

SEPTEMBER 1, 1992 VOL. 166, NO. 34

FOR THE RECORD

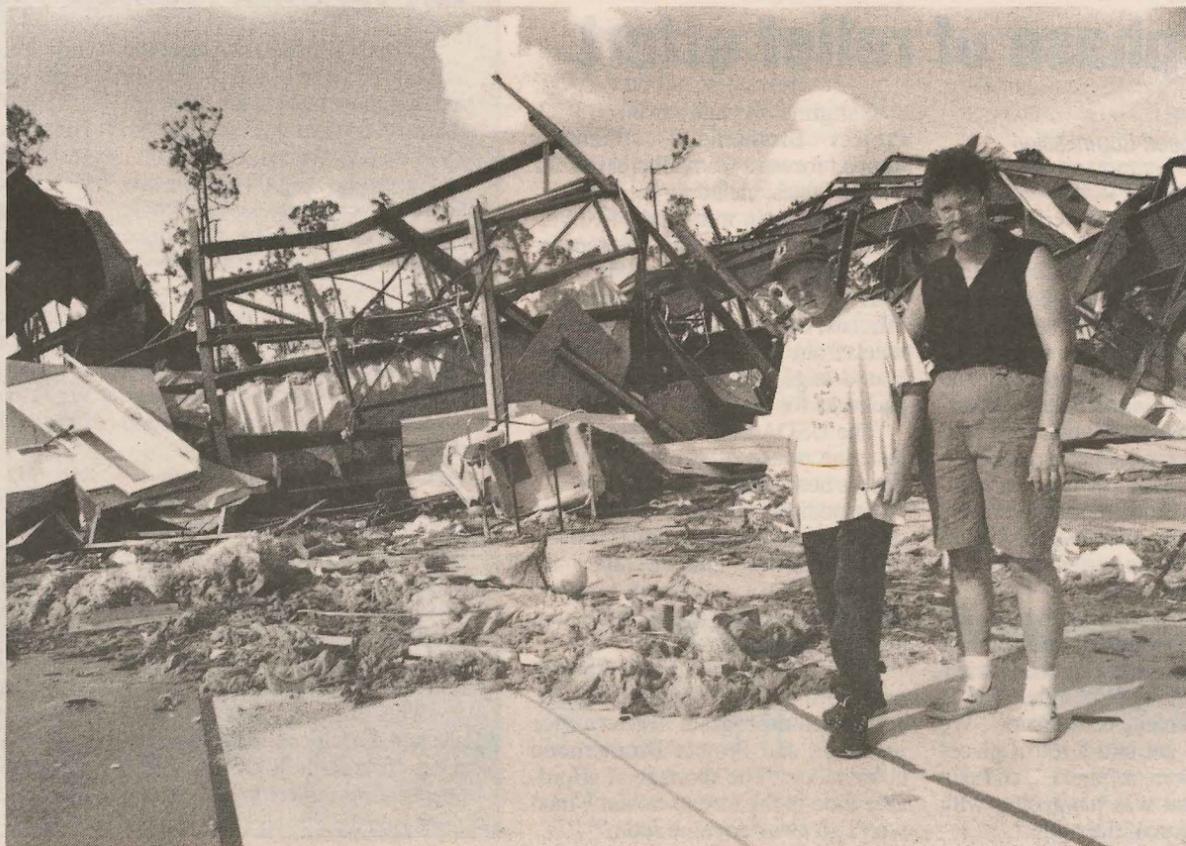
Somalia aid
The Baptist World Alliance is receiving funds to assist starving Somalians. *See page 2.*

Conservative strategy
Two Kentuckians joined people from 15 states for a meeting in Memphis, Tenn., to discuss ways to support the Cooperative Program and extend conservative control to state conventions. *See page 3.*

Family Forum
"How can I help my 5-year-old daughter when her grandfather dies?" *See page 4.*

CLC & GOP
The executive director of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission says his agency's participation in the National Affairs Briefing in Dallas last month does not tie Southern Baptists too closely to the Republican Party. *See page 6.*

Worship
Workshop leaders offer their insights into various aspects of worship, from the use of banners to what musical styles are appropriate. *See page 11.*



DESTROYED Carla Whitaker and her 11-year-old son, Matthew, stand in front of what remains of the South Dade Baptist Church gym. The Florida church's main building weathered Hurricane Andrew better than the gym, although the steeple was toppled. (BP photo by Paul Obregon)

Baptist Men respond to hurricane

Kentucky Baptist disaster relief workers joined Baptists from 12 other states last week in responding to the trail of devastation left by Hurricane Andrew.

A crew of 32 Kentuckians left for South Florida Aug. 27 to join Bob Simpkins, Kentucky Baptist Convention Brotherhood director, who already was on the scene.

Simpkins was serving as on-site coordinator in Miami, directing the work of volunteer Baptist Men teams from Kentucky, Virginia, Ohio, Florida, South Carolina, Georgia and North Carolina.

Other disaster relief units from Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Arkansas were on the scene in Louisiana, where Andrew struck two days after cutting across the southern tip of Florida.

The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship also responded to the disaster, marking the group's first-ever relief effort. Six trucks loaded with relief *See Baptists volunteers ..., page 10*

America's kids need more help, researchers say

By Lacy Thompson
Louisiana Baptist Message

WASHINGTON (ABP)—Being a kid in America is tough and getting tougher.

