

FOR THE RECORD

WMU & Pastors' Conference

Programs have been announced for the annual meetings of Woman's Missionary Union and the SBC Pastors' Conference to be held in June. See page 2.

Figart remembered

Ross Figart was remembered by friends and colleagues as a man who loved God and missions. See page 3.

Schoolhouse mission

Baptist volunteers have closed their school Sunday school in Kentucky's last one-room public schoolhouse. See page 3.

Editorial

Don't let the discouragement of church and the world keep you from committing your life to Christ. See page 5.

Kentuckian goes

The first Kentucky volunteer has arrived in the Commonwealth of Independent States as part of Project Brotherhood. See page 6.

Fetal tissue ban

The U.S. Senate voted to lift restrictions on fetal-tissue research. See page 7.

Ailing missionary asks, 'Who will go in my place?'

By Ferrell Foster
Illinois Baptist

HENDERSON (BP)—Kathy Lloyd compares her situation to a mother in a car pool getting sick: It would help to know someone else could pick up the kids.

Lloyd, in fact, is very sick. A fast-growing cancer has attacked her bones and now threatens her life. The "car pool" she has been a part of is foreign missions.

She and her husband, Skip, were Southern Baptist missionaries to South Korea from 1984 to 1991. Currently they serve First Baptist Church in Henderson, where Skip Lloyd is minister of education and administration.

Lloyd's illness forced them to resign as missionaries, and now her prayer is that others will take their place and keep the missions message traveling around the world. "If I can't go, someone else can go," she said.

Lloyd said she knows of many missionaries having to leave the mission field because of physical problems. "Maybe that's why God's brought me back," she explained, "to challenge people" to go overseas as missionaries.

Little more than a year ago, the Lloyds were busy working in Seoul, where she ministered to unwed mothers.

Then her health began to fall apart. See Missionary battles ..., page 6



WHO WILL GO? Kathy Lloyd (second from right) participates in a quilting project with American and Korean women in 1989. Bone cancer has caused the Kentucky woman and her husband to leave the mission field, but she hopes to inspire others to take their places. "If I can't go, someone else can go," she said in an interview before entering the hospital this week for a dangerous medical procedure. (BP photo by Ginny Whitehouse)

Legislators tackle some issues, avoid others

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

FRANKFORT—Despite their controversial sidestepping of the abortion issue, Kentucky legislators dealt with a variety of bills related to social, ethical and moral issues in their just-concluded session.

Legislation was passed and signed by the governor affecting alcohol sales, prosecution of domestic violence cases, gambling, charitable donations, child pornography and the posting of religious texts in public school classrooms.

Issues raised but not resolved included abortion regulations, prevention of assisted suicide, and the banning of nude dancing in bars.

Legislators also approved a refer-

endum on legalizing bingo and other charitable gambling which will be put to voters statewide in November.

The 1992 session of the General Assembly concluded last week, after lawmakers returned to Frankfort for a final two days allowed to override gubernatorial vetoes.

"We did a lot of good things in preserving the family, preserving the quality of life for people in Kentucky," said Susan Johns, a first-term Democratic senator from Louisville and a Southern Baptist.

Johns said she is particularly pleased with passage of the gift annuity bill, which she worked with the Kentucky Baptist Foundation to support.

A legal opinion issued last year by the Kentucky department of insurance had cut off charitable organizations

such as the Foundation and Baptist schools from offering charitable gift annuities, a kind of contribution where the donor receives a certain return off their gift for the remainder of their life.

Other family issues Johns cited are legislation guaranteeing affordable housing, creating a parental bill of rights for child care, new measures to help children that have been sexually abused, and a package of bills on domestic violence laws.

Kentucky Baptists have no official lobbyist or monitor for state government. However, Claude Witt, a Baptist and director of the Temperance League of Kentucky, said he was pleased with the stands the legislature took regarding alcohol.

See Legislators tackle ..., page 9

Volunteers becoming first option in missions

TALLADEGA, Ala. (BP)—Volunteers are becoming the first option rather than the last when new mission opportunities arise.

Participants in a national conference of volunteerism leaders agreed that the use of volunteers for Baptist ministries has grown in recent years and will continue to change the way missions is done in the future.

Tight finances have been a major factor in this change, said Don Hammonds, director of the South Baptist Home Mission Board's volunteer division. "All of us are having to ask first, 'Can we do this with a volunteer?' rather than, 'How are we going

to get the money to pay a person to do this?'"

But because of this, the role of volunteers in missions will be changed forever, Hammonds said. "This is a learning time when we are finding out that volunteers can do what we thought only paid people could do."

Bo Simms, volunteer director for South Carolina Baptists, said one association in his state recently decided to find a volunteer to coordinate sort, migrant and festival ministries after a five-year wait for the money to hire someone.

"We really cannot wait on money to do that ministry," Simms said.

"Why not go ahead and put together a ... volunteer package and get accomplished what we have been putting off?"

Volunteer coordinators will match any skill with a need, said Elmer Goble, also of the HMB's volunteer division.

He recalled one man who wanted to volunteer but said he had no skill other than tuning pianos. That man now travels to different churches each year tuning pianos for churches that otherwise couldn't afford the service.

Current information on volunteer opportunities is available by calling (800) HMB-VOLS.

Take a few laps on laugh track

SAN FRANCISCO (BP)—God's gift of laughter is good for the body because it is a form of "internal jogging," a pastoral care professor said.

Thom Meigs, professor of pastoral care at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Mo., joined Jack McEwen, professor of psychology at Chattanooga Technical Community College, to lead six conferences for chaplains and pastoral counselors.

Speaking at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary near San Francisco, Meigs encouraged ministers to exercise their gift of laughter.

McEwen said the release of endorphins during laughter provides a high that can last as long as 45 minutes without the corresponding low associated with caffeine or other drugs.

Meigs added that humor offers a good relief from stress. "Sometimes what humor is able to do is diffuse the power of crises that we experience. You cannot be stressed and laugh at the same time."

When ministering to someone after a death, Meigs said when it is appropriate he will encourage those who are grieving to talk about enjoyable memories of the deceased, including funny moments.

Moving? See page 4 (0421)

BAPTISTS

BAPTIST BITS

■ **Raleigh Baptist Association** in North Carolina will vote May 5 on whether to withdraw fellowship from Pullen Memorial Baptist Church for approving a marriage-like ceremony for two homosexual men. The association's executive committee has proposed a resolution which says the congregation "acted contrary to the accepted biblical teaching regarding homosexual behavior."

■ **James Bryant** will be inaugurated as the third president of Luther Rice Seminary May 6. The former pastor in Texas, Arkansas and New Mexico will be installed during a service where W.A. Criswell, longtime pastor of First Baptist Church in Dallas, will preach. Luther Rice is a Baptist school based in Atlanta but does not directly affiliate with the Southern Baptist Convention.

■ **James Currin**, executive director-treasurer of the New England Baptist Convention, died of a heart attack April 10 at age 64. Memorial services were held April 14 in Northborough, Mass., for the former Kentucky pastor.

■ **Jim Newton**, public relations director for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board and Atlanta bureau chief for Baptist Press, has resigned to become director of media relations for World Vision International, an international relief and development organization.

■ **Free materials** for observance of religious liberty day June 7 are available from the Baptist Joint Committee, 200 Maryland Ave. NE, Washington, D.C. 20002.

Baptist churches worldwide asked to start churches

SWANWICK, England (ABP)—"Every Baptist congregation in the world should try to establish at least one new congregation by the end of the decade," according to a declaration adopted at the Baptist World Alliance's first international conference on starting churches.

About 250 Baptists from 45 nations participated in the Baptist International Conference on Establishing Churches, which took place in the central England village of Swanwick March 23-27.

"Research shows that new congregations are more likely to experience growth than the older churches," said Tony Cupit, an Australian who directs the BWA's evangelism and mission division.

Cupit said if Christians wish to expand their witness in the world, they must start new churches on a large scale. Countless churches in the world have never "planted" a single church,

he told the European Baptist Press Service. "We want to challenge churches to plant new churches."

The conference was the largest ever convened on evangelism and mission by the Baptist World Alliance and it "put church planting on the Baptist map," Cupit said.

The capstone of the conference, a 400-word document, was designated the "Derbyshire Declaration: A Call to Establish New Churches."

The document defines itself as a "message to the family of Baptists throughout the world" and confirms that church planting is a "powerful means for growth" and "a most effective means to fulfill the Great Commission."

Reports from delegates who attended the conference indicate Baptists are using a variety of methods to start new congregations.

■ British Baptists are aggressively planting new churches, including one

in the South Yorkshire mining town of Mexborough which has met in a pub for almost three years. Thirty people now meet for worship in the town where no church existed before.

■ Concerned about fellow Asians in London who needed to hear the gospel, Isaac Williams from Pakistan and some of his friends searched the electoral register for names that indicated Muslims, Sikhs and Hindus in their community. Williams, a student at Spurgeon's College, explained that he and his friends addressed envelopes to all of the names they found and personally delivered these. As a result, the Southwest London Asian Fellowship has grown from 10 people to 70 in two years.

■ Jean-Pierre Dassonville, general secretary of the Federation of Evangelical Baptist Churches in France, reported that more than half of the federation's 93 churches have been started in the last 10 years.

■ In Bulgaria, 20 new churches have been started since the fall of communism two years ago, according to one delegate. "There is not a village or town where we have not had an evangelistic meeting and a new church is started," the delegate said.

■ In Cuba, "our churches are not big enough to seat the people who are coming, and we are very happy about that," said Ernesto Diaz, pastor of four churches. He reported that the Baptist Convention of Western Cuba, to which he belongs, baptized 740 people in 1991, the largest number ever.

According to Baptist World Alliance figures, Baptists started 7,033 new churches in 1990. The largest number of new church starts, 5,454, was in the United States.

Although not all nations report such statistics, other reported totals include 384 in Africa, 706 in Asia, 76 in Latin America and the Caribbean, and 149 in South America.

Agenda set for WMU & pastors' meetings

INDIANAPOLIS (BP)—A tribute to Keith Parks will highlight the annual meeting of Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union, while the Pastors' Conference will focus on "The Church in the 21st Century."

The two June 7-8 meetings are the largest gatherings to precede the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Indianapolis June 9-11.

WMU sessions will begin at 2:30 p.m. June 7 in the Indiana Convention Center of the Hoosier Dome. Subsequent sessions begin at 7 p.m. that day, 9:30 a.m., 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. the next day. Theme of the meeting is "Lead Me, Lord."

Parks, who recently announced plans to retire in October as president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, will bring the closing message. WMU will honor Parks during that session, which also will include a commitment service.

Silent Touch, a deaf praise and worship group from Louisville, will present the theme interpretations at the beginning of each session.

Leadership profiles will highlight Billye Brown, professor emerita of

the University of Texas at Austin School of Nursing; Judy Hayes, registered nurse, Lawrenceville, Ga.; Carol Childress, research manager, Tyler, Texas; Martha Wood, mayor of Winston-Salem, N.C.; Sheryl Brissett-Chapman, executive director of Baptist Home for Children, Bethesda, Md.; and Linda Freeman, Southern Baptist missionary to Ecuador.

