

JUNE 9, 1992 VOL. 166, NO. 23

FOR THE RECORD

Good news

After several years of decline, the number of applicants for Southern Baptists' national student summer missions program increased this year. See page 2.

Racial dialogue

A group of black and white Baptists gathered in Louisville to discuss racial issues, but most participants said they're ready to stop talking and see some positive action. See page 3.

Just the facts

Recently released data from the 1990 census paints a picture of Kentucky's lifestyle and needs. See page 3.

Editorial

Poverty still plagues Kentucky, but Baptists can make a difference locally. See page 5.

Bible & law

The U.S. Supreme Court declined to change the ruling of a lower court that a man's death sentence should be overturned because the prosecution based its request for the death penalty on a biblical reference. See page 6.

Robertson buys UPI

Televangelist Pat Robertson plans to buy United Press International, the worldwide news service plagued by financial problems. See page 6.

Kentuckians urged to send food boxes for Russians



LOOK AGAIN If you thought you couldn't be surprised by any new developments in the former Soviet Union, look again. This amazing structure is a church building under construction inside the walls of a prison. And it's being built by the prisoners. Students from St. Petersburg Theological Academy, under the leadership of a Disciples of Christ mission intern from Indianapolis, have been developing a prison ministry at Metalstroika Prison. An outgrowth of their work is that the prisoners volunteered to build this structure. Their work goes on with the blessing of the Russian Orthodox Church. (RNS photo)

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

Russians still need food boxes from Kentucky Baptists, state Brotherhood leaders said.

Meanwhile, one Kentuckian has returned from volunteer work in Moscow, while another is on his way there to help in the Project Brotherhood effort.

Mike Sloan, a member of First Baptist Church in Hindman and owner of a chain of grocery stores in Eastern Kentucky, said the urgent need for food in Russia has not been exaggerated.

Sloan spent two weeks this spring working in a Moscow warehouse repackaging bulk foods into smaller quantities for later distribution. He was part of the third Southern Baptist group to arrive in Moscow for Project Brotherhood.

James Tucker, a member of First Baptist Church in Madisonville, is scheduled to work in Moscow this month.

Project Brotherhood is an effort directed by the national Brotherhood Commission at the request of the Baptist World Alliance. It involves the distribution of food and medical supplies and opportunities for personal evangelism by Baptist volunteers.

The Brotherhood Commission re-

ports that 20 percent of children in orphanages in the former Soviet Union are there because their families can't feed them.

At the time Sloan was in Moscow, efforts centered on repackaging bulk foods provided through government channels. Now, Project Brotherhood's

emphasis is shifting to the collection, shipping and distribution of food boxes prepared by Baptists in the United States.

The state Brotherhood office is collecting the food boxes from Kentucky churches for shipment to the Com-

monwealth of Independent States, where they will be given to families in need of food.

Each 36-pound box must include specific items, which can be purchased for about \$40:

- 5 pounds flour.
- 5 pounds sugar.
- 5 pounds pasta.
- 5 pounds rice.
- 5 pounds canned meat.
- 5 pounds powdered milk.
- 2 pounds cooking oil.
- 1 pound dehydrated soups.
- 1 pound chocolate bars.
- 1 pound tea.
- 1 pound dehydrated fruit juice.

The food must be packed in standard moving boxes measuring 16 1/2 inches by 12 1/2 inches by 12 1/2 inches. See Food boxes needed ..., page 9

More on page 9:

- Russian Orthodox church wants building renovated
- FMB's Green Alert shapes new strategies for ministry in former Soviet Union

Family time beats prime time, experts say

It's time for parents to give the television time off from babysitting and start spending more personal time with their children, experts in family and pediatric issues agree.

"Personal involvement is what kids are looking for," said Susan Lockwood Summers, who teaches a graduate course for educators on how media affects children. "They may fill their time with hours of electronic media, but it will never be as significant as one human being offering time with a child."

And although watching television may be an easy way to bring the family together, "having a healthy family takes effort," added John Lepper, director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's family ministry department.

"Just because you're in the same room with your family watching television doesn't mean you're spending quality time together," he said.

Even educational programming needs the supplement of family interaction, said Dr. Shawn Taylor, chairwoman of the pediatrics department at Central Baptist Hospital in Lexington.

"It's important to recognize education programs are a supplement to, but not a substitute for, the family teaching that occurs," she explained. "The family should be the No. 1 influence on the child. Whether we want it to be or not, the television is probably second."

Television often becomes the No. 1 influence on children "not because of kids but because of parents," added Summers, who works as a library me-

Television & children

All in the family

More on page 7:

- 2 new studies warn of TV's dangers for children
- Experts' advice: Set TV limits, help children understand
- Quayle's Murphy Brown comments give birth to national flap

dia specialist for an elementary school in Littleton, Colo.

"Parents allow television to become a mainstay in kids' lives," she said. "They don't do it on purpose and they don't do it with any harmful reasoning. It just happens very quietly and very insidiously."

"And I think it's time parents took back the family time."

But doing that is not an easy task, the experts admit.

"It's as difficult and simple as making decisions and setting limits," Lepper said.

One easy way to make a difference is to turn off the TV during mealtimes, Lepper said. He advises all families to establish a practice of never letting

television drown out dinnertime conversation.

But Lepper also cautions families against reacting too far in the opposite direction.

"I don't think families need to never watch television," he said. "It's not realistic to say we're going to shut it down."

Television has become a "center of society," Taylor added. "If you don't have any association with television it will change some of your kids' perspective on society, their interactions with other kids."

There are many good things to see on television, Lepper explained. "There need to be some limits, and each family needs to set those limits."

Lepper and others believe those limits should include restrictions on the amount of time spent watching television and on the types of programs watched.

Television watching by children has gotten so out of control that by the time the typical child heads off to kindergarten, he or she has watched up to 7,000 hours of television, Summers said.

Parents must reset their priorities and remember why they had children in the first place, she said. "Did we have a kid so that kid would be the first American to have 50,000 hours of television time in a lifetime? Probably not."

Written by News Director Mark Wingfield with additional reporting by Lacy Thompson of the Louisiana Baptist Message through Associated Baptist Press.

Faith found in Kentucky gave hope for cancer

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

INDIANAPOLIS—When the doctor looked at the lab report and said, "Uh-oh," Kentucky native Jim Morrison knew he was in trouble.

Morrison, manager of a fabric store in Indianapolis, had almost walked out of the doctor's office with a clean bill of health—until the doctor noticed one page of the lab report that had been hidden at first glance. That page told the doctor that Morrison had a cancerous tumor in the pelvic area.

It was not news Morrison was ready to hear. In the eight months leading up to that doctor's visit, he had painfully passed a kidney stone, had surgery for a serious skin cancer on his back, agonized with his mother as she battled lung cancer and helped nurse his son back to health after a broken ankle.

It was four days after Christmas of 1990 when the doctor uttered those fearful words. Now, more than a year later, Morrison has survived the financial devastation, emotional stress and other fears anyone facing a life-threatening disease encounters.

But survival would not have
□ See Faith in God ..., page 2

BAPTISTS

BAPTIST BITS

■ **A voter-registration drive** has been launched among Southern Baptists by the denomination's Christian Life Commission. The CLC has mailed a "Christian Citizen Awareness Guide" to all Southern Baptist Convention churches, and has produced a new "Citizen Christian Awareness Campaign Manual" which tells how local churches can organize voter registration campaigns.

■ **Cooperative Program** unified budget gifts received by the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee fell nearly 14 percent last month compared to receipts for May 1991. The May 1992 total was \$10.68 million, compared to \$12.42 million the previous May. For the year, CP gifts are running 3.39 percent behind last year.

■ **An anti-hunger convocation** has been scheduled for May 6-8, 1993, by five Southern Baptist Convention agencies. A news release from the SBC Christian Life Commission said the convocation "should lay to rest unfounded rumors the new conservative leadership in the convention is not interested in the world's hungry."

■ **The mother of national Woman's Missionary Union** President Carolyn Miller, Gladys Hales Downes of Huntsville, Ala., died June 3 after an extended illness. Funeral services were to be held June 5, two days before Miller was scheduled to preside at the WMU annual meeting in Indianapolis.

■ **The Southern Baptist Communicator**, the latest in a series of newspapers promoting the conservative movement in the Southern Baptist Convention, has ceased publication due to dwindling subscriptions and reader "apathy," according to the publication's editor.

Student missionaries increase nationwide

NASHVILLE (BP)—After several years of decline, the number of applications for Southern Baptists' student summer missions program increased by 87 this year.

That report from Van Simmons, associate director of short-term volunteers at the Home Mission Board, highlighted a meeting of the denomination's Student Ministry Advisory Group last month in Nashville. As of May 8, Simmons said, 913 students had applied and been approved as either HMB- or BSU-paid summer missionaries for 1992, up from 826 last year.

Simmons, who only last summer had expressed concern about a "disturbing drop" in student missions applications, said he was encouraged by this year's increase.

More good news came from Helen

Wood, associate director of the Foreign Mission Board's international service department, who reported student participation in overseas missions will reach an all-time high this year. Wood said the FMB has approved 250 students as semester and summer missionaries for 1992—almost double last year's total of 130.

"We've never had a problem getting enough applications from students; our problem has been getting requests (for students) from the field," Wood said. While she had no one explanation for the sudden increase in requests from missionaries this year, she added, "We like to think our missionaries are beginning to see the value of using students on the mission field."

The 250 figure does not include several teams of students going to

Russia this summer on short-term mission assignments.

Brad Gray, a consultant in the Sunday School Board's student ministry department, said 90 students will travel to Moscow to help build two Baptist churches and a new Russia Baptist Convention Building while six students will go to Minsk to help disciple young Russian converts after a youth crusade.

Also, Mike Riggins, associate director of the HMB's Mission Service Corps program, reported about 10 percent of that program's volunteers now are involved in student ministry positions. The average tenure for these student volunteers is just over four years, Riggins said, more than a year above the 2.8-year average tenure for all Mission Service Corps volunteers.

SBC departure small, Hewett & Hasteley say

VIENNA, Va. (ABP)—The fragmentation of the Southern Baptist Convention may be smaller than earlier predictions indicated, leaders of two moderate Baptist groups recently told a Virginia audience.

John Hewett, outgoing moderator of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, and Stan Hasteley, executive director of the Alliance of Baptists, recently told the Virginia chapter of the Alliance that the future of the SBC and its fledgling offshoots will be determined at the local church level.

"We could call a so-called constitutional convention and say, 'Come

and we're going to form a new convention,' and the power of that would be absolutely nothing unless local congregations voted to do it," Hewett said. "When local congregations demand it, it will happen."

Hasteley predicted the five-year-old Alliance "is not going to get very much bigger than we are right now," but said the Alliance does have a role to play.