That's the bottom line of a new study on the nation's children. According to the annual "Kids Count" data book, an analysis of trends affecting children reveals a nation "failing to keep pace with the needs of its youngest citizens."

Such information should move Christians to become advocates for America's children, a Baptist children's worker responded.

Little is being done to reverse the "very dangerous" trends that are making life harder for children, said Barbara Massey, editor of two childhood magazines for Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union.

Her assessment concurs with that of Douglas Nelson, who wrote in the introduction to the "Kids Count" report: "Families today have fewer resources to provide for their children, less time to devote to their nurturing, fewer informal supports and more anxiety about their children's future."

Nelson is executive director of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, which sponsors the study along with the Center for the Study of Social Policy.

"Over the 1980s, we made no *See U.S. children ..., page 10*

Ahn, state's first language pastor, retires

By Melanie Childers
Staff Writer

RADCLIFF—Kentucky's first language missions pastor combined traditional Korean and American farewells at his last service with First Korean Baptist Church in Radcliff.

Paul Ahn bowed to members of his congregation and also waved goodbye after his final address Aug. 16. His retirement last month brought to a close 18 years of ministry among Koreans in the U.S.

"The Ahns' life and ministry can be summed up in one word: integrity," said Tony Carson, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church in Louisville.

Speaking through an interpreter, Ahn explained that Carson was pastor of Muldraugh Baptist Church in Muldraugh in 1973 when the first Korean visitors came to the church. Ahn said Carson saw a ministry opportunity and led the church to begin the first Baptist language mission in the state.

With help from the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Muldraugh Church decided that Ahn, then a doctoral student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, would be the ideal choice for the mission's pastor.

"God had prepared Paul Ahn ... to do one of the most prolific works of our convention," Carson said.

But Ahn said when he first came to the United States, it wasn't to stay.

"I came to the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1974 after 10 years as professor at the Korean Baptist Theological Seminary," he said. "My intent was to finish school and return to my teaching in Korea. But I was touched and challenged by the need for a language mission here."

Ahn said he was in "great conflict" deciding whether to go back to Korea or stay in Kentucky. "I realized,

though, that if I am to please man, I am not a true servant of God," he said.

Bringing the message during the farewell service, Carson said Ahn never turned back from his decision, even when that meant about five years of separation from his wife and sons before they could join him in the U.S.

The mission at Muldraugh is now the First Korean Baptist Church in Radcliff, with an average attendance of 160 in worship. Because about 95 percent of the congregation is associated with the military, Ahn said, the membership rolls change often.

Nevertheless, Bob Jones of the KBC direct missions department said the congregation is a strong, self-supporting, mission-minded church. "They baptized nearly 50 adults per year for 15 years," he said.

Pastor Ahn found an effective approach to ministering to a changing congregation. "For the past 18 years, with the grace of God, I have led and baptized and trained about 800 peo-

ple," he said. "We send out lay missionaries—all those who are trained through the programs of this church—to share the word of God and start Bible studies wherever the military sends them.

"The greatest challenge for me is the need to be bilingual," Ahn said. "Thirty to 40 American brothers attend our worship services regularly, and since I cannot speak English well, I must find a way to meet the need."

Pastor Ahn said he has many plans for retirement, including compiling sermon notes into a book and assisting other Korean congregations. He also plans to teach part time at the Baptist College and Seminary of Washington, near Falls Church, Va., where he and his wife moved Aug. 24.

At the conclusion of the service, Ahn introduced David Nam as the new pastor of the church. "The work of the Lord here will continue to grow and mature, that we all may accomplish the Lord's mission," he said.



FAREWELL Paul Ahn waves farewell to members of First Korean Baptist Church in Radcliff at the conclusion of his retirement celebration. Ahn was the pastor of Kentucky Baptists' first language mission.

BAPTIST BITS

■ **Ray Summers, 82**, one of Southern Baptists' most widely known theologians, and his wife, Jester, 81, died hours apart of separate causes in San Angelo, Texas, Aug. 19. Summers, former director of graduate studies at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, died in a San Angelo hospital about midnight. Mrs. Summers, former director of the children's department at Walnut Street Baptist Church in Louisville, died a few hours later in a nearby nursing home.

■ **Oct. 15** is the date set for a dialogue between leaders of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. The FMB's trustee chairman was asked by Woman's Missionary Union officials to call the meeting.

■ **Contributions** to the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship in July topped the \$500,000 mark for the fourth month in a row, causing Fellowship leaders to say they expect to exceed their projected 1992 budget of \$6.6 million. Also, the percentage of Fellowship funds being designated for traditional Southern Baptist Convention causes has dropped from about 75 percent to 50 percent.

■ **Alabama Baptists** are facing a controversy over plans to build a nursing home in Dothan as part of their Alabama Baptist Retirement Centers program. The state Executive Board of Missions voted Aug. 11 to take action against the retirement centers agency for incurring an indebtedness without convention approval.

Project Brotherhood ends first phase of relief effort

By Jim Burton
SBC Brotherhood Commission

MOSCOW (BP)—The volunteer phase of Project Brotherhood, the massive food repackaging and distribution effort led by the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission, ended in mid-August after five months.

Eighty-four volunteers from 15 states repackaged an estimated 360 metric tons of United States Department of Agriculture bulk food into about 35,000 family packs for distribution in the Moscow area. In addition, Project Brotherhood volunteers distributed 110-pound bags of food to Russian hospitals, orphanages and pensioners' homes.