Also during the annual meeting, nine Southern Baptist missionaries will talk about God's leadership in their lives: Ann Griffith, New York; Jim Queen, Lincolnwood, Ill.; Heber Becerra, Manhattan, N.Y.; Fred and Lavada Loper, Oklahoma City, Okla.; Peter Chen, San Francisco; Ethne Stainer, Yemen; Thomas Canady, Honduras; and Bonnie Wiggs, South Korea.

Carolyn Miller, national WMU president, will bring an address during the Sunday evening session.

The Pastors' Conference will convene in the Hoosier Dome at 6 p.m. June 7, with additional sessions at 8:30 a.m., 1:15 p.m. and 6:10 p.m. the next day.

Preachers for the first session will

be Adrian Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis; O.S. Hawkins, pastor of First Baptist Church in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; and Bill Hybels, pastor of Willow Creek Community Church in South Barrington, Ill.

Preachers for the second session will be Jim Henry, pastor of First Baptist Church in Orlando, Fla.; Larry Thompson, pastor of Dauphin Way Baptist Church in Mobile, Ala.; James Merritt, pastor of First Baptist Church in Snellville, Ga.; and Mike Hamlet, pastor of First Baptist Church in North Spartanburg, S.C.

Preachers for the Monday afternoon session will be Joel Gregory, pastor of First Baptist Church in Dallas; Dallas evangelist Jay Strack; Joseph Stowell, president of Moody Bible Institute in Chicago; and Fred Lowrey, pastor of First Baptist Church in Bossier City, La.

Speakers that evening will be Kenneth Cooper, founder of the Cooper Clinic in Dallas; Ed Young, pastor of Second Baptist Church in Houston; and Tony Evans, pastor of Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship in Dallas.

Three interviewed for seminary post

ST. LOUIS (ABP)—Three people were interviewed for the presidency of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary April 10 in St. Louis.

Although he would not confirm the identity of the three, trustee chairman Roger Ellsworth acknowledged the interviews took place.

Sources close to the search identified the candidates as Patterson, president of Criswell College in Dallas and an architect of the conservative movement in the Southern Baptist Convention; Albert Mohler, editor of the Christian Index, newsjournal of Georgia Baptists; and Richard Melick, a professor at Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary in Memphis, Tenn.

Southeastern's trustees hope to elect a new president before the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention June 9-11, Ellsworth said.

Annuity Board won't exhibit

DALLAS (BP)—The Annuity Board has decided not to exhibit at the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship meeting in Fort Worth, Texas, April 29-May 2.

With that decision, the Annuity Board joins seven other Southern Baptist Convention agencies who changed their plans after conservative SBC leaders asked them not to show up at the meeting of Baptist moderates. SBC President Morris Chapman and SBC Executive Committee Chairman David Hankins reportedly contacted agency heads about their plans.

Some moderates have charged the agencies were threatened with a reduction in Cooperative Program funding if they didn't back out. However, no agency head has been willing to discuss that issue specifically.

Despite the absence of official SBC representation at the Fellowship meeting, alumni associations of three SBC seminaries—Southern, Southwestern and Midwestern—plan to host alumni reunions during the event.

Tom Miller, Annuity Board senior vice president for public relations, said his agency will have "select personnel present as observers, not as participants."

"We have a fiduciary responsibility to everyone who deposits their funds with us, and we will go to learn how to better serve all segments (everyone within the bounds) of the SBC," Miller said.

He refused to answer questions about whether the Annuity Board was pressured to back out of exhibiting and why the change was made less than three weeks before the event.



SENIOR ADULT DAY Viola Smith, a member of First Baptist Church of Tolland, Conn., makes daily phone calls to members of her congregation who are having birthdays. She prays for them, reads them Scripture and sings a song. Churches across the Southern Baptist Convention will honor members like Smith May 3 on Senior Adult Day. (Sunday School Board photo by Jim Veneman)

Figart remembered as man who loved God & missions

By Marv Knox
Editor

WINCHESTER—Ross Figart loved God and missions with unusual fervor, his colleagues told 450 family members and friends who celebrated his life April 13 at Central Baptist Church in Winchester.

Figart, 65, director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's mountain missions program, died of a heart attack April 10 in Winchester.

"Ross had several characteristics that stood out," said Bob Jones, director of the KBC direct missions department and Figart's friend for more than 30 years. "He was a radiant Christian, deeply committed to Christ. That was the driving force of his life."

"Ross also was committed to missions," he added, noting Figart devoted decades of his life to mission work in the mountains of Kentucky and also participated in mission trips to Kenya and Brazil. "But his concern was not just geographic—he had the whole world on his heart."

Figart was a person of integrity and wisdom, who could "cut through an issue and know what the problem was," Jones said. Figart also was compassionate, with a strong sense of humor and perspective, and a deep love for his family, he added.



FRIEND TO PASTORS Ross Figart (right) poses with Gary Robbins, former pastor of Linefork Mission near Whitesburg, during a Woman's Missionary Union missions tour through Eastern Kentucky in 1989. (Photo by Anna Mary Byrdwell)

Figart's vision for mission work in Kentucky multiplied itself many times over, said KBC Executive Secretary William W. Marshall.

The dream for Missionary, the KBC church-starting program that has produced 358 new churches across the state, was born on a trip Marshall and Figart took "up scores of mountain hollers," where Figart illustrated the need for churches, Marshall said.

"His heart and life lives on in hundreds of mountain churches he helped

start," Marshall insisted.

Bill Davis of Winchester, Figart's personal physician and friend, said Figart emphasized "the magnificence and beauty of Christian life and faith."

"We need role models for the life of faith," Davis said. "His life was a picture of integrity, ... a man of stability, ... a man of strength."

"He was for me—and I will not forget it—the embodiment of Christ."

Figart was a native of Altoona, Pa., and moved with his family to Ashland

in 1937. He became a Christian at First Baptist Church of Ashland at the age of 12.

His family later lived in Lexington, where he was a member of Grace Baptist Church.

He was a graduate of Georgetown College and Lexington Theological Seminary.

He was pastor of Spears Mill Baptist Church in Paris, 1949-56; pastor and county missionary at Vanceburg Baptist Church in Vanceburg and in Lewis County, 1956-64; pastor of Petrey Memorial Baptist Church in Hazard, 1964-68; director of missions for Boone's Creek Baptist Association, 1968-81; and mountain missions director, 1982-92.

He is survived by his wife, Ruthe, of Winchester; and his daughter, Frances Ellard, of Berea.

The family asks that memorials go to New Hope Baptist Church in Winchester, Oneida Baptist Institute or Boone's Creek Baptist Camp.

The KBC direct missions department is receiving letters which relate experiences where Figart touched the lives of individuals, churches and associations. The letters will be bound and presented to the family. They may be sent to: KBC direct missions department, P.O. Box 43433, Middletown, Ky. 40253-0433.

BLUEGRASS BURGEO

■ **Joseph Stopher**, an attorney and president of the Gheens Foundation, will receive the honorary doctor of administration degree from Cumberland College May 4. Stopher also serves as a trustee of Georgetown College and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

■ **Mark Snowden**, a native of Winchester, has been named communications consultant with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. In his new role, Snowden will assist missionaries in enhancing their communications effectiveness. He is a former director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's media department.

■ **A Southern Harmony** sing will be sponsored by the Louisville chapter of the Hymn Society in the United States and Canada April 25 at 10:30 a.m. on the campus of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Southern Harmony is a shape-note tunebook from 1835 and the original printed source for such well-known hymns as "Amazing Grace" and "What Wondrous Love Is This." For information, call (502) 897-4115.

Mission closes after 28 years in one-room schoolhouse

By Melanie Childers
Staff Writer

BANNER—Members of the Daniel's Creek Mission learned a lot of lessons from a one-room schoolhouse.

For 28 years, Leo and Pearl Watts taught Sunday school in the last existing one-room public schoolhouse in Kentucky.

But the final class was held April 5. The mission was forced to close when the facility was purchased by the historical society of Floyd County to be displayed at the Jency Wiley State Resort Park in Prestonsburg.

Daniel's Creek Mission was begun in 1964 by First Baptist Church of Allen.

Since that time, 350 to 400 people

have come through those doors, said French Harmon, pastor of the sponsoring church. Harmon credits the Wattses, church members who have directed the Sunday School mission since its beginning, with the success of the effort.

"The Wattses are truly one of the most dedicated couples I know. They are an example of what Christian lay men and women can do," he said.

Both retired school teachers, the Wattses felt right at home leading the 9 a.m. service in the one-room schoolhouse on Sunday mornings.

The building was not used as a school after 1985, but the mission continued to meet there each Sunday.

The 7:30 Wattses said they arrived about 7:30 on chilly Sunday mornings to

build a warm fire in the pot-bellied stove. The mission members began arriving around 9.

Sometimes they had to walk part of the way when the roads were so rutted and muddy that driving was impossible.

Average attendance grew from 21 the first year to 41 in 1977. The record high attendance was Christmas of 1984, when 130 were present.

By providing gifts and a special program during the Christmas season, Harmon said the Daniel's Creek Mission "was the only Christmas some of those children ever had."

Vacation Bible school was one of the mission's most successful events, Harmon said. It was held every summer, with an overall average enrollment of 125.

The Wattses said they believe they reached almost every family in the

rural community.

"The mission has been a tremendous blessing," said Jim Smith, director of missions in the Enterprise Association. "Its absence will leave a big vacuum in our association's work."

But Harmon is confident that both the spirit and the mission effort will continue. "We will look for other opportunities now. Christians are always looking for new areas where their gifts can be used," he said.

The Wattses agree: "We are sad about the mission closing, but there is still plenty of other work to do for the Lord—more than we will be able to get to."

All who were attending the mission have been encouraged to join First Baptist Church in Allen, Harmon said. A Sunday school classroom at the church will be renamed the Daniel's Creek Memorial Classroom.



Leo & Pearl Watts

Acteens urged to find their place by being available to God

By Connie Bull
State Correspondent

WILLIAMSBURG—About 1,100 Kentucky Acteens and their leaders were challenged to find their place in the world by being available to God during the state Acteens conference April 10-11.

Also during the event at Cumberland College in Williamsburg, more than 100 Acteens were recognized for achievements in Studiact, a mission action self-study program.

The theme of the conference was taken from a popular song by contemporary Christian singer Michael W. Smith which talks about "finding my place in this world."

"Finding your place involves

risk and prayer," said Jerome Byrd, pastor of Good News Baptist Chapel in Cincinnati.

"God is just as interested in preparing a place for you here as he is in preparing a place for you in heaven," he explained. "If you want to find your place in the world, you need to find time to spend listening at Jesus' feet."

"When the world can look at you and tell you've been with Jesus, you've found your place."

Sue Enoch, minister of childhood education at Crescent Hill Baptist Church in Louisville, told the girls God's call is tenacious and never static. "It goes up, down, in, out, around and through who you are."

Finding a place means finding one of many places God has open for ser-

vice, said Donna Cochran Peele, a former US-2 missionary and currently a youth minister in South Carolina.