"The fragmentation of the Southern Baptist Convention is underway, but it will be neither as large, nor as broad nor as deep as many of us might have thought at various points along

the way," he added.

"I think we are going to be small," Hewett concurred. "The fact is that most of the people who are wedded to the Southern Baptist Convention are going to stay right there."

Hewett said part of what has happened in the SBC has been "the judgment of God" on what Southern Baptists had become: "We were concerned that most of the people on the face of the earth did not know who Baptists were," he said. "And in that concern we lost sight of the more disturbing truth, they did not know who Jesus was."

Faith in God, help of Christians helped man battle cancer

Continued from page 1

been possible, he said, without a strong faith in God which he first found through the love of Kentucky Baptists years ago in Mayfield.

During his recent illnesses, that love has been carried on by his family and current church—Pleasant Heights Baptist in Indianapolis, he said.

"Throughout this thing, there was peace," Morrison said. "My God never deserted me, my family supported me and my church never met without praying for me by name."

"That's why I believe church is important," he added. "God does exist, he does live, he does heal."

The healing Morrison has experienced didn't come in the kind of spectacular or emotional experience often portrayed on television. And Morrison will be the first to admit not everything has been easy in his life.

But the one thing he is sure of is that God still cares about him and still cares about other people suffering life's afflictions.

The month before Morrison learned of his pelvic cancer, a melanoma skin cancer had been removed from his back. After that lab report indicated a malignancy on his back, Morrison called members of his church to pray with him.

Soon afterward, a second sample taken from Morrison's back showed no signs of malignancy. God had answered prayer, Morrison explained.

With that crisis averted, though, he soon learned about the pelvic cancer

and immediately underwent surgery.

"The surgeon came out and told my wife he'd done everything he could do," Morrison recalled. "He said the tumor was wrapped around a main artery going down the leg. He had gotten 90 percent of it, but couldn't get the rest."

The doctor said he didn't know what else to do, but perhaps God would provide a miracle. And Morrison believes God did just that.

The months ahead were tough. He lost weight, got pneumonia and endured severe diarrhea for five weeks. Meanwhile, he had lost the income from his job, meaning his wife's modest salary had to support the family budget and mounting medical bills.

But even the smallest needs were met miraculously by fellow Christians and family members, Morrison said. Without solicitation, checks came in the mail for the exact amounts needed to pay bills at crucial times. Volunteers fixed a water line break at Morrison's house at no charge.

Just last February, doctors discovered a spot on Morrison's spine. Again, he asked his church to gather and pray

On a Wednesday night, "they circled us and prayed for us," he recalled. "When we went back to the doctor the next day, there was no spot."

Morrison admits he doesn't know how that happened. "I just know I can show you one film that has a big spot of cancer and another that doesn't. I believe God answered prayer."

Morrison believes he has been healed once again. However, he realizes any cancer patient faces 50-50 odds of a recurrence.

"I look at the past and know God has always been there with me," he said. "I stand in the present and know he's with me. I look at the uncertain future and know that I'll go into the future with God."

That kind of trust in God is something that did not come easily to Morrison, who became a Christian when he was 28 years old.

"I tried just about all that sin had to offer," Morrison said of his early days in Kentucky. He was born in Middlesboro and raised in Mt. Sterling.

After moving to Mayfield in the late 1960s, Morrison repeatedly ran off preachers who came to visit him. But Terry Clapp at Northside Baptist Church wouldn't leave him alone.

Finally, Morrison "invited the

Lottie Moon up as books close

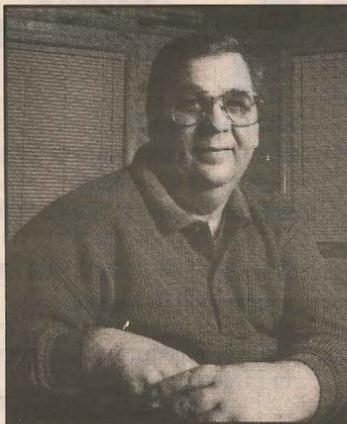
RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Fears that Southern Baptists unhappy with trustees of their Foreign Mission Board would negatively influence the annual Lottie Moon Christmas Offering apparently did not come true.

When the financial books closed May 31, Lottie Moon offering receipts for 1991 totaled \$81.4 million—an increase of about 2.5 percent and \$2 million over 1990.

However, receipts for 1991 still fell about \$2.6 million short of the \$84 million goal. The shortfall means missionaries will have that much less money to spend on capital needs, such as cars and houses overseas. The goal was projected to finance 46 percent of the FMB's \$184 million budget for 1992.

Last year's increase comes on the heels of a decrease in giving the year before—the first year since 1937 that Lottie Moon receipts dropped below the previous year's total.

Last October, less than two months before the major emphasis on Lottie Moon giving traditionally begins, FMB trustees set off a chain of controversy by removing funding for the Baptist seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland. FMB officials feared that controversy might result in decreased giving to the offering.



Baptists talk about racial issues, want to see action

By Melanie Childers
Staff Writer

LOUISVILLE—After 10 hours of discussions, Baptists concerned about racism decided they are tired of talking and ready for action.

Transforming words into tangible action was a recurrent theme at the conference on "Baptists Overcoming Racism: Hope for our Community," held May 28 at Oakland Baptist Church in Louisville.

The conference was planned by leaders from Long Run Baptist Association and Central District Baptist Association, who said they sensed a "teachable moment" in light of the Los Angeles riots.

"We needed to do something and needed to do it now," said Jim Holladay, pastor of East Baptist Church in Louisville and a planner of the event.

Holladay said he anticipated 75 to 100 people would attend, and was pleased that 86 registered.

"I think most of the committee members and most of the participants were pleased by the day," Holladay said afterward.

However, some leaders in Central District Association expressed different sentiments.

"I am weary," said Thurmond

Coleman, pastor of First Baptist Church in Jeffersonton. He said he was not pleased with the level of participation and did not feel that Baptists have yet begun to break down walls of separation.

"Black churches have become disenchanted with white folks who won't hear and won't do," Russell Awkard, Central District Association's moderator, said during the conference.

"The black church has always been inclusive," he said. "The white church continues with a paternalistic attitude."

Awkard said African-Americans are asking, "Why go to another meeting?"

The focal point of cooperative work between Central District Association and Long Run Association has been the 78-year old Baptist Fellowship Center, Holladay said. The center was established to address physical, spiritual, emotional, social and educational needs of people through a variety of ministry programs.

The cooperative work recently has included joint Thanksgiving services and plans for an annual retreat. Low participation was reported for these events.

"To make a dent, our communities have to do more than have a joint wor-

ship service and then go home," Holladay said. "We have to put feet to our Bible studies and worship services."

Participants said they attended the conference for several reasons.

"I came to see how I might get insight to help [church members] accept new people no matter what ethnic group they belong to," said Larry Nobles, pastor of Green Hills Baptist Church in Fisherville.

"We are here today primarily because we have been jolted by problems in the last month around the nation," Awkard said. "The Lord uses crises to bring us together."

The hours of discussions and seminars during the May 28 conference were flanked on either side with worship. Bill Rogers, formerly of the Kentucky Baptist Convention staff, preached at the morning worship hour, and Timothy Johnson, professor of church social work at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, preached at the evening service.

Both lunch and dinner meals were prepared by women of Oakland Baptist Church.

Conference participants ate together and continued to address factors in the racism issue:

■ Education. "The proof of the pudding is in educational outcomes,

not in opportunity," said Blaine Hudson, director of preparatory program at the University of Louisville. "The community has made significant improvements, but much more change needs to be made."

■ Housing. Louisvillians "have a remarkably high tolerance for neighbors of a different race," said Gwen Young, director of the Louisville/Jefferson County Human Relations Commission. "There is still segregation, but to a lesser degree than in the past."

Much of the housing discrimination African-Americans undergo today is subtle, such as being refused a grand tour of a property, being given a higher-than-normal deposit rate, or not being told about certain facilities, Young said.

■ Economic development. Getting equal results is more important than equal opportunity alone, said Ben Richmond, director of the Louisville Urban League. "It's about having enough money for a family to do what it needs to do to be economically self-sufficient. People are hurting in urban America."

He suggested churches offer assistance to members interested in starting their own businesses, to help grow an economic base in their area.

BLUEGRASS BURGEO

■ **Hugh McElrath**, professor of church music at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, received the Findley B. and Louvenia Edge Award for teaching excellence. The Murray native will retire from full-time teaching this year but will remain on faculty as a senior professor.

■ **Charlotte Payne**, a student at Georgetown College, has been named national chairwoman of The College Board's college scholarship service student advisory committee, which is composed of students, college presidents and directors of financial aid. The College Board works closely with Congress to provide information about potential laws affecting education.

■ **Sarah Roberts** of the Spring Meadows campus of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children received the best of show award for the childcare agency in preliminary awards for a National Association of Homes and Services for Children Art Contest. Her entry in the national competition will be judged in late October. Other winners in the Kentucky contest included Shellie Dube', best of show, age 14 and Under, and Shenikka Hay, best techniques, age 15-18.



Sarah Roberts displays her winning entry with help from Curtis Mooney, president of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children.

Cedar Creek's 200th features presidential tone

FERN CREEK—United States presidents from George Washington to George Bush had a part in the 200th anniversary celebration at Cedar Creek Baptist Church.

Letters of congratulation from President and Mrs. George Bush were read during the June 7 festivities, where Pastor Robert Hill dressed in a George Washington costume to help celebrate the 1792 beginnings of the church.

A covered-dish dinner on the church grounds followed the morning worship service led by Zeb Moss of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Then members traveled to Chenoweth Run Cemetery, where the first church building stood, for "Mission of Love," a dramatic presentation of the church's history.

Hill said the church is indebted to eight faithful members for the church's 200-year heritage, including four who led an effort to revive the church after it nearly died in 1844.

Since that time the church has changed locations, survived two fires and continues to grow. Membership is about 820 now.

On May 17, the church dedicated a new \$500,000 activities center.

The church already has dedicated a Kentucky historical marker recognizing Cedar Creek Baptist Church as the oldest in the county and one of the oldest in the state.

Just the facts: New census data available

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

Kentucky Baptists who want to know how to reach their fellow citizens with the gospel of Jesus Christ got a new set of tools last month when the Census Bureau released detailed information from the 1990 census.

Statistics on population, income, housing, employment and family status are now available from the Kentucky State Data Center at the University of Louisville. Specific reports may be ordered by calling (502) 588-7990.

The newly released data reveals the following about Kentucky's 3,685,296 residents:

■ More Kentuckians now live in urban areas than in rural areas: 52 percent live in urban areas while 48 percent live in rural areas.

■ More females (52 percent of the population) live in Kentucky than males (48 percent).

■ Whites account for 92 percent of the state's population, while blacks are the next-largest group with 7 percent. All other ethnic groups account for the remaining 1 percent.

