

FOR THE RECORD

Rush to Russia
Baptist volunteers and funds are sought for an emergency feeding project in Russia. See page 2.

Editorial
Gambling proposals are off and running in the General Assembly. See page 5.

Baptists as ethnics
A sociology professor said Southern Baptists are the South's largest ethnic group. See page 6.

Tax backtrack
Vice President Dan Quayle said he and President Bush were not aware of an element in their 1993 budget proposal that would require churches to report charitable contributions to the IRS. See page 9.

Everybody ought to know, evangelism speakers say

By Mark Wingfield & Marv Knox
News Director and Editor

BOWLING GREEN—Whether rich or poor, young or old, everybody needs to be told about the love of God, speakers said at last week's Kentucky Baptist evangelism conference.

However, only four out of every 100 resident members of Southern

Baptist churches led someone to faith in Jesus Christ last year, reported Howard Ramsey, director of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's personal evangelism department.

"People are anxious to hear about the Lord Jesus Christ, even those who do not know anything about him," Ramsey insisted.

Christians are called to personify the ministry Jesus had on earth, he explained: "People in our world are crying out, 'Won't you be Jesus around me?'"

That theme was echoed by every speaker at the Feb. 24-25 evangelism conference. About 1,500 people attended the event at Eastwood Baptist Church in Bowling Green.

Vocational evangelist Jim Powell related how he was raised in a poverty-stricken family in Henderson County and never heard the gospel.

"I had no earthly idea who Jesus was," he said. "No one had ever come to tell me about him."

He encouraged Kentucky Baptists to reach out to the poor who often are overlooked by churches.

Arnold Turner, a vocational evangelist and attorney from Prestonsburg, told the other side of the same story. Before becoming a Christian, Turner was one of Kentucky's most successful black-lung attorneys and served as county attorney.

Turner said he believed "if you got enough it would all come together" but discovered "there was always an itch I couldn't scratch."

"I had the money, I had the office and I had the prestige," he explained, but was "a man who could get no peace."

Turner encouraged Christians not to be intimidated by the up-and-out.

"Don't be afraid to go to anyone," he said. "If they do not know the Lord, they are hurting."

People of all ages and backgrounds can find God at vacation Bible school, said Jewell Nelson, associate director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Sunday school department.

Last year, 197,568 people participated in vacation Bible schools in Kentucky Baptist churches, she reported. Of those participants, 2,278 made professions of faith in Christ, she said, and churches discovered 25,077 prospective members.

Another name for vacation Bible school could be "vibrant Bible study," Nelson said. That's because VBS materials now are available for everyone, from infants to senior adults, and because churches can conduct the schools any time of year.

All kinds of people will be attracted to churches that radiate the spirit of God, said David Profitt, the bivocational pastor of Licking River Baptist Church near Salyersville.

"People are dying for the presence of God," Profitt said, and they "can't help but get saved when they're in the presence of God."

Churches also need pastors who want to "see God," he added: "You want an evangelistic church; I want an evangelistic church. It won't happen until we see God. When you see God, people will know it."



DON'T ROCK THE BOAT Nicole and Paul Johnson, a dramatic team from Tennessee, perform a skit during the evangelism conference last week. In this skit, they portrayed sailors venturing out into the water for the first time after being afraid to leave the shore. The application was that Christians will find satisfaction taking the gospel into the world.

Evangelism Conference Quotes

Stories on page 7

"God loves you as you are, not as you ought to be, and only God's love can make you what you ought to be."
Richard Jackson

"This is the opportunistic moment for the church of Jesus Christ to rise up and share the light and love of the Savior" among people with AIDS.
Chip Miller

"People are anxious to hear about the Lord Jesus Christ, even those who do not know anything about him."
Howard Ramsey

"We need to get back to the 'unfinished reformation.' It is your responsibility to proclaim the gospel. God never meant that the world should be saved through ordained missionaries, pastors or ministers."
Emmett Johnson

"Everything we do must point the way to evangelism."
Dick Lincoln

3 abortion bills set for vote; poll finds support for limits

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

FRANKFORT—Three bills that would regulate the abortion industry in Kentucky passed out of the House Judiciary Committee last week and are set for a vote by the full House this week.

Meanwhile, a statewide poll conducted by the Louisville Courier-Journal found most Kentuckians approve of abortion only in certain circumstances. The poll also found Kentucky Baptists divided over whether the landmark U.S. Supreme Court ruling in Roe v. Wade should be overturned.

The three bills passed by the House Judiciary Committee Feb. 25 are:

■ House Bill 565 on informed consent. This bill would require a 24-hour waiting period before an abortion and would require doctors to inform women about the risks of abortion, the developmental age of her fetus and alternatives to abortion.

This bill received its second reading in the House Feb. 26 and was sent to the Rules Committee. It was put on the orders of the day for March 3, meaning that is the first day the full House might consider it. Four amendments to the bill had been filed.

■ House Bill 479 on parental consent. This bill is an attempt to clean up a parental consent measure passed in Kentucky in 1986 but struck down by the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals in 1989. The bill would require a girl under 18 to receive permission from a parent or judge before having an abor-

tion unless a doctor declared a medical emergency.

This bill passed out of committee with a vote of 11-3, the most support committee members gave any of the three bills. A companion bill in the Senate (S. 115) has yet to move out of committee. The House bill received its second reading Feb. 27 and was to be considered in the House March 3.

■ House Bill 203 on regulating abortion facilities. This bill would institute health and safety standards for all abortion facilities, including doctor's offices. These standards would include agreements with hospitals and ambulance companies to care for patients in emergencies.

This bill had its second reading in the House Feb. 27 and was to be considered in the House March 3.

The Courier-Journal's Bluegrass State Poll found 56 percent of Kentuckians would permit abortions only under certain circumstances, while 20 percent would allow them under any circumstances and another 20 percent would not allow them under any circumstances. Four percent had no opinion.

Also, 70 percent of those polled said they favor the parental consent provisions of House Bill 479.

There is no clear majority opinion in Kentucky on whether Roe v. Wade should be overturned, the poll found. While 45 percent said it should be overturned, 40 percent said it should not and 15 percent had no opinion.

Among Southern Baptists, 45 percent
□ See Abortion bills ... page 10

Bush thanks Kentucky volunteers

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.—President George Bush thanked two Kentucky Baptists Feb. 19 for their ministry of building homes for poor families.

Rick Rieffer and Albert Jones of Cumberland College shook hands with the president and got a personal tour of Air Force One when he recognized their volunteer service through his Thousand Points of Light program.

Rieffer is director of Cumberland College's Mountain Outreach program. Jones is a second-year religion major and assistant student coordinator of Mountain Outreach.

Mountain Outreach was cited by the president as his 220th point of light, a designation he has given to people and organizations that help others through volunteerism.

Now in its ninth year, Mountain Outreach has enlisted volunteers to help 49 families obtain adequate housing through construction and renovation projects. Applications already

have been approved for six houses to be built this summer.

Rieffer said he often receives thanks from those who are helped, from Cumberland College President James Taylor and benefactors of the college. "But when the president of the United States recognizes us, that is something else," he explained.

"When we introduced ourselves to the president, he said, 'Oh, yes, you are the group that builds houses for needy people in Kentucky and have the big give-away during the holidays.'"

"That made us feel very special," Rieffer said.

Rieffer and another associate were the guests of President and Mrs. Bush at Disney World last winter, but did not get to meet the president then.

Volunteers working in the Mountain Outreach program have come from churches in 20 states. Many of the volunteers grew up in conditions similar to the people they are helping.

Moving? See page 4 (0303)

BAPTISTS

BAPTIST BITS

■ **Lee Porter**, who took early retirement last year from the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board to run for re-election as registration secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention, will become assistant to the pastor and administrator of St. Andrew Baptist Church in Panama City, Fla.

■ **The presidential search committee** at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary is seeking nominations and comments from Southern Baptists nationwide. Correspondence should be directed to Roger Ellsworth, 516 N. Main, Benton, Ill. 62812.

■ **Bill Goff**, a missionary to Venezuela for more than 20 years, has been elected area director for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's work in South America. He succeeds Bryan Brasington, who retired.

■ **Michael Clingenpeel**, a former Kentuckian, has been elected editor of the Virginia Religious Herald. Clingenpeel graduated from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville and served as minister to new members at Walnut Street Baptist Church in Louisville.

Baptist food distribution set for Moscow

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP)—An emergency food distribution project initiated by the Baptist World Alliance and coordinated by the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission will begin March 28 in Moscow, according to Brotherhood Commission President James Williams.

Brotherhood Commission officials were in Moscow last week to confirm logistical details for the project. Called Project Brotherhood, the effort will focus initially on the delivery and distribution of 570 tons of USDA surplus food now on the way to Moscow. The food was secured on behalf of the Baptist World Alliance through a grant to Brothers Brother Inc., a nonprofit relief organization in Washington.

About 40,000 families are projected to benefit from the delivery.

Coordination of Project Brotherhood will require the placement of teams of volunteers in Moscow for the next four to six months.

The teams will work in cooperation with the All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians-Baptists in the Commonwealth of Independent States and assist Russian Baptists in repackaging the food shipment, monitoring its distribution and maintaining accurate records.

"We are keenly aware our initial response is very limited and will still leave many citizens in the Common-

wealth of Independent States hungry," Williams added. "We anticipate broadening our involvement to include food distribution, medical relief and Scripture distribution in other republics.

"We need Southern Baptists to begin to pray now about their involvement in this effort," Williams said. "We will need volunteers who will commit themselves to spend one to two weeks in Moscow. We also will need Southern Baptists to support any expanded involvement with financial resources for additional food, medical

supplies and project expenses such as shipping and fuel costs."

Kentucky Baptists who wish to volunteer for the project should contact Bob Simpkins or John Lott at the Kentucky Baptist Convention, (502) 245-4101.

Financial contributions should be sent to Project Brotherhood, SBC Brotherhood Commission, 1548 Poplar Ave., Memphis, Tenn. 38104, or to Baptist World Alliance, 6733 Curran Street, McLean, Va. 22101. All contributions should be clearly designated "For Project Brotherhood."



HAND TO MOUTH Southern Baptists are joining other U.S. religious groups in sending and distributing food to citizens of the former Soviet Union. Here, volunteers of a Methodist church in Moscow, Tenn., load food to be shipped to their better-known namesake in Russia. (RNS photo)

Seminary formula to be restored

NASHVILLE (BP)—The six seminaries of the Southern Baptist Convention have agreed to restore the controversial seminary funding formula in a three-step adjustment beginning with fiscal year 1993-94.

The formula, by which a Cooperative Program allocation is divided among the seminaries each year, was frozen beginning with the 1990-91 fiscal year primarily to help Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. The Wake Forest, N.C., school had suffered almost a 50 percent decline in student enrollment.

The Seminary Funding Formula Study Committee, created by the SBC Executive Committee, met in Nashville Feb. 19. The committee agreed to recommend restoring the formula in thirds, beginning with the 1993-94 fiscal year.

Also, attention will be focused on how to adjust for the cost of living that affects Golden Gate Seminary in Mill Valley, Calif.

Kentuckians on the funding committee include James Jones of Campbellsville, Larry Forgy of Lexington and Roy Honeycutt, president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

RAs will race at Indy 500 track

INDIANAPOLIS (BP)—Royal Ambassadors will get an opportunity to run their pine-wood racers at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway June 6.

