

Committee stalls on meaning of 'cooperation'

by Greg Warner

The Southern Baptist Executive Committee decided Feb. 19 how to spend the money Southern Baptist churches contribute to their cooperative budget next year but failed to decide what makes a church cooperative.

Committee members also:

- Proposed a merger of the Public Affairs Committee into the Christian Life Commission—two of the three organizations authorized to represent Southern Baptists on religious liberty issues.

- Approved earlier employment of three vice presidents to serve on the Executive Committee's Nashville-based staff.

The committee adopted with no debate the proposed 1991-92 Cooperative Program allocation budget, which plans to spend more than \$140 million to support the work of Southern Baptist organizations.

But the committee could not decide if

support of the Cooperative Program should become the basis for a church's participation in the Southern Baptist Convention annual meetings.

Participation has been open to any church that contributes "to the convention's work." But the Executive Committee considered a constitutional amendment to limit participation in annual conventions to churches that contribute to the Cooperative Program at both the state and national levels. It is seen as a blow to churches that give money to alternate missions-funding plans or designate their contributions.

The issue originated during last June's annual convention, when a messenger asked the Executive Committee to study the constitutional terminology related to "cooperation."

During the 12-year SBC controversy, some churches on both sides have designated funds away from various SBC causes

they find objectionable.

Under the convention's current constitution, however, those churches have not been denied participation in the SBC annual meetings.

Most Southern Baptist churches give at least some financial support to the Cooperative Program, thus qualifying as a cooperating church.

The issue is critical because membership in cooperating churches also is a prerequisite for service as an SBC missionary, officer, committee member or trustee.

In the early years of the SBC controversy, conservative churches were criticized for designating gifts away from certain SBC causes. However, as conservatives have gained control of the denomination's agencies, more moderates have begun designating.

Last August moderates formed an alternate missions-funding program that takes

those contributions out of the hands of the Executive Committee, which drafts the Cooperative Program budget. Two Baptist state conventions—in Virginia and North Carolina—have enacted their own plans for diverting funds.

The constitutional amendment proposed by the Executive Committee would have affected both moderates who are using the new alternate-funding plans to bypass the CP and conservatives who are displeased with actions on the state level.

One Executive Committee member from North Carolina, Bill Horton of Asheville, tried to change the proposal by basing SBC participation only on contributions to the national Cooperative Program.

His supporters said the committee's original proposal would infringe on the autonomy of local churches by requiring them to participate in the state-level Cooperative

continued on page 2, "Public Affairs ..."

Crash survivor returns to China

Southern Baptist teacher Erin Thomas plans to return to her classroom in China five months after crawling from the smoking fuselage of a crash-landed airliner.

Thomas has left the United States and will start teaching at Jia Ying University in Meixian March 2.

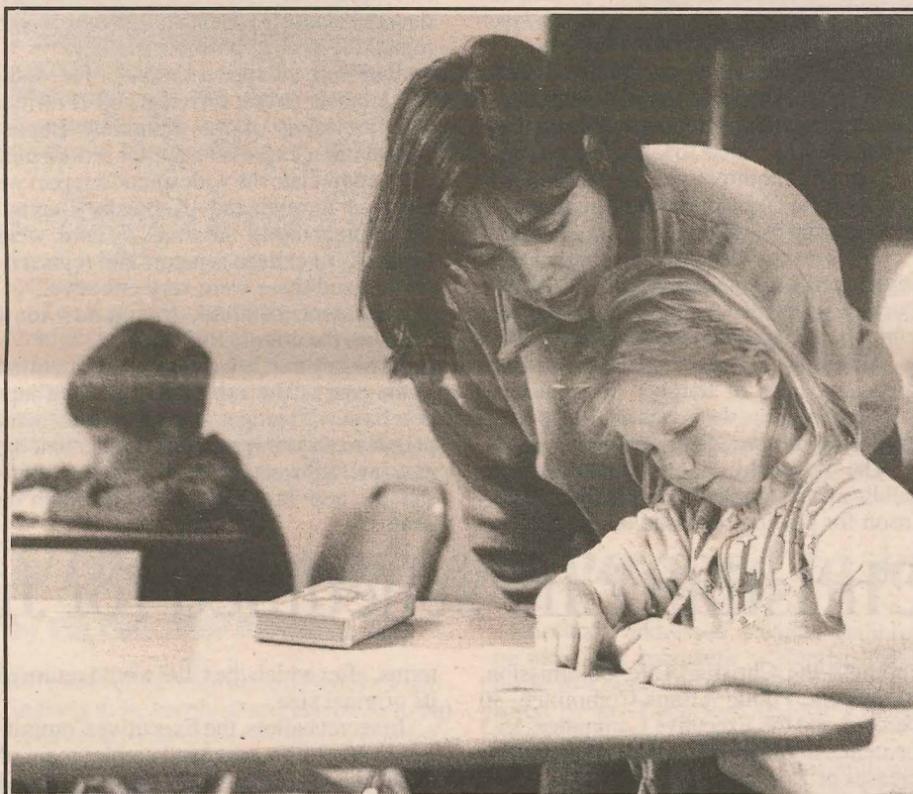
She became the focus of international attention and Southern Baptists' prayers when the Chinese Boeing 737 she was aboard was hijacked and crashed Oct. 2.

The crash killed 132 people, including her Southern Baptist colleague and friend, Mary Anna Gilbert. Thomas has recovered from the dislocated shoulder, broken bones, pneumonia and burns she suffered.

Now she's ready to put the crash behind her, she said: "I was getting calls all the time from radio and newspapers. I got tired of talking about the crash." But she did enjoy telling churches about her reasons for ministering in China.

"I wanted people to understand that what I did in China ... was not beyond them," she said. "There are people in every church who can do what I'm doing."

She will work through Cooperative Services International, the Southern Baptist service organization, to summer 1992. (BP)



LIFE GOES ON—Mid East war hasn't stopped school for these children of Southern Baptist workers. Erin Milligan, the daughter of Gerry and Arylis Milligan, helps Sarah Rogerson, whose parents are Sonny and Sissy Rogerson. The Milligans work in Jordan; the Rogersons in Jerusalem. They and others evacuated to Cyprus when war began.

Lawmakers OK drunk-driving bill

by Marv Knox, Editor

The General Assembly has passed a bill designed to take drunk drivers off Kentucky roads.

The bill received overwhelming approval from both the Senate and the House of Representatives last week. A broad coalition of Kentuckians, including the religious community, had spent most of the past two months urging lawmakers to support the tougher measures.

The new law has three components:

- An "illegal per se" section provides an objective test for determining if a driver is intoxicated and driving illegally.

Under the new law, a driver whose blood-alcohol level is 0.10 percent or more is legally under the influence and is driving illegally. The old law only presumes intoxication but does not set a limit for the blood-alcohol level.

"Illegal per se" removes defense arguments concerning the alleged drunkenness of drivers and theoretically makes driving-under-the-influence convictions easier to obtain.

- Another provision mandates the suspension of an offender's driver's license for

continued on page 2, "Tough law ..."

'91 Kentucky missions offering goal: \$650,000

by Marv Knox, Editor

Kentucky Baptists will attempt to raise \$650,000 for the Eliza Broadus State Missions Offering next fall.

"We stepped out on faith with this budget," said Dolores J. Gilliland, executive director-treasurer of the Kentucky Baptist Woman's Missionary Union, which sets the offering goal.

The WMU executive board contemplated economic recession and declining advances in denominational giving when it considered the goal earlier this month, Gilliland said. Some sentiment favored keeping the goal at \$639,900 for a second year.

"But if you keep the goal the same, that says to the people, 'Things are really bad,'" she noted. "Thus far, things are going quite well in Kentucky."

The Kentucky Baptist Convention is one of only four of the 14 largest Southern Baptist state conventions whose contributions to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offer-

ing for foreign missions are ahead of last year's pace, she said.

And as of Jan. 31, the 1990 Eliza Broadus Offering was 4.5 percent ahead of last year and just \$29,266 shy of the \$639,900 goal, she added.

So, the WMU leaders decided to set a \$10,100 increase. "The committee feels strongly we should raise the goal, but realistically, we should look at the economy," she explained.

The lion's share of the offering—almost 75 percent of the total—supports mission work in Kentucky: mountain missions, language missions, Christian social ministry, rural-urban missions, student summer missions, interfaith witness, Baptist fellowship centers, a retreat for ministers' wives, disaster relief, international student ministry, campus revivals, student missions projects, camps and missionaries' salaries.

The balance of the offering supports the WMU work and special ministries: Clear Creek Baptist Bible College; Oneida Baptist Institute; racetrack chaplaincy; a vari-

ety of ministries with black Baptists; gifts and support for missionaries and their children; prison and resort ministries; ministry with internationals; an infant resource project; ministry with deaf people; Western Recorder subscriptions for foreign missionaries.

The offering also provides for scholarships, WMU training, WMU materials and creation of new ministries, she said.

In other business, the WMU board:

- Gave \$100 to the Kentucky WMU Heritage Fund in memory of Mrs. Ira J. Porter, a longtime missions leader who lived in Louisville.

- Gave an additional \$100 to the fund in memory of Odessa Ferguson, a former state WMU president and executive.

- Granted \$2,300 to finance the education of Mary Barine, a Kenyan Baptist who will be a WMU leader in her country.

- Named Maribeth Hambrick of Georgetown to be a consultant for the Kentucky WMU Heritage Fund and the national WMU's Second Century Fund.

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New churches overseas up by 13.6%

by Mary E. Speidel

Overseas Baptists related to Southern Baptist missions achieved one of the highest gains ever in new churches in 1990, but baptisms dipped below a record set in 1989.

Overseas churches related to Southern Baptist foreign mission work increased from 21,239 in 1989 to 24,122 in 1990, reflecting a 13.6 percent net gain of 2,883 churches.

Some of these gains are due to increased attention to reporting from the mission field, said Jim Slack of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's research and planning office.

The 1990 increase in new churches meets the 12 percent gain required annually to reach Bold Mission Thrust goals for spread-

ing the gospel to every person in the world by the year 2000 and achieving a tenfold expansion of overseas Baptist work.

The 1990 statistics indicate that "significant" church growth is occurring on the Southern Baptist foreign mission field, Slack added. During the past three years, the total number of churches has jumped from 17,769 in 1987 to 24,122 in 1990. In 1990, national Baptists and Southern Baptist missionaries started 1,550 churches, up from the 1989 total of 1,059. Of the 120 countries reporting, 65 countries, about 54 percent, started new churches during 1990.

Starting new Baptist churches overseas is a primary concern of the Foreign Mission Board, Slack said: "We're not exclusively interested in new work. But it is our primary

interest because that's what we're about—evangelism that results in churches."

In addition to starting new work, overseas Baptist churches baptized 208,381 new Christians, the second-highest total ever. That number is down from the 1989 record of 227,437 baptisms.

Even with a drop in 1990 baptism totals, baptism statistics show "we're much, much stronger overseas," said Slack, comparing overseas results with stateside baptisms. The number of 1990 baptisms reflects a ratio of one baptism for every 12.8 members, compared to 1 to 39.1 among Southern Baptist churches in the United States.

Overseas Baptist church membership grew by about 9 percent, from 2.5 million in 1989 to about 2.7 million in 1990. (BP)

Sponsors wanted for new churches

by Mark Wingfield

Wanted: Sponsors for 2,000 new Southern Baptist churches across America.

That's the message the convention's Home Mission Board hopes 37,000 existing Southern Baptist churches will respond to March 24, to be observed as Start-a-Church Commitment Sunday nationwide.

The call to sponsor 2,000 new churches this year is part of the Bold Mission Thrust goal of having 50,000 Southern Baptist churches and church-type missions by the year 2000. Bold Mission Thrust is the denomination's plan to present the gospel to every person on earth before the turn of the century.

To facilitate sponsorship, the board is compiling a directory of specific information about places where new churches are needed. Many of the sites already identified are in areas where no existing Southern Baptist churches are available to provide sponsorship, said Floyd Tidsworth, HMB director of new church extension.

Sponsorship can take one of three common forms, Tidsworth explained.

Primary sponsors are nearby churches that start and nurture a mission, holding membership rolls and assisting in major decisions and financial needs. Co-sponsors are churches that contribute substantial finances for a mission located either nearby or far away, in conjunction with sponsorship by another church. Support sponsors are churches that contribute to a package of financial, prayer and volunteer support that is undergirded by a larger number of similar support sponsors.

Free materials for observing Start-a-Church Commitment Sunday are available from the board by calling (800) 634-2462. (BP)

Tough law to make streets, roads safer

continued from page 1

A compromise amendment ironed out by the Senate allows first offenders to drive to work, school or rehabilitation sessions during the final 60 days of the 90-day suspension. However, an applicant for the 60-day "hardship" license must prove to a district judge that the license is necessary to attend work, school or treatment.

Such a driver must drive with a special decal in the car's rear window and must carry information detailing the court-mandated driving restrictions.

Supporters of tougher drunk-driving laws wanted this section of the new law to be stronger. They asked for across-the-board 90-day suspensions, with no chance for hardship licenses. They also sought to give law enforcement officers the power to suspend licenses upon arrest. House lead-

ers opposed those stringent proposals, and the softer Senate compromise ensured passage of the entire bill.

The final section provides for a court assessment of the need for rehabilitation for repeat offenders, offenders under age 21 and those who refuse to take a breathalyzer test. It also requires such and offender to undergo the court-prescribed treatment in order to receive an unrestricted license.

The new law also provides for quarterly reviews of judges' caseloads. If a judge's backlog is deemed too large, special prosecutors can be assigned to expedite the cases.

Although the new legislation did not give advocates of tougher drunk-driving laws everything they wanted, supporters expressed pleasure that it passed.

The Kentucky Baptist committee on public affairs thanked Gov. Wallace Wilkinson for placing the issue on the General

Assembly's agenda. The committee also thanked Kentucky Baptists and others who joined together to promote the law.

Earl Bell, the state coordinator for Mothers Against Drunk Driving and a former vice president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, expressed similar sentiments.

"I appreciate the widespread support we received through the (Kentucky Baptist) executive board," he said. "There were hundreds of calls to senators and representatives, and these were very effective."

Opponents of drunk driving now must focus on the courts, Bell said.

"The key to it is we must bring attention to the courts," he explained. "Build a support base with judges and law enforcement people to encourage them to implement the new law. All we want them to do is administer the new law, and we'll cut down on deaths."

Public Affairs, Christian Life scheduled for June merger vote

continued from page 1

Program. Opponents said the amendment endorsed designated giving at the state level, since churches would not be required to participate in the state-level Cooperative Program.

Executive Committee President Harold Bennet said the state and national Cooperative Program "is a unit." Church contributions are sent first to the state convention, which funds its own statewide ministries and then sends the remainder on to national SBC budget.

Bennet warned that bypassing the state portion would "take the first step to dividing our great process."

Horton's amendment lost with only four affirmative votes. But then committee members were reluctant to approve the original proposal.

Stephen Brumbelow of Poca, W.V., argued against changing the constitution to tie participation to CP support. "We've heard for years that money is the test of fellowship," he said. "This (proposal) almost confirms that fear."

A motion to refer the amendment back to the committee's bylaws workgroup passed with little opposition.

No such debate developed on the question of how to spend Cooperative Program money. The 1991-92 budget, drafted in January by the program and budget subcommittee, was approved unanimously by the full Executive Committee.

The \$140,710,282 spending plan, which represents a 2.46 percent increase over the current budget, must be approved by messengers to the SBC in June. It includes above-average increases for three organi-

zations—the Christian Life Commission, 63 percent; Public Affairs Committee, 30 percent; and the Executive Committee, 15.5 percent. All other SBC entities received increases of 2.51 percent or less.

The proposed merger of the Public Affairs Committee into the Christian Life Commission will reduce from three to two the organizations that represent Southern Baptists on religious-liberty issues.

Bypassing state conventions' budgets would be "the first step to dividing our great process."