"We did a world of good because we were able to get out into some of the areas where the churches were," said Sammy Platt of Columbus, Miss., who was an on-site coordinator. "We were able to get into a lot of places where there were refugees ... and saw firsthand what was happening with the depreciation of the ruble."

Ranging in age from 13-73, Project Brotherhood volunteers stepped forward from all areas of the United States, including Kentucky.

Beginning in mid-April, five volunteers a week traveled to Moscow to work in a cold, dark vegetable warehouse rented by Project Brotherhood officials. By scooping rice, flour and lintels from 110-pound bags into four-pound bags, they produced smaller packages for families.

The USDA bulk food represented just one phase of Project Brotherhood's humanitarian food relief.

In addition, Project Brotherhood officials have collected 36-pound food boxes from churches and individuals. These are being shipped along with medical and dental equipment and pharmaceuticals.

"We will ship food boxes through next spring," said Douglas Beggs, commission program services vice president and Project Brotherhood coordinator. "The shortage of affordable food in the former Soviet Union won't go away anytime soon."

Handbook full of faith facts

NASHVILLE (BP)—For fanciers of facts about the Baptist faith, the Southern Baptist Handbook is required reading.

Compiled and published by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, the 1992 handbook includes sections on Southern Baptist trends and highlights, church growth, receipts and expenditures, church program enrollments, foreign missions, home missions, Bold Mission Thrust and world religions. The handbook also contains a directory of SBC agencies and institutions and a new section on the characteristics and influence of Southern Baptist baby boomers.

Here's a sample of its riches:

■ The number of church members gained by Southern Baptists from non-Baptist churches in 1991 exceeded the number lost to them by more than 22,000.

■ The highest growth rate in the Southern Baptist Convention between 1986 and 1991 was reported in Wyoming, where more than 58 percent of churches experienced membership

growth greater than 10 percent. The lowest rate of growing churches—17 percent—was reported in the District of Columbia during the same time period.

■ 32,709 Southern Baptist churches have full-time preaching on Sunday mornings and evenings. Less than half that number have a weekly evangelistic visitation program.

■ 5,596 Southern Baptist churches reported zero baptisms in 1991, and more than 3,000 churches reported only one baptism during the year.

■ The average Southern Baptist church had 289 resident members in 1991, up from 286 in 1990.

■ 93.9 percent of Southern Baptist churches had a predominantly white membership in 1991.

■ Rhode Island is the state with the fewest number of Southern Baptist churches (six), and Texas has the most (4,342).

The handbook is available in Baptist Book Stores or by calling the Sunday School Board's Customer Service Center at (800) 458-2772.

Texans to square off over CP

FORT WORTH, Texas (ABP)—Texas Baptists, who were deeply divided last year over who would control the country's largest Baptist college, this year may find themselves squaring off on a new battleground—the Cooperative Program.

A statement of support for the Cooperative Program, signed by more than 150 Texas Baptists, has been sent to all Baptist pastors in the state.

The statement questions the practice of channeling church contributions to alternative organizations such as the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and urges the pastors to bring messengers to the state convention in November to elect new convention leaders committed to the Cooperative Pro-

gram, Southern Baptists' traditional plan of unified funding.

The statement "reflects no organized nor politicized group in particular," said Phil Simmons, pastor of North Richland Hills Baptist Church in Fort Worth, and one of the framers of the statement. But, Simmons said, the group will support the candidacy of San Antonio evangelist Rudy Hernandez, who also is expected to receive the endorsement of the state's new conservative coalition in his bid for the convention presidency.

After a bitter debate last year, Texas Baptists voted in their November convention to give Baylor University more autonomy in selection of its trustees.

Lay renewal reunion set for October

ATLANTA (BP)—A reunion to mark 20 years of the church lay renewal movement in the Southern Baptist Convention is set for Oct. 28-Nov. 1 at Toccoa, Ga.

Currently, 18,000 people are lay renewal volunteers, said Doyle Pennington, liaison for the Home Mission Board and Brotherhood Commission, which jointly sponsor the renewal activities.

The church renewal process includes lay renewal weekends and lay ministry weekends. An average of 600 renewal events are held each year, Pennington said.

Lay renewal weekends are designed as inward journeys for churches to evaluate their roles, Pennington said. Lay ministry weekends help churches focus outward on responsibilities in their communities. Both events are led by lay people who share testimonies and lead in church services.

"The process is designed to awaken the laity and help them express their faith in Christ with a deeper commitment to his lordship

individually and in the church," Pennington said.

The fall reunion will include Bible study led by Ron Barker, associate director of the Home Mission Board's associational evangelism department.

Discussion sessions will be led by Reid Hardin, director of the Home Mission Board's lay evangelism department.

Lee Highbaugh is the Kentucky coordinator for lay renewal, working through the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Brotherhood office.

The fall reunion will be at the Georgia Baptist Assembly. Cost for adults is a \$25 registration fee, plus \$125 for room and meals. A separate youth track will begin Oct. 30 and continue through Nov. 1. Cost for the youth track is a \$15 registration fee, plus \$65 for room and meals.

To register or for more information, contact the HMB lay evangelism department at 1350 Spring Street NW, Atlanta, Ga. 30367-5601.