The event will be sponsored by the Brotherhood leadership of the Missouri Baptist Convention and the Baptist State Convention of Michigan but is open to participants from any state.

Any member or leader of a Royal Ambassador, High School Baptist Young Men, Acteen or Girls in Action organization in a Southern Baptist church may enter. Trophies will be awarded to the first, second and third place finishers in each age-level category.

Registration will open at 9 a.m. the day of the event, with races to begin on several regulation tracks at 10 a.m. There is a registration fee of \$3 for each car, which includes a bus tour of the real track.

RA Racer car kits—available from RA Racers, P.O. Box 67, DeSoto, Texas 75115—must be used and owners must adhere to the rules provided in the kit. The price for one car kit is \$3.

Leaders of participating units must register and pay all registration fees by April 1 to the Brotherhood Department, Missouri Baptist Convention, 400 East High St., Jefferson City, Mo. 65101. For more information, call 314-635-7931, ext. 444.

Two FMB leaders disagree with protests

By Bob Stanley
SBC Foreign Mission Board

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Two Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board vice presidents have told their staffs they don't share the opinions of the vice president and area director for Europe who resigned in protest Jan. 7.

Isam Ballenger, vice president for Europe, the Middle East and North Africa, and Keith Parker, area director for Europe, announced their early retirements in a Jan. 7 press conference. They criticized trustees for exerting a "global agenda" to enforce theological orthodoxy overseas, especially at the Baptist seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland.

But Bill Wakefield, vice president for Asia and the Pacific, wrote in a Jan. 17 letter that his own assessment of the defunding of the Swiss school is that the trustee decision resulted from a long history of unusual financial support for the institution.

Wakefield said he has "no reason to believe that the decision regarding this seminary represents a pattern of trustee involvement which would result in similar involvement in Asia. I have not experienced problems in working with the trustees in a similar way."

Lewis Myers, vice president for Cooperative Services International, wrote a confidential memo Jan. 10 to top administrators of the Southern

Baptist aid organization. In the memo, Myers said his perception "is that this board continues to be a viable and desirable instrument for Southern Baptists to use to accomplish our missions agenda."

Myers said his work has not been "unduly circumscribed by non-missions agendas, moves to achieve and/or exert power on the part of any individual, confusion of the roles of staff and trustees, nor mutual distrust."

A third top administrator, Bill Bullington, vice president for Africa, said he did not write to administrators of his area but said he has tried to express his personal opinion that "the Foreign Mission Board is still the best option for mission service overseas."

Young & Price SBC presidential possibilities

A Georgia pastor and a Texas pastor are possible nominees for Southern Baptist Convention president during the denomination's annual meeting June 9-11.

Nelson Price, pastor of Roswell Street Baptist Church in Marietta, Ga., announced Feb. 21 he would allow his name to be nominated. Ed Young, pastor of Second Baptist Church in Houston, said he has been asked to run and is considering it.

The SBC will elect a new president in Indianapolis in June. The current president, Morris Chapman, has served two terms and is not eligible for re-election.

Only one other person previously had announced he will be a candidate. That is Jess Moody, pastor of Shepherd of the Hills Church in Chatsworth, Calif.

Young acknowledged that fellow Texas pastor Joel Gregory has asked to nominate him. Gregory, pastor of First Baptist Church of Dallas, confirmed he had approached Young about the nomination.

Gregory said the decision to nominate Young was his alone but added that he and "some of the fellows have talked together" about it in informal conversation over "a period of some months."

Price's announcement, on the other hand, came through his office and did not emerge from any strategy session with the leadership of SBC conservatives, he said.

Price said he was willing to run because of a "broad base of encouragement from friends across the country."

Both Price and Young are consid-

ered conservative candidates. In recent years, only one conservative candidate has been nominated each year for the presidency. That candidate usually has emerged from a process of collaboration among conservative leaders.

That process, Price said, has been essential in the past, but "this is a new day, when a candidate emerges by grass-root encouragement."

Moody identifies himself as a "centrist" candidate who would attempt to bridge the gap between SBC conservatives and moderates.

Moderate leaders have said they will not field a candidate this year.

Reported by Toby Druin of the Baptist Standard through Associated Baptist Press and Al Mohler of the Christian Index through Baptist Press.

Association voices education concerns

ERLANGER—After four months of study, the executive board of Northern Kentucky Baptist Association passed a resolution praising Christian teachers and warning of potential pitfalls with the Kentucky Education Reformation Act.

The resolution came in response to a concern about the KERA raised at the association's annual meeting last September, said Randy Jones, director of missions. The issue was referred to the association's Christian life committee for study.

Wayne Lipscomb, chairman of that committee, explained the concerns were two-fold: one dealt with the establishment of family resource centers and youth resource centers in public schools; another dealt with the ability of school guidance counselors to counsel students about abortion without parental consent.

The family resource centers and youth resource centers are intended to "provide the child at risk with every opportunity to get the service to improve his or her learning," Lipscomb said. "The problem is there was no stipulation that contraceptives could not be distributed."

Lipscomb noted that this issue and the abortion counseling issue are still being addressed in the 1992 General Assembly.

"One word that would sum up our report is potential," Lipscomb said. "There is the potential for this to happen."

The one thing the associational leaders wanted to emphasize firmly is support for Christian men and women who teach in public schools, he said.

CLC speaker says Lemon Test is sour

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

BOWLING GREEN—A representative of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission made a personal appeal in Kentucky Feb. 24 for why he thinks the CLC is a better representative for Baptists in Washington than the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

About 60 Kentucky Baptists gathered at Glendale Baptist Church in Bowling Green to hear Michael Whitehead, CLC general counsel. The one-hour session was held the morning before the annual Kentucky Baptist Convention evangelism conference convened at another church in Bowling Green.

The meeting at which Whitehead spoke was called by a group of Kentucky pastors who hope to overturn a motion approved last November to give KBC money to the Joint Committee. Mike Morris, pastor of First Baptist Church in Wickliffe, moderated the meeting.

No mention of the funding dispute was made during the session and no call to vote for a recall was sounded. However, the letter mailed to Kentucky pastors announcing the meeting specifically addressed those issues.

Whitehead described the Joint Committee as a body that "sided with" the American Civil Liberties Union on a major case currently before the U.S. Supreme Court. That case, *Lee v. Weisman*, is believed to have the potential of changing American law on church-state separation.

On its face, *Lee v. Weisman* is a case about a parent who sued a local public school district for allowing a rabbi to offer a prayer at a publicly funded commencement ceremony for middle school students.

The CLC has sided with the school in the case. The Joint Committee has sided with the parent.

However, both the CLC and the Joint Committee contend more is at stake than graduation prayer.

The CLC has called for the court to use this case to redefine a legal guideline called the Lemon Test. The Joint Committee has called on the court to use the case to reaffirm the Lemon Test.

The Lemon Test is a guideline the court has used to determine whether government may promote certain religious activities. It fosters government neutrality based on three standards: that the action neither advances nor inhibits religion, that there is no excessive entanglement of government and religion and that the action has a secular as well as religious purpose.

The CLC, Whitehead said, believes the Lemon Test is too narrow and allows public officials to prohibit religious activities, even commonly practiced beliefs of the community.

The Joint Committee "takes the position that what is really important to them is the Lemon Test," Whitehead told the group. But, he said, a strict application of the Lemon Test would prohibit graduation prayers.

"If that prayer is objectionable, then what prayer would you support?" he asked.

Whitehead noted the Joint Committee had applauded a recent first when a Muslim offered the invocation in the U.S. Senate. "Why is it OK for students to see the prayer to Mohammed in the Senate but bad to hear a prayer to God or Jehovah in their own school?" he asked.

The First Amendment never was intended to keep religion or religious people out of public places, Whitehead said. He charged that the Lemon Test had become a substitute for the First Amendment that prohibits communities from expressing their faith in public places.

The form of religious neutrality

promoted by the Lemon Test is not neutrality at all, Whitehead said. "It establishes the religion of secularism" and allows public officials to "show hostility toward religion."

An alternative to the Lemon Test advocated by the CLC and some other groups would solve this problem and maintain Americans' religious liberty, he said.

However, Oliver Thomas, general counsel for the Joint Committee, said in a telephone interview the same day that the Joint Committee "did not say that commencement prayer was necessarily inappropriate."

"The Justice Department is using this case to overturn decades of precedent in the church-state field and allow the government to begin supporting, aiding and endorsing religion in non-coercive ways," Thomas added. "To our amazement, the CLC is supporting this effort. It contradicts our Baptist heritage and belies our commitment to religious liberty."

Abandoning the Lemon Test would permit government to provide tax support for parochial schools "or even support religious worship services so long as no person was forced to attend," Thomas said.

Thomas said Whitehead's claim that government neutrality on religion promotes secularism is "nonsense."

"Some people think if you fail to promote something you're promoting something else," he said. "That's an overly simplistic view of the world. By failing to promote Buddhism, we don't necessarily promote Christianity."

The difference between the CLC's position and the Joint Committee's "comes down to what you think about the nature of religion," Thomas said. "Should religion be voluntary, should it be something that people are free to choose or reject on their own accord, or should we ask the government to help religion along, to give it a little push?"

BLUEGRASS BURGEO

■ **Campbellville College** has received a \$50,000 endowment to provide innovative worship experiences in music, preaching, art and drama. The gift was given by Boyd and Jane Robertson of Knifely in memory of Robertson's parents, the late Jewel and Reuben Robertson.

■ **Fund-raising at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary** ranked No. 1 among American seminaries in two categories, the Council for Aid to Education Inc. reported. The Louisville school ranked first in total support and unrestricted support, raising \$9.2 million and \$6.6 million in those categories.

■ **Benton native Jane Barnes** has been appointed director of special missions in Myrtle Beach, S.C., by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board. She leaves a position in church and community ministries in West Palm Beach, Fla. Barnes is a graduate of Murray State University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

McKinley to promote missions

By Marv Knox
Editor

Veteran foreign missionary Jim McKinley has traded the mission field for mission promotion.

Kentucky native McKinley and his wife, Betty, are retiring after three decades of service as Southern Baptist missionaries in Bangladesh.

But effective March 1, he became a part-time contract consultant with the Kentucky Baptist Convention. For two years, his assignment will be to promote missions and the Baptist Cooperative Program unified budget across the commonwealth.

McKinley will work directly with William W. Marshall, the Kentucky Baptist Convention's executive secretary-treasurer.

McKinley's work will be supported by a special stewardship-promotion item in the KBC Executive Board's budget. The two-year project is expected to cost about \$32,000, including expenses.

The project calls for McKinley to speak to churches and:

■ Associational missions confer-

ences, rallies, annual meetings and executive board meetings.

■ World missions conferences.

■ Associational Woman's Missionary Union meetings and pastors' conferences.

■ Youth missions events.

■ Kentucky Baptist colleges.

■ Baptist Student Union groups.

"Jim McKinley has a burdened heart from which he preaches an authentic message of God's love," Marshall said.

"In every respect, he has 'paid his dues' and deserves the opportunity to be heard among all our churches."

Marshall and McKinley worked together from 1969 to 1973, when Bangladesh was part of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's Middle East area, where Marshall was field representative.

"I am personally delighted Jim has agreed to make this two-year commitment of service among Kentucky Baptists," Marshall said of their new relationship.

The McKinleys have made their retirement home in Louisville.