■ Of Kentucky's 1.4 million households, 23 percent are composed of one person, 32 percent of two people, 20 percent of three people and 16 percent of four people. Only 9 percent of households include five or more people.

■ More than 26,000 Kentuckians live in nursing homes.

■ More females live alone than males. A total of 203,592 Kentucky females live by themselves, while 115,791 males live alone. However, more males than females live with someone else in non-family households.

■ The number of single-parent households headed by women outnumbered single-parent households headed by men nearly nine to one. Across the state, 86,390 households are headed by single women, while only 16,538 are headed by single men.

■ 77 percent of all residents are native Kentuckians, while 11 percent were born in the Midwest, 8 percent in the South, 2 percent in the North and 1 percent in the West. The remaining 1 percent were born in Hawaii, Alaska, Puerto Rico or a foreign country.

■ Slightly more than half of all Kentuckians lived in the same house in 1990 as they did in 1985.

■ Spanish-speaking Kentuckians who do not speak English number 4,740, and 2,524 speakers of Asian languages do not speak English.

■ A total of 168,864 Kentuckians between the ages 16 and 64 cannot work due to a disability.

■ Statewide, 358,624 people above the age of 16 (almost 10 percent of the total population) are limited in their physical mobility.

■ More Kentuckians (273,506) are employed in the retail trade than in any other category. The next-largest employers in order are manufacturing of durable goods, educational services, manufacturing of non-durable goods, and health services.

■ Of all Kentucky families with two parents in the home with children, both parents work outside the home in 57 percent of the cases.

■ Only 6 percent of Kentuckians age 25 and above hold graduate or professional degrees, while another 8 percent hold at least a bachelor's degree. Another 32 percent hold only a high school diploma. But 36 percent of Kentucky adults never completed

high school, including 19 percent of the population with less than a ninth-grade education.

■ The median average income for Kentucky households in 1989 was \$22,534, and the mean average income was \$29,354. The median is the middle point in a series of numbers arranged in order of size. The mean is derived by adding all figures in a series and dividing that total by the number of entries used as input.

■ Per capita income in 1989 varied widely by race: The highest average per person was among Asians at \$13,652, while for whites it was \$11,439, for Hispanics it was \$9,058 and for blacks it was \$7,460.

■ 19 percent of Kentuckians lived below the government-established poverty level in 1989. That meant an income less than \$12,675 for a family of four or an income less than \$8,075 for a couple.

■ The largest group of Kentuckians living below the poverty level was found in the 25-34 age range. However, 28 percent of Kentucky children under age 5 lived under the poverty level as did 26 percent of all children under age 12.

■ Single women with children were more likely than other householders with children to live below the poverty level. Nearly 52 percent of single mothers had incomes below the poverty level, compared with only 30 percent of single fathers and 14 percent of married couples with children.

■ More than twice as many Kentucky housing units are owner-occupied than renter-occupied.

■ 2 percent of Kentucky's housing units do not have complete kitchen facilities, while 3 percent do not have indoor bathrooms. Also, 10 percent of Kentucky households do not have telephone service.

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

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Parenting in the '90s: A difficult, but vital, task

A friend of mine has a card posted on the bulletin board above her desk titled "100 Ways to Raise a Child."

Penned by an anonymous author, the card reads: "100 Ways to Raise a Child: wow, super, nice, how smart, good job, looking good, you're on top of it, terrific, I respect you, you mean the world to me, you're special, remarkable job. ..." The card went on to list 89 other affirming, positive child-raising statements.

In the hectic, over-scheduled lives of most American families, the biggest parenting need might be to find authentic, loving ways to communicate with our children. But we know that is only half the parenting picture. Parents in the '90s must also develop a thoughtful parenting style that is unique to their family and fits the needs of both children and adults in the family.

Families who have a well-defined and workable parenting style tend to do the following:

■ Skilled parents of the '90s edu-

cate themselves about child development, child-rearing practices and discipline techniques, at the same time trusting their values and instincts about what is best for the child they love.

Effective parents in the '90s will look back at how they were raised and thoughtfully use what was effective to help raise their own children.

Remembering their own past will help some parents avoid repeating abusive and negative ways of parenting styles. Examining their past will help others remember parenting techniques that are still timely and effectively.

■ Effective parenting in the '90s will not blindly accept another's model for an ideal family, nor will parents rigidly follow a single model for parenting. Each family must examine its own values, beliefs, strengths and resources to form an effective parenting style. This is particularly important to single parents, to grandparents raising children and to blended families—

couples who remarry and bring children from previous marriages to a new family.

■ Effective parenting in the '90s may mean developing that have not been used much in the past. Parents today are faced with helping their children deal with tough issues such as sexuality, alcohol, drug use, violence, negative media images and peer pressure to a greater degree than any previous generation. Effective parents today take a deep breath and openly communicate with their children about issues that perhaps their own parents never discussed.

Parents in the '90s are faced with reclaiming the place of the family in our society.

In the book "Culture of Narcissism" by Christopher Lasch, one chapter deals with the process of the gradual transference of parenting responsibilities from American families to institutions and professionals. He cites examples of parents transferring

the responsibility of a child's intelligence to her teachers or responsibility for a child's myths or values to television.

Effective parents in the '90s will continue to need many resources to help them parent, such as working parents sharing child-rearing time with a daycare center or children of divorced parents spending time in two families. At the same time, they will begin to bring back responsibility and influence over every aspect of child raising, including the child's values, emotional stability, intelligence and health.

These parents will empower their children by daring to set limits using consistent discipline, conveying spiritual values and helping children regard and respect others along with the 100-plus ways to let a child know he or she is loved and respected.

*Audrey Puryear, director
Community services
Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children
Middletown*

Fight FOCA

Re: Your article on the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (WR, May 26). The act we should all be rallying against is the Freedom of Choice Act (HR 25, S 25). This act would take away the rights of individual states to restrict abortion.

BAPTIST FORUM

According to a January 1992 Gallup Poll, 75 percent of Americans favor a 24-hour waiting period before abortions. Seventy percent favor parental consent. The majority of Americans desire some kind of restrictions to abortion, yet even third-trimester abortions could be legal in every state if the Freedom of Choice Act be-

comes law.

The Supreme Court already has heard arguments on Planned Parenthood vs. Casey and soon will make a decision on the Pennsylvania abortion law. The pro-abortion forces are poised for the opportunity to pass the Freedom of Choice Act as soon as this decision is handed down.

We Christians should make our voices heard in Washington before it

is too late. We know God loves the unborn, and we will be accountable for our actions or apathy (Matthew 25:40). If you desire any restrictions on abortion, contact your senators and representative immediately and express your opposition to the Freedom of Choice Act. Then pray for God's will to be done.

*Marie Smalling
Bowling Green*

Get a waverunner

Every preacher ought to have a waverunner.

A waverunner is a water vehicle that resembles a tiny three-wheeler motorcycle, only with a hull built to float. This marvelous instrument of technology provides a wonderful diversion from an often-hectic summer schedule.

On a hot, balmy day, feeling tired, stressed out and beaten down, I would launch it in the nearest lake. Soon, I

would be viewing the lake at 40 miles per hour. Up and down the lake I would zip, occasionally stopping to take a dip.

Jesus said, "Go into all the world." I cannot think of a better place to start an extension Bible study. People on the lake

MINISTERIALLY SPEAKING

need a minister.

If Jesus were here, he'd be a lake man. We read about Jesus teaching in a boat, sleeping in a boat (I like this one), and walking on water toward a boat.

I would enjoy a ride with Jesus in a waverunner.

I can see us riding down the lake. I would even trust Jesus to drive. He could do some mean doughnuts and take the curves with a tailspin. We would laugh as we balance ourselves on the dips and feel refreshed from the splash of every wave.

The truth is that Jesus does go along. He laughs when we laugh. He delights when we enjoy our Father's world. He also knows that someday we will enjoy all the more the thrills of heaven.

Yes, the work is great. We have

much to do. But our Lord doesn't expect any one person to do it all.

So, this summer, buy a waverunner. On the lake, the phone never rings. The secretary never buzzes, and you are difficult to find.

And when the day is over, you will feel divinely reaffirmed. You will even feel a lot more like Jesus. Surely someone will say to you as they did to him: "Where have you been? We've been looking for you all day!"

*Glenn Mollette, pastor
First Baptist Church
President, KBC
Pikeville*

The accidental church

The June-July issue of the Commission, our foreign missions magazine, includes a concise and attractive 1991 annual report in pamphlet form.

It includes such information as:

■ Only 11.6 percent of board expenditures went for home-office staff, expenses and promotion.

■ Southern Baptists gave \$7.24 million in hunger relief offerings.

■ Southern Baptists decreased their giving to foreign missions through the Cooperative Program by \$1.27 million.

And on pages 2-5 of the magazine in which is the pamphlet are brief stories from the field which warm the heart. Here is one:

"As Rob Moor was driving about 60 miles from his home in Bukoba, Tanzania, where he's stationed as a missionary, a head-on collision changed his evangelism. And he discovered 'crash ephedrine.'"

"Rob and Tanzanian pastor Sostenes Karoli were following a large truck along a recently graded dirt highway and reviewing the day's associational leadership meeting. A car traveling the opposite direction moved off the road to let the truck pass, then pulled back into the swirling dust the truck raised.

"It just appeared out of the dust," Rob recalls. "I barely had time to hit my brakes before we hit head-

on."
"The car struck Rob's four-wheel

drive and bounced back about 40 feet. One man was thrown through the windshield of the car, while the missionary's seat was ripped from the floor.

"Seat belts spared Rob and the pastor serious injury, reports missionary Craig Bird, overseas correspondent stationed in Kenya.

"When they said 'that all five people in the other car were hurt and one man looked like he was going to die, I just sat beside the car and cried,' Rob says. 'Pastor Karoli was OK, and I just felt some bruises, but we were really afraid' for the seriously injured man.

"As it became apparent the man would be able to reach a hospital for treatment (he later had his spleen removed), the two Baptist preachers rejoiced. 'We prayed for everyone in the accident, started praising the Lord for delivering us and passed out tracts to

the crowd that had gathered,' Rob said.

"Eventually, the missionary caught a ride into Bukoba, leaving the pastor with the vehicle. Two Baptist laymen who had recently moved to the area heard a missionary had been in an accident and came to investigate. They found the pastor counseling three spectators who had stopped to view the damage and wound up listening to him preach.

"By the time a tow truck arrived 48 hours later, 14 people had become Christians through the witness of pastor Karoli and the laymen.

"Two weeks after the accident, a new preaching point was organized at a village about a mile from the site. Its name: Kanisa la Ajali, Swahili for 'Accident Baptist Church.'"

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

ON MISSION TOGETHER



William W. Marshall

Your church can help fight the war on poverty

Poverty continues to plague Kentucky.