"Your place isn't a location; it's an availability to say, 'Here am I, Lord, send me,'" she said. "It's not a thing to do, but a person to be."

Christians can be missionaries by going far away or staying close to home, Enoch said. "But all missionaries are ordinary people doing extraordinary work."

A foreign missionary urged the girls not to limit their vision to their county or country. "Let God set the parameters," said Bill Wakefield, who serves in Mexico with his wife, Peggy.

Mrs. Wakefield advised: "It is much better to be in God's place in his

will than to be in any place out of God's will."

Kathy Baucom, coordinator of the First Step pregnancy counseling and adoption service of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, talked to the girls about teen pregnancy rates.

She urged the Acteens to find their place by understanding God's standards for their sexual relationships and expressing God's compassion for their friends who might be facing pregnancy.

Greg Whitetree, director of the Freeda Harris Center in Lookout, commended the girls for the success of Acteens Activator programs. Acteen Activators is a program that sends girls to do mission action projects in a variety of locations.

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

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Our witness for—or against—Christ is on display

And the "unknowing" shall watch the "knowing" as they seek the "truth and meaning" of life. So too the "non-Christian" shall watch the "Christian" in order to find a reason for becoming what they are observing.

When Jesus walked this earth, non-believers watched him and judged him either worthy or not worthy of their loyalty, love and commitment. Questions asked out of fear, hate or prejudicial feelings were answered with love, the law and an understanding of the needs of the questioner.

Jesus no longer walks this earth for all to see. Christians walk in his place, attempting as best they can to show others what Christ would be like were

he here today. And even though we fail as a single person, we should not fail as a group. That is to say, with the exception of dying on a cross and miracles, the world should be able to see all of the traits of Christ in his church, be they ever so faint at times.

VIEWPOINT

It is not hard to feel that the "church" will explode with growth when non-believers see enough of the good traits to allow them to understand the "bad" and not allow the negatives to cloud their decision to accept Christ as their Lord.

But I have wondered about the damage being done by displays of arrogance, pride and self-interest that, during the best of times, would be hard for non-Christians to understand.

It seems to have gone far beyond "airing dirty laundry" to what a public relations person might call "posturing" in order to make one's position seem correct. Sensitivities that usually mark a Christian seem to have been set aside in favor of pin-point attacks.

Any reader could list a dozen or more current battles where those involved have shown little or no concern for anything more than their position and making sure it is understood as the "right position."

Mercy, I have no way of knowing what is "absolutely correct" other than the fact that Jesus died so I might live. And the book of Revelation can best be explained in two words, "God wins!"

Beyond that, I trust that my Lord

will understand that my mistakes, made out of love and compassion by my fellow soul-mates, were just that: mistakes, and mistakes made not out of a self-serving, self-centered "my way or not at all" mentality as seems to be growing within our ranks.

Would that we could return to the time of Christ when the real battle was spreading his word, feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, housing the homeless and putting it all on the line for him. Do that and watch his church grow.

Keep on the path we seem to have selected, and the outcome is known but to God. But my guess is he doesn't like it!

Gid S. Pool Jr.
Princeton

'No' to greed

Three cheers for C.R. Daley's commentary on the state of materialism and greed within our denomination (WR, April 7). He is right on target. There is no sacrifice, no self-denial in accepting \$120,000 salary, severance package or expense-paid trips to conventions.

If our "leaders" can't fulfill their "calling" on an annual income of \$45,000, drive their own cars and pay their own expenses to state and national conventions like the rest of us do, then let them step aside and give the rank-and-file members of our churches an opportunity to step forward and right the course for the Southern Baptist Convention and the Cooperative Program. In my opinion,

that course is missions; meeting people where they are, ministering to their needs, emptying ourselves for our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Our tithes were never, never designed to build an empire on this earth for any one person or group of people. We are rather to lay up for ourselves treasures in heaven, and we cannot accomplish any work for the Lord as long as we live like the greedy and materialistic world from which we are called to separate ourselves.

Ruthanne Cozine Boyles
Switzer

Liberals?

I am a freshman at Cumberland College. Upon my decision to attend

Cumberland, I was warned about the dangers of attending such a "liberal" and "modernistic" school. I have been here for nearly a full year now, and I have one question: Where are the liberals?

Have I met people who have differed on some viewpoints with me? Yes. Were their viewpoints so radical they merited being labeled "liberal"? No. Have I had professors who teach varying viewpoints on subjects, some of which may differ from what I have always believed, thus challenging me to think for myself and determine what I believe? Yes. Does this mean that these professors do not believe in the inspiration and authority of the Scriptures? Of course not. Have I met committed Christians who have dedicated their lives to serving Christ? Yes, I have.

If being liberal and modernistic means challenging young ministers to think, allowing them the freedom to determine what they believe, then I thank God for liberal professors. If being liberal means allowing a person the right to interpret God's word in light of the life and ministry of Jesus Christ, then I thank God for liberals.

Are there limits to what a person and/or church can believe to be called Southern Baptist? Yes. No doubt, some have and still do push or blatantly break these limits.

Are there enough Southern Baptists pushing and/or breaking these limits to warrant the "witch hunt" politicking being carried on in the convention in the name of doctrinal purity? I believe not.

Bryan S. Riley
Ashland

Triumphant faith

The governor delivered his first state of the commonwealth address earlier this year. His most memorable line, for me, was made in reference to the impoverished economy: "We may be

broke, but we are not broken." Immediately I thought of that wonderful passage of Paul's, written to the Corinthian Christians: "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in ev-

ery way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies" (II Corinthians 4:7-10).

Paul's faith (and ours as well) allowed him the freedom of trust that God can bring life out of death. Thus,

no matter what life's circumstances might bring, an active faith lives triumphantly in the midst of these circumstances, trusting in the "God of all comfort."

May such faith inform your life and mine as well.

Mark Hopper, pastor
First Baptist Church
Frankfort

MINISTERIALLY SPEAKING

Kentucky Baptist mountain man

Death comes to each of us in a moment known only to God. Often it is unexpected and without prior warning. It was so for Ross Figart on Friday afternoon, April 10.

The lobby of a bank was not the spot he would have picked for it to happen. I think he would have preferred a pew in one of the many mountain churches he helped start; his beloved Ruthe by his side.

Ross was the most recent of the men who have served Kentucky Baptists as "mountain missions director." The title has changed through the years but the role has been similar: "to lead in the work of missions in eastern Kentucky," an area which mostly lies east of Inter-

state 75. He and Ruthe invested 22 years in the work of mountain missions, the last 10 as an employee of the KBC Executive Board.

I first came to know Ross when I returned to Kentucky in 1983. Upon my request, he arranged a three-day "tour" of mission work in eastern Kentucky. Two years later, we would make another such journey together.

It was on the first journey in 1983 that a dream would be born; a dream that would soon be named "Mission Kentucky."

He took me up one hollow after another; scores of mobile homes and small houses clustered here and there—no Baptist church. In one

place, where poverty had clearly left its mark, he choked up as he described it, and cried. We cried together, and by a stream littered with refuse, we prayed that God would help Kentucky Baptists get a vision.

If "Mission Kentucky" has roots, they run up to that stream; to that place of poverty; to that huge heart of Ross Figart. And if there were room on his tombstone for all the contributions he has made, surely one would read like this: "His body lies here, but his heart and his life live on in the hundreds of churches which have been started by the vision which drove him."

I will miss him. We had planned to set up another mountain "tour" this fall, just before his retirement in December. The two of us had played a round of golf together, each fall for the past three years. If ever again I play Ginny Wiley, or Carter Caves, or General Burnside when the leaves are turning red and gold, I will remember

Ross.

One of the nicest evenings Alice and I have spent in Kentucky was with Ross and Ruthe at Ginny Wiley State Park for dinner, summer theater and breakfast next day. It was not surprising to hear Bob Jones, his close friend and staff colleague, say that after retirement Ross had planned to continue serving the "little churches" who needed him in eastern Kentucky.

Ross Figart was a "mountain man," big and strong of body; powerful of voice and bright of mind. But the biggest part of Ross Figart was his heart. And no one can take that away from us! For God has left it among us, in places scattered throughout the hills and hollows where live the people he loved so much.

We will miss you, mountain man!

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

ON MISSION TOGETHER



William W. Marshall

Life's bruises shouldn't detract from commitment

Most Southern Baptist pastors are doing little to encourage young people to enter the ministry. But considering what has happened to those pastors, who will blame them?

Few "quality pastors" are taking intentional steps to nurture young people toward a call to Christian ministry, according to a study conducted by researchers at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

"We saw pastors of large churches who were saying, 'We are reluctant to encourage anyone to enter the ministry in the circumstances in which we find ourselves,'" said researcher John Dever, a professor of church and community at the seminary in Louisville.

Those "circumstances" are less than ideal. Southern Baptists fire an average of 116 pastors each month, researchers at the convention's Sunday School Board discovered. That's 1,392 pastors per year.

The Southern Seminary study showed many firings come about because congregations hold unrealistic expectations for their pastors.

"We asked people 108 questions about what they considered important as defining quality for pastoral ministry, and they basically said all 108 are important," said seminary Provost Larry McSwain. "So, there is nothing unimportant, which is in a way quite unrealistic. Such high expectations for pastors help us understand why stresses are so high for pastors."

On top of that, laypeople expect different qualities and emphases from pastors than the pastors expect from themselves, the study showed.

"Laity want a more directive leadership style and a more aggressive evangelistic style," McSwain reported. "They tend to be a little higher in their expectations of commitment to conservative causes. They are also less likely to be concerned about social and community ministries."

Consequently, many church members expect pastors to be like successful business leaders—proficient in a vast array of skills—while also

remaining charming and affable in personal relationships.

The reality, of course, is that no one can be perfect in all 108 of the areas covered by the survey. And if Pastor Doe lacks a quality expected by a significant element of the church, then Pastor Doe and the flock are headed for conflict.

Small wonder, then, that many pastors fail to direct young people toward the ministry. If stress and conflict have robbed them of the joy of their calling—placing them in what McSwain calls a "besieged role"—they're not likely to invite youngsters to share their pain and frustration.

This Sunday, April 26, is Life Commitment Day on the Southern Baptist calendar. Now obviously, a person does not have to commit a lifetime to local-church ministry to be committed to the Lord. But the hesitancy of pastors to urge young people toward their calling illustrates a barrier to commitment. That is this: The scrapes and bruises we receive in the religious sector of our lives—fusses in our churches, wars in our denomination, simple disagreements with fellow Christians—focus our attention and energy on the everyday pain that is part of life.

Consequently, we forget that our foremost commitment is to Christ. Our consternation with the church erodes our commitment to Christ. The pain of human relationships distracts us from our healing relationship to the Lord.

Life Commitment Day should remind us—all of us, not just ministers or would-be ministers—that we commit our lives to Christ, not to the church, nor to other Christians. No matter how others may fail us or we may fail others, Christ is the One who calls us to commitment and nurtures us for the journey through life.

Marv Knox

Background information on Southern Seminary's survey was presented in a series of articles written by the school's news director, Pat Cole.