KENTUCKY'S FIRST Chris Downing, a member of Bethel Baptist Church in Gilbertsville, receives a plaque from John Lott, Brotherhood associate with the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Downing is the first Kentuckian to complete requirements for the new Pioneer Adventurer Award given by the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission. Only 10 people nationwide have received the award since it was established in 1987. To qualify, Downing completed four Pioneer books in a three-year period. Each book has numerous learning and ministry projects. The last book alone requires 50 mission projects, Lott noted.

WESTERN RECORDER

Box 43969
Louisville, Ky. 40253
(ISSN 0043-4132)

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Earnestly contend for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.—Jude 3

Western Recorder is published weekly by Western Recorder Inc., an agency of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Box 43969, Louisville, Ky. 40253, except for one week in July and December. For general information, call (502) 244-6470. Second class postage paid at Louisville, Ky.

To subscribe: Send \$9.54 (\$10 outside U.S.) for a one-year, individual subscription. Group subscriptions on the church budget plan are \$7.50 per year. An additional church newsletter service is available for churches of all sizes. All subscriptions are payable in advance, except church accounts, which require a tax exemption number.

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The dam: Another SBC parable

I read William Marshall's "The dam: A Southern Baptist parable" (WR, Jan. 28). Let's look at this parable differently.

A dam was built in 1845 to accommodate and control the flow of enthusiasm for missions issuing from Baptists. Kentucky Baptists joined in building that dam. Our ancestors christened it "the Southern Baptist Convention." It has withstood many torrents of controversy and economic drought for almost 150 years.

However the dam has been cracking for many years. First, small cracks, then larger and more dangerous ones—cracks that endangered the structural integrity of the dam. Some

of the dam's inspectors reported these flaws. The committees and those entrusted with the operation and maintenance of the dam insisted there was no danger. They tried to convince the people the cracks were not dangerous; the dam would withstand the strain even with the cracks. Some declared they weren't really cracks anyway.

When they saw nothing was going to be done, the inspectors went public, documenting the cracks and the danger they presented.

The people who owned the dam were very alarmed. They elected people who were concerned with repairing the cracks to the trustee boards which made the policy and hired the

workers entrusted with operating and maintaining the dam.

The trustees decided to repair the damage. The people who had been trustees and those who had operated the dam became angry because cracks were being removed and the dam was being returned to strength. They got together and said, "We will build another dam, which is not a dam, and we will generate our own power." They took materials from the old dam and diverted water from its reservoir to run their turbines. All the time, they were urging people to withhold money needed to operate the dam and send it to them to operate their dam. In the meantime, they criticized the operators of the old dam and caused great disturbance.

Then one day, the board began to

repair one of the old guard's favorite cracks, named "Ruschlikon." Like Chicken Little's cry, "The sky is falling," they cried: "The dam has burst. It is broken beyond repair. Bring your resources, and come over to our dam, and we will supply power we have diverted from your reservoir."

Soon, many people visited the old dam. It had not burst. The reservoir was still full, the turbines were still spinning, producing power.

In the meantime, the present workers went about operating the dam, doing maintenance and repairing cracks in the dam, confident the old dam is still standing, and it will not be necessary to get the new dam, which is not a dam, to receive power.

*William Dodson
Benton*

Disturbing mail

A recent mailing crossed my desk that I feel will sow further discord in the Southern Baptist work in Kentucky. My concerns were deepened by your article (WR, Feb. 18). The mailing was from "Concerned KBC Pastors," postmarked in Wickliffe. It undermines the work of the Kentucky Baptist Executive Board and attacks the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

The letter first addresses the 1991 KBC motion concerning Cooperative Program money used for the BJCPA. The Executive Board member from my area assured me this matter was addressed at the Executive Board meeting in December 1991. I understood the Executive Board reached the

same conclusion as proposed by "Concerned"; therefore, this mailing was unnecessary at best.

A special meeting was planned Feb. 24 to discuss the implications of the Lee v. Weisman case pending in the U.S. Supreme Court. The last paragraph of "Concerned's" mailing implies the intention is not to inform Kentucky Baptists, but to spoon-feed the Christian Life Commission's position on Lee v. Weisman. The mailing's format implies a desire for an open dialogue on this history-making case. However, if dialogue is the desire, why wasn't the general counsel of the BJCPA invited to share that position at the meeting.

I am in total agreement about the support for the BJCPA not coming out of Cooperative Program funds sent to

the KBC. I accept the attack on the ministry of the BJCPA because I know where some of the "Concerned" would come down in the politics of the SBC. My concern is the ethics of implying one thing and then promoting another. Finally, if I were an Executive Board member I would feel hurt, if not mocked.

*Roger D. Eakin, pastor
First Baptist Church
Fulton*

A sad day

It is probably true that in the last 140 years of Southern Baptist Convention life a church's qualification for participation in the annual meetings has been based upon its financial support. However, no one would have dreamed that any church would have

knowingly considered affirming the homosexual relationship of two men or the licensing of a homosexual divinity student (WR, Feb. 25).

It is not a question of ministering to homosexuals and praying for them. It is a matter of affirming what God condemns.

It is a sad day for Southern Baptists when our Christian convictions are determined by what is seen as culturally correct, instead of what is biblically sound.

Can we really expect the blessing of God upon our convention if we choose to ignore the clear teaching of his word?

In the words of a famous television ad, "Who'da thunk it?"

*Timothy L. Waits
Calhoun*

Keith Parks: A friend's perspective (Part III)

I was never so happy to see Keith Parks as in 1966 on a sweltering summer morning in Djakarta, Indonesia.

I had traveled to Semarang to visit our seminary there. Because there was a problem with the train, missionary Ebbie Smith had arranged my return on a night-bus to Djakarta. On a rear seat, with at least eight others, I was bounced, literally, all night long. About 6 a.m. the bus arrived. Standing tall in the crowd of beautiful, brown faces was Keith. From him I later learned that few missionaries had ever taken that bus. It was Ebbie's way of "helping" a Foreign Mission Board staffer have an orientation "experience" in Indonesia. I understand Ebbie laughingly told this story on several occasions later but never took the bus himself.

That was two years before Parks would be named secretary (director) for Southeast Asia. It was in this Indonesian context that he and Helen Jean gained their missionary experience.

I kept a journal on this 11-week survey trip. With exceptions in Hong Kong, Tehran and Madrid, I stayed in missionary homes.

I noted that some had become more indigenized than others; some were good in language; others not so good. Some were adjusting well; others were struggling to make it through the term. At the time I stayed with the

Parkses in Djakarta, they already had 12 years of service in that country.

Missionary experience became a highly valued ingredient in the selection of FMB staff positions which were field-faced. Fluent in the language, respected by the emerging national leadership and popular with many missionary colleagues, Parks was in many respects the kind of missionary most of us wanted to be.

He was among the best of his peers in speaking Indonesian. As preachers admire other outstanding preachers, missionaries tend to admire those of their number who excel in the language. And nothing makes a stronger impact on nationals than a "foreigner" who learns to speak their language.

Occasionally, when Keith and Helen Jean need to say something to each other and prefer not to be understood by others, they speak Indonesian. It was also a way to correct their children's manners in the presence of guests! On occasion, vacationing with them, they break over into Indonesian. Usually, with much less proficiency, I start talking to Alice in Greek! They laughingly apologize.

While Parks cut his "missionary teeth" in Indonesia, he cut his "management teeth" on those of us who served under him in the old mission support division. He was a good model, and he had the strength of a ser-

vant-leader. He could both lead and listen. Bright of mind, he had the ability to assimilate data and produce clear, single-focused positions which could be supported and followed. He created an atmosphere of "give and take"; he handled disagreeing positions well; and I have known few persons in my life who could handle criticism better.

There have been only rare occasions in his life when he could not go immediately and soundly to sleep. Keith Parks, in my opinion, has the heart of a St. Francis and the hide of an alligator. He is a lot tougher than casual acquaintance would suggest.

When Parks became executive director in 1980, I was among those he recommended to the board to become part of his new management team. The experience of his election at Glorieta in 1979 was an unusually high moment for the Foreign Mission Board. Kentucky board members John Huffman, Rollin Burhans and Doris Mullendore, the latter on the search committee, can attest to that.

In the early years of Parks' tenure as president, his preoccupations were with missionary expansion, missionary training and missionary support. The now-called "conservative resurgence" had little impact on the foreign mission enterprise in 1980. But things would change.

My first awareness that things were changing came in 1981, when a new board member came by my office. He was not expected, but I set aside some urgent work I was finalizing for the board meeting for which he had come. He took a seat across

from me.

With little preliminary conversation, he asked me to share with him my Christian testimony. I did so, though my enthusiasm was dimmed by the uncomfortable feeling that I was being "examined." I learned some weeks later from another colleague that he had experienced the same thing from the same man.

Keith was three years into his new leadership role when Allen Winchester of the KBC search committee called to ask me if I would consider a call to serve Kentucky Baptists.

Because of the unexpectedness of the telephone call and my initial impression that I should not leave the board, I did not tell Keith until I believed I should agree to meet with the search committee.

When I finally shared with him my decision to "consider," he walked through it with me as a friend, not as a supervisor.

Later he said that on a day I drove him to the airport, he had a strong sense I would be leaving. Though at that point I had not yet decided, he proved to be accurate in his sensitivity.

I knew that I would need to be replaced soon after my departure; there would be no turning back.

But I could not know then how this special friend would nine years later become the focal point of what may become the most historically significant decision in my Southern Baptist lifetime.

William W. Marshall is executive secretary-treasurer of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

ON MISSION TOGETHER



William W. Marshall

State lawmakers consider gambling proposals

Kentuckians who oppose the spread of gambling need to follow the General Assembly as closely as bettors watch the ponies and listen for bingo numbers.

At least five gambling items have been introduced in this session of the state legislature. Beyond that, legislators from Jefferson County and Northern Kentucky are shopping around for support for a constitutional amendment that would legalize bingo.

One proposed law, Senate Bill 153, apparently died when it failed to get out of the Senate Cities Committee last week. The bill, proposed by Sen. Walter Baker, R-Glasgow, would have allowed city and county governments to ban bingo and other forms of charitable gambling. Opponents said it would have hurt many Catholic schools, whose revenue depends on bingo.

A companion piece, House Bill 412, has been assigned to the House Business Organizations and Professions Committee. The House bill contains exactly the same language as the Senate version. It was introduced by Reps. Stephen Nunn, R-Glasgow, and Richard Turner, R-Tompkinsville. Supporters hope the bill can gain approval in the House, then make its way back through the Senate.

House Bill 590 would enable cities and counties to allow residents to vote to ban charitable gambling. It also would restrict such votes to only once every five years. And it would set guidelines for the votes that are similar to local-option liquor elections. The bill, which was proposed by Reps. Nunn and Stephen Keith, R-Manchester, has been assigned to the House Business Organizations and Professions Committee.

On their face, the bills are anti-gambling. But the issue is not so simple. Last December, Simpson Circuit Judge William Harris ruled the state's 1990 "charitable gaming" bingo law is unconstitutional, and lawmakers expect the Kentucky Court of Appeals to uphold that ruling, according to research conducted by the Louisville Courier-Journal.

"I've got problems with any of these bills," a longtime legislative ob-

server told the Western Recorder last week. "They attempt to regulate by law an activity that has been ruled unconstitutional."

So, the legislators' proposals may be unnecessary, if Kentucky finds itself without a law to legalize charitable gambling.