—Harold C. Bennett

The 19-member PAC has served as the Southern Baptist Committee on the Larger Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, a religious-liberty watchdog organization that includes nine Baptist denominations.

Last year the PAC and the CLC were given religious-liberty assignments of their own. Although the SBC's 50-year relationship with the BJC was retained, SBC funding of the Washington-based agency was reduced 87 percent, to \$50,000.

Under terms of the proposed merger, the Christian Life Commission would be enlarged to make room for the current 12 at-large members of the PAC to serve as CLC trustees. The seven ex-officio PAC memberships—mostly SBC agency executives—would be eliminated immediately. The CLC then would determine who would represent the SBC on the Baptist Joint Committee.

The CLC would receive the PAC's Cooperative Program allocation until the current PAC members finish serving their

terms, after which the CLC would return to its original size.

In secret ballots, the Executive Committee unanimously approved employment of three vice presidents. All had been hired earlier by the committee's officers under a special authorization.

Richard P. Rosenbaum Jr. was elected vice president for business and finance. He previously was manager of the conference

center marketing section for the SBC Sunday School Board.

Mark T. Coppenger was elected to the new position of vice president for public relations. He previously was executive director-treasurer of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana.

Herbert V. Hollinger was elected vice president for Baptist Press, the denomination's news service. He previously was editor of the California Southern Baptist.

Hollinger and Coppenger replace Al Shackelford, who filled both the public relations and Baptist Press roles before he was fired last July.

Committee members later voted unanimously to reduce the minimum age for early retirement of Executive Committee staff members from 60 to 58 in order to allow Shackelford to apply for early retirement.

Although the Executive Committee could not decide how to define "cooperation," they did approve an amendment to

the SBC constitution to require all members of SBC committees to come from "cooperating" churches. Already the constitution requires that all SBC officers, trustees, commissioners and missionaries to be members of cooperating churches.

Another proposed constitutional amendment will attempt to report of the Committee on Nominations. It will treat the annual slate of proposed trustees as a report rather than as nominations, eliminating the possibility of a replacement slate of nominees and allowing only one challenge at a time.

The Executive Committee asked its institutions workgroup "to study the procedures and impact of the accreditation of the six Southern Baptist seminaries." Because at least two seminaries have encountered accreditation problems recently, some Southern Baptists have called for the SBC to set up its own accrediting agency.

A similar study has been conducted by the SBC Education Commission at the request of SBC messengers. Committee members decided to ask for their own study of accreditation, however, while seeking assistance from the seminaries and the Education Commission.

The Executive Committee also asked trustees of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville to consider amending the seminary's articles of incorporation to eliminate their power to remove trustees. Committee members pointed out that no other SBC entity has such power and that the Executive Committee is considering adding such a provision to the SBC constitution.

Ministry to truckers gains favor among Baptists

by Barbara Willie
State Correspondent

Truck stops along Kentucky's interstate highways have opened their doors to the Christian witness.

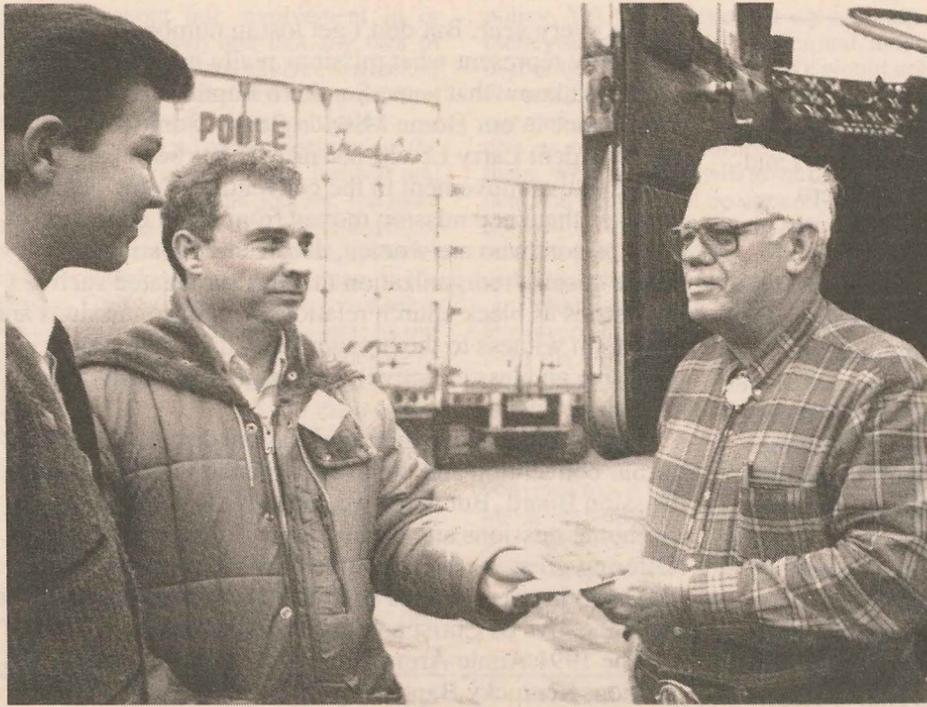
Glenn Cope, with three decades in the driver's seat of a truck, saw the needs of fellow truckers, and set out to meet them. He founded Truckers Christian Chapel Ministries.

TCCM, with 23 chapels in 11 states, encourages local churches to minister to truckers passing through their communities. As a life-changing decision is recorded at a chapel, a local congregation near a trucker's home is contacted for follow-up on the commitment.

After preaching in a truck stop chapel in Ohio, Mike Jones, pastor of Big Bone Baptist Church in Boone County, led his congregation to support Cope's program.

Big Bone members Darrell and Diana Braden, Danny and Linda Bickers and Larry Black arrive at 8 a.m. every Sunday at the nearby Truckstops of America station on Interstate 75. They talk with parked truckers, inviting them to the 9 o'clock chapel service.

Invitations also are broadcast over citizens band radio and announced on the sta-



ON THE ROAD AGAIN—In the parking lot of the TA Truck Stop at Interstate 75's Richwood exit, Big Bone Baptist Church members Danny Bickers (center) and Keenan Braden invite trucker Bill Payne of Pickens, S.C., to a chapel service in the truckers' lounge. (Photo by Barbara Willie)

tion's public address system.

Since the ministry began last June, 20 people have accepted Christ as savior. Several more have rededicated their lives, Jones said.

"At first, I wasn't sure our small Sunday school could afford to lose five active members each week," he added. "But amazingly, we have experienced phenomenal growth, financially and numerically. As we have given, the Lord has given more."

Greenview Baptist Church in Florence also conducts a chapel ministry. Led by Rick Garcia, a professional truck driver for 34 years, a team of laypeople and Pastor Ernest Harris witness weekly at Burn's Union 76 Truck Stop on Interstate 75.

"We are ministering to drivers in their 'homes away from home,' their trucks," said Garcia.

Drivers preferring not to attend the services are offered a cassette tape, "Good News for the Professional Truck Driver." The church's financial investment includes providing tapes, tracts and Bibles.

TCCM is seeking churches to manage and finance similar ministries at other truck stops. Tapes and tracts are available at minimal cost.

For information, call toll free 1-800-545-7600.

Pastors, deacons urged to free people caught in entanglement

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

Deacons and pastors must free people to be all that they were intended to be, said Ron Williams, pastor of Lewisport Baptist Church in Lewisport.

"Our people need our help. They're entangled with the things of this world, and they need somebody with compassion who will come and free them," he added.

Williams addressed more than 200 participants at the Kentucky Baptist Convention's deacon, pastor, spouse retreat at Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park in Marshall County Feb. 22-23. The event is sponsored annually by the KBC family ministry and church administration department.

"Until we have extended ourselves in love and compassion to help people out of their messes in life, they'll never hear what we say from our lips," Williams warned.

Declaring his indifference to denominational politics, he observed that churches are seeing many casualties of friendly fire today. He described it as fire coming from Christians fighting Christians.

"We destroy good people when we use the scriptures as a club," said Williams. "We should be destroying the enemy, and the enemy is not us."

Earlier, he emphasized strength of character, speech and heart.

"When Jesus is in you, people know it. His presence comes through in what you do," he said. "When you are called upon to speak, God will give you the sermons to preach and the testimonies to share."

And as the pilgrimage becomes rough and demanding, and one believes he has given all there is to give, there's strength of heart that comes from Jesus, he added.

In a small-group session, Jim Hightower surfaced a "great tragedy" he claimed Southern Baptists are experiencing.

"There was a time in denominational life when we knew we had differences (in belief and practice), and we were happy to allow that. But we have lost that, much to our shame," said Hightower, consultant in the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's church administration department in Nashville.

"Conflict occurs when two objects try to occupy the same space at the same time," he

explained.

Leading a conference on managing conflict, Hightower cited four conditions which must happen for conflict to occur: two or more parties deal with resources that are finite in nature; one party decides not enough resources exist for everybody to share; one strikes out at the other; the other strikes back.

He described three types of conflict—intrapersonal, interpersonal and substantive—and named five ways of managing it: give up, give in, challenge, compromise or negotiate.

"All five responses are appropriate at times," said Hightower. "While negotiation may seem best, keep in mind that you can't negotiate with somebody who will

not negotiate."

Seven additional small-group topics were covered during the retreat, including sessions specifically for ministers' wives and for deacons' wives.

Mike Rose, minister of music at Cadiz Baptist Church in Cadiz, directed congregational singing and was soloist during plenary sessions.

Urban pastors encouraged to tap local resources

by Pat Cole, State Correspondent

Effective urban ministers must have a willingness to be involved and an ability to tap community resources, a Chicago missions leader told a group of Louisville pastors.

"It is important to recognize that we are not messiahs," said H. Everett Anthony, director of missions for the Greater Chicago Metropolitan Baptist Association. "We are gifts of God who have been given to the city to minister." No individual minister, he stressed, has the resources "to be a neighbor to everyone."

Anthony addressed a winter gathering of inner-city ministers at Baptist Tabernacle in Louisville. The event was sponsored by the Long Run Baptist Association's inner city committee.

Urban ministers need to familiarize themselves with resources that can be provided through churches, denominations, hospitals and social service institutions, he said. "In America, we have learned to anticipate crises, and we have built institutions that can help us."

Ministers in large cities must take human needs seriously in order to be effective

evangelists, noted Anthony: "Evangelism comes out of caring and compassion and relating to people. I don't see it happening any other way."

In addition to dealing with the results of urban problems, ministers should seek to "change the risk factor" within communities, he said. "Those of us who are leaders have the responsibility of trying to make the community better."

Therefore, he said, ministers must be willing to talk with business and political leaders "from a Christian perspective" about how those leaders' decisions affect the city.



KENTUCKIANS CITED—Two Southern Baptist Sunday School Board trustees from Kentucky were recognized by the board earlier this month. Left photo Don Mathis (right), pastor of Central Baptist Church in Corbin, who is rotating off the board, received a service award from Chairman Bill Anderson,



pastor of Calvary Baptist Church of Clearwater, Fla. Right photo James Hume (right), pharmacist from Jeffersontown, an alternate on the committee to seek a new president, talks with committee member Frank Palmer, pastor of Forest Avenue Baptist Church of Redmond, Ore. (Photos by Jim Veneman)

Missions requires prayer, money

editorial

Marv Knox

"Missions is people sent out to carry the Good News and the message of hope," insists Ray Joiner, a Southern Baptist missionary and director of The Baptist Center in Birmingham, Ala.

"Missions is people. It cannot be done in another way. Missions is people sent out. Sent out with a task and given a means through prayers and funds. It cannot be done another way."

Joiner's words ring true, especially this time of year. Next week, March 3-10, is the week of prayer for home missions across the Southern Baptist Convention and the launch of our Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for home missions.

As we stop to think and pray and give, we do well to remember Joiner's words. "Missions is people."

Missions is people like Taylor and Susan Field, who minister to drug addicts and AIDS victims in a New York City ghetto. It's Ross Hannah, who serves Native Americans in the poorest section of Tucson, Ariz. It's also Mildred McWhorter, who has braved street gangs for decades, sharing the love of Christ with people whose home is a Houston slum.

Multiply them by almost a thousand, and you begin to see the magnitude of Southern Baptists' mission endeavor—3,800 missionaries all across the land. And that's just the starting point. Multiply those missionaries by scores, even hundreds, of people they touch and lead to

Christ every year. But don't get lost in numbers, because they only represent what missions really means—people.

We all know that some Southern Baptists have lost confidence in our Home Mission Board. Some don't care for President Larry Lewis, because he has been part of the conservative movement in the convention. Some detest policies that keep mission money from small churches with pastors who are women, divorced or charismatic. Some despise reorganization that has subjugated such ministries as black church relations, language missions and interfaith witness to the broader (and, they feel, less sensitive and less effective) themes of evangelism and church extension.

Such feelings have their place as we discuss the future of our convention and the overall ministry of the Home Mission Board. But when we come to the week of prayer for home missions and consider our Annie Armstrong Offering gifts, we need to remember the people—almost 4,000 home missionaries and millions of Americans—who need the love of Christ and his healing touch.

The 1991 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering goal is \$41 million. Kentucky Baptists' gifts have averaged about \$1 million annually for the past decade.

And as we have given, we have received. That's because Kentucky is a home mission field, too. Most of our Annie Armstrong money goes all over the country, but part of it comes back home—to help start churches in the mountains, to comfort children and the homeless in the cities, to speak the gospel in numerous tongues all over the state, and more.

We need to give, because people need the Lord.

*Thank you
for making
roads safer*

thank you

The General Assembly passed a tough drunk-driving law last week.

Thanks are in order:

- First, to Gov. Wallace Wilkinson, for placing it on the agenda of the General Assembly's special session.

- Second, to lawmakers who fought for the tougher laws. Legislators listed most prominently in that category are Sens. David Karem of Louisville, Mike Moloney of Lexington, Tim Philpot of Lexington and David Williams of Burkesville, and Reps. Lindy Casebier of Louisville, Richard Lewis of Benton, Bill Lear of Lexington and Bud Gregory of Elizabethtown.

- Third, to Kentuckians who lobbied for the bill, particularly Justice Cabinet Secretary Michael Troop; Mothers Against Drunk Driving leaders Earl Bell, Paula Freeman and Lois Windhorst; Temperance League of Kentucky director Claude Witt; and numerous other activists and law enforcement leaders.

- Finally, to you who called and wrote to your lawmakers, urging them to pass this important legislation.

—Marv Knox

Speaking truth in love: How to deal with church conflict

guest editorial

by Timothy George

In recent years much has been said about who is "right" and who is "wrong" in the Southern Baptist Convention controversy, but little attention has been given to how Christians should deal with conflict and dissent in the church. How should believers relate to one another in the face of tension, stress, and even schism within the body of Christ?

Because Baptists are committed to the process of democracy within the church, we will never be completely free of controversy this side of heaven! However, we can learn how "to speak the truth in love." Indeed, we have a spiritual mandate to do so.

The following guidelines may serve as a helpful check on our own attitudes and responses. They are relevant, to every level of conflicts—from congregation to convention.

- It is sometimes necessary to be polemical for the sake of the gospel, but it is seldom wise to be partisan in the fight for faith. There is nothing worse for the health of the church than theological indifferentism and doctrinal apathy. The New Testament admonishes us to "contend for the faith," and Paul places a curse on even angels who pervert the gospel (Gal. 1:8; Jude 3). When we take such a stand, however, let us be sure that what is at stake is really the gospel and not our own petty idiosyncrasies or party loyalties. When the disciples rejected the ministry of another follower of Jesus because he was "not one of us," the Master rebuked their cliquish attitude (Luke 9:49-50).

- It is appropriate to challenge spurious ideas in the light of Scripture, but it is presumptuous to question the motives of our adversaries. Only God can read the mind and judge the heart. Our job is to examine ourselves so as to keep a clear conscience before God, even as we set before others the reason for the love that is within us (I Pet. 3:15-16).