We commit our lives to Christ, not to the church, nor to other Christians.

You can help America's children get a healthy start

"For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; ... No more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress. No more shall there be in it infants that live but a few days" (Isaiah 65:17a, 19b, 20a).

Today, still, too many babies die. Each year in America, 40,000 babies die before their first birthday, a rate worse than that of 18 other nations. Four hundred thousand who survive will have lifelong disabilities.

Unlike in Isaiah's day, we know what to do. One in four of all U.S. infant deaths and disabilities is fully preventable. Yet nearly 25 percent of all

U.S. infants are born to mothers who do not receive adequate health care.

Why do America's pregnant women, infants and children fail to get the preventive health care they desperately need?

More than 30 million Americans live in communities where they have little access to basic health care. Between 9 million and 11 million children and 10.6 million women of childbearing age do not have any health insurance, and millions are underinsured.

We must make certain that all Americans have health insurance. We

must guarantee that all mothers can get early, regular prenatal care and that children can get the health care they need.

Here's what you can do:

■ Learn more. Invite speakers to educate your congregation about the unmet health-care needs of children in your area. Use resources available from Southern Baptists, the National Council of Churches Child Health Project and the Children's Defense Fund.

■ Reach out. Use your car or the church van to transport parents and children to health appointments. Do-

nate church space for immunization clinics or a prenatal care class. Support a health clinic financially and with volunteers.

■ Speak out. Write and call legislators and candidates and ask them how they will ensure that every child has a healthy start. Speak out for children at candidate forums. Write a letter to the editor. Write to the Children's Defense Fund for free materials to help you ensure that we leave no child behind in this election year.

Marian Wright Edelman
Children's Defense Fund
Washington

Every year, 40,000 U.S. babies die before their first birthday.

If I were a caveman, our family probably would be vegetarians

Our family is lucky we're not cavepeople.

You know how it used to be: A Neanderthal dad was a real man. Thick of forehead and strong of back, he always brought home the bacon, or the brontosaurus, at least. He was a hunter and a fisherman, skilled at catching the evening meal every afternoon. Fresh yak went from hillside to fire to belly in no time. No leftovers; only the catch of the day and roots and berries.

Those were the bad old days. Before microwaves. Even before Dairy Queens. Back then, "fast food" hadn't been fast enough. But if daddy didn't kill it or catch it, nobody ate.

Our little clan thanks God for grocery stores. We'd starve if dinner depended on my prowess with hook and spear.

One Saturday not long ago, I canoed down a crystal-clear river with my good friend and fishing mentor, Brent Adams. He caught five pretty fish.

Two bass, a couple of sun perch and a croppy. I caught a tiny bass, sort of. It wasn't much bigger than my bait, and it jumped off the hook before we got it into the boat. Brent, the diplomat, said I saved its life by not putting my human-smelly hands on its little scales.

Now, if I were looking for excuses for

my poor showing, I'd blame Brent. He kept insisting I try some of his lures. "Here, Marv, put this on; I think it'll draw 'em in," he'd say.

On serious reflection, I think Brent gave me "splashers" that chased fish over to his hook.

Who knows? Maybe TV fisherman Bill Dance could arbitrate.

But to tell you the truth, my rotten luck probably wasn't Brent's fault. My last six fishing expeditions have produced only

one catch, and she/he (I haven't figured out how to tell the difference) wasn't exactly a

keeper.

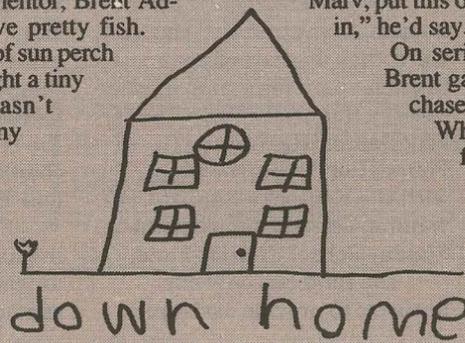
Lord knows, I've tried. Bought the expert-prescribed color of baits. Bought the babies in the same spot as the other guys. The only thing I've caught was a sunburn.

My fishing exploits are a lot like life: You get good advice, do the best you can and take what comes along. You don't have to be good at it to have fun. Sometimes, you catch a whopper; sometimes, a glob of moss.

But at least the journey—like our trip down that scenic river—is full of twists and turns, and awfully interesting, on top of everything else.

I'm just glad our wives went out and bought steaks while Brent and I were on the river.

Marv Knox



MISSIONS

Innoculations delivered to Central Asia

CENTRAL ASIA, Commonwealth of Independent States (BP)—After five days of delay in Moscow, inoculations for 50,000 children arrived in two Central Asian capitals.

A volunteer medical team led by John Anderson, a physician from Dal-

las, carried the inoculations into the former Soviet Union. Purchased by the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board and Texas Baptist Men, the DPT, tuberculosis, oral polio and measles inoculations

cost an estimated \$36,000.

The inoculations were part of the first phase of Project Brotherhood, a North American Baptist response to food and medical needs in the CIS. Initiated by the Baptist World Alliance, the cooperative response is being coordinated by the Brotherhood Commission.

"Our plan was for the medical volunteers to do mass inoculations," said Jim Furgerson, Brotherhood Commission adult division director. But instead of allowing volunteers to perform the inoculations, health officials distributed the inoculations to neighborhood clinics where staff nurses gave the inoculations.

"We encountered some cross-cultural confusion," Furgerson said. "Mass inoculations to us meant thousands of children a day receiving shots at a central location. To them, it means 40-60 children a day in four or five clinics."

Meanwhile, an 18-member Korean Southern Baptist evangelism team from six states discovered multiple opportunities for ministry in Central Asia.

More than 450 decisions for Christ were registered in nine meetings by the team during their 10-day visit, said Tommy Sohn, pastor of the First Korean Baptist Church in Dallas.

The team came to Central Asia at the request of D.K. Moon, pastor of a Korean Baptist church. Founded Feb. 28, 1991, it has a baptized membership of 188 with attendance between 300 and 350.

There are an estimated 400,000 Korean-Russians in concentrated areas of Central Asia, Moon said. Former Soviet General Secretary Joseph Stalin forced thousands of Korean ethnics from the Far East in 1937 to Central Asia.



TEARFUL WORSHIP A woman weeps during prayer at a former underground Baptist church in Central Asia. (BP photo)

Missionary battles cancer

Continued from page 1

In March 1991, doctors in Korea removed a cancerous tumor from her breast and recommended she return to the United States for treatment.

Along with their two daughters, Heather, 13, and Kristin, 5, the Loyds headed for America, expecting to return to Korea in six to eight months.

Because of a family history with breast disease, Lloyd chose to have a double mastectomy at St. Louis Medical Center as a preventive measure.

Six months of chemotherapy followed as further insurance, and blood tests and bone scans produced good reports.

Then shortly before Christmas last year, Lloyd started having hip pains. They became so severe she had trouble getting out of bed and standing during the benediction at First Baptist Church in Henderson.

The couple resigned as missionaries Jan. 1 with assurance from the Foreign Mission Board that future reappointment would not be a problem.

But in February, tests revealed the cancer had spread to Lloyd's bones. "It was everywhere from the femur to the skull," she said. "And it must have done that in two months."

The rapid advance of the cancer shocked doctors, who told Lloyd she probably had six months to two years to live.

Her hopes for a longer life now hinge on prayer and a dangerous medical procedure.

On April 23, she will enter the hospital for a four- to six-week stint during which doctors will "harvest" immature cells of bone marrow and freeze them. Then she will be subjected to higher doses of chemotherapy to suppress "just about anything that's growing," she explained.

Then the immature cells will be returned to her body and doctors will try to get healthy cells growing.

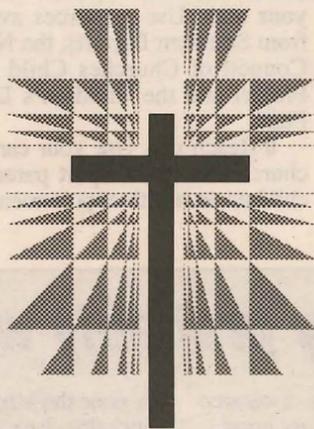
"If the procedure works, it usually gives you two to five years," Lloyd said, and patients who survive more than five years are considered cured.

For now, Lloyd said, she must try to cope and deal with the immediate.

She began to cry as she told of wondering if her children would remember her if she died now. She already has put aside "special things in special boxes" for her daughters.

In the midst of the pain and love, Lloyd expressed a confidence. "In some way, God is using this. The world says this is bad, but I truly believe God can make it good. That doesn't mean I will survive it ... but God can use it for good.

"You just have to have the security that nothing touches your life that hasn't first touched Jesus," Lloyd said. "Even though he hasn't caused this to happen, you know he is aware of it ... He can use it. And that gives you a lot of peace of mind."



Medical emergencies can happen in any family. And when they do, they often create financial hardships and, in some cases, a financial crisis. That's why Baptist Healthcare Foundation, in partnership with the Kentucky Baptist Convention, actively supports the Sunday School Charity Fund.

The fund has only one purpose: to provide assistance

Sunday School Charity... with your help it works year-round

to individuals facing a financial crisis because of medical expenses. The requests for financial assistance are received by Baptist pastors throughout the state as well as the chaplains serving within the four Baptist hospitals.

Providing a financial helping hand to these individuals is an ambitious goal. But one we can achieve with your help.

This Mother's Day, May 10, please support the Sunday School Charity Fund at your Baptist church.

For more information on the fund, contact Baptist Healthcare Foundation at 502-896-5003. Churches that would like a supply of envelopes for this special Sunday School Charity offering should also contact the Foundation.

BAPTIST HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION

4007 Kresge Way Louisville, Kentucky 40207

First Kentuckian arrives

Michael Sloane of Mallie is the first Kentuckian to arrive in the Commonwealth of Independent States to assist in Project Brotherhood, a massive food and medical distribution effort coordinated by the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission.

"We are thrilled to be represented by Michael Sloane in Project Brotherhood," said Bob Simpkins, state Brotherhood director. "Our network of prayer warriors, known as PRAYERS, have been activated in support of this tremendous and timely effort."

Randall Rogers of Greensburg is coordinating the statewide prayer chain for Project Brotherhood. Sloane, a member of Hindman Baptist Church and owner of the Pic-Pac Supermarket in Mallie, will work alongside other Southern Baptist volunteers to distribute food to Russian families.

Romanian pastor wants professors to sign statement

BUCHAREST, Romania (BP)—A proposal to require teachers to accept the Chicago Statement on Biblical Inerrancy or be fired has been rejected by the president and a majority of the faculty of the Baptist Theological Institute in Bucharest, Romania.

The proposal, presented by Romanian pastor Josef Ton, asked the Romanian Baptist Union's general council to require professors teaching at both the Bucharest institute and the Baptist Bible Institute in Oradea to agree with the inerrancy statement or be fired.

Ton heads the Oradea school, which is owned and operated by Second Baptist Church in Oradea, where he is pastor. He teaches at both schools and is chairman of the union's committee on education. The Bucharest school is operated by the Romanian Baptist Union, but the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board owns the property.

