continuing care her first year at the University of Louisville. When she had trouble with grades the next year, she called KBHC. "I got into the continuing care program and it was a life saver."

"College can either be the greatest or the worst experience of your life," said Tim Isaacs, a former Glen Dale resident and current student at Georgetown College. "It's what you choose to make it." Tim encouraged students to take advan-

tage of the support offered through KBHC. "There are plenty of neat people just waiting to help you. When somebody reaches out a hand to help you, grab hold of it, because not one of us can do it on our own."

KBHC's continuing care program assists graduating high school seniors in making the transition to college, vocational school or a job. When youth leave the homes, this program allows them to keep in contact with and receive further supervision from KBHC.

After young people finish high school, "we don't throw them out on their own," says Scott Shouse, continuing care coordinator. "(Continuing care) gives them an opportunity to mature a little bit more."

Shouse works with many youth who plan to attend college. He takes each student to visit various schools and attempts to find a college that will suit the individual's personality and academic abilities. When the young person makes a decision, Shouse helps him or her apply to the schools chosen.

Students stay at the homes through the summer and officially come under Shouse's care in August, when they go to college. While there, he ensures that tuition, books, meals and other expenses are paid. Students also receive personal supplies and an allowance. If a student wants to work, Shouse assists



Former UK basketball star Jim Master talks with a Spring Meadows resident at the first KBHC college banquet.

him or her in finding a job.

Shouse visits each student every two weeks. He says the visit "might last 15 minutes or might last an hour, depending on the problems they're going through."

Unlike most students, some KBHC youth have no family support. "I can be that link, that person they can turn to for moral support or for help," says Shouse.

The continuing care program began just two years ago and Shouse feels that the program is still developing. "One thing we must recognize is that college is not for everyone. Some kids need to go into a vocation or a trade. I think that's an avenue we're going to need to look at in the future. We've still got a lot of things to learn."

African boy finds help at Glen Dale Children's Home

by Beth W. Prassel

Glen Dale Children's Home, Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, not only helps local young people, "but now it has reached half way around the world to help somebody," says Howard Cobble, pastor, Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown. "Severns Valley Church and I have a great appreciation (for what they have done)," he says.

Fifteen-year-old Joshua Ochieng came to the U. S. from Kenya earlier this year and has been living at Glen Dale several weeks.

Ochieng had a club foot but says his family could not afford surgery for him in Africa. While in Kenya, Ochieng re-

ceived help at the Baptist mission station in Limuru. Arrangements were made for Ochieng to go to Louisville, where a local doctor volunteered to operate on his foot.

After Ochieng's surgery, Cobble, the boy's legal guardian, realized Ochieng needed continued supervision and care.

"The church moderator and the chairman of deacons and I were brainstorming about what we could do," says Cobble. "We all decided the best thing was to send him to Glen Dale. We know (Glen Dale) quite well and respect what they do with children. We knew that it would be a great place for him to stay."

Cobble made plans for Ochieng to

stay at the home until June 15, when he will return to his home in Kenya.

Cobble says Ochieng was hesitant at first about going to Glen Dale. "He had no idea what he was getting into."

Glen Dale director, Buckley Carlin, met Ochieng and relieved his doubts about Glen Dale. "After we explained to him what Glen Dale is," says Carlin, "we asked him what he understood about it. He said, 'I understand if I go to Glen Dale and I have problems there will be someone there to talk to.'"

Ochieng says when he first went to Glen Dale he felt homesick "because I couldn't talk well." A friend from Kenya, who came to the U. S. with Ochieng, had been helping Ochieng with translation from English to Swahili. When his friend returned to Kenya, Ochieng had to communicate on his own. At Glen Dale he has learned more English and says he now feels more comfortable.

Ochieng is also regaining use of his foot. Glen Dale nurse Susan Byers coordinates his medical care. Since being at Glen Dale, "he has gone from two crutches to one crutch to a cane and now does some walking without it."

Mrs. Byers took Ochieng back to the doctor in Louisville several times. She helped him order special shoes and a leg brace and now arranges his transportation to Lakeview Rehabilitation Hospital for regular physical therapy.