- We can stand unflinchingly for the

fundamentals of the faith without succumbing to personal arrogance or pride. For example, we can affirm the infallibility and inerrancy of Holy Scripture without assuming that we ourselves are infallible or inerrant. Indeed, we must never confuse the perfection of God's revelation with our own feeble efforts to understand and explain it. The Reformation principle of "sola Scriptura" means that we must ever subject ourselves, reverently, humbly and obediently, to the unchanging truth of God's inspired word.

- In the family of faith, how we say something is sometimes as important as what we say. Words can hurt and harm as well as edify and uplift. Who among us has not been misquoted or misunderstood because someone else misunderstood what we had intended to say? Everyone should begin each day, and every church should start every business meeting, by praying the words of Psalm 141:3: "Set a guard over my mouth, O Lord; keep watch over the door of my lips."

- It is our responsibility to love and pray for those with whom we disagree. Dietrich Bonhoeffer once wrote: "I can

no longer condemn or hate a brother for whom I pray, no matter how much trouble he causes me. His face ... is transformed in intercession into the countenance of a brother for whom Christ died, the face of a forgiven sinner." Only as we take this word to heart can we uncover the true spiritual roots of conflict, and so open ourselves to the power of God's transforming work.

- We can be thankful for the triumph of the gospel without delighting in the defeat of our opponents. Proverbs 24:17 admonishes us not even to rejoice when our enemy fails. Certainly, then, the "fall of a brother" is no occasion for gloating.

- When others, because they have ignored these guidelines, hurt us, it is our duty not to respond in kind. We are called to defend the gospel, not ourselves. Peter urges us to follow in the footsteps of Jesus "who, although reviled, did not revile in return and although made to suffer, did not respond with threats" (I Pet. 2:21-23).

Timothy George is dean of the Beeson Divinity School at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala.

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'Don't ask me to violate my conscience'

viewpoint

by Dick Allison

Did you ever feel like you really didn't fit anywhere in the midst of an intense controversy? That's how I have felt over these past months, first as we debated the wisdom of going to war with Iraq, and then, since the start of the war, as the pressure has increased on everybody to rally to the cause. This article is not written to try to persuade anybody to accept my personal view about the war. It is written, rather to plead for some tolerance and understanding of those caught in the middle of this situation.

On one end of the spectrum are, apparently, most Americans. Eighty to 90 percent, according to the polls, support the decision to go to war. Many interpret support to mean that we should no longer raise

questions about our involvement in or conduct of the war, and that any lack of support for our policies equates to a lack of support for our troops and for our president, and that is deemed to be unpatriotic.

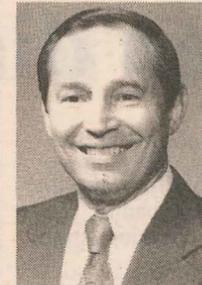
On the other end of the spectrum are the aggressive protesters against the war and against our governmental policies. The more extreme among them burn flags as a symbol of their disgust toward our nation's policies in general and military involvement in the Persian Gulf in particular. Many of them are convinced that our nation—at least our government—is evil to the core. They insist that they are not being disloyal to our troops. In fact, the greatest loyalty to them would be to force a policy that would bring the troops home immediately and safely.

Some of us—I have a feeling that our numbers are few—are not comfortable in either of these camps. On the one hand, we cannot be silent about a policy with which we strongly disagree, no matter how overwhelming is the majority support for that

policy. Yet we believe that we are completely supportive of our troops and, in the best sense, of our president. We would not do anything deliberately that would have our men and women in service could interpret as our having turned our backs on them. We have good will toward our president and believe that he sincerely wants to do what is right. We simply are convinced that the policy is wrong. The best in our democratic tradition demands that we speak out about that, and speak out we will. However, there is nothing in us that could burn the flag as a symbol of policy. We think the flag should be and can be a symbol of freedom for all—for the supporters of the president's policies and for the dissenters.

As a patriotic dissenter, this is my plea—convince me, if you can, that I am mistaken about our national policy, but do not ask me to conscience by pretending to support a policy with which I strongly disagree.

Dick Allison is pastor of Georgetown Baptist Church in Georgetown



on mission together

William W. (Bill) Marshall
Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Box 43433
Middletown, KY 40253

Salute to a leader

However reluctantly or eagerly one may assume the mantle of leadership, when the time comes to lay it aside, one would like to be remembered favorably.

Circumstances may ultimately negate whatever good intentions a leader may have had. A case in point is President Herbert Hoover who is remembered primarily for the Great Depression. Hardly a favorable memory!

Institutional leadership has always been strategic in Baptist life. Given the spiraling costs of education and competition with state institutions, the "Top Gun" at a Baptist college flirts with economic disaster every year. Regrettably, Baptist colleges in Kentucky still struggle with inadequate endowment while offering quality education in a Christian context. By providing financial assistance, they make it possible for many of our Baptist youth to attend college who otherwise could not.

The oldest of our colleges is Georgetown. Established in 1829, it is older by eight years than our Kentucky Baptist Convention. Strong leadership and sacrificial faculty service has kept this college strong through the years.

The time has come for another president of that institution to leave us. Dr. W. Morgan Patterson, 22nd president, was treated with "an evening of appreciation" Jan. 25, 1991. Alice and I were privileged to be present.

The following was printed as an all-too-brief summary of his leadership accomplishments:

"The enrollment has consistently increased each year of his leadership. The endowment is at a record size now totalling over \$16 million. Two antebellum buildings, Highbaugh Hall and Pawling Hall, have been restored, beautified and dignified in their service at a cost of nearly \$3 million."

"Other improvements and acquisitions added to the redevelopment of Pawling Hall and Highbaugh Hall included: beautification and reappropriation of space in the Cralle Student Center; the dress-up of Anderson Hall; new parking facilities; major new resources to Cooke Memorial Library; the purchase of 52 acres east of the campus; and a totally refurbished home for a missionary-in-residence. Total improvement cost \$6 million."

"Patterson's leadership has brought greater national respect for Georgetown College. In 1989 and 1990, Georgetown was listed on The Templeton Foundation's Honor Roll for Character Building Colleges."

Dr. W. Morgan Patterson led the college to a higher level of accomplishment. History will record with favor his leadership. He and Ernestine will be missed.

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.

Support troops

The executive board of the Mount Zion Baptist Association, representing 39 Baptist Churches in the Tri-County Area, adopted the following resolution of support for the United States armed forces in the Persian Gulf War:

Whereas, we believe in freedom and dignity, and the right to self expression for individuals, nations, and kingdoms; and

Whereas, we abhor the results of war, and the tears, suffering, and heartache that it brings; and

Whereas, while we believe in the right of the conscientious objector to object, we also believe in the right of a volunteer army to stand against a nation who without provocation simply took over another free and independent nation; therefore,

Be it resolved that we stand behind, support and pray for all the soldiers serving in the region of the Persian Gulf; and

Be it further resolved that we can call on believers everywhere to pray for the salvation of our enemies, from the highest in command to the lowest soldier.

*Bill Clouse, Moderator
Janus Jones, Clerk*

Mount Zion Baptist Association

Feeling resentful

The Elder vs. Sunday School Board affair evokes feelings of resentment generally accruing to actions of many politicians, labor leaders, businessmen, media moguls, legislatures and the like. The primary elements: distrust, power, money.

Obviously, not everyone involved is telling the truth (or at least the whole truth), a fact that is bad enough in the secular world, but unconscionable in a denomination agency. The dirty linen stinks, as it did in the Baptist Press "special firings" last summer.

Obviously, the president of the SSB is in a position to generate inordinate convention-wide pressure through his decisions vis-a-vis educational literature, music, writers and composers, staff, books, other personnel, etc. The SSB president can be a valuable tool in the hands of any interest group.

This is scary.

Finally, a yearly salary of \$135,800 is enough to turn the head (and soul?) of even an initially well-intentioned operative. Ironically, the very preachers who inveigh loudly against succumbing to the temptation of "filthy lucre" comprise the majority of the board. While huge salaries are said to be necessary to secure brilliant leadership in the business world, such should not be the case in God's work, the tremendous responsibility of the SSB chief executive officer notwithstanding. Nor are the exotic consultant-retirement arrangements obtaining in this case easily swallowed by hard-working tithers who must "take it one day at a time, sweet Jesus."

*James L. Clark
Danville*

Stand with truth

I am writing in protest of a letter in the Feb. 5 Baptist Forum. I have heard the perversion that inhospitality was the sin of Sodom and Gomorrah, but I never expected to see it legitimized in the Western Recorder.

A careful study of the Genesis (chapters 18-19) account with reference to context and the original clearly shows that homosexual rape was the intent of the men of Sodom. How could such a crowd desiring to "know" the visitors be called inhospitable?

I would also refer to the writers of Romans 1:26-27 which seems to speak to the type of relationship he condones. I would also refer the writer to I Corinthians 6:9 which separates prostitution from homosexuality. This passage appears to be a blanket condemnation of all homosexual behavior.

Homosexuality of any type is a sin. Christ died for this sin like all other types of sin. He loves this type of sinner like all other sinners for whom he died. But homosexuality is a sin, and with forgiveness there should be repentance that comes from faith in Christ. Instead of parroting perverted interpretations of Scripture, should we not stand with the plain truth of the Bible?

*Danny R. Zickefoose, Pastor
First Baptist Church Hickman*

Suffer in comfort

In reference to the president of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Lloyd Elder, it is interesting to note that his remuneration of \$135,800 plus generous benefits compare favorably with a couple of gentlemen in the news of late.

Bro. Elder only makes \$33,970.40 more per year than does General Colin Powell, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf, commander of the Allied forces in the Middle East. After 26 years, their top salary is \$101,829.60. I would say that their positions entail a fair amount of responsibility, inasmuch as the fate of free world rests in their hands.

As a fellow retiree, my sympathy goes out to Bro. Elder. He's going to have to subsist on a paltry \$67,000 and a new car. If he can just somehow make it until he's 62, Social Security will give him a few dollars to keep him from running out of grits. Is it a contradiction of terms to say that Bro. Elder will "suffer in comfort?"

*Oscar Davidson
Somerset*

Twin gods

The twin gods of America are humanism and materialism. Temples of the twin gods are secular universities, public schools and television studios. Chief doctrines of the twin gods are intellectual paganism and hedonism.

By bowing at the alters of humanism and materialism, Americans are sowing to the wind and reaping a bitter harvest. Fruits of the bitter harvest are evident in the breakdown of the family, increasing teen pregnancy, increasing suicide, rotten politics, crooked business dealings, the killing AIDS pestilence and a general degeneracy of American society.

Despite the very visible bitter fruits of humanism and materialism, most Americans have a hard time thinking beyond the selfish "me now, pleasure now, what will money buy now" philosophy. Most Americans, including church goers, are halting between two opinions, claiming to believe in God and holding on to the twin gods of humanism and materialism at the same time.

Awakening cannot happen in America until revival takes place in the churches. And genuine life-changing revival cannot break out in the churches until Christians reject the twin gods of humanism and materialism and turn wholly to God and to his son, Jesus Christ.

*William R. Hagan
Taylorsville*

O'Brien diagnoses Baptists with 'rurbanity'

by Betsy Whaley

Southern Baptist mission efforts in large cities often suffer from "rurbanity," emphasized a denominational missions strategist.

"We live and work in urban areas, but we still have a rural mindset," said William R. O'Brien, executive director of public affairs for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. The rural mindset has made Southern Baptists slow to apply effective ministry techniques in urban settings, he said in an interview at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

"By the year 2000 over 50 percent of the world's population will live in urban areas," noted O'Brien, who taught "Current Issues in World Missions" during a winter term at the Louisville seminary. Thus, Southern Baptists face the task of reaching the various community groups and "towns within the towns" in major urban areas, he said. O'Brien will retire from the FMB March 5 to become director of the newly formed global strategies center at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala.

In addition to the urban challenge, Southern Baptists must contend with political obstacles that do not allow traditional mis-

sionaries within the borders of 104 nations, he said. O'Brien sees an expanded role for such FMB programs as non-residential missionaries, tentmakers and Cooperative Services International.

Non-residential missionaries attempt to evangelize people in closed areas from bases outside those areas. Tentmakers have secular employment in foreign countries and also minister there in conjunction with the FMB. Cooperative Services International works with the governments of closed countries to send people with technical skills to those nations.

While the board's priorities are evangel-

ism and church planting, O'Brien said there may have been some miscommunication about the FMB's willingness to appoint missionaries in other roles.

"We continue to appoint missionaries in over 80 capacities," he said. However, he pointed out that the board has anticipated having 70 percent of the mission force spending 50 percent of its time in evangelism and church planting for several years. Increased emphasis on evangelism and church planting was precipitated by Bold Mission Thrust, the Southern Baptist plan to reach the entire world with the gospel by the year 2000, he said. (BP)

Associations may bring about unity

by Pat Cole

The local Baptist association may in the future step up its role as "an agent of church unity," predicted a Louisiana director of missions.

"Much has been written about church problems today and very few answers have really proved successful," said A. Lawrence Clegg, director of missions for four Louisiana associations. "Look for the association to take an increasing role working for church unity."

Clegg addressed the 1991 annual director of missions consultation at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. The conference, which focused on "Theological Perspectives on Issues Confronting Baptist Association," was sponsored by the seminary, Long Run Baptist Association and Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

The association's responsibility is not to "usurp the independence" of local congregations, Clegg cautioned. "It is rather to assist the church, as the church requests, in working out its difficulties in the best possible manner," he said.

Clegg qualified his observations, noting they were presented to "stir your thought processes rather than to make strong assertions that the association is irrevocably moving in a certain direction." Nevertheless, he offered several trends associations may encounter.

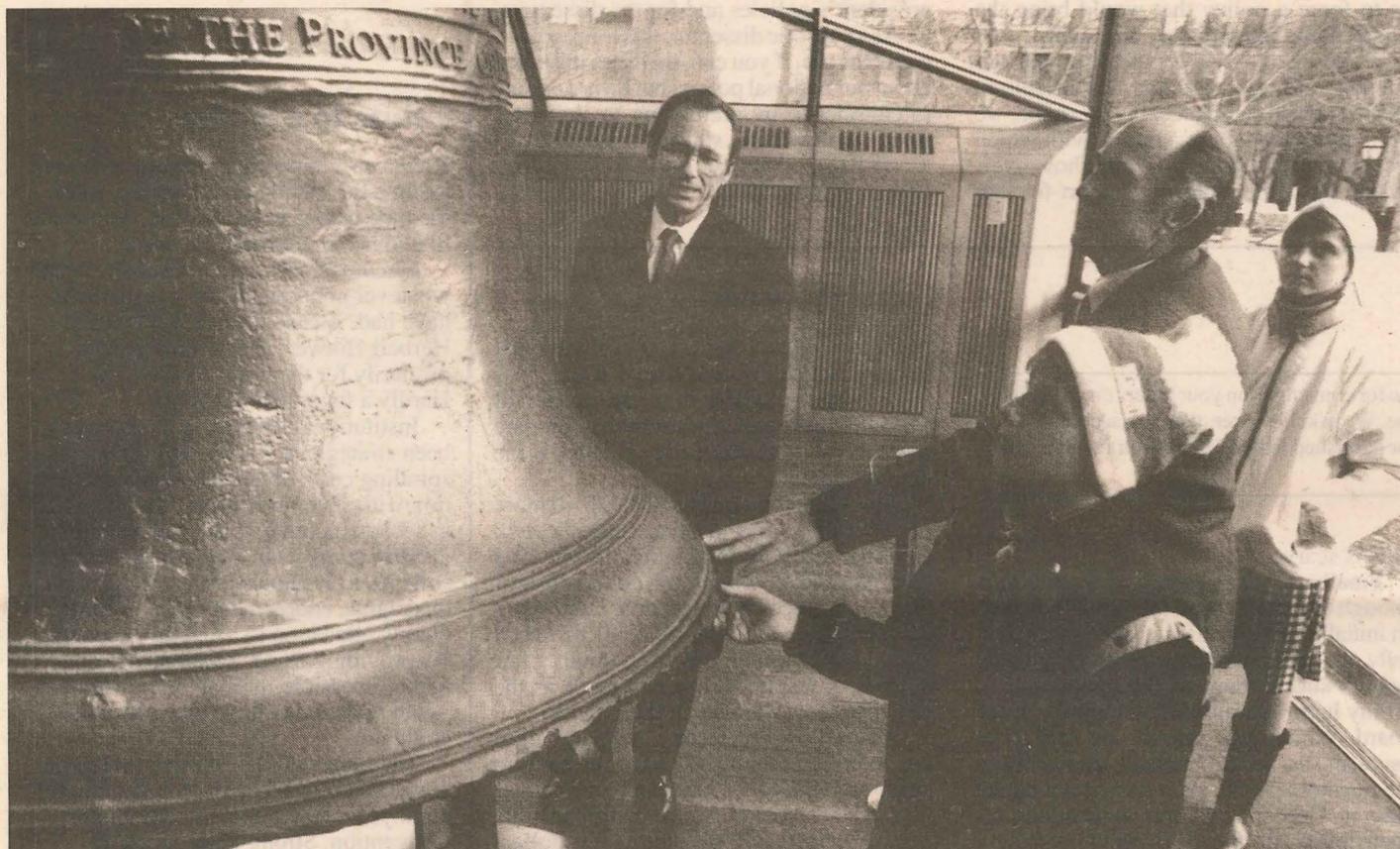
In addition to addressing conflict in local churches, Clegg said associations have "the potential to bring diverse forces back together" in the Southern Baptist Convention: "Remember that, in the last analysis, the association is the only 'grassroots' organization Southern Baptists have. The association really speaks for the people, is made up of the people, and has the heartbeat of the people."