The federal government has just released 1990 census data that documents the sorry state of affairs for many citizens of the commonwealth. And comparisons to the 1980 census reveal more Kentuckians are worse off now than they were a decade ago.

The census indicates Kentucky is home to 3,685,296 people—1,900,228 females and 1,785,068 males. (For a detailed analysis of the census, see page 3.)

The census shows 681,827—or almost 19 percent—of the state's residents live below the poverty line. Our children are worse off: 234,012—or about 25 percent—of youngsters age 17 and younger live in poverty. Both figures are increases from the previous decade, according to comparisons developed by the Louisville Courier-Journal. Ten years earlier, 18 percent of the population and 22 percent of our children fell below the poverty level.

What accounts for Kentucky's poverty? Many variables shape the financial well-being of our families. However, three sets of figures stand out from the pages of the census data.

First, many Kentuckians are unemployed. The state's combined civilian and military labor force numbers 1,718,145 people. Of those citizens, 124,354—or 7.2 percent—are unemployed. The highest rates are among black females, at 13.1 percent, and black males, at 12.6 percent. Of white females, 6.6 percent are unemployed, and 6.9 percent of white males are unemployed. Asian males have the lowest unemployment rate, 3.6 percent.

A corollary to unemployment is under-employment. The largest segment of the job market also pays the lowest wages: 228,401 Kentuckians are classified as holding down clerical/service jobs.

Second, many Kentuckians are under-educated. Of the 2.3 million residents age 25 and older, 825,857—35 percent—have not completed high school. Worse still, 442,579—19 percent—have not completed 9th grade. Without a degree, jobs are tough to come by. Good jobs are even more difficult to find.

Third, 20 percent of the state's families with children are headed by single parents—17 percent by mothers and 3 percent by fathers. That large share of single-parent families includes 66,512 families headed by a white mother and 19,204 headed by a black mother. Families headed by a single parent, especially a parent susceptible to unemployment or under-employment, are having a difficult time staying afloat in turbulent economic seas.

So, what does this mean for Kentucky Baptists?

It means we have a tremendous challenge and opportunity. Thousands of our neighbors across the state are hurting, and we can help them. We can meet their human, physical needs, and in so doing we can earn the right to speak to their spiritual needs.

We can begin by meeting the here-and-now needs of individuals and

families who need help today:

■ Some Kentucky Baptist churches operate food pantries, and others even provide meals for hungry people. These ministries are important, especially toward the end of each month, when family money runs out before the next paycheck comes. If you want to communicate love to parents, feed their hungry children.

■ Clothes closets also are important to the economies of poor Kentucky families. Garments that many of us take for granted and throw out could be useful and even vital for the health and well-being of fellow citizens. And just because it's summer, don't think this ministry is unimportant; effective clothes closets operate year-round and continually collect clothes for the next season.

■ Inexpensive, quality childcare can make a difference that will last for generations. It particularly helps single-parent families by allowing the head of the household to hold a job while ensuring the care of the children. And church-based childcare can provide the love and religious/moral training that will shape young lives for the coming decades.

We also can help by preparing less-fortunate Kentuckians to live more productive lives:

■ An initial need is for tutoring programs aimed at school children at risk of dropping out. Baptist Christians in Kentucky have the resources to help young people improve their school scores and stay in the classroom. In so doing, they also can help the youngsters develop confidence and self-esteem that will benefit them their whole lives. And along the way, they can introduce the children to Jesus Christ, building on a relationship of trust and confidence that will validate the gospel message.

■ Children aren't the only ones who need educational help. Churches can strengthen their communities by providing reading classes and classes for people who do not speak, much less read, English. These classes can be pathways into the marketplace and roads to self-dependence and responsibility.

■ We also can train people specifically for the marketplace. Kentucky Baptists possess the full range of skills—from welding and plumbing to accounting and word-processing. A church that would turn its education building into a night school for job-seeking adults could touch more lives than it ever dreamed. And by meeting the obvious needs of its community, it also could validate its voice for speaking the gospel.

■ In a similar vein, a church or association of churches could develop a local job bank. The bank could be as high-tech as the latest computer or as low-tech as index cards. It could function by receiving requests for jobs and requests for workers and pairing them up. The community "network" of a local church is vast, and a job bank could use those resources to get people on the job.

Look at your community and its needs. Pray to God for guidance. And put your church to work helping the disadvantaged all around you.

Marv Knox

Poverty presents Kentucky Baptists with a tremendous challenge and opportunity: A challenge to meet serious human needs. An opportunity to share the gospel.

Ice cream or spinach: You've got to take what life dishes out.

"Daddy, I wish all food was ice cream." Molly punctuated her desire by taking a huge bite out of her chocolate ice cream cone.

This heartfelt wish came from a kid who thinks the Four Basic Food Groups are milk, chicken, Cheerios and, of course, ice cream.

Actually, her menu is a bit more diverse than that. She also eats macaroni and cheese, bologna, green beans (if her mother or I have enough energy to force the issue), cookies, Rice Krispies, peanut butter and bananas. That's about it.

So far, this limited repertoire has fueled her little energetic body through 5 1/2 years. However, she'd probably take up spinach and flounder if someone would add them to

Baskin-Robbins' 31 flavors. She might even try Brussels sprouts if we put them in a sugar cone and topped them with chocolate syrup and multi-colored sprinkles.

Molly has locked culinary horns with her mother and me for years. Somehow, I get the feeling we're not alone.

Almost anybody who's tried to raise children knows what it's like: As parents, we want our kids to develop healthy bodies. Dietitians reinforce what we've been

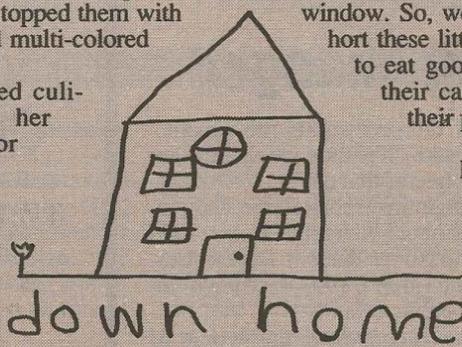
taught since grade school—the road to health doesn't lead through a drive-up window. So, we plead, cajole and exhort these little mirrors of ourselves to eat good food, and they hide their carrots under the lips of their plates.

To tell you the truth, I know how they feel. If I could eat only boiled shrimp, cinnamon rolls and chocolate pie for the rest of my life, I'd probably do it. Maybe I'd take a break for some raspberry-chocolate chip ice cream and a cup of coffee, but that'd be all.

When you stop to think about it, learning to eat healthy food seems to be a metaphor for what comes along with life: Sometimes you pick from a menu, but mostly you eat what's put on your table. You get more vegetables than dessert. Too much of anything isn't good for you. Some dishes turn out better than others, and often the least-tasty ones stick with you the longest. Sometimes you get so hungry anything sounds good. And every now and then, you get homemade ice cream.

Human nature leads us to treat life like Molly treats meals: We want to savor the good stuff and skip the rest. And God probably gets as exasperated with us as we do with our kids.

Marv Knox



BRIEFS

■ **Several students** and parents are suing the Falmouth, Mass., public school system, alleging that distribution of condoms in public schools violates their constitutional rights. In Falmouth's schools, children in grades seven through 12 may purchase condoms for 75 cents in school restrooms or get them at no charge from the school nurse.

■ **"Enable the weak** and powerless to be strong, enable the strong to be just and enable the best to be compassionate," former hostage Terry Waite told graduates of Samford University in Birmingham, Ala. "Be crusaders for justice wherever there is injustice."

■ **Two grant review** panels of the National Endowment for the Arts have suspended their work to protest the decision by acting NEA Chairwoman Anne-Imelda Radice to reject funding for sexually explicit projects. One of the rejected projects was an exhibit which included images of genitals.

■ **Two homosexual** members of Congress introduced legislation May 19 that would prohibit the Pentagon from discharging homosexuals. Reps. Barney Frank, D-Mass., and Gerry Studds, D-Mass., joined feminist Pat Schroeder, D-Colo., in introducing a bill to prohibit discrimination in the armed forces based on sexual orientation. Last year the Pentagon dismissed 360 people because of their homosexuality.

Death sentence overturned due to biblical reference

By Larry Chesser
Baptist Joint Committee

WASHINGTON (ABP)—The U.S. Supreme Court declined to review a lower court's decision that reverses a death sentence because the prosecutor in the case cited a biblical text to argue for the death penalty.

The high court's May 26 action left standing a decision by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court to vacate the death sentence imposed in a 1986 slaying. In reversing the death sentence in November, the top Pennsylvania court warned that prosecutors should rely on evidence and state laws—not the Bible or other religious writings—when asking juries to impose the death penalty.

After being convicted of robbing and killing Anna Mae Morris, Karl Chambers was sentenced to death on the murder conviction and to 10-to-20 years in prison for robbery.

On appeal, Chambers' attorneys raised numerous challenges concerning trial and sentencing procedures, but the Pennsylvania Supreme Court agreed with only one: the prosecutor's use of a biblical argument was inappropriate.

In closing his argument for the death penalty, District Attorney Stanley Rebert told jurors: "Karl Chambers has taken a life. As the Bible says, 'and the murderer shall be put to death.'"

That argument, the Pennsylvania court said, "advocates to the jury that an independent source of law exists for the conclusion that the death penalty is the appropriate punishment for (Chambers). By arguing that the Bible dogmatically commands that 'the murderer shall be put to death,' the prosecutor interjected religious law as an additional factor for the jury's consideration which neither flows from the evidence or any legitimate inference to be drawn therefrom."

The court warned all prosecutors in Pennsylvania that "reliance upon the Bible or any other religious writing" to argue for a death sentence will lead to a reversal of sentence for the defendant and may bring disciplinary action against prosecutors.

In asking the U.S. Supreme Court to review the case, Pennsylvania argued that the state court's rule against religious arguments for the death penalty violates the free-speech rights of prosecutors and the First Amendment's ban on an establishment of religion.

"This decision should not be interpreted as banning all Scriptural references in the courtroom," said Oliver Thomas, general counsel at the Baptist Joint Committee in Washington. "It does mean that we do not live in a theocracy. If people are to be punished, it is because they have violated the laws of the state, not the rules of a particular religion."

Congress votes on tissue ban

WASHINGTON—A Congressional attempt to overturn a federal ban on funding for fetal tissue research apparently will fail.

On May 28, the House of Representatives approved lifting the moratorium 260-148 but fell 12 votes short of the two-thirds majority required to override a promised veto by President George Bush. The Senate also approved overturning the ban, which applies to research on fetal tissue obtained 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, opponents of the ban say the moratorium has stopped promising research on the treatment of Parkinson's disease, juvenile diabetes and Alzheimer's disease.