SOMALIA Khadijo Mohamed Alhi, a severely malnourished Somali refugee child, lives at Liboi refugee camp in Kenya. War in Somalia, Ethiopia and Sudan has led more than 300,000 such refugees to areas in Kenya already suffering from drought and water shortages. The Red Cross estimates one-third of Somalia's 4.5 million to 6 million people risk death by hunger unless food reaches them soon. The Baptist World Alliance and Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board are responding to this emergency situation with massive feeding and medical programs in Northeast Kenya among the large Somali refugee population. Donations for this relief effort may be sent directly to Baptist World Aid, Somalia relief, 6733 Curran St., McLean, Va. 22101. Checks should be made payable to Baptist World Aid, Somalia Relief. (RNS photo)

New Bulgarian school has Kentucky roots

By Pat Cole
Southern Seminary

LOUISVILLE—A new Baptist Bible school in Bulgaria has its roots in Kentucky soil.

While visiting with Southern Baptist Theological Seminary President Roy Honeycutt last summer, Bulgarian Baptist Union President Theodore Angelov stressed the pressing needs for training Baptist ministers in Bulgaria.

Honeycutt asked Angelov why he didn't start a school, explaining a school could be started without a campus.

The two men left Honeycutt's living room and headed for the computer at his home office. There they began mapping out a program of study for a Bulgarian Baptist Bible school. The school's establishment was approved last fall by the Bulgarian Baptist Union.

Angelov has "a strong interest in seeing the Baptist heritage maintained, particularly with the proliferation of parachurch groups," Honeycutt said.

The school's first seminar was taught last spring by a German Baptist professor. Scheduling conflicts forced Honeycutt to decline an invitation to teach during the opening session.

Prior to the school's establishment, Honeycutt and Foreign Mission Board representative Robert Cochran last year taught some of the first theological courses in Bulgaria in 50 years.

Honeycutt returned in June to teach the book of Jeremiah to more than 50 Baptist leaders. The class met for five days from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in an educational complex formerly run by the Communist Party.

The Bible school does not grant degrees, Honeycutt said: "It's designed functionally to prepare people for leadership roles, but it's not just for pastors. They depend on lay leadership much more than we do here."

Angelov, who works as a biochemist, serves as pastor of a church in Sofia. Although there are only 2,000 to 3,000 Baptists in Bulgaria, Baptist congregations are growing and vibrant, Honeycutt said.

For instance, he said the Sofia church, which averages 200-250 in attendance, baptized 50 people in December alone.

Honeycutt hopes Southern will be able to continue to help the school in Bulgaria by sending professors to teach there. An arrangement with Bulgaria may be similar to a commitment the seminary has with Baptists in Trinidad where Southern is in the middle of a four-year commitment to send two professors to teach each year, he said.

2 attend conservatives' event in Memphis

By Marv Knox
Editor

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—Two Kentucky pastors joined conservatives from about 15 states in a meeting described as both a gathering of Southern Baptists concerned about the Cooperative Program and a strategy session for extending conservative control to state conventions.

Mike Routt, pastor of Eastern Gate Baptist Church in Shepherdsville, and Terry Sammons, pastor of New Heights Baptist Church in Louisville, attended the Aug. 20 meeting at Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis.

Some leaders of the national conservative movement, which has held sway in the Southern Baptist Convention since 1979, have indicated they want to repeat that success in the 40 state and regional Baptist conventions.

The Memphis meeting was organized by two state campaigners: Perry Ellis of Dallas, executive director of the Texas Baptist Conservative Fellowship, and T.C. Pinckney of Alexandria, Va., a conservative leader and member of the SBC Executive Committee.

Representatives from "the major state conventions" attended the Memphis gathering, Pinckney said. He described the meeting as a strategy-sharing session, "an exchange of lessons learned."

The Kentuckians played down the state-control issue and said they participated because they want to strengthen the Cooperative Program, the SBC's unified budget.

"I'm a member of the Cooperative Program bunch," Routt explained. "I'm very concerned about the efforts on the part of some to initiate some type of societal missions giving."

In a societal approach, religious organizations solicit funds directly from churches and individuals; the

Cooperative Program pools those efforts into a single solicitation on behalf of all the participants.

"I'm concerned that we're getting away from the Cooperative Program supporting our agencies and institutions," Routt added. "We Southern Baptists need to remain faithful to our denomination."

Discussion of the Cooperative Program included talk about the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, a Washington-based religious liberty organization that has been removed from Cooperative Program funding, he noted.

The Baptist Joint Committee is an issue in Kentucky. Advocates say it is too liberal; supporters say it has maintained the time-honored Baptist stand for religious liberty and separation of church and state.

Messengers to the 1991 Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meeting voted to "find a way to provide funds in the 1993-94 budget ... to allow our convention to continue to support the Baptist Joint Committee."

A special subcommittee of the KBC Executive Board has been studying that issue. Kentucky conservatives have said they plan to recommend messengers to the 1992 convention rescind last year's action.

Sammons confirmed the Baptist Joint Committee was a subject of conversation in Memphis. "There's certainly some concern about that," he said, "that we support what we as Southern Baptists have voted in the national convention."

Sammons concurred with Routt's opinion that the Cooperative Program was the focus of the participants. "We want to make sure that our missions money and agencies, the Foreign Mission Board and Home Mission Board, are funded at the levels that they need to be funded."