Associations may become increasingly involved in local church planting as well as enlisting support for state, home and foreign missions, he added. Directors of missions should sense they "are part of a great scheme of witness to the entire world."

G. Willis Bennett, provost at Southern Seminary, stressed the need for associations to confront social problems in their communities. "In every locality, there are issues within the community context that need to be addressed by the church which cannot be addressed apart from a collective effort," he said.

Karen Smith, assistant professor of church history at Southern Seminary, called for associations to reclaim the "covenant relationship" which she said was emphasized in the earliest Baptist associations.

For early Baptists, "both the independence of the local church and inter-dependence or associationalism were to be embraced as significant features of Baptist ecclesiology," she said. (BP)



SHARING FREEDOM—Southern Baptist home missionary Juan Kovalchuk (left) shares two different types of freedom with people to whom he ministers—freedom found in Jesus Christ and the freedom found in a democratic nation. Kovalchuk is a catalytic missionary who works with Ukrainians. He

is a native Argentinean and serves as pastor of the Ukrainian Evangelical Baptist Church in Philadelphia, Pa. Visiting the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia with immigrants, Kovalchuk is able to share a special moment. (HMB photo)

Committee delivers 'wake-up' call

by Robert H. Dilday

A committee hoping to spark spiritual awakening among Southern Baptists unveiled tentative plans last week for "the most important meeting" in the denomination's history.

The 10-member spiritual awakening committee, named by Southern Baptist Convention President Morris H. Chapman, will coordinate a two-and-a-half-hour period of prayer and confession on Wednesday evening of the SBC's annual meeting, June 4-6 in Atlanta. The SBC Home Mission Board, originally slated to present its report at that time, relinquished the time slot late last year.

"We believe this could be a very special changing time, not only in the life of Southern Baptists but ... to other people as well," said James B. Henry, the committee's chair and pastor of First Baptist Church of Orlando, Fla.

The prayer session, to be called "A Fresh Encounter with God," could be "the most important meeting Southern Baptists have ever had," said Henry.

He said the prayer session will feature "lots of scripture reading," individual and corporate prayer, confession of sins, testimonies and "praise" music.

Southern Baptists will be encouraged to contribute lists of sins "we, as a people and as a nation, have committed," said Henry. Several will be chosen and mentioned as representative examples.

Lists may be sent to committee member Jonya Davis, First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 36, Russellville, Ark. 72801.

Sacrifice will be another theme, as participants are asked to give to God anything—their bodies, financial resources, time—they have been withholding. Prayer and confession will be followed by celebra-

tory congregational singing and a responsive reading expressing Southern Baptists' renewal of covenant with God.

Churches will be asked to pray for the event both on May 19, Pentecost Sunday, and on the Wednesday night itself, when most Southern Baptist churches hold regularly scheduled prayer meetings.

Presidents of the six Southern Baptist seminaries also will be requested to schedule prayer meetings; all pre-convention events will be asked for prayer; and other denominations are asked to pray. (BP)

Chapman urges spiritual awakening

The Southern Baptist Convention must respond to America's spiritual hunger in these "days of urgency," Southern Baptist Convention President Morris H. Chapman has urged.

"America needs to be awakened spiritually," said Chapman in an address to members of the SBC Executive Committee Feb. 18. "People are hungry to hear a word from God. We must seize the hour."

"I am praying for spiritual awakening to come to Southern Baptists and through Southern Baptists to America."

Chapman, pastor of First Baptist Church

of Wichita Falls, Texas, said the war in the Persian Gulf has evoked spiritual questions from many Americans. "We can wait no longer to go forth," he warned, and predicted the present "days of urgency" would become "days of expectancy and harvest" if Southern Baptists "bear the precious seed (of the word of God) to every friend, relative, neighbor."

"There is power in the word of God," he said.

"Power to overcome the world, power to break down all barriers, power to crack hearts of cement." (BP)

Relief agencies focus on human side of Gulf war

by William Bole

While much of the nation's attention has been directed to the tactics and technology of warfare being used in the Persian Gulf, American disaster relief agencies have been responding to what they see as a human fallout of immense proportions expected from the battle with Iraq.

Private voluntary agencies are already dealing with a flood of refugees from Iraq and Kuwait in a way relief officials believe is only the beginning of an emergency that may end in hundreds of thousands of displaced people and civilian casualties.

"While we are becoming so enamored and consumed by the Star Wars technology, it is urgent that the world focus on the incredible needs of the civilian casualties" of war in the Persian Gulf, said Tom Getman of World Vision, a non-denominational Christian relief organization.

"It is, to us, a monumental crime that with a billion dollars being spent a day on this activity, the people who are taking the most severe blows are women and children," Getman said in an interview.

He said civilians are feeling the effects of the war not only in areas of fighting but in the Israeli-occupied territories, where authorities have imposed a 24-hour curfew, as well as "other parts of the world where we've lost track of what's going on."

The crisis in the Persian Gulf, he said, has diverted many of the relief organizations from emergencies in Africa, especially Sudan, Angola, Mozambique, Somalia and Liberia, as well as in Kampuchea. "So many of us have been consumed by this, that we're neglecting our friends in other places," said Getman.

Since the beginning of the war, representatives of the major relief and development agencies have been meeting regularly in the American Red Cross building here in Washington, D.C. to exchange information regarding the flow of refugees and to coordinate their responses. The refugees have

moved through Iraq and Kuwait and into Jordan, Syria, Iran, Turkey and Egypt.

Relief officials taking part in the Gulf Crisis Coordinating Committee represent the full range of private voluntary agencies, from the Red Cross and the United Nations High Commission on Refugees to Lutheran World Relief and Catholic Relief Services.

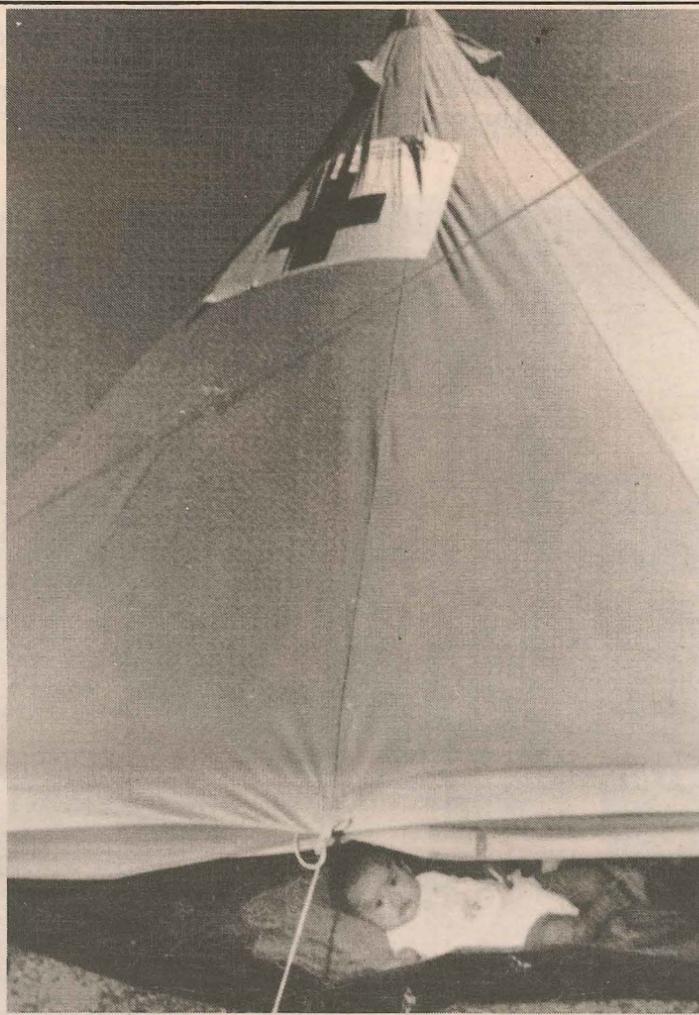
The committee of which Getman is chairman, also includes a representative of the U.S. State Department's relief arm.

The humanitarian campaign, although in its early stages, has apparently begun to draw some attention from the public.

Before the latest meeting was convened, Lisa Mullins of InterAction, the American

umbrella group of private voluntary organizations, approached Getman with a message from a woman who had telephoned InterAction's office in Washington with an unusual offer. The woman claimed to have "lots of gas masks" that she was willing to donate to Palestinians in the West Bank, Mullins related, skeptically. (RNS)

POST CARD FROM THE MIDDLE EAST—As troops from around the world converge on the Middle East to turn back Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, hundreds of thousands of civilians have fled across the borders into Jordan and Saudi Arabia. Tents dotting the desert landscape are images which keep people reminded of the human toll in political disputes wherever they occur. (RNS photo/Reuters)



Somber mood replaces euphoria in Europe

by Darrell Turner

The initial euphoria that resulted from the overthrow of Communist dictatorships in Eastern Europe has been replaced by a more somber mood, according to speakers at the seventh annual conference of Religion in Communist Dominated Areas here.

Panelists in the gathering at the Interchurch Center noted that the countries in the area still have a long way to go to reach democracy since Communists remain entrenched even in the churches, and religious groups are vying for power and influence in the vacuum that has resulted from the overthrow of the old systems.

Olga S. Hruby, editor-in-chief of the periodical that sponsored the conference, related that when she visited her native Czechoslovakia, "I was astonished to find how much astonished she had taken a hold." She noted that 15 percent of the vote in the last election went to the Communist Party, even though its registered voters make up only 8 percent of the population.

Hruby said she was "stunned" by "the re-emergence of fascism" in Czechoslovakia, as demonstrated by incidents in the past year in which skinheads and punks have assaulted African and Vietnamese workers. Hruby has "seen printouts of the secret police files where members of religious institutions were agents, and they are still in the World Council of Churches and other international organizations." (RNS)

Despite unrest, religious freedom continues in Soviet Union

world in view

Despite the Soviet Union's moves toward the "right" in economic and political policies, there are signs that the religious freedom policies instituted under Mikhail Gorbachev are continuing and even increasing.

An example of this trend, according to one observer, is the moving of the relics of Saint Seraphim of Sarov to the Cathedral of the Epiphany. The transfer of St. Seraphim's relics from a crypt of the Kazan Cathedral in Leningrad, which had been transformed into a museum of atheism, to the Cathedral of the Epiphany several miles away was noted in *Izvestia*, the Soviet government daily, with a photograph of the procession.

Kent Hill, executive director of the Institute on Religion and Democracy in Washington and a long-time Soviet scholar, said the return of the relics and the public attention given to the event were "entirely consistent with what we have seen in the past two or three years" in religious liberalization in the Soviet Union.

In other religious news around the world:

Christianity makes headway in China. The 1989 events in Beijing's Tiananmen Square in which China cracked down on young people seeking democratic reforms

have been followed by an upsurge of interest in Christianity, according to a Beijing pastor. But his church does not make it easy for youth to become members. Kan Xueqing reported. He said they must first attend church for a year and take a pre-baptismal training course.

Priest seeks aid for Moscow. A Russian Orthodox priest's latest assignment comes not from his church but from the Moscow City Council: to seek out private American relief aid at a time of economic turmoil in the Soviet Union. Vasili Fontchikov, an elected member of the council, recently completed a three-week trip to the United States and said he plans to make further visits to appeal for assistance.

Rabbi calls Holocaust God's punishment. A leading rabbi in Jerusalem has stirred up a hornet's nest among Holocaust survivors and secular Israelis by claiming the Nazi genocide was God's punishment for sins such as violating the Jewish Sabbath and eating pork. Hundreds of Israelis called a radio talk show to protest the remarks of Rabbi Eliezer Schach, 97, an ultra-Orthodox leader.

Arab-American harassment increases. There were more reported instances of harassment and hate crimes against Arab-Americans in the month since the United States went to war against Iraq than in all of 1990, according to the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee.

At a news conference in Washington, the committee said it has logged fewer than five such incidents before Iraq's invasion of Kuwait Aug. 2 and more than 40 complaints by the end of 1990. Last month there were 58 hate crimes reported against Arab-Americans, according to the committee.

Converts imprisoned in Egypt. Three former Muslims who converted to Christianity have been imprisoned without trial in Egypt for three months and have reportedly been tortured, according to several human rights groups in the West.

Walesa visits John Paul II. In his first trip outside Poland since being elected president, Lech Walesa came to the Vatican "as a president ... a pilgrim ... and a Catholic" to pay homage to Pope John Paul II and the role the pontiff played in helping Poland achieve democracy. The Polish-born pope lavishly praised Walesa and the Solidarity Movement.

Judge rules on benefits of religion. A federal judge has ruled that government officials may not assert the truth or falsity of statements about those benefits of religious practices. The ruling by U.S. Circuit Court Judge Elizabeth Kovachevich in Tampa, Fla., was the latest development in an eight-year legal battle between the Church of Scientology and other religious organizations against a Clearwater law regulating charitable solicitations.

Prison Fellowship launches newspaper. Prison Fellowship has launched the first national newspaper aimed at inmates and written by current and former inmates. The *Inside Journal*, an eight-page quarterly, will be based at Lorton Federal Prison in Virginia. The first issue will be distributed to prisons in six states and the District of Columbia, with plans for monthly, nationwide distribution.

Bishops praise refusal of NC-17 films. The Board of the U.S. Catholic Bishops' communication committee has written letters to a national chain of video outlets and to two newspapers praising them for refusing to change their standards on sex and violence in the wake of the movie industry's new NC-17 rating. Resisting the movie rating change is a sign of social responsibility, according to a statement from the United States Catholic Conference.

Groups call for continued sanctions. As Archbishop Desmond Tutu and other black leaders in South Africa call for continued sanctions against their country, anti-apartheid activists in the United States are gearing up to oppose the calls in the Congress to lift sanctions in response to South African moves toward reform.

Jerry Herman, Southern Africa peace education coordinator for the American Friends Service committee warned interrupted sanctions might allow South Africa to adopt a more leisurely attitude toward the demands of its black majority population.

MISSIONS—GIVING

Missionaries walk in Armstrong's footsteps

by Kelly Capers

As Southern Baptist home missionaries in Baltimore, Md., Don and Kay Gerlach are walking in Annie Armstrong's footsteps—literally.