But that's where the proposed constitutional amendment comes into play. Lawmakers from heavily-Catholic areas of the state have been working on support for the amendment, which would legalize charitable gambling, such as bingo, raffles and other games of chance. They claim a ban on bingo and other gambling would put many of their church schools out of business. They say that would be bad for the state, since public schools would have a tough time absorbing all the students who formerly went to parochial schools.

House Speaker Don Blandford, D-Philpot, reportedly has been receptive to the idea. But he's apparently seen the battles that might lie ahead and told the Courier-Journal he doesn't want "a religious or factional fight."

Several lawmakers have said they plan to draft bills that would more tightly regulate bingo, if a charitable gambling amendment is successful.

In addition to the three bills and the possible amendment, two resolutions also have taken up the gambling issue.

Senate Joint Resolution 87, introduced by Sen. Dan Seum, D-Louisville, would establish a task force to study charitable gaming in the state. The task force would be comprised of three senators, two representatives and six non-legislators representing the charitable gaming industry. The proposal fails to provide representation from groups opposed to gambling.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 83 would create a task force to study riverboat gambling. It was offered by Sens. Bill Quinlan, D-Louisville, and Danny Meyer, D-Louisville. If approved as presented, the task force would be comprised of five representatives and four senators.

To leave a message with your legislators about these or any other pieces of legislation, call (800) 372-7181.

Marv Knox

Legislators' 'bingo' decisions may take on religious tones.

Health-care crisis presents tough ethical questions

A fall meeting of the nation's governors was dominated by the crisis in the U.S. health-care system. Both Democratic and Republican governors agreed that the system is too expensive and bypasses too many people.

The "system" is a complex of patients, providers and payers (insurance companies, government programs, etc.).

Almost no one is satisfied with it.

On its face, the health-care crisis appears to be only about money: controlling costs which continue to increase each year exponentially; developing a less-expensive system of payment (a recent leading medical journal reported that fully 24 percent of

medical costs were traceable to paperwork); and providing some kind of comprehensive plan for covering health-care costs of the indigent, but also the "uninsured" (approximately

37 million working Americans and their families with no health insurance).

At a deeper level, however, the issues in the crisis are more than economics. They are profoundly ethical. Let us examine why.

For all intents and purposes, the United States has no national health policy designed to plan for, or account for, how all Americans will (or should) receive health care.

We, nevertheless, have a broad

consensus regarding the goals which our system should achieve. These goals are that health care in the United States should provide:

- The highest quality care possible.
- The widest possible access, so as to include every American.
- The lowest possible cost.

These goals are identified typically as "quality," "access" and "cost." So, what's the problem? Are these not laudable goals? Quite clearly, they are.

The problem is that researchers have learned these three goals are not "mutually achievable."

In sum, a health-care system may be able to achieve one or possibly two of these goals. But all three cannot be

achieved simultaneously.

For example, we might insist on having high quality care at the lowest possible cost. This can be achieved by narrowing access to the system. We would be deciding thereby to exclude some Americans. Who would make that decision? Would it be fair? Would it be just?

Regrettably, other ethical dilemmas emerge if we propose to achieve wide access and low cost or high quality and wide access. There are no easy answers, only important ethical questions—inviting serious Christian reflection.

Ira Peak, associate Baptist Center for Ethics Las Vegas, Nev.

The nation's health-care system can't simultaneously provide quality, access and cost.

GUEST EDITORIAL

Do not pass Go. Do not collect \$200. Just go on up to bed.

We decided to have some "good, quality family time" the other night.

The girls got their baths early, and we had 30 minutes before bedtime. Perfect. We could play a game together.

We let the girls pick. After a moment of sibling haggling, they chose Monopoly Jr., a '90s version of a game I enjoyed as a kid. The new Jr. is designed to be simpler, so young children can play. But its real draw is that it's a microwaved, fast-food version of the original. It's a game for folks with sitcom attention spans.

Well, our first snag came when Molly wanted to be the banker. Five-year-olds can't be the banker, at least not without consternation. A few tears later, I was banker. We hadn't started the game, but we were closer to bedtime.

The next snafu came when Lindsay and I lobbied for a simulcast. We could play this simple game and watch the last night of the Olympics, we figured.

So, we turned the TV to the Games while we settled down to our little game. After we set the gameboard up high enough to keep the dog from eating the little plastic "hotels," we were ready.

Lindsay and I promptly got attached to the Olympic drama unfolding on the TV. Joanna—the only one among us with her feet on the ground and her mother's eye on the

clock—had to keep reminding us when it was our turn to play. Molly, on the other hand, got confused; even Monopoly Jr. has too many rules, too much counting and way too many "Chance" cards for a preschooler.

Our game limped along for the next 15 minutes. Only one turn in four (Joanna's) moved quickly. Lindsay and I perpetually needed our attention drawn back from Albertville, France. Molly perpetually needed lessons in moving her little plastic car around the board.

We achieved splendid family consensus

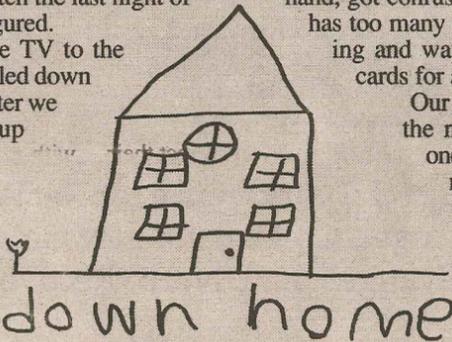
at 8:55, when we decided whoever had the most money at 9 would win.

"Splendid family consensus" is easy for me to say. I got the most money and won the game, but Joanna should get a medal for pulling us through and getting us upstairs to the girls' rooms on time.

Sometimes, I think family life is a lot like playing Monopoly Jr. We get distracted and forget what we're doing. We get confused by the myriad rules and changing fortunes. Some win, some lose and some get their feelings hurt.

Fortunately, God loads our "Chance" deck with a trump card. "Go directly to Home," it reads. "Enjoy your family's love, and never take it for granted. Life is more than a game."

Marv Knox



MISSIONS

Volunteer shortage predicted this year

ATLANTA (BP)—Southern Baptist volunteers for home mission projects increased in 1991, but coordinators say a bad economy may keep many volunteers at home this year.

"We've got missionaries who are about at the point of panic," said Valerie Hardy, a Home Mission Board volunteer coordinator.

Fewer youth groups are volunteering for HMB projects this year, meaning more missionaries will not get enough staff for such summer projects as vacation Bible schools and backyard Bible clubs, she said.

Volunteer projects range widely in age groups and duration of service, from adults working for a year establishing a church to mission youth groups working a summer in resort ministry.

People interested in volunteer missions with the HMB may call toll-free (800) HMB-VOLS.

Volunteers give \$67 million

By David Winfrey
SBC Home Mission Board

NASHVILLE (BP)—Southern Baptist volunteer mission workers donated more than \$67 million worth of time in 1991, according to reports by the Brotherhood Commission and Home Mission Board.

Volunteer coordinators from those two groups and the Foreign Mission Board released reports Feb. 18 on volunteer activity last year.

The HMB reported a 9.4 percent increase in volunteers last year. However, some of the increase apparently was due to better accounting of groups that organize projects on their own.

The HMB identified 56,948 volunteers who worked for a year or less on projects ranging from church construction to backyard Bible clubs.

Figuring a rate of \$88 per day for

each volunteer, the value of HMB short-term volunteers totalled about \$51 million.

HMB volunteers also reported more than 7,000 professions of faith in Jesus Christ, 4,000 rededications of faith and 300 decisions to enter church-related service.

Despite this success, 30 percent of home missionaries' requests for volunteers went unfilled.

The Brotherhood Commission counted 62,281 volunteers who worked a minimum of three days, for a value of \$16.4 million in labor.

The FMB reported 10,229 volunteers in 1991, a slight decrease compared with 1990. That decrease is attributed in part to fears of traveling during the Persian Gulf War.

No dollar figure was placed on the contributions of foreign missions volunteers.



VOLUNTEER Vi Mason (left) from Tallahassee, Fla., was one of more than 10,000 Southern Baptist volunteers in foreign missions last year, the Foreign Mission Board reported. Here, Mason works alongside the head pediatric doctor at a clinic in Kazakhstan, formerly one of the Soviet republics. She and her husband helped distribute food in the region. (BP photo by Don Rutledge)

Sociologist says Baptists are South's largest ethnic group

SAN ANTONIO, Texas (BP)—Southern Baptists comprise the largest ethnic group in the South but fail to see themselves as such, a sociology professor said.

Paul Geisel, a professor at the University of Texas at Arlington, said blacks, Hispanics and Asians often are analyzed as ethnic groups but white Americans seldom are seen that way. He spoke to Southern Baptist church extension leaders at a conference sponsored by the Home Mission Board in San Antonio, Texas.

"Black people, Hispanic people and Asian people talk daily about who they are, but we (white people) don't," Geisel said.

All churches, he explained, are ethnic churches. "You need to accept that and beautify it. Don't be ashamed of who you are and don't be afraid to talk

about it."

Geisel said whites refuse to discuss the most critical issues in their society as it relates to their ethnic group. The consequence, he said, is that change in society occurs without direction and often with harmful impact.

Also at the conference, an HMB missions strategist called churches to prepare for increasing ethnic diversity in America.

"We need to boldly prepare ourselves and our organizations for the certain transformation that's going to come," said Charles Chaney, HMB vice president for extension.

That includes addressing cultural biases and imperialistic attitudes evident when Anglo churches treat other ethnic groups as though they should be more like Anglos, he said.

Anglo churches often hurt their ef-

forts to evangelize other ethnic groups by imposing Anglo styles of worship, Chaney said.

He criticized churches in transitional areas that shut their doors and sell their buildings to the highest bidder "rather than share them with a congregation of another race."

Evangelical churches, with smaller congregations and intimate Bible study groups, are better poised to reach Hispanic Americans than the Roman Catholic Church, a Baptist seminary professor said at the meeting.

"We are now witnessing the greatest response on the part of Hispanic Americans to evangelical Christianity in the history of this nation," said Daniel Sanchez, professor of missions at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

Sanchez quoted news articles on Catholics who acknowledged Hispanic Americans are leaving their traditional source of religion for evangelical churches.

He said small Bible study groups appeal to Hispanics and Southern Baptists should develop a nationwide strategy using such groups to reach more Hispanic Americans.

Meanwhile, blacks will be at the forefront of Southern Baptist church growth by the turn of the century, predicted Willie McPherson, the HMB's new director of black church extension.

The Southern Baptist Convention currently includes 1,300 predominantly black churches. A new black SBC church or mission is established about every four and a half days, McPherson said.

Church starts down for year; Kentucky 10th

SAN ANTONIO, Texas (BP)—Southern Baptists started 1,027 church-type missions last year, a decrease from the previous year's total and a 32 percent shortfall from the denomination's goal.

Kentucky ranked 10th among Baptist state conventions in number of church starts last year with 26.

The annual report on church starting was released during a national meeting of church extension leaders in San Antonio, Texas. The statistics are monitored by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Texas led the nation with 191 new congregations. Florida ranked second with 89 new missions, and California was a close third with 87.

Other leading states in the number of new congregations included North Carolina, 71; Georgia, 69; Virginia, 40; Tennessee, 37; Alabama, 29; Mississippi, 28; and Oklahoma, 25.