Bush said he favors such research only if the tissue comes from sponta-

neous abortions or tubal pregnancies. He signed an executive order May 19 directing the Department of Health and Human Services to establish a fetal-tissue bank that obtains tissue exclusively from those two sources.

The administration said the bank will provide an ample supply of tissue for research. Louis Sullivan, HHS secretary, supported the bank, saying it will guarantee enough tissue.

Some medical authorities and congressional leaders disagreed, including some Republicans strongly against abortion.

The Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission has sided with the Bush administration, claiming lifting the ban could encourage abortions.

Reported by Pam Parry of the Baptist Joint Committee through Associated Baptist Press and Tom Strobe of the Christian Life Commission through Baptist Press.

Georgians want flag changed

ATLANTA (ABP)—The Confederate battle flag, a symbol of the segregated South, is under renewed criticism from politicians and Baptist ministers.

Gov. Zell Miller of Georgia announced last month that he would introduce legislation to remove the Confederate symbol from the state flag.

"What we fly today is not an enduring symbol of our heritage but the fighting flag of those who wanted to preserve a segregated South in the

face of the civil-rights movement," Miller said. "It is time we shake completely free of that era."

Georgia incorporated the Confederate symbol into its state flag in 1956 to demonstrate disdain for the U.S. Supreme Court's 1954 decision to integrate public schools.

"The flag shows the worst of Southern history," said Atlanta pastor Emmanuel McCall, "and pulls Christians back to an era that we should have left a long time ago."

Pat Robertson bids to buy UPI

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (EP)—Christian Broadcasting Network founder Pat Robertson may become the new owner of United Press International.

Robertson has made a \$6 million bid for the financially troubled news service and has 30 days to examine UPI's books before finalizing his offer.

Robertson said he does not plan to turn UPI into a religious news service.

"It has to be a secular news operation," he told Associated Press. "Now there's a very real possibility we would have some religious features because most papers have a religion editor, a religion section. I think we would do that, but this is not going to be a religious news-gathering operation. I think that would be a terrible mistake."

Yet Robertson emphasized the importance of having an "alternate voice" for news, saying, "People are disgusted with slanted news or news that's not being reported accurately or competently."

On "The 700 Club" cable-TV show, Robertson called the pur-

chase an opportunity for God to touch the press "with his truth and love."

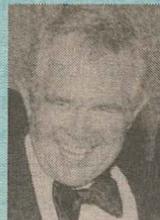
UPI Executive Editor Steve Geimann said he believes Robertson plans to run the news service as a business.

But Seymour Topping, president of the American Society of Newspaper Editors, warned "newspapers will be hesitant to continue an association with United Press if there is a question as to the independence of the editorial department."

Although Robertson often is dismissed as a televangelist, he also is the head of a multi-million dollar media empire. His International Family Entertainment, which runs The Family Channel, had profits of \$19.8 million on revenues of \$113.7 million in 1991.

UPI has had severe financial problems since the 1980s and has been sold twice since 1982.

Told of Robertson's bid for UPI, Stephen Isaacs, associate dean of the Columbia School of Journalism, said, "It's going to take God to make UPI profitable."



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2 new studies warn of TV's dangers for children

The latest ratings are in, and they show television continues to have a negative influence on America's children.

Two recent reports, one by the American Psychological Association and another by the American Academy of Pediatrics, say children are watching too much television and what they watch often is harmful.

For one report, nine psychologists conducted a five-year study titled "Big World, Small Screen: The Role of Television in American Society."

Television inherently is neither good nor bad, the psychologists concluded. It can have positive or negative effects on individuals, depending on what is viewed and how it is viewed.

For instance, it can teach children academic and social skills, the report noted. It can help adults gain knowledge. It can provide a sense of contact with a modern world.

On the other hand, it also can lead to antisocial behavior, stereotyping, poor grades, a loss of self-esteem, and a breakdown of healthy family interaction, the report added.

Meanwhile, a new report from the American Academy of Pediatrics says children tend to get the negative bene-

fits of television more than the positive.

Long-term television viewing is one cause for violent and aggressive behavior in children and is a significant contributor to childhood obesity, the pediatricians' study finds.

The 13-year study noted Americans spend an average of seven years of their lives in front of the television, even though they view the activity as mindless, boring and addictive.

In short, watching television made the study participants feel worse instead of better and cut into meaningful family time.

The pediatricians urged parents to cut their children's television viewing time to one or two hours a day and to develop alternative family activities.

The key is the home, they said.

"We know from audience-rating surveys that television occupies a central place in the lives of many Americans," said John Murray, head of human development and family studies at Kansas State University and one of the drafters of the report. "The typical household has the TV set turned on for more than seven hours each day, and this figure has been steadily rising over the past decade.

"What is most needed in address-

Selected findings of 'Big World, Small Screen'

■ **Pervasiveness.** The average American child watches television three hours a day. Boys watch more than girls. Viewing most often begins in infancy, when parents use the television to quiet babies. Childhood viewing peaks at about four hours a day at age 12 and provides a backdrop for growing up.

■ **Stereotyping.** Television devalues and stereotypes social groups, such as women and minorities. Exposure to such messages increases stereotyped beliefs and attitudes.

■ **Sex.** Implied sexual activity on television most often occurs between unmarried couples with little emotional commitment.

■ **Violence.** Prime-time television includes five to six acts of violence each hour. Saturday morn-

ing children's programs have up to 25 such acts per hour. The average child sees 8,000 murders and more than 100,000 assorted acts of violence by the time he or she leaves elementary school. Such exposure can cause aggressive behavior and foster the belief that aggression is the way to resolve conflicts.

■ **Sexual violence.** Watching sexually related violence leads to an increased acceptance of rape and other forms of sexual violence and can lead to antisocial values and behavior.

■ **Reality.** The average child is exposed to 20,000 commercials per year, and children under 7 have difficulty distinguishing commercials from programs.

Television & children

All in the family

ing the role of television in American society," Murray added, "is an understanding of the ways to use TV sensibly and an appreciation of the subtle influences that this medium may have on our lives."

Yet most families have not acted.

In a national survey of elementary school students, 58 percent said their parents set no limits on the amount of television they may view.

Reported by Lacy Thompson of the Louisiana Baptist Message through Associated Baptist Press.

Experts' advice: Set TV limits, help children understand

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

Setting family limits is the key to keeping television viewing in proper perspective, experts agree.

And it's never too early to start, said Dr. Shawn Taylor, chairwoman of the pediatrics department at Central Baptist Hospital in Lexington.

"It's something parents have to start working on in the infancy and toddler years," she said. "Children won't suddenly be enlightened as teen-agers"

Appropriate limits may vary from family to family, depending on individual tastes and circumstances, explained John Lepper, director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's family ministry department.

For example, he and his wife began by not allowing their children to watch any television until their homework was completed at night.

But then they realized that at their children's school, there was no recess. That meant the kids had no mental break from early morning until after their homework was done in the evening. So the Lepper family

changed their limits to allow the children to watch a certain amount of television as a break before tackling homework.

Here are additional suggestions:

■ **Limit the time children watch TV.** Most experts recommend a limit of one to two hours per day, Taylor said.

■ **Turn the TV off at mealtime.** Television drowns out family conversation at mealtime and prevents parents from paying appropriate attention to their children, Lepper said.

■ **Try a weekly no-television night.** "It may not even be a night to start," said media activist Sue Lockwood Summers of Littleton, Colo. "It may be a no-television hour. But it's something where the family says, 'We are an important entity and we care about each other.'"

■ **Set appropriate viewing guidelines,** such as no television until homework or chores are done, no television on school nights, no commercial television, or no isolated television viewing.

■ **Monitor children's viewing** to make sure what they are watching is appropriate and to be available to help

them process what they are viewing. If parents don't like what their children want to watch, they should be able to express their reasons to the children so the children will know it is not an arbitrary decision, Taylor advised.

■ **Teach children good television watching habits.** Taylor encourages parents not to mindlessly flip channels. "Get the TV guide out, look at what is available, then turn it on and turn it off, ... actually plan it out like you would other activities."

■ **Promote alternate activities.** Summers suggests using an "imagination station," a box of non-television activities children can do while parents are busy with other activities, such as cooking dinner.

■ **Beware of commercials.** Beer commercials are "some of the most suggestive there are" and highly influence teen-agers, Taylor noted. Also, some of television's contribution to obesity comes from commercials, she said. "Commercials for the most part that are geared toward kids are geared toward cereal, candy and toys. Kids get poor eating habits through that."

■ **Watch out for violence.** Chil-

dren's shows are full of violence, Taylor said, and even comical violence tends to create aggressive behavior in children. "Children learn from modeling or imitation. If what they see on the television is a poor model, that's what they are going to attempt to imitate."

■ **Talk.** Television shows can—and should—become the occasion for family discussions about issues, Lepper said. Parents need to help their children and teen-agers interpret what they see on TV, he said.

■ **Realize children's limits.** Children can't always differentiate reality from television fantasy, Lepper and Taylor said. Children under 6 years of age usually cannot tell the difference between the two, Taylor said, while children older than 6 should gain in that ability as they mature.

Even adults sometimes have trouble separating fictional television from real life, Lepper said. "We can shed real tears for the emotion of the moment in a television program and yet fail to see the real hurts all around us."

Additional reporting by Lacy Thompson of the Louisiana Baptist Message.

Developing good television habits is "something parents have to start working on in the infancy and toddler years. Children won't suddenly be enlightened as teen-agers."

Dr. Shawn Taylor, chairwoman of the pediatrics department at Central Baptist Hospital in Lexington

Quayle's Murphy Brown comment gives birth to national flap

WASHINGTON (EP)—Dan Quayle's suggestion that television's Murphy Brown becoming an unwed mother made her a poor role model has given birth to a storm of controversy.

Quayle, who has said his remarks were calculated to stir a national debate on family values, continued to press the attack.

He reiterated his stand as the controversy over his remark grew: "My complaint is that Hollywood thinks

it's cute to glamorize illegitimacy. Hollywood doesn't get it."

Even Democratic presidential candidate Bill Clinton acknowledged that Murphy Brown "is not the example we want to set for our children," but he added a slam for Quayle, noting, "We're not running for national preacher."

For the most part, response to Quayle's remarks split predictably along party lines, but response also varied depending on how much of the

speech people heard.

When Roy Innis, conservative chairman of the Congress of Racial Equality, heard accounts of Quayle's remarks, he thought the vice president was being "flippant and trivial." But after reading the complete speech, Innis told USA Today, "He told the truth—that you cannot solve the poverty of economics until you solve the poverty of values."

New York Governor Mario Cuomo accused the Republicans of trying

to distract the national attention from "the real issues"—which he said are drugs, urban problems and the budget deficit—by talking about less-important issues like "values, welfare, sin, morality, abortion, whatever else they want."

The Wall Street Journal praised Quayle's speech, saying, "We suspect the vice president has just tapped into something huge in America's cultural life. At the moment, it's not at all clear that the Democrats quite get it."