Armstrong, namesake of Southern Baptists' annual home missions offering, was born July 11, 1850, in Baltimore, where the Gerlachs have had an active port ministry since 1975.

"She served right where we serve," Kay Gerlach said, "and is buried right here in this city."

The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions was named in 1934.

The money given through the offering now provides nearly half of the Home Mission Board's annual budget and is a major source of support for unique ministries like the Gerlachs'.

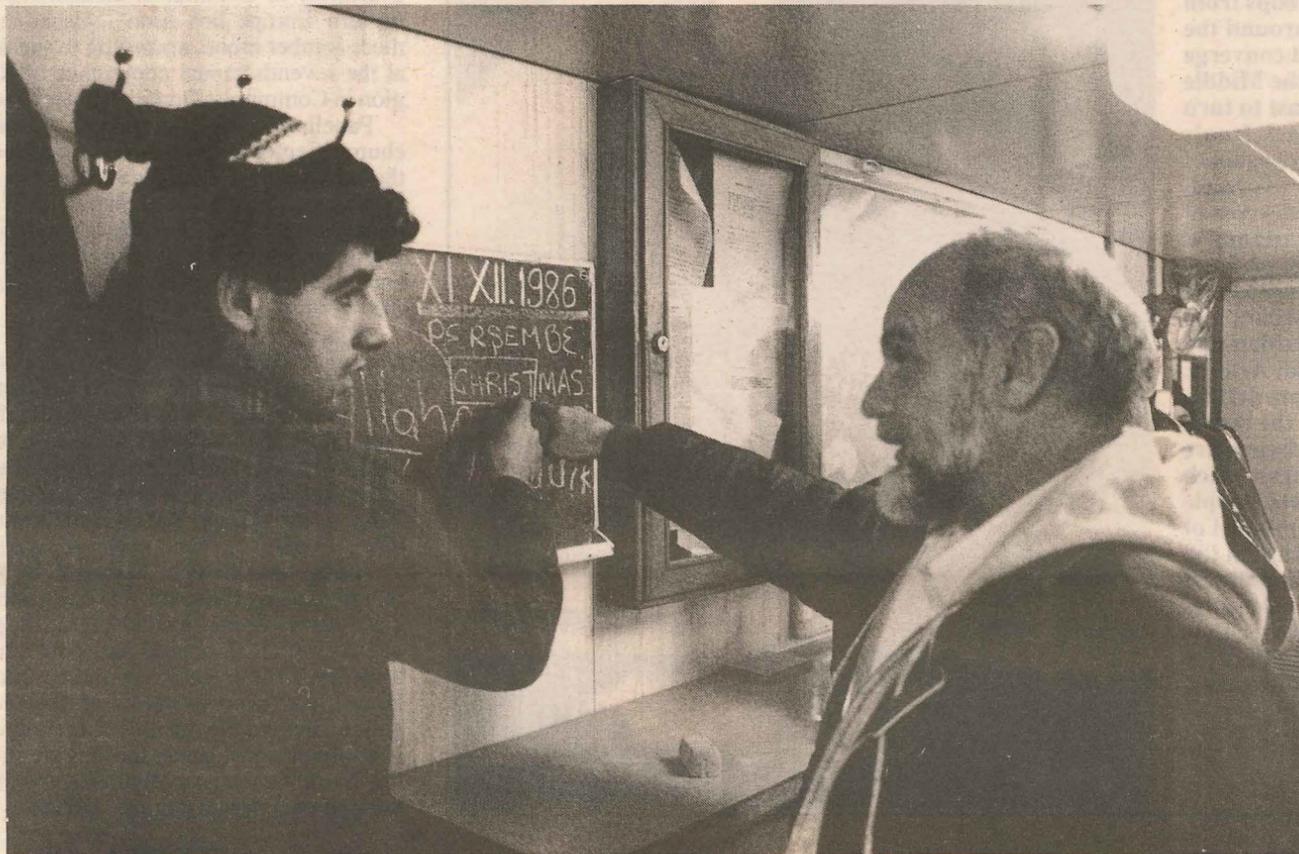
The Gerlachs, who started their ministry as volunteers, operate a mobile Baptist center, which houses everything from Bibles to used clothing and is equipped with all materials common to traditional Baptist centers.

Because seamen are often virtually confined to their ships, a 1985 Ford van allows the Gerlachs to have a larger ministry than would be possible in a permanent building.

Like the Gerlachs, Armstrong witnessed to immigrants and seamen docking in Baltimore's port. "I don't know how she got to the water," Gerlach said, "but she visited ships and immigrants who came into Baltimore."

Armstrong helped immigrants get jobs as they came into Baltimore, Gerlach said. "For a woman back in those days, that was remarkable," she said.

The Gerlachs' port ministry started in the back of their own station wagon. With support from the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, they have been able to purchase the van and keep it stocked with supplies.



WHERE ANNIE WALKED—Don Gerlach (right), a home missionary in Baltimore, takes the gospel to the city where Annie Armstrong worked. Armstrong was a pioneer home missionary and is the namesake of Southern Baptists' annual home missions offering. Gerlach and his wife minister to ships' crews at the Port of Baltimore. (Photo by Bob Allen)

Kentucky gives and receives through Annie Armstrong offering

by Mark Wingfield

It's better to give than to receive, the Bible says. But through the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, Kentucky Baptists have found a way to both give and receive.

When a dollar is given to the annual home missions offering in Kentucky, most of it goes to assist ministries in other states. However, a portion of that dollar returns to Kentucky—combined with the gifts of Southern Baptists from every other state in America.

For example, in 1989 Kentucky Baptists gave \$1,140,401 to the Annie Armstrong offering. In that same year, the Home Mission Board provided \$341,310 for ministries in Kentucky, drawing upon nationwide gifts to the Annie Armstrong offering and the Cooperative Program.

This is Southern Baptist cooperative missions at work.

Annie Armstrong gifts placed in the offering plates of Kentucky churches are sent to the Home Mission Board in Atlanta by the state convention office. In Atlanta those gifts are combined with offerings from every other state to fund nearly half of the HMB's annual budget.

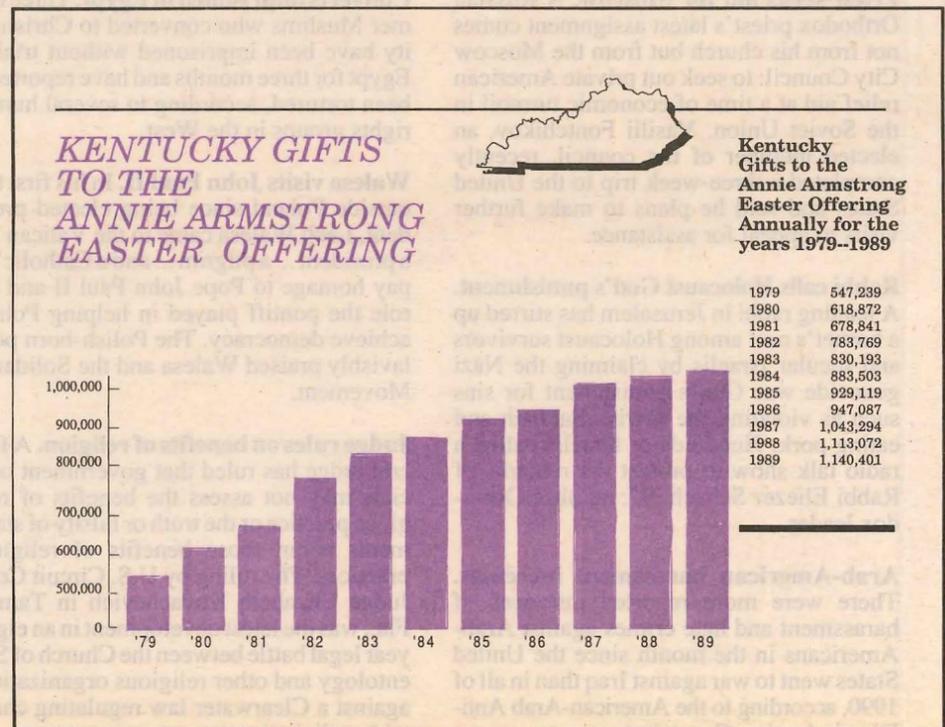
The HMB allocates funds for its four priority emphases: evangelism, church starting, church growth and ministry.

Every state convention has a coopera-

tive agreement with the HMB that spells out what projects and personnel will be funded. Most projects are funded on a matching-funds basis so that the HMB and

the state convention each provide a certain percentage of the financial support.

Through cooperation, the gospel is presented nationwide.



Week of
for Home M
March 3-1
Annie Arm
Easter Offer
\$41,000

ING PEOPLE HOPE

Cities present new challenge for home missions

by Mark Wingfield

America's cities are the new frontier in Southern Baptist home missions.

In the past 50 years Southern Baptists have expanded beyond their Southern roots to become America's largest Protestant denomination, with churches in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, American Samoa and the Virgin Islands.

The challenge of the future is for Southern Baptists to move beyond their rural roots to reach an increasingly urban society with the gospel.

Preliminary reports from the 1990 U.S. Census indicate nearly half of all Ameri-

cans now live in metropolitan areas with populations of 1 million or more. In contrast, less than 18 percent of Southern Baptist churches and less than 26 percent of all Southern Baptists are located in those same metropolitan areas.

Through the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for home missions, all churches—whether rural or urban—contribute to urban ministries across America. The annual home missions offering supports missionaries like George Russ, who works with four metropolitan areas in New York state: New York City, Long Island, Rochester and Buffalo.

Russ helps churches find ways to over-

come the barriers to evangelism they may perceive as insurmountable.

"I see myself as a facilitator, many times as a dreamer, a person who can help the people see what God may be doing," Russ said.

For example, in an newly developed, affluent area of suburban New Jersey, 25,000 people are moving into apartments and condominiums with security systems that prevent door-to-door visitation.

To reach those urban dwellers with the gospel, Russ is training Christians who live inside the complexes to hold Bible studies in their homes and act as chaplains to their neighbors.

ope



MISSIONARY FINDS TIME FOR OWN CHURCH—George Russ, coordinator for evangelism for the Metropolitan New York City Baptist Association, finds time in his busy schedule to participate in his own church's activities. Russ (second from left facing viewer) is a member of Farmingdale Baptist Church. (HMB photo)

Kentucky Baptists continue missionary barrel tradition

by Susan Todd

Kentucky Baptists probably don't realize it, but the \$9.5 million they have given

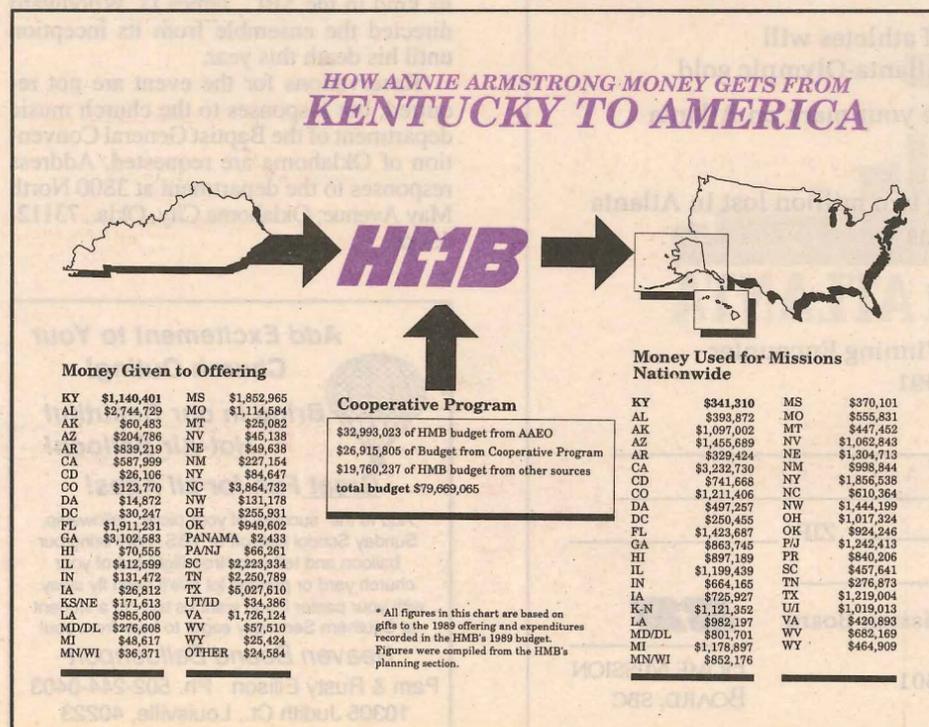
during the past 10 years to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering continues a tradition that began 109 years ago in a missionary barrel.

It began in the spring of 1882 when the Levering Manual Labor School in the Creek Indian Nation in Oklahoma faced severe financial strains. The school, which had been started and operated by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, was not even a year old. When the school opened, the board had received help from two home mission societies in Baltimore, Md. Once again, they turned to the societies for help.

The appeal for 240 summer suits for the students went to the mission societies at Eutaw Place Baptist Church and First Baptist Church. Annie Armstrong, president of the Home Mission Society at Eutaw Place Baptist Church, recognized that the task was larger than the two societies could fulfill alone. What began as work for two societies of women expanded to include women from 14 area Baptist churches—eight white churches and six black churches.

In her biography, "Annie Armstrong: Dreamer in Action," Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union executive Bobbie Sorrell described the scene: "Annie and the other women must have made an interesting picture as they gathered in church lecture halls to carefully fold and pack the suits in barrels for shipment to Indian Territory." Thanks to the vision of the missions-minded women in Baltimore, the Levering Manual Labor School was able to clothe its Indian students.

of Prayer
Home Missions
3-10, 1991
Annie Armstrong
Offering Goal:
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World Changers work projects scheduled for summer

by Tim Yarbrough

Co-educational missions education for youth is the emphasis of six World Changers National Work Projects set for this summer across the United States.

World Changers is the new coeducational missions education program for youth in grades 9-12 sponsored by the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission. World

Changers National Work Projects encompass a variety of involvement activities designed to allow Southern Baptist youth the chance to experience missions first-hand.

In the summer of 1990, more than 130 youth participated in a World Changers pilot project in the coal mining community of Briceville, Tenn. Because of the overwhelming success of the pilot, projects were

expanded to include five sites besides Briceville in 1991, said Andy Morris, Brotherhood Commission World Changers director.

"You could say World Changers is a laboratory experience that allows youth to play out the role of servanthood in a dynamic way," said Morris. "This summer we're meeting a need for missions education and missions involvement that has been

the cry of youth ministry in Southern Baptist life at the grass roots level for a long time."

World Changers project sites, dates, and locations are: eastern Los Angeles, June 22-29; St. Louis, June 22-29; Briceville, Tenn., July 13-20; Birmingham, Ala., July 20-27; Rio Grande Valley, Texas, July 27-Aug. 3; and the Eastern Shore, Va., July 27-Aug. 3. (BP)



Members of the "Level Heads," a World Changers construction crew, put finishing touches on the roof of a home last summer. (Photo by Tim Seanor)

Mormonism targeted by proposed merger

around the sbc

Trustees of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board have asked the convention's Executive Committee for permission to add Utah Missions Inc. as a subsidiary corporation.

UMI is an evangelical, non-denominational ministry dedicated to informing Christians about the beliefs of Mormons. It was founded in 1972 by John L. Smith, a Southern Baptist pastor from Marlow, Okla., where UMI has its offices.

The HMB action came in response to an offer by Smith to transfer the ministry to the board upon his pending retirement.

If approved, UMI's ministry would be supervised through the HMB interfaith witness department.

In other Southern Baptist Convention developments:

Bible schools result in prospects. Vacation Bible schools drew more than 3.5 million participants in 1990, including more than 500,000 prospects for Bible study and church involvement, according to records compiled at the SBC Sunday School Board.