A participant from another state provided a list of how-to strategies

shared by the state representatives: electing sympathetic state convention officers, influencing denominational appointments on the national and state levels, picking and instructing convention messengers from local churches, and influencing Baptist business on the associational level.

Sammons and Routt said the strategies were not specific. Pinckney agreed: "In the actual meetings, there was never discussion of how we should go about making changes in, say, Oklahoma or Arkansas. It was more of, 'What has worked for conservatives in Virginia, what has not worked for conservatives in Virginia.'"

"A unique approach of the meeting was that each of the fellows was looking at his own state," Ellis added. "There is no national strategy. The fellows were thinking about sharing ideas about how they could communicate with people in their states. Each state has its own situation."

Sammons said the Kentuckians did not chart a particular course for the KBC. "There was not any thorough discussion of any attempt to elect any officers or elect any particular people," he noted.

Asked about the extension of conservative control to state conventions, Sammons said, "We certainly want all Kentucky Baptists to be represented (in the convention), and that would be a characterization of it."

Responding to the same question, Routt answered, "I'd rather not respond to that because I think the state convention belongs to Kentucky Baptists anyway."

Asked if that meant he feels all Kentucky Baptists are represented equally in the KBC, he said, "By no means."

News Director Mark Wingfield, Associated Baptist Press Editor Greg Warner and Religious Herald Associate Editor Robert Dilday contributed to this story.

Oct. 25 is 'Super Sunday'

Jack Palmer is counting on the combined efforts of Baptists across Kentucky to set a record for Sunday school attendance Oct. 25. That day has been designated "Super Sunday" high attendance day by the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Sunday school department, where Palmer serves as an associate.

Palmer said he hopes at least 250,000 people will attend Bible study at Baptist churches across the state that day. Normal average attendance statewide is about 175,000, he explained.

To help churches promote the event, the Sunday school department has mailed informational packets to all KBC churches. The packets include posters that can be reproduced as well as dozens of tips for outreach.

Also, "Super Sunday" buttons, designed to resemble the Superman logo, are available, Palmer said. Information for ordering the buttons is available from the Sunday school department.

In general, Palmer recommends churches designate October as "outreach month," set goals for contacts and attendance, promote the emphasis, report the results and plan for appropriate follow-up.

Liberian works as church starter in Kentucky

By Betty Anderson
State Correspondent

HOPKINSVILLE—Foreign missions came back home this summer as Liberian native Garswa Matally worked in Christian County as a church planter.

Matally is a student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. He became a Christian in 1982 while attending Pillar of Fire, a mission boarding school in Liberia.

Matally later finished high school at a Baptist school, Ricks Institute, and then graduated from the Liberian Baptist Theological Seminary.

He later fled Liberia for Ghana due to political unrest.

Matally's work in Christian County was arranged by Lincoln Bingham, cooperative ministries consultant with the Kentucky Baptist Convention, and Kent Workman, pastor of Second Baptist Church in Hopkinsville.

Workman, chairman of the associational missions committee, had been looking for a way to start a predominantly black Southern Baptist church in the county.

Matally began by surveying three

areas—Pennyrite Homes, Durrett Avenue and Woodland Heights.

His slight accent intrigued some, but some did not want to talk "church stuff." On average, one out of every four homes was open to the survey.

A total of 78 people completed Matally's survey, and he discovered most of them were 18- to 30-year-old females who were church dropouts.

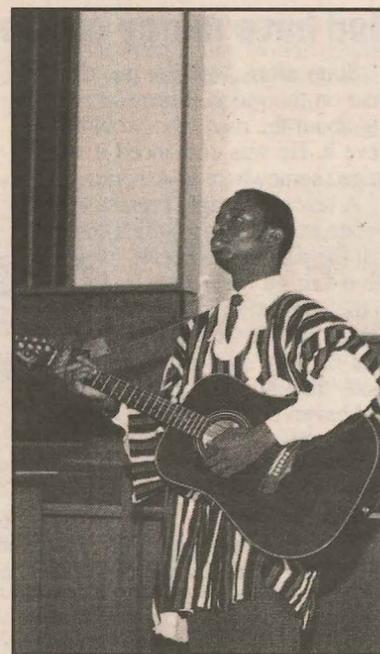
Before the summer ended, home Bible studies were begun in Pennyrite and Durrett Avenue. The associational missions committee plans to evaluate the results and determine how to proceed.

Before returning for the fall semester at Southern, Matally planned to return to Liberia and Ghana and get married.

By 1994, he hopes to be back permanently in Liberia, working as a church planter.

Although the work in Hopkinsville was slow, Matally said, it was a "place of training."

"I have developed missionary muscles," he explained. "I have gotten experience in what I needed—patience, acceptance of those who are different and dependence on God."



MISSIONARY Garswa Matally, a Southern Seminary student from Liberia, sings in a Christian County church this summer, wearing a traditional tribal chief's shirt to emphasize he is a "child of the king." (Photo by Betty Anderson)

WESTERN RECORDER

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

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Beware the seduction of celebrity

Recent newspaper articles indicating that all is not as it seems with the Mike Warnke Ministries prompts me to make some observations about the culpability of many well-meaning Christians in helping create and sustain such situations.

I categorize those Christians as follows:

■ **Star-struck.** Too many in all our churches are hungry for their very own celebrities in God's work.

It appears that they view such celebrity status as proof that Christians can be popular, sexy, entertaining, successful, etc. We are less and less impressed with "among you as one who serves" and more drawn to "America's Pastor" or some such elevated stature.