Ochieng hasn't let his surgery prevent him from normal activities. The last two weeks of school he attended Lincoln Trail Elementary, Elizabethtown, where Mrs. Byers' husband Mike is principal.

Mrs. Doris Campbell, a third and fourth grade teacher at the school, agreed to let Ochieng attend her classes. She says Ochieng has done well and learned a lot. "But we've

learned as much from him as he has from us," she says.

Students who attended class with Ochieng say they learned a lot about Africa: "He taught us a song in Swahili."

"There are lions in the city."

"We learned about his school."

All agreed that Ochieng "is nice and funny and kind. We're going to miss him (when he goes home)."

Ochieng says he knows the students like him from their actions. He walks slowly and sometimes falls behind the others. But always, he says, "they come back after me."

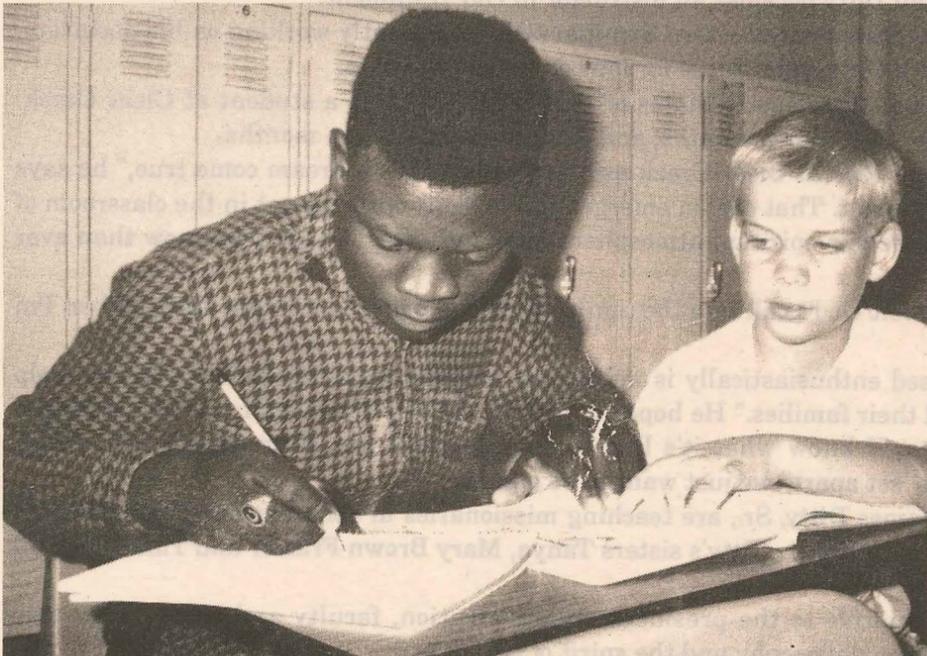
"He fits in with any age group," says Mrs. Byers. "Every time I see him there's a flock of kids around him."

A member of Severns Valley, Mrs. Byers takes Ochieng to church on Wednesday nights. He participates in one of the children's choirs and has sung several solos in Swahili. He also attends Youth Celebration during prayer meeting and, during the week, International Fellowship meetings, where he works on his English skills with other international people in the area.

On Sundays Ochieng attends church with other Glen Dale residents at Gilead Baptist Church in Glendale. He also travels with the Homeland Singers, the home's traveling youth choir.

Mrs. Byers notes, because the children at Glen Dale have had so many problems themselves, "it's easy for them to see a person who needs something and respond to it. When you've had problems yourself, you identify with people in similar circumstances even though the language is different."

"It's been nice for the children at Glen Dale because they've seen someone from a different country and have been able to show him love. And they have gotten that in return from him."



Bret Thompson, a student at Lincoln Trail Elementary, helps Joshua Ochieng with an English lesson.



CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Theological Education For Adults Since 1926

Pineville, Kentucky

Dr. Bill D. Whittaker, President

COTTAGES REWIRED

Six laymen, all grandfathers, from the 12th Street Baptist Church, Paducah, Kentucky, recently spent two days on the Clear Creek campus, rewiring student houses on Holly Hill. Most of the houses are in need of extensive wiring and plumbing after years of constant use. When wiring and plumbing needs have been satisfied, some cottages will receive partial renovation as funding is obtained. Persons interested in assisting with the student housing project may contact the president. The men who assisted in the wiring project are: Bill Cossler, Bobby Knight, Oliver York, Bill Deaton, Freddie Cooper, and Carl Goligher.



FAMILY CONNECTIONS

Do you remember the old country song "I'm My Own Grandpa?" the Larry Day, Greg Humpert, and Arthur Irvin families, who were students at Clear Creek, are proof such relationships exist.

Day and Humpert are step brothers . . . they have the same mother. Irvin is their mother's sister's child, making the three cousins. To complicate matters Day was legally adopted by his mother's parents. . . this adoption makes him a brother to his, Humpert's and Irvin's mothers. This also makes him an uncle to both Humpert and Irvin. Their wives Brenda, Wanda, and Martha (Bitsy) Gentry are sisters . . . this forms a new bond as brothers-in-law.

Day, a native of Chickens, KY, and reared in Harlan, first came to Clear Creek in 1982, graduating with an Associate in Ministry in 1984. He pastored Wharton Missionary Baptist Church in West VA and in 1987 was called to

pastor First Baptist Church, Rose Hill, VA. With the support of Rose Hill Baptist he returned to Clear Creek and graduated with a bachelor's degree in 1988. His wife Brenda Gentry, a Harlan native, graduated May 11 with a Christian Worker's Certificate.

Irvin came to Clear Creek in August of 1985, completing his studies in December 1989. He received a Bachelor of Arts in Ministry May 11. Born in Harlan, and reared in Hebron, KY, he is married to Wanda Gentry. She received the Minister's Wife Award in commencement ceremonies.

At Chevrolet Baptist Church, Harlan, Humpert first surrendered to the ministry. He came to Clear Creek in 1986 and graduated May 11 with a Bachelor of Arts in Ministry degree. Born in Cincinnati and reared in Harlan, he plans to become a full-time pastor. He is married to Martha (Bitsy) Gentry, and they have two children.

Bitsy also received the Minister's Wife Award during graduation ceremonies



DITTY RETURNS TO CLEAR CREEK

"One thing I'm proud of is my Baptist heritage," says John Ditty who has returned to Clear Creek for the fourth time. Ditty was here as a teenager while his father, James Ditty, Sr. attended school at Clear Creek. Later he came as a student and graduated with the Bachelor of Theology degree in 1983. In the summer of '89 he taught church history. This fall Ditty becomes an instructor in Old Testament.

In 1988, Ditty received an MDiv from Southwestern Seminary. He is presently working on his doctorate. Ditty pastored Levita Baptist Church Gatesville, Texas for four and one-half years.

Ditty met and married the former Charlene Williams of Flat Lick, KY while a student at Clear Creek. They have two children Casey Anne, twenty-five months, and Andrew James, seven months.

What does it mean to Ditty to be back at Clear Creek as a professor? "It's a dream come true," he says behind a smile and a glow of contentment. That dream emerged in his heart while he sat in the classroom of Professor Fitts at Clear Creek. "There is a spiritual atmosphere here and I feel it even more now than ever before."

From the time he was 17, Ditty felt God's call into the ministry. At one point he told the Lord, "When I'm 21 I'll go to Clear Creek to study."

One of the goals Ditty expressed enthusiastically is not to just educate his students but, "to also help make good memories for them and their families." He hopes to become actively involved in working with the youth on campus. Ditty comments, "I know what it's like to be a deacon's kid, a preacher's kid, and a missionary's kid, we don't like to be 'set apart,' we just want to be a part."

Ditty's parents, Dr. and Mrs. James Ditty, Sr., are teaching missionaries in Johannesburg, South Africa and James, Jr. is a music missionary in Korea. Ditty's sisters Tanya, Mary Brown Frazier and Tina Cluck all live in the Dallas/Fort Worth area.

Ditty states, "I am very appreciative to the president, administration, faculty and trustees for this opportunity. My desire is to uphold the philosophy and the spirit of this school."