Church calls couple to staff

By Karen Owen
Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer

OWENSBORO—Third Baptist Church may not break ground for its new Christian recreation center until early 1994, but it broke ground of another kind last weekend when a husband and wife joined the church staff in full-time ministry.

The church has hired Thomas Pelphrey as associate pastor and Cynthia Pelphrey as minister of youth and missions.

He is ordained. She is not.

This is the first time an Owensboro Baptist church has had a husband and wife on the full-time staff.

Although other local churches have had husbands and wives in ministry roles in full- and part-time combinations, paid, professional positions for both spouses on the same staff are still rare here.

Hiring a husband and wife was "not something we set out to do," said Dwight Moody, Third Baptist's pastor.

The church had two staff openings, and members of the two search committees looked over the resumes of a total of 100 different candidates in filling the posts, Moody said.

Each Pelphrey was the top contender for the opening to be filled and the only one interviewed for each job, Moody said.

Thomas Pelphrey has been minister of education at the 2,350-member First Baptist Church in Columbus,

Miss., since 1986.

Cynthia Pelphrey has been the part-time director of ecumenical ministries at Mississippi University and volunteer director of the church and community missions program at First Baptist Church there since 1986.

The search committees were impressed by the Pelphreys' work experience stretching back 20 years and by the fact they had specific skills the church was looking for in areas like community ministry and creative worship, Moody said.

Having spouses on the same staff has its disadvantages and advantages, but "we think it's a strength," Moody said. "We think they can be role models for family living and husband-wife leadership in the church."



JUICE & DOUGHNUTS Roy Honeycutt, president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, and his wife, June, pay an early morning visit to share juice and doughnuts with children of seminary students waiting for the school bus at the end of the spring semester. The children and their parents live in Seminary Village, which currently is undergoing extensive renovation. (Southern Seminary photo by Tony Aja)

Campbellsville College hires vice president & recruiter

CAMPBELLSVILLE—Campbellsville College has named David Gray vice president for development and Jenifer Marie Martin admissions counselor.

For the past three years, Gray has been director of development at Charleston Southern University in Charleston, S.C.

Gray previously served as program administrator of the Federal Law Enforcement program, where he administered federally funded assistance within an eight-country region. He also served as executive director of the Boys' Farm Foundation in Spring-



Gray



Martin

field, Ill., and has experience in directing daycare facilities and Christian counseling centers.

He holds degrees from Southwest-

ern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, and Dallas Baptist University.

Gray is the son of Gladys Baggett of Louisville.

Martin, a 1992 graduate of Campbellsville College, is the daughter of Margaret Martin of Springfield.

She will be responsible for recruiting students in Southeastern Kentucky, parts of Tennessee, the Southeastern United States, and at Oneida Baptist Institute as well as students with interests in youth performing arts, music, cheerleading, drill team, tennis and softball.

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Food boxes needed

Continued from page 1
inches. Also, each box must be accompanied by a \$50 check payable to Project Brotherhood to cover the cost of shipping and distribution.

Bob Simpkins, state Brotherhood director, said he hopes Kentucky churches will provide enough food boxes to fill a commercial truck. But so far, he has received only 17 boxes at Brotherhood offices.

"We need the momentum to pick up," he said.

Simpkins said there are two deadlines for the food boxes to arrive in Louisville: June 15 and July 1.

"The effort being made by Project Brotherhood is meeting a very needy cause," Sloan said. "It is imperative that as many churches in our state as possible prepare those boxes as soon as possible. If each church could pack half a dozen or a dozen boxes and send over there, it definitely would be used," he said.

For further information, contact Simpkins at the Kentucky Baptist Convention: (502) 245-4101.

Orthodox want building back from Baptists

ST. PETERSBURG, Russia (BP)—After completing the first phase of reconstruction of the Temple of the Gospel Baptist Church, Baptists in St. Petersburg, Russia, now fear they could lose the building originally owned by a branch of the Russian Orthodox Church.

The building was abandoned by the government in 1930 because it was in a bad state of repair. The Baptist community under the leadership of Pastor Sergei Nikolaev saw its promise and gained government permission to obtain the building and renovate it.

Many Baptist volunteers from the United States and elsewhere helped in the renovation.

The church is now reported to be the fastest-growing in Europe, with average attendance of 1,800 people and more than 500 baptisms of converts age 16 and older last year.

But the Orthodox Church wants the building back, and Nikolaev says that illustrates the new threat of religious persecution Baptists face in the former Soviet Union.

The Baptist World Alliance has appealed to the mayor of St. Petersburg, Anatoly Sobchak, to do all in his power to assure Baptists their freedoms will be defended and their building will not be taken back.

Nikolaev, who currently is studying at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas,

said he has endured increasing trouble from the Orthodox Church.

"Everybody comforts you and says, 'No, no, don't worry. Everything will be all right.' But you know, when they announce on the radio that 'tonight we are going to exorcise the devil out of the church which belonged to us,' it's a strange feeling."

The Orthodox Church "is going to be a state church and on its way to triumph the Orthodox are going to press everybody who is not Orthodox," he said.

And that could be more dangerous than past persecutions, Nikolaev said, because it seems like religious freedom but really is "a privilege for some which will be lost for many of us."

"When they announce on the radio that 'tonight we are going to exorcise the devil out of the church which belonged to us,' it's a strange feeling."

Sergei Nikolaev, pastor of Temple of the Gospel Baptist Church in St. Petersburg, Russia, on threats from the Russian Orthodox Church

FMB responding to needs as local Baptists request

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Despite what some critics have called a slow start, Southern Baptists are responding to opportunities in the former Soviet Union, officials of the denomination's Foreign Mission Board report.

As a result of a "Green Alert" initiative in the Commonwealth of Independent States, Southern Baptists will compress into one year what normally could have been accomplished in

10 years, said Lewis Myers, director of the Green Alert task force.

For example, funds are being distributed to translate Scriptures into the Kazakh, Azeri, Kirghiz and Uzbek languages of central Asia.

The board already has received personnel requests for 27 career positions and has reassigned five career missionary couples to the region.

The FMB says Soviet Baptist lead-

ers were overwhelmed with volunteers before they were ready to use them. In many cases, para-church groups "rushed in before the needs were identified," said Ron Boswell, director of the FMB's volunteer department. The FMB encourages would-be volunteers to be patient. It's probably only a matter of waiting a few months before volunteer opportunities proliferate, they predict.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE: Hammon electric organ, bass foot pedals, double keyboard. Good condition; best offer over \$600. Oak Grove Baptist Church, 4675 Morgantown Road, Russellville, Ky. 42276. (502) 542-4017.

FOR SALE: 100 paper and pen games. Use in Sunday school parties, showers, traveling, kids. Send \$3 plus 3 stamps to: Ellen Lichtenstein, 1352 Leaf Terrace, San Diego, Ca. 92114.

POSITION AVAILABLE: Food Service Manager, full-time, salaried, commercial food service and/or school cafeteria experience desired. Contact John Boone, Highview Baptist Church, 7711 Fegenbush Lane, Louisville, Ky. 40228. Phone (502) 239-7711.

FOR SALE: 1992 Dodge 15-passenger van, dual air, balance of factory warranty. \$6,000 off new. Frankfort Chrysler, 1-800-289-8223.

FOR SALE: LaserMaster 19" hi-res desktop publishing monitor, controllers, extras, \$1,495. (502) 244-1685.

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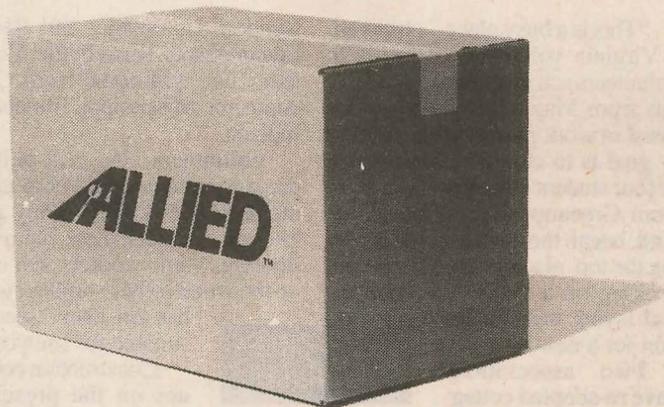
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KENTUCKY KERNELS

Baptists have a 2 1/2 page listing in the new 1,045-page Kentucky Encyclopedia released last week to commemorate the state's bicentennial. The Baptist entry was written by Jack Birdwhistell of Georgetown College. It notes the first record of a Baptist presence in Kentucky was in 1776, when William Hickman from Virginia preached a sermon in Harrodstown (now Harrodsburg), and that Baptists are now the largest religious group in the state.

Mountains to the Mississippi

■ **BANDANA**—Bandana Church called **Norman Ellis** as interim pastor.

■ **BARDWELL**—A May 3 celebration at Bardwell Church included a tribute to senior adults, a commemoration of **Greg McFadden's** one-year anniversary as pastor, high Sunday school attendance and 21 professions of faith. **Chris Kurtz**, youth minister, challenged the youth to reach high attendance in Sunday school. By exceeding the goal, they were allowed to throw pie in the faces of the church staff members.

■ **CAMPBELLSVILLE**—**Robert Gaddis**, associate professor of music and chairman of the fine arts division of Campbellsville College, received the doctor of education degree from the University of Kentucky.

■ **EASTWOOD**—**Marion Lee Going** has resigned as pastor of Eastwood Church. Resumes for the position are being accepted and may be addressed to First Baptist Church, pulpit committee, Box 103, Eastwood, Ky. 40018.

■ **ELIZABETHTOWN**—The executive board of Severns Valley Baptist Association authorized payment in full on the indebtedness of its ministry center building.

■ **FARMINGTON**—Bell City Church called **Bill Dodson** as pastor.

■ **FRANKFORT**—**Jud Reasons**, who was ordained to the ministry May 24, has resigned as minister of youth at First Church to serve in a similar

position at First Church in Augusta, Ga.

■ **LAWRENCEBURG**—Alton Church called **Ellery Milburn** as interim minister of music.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—**Lela Hendrix** has resigned as minister of students at Walnut Street Church in order to complete her doctoral degree.