■ **Awe-struck.** Some believers are enamored with testimonies that tell of dramatic conversions as though such experiences were more valid than the faith response of a typical convert.

Ministers are not exempt from this

malady, either. Given the choice in worship planning between a testimony by a youth who abused every drug his body could ingest before accepting Christ and one who came to know Jesus early and tried hard to serve him, which would most ministers of youth choose? I think we know. We are consistently communicating to our people that the former is more valuable than the latter. "Six-inch-long black fingernails" is certainly more titillating than "I became a Christian when I was 9 years old," but God's power is not diminished in either case. And I firmly believe the latter should be used most often in our churches because it coincides with the experiences of more people.

■ **Dumb-struck.** As amazing as it is to many of us, there is a host of Christians who hardly seem to care if their favorite "celebrity believer" is financially irresponsible.

They shrug off news of a lifestyle that fits celebrity status as though that

is to be expected of God's anointed. Maybe that shouldn't surprise us. After all, celebrities in every profession live that way. News of financial mismanagement hardly shakes some of the faithful followers. If the culprit simply says: "Aw, shucks, I don't know a thing about finances. I'm too busy preachin' the word," adoring fans will declare, "Loose him and let him go!"

God does wonderful things in our churches every week. Why do we continue to "seek for a sign" that he is at work? Southern Baptists are increasingly drawn to models of servanthood that exemplify lots of power, little servitude.

Such a propensity provides an atmosphere for fraudulent ministries to thrive because it clouds our understanding of Jesus' words, "The greatest shall be servant of all."

*Rick Shannon, pastor
Second Baptist Church
Greenville*

Flawed finale

I want to register my complaints with the ending ceremony of the Olympic Games.

I could not believe this "celebration" was allowed to close these games. For approximately 15 minutes, my family and I watched a flock of demons and spirits dance and celebrate to Satan. I could not believe

things have gotten as bad as this.

My understanding of the Olympics is that it is to gather participants from around the world to compete in sports. It is a time that all of our national differences cease, and we watch the best that the world has to offer compete. I have not been able to tie-in the clos-

ing satanic celebration with any of this. Both of my children are teenagers, and it was hard for me to explain why this was allowed.

We finally turned the TV off so we would not have to watch any more of the satanic celebration. I was really appalled when the broadcaster began talking about how lovely all of the demons and spirits looked. I still have not been able to come up with anything

to how all of this related to the Olympics.

There are newly built friendships with many of the athletes during this time. I know that Satan has not released his hold on the world. This was totally uncalled for. I fail to see what it had to do with sportsmanship. I do

not believe that I am the only person that felt this way.

*Jeffrey B. Stagg
Pineville*

Correction

Due to a typographical error, a line was omitted from the final paragraph of the letter from Quinn Chipley, a pastoral counselor in Louisville (WR, Aug. 11). The paragraph should read:

We encourage all to read John Boswell's "Christianity, Social Tolerance and Homosexuality" (University of Chicago, 1980); Robin Scroggs' "The New Testament and Homosexuality" (Fortress, 1983); and George Edwards' "Gay/Lesbian Liberation: A Biblical Perspective" (Pilgrim, 1984).

BAPTIST FORUM

God have mercy on the starving children

Soon after America put the first man on the moon, I remember reading about the man who wouldn't believe it. He was convinced it was all staged somewhere in America.

A few weeks ago, I read a letter in a state Baptist paper which indicated that the person did not believe that all these people in the world were dying of hunger; that it was all part of a national plot to promote "family planning."

I haven't been to Somalia recently—in fact, only once, years ago—but I believe what is said to be happening there:

"There is no government, no bureaucracy; there are no politics beyond the gun.

"If someone steals your watch and you catch him, who do you turn him over to? There are no police.

"Nobody makes anything. People plant no seeds. You can't telephone anywhere, send or receive a letter.

"No electricity runs through the

lines above the streets. The underground cables are dug up, the copper sold off.

"There is no drinkable water; the city's pipes have also been excavated and sold.

"There are no ambulances. Nobody puts out fires or repairs roads. The principle occupation is looting.

"Trash smolders in the streets or rots. Hulks of burned-out cars, bombed tanks, the carcasses of dead animals, donkeys and camels, block the streets.

"Children are not in school and have not been for two years.

"The people who work for relief agencies live in guarded compounds and hire their own gunmen to accompany them.

"Most of the people have no shelter. Half—more than 3 million—have little or no food.

"The death toll is estimated to be more than 1,500 per day."

USAID has said that Somalia is the

ON MISSION TOGETHER



William W. Marshall



FAMILY FORUM: CHILDREN

Children and death

By Jewell Nelson

Q. My father is very ill, and not expected to live. How can I help my 5-year-old daughter when her grandfather dies?

A. Talk about Grandfather being sick. Clarify your own feelings. Pray for guidance.

Do not overload your daughter with information about Grandfather's illness and death. Do answer questions promptly, and in terms she can understand. Young children are literal-minded. To refer to death as "he went away," "God took him," or "we lost our grandfather," can be puzzling to a child.

It is OK to say "dying," "death" and "dead." All things living must die, even people. Include the fact that most people live a very long time.

You do not have to have all the answers. There are times when you might say, "I wonder about that, too," or "What do you think?" Assure your child that you know God cares for us.