Nationwide, Southern Baptists started 179 fewer new churches in 1991 than in 1990. The 1991 statistics also fell short of the HMB's goal of 1,500 church starts annually.

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EVANGELISM

Jackson: Evangelism calls for grace to love people

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

BOWLING GREEN—Applying grace in evangelism requires Christians to love all people as they are with the realization only God can change them, Richard Jackson said at the Kentucky Baptist evangelism conference.

Jackson, pastor of North Phoenix Baptist Church in Phoenix, said attempts to exclude churches because they associate with "sinful" people hinders evangelism.

The Arizona pastor spoke three times during the Feb. 24-25 meeting at Eastwood Baptist Church in Bowling Green. During the past decade, Jackson's church consistently has led the Southern Baptist Convention in baptisms.

He spoke specifically to the issue of homosexuality, making a veiled criticism of a recent decision of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee. One week earlier, Executive Committee members took a strong stand against two North Carolina churches dealing with homosexuality issues. The committee proposed excluding from participation in SBC meetings any church taking what could be considered a pro-homosexual stand.

Jackson did not endorse homosexuality as a lifestyle, the ordination of homosexuals as ministers or the blessing of homosexual unions. He called homosexuality sin, but said no Baptist body should tell another Baptist body what defines acceptable ministry to homosexuals.

"The very idea that somebody up here says somebody down here can't do something" is wrong, Jackson said.

He charged that Southern Baptists

"are getting to the point of saying you can't minister to sinful people.

"Whether they are liars, homosexuals, or gossips doesn't make any difference to me," he said. "Don't tell me I can't have homosexuals in my church. I will die saying North Phoenix Baptist Church wants to win everybody to Jesus, not just some people.

"We all come with zero, dead in trespasses and sin," Jackson explained. "It takes the same marvelous grace of God to save us all."

He quoted a friend who has coined the phrase, "God loves you as you are, not as you ought to be" and added, "Only God's love can make you what you ought to be."

Baptists too often say, "You clean up your lifestyle and then we'll min-

ister to you ... if you meet our criteria first," Jackson explained.

The ground at the cross really is level, Jackson said, noting Baptists often quote that saying but don't believe it.

"There was nothing in you to recommend you to God at Calvary any more than for Jeffrey Dahmer," he charged.

Amens burst out from the crowd. "You don't believe that," Jackson retorted. "If you do, then why is it so hard to touch someone with AIDS?"

Jackson explained he was taught as a young boy it was proper to hit drunks and homosexuals. "It wasn't a sin but a cinch," he said.

He recalled punching a homosexual as a 15-year-old and said he was "absolutely confident I'd done God a

favor by hitting one of his children."

But now he said he has discovered the message of evangelism is one of grace.

"God has delivered me from the burden of being anybody's moral policeman or theological watchdog," he added. "It will deliver you from all kinds of bondage if you will remember your job is to carry God's love to people living in sin. It is God's love in Jesus Christ that will change the hearts of men and women."

Baptists should preach about two aspects of God's grace, he added, explaining God is sufficient both to save people and to change their lives.

"We've told people when you come to the cross there's plenty of grace to save you, but after that, it's up to you."

Now is time for AIDS ministry, father of victim says

BOWLING GREEN—The time is right for Christians to reach out to people with AIDS and their families, Chip Miller said at the Kentucky Baptist evangelism conference.

Miller, Sunday school division director for the Kentucky Baptist Convention, told the group he was "laying down all my chips" to testify about his family's own experience with AIDS.

Miller's son, Stephen, died of AIDS in 1989.

"I appeal to you to begin to open your eyes and realize in every community across our commonwealth there are people in need of ministry," Miller said. "This is the opportunistic moment for the church of Jesus Christ to rise up and share the light and love of the Savior."

In Kentucky alone, 700 cases of AIDS have been reported, Miller said, and 500 of those people already have died.

"Many of your churches have already been impacted by someone with AIDS or the HIV virus," he said. And if AIDS "hasn't come to your church family yet, it will."

Through his son's experience, Miller said, he was transformed from a severe homophobe to a person concerned about ministry.

Although he had not been willing to talk about his son's homosexuality before, the illness changed his attitude, Miller said. "Now there was no hiding it. He was sick, and he was about to die.

"It was no longer a matter of embarrassment; it was a matter of life

and death. This father had a conversion experience sitting at the foot of his son's bed."

Even so, Miller said he became an advocate for AIDS ministries reluctantly: "I would not be speaking out for a ministry to persons with AIDS had I not been drug into it."

Beyond ministry to those with AIDS, the church must come out of the closet and talk about sex, Miller added.

"Never has it been more important that the church of Jesus Christ present the concept of abstinence as it is today," Miller said. "There is no such thing as safe sex.

"If we cannot persuade our young people in the name of Christian values, let's persuade them with common sense."

Evangelism must be spear on church's arrow, pastor says

By Marv Knox
Editor

BOWLING GREEN—A church's ministry is like a spear, Dick Lincoln told participants in the 1992 Kentucky Baptist evangelism conference.

"The point is evangelism. A spear without a point will bounce off everything it hits," said Lincoln, pastor of Shandon Baptist Church in Columbia, S.C.

"But a spear point without a shaft is just another rock," he added, noting the shaft of the church includes worship, fellowship and programs. "The church does what it does to support

evangelism."

At Shandon Church, Lincoln has helped an aging, declining urban congregation penetrate its community with new life and baptize 127 people last year.

Lincoln listed five keys to evangelizing a community:

■ "Have a vision that God has given your pastor," he said. "I don't believe the pastor knows everything, but the pastor should be a leader."

■ Prepare your church to evangelize," he added.

This includes involving at least 10 percent of the church in outreach, making the church accessible to new-

comers, setting up a welcome center and posting greeters who will help visitors, and considering non-members in music selection and preaching style.

■ "Get lean and mean in your church program," Lincoln urged, noting he counted 62 Southern Baptist program emphases churches are asked to pack into 52 Sundays.

Churches must set priorities and do a few things well, he said. Shandon Church focuses on evangelism, prayer and stewardship.

■ "Reach your community by touching niches or market groups," he stressed. This concept fits with priori-

ty-setting, since a church must use its resources well if it is to reach any group.

■ "Devise a strategy for reaching your community," he added.

This may include elements such as effective guest registration, target advertising in local media, neighborhood surveys, lists of newcomers to the area and "big events" such as singing Christmas trees that will attract many non-members.

Ultimately, a church that reaches its community must support evangelism completely, Lincoln said. "Everything we do must point the way to evangelism."

Lay involvement in evangelism called 'unfinished reformation'

By Marv Knox
Editor

BOWLING GREEN—Getting laypeople involved in evangelism is the "unfinished reformation," an American Baptist told Kentucky Baptists last week.

"We need to get back to the 'unfinished reformation,'" Emmett Johnson said at the Kentucky Baptist evangelism conference. "It is your responsibility to proclaim the gospel."

The early church grew rapidly be-

cause it practiced both sides of the priesthood of individual believers—"every person a priest, every person a witness," said Johnson, a longtime American Baptist Churches evangelism leader from Minneapolis.

"God never meant that the world should be saved through ordained missionaries, pastors or ministers," Johnson noted, insisting the responsibility for evangelism rests with all Christians.

"It makes sense," he said. "There are more laity than ordained clergy.

They (non-Christians) listen to laypeople better, too. You can talk to them. They think you're for real."

Jesus commissioned his lay followers for ministry when he said, "As my Father sent me, so send I you," Johnson said.

That means presenting the gospel individually to non-Christians, he stressed: "God came in person; that's how the good news is best delivered. ... Only when a person is unavailable will God stoop to a lesser medium."

It also means presenting the gos-

pel around the globe and right at home, Johnson added.

He urged ministry to the 1.3 billion people who never have heard the name of Jesus. But describing the United States as a "pagan nation," he also urged fervent evangelistic witness in this country.

Wherever the Christian witness is presented, it should be consistent, Johnson said, insisting, "The Bible proclaims with no uncertain sound that Jesus is the final, unique revelation of God."

8 principles for church evangelism

Strong evangelism programs grow out of eight basic principles, said Dick Lincoln, pastor of Shandon Baptist Church in Columbia, S.C. They are:

■ **Prayer.** "If you try to do anything for God without prayer, you're going to fail."

■ **Commitment.** "I've got to do everything I can to reach my city for Christ." This means committing staff, materials, programs and promotion.

■ **Financial investment.** Shandon Church spends as much on local evangelism—10 percent of its budget—as it does on world missions.

■ **Promotion.** Commit time and space to promoting outreach in every phase of church life—from Sunday school, to worship, to church bulletins.

■ **Programs.** "A program is a physical way to make the invisible visible," Lincoln said. About 200 members of his church go visiting every Tuesday.

■ **Training.** Shandon Church uses the Continuing Witness Training course, its own six-week training program and Sunday school to prepare members to share their faith.

■ **Accountability.** "We evaluate our programs ruthlessly," Lincoln said. Staff members also report on their evangelistic efforts every week.

■ **Growth rate.** "Most of us quit sowing when the reaping doesn't come quickly," he noted. But growth sometimes takes years to cultivate. Don't get discouraged if growth begins slowly.

Cancer takes MK after courageous fight

LITTLETON, Colo. (BP)—Trevor Woods, 16-year-old son of Southern Baptist missionaries to Japan, died Feb. 22 after a courageous eight-month fight with leukemia. Doctors told his parents, Tony and Marsha Woods of Evergreen, Colo., they had never seen a more mature response than Trevor's when they told him days before his death his blood was half cancerous and he was about to die. "It's OK if I die. I'm ready to die," he said. "But I want to die in Japan, and I want to be buried in Japan."

Trevor was born in San Francisco but, except for furloughs in the United States, had lived in Japan since the Woodses began their church-starting missionary career when he was 3. "He had three best friends in Japan—Japanese he grew up with," Mrs. Woods said. "They've all become Christians through the years. They're buddies; best, best friends. They're kind of 'the gang' at church." Unable to make the trip to Japan, Trevor lay in a coma in a Colorado hospital for three days before his parents realized he was waiting to experience one last time with his buddies. The Woodses arranged for them to talk to him over the phone. About 30 minutes later, Trevor died.

Used organ sounds like a deal

By Melanie Childers
Staff Writer

HOPKINSVILLE—Second Baptist Church in Hopkinsville has found an answer to a musical question they think other churches ought to hear.

The problem they faced was finding a pipe organ that would fill their 1,200-seat auditorium with sound without emptying the church budget.

Minister of Music Jack Gordon said the church found a creative and economical option most churches overlook.

Second Baptist Church replaced its electronic organ with a refurbished 3-manual 33-rank Reuter pipe organ. The instrument belonged to Stephen F. Austin University in Nacogdoches, Texas, until the school discontinued its organ instruction.

"The organ was purchased and installed for about one-third of the cost of buying a new organ," Gordon said.

"We knew a new \$300,000 pipe organ was out of the question," added Beverly Duncan, church organist. "But by finding one the way we did, we were able to obtain a pipe organ for about the same amount it would have cost us to purchase an electronic organ."

The organ committee was formed in 1989 when the church decided an organ was needed. Members contacted several organ builders and an organ clearing house in New England in an effort to locate previously-owned organs in good condition. After discovering the Reuter organ in Texas,

the committee submitted a sealed bid which was accepted.

A church member donated the use of a tractor-trailer to transport the instrument. After some refurbishing and renovations to both organ and church, the instrument was installed by Miller Organ Co. of Eaglesville, Tenn.