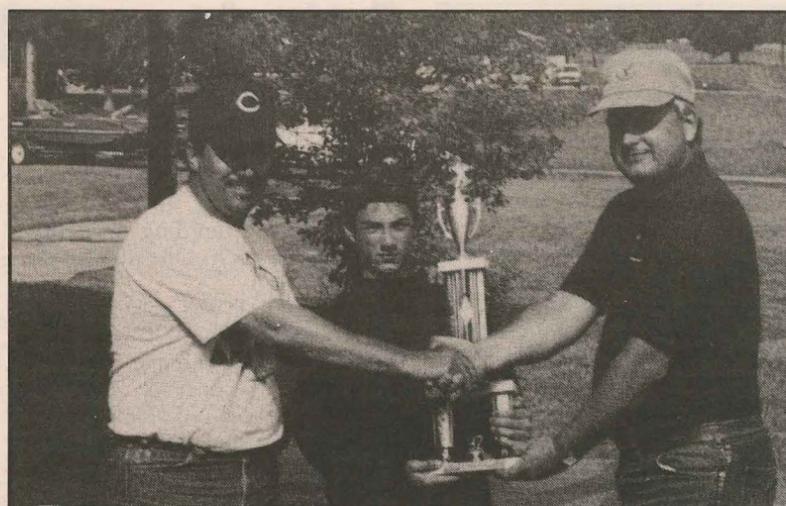
■ **MIDDLETOWN**—**Conrad Dodd** is serving as associate pastor in education at First Church. He previously served as pastor of First Church in Port Orchard, Wash.

■ **MORELAND**—First Church held renewal services May 3-8 with **David McGowin** of Hanceville, Ala., as guest evangelist. The theme was "Family Spoken Here."

■ **PADUCAH**—**Denzel Dukes** retired May 31, after completing 44 years of ministry on Mother's Day. He was pastor of churches in Kentucky and Tennessee for 41 years, and for the past three years was associate pastor of Lone Oak First Church. Dukes plans to rest for a short period and then be available to churches. His address is 225 Wexford Ct., Paducah, Ky. 42003.

■ **VERSAILLES**—Versailles Church celebrates its 150th anniversary this month with a walking tour to each of the congregation's former meeting places.

■ **WICKLIFFE**—Bethlehem Church called **Charles Frazier** as pastor. He was ordained to the ministry May 24 at Beulah Church in Fancy Farm.



BIGGEST FISH Sam Bracato (left) and his son, Shay, both of Henderson, receive a trophy from Bob Simpkins, state Brotherhood director, during the first Brotherhood fishing tournament at Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly May 29-30. The father-son team won the award for catching the biggest fish in the tournament, a 4.5-pound largemouth bass. A total of 54 men and boys ventured out onto Kentucky Lake for the event after hearing a program about "Fishing for Men" the night before.

Yeaste retires after 31 years at Bardstown

BARDSTOWN—Kit Yeaste, long-time Kentucky pastor and civic leader, retired April 26. Yeaste served for 31 years as pastor of Bardstown Baptist Church in Bardstown.

He also was active in civic organizations such as the Nelson County Red Cross, the board of directors for Kentucky's Baptist hospitals, and the Boy Scouts of America. He was commissioned a Kentucky Colonel by Gov. Bert Combs.

He received a graduate equivalent diploma, a bachelor's degree from

Georgetown College and the master of divinity degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, all while serving as pastor in several churches throughout the state.

In 1961, Yeaste was called as pastor of Bardstown Baptist Church.

Yeaste has been active in the Bardstown Ministerial Association and moderator of the Central and Nelson Baptist Associations.

The Yeastes plan to devote their retirement years to missions, family and travel.

Love through the window glass

Asher and Ica fell in love as teen-agers washing windows in the 1920s. Both were students at Oneida when they met.

Asher was a poor mountain boy from the Big Creek community. Coming to Oneida, he lived in the home of the local doctor, Preston Jones. "Doc" Jones, newly graduated from medical school, came to our village in 1908 with the intentions of staying one year. Instead, Doc lived the remainder of his life here. He delivered hundreds of babies riding up and down the creeks and hollows. Young children knew nothing of the stork. They thought new babies came in Doc's saddlebags.

Asher fed and curried Doc's horses, milked the cows, gathered eggs, cut grass and did scores of jobs before and after school on the Oneida campus. Mrs. Julia Jones was as capable a housekeeper as Doc was medically. She was a stickler for house cleaning and kept Asher busy in that way also. She never was satisfied that the windows were clean enough. She would call in reinforcements from down the street. A pretty young girl named Ica would wash the windows on the inside while Asher washed outside. Looking through the glass at one another, they fell in love, and neither ever loved another.

But it was nearly 14 years before they were to marry. They each graduated in the early years of the Great Depression. With one year of college, Ica taught her first school at Newfound, a one-room school with scores of students in all eight grades. Asher continued to help Doc and did varying work in the area. Financially, things were so difficult they delayed marriage.

The '30s ended, and nearly two years later the nation was at war and Asher was going away to

fight. Having just turned 33 the week before, he married Ica on her 30th birthday, June 3, 1942.

Theirs has been a wonderful 50-year partnership, and this past week scores of friends and family helped Asher and Ica celebrate their birthdays and their golden anniversary.

"Miss Ica," as all her former students still call her, taught for 42 years. She taught me to read and write in the Oneida primer class and also in the fifth and sixth grades. She was my teacher more hours than any other person. Under her I got a wonderful academic foundation and developed a love for history.

Asher did not return until World War II was over three years later. During those years Miss Ica also was housemother to Oneida's girls.

In 1945, Asher opened a country store a block from our campus. His slogan was "Good feelings go with square dealings." Always smiling, his greeting was, "How are you, neighbor? What can I do for you today?" He always carried the groceries to the car and gave the same courtesy to one buying a pop as to another buying \$50 of groceries. He carried many on credit from one tobacco crop to the next. After nearly 40 years, Asher retired to work hours daily in his beloved garden and to enjoy Ica full time and his only son, Jennings, and only grandson, named for himself.

Our school hosted the community gathering to honor these good neighbors, now in their 80s. We cut fresh flowers to decorate the tables, brought out our best china, crystal and silver. We had a feast. "Well done, good and faithful servants," Asher and Ica.

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

Paid Column

ONEIDA JOURNAL



Barkley Moore

420 volunteers assist Clear Creek

"This is a busy place," observed a Virginia volunteer, one of 420 volunteers scheduled to be on campus from May through August to assist in work projects. The primary goal is to complete renovation of four student cottages. Eight men from Greenup Association, Ashland, began the summer by removing the top, placing new rafters and decking on a Holly Hill cottage, and laying the foundation for a new room.

Two associations have re-adopted cottages they built in the early '50s. Lebanon and New Lebanon Baptists in Virginia sent 41 volunteers and contributed several thousand dollars for materials. They added a kitchen/dining/utility room to a Bear Trail cottage, replaced the flooring, installed windows, ran new wiring, placed insulation, and completed numerous other jobs. Sullivan Association, Kingsport, Tenn., under the direction of alumnus and director of missions Tommy Holtzclaw, plans to send 25 workers weekly for a three-week period.

Other Kentucky work teams for the summer come from: Central, Winchester; Macedonia, Owensboro; Mount Carmel, Utica; First, Murray; Citterdon Assoc., Williamstown; Hall St., Owensboro;

Lyndon, Louisville; and Bethel/Logan Assoc., Russellville. Volunteers also will come from Ohio, Alabama, Mississippi, Illinois and Indiana.

Volunteers also will help us prepare eight one-bedroom apartments in Kelly Hall. They need kitchen cabinets, new paint and flooring. Some workers will clean up the woods where timber cutting has left many tree tops suitable for firewood.

Construction continues on the preschool building. Student electricians Charles Dixon and Sam Huff wired the facility. Carpentry trainees from Bell County Forestry Camp will work on the building through June. Unfortunately, the governor has decided to cut this work release program from the state budget.

We hope a new bridge across Clear Creek will be completed before the fall term. With some subcontractors we will build the bridge with student labor, for a savings of \$50,000.

Yes, Clear Creek is a busy place this summer. We welcome you to stop by, but you may need a hard hat!

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

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill D. Whittaker

Paid Column

CHURCHES

Graded Sunday schools changed church architecture

By Charles Willis
SBC Sunday School Board

NASHVILLE (BP)—The impact of a 1910 book on age-graded Sunday school work still can be seen today in the buildings of Baptist churches all over the world.

Members of individual congregations may not specifically know Harvey Beauchamp's "The Graded Sunday School," but likely they know today's church buildings are designed with program needs in mind.

"Beauchamp's book started a revolution in the philosophy of Southern Baptist church architecture that continues today," observed Gwenn McCormick, director of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's church architecture department.

"The Graded Sunday School" con-

tained suggested floor plans for a new concept of age-graded Sunday school classes.

Such innovation rendered every existing Southern Baptist church building inadequate, McCormick said. Not even the leading church architects of the day knew how to plan a building to house all the departments of the Sunday school.

In 1915, P.E. Burroughs, who headed the Sunday School Board's education department, conducted a survey to determine services that might be offered to pastors, church building committees and architects. In 1917, he established the church architecture department.

In 1992, its 75th anniversary year, the department's purpose continues to include assisting churches in planning, financing, furnishing, equipping

and using property.

Last year, the staff of 23 provided services for almost 2,900 churches and denominational organizations and for Southern Baptists in 32 locations around the world.

Reviews of plans for Home Mission Board loans and on-site and Nashville office consultations exceeded 600. More than 2,500 units of technical work were done for churches, with an average turn-around time of 20 days.

Many small, new and mission churches use the department's low-cost plans, designed with volunteer construction crews in mind.

Interior design, landscape architecture and master planning are among other services that have been added over the years.

In this anniversary year, the staff

will conduct a national church building seminar in Nashville Sept. 14-17 for church staff people and building committees and a church architecture workshop for architects Oct. 2-3.

The release of two books—"Planning and Building Church Facilities" in September and "Architect's Guide" in October—also are a part of the observance.

McCormick said he believes the challenge of designing buildings for growth and effective ministry "is as critical today as it was 75 years ago."

"As church programs and ministries grow and demographics change, buildings must be designed to accommodate that growth and change. Our role is to work with churches and architects to design the best facility to achieve the vision of reaching the world for Christ."

In 1910, the graded Sunday school concept rendered existing church buildings obsolete and started a revolution in church architecture.

Church of the future looks more like cafeteria than diner

By Sarah Zimmerman
SBC Home Mission Board

COLUMBUS, Ohio (BP)—Successful churches of the future will be more like cafeterias than plate lunch diners, the dean of religion at Liberty University predicted.

With plate lunches, the amount of food and how it is served is controlled, explained Elmer Towns. A cafeteria, on the other hand, offers choices and variety, not control.

During a Southern Baptist Home Mission Board conference in Columbus, Ohio, Towns talked about his study of 10 innovative churches in America. His list included two South-

ern Baptist churches—First Baptist Church of Jacksonville, Fla., and Second Baptist Church of Houston.

One way to make a church more like a cafeteria is to vary times for worship services, Sunday school and prayer meetings, Towns said. He suggested churches should have more than one worship service, not because the auditorium is full but to give people options.

Saturday night worship services are a viable option for some churches, Towns said.

The alternative time may reach "thousands of young people today who have no distant echo of Christianity," he said. "They have no concept

that Sunday is the Lord's Day."