Ton asked Vasile Talpos, president of the Baptist Theological Institute in Bucharest, to join him in signing the proposal.

But Talpos has refused to sign it. He and most of the seven faculty members at the Bucharest school have rejected Ton's proposal in principle.

Talpos said he does not intend to back Ton's proposal because he and others who teach at the school believe the Romanian Baptist confession of faith is adequate.

Religious freedom bills introduced

WASHINGTON (ABP)—A resolution introduced in both chambers of Congress would designate Jan. 16, 1993, as "Religious Freedom Day."

At a March 31 press conference, Rep. Thomas Bliley, R-Va., said he introduced the resolution for two reasons: "The purpose of this resolution is not only to celebrate every American's religious freedom as established in the Bill of Rights, but also to recognize the document that served as the precursor to, and the greatest influence on, the Bill of Rights—the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom."

On Jan. 16, 1786, the Virginia General Assembly adopted the statute written by Thomas Jefferson.

Sen. John Warner, R-Va., introduced a resolution similar to Bliley's in the Senate on the same day (S.J. Res. 283).

Resolutions express the sentiment of a congressional chamber but do not have the power of law.

Senate lifts ban on fetal-tissue research

WASHINGTON (ABP)—The U.S. Senate approved a bill April 2 that would lift a ban on federally funded research using fetal tissue from induced abortions.

The four-year-old ban has been supported by the Reagan and Bush administrations because officials say the research would encourage abortions. However, ban opponents say the moratorium has stopped promising research on the treatment of Parkinson's disease, juvenile diabetes, Alzheimer's disease and other genetic disorders.

The Senate approved the bill (H.R. 2507) by a 87-10 vote. The U.S. House of Representatives approved a

similar measure 274-144 in July. President Bush has promised to veto any measure that reduces abortion protections; he has yet to have one of his 27 vetoes overridden.

During debate, some senators who oppose abortion said fetal-tissue research is not an abortion issue.

Sen. Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., said: "I have been and continue to be a supporter of efforts to limit abortion in this country. ... This is not a debate about abortion. This is a debate about allowing federally sponsored research that will serve humanity and may save thousands of lives."

Sen. Mark Hatfield, R-Ore., said he stood before the Senate "unabash-

edly pro-life" but firmly in favor of lifting the ban. After talking with medical researchers, Hatfield concluded fetal-tissue transplants hold the promise of saving lives and such research will not promote abortion.

"I believe every member should pose the question: Should we allow this tissue to be discarded rather than seize the opportunity to support life and provide hope for the millions of people who suffer from Alzheimer's disease, diabetes, Parkinson's disease, and other genetic disorders?" Hatfield said.

"I believe the truly pro-life position on this issue is that of supporting fetal-tissue research," he added.

'Will to live' offers alternative to living wills

WASHINGTON (BP)—An alternative to living will documents that would prevent involuntary euthanasia has been produced by the country's largest right-to-life group.

The "Will to Live," introduced recently by the National Right to Life Committee, is a legal document enabling a person to give written instructions about what medical and lifesaving treatment should be used if the person becomes incompetent. It also

allows a person to name someone as a health-care agent.

The Will to Live differs from most living wills by allowing a person to make clear he or she wants food and water when near death or when terminally ill. Under most living wills, food and water can be treated as medical care rather than basic necessities.

The Will to Live also specifies the person desires life-saving treatment except in designated circumstances.

The Will to Live is needed because a living will "operates under the assumption that people would rather be dead than disabled, old or infirm," said Burke Balch, NRLC's state legislative director.

There are different forms for each state. For a free copy, send a self-addressed, stamped, 9 1/2-inch envelope to Will to Live Project, Suite 500, 419 Seventh St. NW, Washington, DC 20004.

Governor says abortion hurts Democrats

NOTRE DAME, Ind. (EP)—The Democratic Party could lose the best chance it has had in a generation to capture the White House because it's out of touch with mainstream America on abortion, a Democratic governor said. Gov. Robert Casey of Pennsylvania, speaking at Notre Dame University, said his party has alienated millions of traditional Democrats by requiring their candidates to support abortion on demand.

A Mother's Day Reminder

From

Helpers in Ministries

Helpers in Ministries has helped over 1,000 children with new shoes, coats and other life necessities.

Kids Appalachian Mission Project (KAMP)

KAMP is a year-round program of HIM. Located throughout the mountains are thousands of hurting children. HIM is interested in helping these children with coats, shoes, socks and other life necessities. Our organization has found countless situations where children did not have adequate clothing for school. A new coat and a new pair of shoes means a lot to a kid. HIM gives only new clothing articles.

Future Leaders of America (FLA)

FLA is our elementary and junior high school program. In this program HIM visits children in the schools and conducts a one-hour program. Children are encouraged to:

- Graduate from high school.
- Set goals for their future.
- Aim for college or similar education.
- Stay off drugs and alcohol.
- Be involved in a physical fitness program.
- Make God their source of direction and guidance in all they do in life.

Graduate Assistance Program (GAP)

GAP is an attempt of HIM to help college-bound students with textbooks and supplies. This is a costly part of education that most scholarships do not cover. Graduating seniors fill out an application and write a 300-word or less essay stating their need for assistance. A committee from HIM's advisory board selects those they feel are in the most need and deserving of assistance.

Make a contribution to help a needy child in honor or memory of your mother. HIM will notify your loved one of your tax-deductible gift. Mail your contribution today to: Helpers in Ministries, P.O. Box 1511, Pikeville, Ky. 41502

Attorney helps church take stand on issue before court

Winter wrote that the Bible provides the "fundamental underpinning for morality, correct behavior and rules of decision in Kentucky and Western civilization."

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

FORT WRIGHT—A Kentucky Baptist congregation took their concern about the state's sodomy law a step beyond signing a petition and ultimately contributed to the attorney general's case presented April 2.

Bob Winter, an attorney and member of Hickory Grove Baptist Church in Independence, acted on behalf of his church to contact an assistant attorney general charged with defending the sodomy law in Commonwealth of Kentucky vs. Wasson.

Winter said members of his church initially wanted to solicit signatures for a petition about the case. Howev-

er, after he explained at a church business meeting that petitions to the Supreme Court were not effective, the church asked him to do something that would be effective.

So Winter took a day of vacation from his law firm, traveled to Frankfort and researched the case with the intent of filing a friend-of-the-court brief on behalf of the church.

He discovered most of the things a legal brief would cover already had been said in the case, so he went back to the church and recommended writing a letter to the attorney general about the case.

The church agreed, and the letter apparently was well-received by the attorney general's office.

"The attorney general I guess liked it, because he put (part of it) in his brief," Winter said.

Among Winter's assertions was a statement that the Bible provides the "fundamental underpinning for morality, correct behavior and rules of decision in Kentucky and Western civilization."

In an interview, Winter said, "The Bible speaks very clearly about sodomy."

He said members of his church believe "the state has a compelling interest to regulate the morals of our society. Our body of believers feels that the state constitution does not prohibit the general assembly from prohibiting this type of offensive conduct."

Speaking out on such cases in an informed manner is "a good way to make a witness for our community," Winter said.

However, he cautioned churches must be careful about what kinds of legal issues they get involved in. Filing an opinion on a court case is one thing, he said, but becoming politically active is another.

For example, churches that endorse political candidates jeopardize their tax-exempt status.

Details on what churches may not do are available from the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission at (202) 638-3223 or the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs at (202) 544-4226.

Thanks to the Lord For 2,287 Kentucky Baptist Churches who baptized 16,970 believers in 1990-91

We also rejoice with the 103 churches who reported the most baptisms (according to the Uniform Church Letter) as listed below:

Church	Association	Baptisms
Mill Creek	Severns Valley	139
Mt Zion	West Union	132
Highview	Long Run	124
Oneida	Booneville	101
Porter Memorial	Elkhorn	89
Camp Pleasant	Franklin	89
Glendale	Warren	88
Rose Hill Missionary	Greenup	73
Richmond First	Tates Creek	71
Vine Grove	Severns Valley	69
Hopkinsville Second	Christian	68
Central	Mount Zion	68
Severns Valley	Severns Valley	67
Valley View	Long Run	65
Ninth and O	Long Run	63
Binghamtown	Bell	62
Parrish Avenue	Daviess-McLean	62
Countryside	Ohio Valley	62
Providence	Simpson	59
Pleasant Memorial	Daviess-McLean	58
Immanuel Lexington	Elkhorn	58
Belfry First	Pike	57
Zion	Green Valley	55
New Hope Missionary	Severns Valley	55
Shively	Long Run	54
Living Hope	Warren	53
Owensboro First	Daviess-McLean	52
Corinth	Laurel River	52
Edgewood	Christian	50
Macedonia	Daviess-McLean	50
Emmanuel Mayfield	Graves County	50
Stithton	Severns Valley	50
Bethlehem	Long Run	48
Greenville Second	Muhlenberg	47
Henderson First	Green Valley	46
Fairview	Greenup	45
Pleasant View	Lincoln	45
Sinking Valley	North Concord	45
Horse Creek	Booneville	44
Yellow Creek	Daviess-McLean	44
Florence	Northern Kentucky	44
Lawrenceburg First	Anderson	43
Central	Boones Creek	43
Bowling Green First	Warren	43
Lone Oak First	West Union	43
DeHaven Memorial	Sulphur Fork	42
Kelly Street	Upper Cumberland	42
Eastern Gate	Long Run	41
Watson Lane	Green Valley	40
Lynn Acres	Long Run	40
Paducah First	West Union	40
Buck Run	Franklin	39
Erlanger	Northern Kentucky	39
Somerset First	Pulaski County	39
Walnut Street	Long Run	38
Ormsby Heights	Long Run	38
Poplar Spring	Blood River	37
Farmdale	Long Run	36
Pikeville First	Pike	36
Franklin Crossroads	Severns Valley	36
Immanuel Monticello	Wayne	36
Pollard	Greenup	35
Lewisport	Blackford	34
Fairdale First	Long Run	34
Central City First	Muhlenberg	34
Big Bone	Northern Kentucky	34
Liberty	East Lynn	33
Pleasant Home	Enterprise	33
North Frankfort	Franklin	33
Tatesbrook	Elkhorn	33
Springdale	Long Run	33
New Hope	Muhlenberg	33
Hickory Grove	Northern Kentucky	33
Whitesburg First	Three Forks	33
Murray First	Blood River	32
Russellville First	Bethel	32
Pleasant Grove	Daviess-McLean	32
Trace Creek	Graves County	32
Westport Road	Long Run	32
East Dayton	Northern Kentucky	32
Bethlehem	Bell	31
Paris First	Elkhorn	31
Mayfield First	Graves County	31
Louisa First	Greenup	31
Liberty	Little Bethel	31
Kento Boo	Northern Kentucky	31
Crestwood	Sulphur Fork	31
Lancaster	South District	31
First Korean	Severns Valley	31
Greenwood	Warren	31
Sandusky Chapel	Wayne	31
Lacenter	West Union	31
Memorial	Franklin	30
McDowell First	Enterprise	30
Calvary Hill	Lincoln	30
Immanuel Glasgow	Liberty	30
Bellview	West Union	30
Trinity Lexington	Elkhorn	29
Crestwood	Franklin	29
Garrett	Enterprise	29
Cloverleaf	Long Run	29
Carlisle Avenue	Long Run	29
Cynthiana	Union	29

Office of Evangelism • Kentucky Baptist Convention • Bill Jagers, Director

Cumberland business club helps others

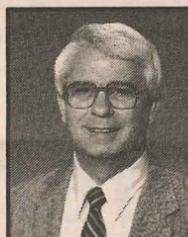
WILLIAMSBURG—Members of Cumberland College's Phi Beta Lambda chapter have been laying aside their calculators to perform acts of community service.