Duncan, for one, is delighted with the results: "We knew it was important to get an instrument everyone would feel comfortable with. We wanted something that could play Bach, if we wanted it, but could also definitely play 'Amazing Grace.'"

The church donated its electronic organ to Edgewood Baptist Church in Hopkinsville.



PIPE LINE A work crew at Second Baptist Church in Hopkinsville unloads a pipe organ purchased from a Texas school that discontinued its organ program. The purchase allowed the church to get a better organ for an affordable price, committee members said.

8 DAY HOLY LAND AND ROME May 11.....\$1,699.00
15 DAY HOLY LAND Jun.13.....\$2,699.00 Rome, Egypt, Luxor, Mt. Sinai, Nazareth, Sea of Galilee, Jerusalem and Bethlehem
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A life's work

He was 87 years old when he died after a lifetime of humble service and devotion to the things he believed in. He rose above a painful childhood and set out to reach for the things in life that mattered.

For a time, he worked at Berea College. He started the church he belonged to by gathering others from the neighborhood each Sunday in an old schoolhouse. In fact, most of the congregation was there the day they buried Mr. Logsdon.

The weathered Bible he left behind speaks volumes about the kind of person he became. In 1928 he was baptized. Since 1932 he had faithfully taught Sunday school. Scattered through the Bible he bought in 1957 are pressed four-leaf clovers, notes from loved ones and a list of favorite verses.

A few years back, a dear friend wrote him a poem in honor of his 80th birthday. In the "Ode to My Favorite Octogenarian," neatly folded between the thin pages of the old Bible, a friend writes, "To keep your humor and still not complain, now that is a goal we all would like to attain."

Herschel Logsdon grew up the

son of an alcoholic. His childhood was not an easy one. He lived for a time at the Kentucky Baptist Children's Home, now known as Glen Dale. But friends say he wasn't one for feeling sorry for himself. Instead, he made a very real difference wherever he could. All through his life, he looked for ways

he could make the world around him a better place to live.

Mr. Logsdon left all he had to benefit the work of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children. Because he dedicated his life to finding ways to reach beyond himself and touch the lives of others in need, children who never knew Mr. Logsdon will feel the love that has been lacking in their lives.

At the sale of Mr. Logsdon's estate a neighbor commented, "What he did, he did for other people."

What a testimony to the kind of person he was. And what a challenge to the kind of people we can all strive to become.

Curtis Mooney is president of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, 10801 Shelbyville Rd., Middletown, Ky. 40243.

Paid Column

HOMES FOR CHILDREN



Curtis C. Mooney

What is your perception?

A few weeks ago I was having a telephone conversation with someone I had never met. My new acquaintance was quick to point out his perception of my tone might be offensive to other people.

I tried to assure him I was not trying to be offensive and that his perception was unfounded.

Webster defines perception as: "1: an act or result of perceiving 2: awareness of environment through physical sensation 3: ability to perceive; insight, comprehension."

Perceptions can sometimes, unfortunately, be the only criteria others use to determine if we are nice, hard-working and caring.

I hope your perception of Baptist Healthcare Foundation is good. One of the Foundation's goals is to inform people about the needs of the Baptist Healthcare System's hospitals and its patients.

Some people could have the perception that Baptist Healthcare Foundation should not ask for donations. But donations go straight to programs that make patient stays more comfortable, purchase equipment ahead of schedule, provide healthcare students with tuition assistance, and provide books and tapes for the pleasure of patients. These are just a few needs met by generous people through the Foun-

ation.

What is your perception of the Sunday School Charity Fund? The Fund's offering, set for May 10, helps with patient charity care. Churches and individuals have contributed to the fund for years. The need is there every day to assist patients through charity care.

Perhaps some people might have the perception that special events are not necessary and are too costly. All the Foundation's

special events are sponsored, and totally paid for, by individuals and companies. As a result, more people will learn about the needs of our hospitals and how they can assist in meeting patient needs.

Perception—what is yours? Whatever your perception, be assured Christ is at the center of Baptist Healthcare System and Baptist Healthcare Foundation. Consider helping us as we help others. Let us share with you the alternatives to do the Lord's work through Baptist Healthcare Foundation.

Any questions or comments concerning this article, Baptist Healthcare System or Baptist Healthcare Foundation should be directed to Charles W. Cox Jr., President, Baptist Healthcare Foundation, Corporate Complex, 4007 Kresge Way, Louisville, Ky. 40207 (502) 896-5003.

Paid Column

GOVERNMENT

Quayle says he and Bush don't want church reporting

By Larry Chesser
Baptist Joint Committee

WASHINGTON (ABP)—The Bush administration does not support a proposed requirement that churches report to the Internal Revenue Service charitable contributions they receive, Vice President Dan Quayle said last week.

However, the proposal remains part of the 1993 budget package under consideration in Congress.

Quayle addressed the issue Feb. 23 on the CBS program "Meet the Press."

He said the proposal was a "non-sense regulation" and he didn't know how it got in the White House-proposed budget.

"It was in the budget, but you

know how big that budget is, and I can assure you that I didn't know it was in there," Quayle said. "The president didn't know it was in there, and unfortunately, sometimes these things get in there. And when it's brought up to us and brought to our attention, we do what is right. And what is right is to say that that piece of legislation is not going to have our support."

Quayle's comments came one day after The Washington Post quoted a White House source as saying the administration was putting the proposal on hold.

While the vice president's remarks appeared to be a clear indication that the administration no longer supported the proposal, the White House media office declined to comment.

Oliver Thomas, general counsel

for the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs and leader of a coalition opposing the proposal, said the Treasury Department is non-committal on whether the proposal is still under consideration. However, he said Fred Golberg, assistant secretary for tax policy, has accepted Thomas' invitation to meet with representatives of the religious community.

Thomas said he told the Treasury Department that churches are sensitive to the government's need to ensure taxpayers claim only deductions to which they are entitled, but that the administration's reporting proposal was unacceptable.

The administration had proposed the reporting requirement to help IRS distinguish between gifts to churches and other charitable organizations and

payments for goods and services, such as admission to entertainment events or the purchase of educational services or consumer items.

Religious groups reacted strongly against the proposal, complaining that it would create a burdensome record-keeping assignment for churches and that its provision requiring churches to determine the potential deductibility of gifts would violate acceptable limits of church-state entanglement.

Churches and their related organizations now are exempted from filing annual reports that are required of most tax-exempt organizations that receive tax-deductible contributions.

Congress has shown little willingness to support the church-reporting requirements, as well as other elements of the administration's plan.

PREACHING FAMILY VALUES At the Lomax AME Zion Church in Arlington, Va., President George Bush delivers a message on the importance of "family values." Bush has courted evangelical Christians by talking about such issues, but has drawn criticism for not taking a stronger stand against issues such as homosexuality. (RNS photo)

Bush blasted for meeting with homosexual lobby

WASHINGTON (BP)—A Feb. 13 meeting hosted by the chairman of the Bush/Quayle campaign for homosexual rights activists has drawn criticism from Southern Baptist leaders.

Morris Chapman, Southern Baptist Convention president, and Richard Land, executive director of the SBC Christian Life Commission, said President Bush should take strong personal action against the meeting or forfeit the trust of evangelical Christians.

However, a White House spokeswoman said the meeting is not a sign

of outreach to homosexuals.

Robert Mosbacher, the president's campaign chairman and former secretary of commerce, met Feb. 13 with three staff members of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and a representative of the AIDS Action Council.

It is the first time representatives from the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force have met with the campaign staff of a major presidential candidate, said Robert Bray, the task force's public relations director.

In a Feb. 19 letter, Chapman and Land called on President Bush to "disavow any support or sympathy for the homosexual civil rights agenda."

One way the President could prove his opposition to the homosexual rights agenda, the letter said, is to issue an executive order recommended by 18 evangelical leaders, including Chapman and Land, in October 1990. The suggested order, which would be directed to the Executive Branch, affirms the traditional family and opposes homosexual rights.

Timing of Frohnmayer's resignation noted by Land

WASHINGTON (BP)—John Frohnmayer's resignation as chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts indicates President Bush's fear of losing the evangelical Christian vote, evangelical leaders said.

Frohnmayer announced his resignation Feb. 21, three days after Bush's unimpressive victory over Pat Buchanan in the Republican primary in New Hampshire. The day before the announcement, Buchanan cited the NEA in lashing out at the president for unfaithfulness to conservative

Republicans.

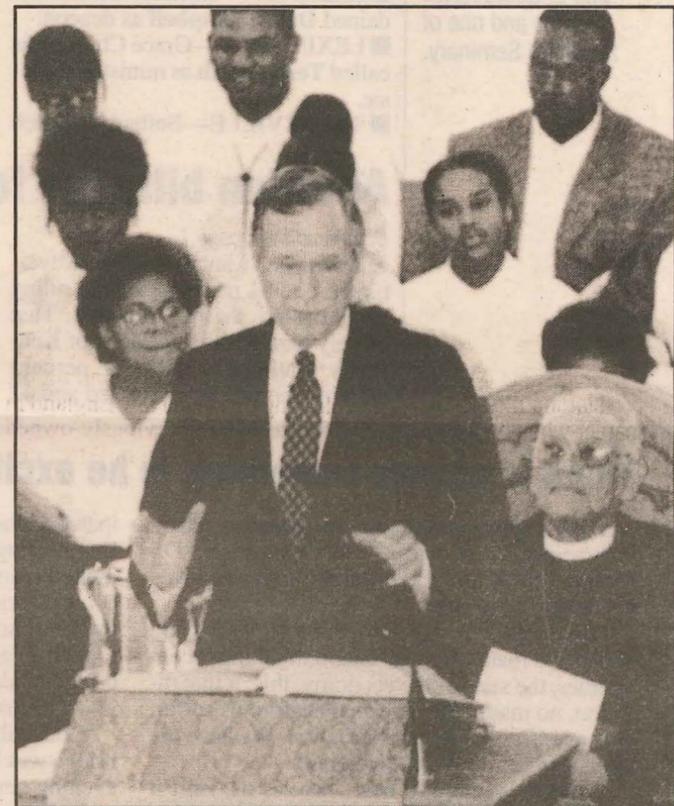
Frohnmayer's term as NEA chairman was marked by criticism from some members of Congress as well as evangelical groups for funding what they considered sexually explicit and sacrilegious art.

Many organizations, including the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, repeatedly called for his dismissal.

"I believe the Christian Life Commission and other evangelical groups softened Mr. Frohnmayer up and Pat

Buchanan delivered the knockout punch in New Hampshire," said CLC Executive Director Richard Land.

However, Frohnmayer's departure will be fruitless unless an appropriate replacement is named by the president, Land said: "This is a step in the right direction. It doesn't mean much, however, unless Frohnmayer is replaced by someone who will go in there and shake the place up."