A total of 526,878 prospects were discovered through VBS, mission VBS and Backyard Bible Clubs in 1990, an increase of 5,792 over the 521,086 identified in 1989.

Reunion of Singing Churchmen announced. The 30th anniversary of the Singing Churchmen of Oklahoma will be celebrated in conjunction with PraiSing II in Nashville.

PraiSing II is an event to kick off the release of the new Baptist Hymnal. The Churchmen will perform March 11 at 10 p.m. at Two Rivers Baptist Church.

The group was the first men's group of its kind in the SBC. James D. Woodward directed the ensemble from its inception until his death this year.

Reservations for the event are not required, but responses to the church music department of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma are requested. Address responses to the department at 3800 North May Avenue, Oklahoma City, Okla., 73112-6506.

Thanks for prayers and concern. In the Jan. 22 issue, the Western Recorder reported the deaths of four Oklahoma Baptists who died in a Jan. 14 plane crash near Oklahoma City.

James D. Woodward, one of the crash victims, was pilot of the plane and former dean of the college of fine arts at Oklahoma Baptist University. Family members of Woodward recently sent an open letter to Kentucky Baptists: "Thank you, dear Christian friends, for your many expressions of sympathy for us in the loss of Jim. We have sensed the effect of your intercessory prayers in an almost tangible way. God bless you for reaching out."

The letter is signed by Betty Woodward, Julia and Elizabeth Broyles, and David and Teresa Woodward.

Choir robes needed in Soviet Union. First Baptist Church of Minsk, U.S.S.R., is seeking donation of used blue choir robes. Inner Harbor Ministry, a U.S. organization, is coordinating the donation drive.

The group is requesting contact from churches with unneeded choir robes of any shade of blue. To make a donation, write or call William J. Viel, Chaplain-Director, 956 Middlesex Drive, Baltimore, Md. 21221; (301) 682-4357.

Ridgecrest and Glorieta events set. The Southern Baptist Sunday School Board has released the schedules for several upcoming conferences at Ridgecrest, N.C., and Glorieta, N.M.

Information about any of the following programs can be obtained by contacting the appropriate SSB department at (615) 251-2303.

- "Encouragement for Ministry/Enrichment for Living" is the theme and purpose of the 1991 Spring Bible Break-Away for Ministers and Spouses April 15-18 at Ridgecrest.

Sponsored by the SSB church administration department, it is open to all Southern Baptist ministers and their spouses.

Worship leaders will be Frank Pollard, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss.; and Bob Mulloy, director of the music business program at Belmont College in Nashville.

Conference cost is \$245 per couple. The cost includes three nights' lodging and eight meals.

- Personal and professional development opportunities will be offered at this year's Bible-preaching-administration conferences Aug. 3-9 at Glorieta and July 13-19 at Ridgecrest.

In addition to the preaching and deacons' conferences, sessions will focus on career guidance, weekday education, pastoral ministries and secretarial training.

Other seminars during the event include church media library leadership, church drama leadership, Christian Life Commission conference, Centrifuge and missions.

- "God's Word ... Alive!" is the theme for student conferences planned for Aug. 10-16 at Glorieta and Aug. 17-23 at Ridgecrest.

Jerry Hayner, pastor of Forest Hills Baptist Church in Raleigh, N.C., will lead Bible study at both conferences.

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A letter from war-torn Lebanon: 'please look at us'

by Emmett Barnes

Editor's Note: To be called to minister to a people, and yet be unable to work among them, is a terrible thing. But that situation faces Southern Baptist representatives in Cyprus. Banned from living in Lebanon since 1987 by the U.S. government, they have tried to maintain contacts there by telephone or writing. This article is a reflection by Southern Baptist representative Emmett Barnes on a letter he received from a young Lebanese woman.

A letter just arrived from Lebanon. It's from a young lady we do not know.

From the envelope, I can see that her name is Amal and that she lives in an area that was badly damaged in fighting there in the past several years. The letter opens in the ancient Christian greeting: "In the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Ghost, Amen."

I could see immediately that it was written in poor English, but this may indicate nothing of the writer's educational level. English is probably her third language. Lebanon's official languages are Arabic and French. But many speak some English.

The next line was confusing: "To the speak of God name." Was this a bit of praise to God? Perhaps it meant "to the proclamation of God's name." Or it could have been calling on the name of God to emphasize that the content of the letter is trustworthy. The letter is a bit clearer from that point.

"My name is Amal Aharayeh," she wrote. "We are a family consist of eight children with my mother. My father was dead because he was very ill and we can't help him to took him doctor because we are very poor. We haven't any money to bought the medicals to him. In spite of this the war came and damaged our house a year ago."

The picture emerges. A poor family is facing the winter with no housing. They may be able to take care of immediate needs like food, but are not able to restore their house.

"In the name of God if you can help us to build our house to protect us from the cold weather because my mother is very ill and we haven't any relatives to stay in your house or to help us in any thing."

"We are very thanks to you. Please send to me the answer because we are very need to this help."

Of course this is not just one-way correspondence. Amal would like an answer. What shall I say?

"I am sorry about my language is not good."

Language is no problem here. I can understand clearly. And with the imposed humility of one who speaks broken Arabic, I certainly will not laugh at her English.

"Peace of God to you."

The blessing of peace. This young woman probably has seen more war than almost all of us. I wonder where she and her family were hiding when the shells were falling.

Then comes a quote from the Bible: "So then as often as we have the chance we should do good to everyone and especially to those who belong to our family in the faith (Galatians 6:10)."

At this point words are poor tools to

convey what turmoil I feel within. If I could communicate in good English as well as Amal has expressed herself in her broken variety, I would. However, my feelings are so personal that I hesitate to talk about them.

But you must see that I realize in the depth of the purpose of God that the letter is from a member of my family. Amal was an unknown relative of mine—until now. This is "our family in the faith."

Amal closed with this note: "The picture is our house. Please look at us. Thanks. Amal Aharayeh."

The picture enclosed shows a woman, probably Amal's mother, standing by a badly damaged single-story building. The interior walls seem to be holding up a concrete slab roof, but the external walls are gone, so far as I can see.

But the devastation is in my heart as I read the appeal, "Please look at us."

Through my tear-filled eyes and smudged glasses, I can see a woman who is about my age. She is clean, neatly dressed and composed, although standing in the rubble of her home. This is my sister, whom I did not know, with problems that I did not realize.

"Please look at us." Yes, Amal, I have been looking in other directions in recent days. Now, my niece, how can I do other than to look at you? (BP)

Prospects for ministry arise with signs of peace

by Mike Creswell

A fragile peace has settled over Lebanon, and prospects for Christian ministry have risen.

Life remains difficult and big problems persist, but Baptist schools are well-attended, orders for evangelical literature are up and some churches report growth, according to observers arriving in Cyprus. Most important, some say interest in the gospel is on the rise among war-weary Lebanese.

A measure of peace began to return to Beirut last October with the defeat of Gen. Michel Aoun. Some 40,000 Syrian troops joined with Lebanese troops to overwhelm Aoun, ending his 11-month opposition to the Lebanese government.

Southern Baptist workers are marking the fourth year they have been banned from living in Lebanon by U.S. government order. They continue to monitor the work from their base in Cyprus, an island in the Mediterranean just an overnight boat ride or a short flight from Beirut.

Reports on ministry are more promising than any time during the past two years. In southern Lebanon, Marjayoun Baptist Church led by pastor Pierre Francis continues to grow amid persecution from traditional churches.

Despite such difficulties, Lebanese Baptist workers say they believe that as long as bombs are not falling, they must work hard and fast to share Christ with their troubled country. And while they continue to welcome outside help, they acknowledge the basic responsibility in outreach is theirs. "If we don't do it, we shouldn't expect anyone else to," one worker declared. (BP)



NO TANKS PLEASE—"No tanks" signs like this one, urging tanks to stay off weakened bridges and narrow or damaged streets, are among the many evidences of 15 years of civil war in Lebanon. (BP photo by Jean Boucheble)

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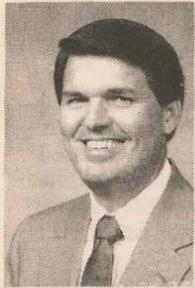
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mountains to the mississippi



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

clear creek chronicle

Stress reduction

One of my new year's resolutions is to exercise more and gain the benefits of better health. Rebecca and I enjoy walking the road to Pine Mountain lodge but rain kept us in recently. We went to the campus family life center to get in at least a mile before it closed. Eighty-seven people had checked in that evening to use the facility.

Farrel Green (Tenn., second year) and 7-year-old Korby sat on the bleachers playing battleship. Haley and Whitney Withrow played with a ball on the sidelines while their dad (Keith, first year, Kentucky) enjoyed basketball. Three of the players were teen-agers of our students. Missions Professor Mark Terry conducted a basketball clinic for 10 students. John Pennay (Ohio, second year) carefully watched 11 children in the pool. Angela Andy (Ohio, first year) provided supervision in the ceramics room. David Puricia (Ohio, third year) shot baskets with his children, Jeremy and Maria.

Billy Howell (N.C., second year) worked at the desk where each visitor signed in and received a name tag. David Evans (Kentucky, third year) helped in the gym. The young disciples had 10 youth in their meeting. Professor Jackson Robertson worked out in the weight room and showed how to keep young at 75. Nearby, several children tried their hand at ping pong and fuzzleball.

Third year Tenn. student David Wade directs the busy schedule. Four men's basketball teams play an intramural schedule. Mixed volleyball and skating also are available. Seventy children and adults take swimming lessons taught by our Red Cross trained student instructors.

Some ask, "What was there to do on campus before the FLC?" There is enough outside in the area but the center daily proves its worth. Ninth grader Ricky Witherite is glad to have "a good place to practice ball and hang out with friends."

"I like to come and get away from my parents," Dawn Pennay said with a smile.

Billy Howell notes, "We give a good witness to guests, such as when our guys play the regional state trooper basketball team."

Staff say, "The center helps release tension ... people unwind"

The biggest need now at the FLC is to pay for it. We are working and praying toward a May 10 goal when the last note will be burned. That will reduce the stress.

CONGREGATIONS: First, Big Clifty, has seen 15 people profess faith in Christ since it was constituted April 29, 1990. Meeting in a storefront, the congregation averages 40 to 60 in worship. The church also has organized a Woman's Missionary Union which has made 29 lap robes for residents of a local health care facility. ... Lyndon, Louisville, celebrated its 70th anniversary Feb. 17. ... Walnut Street, Louisville, has started "Worshipcare," a program to assist families caring for relatives with Alzheimer's Disease. Trained personnel will conduct the program during

Sunday school and worship two Sundays per month. ... Carillon, Louisville is sponsoring an eight week study on coping with anger. Desert Storm Projects—Jeffersontown, Jeffersontown, sent care packages to military personnel. ... Immanuel, Frankfort, has designated a bulletin board for names and addresses of family members in the Persian Gulf. ... Highland, Louisville, is distributing a paper titled "The Middle East Conflict: Responding to Your Child." ... First, Middletown, is placing letters to military personnel on the communion table. ... Fern Creek, Louisville, will host Louis

G. Burnett Feb. 27 at 6:45 p.m. Burnett is director of military chaplaincy for the chaplaincy division of the Home Mission Board.

PERSONNEL: Pastors—Dale Ethridge to Penrod, Penrod, from Beechland, Lewisburg. ... Bill Egbert to New Harmony, Bremen, from Summersville, Summersville. ... Billy Thompson to Macedonia, Greenville, from Adriel, Dawson Springs. Carl Pendley as interim to Browder, Browder. ... Ron Lashley to Meadow Hill, Louisville. ... Vernon Hawkins to Ridgeview Mission, Taylorsville. ... Hoge Hockensmith has retired from Broadway, Lexington. Others—John Saunders to Jeffersontown, Jeffersontown, as interim education minister. ... Dewyane Martin as minister of music and youth to Pleasant Hill, Campbellsville.

Indian choir to launch series

The India Children's Choir will launch the 1991 sacred concert series sponsored by Walnut Street Baptist Church in Louisville March 9-10.

The children primarily are from the Hmar tribe, whom British colonists labeled "savage headhunters" three generations ago. They will perform "Headhunters to Hearhunters," a musical that tells the story of their tribe's turn to Christianity and includes songs and tribal dances.

It was written by their director, Ronald K. Wells, a minister of music at Walnut Street Church in the 1950s.

The children's choir will perform Saturday, March 9, at 8 p.m. and Sunday, March 10, at 3 p.m.

Other concerts in the series are:

- Collegium Musicum Bremen, a German choir and orchestra, on its first U.S. tour, March 23-24.

The concert will include music from Gothic times to modern works and feature

compositions by Bach, Handel and Mendelssohn.

- The Walnut Street choir and orchestra, performing a patriotic concert, June 29-30.

- Professional concert artist Jimmy Smith with the Omega Choir from Zion Baptist Church in Louisville, presenting gospel and sacred music, Sept. 21-22.

- The Talleys—Roger, Debra and Kirk Talley—singing Southern gospel, inspirational and light contemporary music, Oct. 26-27.

The Walnut Street concerts are free, but tickets for the performances must be ordered by mail.

To order, write to Walnut Street Baptist Church, Third and St. Catherine Sts., Louisville, Ky. 40203. Include name; address with ZIP code; daytime and evening phone numbers; tickets desired, with preference of Saturday evening or Sunday afternoon performances; and a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

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FOR SALE: Canon plain paper copier. Makes copies up to 11x17. Sorter included. \$1,000. Call 502-636-5576, ask for Rev. Burkett. 9th & O Baptist Church. 2-19-3T

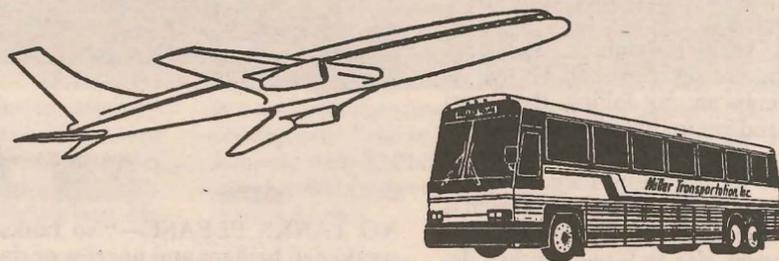
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CHURCH BONDS: Church bonds available at a discount for Trinity Baptist Church, Hopkinsville, Ky. Any interested party may contact Larry Blackwelder at Community First Bank, Winter Garden, Fla. 407-656-4646. 2-12-3T

FOR SALE: 28 pews, 20' long, oak, blue, padded, in excellent condition. Pulpit furniture to match also available. Will sell separately or all together. Contact Alton First Southern Baptist Church, 4500 Humbert Rd., Alton, IL 62002, 618-462-1276. 2-19-2T

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sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR MARCH 3, 1991

Life and Work Series

Guided by the Holy Spirit

John 14:16-17 During his ministry among his disciples our Lord guarded, protected, encouraged and guided them. But as he prepared to leave them, he assured them that the Holy Spirit was coming to be with them. Christ made it perfectly clear that the Holy Spirit is a person who knows, feels and wills. He strengthened the saved, guides them in the study of the scriptures, directs in the work of the Lord, comforts in sorrow, dispenses gifts and empowers for service. He directs Christians as to what they should do and then enables them to do it.

John 14:26 Human wisdom gives knowledge about God's word, but the Holy Spirit imparts to us knowledge of the word itself. We must seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit if we are to understand the word of God. The Holy Spirit teaches the children of God the things which we need to know to be effective witnesses for Christ. The Spirit guides believers in the study of the scriptures and enables believers to understand and interpret the word correctly. Peace, the gift which Christ singled out to bestow as a parting legacy, is an inheritance which this world can neither give nor take away.