Most recently, the group has been visiting the Pentecostal Home for Children in Barbourville, a shelter for 29 children ages 5 to 17, whose parents are deceased or have been put in temporary custody of the state.

They provide academic assistance, such as recording readings on cassette tapes for dyslexic children and performing puppet shows with educational messages. Children from the home visited on Cumberland's campus during a recent "Weekend of Champions" hosted by the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

The business students also have done visitation in local nursing homes and collected and distributed 150 winter coats for people who cannot afford coats.

Andy's Coming Growth Conference



May 12
9 a.m.-3 p.m.
First Baptist
Princeton

Brian's car wash

There it was on the office bulletin board in big bold letters. "Brian's Car Wash! \$2 per car. Open seven days a week." I smiled at the thoughts that came flooding to me as I read Brian's advertisement. "I clean it on the inside, I vacuum, and I make it smell great," the flyer said.

That's what God does for us. God cleans us on the inside and vacuums out all of the dirt gathered in the dusty corners we never get around to. And when we give our lives to God, people see the change. Like a newly washed and waxed car, sparkling in the sunshine, we have a new view on life.

Through so many hands at Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, these children who have been hurt are beginning to see the joy of living again. At first it's in little ways, but then this infectious joy spreads and bubbles over.

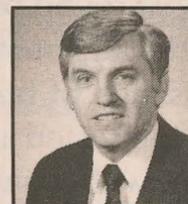
Not long ago a group of youth went with their teaching parents to a contemporary Christian concert that had that kind of impact. The opening act at the show gave the girls an autographed poster now hanging on the walls of the cottage.

Through another friend of KBHC, Bradley Cottage at Spring Meadows now has a piano. Three girls are taking piano lessons. Another volunteer has offered to teach typing skills at one of our cottages.

Through so many caring people across the state, our children are beginning to believe in the goodness of life. And as people give, the children here at Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children are touched by love.

When we reach out to these who have yet to find peace in their lives, we give them the gift of feeling loved. As each child begins to feel loved, they break free from the abuse and neglect that has haunted their life and begin to take pride in themselves and offer something of themselves to the world. Sometimes that means washing cars and cleaning them on the inside. Other times it may mean a decision with eternal significance. There is no greater gift we can give.

HOMES FOR CHILDREN



Curtis C. Mooney

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

Paid Column

GOVERNMENT

Legislators tackled some issues & avoided others

Continued from page 1

"They did a very fine job in recognizing the total effects of alcohol in our society," Witt said. However, the legislature's attitude toward gambling was not so good, he added.

"I was not happy that they formed a task force to investigate riverboat gambling," Witt explained. "That's going to be an issue in the next legislative session."

Overall, Witt said, the legislature took steps to make it easier for people to gamble.

Voters will face a significant decision about gambling when they go to the polls Nov. 3. The General Assembly approved a constitutional amendment to legalize charitable bingo and other games of chance administered by charitable organizations. The amendment must be approved by voters to become effective.

The question on the ballot will read: "Are you in favor of allowing

the General Assembly to permit the conduct of charitable lotteries and charitable gift enterprises by charitable organizations provided the General Assembly passes statutes to assure the proper functioning, honesty and integrity of charitable lotteries and the organizations which conduct them?"

The legislature has put voters in a "very bad situation," Witt said, because the proposed amendment would regulate everything from little league raffles to bingo games at Catholic churches.

Further, the amendment grants the legislature authority to enact laws regulating charitable gaming, he noted, and "that scares me to death."

Other legislation passed includes:

■ House Bill 159, which says that liquor licenses do not have to be granted to applicants just because they are available if an area already is being served by one license and the population has not increased.

■ House Bill 902, which regulates solicitation of some charitable donations. This bill passed only after it was gutted of provisions many church leaders said would hinder donations to legitimate causes.

■ Senate Bill 193, which assures that public school teachers may read or post excerpts of historic texts that include religious references. The measure was an amendment attached to an unrelated bill in an attempt to circumvent a 1980 ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court. That ruling struck down a Kentucky law requiring copies of the Ten Commandments to be posted in classrooms.

■ Senate Bill 80 and House Bills 256, 115 and 445, on domestic violence. This package of legislation makes it easier for law enforcement officers to apprehend perpetrators of domestic violence and for judges to consider their past records when giving sentences, classifies stalking as a

crime and expands domestic violence coverage to unmarried couples.

■ Senate Bill 66, which allows organizations like the Kentucky Baptist Foundation to offer charitable gift annuities without being subject to the state insurance code.

■ Senate Bill 116, which makes possession of child pornography a misdemeanor on first offense and felony on second offense.

Items lawmakers did not act on include:

■ Three abortion bills, which were passed by the House but languished in a Senate committee, despite unusual attempts by some senators to get them brought to the floor for a vote.

■ Senate Bill 29, which would have prohibited people under 21 from going into bars.

■ House Bill 753, which would have opened the door to precinct elections on liquor by the drink.

■ House Bill 175, which would have allowed wet-dry votes on primary election days, where they could become more political issues.

■ House Bill 67, which would have allowed cities to ban nude dancing.

■ House Bill 550, which would have outlawed assisted suicide.

President proclaims May 7 day of prayer

WASHINGTON (ABP)—President George Bush has proclaimed May 7, 1992, a national day of prayer, urging all Americans to pray in thanksgiving and for God's continued blessing.

In his presidential proclamation, Bush wrote, "As we seek to chart a proper course in a world that is changing by the hour, our observance of a National Day of Prayer reminds us that we can always place our trust in the steady, unfailing light that is the love of God."

Such an observance has been an annual tradition since April 17, 1952, when Congress approved a joint resolution calling for the designation of a specific day of prayer. The first Thursday in May each year has been set aside for that purpose.

C is for *Campus* and for *Community*—the place where you live, study, work and minister.

B is for *Baptist* and for *Believer*—a believer in Christ and His commandment to preach the gospel to everyone.

Y is for *Young*—a young woman who wants fellowship, personal growth and a chance to live out her commitment to missions.

W is for *Women* and for the *World*—women who are changing the world through doing, supporting and learning about missions.

Campus Baptist Young Women is a group of women students who are interested in missions and want to make a difference in their world. If you are interested in starting a CBYW organization in your area, contact Kentucky WMU, P.O. Box 43433, Louisville, Ky. 40253-0433.



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Campbellsville College will field its first marching band in the fall of 1992.

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For more information:
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of bands, (502) 789-5058

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1-800-264-6014

or write

Dr. David McCullough
Campbellsville College
Box 1281
200 West College Street
Campbellsville, KY 42718-2799

KENTUCKY KERNELS

Kentucky ranks slightly below the national Southern Baptist Convention average in per capita giving through the state's churches. In 1990, the latest year for which comparative data is available, total gifts to SBC churches averaged \$303.62 per resident member. The Kentucky average was \$239.32 per resident member. New York had the highest per capita giving at \$432.72, and the territory of Puerto Rico had the lowest at \$197.24.

Source: Southern Baptist Handbook 1991

Mountains to the Mississippi

■ **BREMEN**—James Vincent is interim pastor at Pleasant Hill Church.
 ■ **COVINGTON**—Madison Avenue Church called Richard Rand as pastor. He previously served the church as interim.
 ■ **FLORENCE**—Kento-Boo Church ordained Charles Perkins as a deacon.
 ■ **FRANKFORT**—Thornhill Church called Joseph Silva as minister of youth. He is from Arkansas and is a student at Southern Seminary.
 ■ **FT. MITCHELL**—Ft. Mitchell Church called Harry Rowland as

pastor. He previously served as associate at Woodmont Church in Nashville, Tenn.
 ■ **LODIBURG**—Randall Brown is serving Walnut Grove Church as pastor.
 ■ **LOUISVILLE**—Tim Waits, who served Buck Creek Church in Calhoun, is pastor at New Salem Church. Scott Guffin resigned as minister of youth at New Salem Church to serve Second Church in Bessemer, Ala., as pastor.
 Deer Park Church called Shawn Stookey as minister to youth.

■ **MORNING VIEW**—Richard DeBell has been pastor at Piner Church for 10 years.
 ■ **OWENSBORO**—Seven Hills Church called Randy Mitchell as minister of music and youth. He previously served First Church, Lebanon Junction.
 ■ **PENROD**—Bill Lynch is interim pastor at Penrod Church.
 ■ **PETERSBURG**—James England is serving Petersburg Church as pastor.
CORRECTION: Bob Milburn resigned from First Church, Lewisport, rather than Lewisport Church as stated in the April 7 issue of the Recorder.

Schools on honor rolls

Cumberland College and Georgetown College have been named to the John Templeton Honor Roll for Free Enterprise Teaching. Also, Cumberland was named to the John Templeton Honor Roll for Character Building Colleges, and Georgetown received an honorable mention. Named for an investment adviser and philanthropist, the honor rolls encourage the instilling of moral values and sound economic philosophies in education.



OLDEST MEMBER Pastor Leslie Baker presents a plaque and a dozen red roses to Katie Ethridge on her 102nd birthday, honoring her as the oldest member of New Bethel Baptist Church near Princeton. New Bethel is the oldest church in Caldwell-Lyon Baptist Association.

Fellowship Center makes impact through contacts

By Melanie Childers
Staff Writer

LOUISVILLE—The Baptist Fellowship Center is making a greater impact by keeping in contact. While providing clothing, food and financial assistance to struggling families in the Parkland community, the staff of the Baptist Fellowship Center discovered a need for additional care. "We are allowed to provide one-time financial care for families in a year," explained Guy McCaslin, family crisis minister at the center. "But we wanted to do more for them. So we are organizing a home visitation program." Through visitation, volunteers will extend the ministry of the center and

demonstrate the love of Christ, McCaslin said. McCaslin said this type of visitation would be a welcome change from the visit many of the center's beneficiaries are accustomed to. "Many struggling families are used to investigative visits from people who are checking up on them," he said. "Few helping agencies do home visits just to say 'we care.'" Established in 1914 as a joint effort of the Southern Baptist Convention and the National Baptist Convention, the Baptist Fellowship Center addresses physical, spiritual, emotional, social and educational needs of people through a variety of ministry programs. This new program is dependent on volunteers from Baptist churches in

the Parkland community who will represent both the Fellowship Center and their respective churches, McCaslin said. Since 97 percent of those who receive financial assistance from the center are not active in any church, McCaslin believes this to be an excellent outreach opportunity. So far, eight volunteers have completed the four-hour training session and are ready to be sent out in teams. Training involves an extensive orientation to all the ministries of the center, to other community resources and to an understanding of the typical person who comes to the center. Also, Dartanya Hill, pastor of West End Baptist Church and a certified counselor, introduces volunteers to evangelism in the home.