CLASSIFIED ADS

NEEDED: Part-time Minister to Youth. Send resumé to Deer Park Baptist Church, 1733 Bardstown Road, Louisville, Ky. 40205. 3-3-1T

NEEDED: Full-time Minister of Youth and Education, Harrodsburg Baptist Church. Call Bob DeFoor, (606) 734-2339. 3-3-2T

PHOTOGRAPHER: Available for church homecomings, family reunions, anniversaries and weddings. Contact Eddie Boden, 2623 Frankfort Pk., Georgetown, Ky. 40324, (502) 863-2156 or (800) 221-7183. 2-4-2T

TWO-WEEK TOUR: June 22, 1992, England, Ireland, Wales, Scotland. Write or call Dr. T.L. McSwain, 9107 Linn Station Rd., Louisville, Ky. 40222, (502) 423-1342 or 964-6403. 2-4-4T

FOR SALE: 22 15' pews; 1 18' pew; 1 12' pew. All pews are fully upholstered; we are asking \$175 each or you may make an offer. Any sale must be approved by White Lick Baptist Church. Call 925-4641 or 925-3641. 2-25-3T

Migrant Ministry Workshop

Saturday, March 14 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Mullins Lounge, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Purpose: To explore and discuss ministry-related strategy in working with Hispanic migrant workers who come to Kentucky for seasonal farm-related jobs.

Participants: Church Missions Development Council leaders, associational leaders and Directors of Missions.

Guest Speaker: Nathan Porter, National Consultant for Domestic Hunger and Migrant Ministries, Home Mission Board, Atlanta.

Reservations: The conference is free. A free lunch will be served to those who register before March 12. Call Ken Forman at the Kentucky Baptist Convention (502) 244-6461.



Nathan Porter

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KENTUCKY KERNELS

Baptist is the most common religious affiliation claimed by elected officials in the 1992 Kentucky General Assembly. Forty-two of this session's senators and representatives identify themselves as Baptists. The next largest group is 33 Catholics. All senators report a religious affiliation. Only three representatives give no affiliation. Five representatives are graduates of Cumberland College, one of Campbellsville College, one of Georgetown College and one of Southern Seminary.

Mountains to the Mississippi

- ALEXANDRIA—Licking Valley Church will celebrate 25 years with Pastor **Harold Moore** May 3.
- Grants Lick called **Greg Spear** as minister of music and youth.
- CRESTWOOD—**Jeffrey Vickery**, a student at Southern Seminary, is serving Centerfield Church as family ministries intern.
- ERLANGER—**Randy Blankenship** was ordained a deacon by Erlanger Church.
- GEORGETOWN—**Malcolm Lunceford** is interim pastor at Georgetown Church.
- Mallard Point Church called **Stephen Rice** as pastor. He previously served Belfry Church in Belfry.
- HARDINSBURG—Goshen Church ordained **David Miller Jr.** and **Billy Decker** as deacons.
- LEBANON—Lebanon Church ordained **Dave Campbell** as deacon.
- LEXINGTON—Grace Church has called **Terry Keith** as minister of music.
- LOUISVILLE—Bethany Church

called **William Groover** as pastor. **Joe Mobley** is speaker at Memory Lane Church's spring revival services, March 1-6 at 7 p.m.

■ MURRAY—**Terry Garvin** is serving First Church as associate pastor.

Flint Church ordained **Bill Bailey** and **Donnie Chapman** as deacons.

■ RUSSELLVILLE—First Church called **Chris Thomas** as minister of music and youth. He previously served First Church, Satellite Beach, Fla.

■ SOMERSET—**H.O. Cook**, pastor of Cumberland Church since 1974, died Feb. 7 at age 84 after two months of illness. A native of Somerset, he served several Kentucky churches in Pulaski Association during his 55-year ministry. Survivors include his wife, Mildred, one daughter, three grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

■ UNION—Big Bone Church held a dedication service March 1 for its newly completed church building.

Abortion bills set for vote in Frankfort

Continued from page 1

cent said they want Roe v. Wade overturned and 41 percent said the ruling should stand, the poll reported. That closely parallels the opinions of Kentucky Catholics, with 49 percent wanting the ruling overturned and 42

percent wanting it to stand.

To express an opinion about legislation pending in the General Assembly, contact legislators by calling toll-free (800) 372-7181. For information on the status of a bill, call (800) 382-2455.

Polk retiring after 22 years with Elkhorn

By Jane Taylor Howell
State Correspondent

LEXINGTON—Although small in physical stature, Harold Polk will be recognized this week as a giant among Kentucky Baptists.

Polk, director of missions for Elkhorn Baptist Association, is retiring after more than 50 years of ministry—22 in Elkhorn Association. He will be recognized at a retirement dinner March 6 in Lexington.

Polk came to Elkhorn Association as part-time superintendent of missions in 1970. At that time, annual gifts to the association totalled \$26,088. Today, gifts exceed \$200,000 annually.

Polk was elected full-time executive director in 1974.

He was named Associational Director of Missions of the Year by his peers in Kentucky in 1982. In 1985, he was named Outstanding Missionary Leader in a Metropolitan Association by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

During Polk's tenure, membership in Elkhorn Association has grown from 38,000 to more than 44,000. The number of churches

has grown from 57 to 73.

Other highlights include:

■ A sourcebook of community resources for pastors and church leadership produced by Elkhorn became the first such book used by the Kentucky Department of Human Resources.

■ With Gene Skelton, Polk developed a growth campaign that served as a pilot to reintroduce the Sunday School Growth Campaign in the Southern Baptist Convention. Polk also was instrumental in developing the Small Church Growth Campaign now used across Kentucky.

■ World missions conferences were held in 1972, 1977 and 1981. In 1987, the association participated with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in a commissioning service in Rupp Arena with more than 15,000 people.

■ A church development fund was established.

■ Multi-lingual congregations have been started, including Japanese and Hispanic missions.

■ Morning Star Baptist Church and Citadel Baptist Church were received into the association, the first black Baptist churches added since the Civil War.



There is always something to be excited about at Oneida

After I spoke at a church this evening, a lady commented to me with a note of surprise: "Dr. Moore, I've heard you different times, and you are always so excited."

Yes I am. I've got something to be excited about! No matter how discouraging things seem at times, the state of the economy, this or that division, no matter the defeats that all of us suffer, we have Christ. We have salvation. We have the ultimate victory. We have eternity.

Anyone wanting to hear "woe is us, isn't it terrible" doesn't want to invite me. God is doing too many great things every hour of every day to waste time poor-mouthing.

It has been my privilege to serve on the Oneida staff for 22 years. There never has been an easy day, but even on the worst days, I always have been conscious that God is still on his throne. Knowing that, I always am excited about what he is doing in so many young lives. I never cease to marvel observing his mighty hand holding us up even at little Oneida. The "least of these" young people are precious to him and thus to us.

Our choir sang powerfully tonight at Calvary Baptist Church in London. This congregation helps us month after month.

Five of our wrestlers and two staff members left Friday for Louisville to observe at the state wrestling meet, and returned at 3 a.m. Sunday morning. Having won the state class A championship two years in a row, we are setting our sights on next year's state meet that includes the biggest schools in the state as well.

Coach Coffey and some of our swimmers were at University of Kentucky in Lexington for the state swimming meet Saturday. In the past five years, Coffey has been voted twice by the 21 coaches of our region as Coach of the Year.

During the weekend, our drafting team partic-

ipated in the state competition held at the Speed Engineering School in Louisville. Last year OBI ranked second of 184 schools participating. The contest is not over as I write, but in the first day OBI sophomore David Byers' bridge entry topped everyone. Each student must design a bridge made of two ounces of balsa wood. David's withstood 231 pounds of pressure.

Louisville TV channel 41 came by as our OBI bridge was being tested and they filmed it for the evening news. Drafting teacher John Smith and wife, Erma, took our students to Walnut Street Church for morning worship. The church's camera picked up on one of them wearing an OBI jacket, and nice things were said about our school.

Our chess team came home with seven of the 10 trophies given in a competition between three schools.

Our academic problem-solving team won the regional championship and will participate in the state tourney. Also, OBI senior Bill Perrine will participate in the state English competition as the regional champion.

Also on Saturday our middle school boys' basketball team defeated Corbin 56-33.

On Friday evening our girls' basketball team played a fine game at home but lost by five points to Wolfe County. At Whitley County that evening our boys' lost by one point. Saturday night, OBI defeated Barbourville by one point with a shot as the horn sounded to make a score of 68-67. Earlier in the evening, our freshmen won in a 60-46 game and our junior varsity bested Barbourville 61-49.

Twenty-five seniors and their parents were honored from the boys' and girls' varsity basketball teams, the band and cheerleaders.

Barkley Moore is president of Oneida Baptist Institute, Oneida, Ky. 40972

ONEIDA JOURNAL



Barkley Moore

Paid Column

The voice of Clear Creek radio

"From the foothills of the Cumberland Mountains, this is Clear Creek Chimes. ..." Each week second-year student Kenny McCain introduces Clear Creek's 15-minute music and Bible message program aired on 21 radio stations in seven states. McCain records a four- to five-minute message, usually by the president, adds Christian music, a promo about the college and the theme song at the beginning and end.

"Clear Creek Country" uses gospel music sung by country artists. McCain puts the program together around a scriptural theme. A 90-second theme interpretation is placed in the middle of the program. Fifteen stations use the weekly production.

Thirty-minute programs at Christmas and the Fourth of July have been popular and go to 150 stations.

Radio played a part in McCain's conversion. His sister gave him a booklet mailed by the Back to the Bible broadcast. He recalls, "I had been struggling about a year with my need for the Lord. The booklet showed me how much God loved me, and through it my heart was touched." He was baptized into Unity Baptist Church, Pendleton County.

At Unity he met Jenny Bowen, member of the Kentucky WMU Acteens panel and a Cedarmore

GA counselor. An 18-month courtship led to marriage.

Kenny acknowledges the decision to come to school was harder than the call to ministry. "I had a very good job and had been interim pastor. I thought I could be used right there. The Lord used a message of faith at the state evangelism conference."

They moved two weeks after the wedding. They enjoy walking the campus hills and trails. If you call during the mornings, you will hear Jenny's voice at the switchboard. She also attends Union College.

Tazewell Baptist Church in Tennessee uses Kenny as children's church pastor. Jenny plays the piano and helps with the preschoolers.

Kenny came to school thinking he would get his education and "go to a big church." He now feels leadership toward bivocational work. "Many churches have big opportunities but can't adequately support a pastor." He hopes to secure teacher certification and be ready if the Lord wills.

"I'm grateful for the radio ministry. If someone can be reached for Christ or encouraged, it makes it all worthwhile," Kenny stated.

Bill Whittaker is president of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, Pineville, Ky. 40977

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Paid Column

PRAYER

Missionaries give specific requests

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Since the advent of Southern Baptist foreign missions, countless Southern Baptists have received specific prayer requests directly from missionaries.

"PrayerGram," monthly newsletter of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, is made up almost entirely of such requests. Missionary newsletters also carry prayer requests from the field to Southern Baptists.

Missionary Roger Hesch, as an example, recently wrote in a newsletter: "As we return to Uganda, you can help us through prayer. The following alliteration might help you to better know how to pray for us:

■ "Protection ... from illnesses such as malaria, cholera, amoebic stomach attacks; from road accidents, violence and robberies.

■ "Penetration ... as we work to see the church started in new areas, as we seek to see the gospel preached among the lost, as we walk with new believers and church leaders in their growth.

■ "Perseverance ... that our love, joy, peace, patience would be 'tough' and enduring, that our attitudes would stay positive, that we would always be able to laugh at ourselves and with our friends."

Spiritual warfare seems a theme around which more missionaries are seeking to build prayer-support chains.