In addition, baby boomers people born between 1945 and 1965—want a variety of Bible study topics, Towns said. He cited a United Methodist survey finding that people expect verse-by-verse Bible study, practical lessons from the Bible, lessons about Christian heritage and biblical lessons about life issues.

In sermons, people want "practical, fix-it" topics, he said, explaining the three main issues they want pastors to address are marriage relationships, how to raise children and how to manage money.

Another trait of innovative churches, Towns said, is that "pastors don't

do ministry." Instead, they equip and empower lay leaders to do everything from hospital visits to wedding ceremonies.

Also, Towns said, "The pastor of the future does not make decisions. He manages decisions and works with a team of people. He makes better decisions based on surveys of what people think."

People expect team leadership based on shared problem-solving and goal-setting, he said.

People also want to participate in worship services rather than be spectators, Towns said. Yet successful churches need strong small groups to keep people in church, he added.

GET READY Susan Akin, a vacation Bible school teacher at First Baptist Church in Monticello, Ark., works with her fifth-grade son, John, to try out some of the teaching materials she will use in this year's VBS. (Photo by Jim Veneman)

VBS can add to church's ongoing prospect file, leader says

NASHVILLE—Churches often miss one of the best opportunities to locate prospects by not following up on participants in vacation Bible school, according to a coordinator of Southern Baptist VBS work.

As churches plan for VBS in the coming summer months, they should not overlook the number of prospects possible from VBS, said Willie Beaty, Sunday School Board growth consultant.

Beaty expressed concern about a decline in the number of prospects discovered during 1991 VBS—

512,429 compared to 526,878 in 1990.

Reports for mission schools and backyard Bible clubs indicated increases in prospects discovered while the decline was in prospects from church schools, Beaty pointed out.

While prospects declined in 1991, Beaty said he hopes the increase in professions of faith, number of schools and enrollment continue in the 1992 VBS season.

Professions of faith for 1991 were 61,420, for an increase of 5,212 over the 56,208 reported in 1990. The

number of schools was up 1,368 from 33,101 for 1990 to 34,469 for 1991. Enrollment increased by 86,722 for a total of 3,620,254 in 1991 compared with 3,533,532 in 1990.

Beaty said prospect files in church vacation Bible schools can be increased if churches train workers well and promote schools in the community.

A promotional theme, "Fantastic Journey," is developed with posters, flyers and other items in a new VBS promotion kit for 1992.

This is the first year a unified pro-

motional theme has been provided, Beaty said.

10 steps to an evangelistic VBS

LAS VEGAS, Nev. (BP)—As churches prepare for vacation Bible schools, they can take at least 10 steps to be sure the rite of summer is an evangelistic tool, said Art Burcham of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board:

- Understand the relationship of a child to God. Not all children are ready for conversion at the same age because children are unique and develop at different paces, Burcham said.
- Promote Bible school to unsaved families.
- Involve the pastor in the school's evangelistic effort. The pastor

should not be the only one responsible for evangelism, Burcham said, but "in most situations the church will not rise above its pastor."

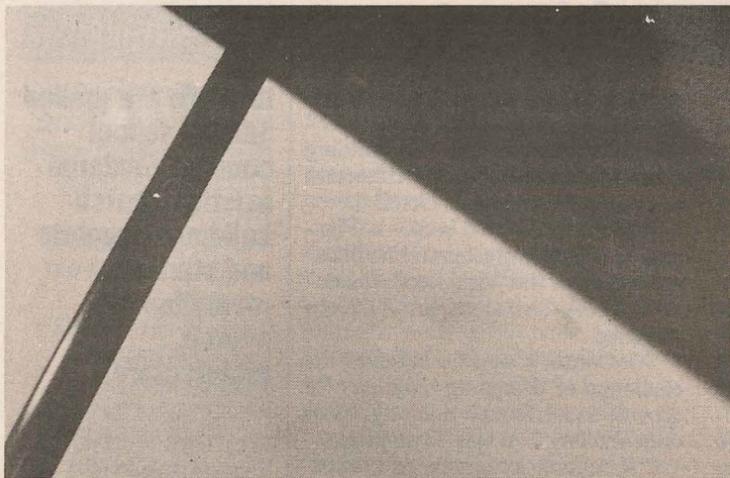
- Train Bible school workers to share their faith individually and to teach evangelistically.
- Include in the Bible school program an evangelistic service when students are given an opportunity to respond to the gospel. The Sunday School Board offers several resources to help churches plan an effective evangelistic service without causing children to make a decision from peer pressure, he

said.

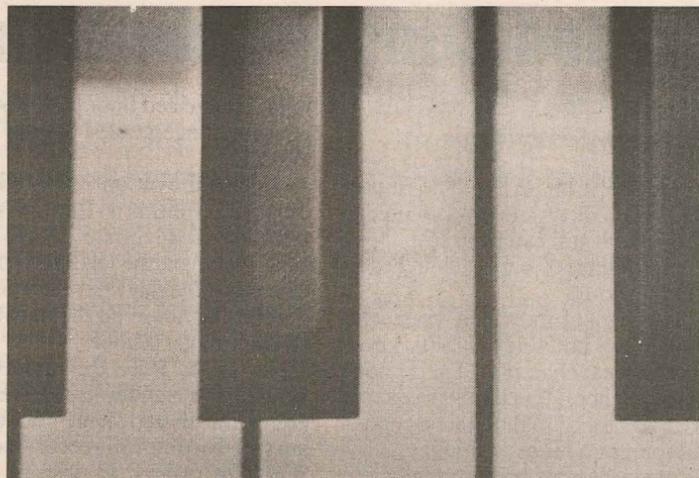
- Counsel individually with Bible school students who make professions of faith.
- Continue the evangelistic thrust after Bible school is over by conducting transfer enrollment. This involves asking children who came to Bible school but are not enrolled in Sunday school if they would like to be enrolled, Burcham said.
- Teach evangelistically in Sunday school.
- Make it a priority to visit non-Christian parents of children who came to Bible school.



CLEAR CREEK



*He hath made every thing beautiful in His time.
Ecclesiastes 3:11*



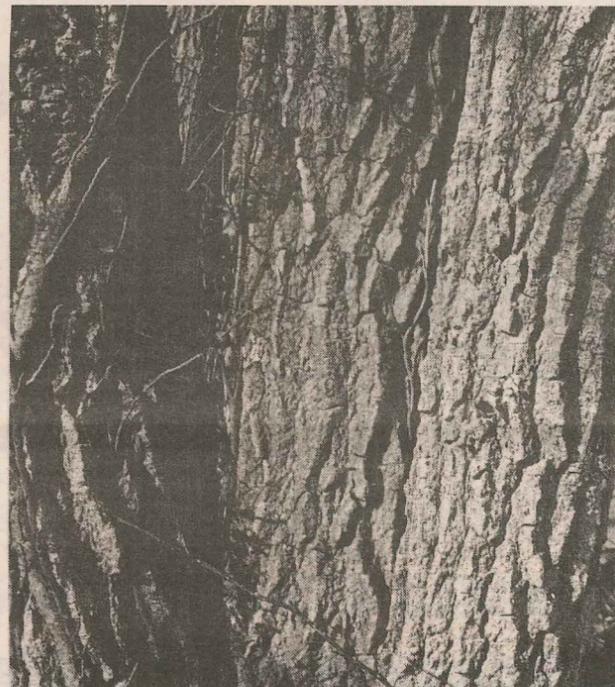
Praise Him with stringed instruments. Psalm 150:4



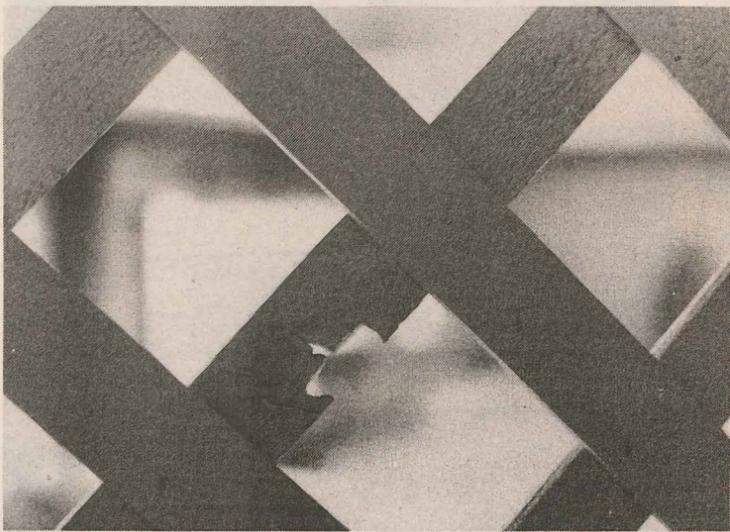
*But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it.
Matthew 13:20*

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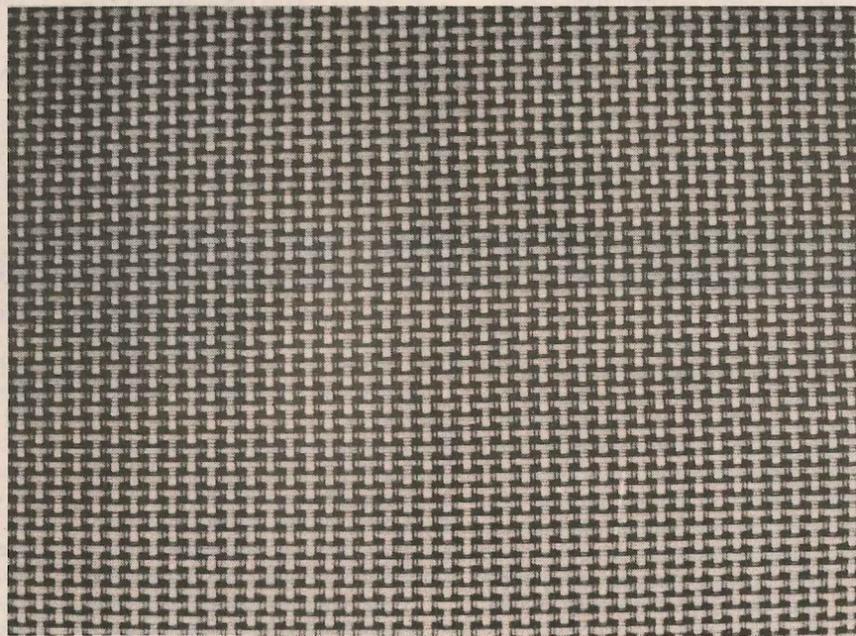
Photos by Dr. Maynard Head
Vice President for Development



For as the days of a tree are the days of my people and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands. Isaiah 65:22



Oh that I had wings, like a dove! For then would I fly away and be at rest. Psalm 55:6



That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love. Colossians 4:2