Playing and singing for the Lord

Friday, April 10, I left with our marching band at 7 a.m. for a two-day trip to the annual Dogwood Festival in Knoxville. It was my first overnight trip with our band in three years. Our Greyhound luggage bins were piled high with luggage, bedding and band instruments. Our new uniforms were in new garment bags. At 11 a.m. we ate our lunches prepared in our OBI kitchen early that morning by our faithful cooks. The girls changed into their uniforms aboard our bus. Then it was the boys' turn. The new uniforms are very striking. White shoes, blue trousers to their chests. Their new coats are blue and white diagonally with the zipper hidden down the side under the arms. A large gold Crusader's Cross is on the white background covering their chests. There is also gold braid and the school's name and a white visored hat. They look sharp. They sounded so sharp in their concert numbers that they received a plaque with the rating of "excellent." We have never done better in a competition.

We then went to the Chilhowee Baptist school campus 13 miles away where we were to stay the night. Then we headed for the Smokey Mountains and beautiful Cade's Cove, its cabins, churches, mills and cemeteries preserved as they looked 150 years ago. We saw miles of beautiful fields with great herds of deer, grazing cattle, groundhogs, and stopped where other OBI groups have paused in previous years in a 165-year-old Baptist church. As in other years we sang "Amazing Grace" and walked through the old cemetery with graves that include Revolutionary War veterans.

We surprised our students by taking them to

Gatlinburg, where we ate and saw the sights for three hours. By 11:30 p.m. all were back at Chilhowee and in bed. Everyone was up at 7 a.m. to shower, get into uniform, two marches around the Chilhowee campus with flags flying, all instruments playing, then boarded the bus for Knoxville, a hearty breakfast, and stepped off at 11 a.m. for the parade. We were near the head of the march this year. Some of our alumni were along the street to cheer us on.

ONEIDA JOURNAL



Barkley Moore

On arrival back at Oneida, we found our softball team in a hard-fought game and the baseball team had already played three games. Also, our junior varsity softball team had won a game. Our boys' and girls' track and field teams had been away in competition with a number of schools at Clay County High. Part of our academic team was away in New York seeing the United Nations at work. Sunday at 7 a.m. I was off with our choir to Versailles to sing in the morning service of the Glens Creek Baptist Church. While our group ate, I met and interviewed a young man and his mother, and he enrolled at Oneida on Monday. We then took our choir to see the state capitol and governor's mansion and to see the Kentucky Vietnam Memorial where we saw the names of several OBI boys who gave their lives. At 4 p.m. we arrived at a funeral home in Lexington to sing at the lying in state of Ross Figart, who had died on Friday. We sang his favorite hymn, "When I Survey The Wondrous Cross," and led those assembled in "Amazing Grace." Barkley Moore is president of Oneida Baptist Institute, Oneida, Ky. 40972

Paid Column

Welcome back, Raymond Lawrence

On March 1, Kentuckian Raymond Lawrence moved back to Corbin. Since 1987 he has been director of the Kelley University College of Southwest Baptist University, Joplin, Mo. We're glad to have him as assistant to the president at Clear Creek. He is very familiar with Christian education with 20 years of service in three Baptist colleges. As president of Mid-Continent, he led the school to achieve full accreditation, directed a successful capital needs program, expanded the library, and left the school debt-free on a new campus. He formerly served five Kentucky churches as pastor: Central, Corbin; First, Shelbyville; First, Mt. Vernon; Crittenden; Oak Island; Morning View. I'm sure many Kentucky Baptists will call on him for supply, revivals and Bible conferences. Among his responsibilities, Lawrence will direct the securing of funds to build a new housing village to replace the deteriorating Courts, which are not suitable for remodeling. Plans have been drawn for six duplexes, each containing two one-bedroom apartments. Thanks to friends in Tennessee we have \$53,000 on hand to get these apartments under roof.

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Raymond Lawrence

With volunteer construction labor, we will be able to complete the interior for \$9,500 per apartment. Logging crews continue to work on the campus and have cut hemlock to build these apartments. By the summer, sufficient timber will be ready for construction. II Kings 4:10 tells of a family building a room for a prophet. Friends of Clear Creek are making possible these apartments for preachers whom the Lord calls and sends our way. Two of the duplexes have been named in honor of families who believe in our work. I would be glad to share more about this opportunity with others who wish to invest in the future of ministry training. We are anticipating a full summer of volunteer work crews to remodel existing student housing. Some weeks, so many will be on campus they will sleep on the floor in the Family Life Center. The first team came March 30 from Campbellsville. Rain and snow did not stop their work. We're grateful for these volunteers who make possible the improvements of our campus. Bill Whittaker is president of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, Pineville, Ky. 40977

Paid Column

In Nevada, new churches meet wherever they can

By Terri Lackey
SBC Sunday School Board

MINDEN, Nev. (BP)—Pastor Bob Anderson slides open the closet doors in the master bathroom of his ranch home and points out the storage area for the nursery equipment.

That is the most appropriate place to store it, he says, since the preschoolers of Sierra View Baptist Church meet in his master bathroom.

Every square inch of space in Anderson's Minden, Nev., home doubles as a church facility. Even the church van and a huge, yellow-orange school bus parked beside the house are used as classrooms.

The adults meet in Anderson's office and outside on an upstairs balcony when the weather is right. Third- and fourth-graders meet in the one guest bedroom; fifth- and sixth-graders meet in the master bedroom; and youth meet in the van and bus.

"In the winter, we have to get out there and warm the vans up two-and-a-half hours before church just so they'll be warm enough for the kids to meet," Anderson declares.

A pastor's class meets in a tiny utility room at the back of the house—next to the washer, dryer and the dog's 40-pound bag of food.

Worship is held upstairs. When Mary and Bob Anderson designed their home, they did so thinking a church would meet there.

What a typical family would probably call a recreation room, the

Andersons consider their sanctuary. With 135 members, it sometimes gets so crowded, Anderson said, the people stand lining the walls, sit on the stairway, and bunch two to a chair.

Church functions are held almost every night of the week at the Anderson home. When the Andersons are not included, they just leave.

Anderson, 67, said the inconvenience doesn't bother him. "You do what you have to do," he said. "We came here to build a church, and there's no other way to do it until we get it built."

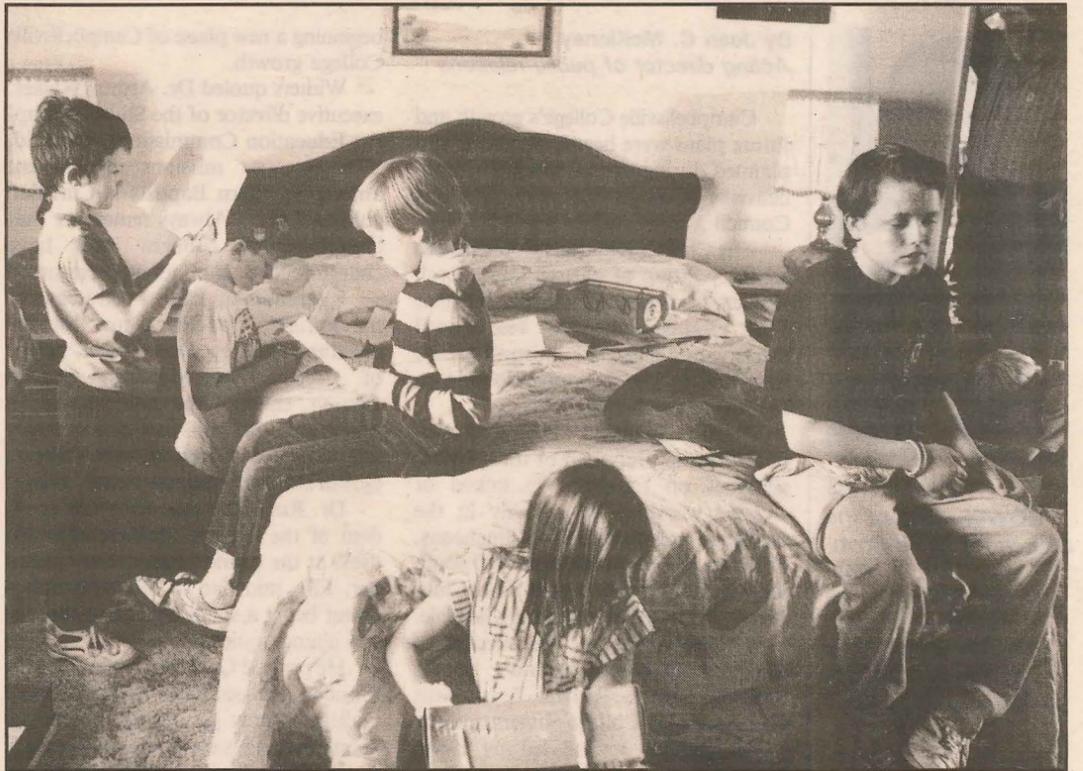
Don Ledbetter, director of evangelism for the Nevada Baptist Convention, said Southern Baptist churches in the state "meet wherever they can find to meet" due to the high cost of obtaining land and buildings.

Nevada has only 140 Southern Baptist churches and missions, and many of those are young, he said.

The need for churches to meet in innovative places reached a Nevada courtroom last December, when a judge ruled that schools discriminated against churches by not allowing them to rent space.

East Sparks Neighborhood Church in Reno, Nev., now meets at Reed High School on Sunday mornings.

During those hours, members set up about 150 chairs, arrange classrooms and haul in Sunday school literature, Baptist hymnals, an industrial-sized coffee pot and a tray of doughnuts. They hold Sunday school classes for all ages. They gather for



HOME SCHOOL The "Little Dudes" children's class of Sierra View Baptist Church in Minden, Nev., meets in the master bedroom of Pastor Bob Anderson's house. The church and all its Bible study classes meet in various rooms of the house. (BP photo by Terri Lackey)

worship. And then they break it all down again to meet a deadline of removing everything, including a sign stuck in the ground, by 1 p.m.

Several other Nevada churches meet in unusual places.

For example, Donner Springs Community Church meets in the gymnasium of a Catholic monastery about a mile from one of Reno's large

casinos.

Mt. Charleston Baptist Church, located about 35 miles northwest of Las Vegas in a mountain resort area, meets in two single-wide trailers located beside a riding stable. The congregation constantly contends with the persistent smell of horses and huge, buzzing flies, Pastor Earl Greene says.

Baptists try to reach city of 'institutionalized evil'

By David Winfrey
SBC Home Mission Board

SAN FRANCISCO (BP)—From homosexual counseling in schools to nails driven through New Testaments, "institutionalized evil" is a constant threat to evangelical ministry in San Francisco, two Southern Baptist leaders said.

But Christians are developing a variety of new methods for presenting the gospel in this difficult setting.