As Christians, we believe God made the world and gave us people who care for us here. God made heaven, and his plans are for us to be cared for in heaven. In heaven Grandfather is no longer sick or hurting.

Should your child see her grandfather's body in the casket? This is a decision to be made by those who know your child best. A brief visit to the funeral home may help dispel fears.

Children may not cry or verbalize their sorrow. They may act out how they feel—by misbehaving, becoming possessive, destructive or returning to thumb-sucking or bed-wetting. Adults must sympathize and reassure.

Encourage your child to freely paint or color on large paper; play with dolls; pound play dough; or stack and knock down blocks. Through play, a child often releases feelings she cannot verbalize.

Older children in the family might write about feelings (or about the deceased); make a memory book about the person; or tape memory messages on cassettes. Children, like adults, need a closure to a relationship broken by death. Loving, caring adults can help with that closure, and in so doing help themselves.

Jewell Nelson is associate in the KBC's Sunday school department.

■ Send your questions about children, teens, marriage, singles or aging to "Family Forum," Western Recorder, Box 43969, Louisville, Ky. 40253.

New column to strengthen Kentucky families

The Western Recorder inaugurates a new era of partnership with Kentucky Baptist families and their churches this week. On Page 4, you see the first installment of Family Forum, a new weekly feature of our newspaper.

Family Forum flows from two springs: First, the Western Recorder's board of directors and staff have spent the past two years praying and thinking about ways the Recorder could be a better companion to Baptists in Kentucky who are struggling to interpret how to be better Christians and people of God in a society changing at breakneck speed. We felt articles on the full range of family issues would be an immense help. Second, Kentucky Baptists confirmed these impulses when we conducted a survey to discover how the Recorder can do a better job of being their partner for Christian living. They—you—said columns on family life would be a big help.

So, we began focusing on how to provide what we've come to call Family Forum. First, we decided to explore the full range of family issues. The columns will rotate through five areas of family life: children, teen-agers, marriage, singles and aging. Next, we decided to put the article on the opinion page, to liberate it from the constraints of news style and to reinforce the idea that this column is a two-way discussion. Third, we decided the format would keep the dialogue going. We intend for the columns to respond to questions presented by our readers. Finally, we recruited Kentucky Baptist authorities in the five areas of family life to be our writers. They bring Christian commitment and solid experience to their task each week. They all are spouses and parents, with day-in, day-out practice in Christian family living.

The topics and columnists who will write them are:

■ **Children.** Jewell Nelson, associate director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Sunday school department. She often leads seminars on

living with and teaching pre-schoolers and children and has written widely on the topic.

■ **Teen-agers.** Wade Rowatt, associate dean of theology and professor of psychology of religion at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is a certified pastoral counselor and is in demand as a speaker on teen issues and ministry to youth. He has written books and articles for teens and about family ministry with adolescents, and he brings experience as a pastor, chaplain and high school teacher to his writing.

■ **Marriage.** Diana Garland, associate professor of Christian family ministry and director of the Gheens Center for Christian Family Ministry at Southern Seminary. She, too, has written extensively on her topic. Garland is a licensed certified social worker and has experience as a social worker in family settings and as a family counselor.

■ **Singles.** Harry Rowland, pastor of Fort Mitchell Baptist Church in Fort Mitchell. He is a former minister to singles at Woodmont Baptist Church in Nashville, and he also is in demand as a speaker and author for single adults.

■ **Aging.** John Lepper, director of the KBC's family ministry department. He is the convention's specialist in senior-adult ministry and has spoken and written often on family issues, such as grief and family crisis. Lepper is author of the theme book for the Southern Baptist Convention's 1993 Christian home emphasis, "When Crisis Comes Home."

Each column will run once in every five-week cycle. We pray they will strike a responsive chord with Kentucky Baptists, enabling us to strengthen our own families and reach other families for Christ. We hope you will participate in this column by sending your questions or suggestions to: Family Forum, c/o Western Recorder, Box 43969, Louisville, Ky. 40253.

Marv Knox

Family Forum flows from two streams: The Western Recorder's concern for Kentucky families and our readers' expressed need.

Survey reveals values vacuum among nation's teens

Our nation has failed to instill moral values in a significant percentage of its teen-agers, according to a survey conducted by USA Weekend magazine.

The survey, completed by 126,000 teens and published in the magazine's Aug. 21-23 issue, showed 25 to 40 percent of them would fail to live up to basic standards.

For example, 29 percent said they would copy answers to a math test off the page of a better student. The same percent indicated they would loaf on the job rather than ask for more work. Thirty-nine percent reported they would not return the money if a store clerk gave them too much change. And 27 percent said that if they had a job in a restaurant they would give free french fries to friends.

Small-change examples? Perhaps, but they point to an underlying vacuum of moral values and ethical behavior.

Of the teens, 68 percent said they learned values at home. Other sources: Friends, 12 percent; religion, 11 percent; school, 5 percent; TV/music/videos, 4 percent.

The survey should send four messages to Christian parents and others concerned about young people:

■ We need to teach moral values in our homes. Verbal lessons are very important, but the examples we set by living ethical lives before our children are a must.

■ We must pay attention to their peers. More than 10 percent of teens say friends shape their morals. Various surveys reveal that influence usually is negative.

■ We should develop strong church programs for our youth. Our churches can undergird parents, creating a partnership for teaching ethical values to our kids.