John 15:26-27 Jesus assured the disciples that he would send the Holy Spirit, who would bear witness to the deity and redemptive purpose of Christ, and who would do for his disciples many things which the Lord Jesus had been doing for them. The Holy Spirit would protect, guide, inspire and empower them. If they would yield themselves to him and obey him, they would receive many additional and wonderful blessings. Through Christians the Holy Spirit would carry on the work that Jesus had begun.

John 16:8-13 The first need of a soul is to be convicted of sin. The convicting work of the Holy Spirit is God's means of preparing hearts for receiving the savior. Through the word of God and the testimony of children of God, the Holy Spirit bears witness to Christ. He convicts the world of sin committed, of righteousness imputed, and of judgment accomplished.

International Series

Interpersonal relations

I Cor. 1:10-17 Tactfully and wisely, Paul dealt with a matter concerning information from the household of Chloe with reference to the prevailing condition in

the church in Corinth. He did not deal with rumors, but with facts. It was sad, but true, that contentions and schisms were rampant in the church of Corinth. When these conditions prevail in any church, Satan is always the cause of them. He is merely working through the participants.

In the church at Corinth, there were at least four factions or groups who were divided over preachers. Paul rebuked all these factions. He ridiculed the idea of their undue exaltation of him. Paul reminded the Corinthians that Christ was the one who had been crucified for them, therefore he was the only rightful one for them to worship and serve.

We must ever be on guard against those who would cause strife and divisions in a church. Most frequently, divisions in churches center around the personal likes or dislikes of selfish and egotistic people who crave recognition and think this is the best way to acquire it.

I Cor. 3:1-9 Corinth was strategically located on the shores of the Mediterranean Sea, where the sea-going traffic passed. In Paul's day this great and wealthy city was as renowned for its commerce and culture as it was notorious for its vice and licentiousness.

In the church of Corinth, there was a lamentable lack of Christian growth. Their spiritual growth had been arrested because they were fleshly. When their flesh lusted against the spirit, they permitted the former to gain control. Consequently, they remained spiritual babes.

Christians are highly honored in being God's fellow workers. God furnishes the soil, the seed, the showers, and the sunshine but he expects us to do the cultivating. He will not do for us the things which we can do for ourselves, but he will do everything for us that we cannot do for ourselves.



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

homes for children

Brief encounter

Dr. Mooney is recovering from recent back surgery. In his absence, the KBHC column is being written by Robin Oldham, director of development/communications.

On a recent gray and unusually overcast afternoon, I was leaving the office looking forward to a warm supper and quiet evening at home by a comfortable fireplace with Jeana and Hunter. Walking down the hallway of our building, I noticed a child care worker trying to comfort an obviously sad and somewhat uncertain new arrival to KBHC.

While it is normal to feel some anxiety about any move, the circumstances surrounding the arrival for a new resident at a children's home may result in an especially difficult adjustment. However, what caught my attention on that cold afternoon was the young girl's striking resemblance to my own daughter. Her age, size and even coloring were remarkably close to Hunter's. As a result, the sadness in her eyes and her trembling voice had a significant impact on me.

After a brief hello, I walked to the car and drove to a warm home and supportive family. Still, the picture of Hunter's look-alike lingered in my mind. What events brought the girl to KBHC? What did the future hold for the child? These and scores of other questions raced through my mind for quite some time after that brief encounter.

Certainly, that wintry afternoon must have been a difficult one for the little girl in the hallway. Sadly, she is only one child whose life has been touched by unhappiness and turmoil. The good news is that she and many others are finding love, acceptance and hope at Baptist Homes for Children.

It is good to know that the sometimes gloomy skies of winter soon will be replaced by the bright and promising ones of spring. It is even more reassuring to remember that many, many children in need are finding love, encouragement and support through the outreach of Baptist Homes for children.

Thank you for being part of our story.



Barkley Moore
President
Oneida Baptist Institute
Oneida, KY 40972

oneida journal

Three outstanding brothers

Three of many remarkable Oneida students are the Yoder brothers. Named for Biblical figures, they are Isaac, David and Samuel, ages 16, 15 and 13. Each is a strong Christian leader on our campus. Yet each is very quiet and unassuming. They lead by attitude and action.

Of Amish heritage, they are very active Baptists. Their parents made a profession of faith in a Baptist church in 1983. Each of the boys has since made his profession of faith. Doing so when convicted by the Holy Spirit, each has followed in believer's baptism. As was said of Jesus, each has "continued to grow in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man."

Besides their three older sons at OBI,

Levi and Miriam Yoder have a fourth son and young daughter who also plan to be Oneidians. Before moving to Kentucky nearly a decade ago, Levi built large barns for farmers and fairgrounds.

Miriam, while attending her small children, baked and sold homemade bread and rolls. Today the Yoders operate a small grocery and filling station near Berea. They live in a house in which Gen. U.S. Grant slept a night during the Civil War.

Mrs. Yoder came with a church group to visit Oneida shortly after moving to Kentucky. She was impressed with the program and made a mental note that it might be a good school for her children when they were old enough.

Years passed and Isaac and David came to OBI in 1988 as freshman and eighth grader respectively. Both young men have been honor roll students since arrival, and have been active in all phases of school life.

Academically, Isaac has been in advanced classes from his freshman year.

Isaac is outstanding in drama in which he has been very active for three years. Most recently he had the lead in our Christmas production of "The Tinker." He gave three memorable performances as the Crown Prince in "The King and I." Also he has had supporting roles in "The Robe," "The Miracle Worker" and "The Homecoming." He will next take part in "The Body and the Wheel," the script of which is nearly all direct quotes from the Bible, to be presented Saturday, March 9 at 7:00 p.m. The public is invited.

As a freshman Isaac was voted by the faculty as the most outstanding as well as the most studious boy. During his sophomore year he received the coach's award for outstanding participation in cross country in which he has lettered

three years.

Both Isaac and David participated in and progressed to the Kentucky Baptist state Bible drill finals their first year. Last year David won the state Bible drill championship at Cedarmore and represented Kentucky in the national Bible drill at Ridgecrest, N.C. last August.

David has been a very effective room and hall monitor much of the time he has been at Oneida. Playing baseball the past two years, he has been a team asset with his abilities to hustle and run and has earned varsity letters both years. His physical and spiritual stamina have been noted as he finishes near the front of the pack in cross country runs in which he has lettered. Also he is proving to be an asset on our varsity swim team this year. David has participated on the academic team showing skill in quick recall. In this he has received a "most improved" award from his coach. An honor roll student like his older and younger brothers, David has shown a lot of versatility as they have.

Samuel eagerly awaited his opportunity to come to Oneida. As he became a teenager and a seventh grader, his parents gave their consent. Like his brother Isaac, Samuel has an artist's eye and hand. While a seventh grader, he does impressive work in high school art. Also, he ran cross country varsity this year. During wrestling season, he pinned his man differing times in the 110 lb. weight class on the high school varsity team. He wrestled in the competition in which we won the all "A" classic high school state wrestling meet several weeks ago.

Isn't Samuel some young man? He is excelling as a seventh grader in many differing high school activities. Oneida gives that kind of opportunity to even its youngest students. It is amazing what many accomplish once given the chance.

'Top 100' Churches: Total Baptisms

Church	Location	Baptisms	Church	Location	Baptisms	Church	Location	Baptisms
1. Mt. Zion	Paducah	204	Eastwood	Bowling Green	42	First	Whitley City	31
2. Vine Grove	Vine Grove	136	39. First	Louisa	41	Bruners Chapel	Harrodsburg	31
3. Highview	Louisville	134	Marion	Marion	41	Ellers Memorial	Danville	31
4. Porter Memorial	Lexington	120	First	Paducah	41	First	Walton	31
5. Severns Valley	Elizabethtown	102	42. Pleasant View	Waynesburg	40	Mitchellsburg	Mitchellsburg	31
6. Oneida	Oneida	100	Crescent Springs	Covington	40	First	Whitesburg	31
7. Valley View	Louisville	95	Crestwood	Crestwood	40	81. Immanuel Temple	Henderson	30
8. Providence	Franklin	90	Campbellsville	Campbellsville	40	Black Jack	Franklin	30
9. Glendale	Bowling Green	85	46. Williamstown	Williamstown	39	83. Bethel	Gilbertsville	29
10. Ninth and O	Louisville	84	First	Madisonville	39	First	Prestonsburg	29
11. Watson Lane	Henderson	75	48. Highland	Princeton	38	Liberty	Madisonville	29
12. Central	Corbin	73	Northside	Mayfield	38	South Jefferson	Louisville	29
13. New Prospect	Manchester	71	Lily	London	38	Oakland Avenue	Covington	29
14. Camp Pleasant	Frankfort	69	First	Richmond	38	Highland Hgts. First	Stoney Fork	29
15. Binghamtown	Middlesboro	67	52. Post Oak	Russellville	37	89. Mill Creek	Highland Hts.	28
Hickory Grove	Independance	67	Eastern Gate	Shepherdsville	37	First	Russellville	28
17. Lone Oak First	Paducah	66	Sandusky Chapel	Monticello	37	Walnut Street	Benton	28
18. Calvary	London	65	55. Central	Winchester	36	Yellow Creek	Owensboro	28
19. Parrish Avenue	Owensboro	61	First	Salyersville	36	Gardenside	Lexington	28
20. Hardin	Hardin	60	57. Second	Hopkinsville	35	Fellowship	Harrodsburg	28
Stithon	Radcliff	60	Unity	Ashland	35	Big Bone	Union	28
22. Immanuel	Lexington	58	Bedford	Bedford	35	Ridgecrest	Beaver Dam	28
23. First Korean	Radcliff	57	Red House	Richmond	35	First	Pikeville	28
24. Denham Street	Somerset	56	61. Corinth	London	34	Sulphur Springs	Edmonton	28
25. Florence	Florence	54	Morningside	Louisville	34	99. Lyttleton	Manchester	27
26. Rose Hill Msnry	Ashland	53	63. Bardstown	Bardstown	33	Southside	Princeton	27
27. Centertown	Centertown	51	Franklin Crossroads	Cecilia	33	Wing Avenue	Owensboro	27
28. Poplar Spring	Murray	49	65. Eaton Memorial	Owensboro	32	North Frankfort	Frankfort	27
New Life	Mayfield	49	First	Owensboro	32	Zion	Henderson	27
30. First	Bowling Green	47	Calvary Hill	Stanford	32	Edmonton Msnry	Edmonton	27
31. Erlanger	Erlanger	45	New Hope	Central City	32	Harlisle Avenue	Louisville	27
32. Macedonia	Owensboro	44	Mt. Freeman	Junction City	32	Hopewell	Corbin	27
Walnut Street	Louisville	44	Montgomery	Carrie	32	New Hope Msnry	Radcliff	27
Ohio Valley	Ledbetter	44	71. First	Murray	31	DeHaven Memorial	LaGrange	27
35. Emmanuel	Mayfield	43	Concord	Hopkinsville	31	Oakwood Avenue	Cynthiana	27
36. Lewisport	Lewisport	42	Henderson Memorial	Hopkinsville	31			
First	Somerset	42	Rocky Ridge	Cadiz	31			

Source: Kentucky Baptist Office for Evangelism

'Top 100' Churches: Per Capita Baptisms

Church	Location	Mbrs./ Bap. Bap.	Church	Location	Mbrs./ Bap. Bap.	Church	Location	Mbrs./ Bap. Bap.
1. Danville Deaf Msn	Junction City	9 ... 2	Calvary	Grand Rivers	13 ... 8	Green Grove Msnry	Providence	7 .. 10
Grove Center	Morganfield	6 ... 2	Buttonsberry	Island	10 ... 8	74. Denham Street	Somerset	56 .. 11
3. New Prospect	Manchester	71 ... 3	Ambassador	Henderson	3 ... 8	Rocky Ridge	Cadiz	31 .. 11
Edmonton Msnry	Edmonton	27 ... 3	40. Providence	Franklin	90 ... 9	North Frankfort	Frankfort	27 .. 11
Macedonia Msnry.	Covington	10 ... 3	Hardin	Hardin	60 ... 9	Ashland Avenue	Covington	25 .. 11
New Hope	Clifty	32 ... 3	New Life	Mayfield	49 ... 9	Stanley	Owensboro	24 .. 11
7. Faith	Corbin	25 ... 4	Emmanuel	Mayfield	43 ... 9	Plum Springs	Bowling Green	21 .. 11
Mayflower Unity	Pikeville	19 ... 4	Lily	London	38 ... 9	Mt. Tabor	Paint Lick	20 .. 11
Whickerville	Hardyville	16 ... 4	Walnut Street	Benton	28 ... 9	Bethel	Maysville	13 .. 11
10. Mt. Zion	West Paducah	204 ... 5	Lynnville	Sedalia	24 ... 9	Lafayette	Dawson Springs	10 .. 11
Lerose	Lerose	20 ... 5	Oak Grove Msnry.	Summer Shade	22 ... 9	New Providence	Murray	9 .. 11
Bethel	Fairview	15 ... 5	Immanuel	Glasgow	19 ... 9	Dry Valley	Union Star	9 .. 11
Penn Avenue	Georgetown	14 ... 5	Dekoven	Sturgis	16 ... 9	New Harmony	Beaver Dam	7 .. 11
Victory	Hopkinsville	11 ... 5	Ryans Creek	Williamsburg	12 ... 9	Southside Msnry.	Louisa	5 .. 11
15. Watson Lane	Henderson	75 ... 6	Jones Creek	Evarts	12 ... 9	Gradyville	Gradyville	5 .. 11
Poplar Spring	Murray	49 ... 6	Grace Sou.	Russellville	11 ... 9	Garmeada	Middlesboro	4 .. 11
Highland	Princeton	38 ... 6	Green Hill	Greensburg	11 ... 9	Copper Creek So	Mt. Vernon	3 .. 11
Morningside	Louisville	34 ... 6	Fellowship	Wingo	9 ... 9	90. Calvary	London	65 .. 12
Fairland	Albany	16 ... 6	Pleasant Hill	Philpot	6 ... 9	Parrish Avenue	Owensboro	61 .. 12
Andrew	Bowling Green	13 ... 6	Jeff Msnry	Jeff	6 ... 9	Ellers Memorial	Danville	31 .. 12
Citadel Msnry	Lexington	7 ... 6	New Bethel	Waco	5 ... 9	Black Jack	Franklin	30 .. 12
Newtown	Pineville	6 ... 6	Fellowship	Berea	5 ... 9	Oakland Avenue	Covington	29 .. 12
Loeb Street Msnry	Henderson	6 ... 6	Lola	Lola	4 ... 9	Olive Branch Msn.	Hanson	17 .. 12
Calvary	Elizabethtown	5 ... 6	60. Centertown	Centertown	51 .. 10	New Columbus	Corinth	16 .. 12
Ivyton	Salyersville	2 ... 6	Ohio Valley	Ledbetter	44 .. 10	Fitzpatrick First	West Prestonsburg	13 .. 12
New Hope Msnry	Radcliff	27 ... 6	Salyersville First	Salyersville	36 .. 10	Cherryville	Louisa	11 .. 12
27. Dione	Cumberland	20 ... 7	Mt. Freeman	Junction City	32 .. 10	Johnson Island	Nebo	11 .. 12
Elva	Benton	8 ... 7	Pleasant Grove	Hickory	22 .. 10	Charity	Columbia	9 .. 12
Halls Chapel	Bowling Green	6 ... 7	Sidney Msnry	Sidney	21 .. 10	Blackburn Ave. Msnry	Ashland	8 .. 12
30. Calvary	Uniontown	4 ... 7	Huntsville Msnry	Huntsville	16 .. 10	Visalia	Covington	7 .. 12
31. Camp Pleasant	Frankfort	69 ... 8	Corn Creek	Woodbine	15 .. 10	Sinking Valley	Somerset	6 .. 12
First Korean	Radcliff	57 ... 8	Crane Creek	Grayson	11 .. 10	Demossville	Demossville	5 .. 12
Eastern Gate	Shepherdsville	37 ... 8	Mt. Olive	Sturgis	11 .. 10			
Sulphur Springs	Edmonton	28 ... 8	70. Tyrone	Lawrenceburg	8 .. 10			
Oak Grove First	Oak Grove	23 ... 8	Garfield Avenue	Louisville	8 .. 10			
Lighthouse	Hopkinsville	17 ... 8	North Evarts	Evarts	8 .. 10			

Source: Kentucky Baptist Office for Evangelism

Even in retirement, McCall assists church's ministry

by Pat Cole

Duke McCall's retirement from a 40-year denominational career has not sent him to the back pew of church service. Instead, the former president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., spends Sunday mornings helping to arrange chairs in a school cafeteria for Central Baptist Church, a new congregation in Jupiter, Fla.