As examples of institutionalized evil, Karl Ortis, director of missions for San Francisco Peninsula Southern Baptist Association, cites:

■ Last year the school board voted to hire a counselor for students who want to explore the possibility they may be homosexual.

■ Some participants in an ecumenical prayer service returned to their cars to find "Here's Hope" New Testaments with nails driven through them placed under their tires.

■ The association's Christian flag recently was torn down from a second-story flagpole.

■ A project trying to enlist local churches to work with at-risk children turned out to be financed by the Unification Church.

"Evil is in every city, I'm sure," Ortis said. "But I've come to think there must be a difference between a place where there is a lot of sin and a place where sin is enshrined."

Jim Pittman, pastor of Valley Baptist Church, said he finds it difficult to minister in this environment.

"People hear and feel all week stuff that is in a totally different direction from what they hear on Sunday," he said. "Sometimes I honestly feel like I'm pecking at a boulder with a toothpick."

Pittman said it is ironic Christianity often gets shut out by a community that prides itself on openness.

Ortis said he often counsels pastors who are "spiritually beat up."

"There's a huge turnover in the Bay Area in pastors," said Ortis. "There are just more war stories than you want to hear."

"You can't stay in this city long without having to redefine success," Pittman added, explaining he now places more emphasis on his personal relationship with God and his church's ability to respond quickly to opportunities for ministry.

San Francisco churches are using a variety of methods to respond to such opportunities—methods ranging from Christian TV talk shows to

"Breakfast with Jesus."

The Christian TV talk show is aimed at the region's 1 million Hispanics.

"We just decided that if we're going to reach unchurched people, we're going to have to go to TV," said James Page, pastor of a Hispanic Baptist church in the city's Mission District.

Twelve Hispanic churches co-produce and fund "Sigueme," or "Follow Me," a half-hour show aired each Saturday morning.

Page said a 30-minute sermon might bore non-Christians into changing the channel. "That's why we went to a talk show format."

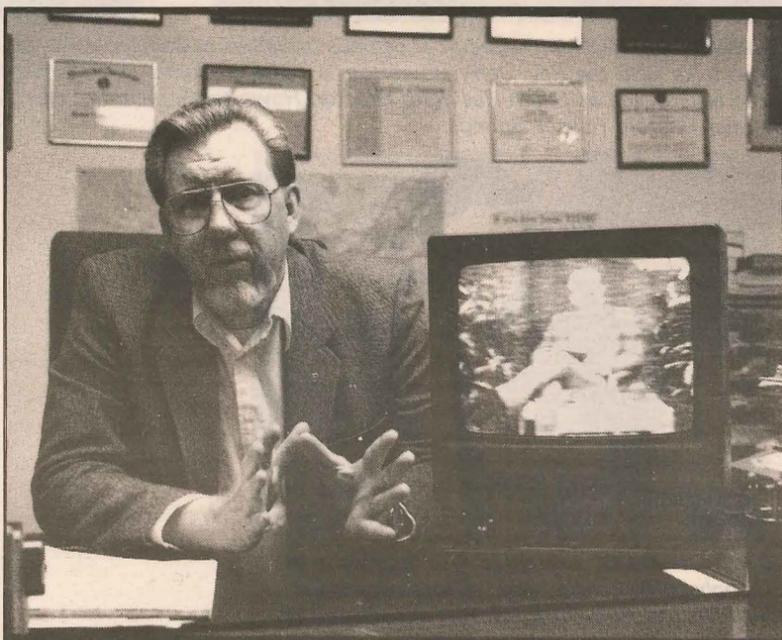
In its first year, the show has led to 61 professions of faith in Jesus Christ and the distribution of 180 New Testaments, Page said.

Kenneth Sampson is another pastor breaking tradition in San Francisco. His church began an 8 a.m. Sunday service in nearby Pacifica for unchurched residents and for Christians who can't attend an 11 a.m. service.

"The church has gotten locked into this 11 o'clock time mold," said Sampson, pastor of New Home Baptist Church, a predominately black congregation.

Sampson calls the early service "Breakfast with Jesus."

Church members also hold Bible study groups at their homes. "If they can get people to come for a Tupperware party," Sampson said, "they can get people to their house to share the gospel."



VIDEO MINISTRY James Page, pastor of a Hispanic Baptist church in San Francisco, co-produces "Sigueme," a half-hour Christian talk show that airs each Saturday on a local TV station. (BP photo)

"There must be a difference between a place where there is a lot of sin and a place where sin is enshrined."
Karl Ortis speaking about San Francisco

CAMPBELLSVILLE

Church relations council learns of college's growth

By Joan C. McKinney
Acting director of public relations

Campbellsville College's growth and future plans were heard, discussed and planned during the semiannual Campbellsville College Church Relations Council March 26-27.

The Church Relations Council is an advisory group of pastors and church workers from Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, West Virginia and Texas. The council meets with College administration and staff and makes recommendations on improvements for the College.

Tommy Johnson, director of campus ministries, reported of the spiritual activities on campus. He talked of creative worship, Bible study in the residence halls, commuter luncheons, collegiate disciple, YouthFest (100 youth visiting campus), Backyard Bible Clubs and a youth mission project at Glendale.

He also told of the success of Creative Ministry Teams, Sports Ministry Teams, Revival Teams, the Campbellsville College Singers and the recent campus revival led by Kevin Singleton.

Campbellsville College President Dr. Kenneth W. Winters praised the church relations council and said they make a "tremendous" contribution to Campbellsville College.

He said the College has had one of the best years in the history of the school.

He said fall 1991 enrollment was 1,010 which was up 18 percent over the 1990 fall semester. Campbellsville College was second in percentage growth among Baptist colleges and universities in 1991.

There has been a 51 percent increase over the last four years.

He said total financial contributions were up 17.4 percent equalling more than \$2,400,000. He said alumni giving has exceeded its goal and stands at 15.7 percent.

Winters said the College recently received a major gift for unrestricted endowment which will constitute the largest single gift in the College's history.

Campbellsville College is offering a master of education degree in the fall

beginning a new phase of Campbellsville College growth.

Winters quoted Dr. Arthur Walker, executive director of the Southern Baptist Education Commission, who said, "The greatest missions involvement among Southern Baptists is Christian colleges" and "Always remember that church-related colleges must have college-related churches as a partner."

"Ventures of Faith -- Strategy for the Future" was the theme for the meeting. The Rev. Don Gowin, pastor of Green River Memorial Baptist Church, chair of the council, said he was grateful to be a part of the ongoing mission of Campbellsville College. Gowin is a 1965 graduate of the College.

Dr. Ron Ellis, executive vice president of the College, delivered the address at the council's appreciation dinner. Ellis said one of the great things about being a small college, is that we can change quickly.

He praised Campbellsville College's founders and said that Campbellsville College is now getting out where the people are and is on the "cutting edge."

"Campbellsville College is going to be more than present and accounted for," he said.

New officers chosen include: chair, the Rev. Jeff Eaton, pastor of

First Baptist Church, Russell Springs, Ky.; vice chair, the Rev. Ty Clenney, pastor of Greensburg Baptist Church, Greensburg, Ky.;

Secretary, Grace Bristow, administrative secretary of Buena Vista Baptist Church, Owensboro, Ky.; academic chair, the Rev. Dwayne Howell, pastor of Rolling Fork Baptist Church, Louisville, Ky.;

Campus ministries chair, the Rev. Harold Pike, pastor of South Side Bap-

tist Church, Covington, Ky.; development chair, Dr. J. Chester Badgett, pastor emeritus, Campbellsville Baptist Church;

Public relations chair, the Rev. Jimmy Rowland, pastor of Gethsemane Baptist Church, Louisville, Ky.; committee at large, Eric Allen, minister of music and youth, Hyland Baptist Church, Henderson, Ky., and C.A. Easterling, deacon-corresponding secretary, Somerset, Ky.



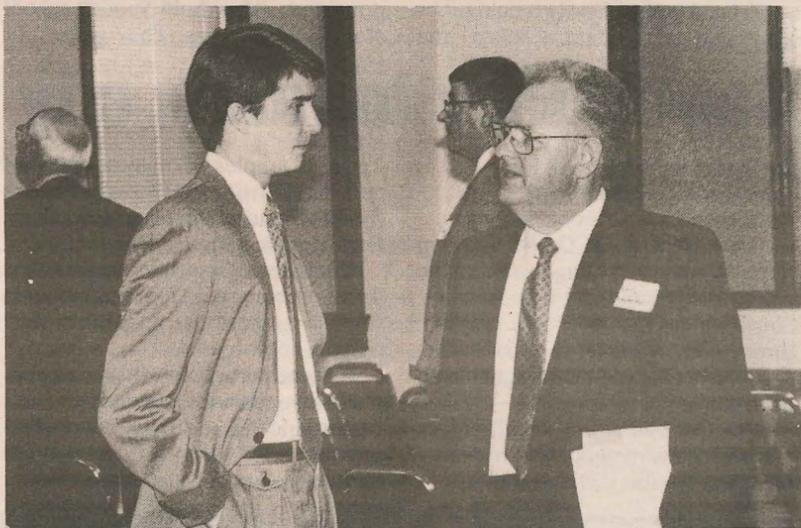
THE REV. DON GOWIN, chair of the Church Relations Council, said, "Campbellsville College is the heartbeat of what Christian education is all about. I feel like we're in good hands."



GRACE BRISTOW, administrative secretary of Buena Vista Baptist Church, Owensboro, talks with Dr. Kenneth W. Winters, president of Campbellsville College, before the meeting. Bristow is secretary of the Church Relations Council. (Campbellsville College Photos by Joan C. McKinney)



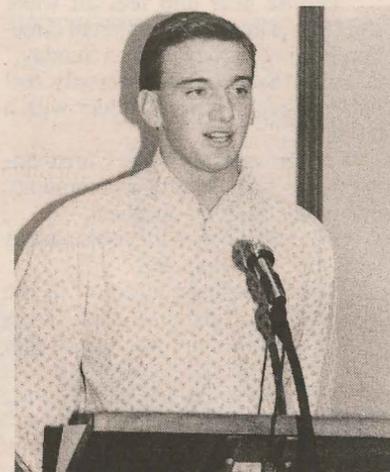
THE REV. JEFF EATON, pastor of First Baptist Church in Russell Springs, was elected chair of the Church Relations Council, at the semiannual meeting. Eaton is a 1983 graduate of the College.



TOMMY JOHNSON, left, director of campus ministries at Campbellsville College, talks with the Rev. Jerry Howerton, a 1984 graduate of the College who also served as South Hall dorm director. Howerton is pastor of Liberty Baptist Church, Russell Springs.



DR. KENNETH W. WINTERS, president, shows the Church Relations Council members a sketch of the new bell tower to be built on campus. The tower is being donated by Campbellsville Industries.



CURTIS BARNES, a freshman from Elizabethtown, gave a student testimony at the Church Relations Council meeting.



DR. RON ELLIS, executive vice president of Campbellsville College, said, "Campbellsville College has chosen to make change our choice" at the Council's appreciation dinner.