"Many missionaries express their belief that Satan has more power in pagan lands," said Minette Drumwright, director of the FMB's prayer office. "It may be that he is not as powerful here, with our history of strong churches, or maybe we don't recognize his power here. But these missionaries who are assigned to 'unreached' areas report coming against forces that are so powerful that they can't help but realize their total dependence on prayer and the power of the Holy Spirit."

Prayer called key strategy for missions

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Prayer is increasingly being recognized as the one missions strategy upon which all other strategies depend.

"Prayer is the only strategy that reaches into all 252 countries of the world," says Minette Drumwright, director of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's prayer office.

Prayer also represents the source of the FMB's greatest power: access to divine intervention, she adds.

Although missionaries always have relied on the intercession of Southern Baptists, prayer has received increased emphasis in recent years. When Keith Parks became FMB president in 1980, he announced intercessory prayer would be the highest priority for foreign missions.

Soon afterward, the intercessory prayer office was established.

On an individual basis, missionaries increasingly are scrambling to extend their own private networks of prayer support.

"Prayer releases God's power into lives and situations," Drumwright explains. "I believe that this is God's

plan for doing his work."

She cites two primary principles of intercessory prayer:

■ "It needs to be specific." The more specific the request, the more focused the response, she advises.

■ "It needs to be united." The power of prayer is greater when many are interceding with the same request, Drumwright says.

Specific requests for prayer submitted by missionaries on the field are circulated through the newsletter "Global PrayerGram" to more than 25,000 individuals each month. Another 12,000 to 13,000 Southern Baptist calls are made each month to the board's PrayerLine.

In addition, since the fall of 1987 more than 2,000 assignments connecting individual Southern Baptist churches with unreached countries or people groups have been made through the FMB's prayer office. Fifteen state Baptist conventions currently are aligned in prayer partnerships with a people group or country.

Testimonies from missionaries about the effectiveness of these prayer

endeavors arrive routinely. These include praise for helping them make cross-cultural adjustments, for family health, for finding responsive communities, for church sites, for local leaders, for effectiveness in witness and ministry and for binding the power of Satan directed against church communities.

Although such answers to prayer warrant celebration, Drumwright reminds that two-thirds of the world's people still do not know Jesus; one-fourth of the world's people have not heard the gospel.

Among the challenges Parks has issued for the immediate future, two strongly relate to prayer:

■ For every Baptist association to "pray forth" at least two additional missionaries plus enough funding for support and operational expenses by 1995.

■ For every Southern Baptist to develop a regular prayer pattern for missionaries and world evangelization with at least 12,000 churches praying for a specific unreached people group.

Current prayer requests from foreign missionaries are available by calling (800) 395-PRAY. Requests from home missionaries are available by calling (800) 554-PRAY.



PRAYER FOR PEACE Hundreds of thousands of Korean Christians gather for mass prayer last summer at the Yoido Plaza in Seoul to intercede for peace and an end to violent street demonstrations. (RNS photo)

Prayer is ammunition for spiritual warfare, speaker says

By Terri Lackey

SBC Sunday School Board

NASHVILLE (BP)—Prayer is the ammunition of Christians, and those not willing to arm themselves risk "disintegrating and dying," two pastors said.

Churches desiring to survive the '90s had better start praying, Damon Shook, pastor of Champion Forest Baptist Church of Houston, told about 140 people from 14 states attending an intercessory prayer workshop at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

"Churches and Christians that do not pray together in the '90s may not survive," Shook said. "If the average church prayed as much as it gossiped, it would be revolutionized. We must

learn to pray as never before."

People living in today's world "deaden their senses toward reality" in a variety of ways, including entertainment, drugs and alcohol, Shook said.

Larry Thompson, pastor of Dauphin Way Baptist Church in Mobile, Ala., said "something has to be radically done" to alleviate the apathy of churches.

Thompson, national director of Watchmen National Prayer Alert, said, "If the nation is going to see spiritual awakening, then Christians are going to have to (claim) the promises of God."

Watchmen National Prayer Alert is a prayer effort among Southern Baptists to bring spiritual awakening to the country and the world. The 1,200 churches participating so far

have agreed to pray one hour a week during 1992. The prayer alert is coordinated by the board's discipleship training department.

"Our churches are dead and God's people seem to be satisfied with the good old days," Thompson said. "We will not see the glory of God until once again we begin to appropriate the promises of God."

Thompson said the time has come to stop reading and talking about prayer and start "experiencing it."

"We need more than education about prayer—we need to experience the power of God in our own lives," he said. "If ever there was a time in the body of Christ where we needed to pray, it is today."

Meanwhile, calling prayer the foundational or hidden ministry of the

church, Shook outlined the anatomy of prayer as focus, force, foundation, fruit and fight.

God is the focus of prayer, Shook said. "Most people say the focus of prayer is us. They say give me. But prayer is to the Father."

Praying in the spirit is the force of prayer, Shook said. "Prayer is a Christian's speaking relationship in the spirit to God."

Prayer is foundational, Shook said. "Pray through Jesus Christ. Nobody gets to God if they go around Christ."

The fruit of prayer is to pray for others, he said. "Our greatest joy is intercession or prayer for others."

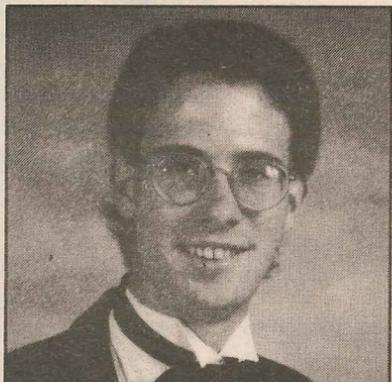
Finally, Shook said, to pray is to fight. "If we don't realize prayer is warfare against Satan, then we're not going to make a difference," he said.

'If the average church prayed as much as it gossiped, it would be revolutionized.'

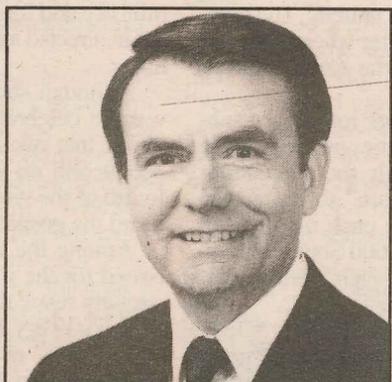
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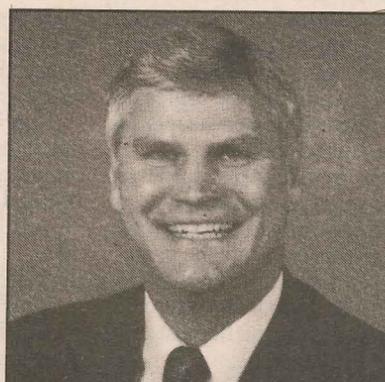
Meet a Few of our Alumni



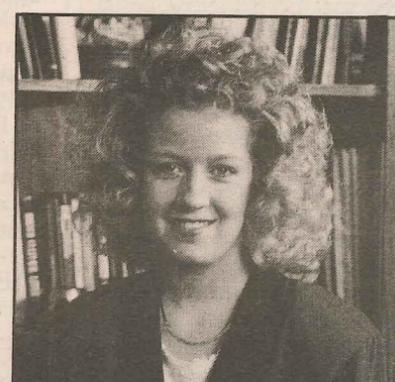
Todd Hamilton, '90, was a Cumberland honor student, who recently completed his comprehensive examinations at the University of California, Berkley, and is continuing research toward a Ph.D. in Nuclear Chemistry.



Robert M. (Mike) Duncan, '71, is President and CEO of the Community Holding Company, Inez. He recently served one year as Assistant Director of the Office of Public Liaison for President Bush at the White House.



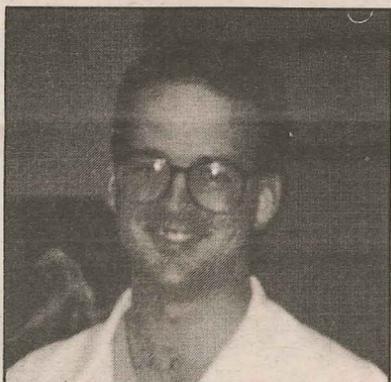
Bill Messer, '68, received his Doctorate of Ministries from Southern Seminary, and is currently pastor of First Baptist Church, Ashland. He was president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, 1990-1991.



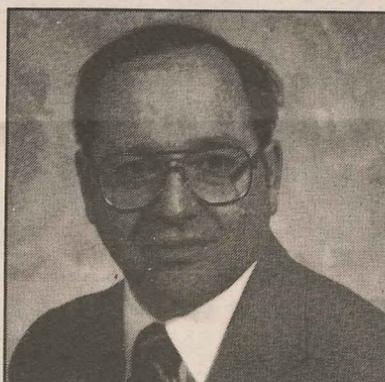
Shannon Harris Sexton, '91, was president of the college's nationally known history honor society, **Phil Alpha Theta**. Now she is a first year law student at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.



Susan Hawkins, '87, graduated from the University of Louisville Medical School. She is serving her residency in Pediatrics at the University of Louisville's Kosair Children's Hospital.



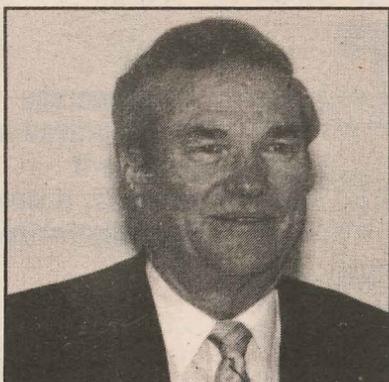
Michael Clark, '85, received his medical degree from Wright State Medical University in 1990. He is a resident in Obstetrics, at Miami Valley Hospital, Dayton.



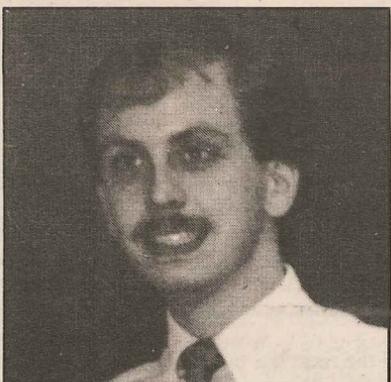
Terry P. Dixon, '68, is Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of Central Texas, Killeen, Texas. He is President and CEO of Dixon and Associates, Consultants in Higher Education Management.



Lawana Scoville, '72, received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Teaching. She was recently the national choice for the Selby Chair for Academic Achievement, Sarasota, Florida.



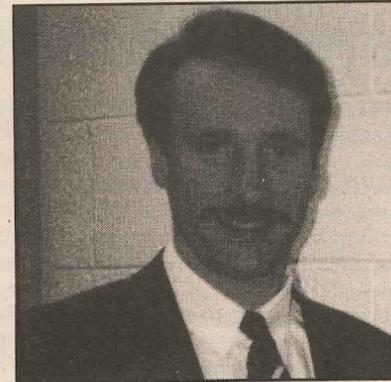
Arliss Roaden, '49, is Executive Director of Tennessee Higher Education Commission, Nashville. He is former Provost at Ohio State University.



Jonathan Ramey, '87, completed graduate course work at Vanderbilt for his Ph.D. He is a faculty member in Cumberland's Math Department.



Susan Ballou-Gibson, '88, a graduate of the University of Louisville and Indiana University School of Dentistry, has established a practice in Somerset.



Keith Gibson, '88, was graduated from the University of Louisville Dental School. He has joined the practice of Ballou and Gibson in Corbin.