"Anybody with a strong backbone can be a member of our church," said McCall with a chuckle. McCall, president of Southern Seminary from 1951-82, and his wife, Winona, spend six or seven months a year in Jupiter and have been part of the church since the fall of 1989.

Jupiter, a city with a summer population of 35,000, had no Southern Baptist church until Central was formed. When the McCalls arrived, Central was a congregation of 19 people that had just decided to constitute as a church. The congregation recently had called T.R. Myers as pastor.

"I was looking for a church and I figured the need was there," said McCall of his decision to affiliate with Central. In the past year, the congregation has grown to an average attendance of 50 to 80 people and the church is in the process of buying a 4.5 acre building lot.

Central has been active in outreach and ministries, said McCall, adding that the church has developed a ministry with Hispanics and a "tremendous" youth program. "Most members are recent converts or people who had dropped out of church," he said. The Hispanic ministry is headed by Jorge Suarez, a native of Ecuador whose conversion was influenced by Southern Baptist foreign missionaries.

The church conducts baptismal services in the backyard swimming pool of one of the members. Unchurched people in the neighborhood often gather to observe the service, he said. He describes Myers as a "servant leader" who "knows what he's doing and knows where he wants to go." McCall would like to brag that Myers is a Southern graduate. Rather, he said, "God called him to Southwestern (Baptist Theo-

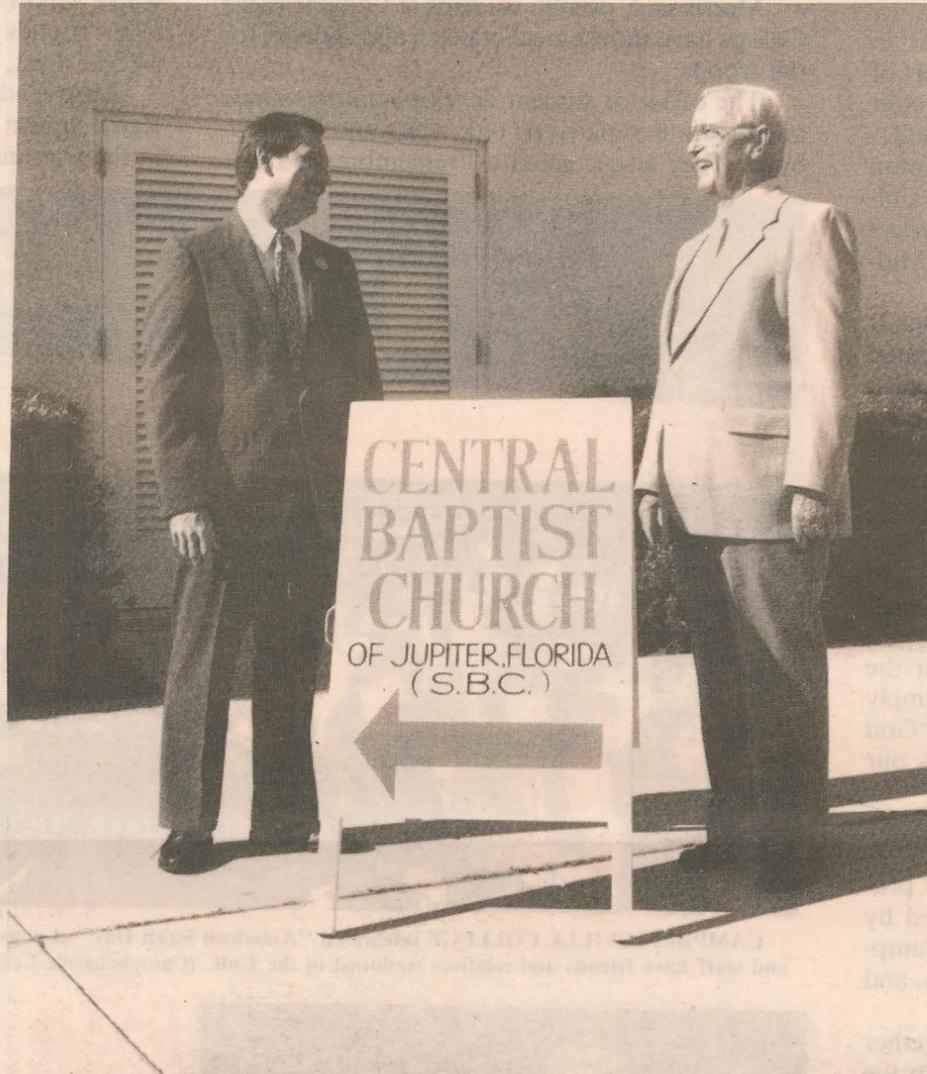
logical) Seminary."

McCall lends his experience as an administrator and Christian leader to the congregation. He has been a supply preacher and serves on the building committee, keeping a low-key but active role in the

church. "I provide kind of a catalyst for the congregation," he said. "I am not there to give instruction. I am there to share ideas."

Myers said McCall has been a "tremendous asset" to the congregation. In addition to providing wise counsel, McCall lends

"dignity and grace" to the congregation when he is called on to lead in worship, said Myers. "It is very noble for somebody of his stature to participate in a fledgling work, but Jupiter needs a Southern Baptist work and he feels a need to be here," he said. (BP)



Duke McCall (right), former president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, stands with T.R. Myers, pastor of the only Southern Baptist church in Jupiter, Fla. (Photo by Greg Hodnett)

Former government lawyer volunteers time to BJCPA

by Larry Chesser

When health problems helped him decide four years ago to cut short his career as a government lawyer, W. Allen "Al" Sanders was advised by doctors to get more exercise.

In response, the Virginia Baptist layman took up hiking. It worked. Reinvigorated after trekking the 2,100-mile Appalachian Trail earlier this year, Sanders, 57, began looking for ways to use his skills and experience. What he found was an opportunity to serve as a volunteer staff attorney at the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

Baptist Joint Committee Executive Director James M. Dunn called the arrangement an ideal missions volunteer match.

"It sounded like the sort of activity that would dovetail with my background," Sanders said of the Washington-based agency's work. "I thought it would be a place where I could perhaps do something significant."

Sanders becomes the third attorney on the BJCPA staff, joining General Counsel Oliver S. Thomas and J. Brent Walker.

Among his chief duties will be providing constituent services to pastors and churches and monitoring the Federal Register for changes in laws affecting church and state.

Sanders' career as a federal government lawyer includes stints with the Panama Canal Company, a former government corporation that operated the Panama Canal, and the U.S. Postal Service.

"The addition of such an experienced attorney to our staff will increase our expertise in the legislative field and free more of our resources to assist Baptists at the state and local level," Thomas said. "During this time of financial belt tightening, Al Sanders is a godsend."

Sanders earned his law degree at the University of Alabama in 1957 and an advanced law degree from George Washington University in Washington, in 1968. Additionally, he served as editor of the Alabama Law Review.

During his first week at the Baptist Joint Committee, Sanders provided constituent services to a northern Virginia congregation in a matter dealing with zoning regulations. "The church's concern is that it be treated in a fair and non-discriminatory manner," Sanders said.

Sanders, a member of Westwood Baptist Church in northern Virginia, completed the Appalachian Trail hike on his second attempt. His first try, in 1987, was cut short by a snow storm. In April, Sanders and a group sponsored by George Mason University began the trail trek in Georgia and arrived at the trail's end in Maine 126 days later.

He describes the Baptist Joint Committee volunteer assignment as an "opportunity to do something that I'm interested in. Plus it's an opportunity to work with James (Dunn) and the agency, which I have long admired."

Sanders' volunteer tenure at the Baptist Joint Committee is indefinite, but he said he sees the assignment as an attractive opportunity to be of service until his wife retires in several years. (BP)

Peruvian vice president sees politics as ministry

by Mary E. Speidel

Christians need to be "salt and light" in all areas of life, including politics, declares Carlos Garcia, a Peruvian Baptist pastor-turned-politician.

"Political power in itself is neither good nor bad. It depends on the person who has that power," said Garcia, second vice president of Peru, during a January visit to the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in Richmond, Va.

Garcia, a lawyer and former Baptist pastor in Peru and Colombia, rose to political power last June when he was elected second vice president. He sees his position as "ministry on a much larger scale. I'm able to reach out and touch the lives of millions of people in Peru."

He became interested in entering politics while working for eight years as Peruvian national director of World Vision, a Christian relief organization. In that role he visited some of Peru's poorest areas.

"This contact with the poor people and my understanding of the Christian vocation led me to want to participate in the political arena as part of my Christian responsibility," said Garcia, who also has been president of Peru's National Evangelical Council.

Garcia was elected on a ticket with presidential winner Alberto Fujimori, a Roman Catholic. About one-third of the congressional candidates who ran on Fujimori's

slate were evangelicals, who make up 5 percent of the population of Peru. Fourteen of them were elected as representatives and four as senators.

The election of so many evangelicals made history in Peru, where about 90 percent of the population is Roman Catholic, Garcia said.

Evangelicals also made political history in Guatemala, another predominantly Roman Catholic country. In January, Protestant candidate Jorge Serrano Elias was elected president, winning 68 percent of the vote.

The elections of evangelicals point to the growing Protestant movement across traditionally Roman Catholic Latin America. Since the 1960s, evangelical ranks have grown from 15 million to about 40 million.

However, evangelicals in the region "have tended to isolate themselves from political life," according to Garcia.

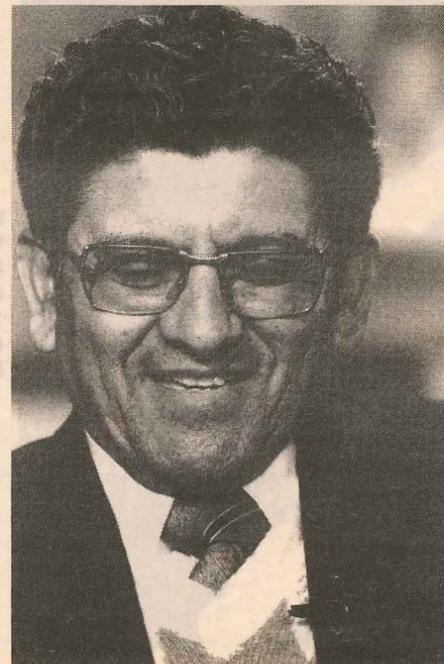
But last year, Peru's serious problems prompted Garcia and other evangelicals to enter politics. "We decided we needed to move out, move ahead in politics to help move toward a solution to these grave problems," he said.

Peru's most serious problems include an unstable economy, 10 years of political violence and a two-year drought that has compounded hunger.

The government also seeks to help the poor through social programs—part of Garcia's portfolio. Besides using govern-

ment programs, he has worked with international relief organizations, including church-related groups, to improve relief efforts.

"The sacrifice the people are making is great. The people have a lot of patience. They trust that their patience will be worth it to come out of the crisis," he said.



Carlos Garcia

Campbellsville College has 'American Spirit Day'

By Missy Malone, student news writer

Students, faculty, administration and staff of Campbellsville College may have a better understanding of the war in the Persian Gulf.

During a recent convocation, Dr. Damon Eubank, assistant professor of history at the College, spoke to students about the historical background of the current situation in the Middle East.

His speech, "The Gulf War, What Does It Mean To The College Family?," was presented on Jan. 30, "American Spirit Day" on campus.

"There's nothing going on today which does not have historical background," said Eubank.

Lust for power and dictatorship is not unusual for the countries of the Middle East, he said.

Eubank spoke of the human impact of the war, touching on the subject of casualties. He also told of the impact on economics and on internal domestic politics.

Eubank encouraged students to not fear the war because we have no control over it. He simply urged them to turn to God for comfort. "God is control," he said. "Turn to Him. He is our comfort. He is our rock."

Following the speech, Eubank opened the floor for questions.

Also during the "American Spirit Day" program, special patriotic music was presented by Nevalyn Moore, instructor in music, the Campbellsville College Handbells, which she directs, and Jamie Ward, a student.

The student body and faculty stood together for the procession of flags and the pledge to the American and Christian flags. They sang "America the Beautiful" and prayed a united prayer for peace.

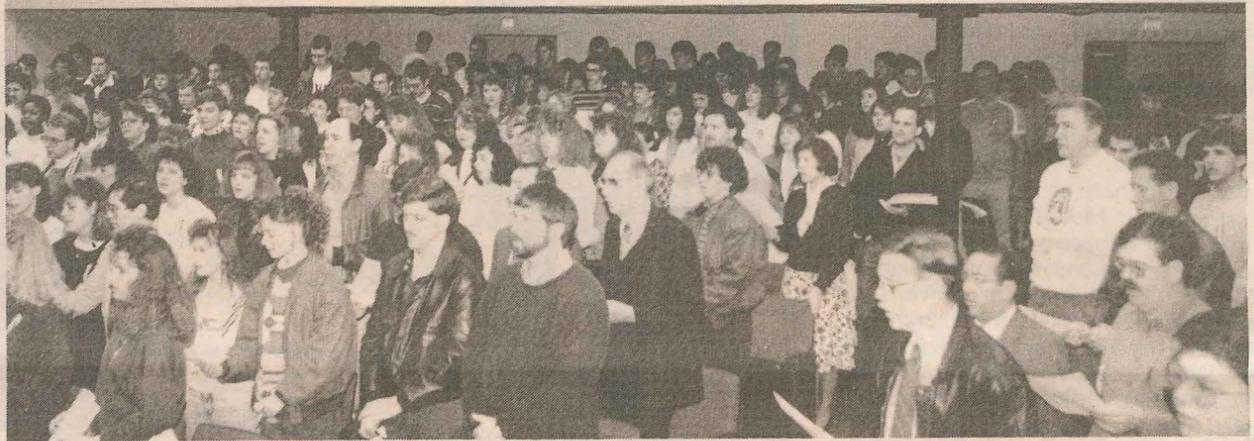
Dr. Ken Winters, president of the College, recognized students and faculty who have family or friends involved in the gulf war.

According to Sylvia Morris, dean of student development at the College, at least three-fourths of the audience stood in response to having friends involved in the conflict.

Morris said, overall, students at Campbellsville College have shown great concern and support for the troops.

The office of student development has made and distributed patriotic red, white and blue ribbons. They also created a "remembrance tree" where yellow ribbons, bearing names of the College's friends and relatives who are serving in the Middle East, are placed for remembrance.

Morris added that two of Campbellsville College's current students have already gone to serve in the war and one is scheduled to leave in May.



CAMPBELLSVILLE COLLEGE celebrated "American Spirit Day" at convocation. Students, faculty, administration and staff have friends and relatives stationed in the Gulf. (Campbellsville College Photo by Dr. Robert Doty)



DR. DAMON EUBANK, assistant professor of history at Campbellsville College, spoke on the war in the Persian Gulf at convocation. ("Central Kentucky News-Journal" Photo by Lisa Burkhead)



ERNIE CLARK, business manager and treasurer at the College, looks at the name of her nephew, Tim Layne, who is serving in Operation Desert Storm, on a tree of honor in support of the troops. (Campbellsville College Photo by Jamie Humphrey)



TODD CUMBERLEDGE, president of the senior class at Campbellsville College, carried the American flag in the alumni building on "American Spirit Day." (Campbellsville College Photo by Dr. Robert Doty)