■ We ought to urge our schools to implement values education—such as basic honesty, fairness and responsibility—into the curriculum. Working with parents and community leaders, numerous schools have developed ethics training that does not violate religious freedom and church-state separation.

Marv Knox

Up to 40 percent of survey respondents failed to live up to basic ethical standards.

Thank God for the pain if it points back toward the blessing

Folks at our church never will forget this past Sunday: It was our pastor's last Lord's Day with us.

After 11 years and three months, Steve and Cherrie Shoemaker feel God's leadership to another church in another state. David and Ann—mere tots when all this began—also are going, of course.

We've been grieving for about a month now, since we got the news. Steve and his family have been with our church through a challenging decade: We've suffered the loss of beloved church members. Our denomination and its oldest seminary—our seminary, just down the street—have changed profoundly, changing our community, too. And yet these have been creative years. Steve has led us to see new visions for ourselves and our church, prompting

significant responses to a vast array of circumstances, old and new.

Thinking back through these years, my mind journeyed to Steve's first Christmas with us, and the night he joined the string ensemble to play the cello. We gasped with delight when he pulled his bow across those strings and brought forth rich, vibrant strains. We were thrilled by the music; even more, we were tickled to have a young pastor who could make music like that.

Since then, God has used our pastor as

God's bow to make heavenly music with us, God's people. Sure, we've struck our share of sour notes, but our song has been played for the glory of God, and I think God has found it pleasing.

Although cello-playing preachers are rare, our grief during this time of loss is not unique. Every Sunday across Kentucky, pastors' families and churches bid farewell. Every Sunday, God's people feel the pain of separation.

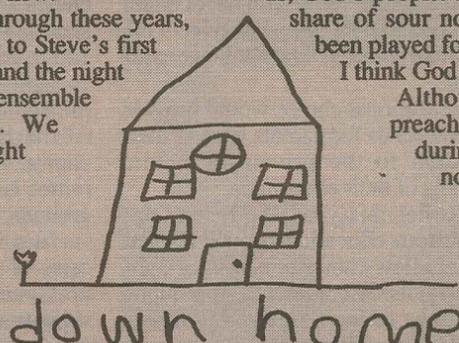
This holy pain teaches two lessons: First, it reminds us how much God has blessed us. Count the pain for good, be-

cause it is a barometer of how much we have loved and been loved. If it were not for the blessing of those happy years and splendid Sundays, we wouldn't hurt so badly just now.

Second, it reminds us that all good gifts come from God. We don't own God's gifts any more than our church "owned" Steve, Cherrie, David and Ann. God graces our lives with these blessings, and we are stewards—responsible for how we use relationships as well as things. No matter how much we love and appreciate them, they belong to God, not us. We hold them at God's pleasure.

Despite the sweet sorrow of separation, we sing with truth, "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow."

Marv Knox



Land says CLC not tied to Republicans

Patterson on committee to re-elect Bush

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (ABP)—The new president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary is listed as a leader of a coalition to promote the re-election of President George Bush in November. Paige Patterson's active endorsement of the Republican nominee probably won't jeopardize the seminary's tax-exempt status, but could raise a few eyebrows, two experts said.

The coalition—Evangelical Leaders and Laymen for Bush/Quayle '92—was unveiled during the National Affairs Briefing Aug. 21-22 in Dallas.

Patterson told Baptist Press he was surprised to see his name included on the published list of leaders for the evangelical coalition. But he said as a private citizen he intends to vote for the Bush/Quayle ticket.

Denominational leaders and pastors who endorse candidates should be able to avoid tax-exemption problems as long as the person—and not the institution or congregation—does the endorsing, said Brent Walker, an attorney with the Baptist Joint Committee.

But Dan McGee, professor of ethics at Baylor University in Waco, Texas, offered another word of caution. For Baptist leaders to ask the public to distinguish between their personal endorsements of candidates and their denominational roles is probably asking too much, he said.

"It would be difficult for the average citizen or the average Southern Baptist to view such participation as anything other than both a personal political preference and the use of that office in behalf of that particular political agenda," McGee said.

DALLAS—It is "ridiculous" to suggest that the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission is too closely tied to the Republican Party, the agency's executive director said shortly after sharing the platform at the National Affairs Briefing with President George Bush.

But other observers said the CLC's close ties to the Republican Party strengthen the Religious Right movement and indicate how much the Southern Baptist Convention has changed in the last 13 years.

CLC Executive Director Richard Land was featured on the program of the National Affairs Briefing in Dallas last month the same night as Bush, the Republican nominee for president. The CLC also maintained a booth at the two-day meeting.

Although the event was billed as a non-partisan conference, speakers uniformly endorsed either Bush or the "pro-family" platform of the Republican Party. Democratic candidates Bill Clinton and Al Gore reportedly declined invitations to appear on the program.

A similar gathering in 1980 has generally been credited with propelling the Religious Right to prominence as a voting bloc.

This year's event was organized by the same person who headed the 1980 meeting, Ed McAteer, a member of Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, Tenn.

Land was introduced at the meeting not as a private citizen but as a representative of the CLC. Land's presence in that role evidences a drastic change from 1980, said Michael Hudson, vice president of the liberal advocacy group People for the American Way.

While Southern Baptists individually were involved in the Religious Right in 1980, the "Southern Baptist Convention and Christian Life Commission were not a part," Hudson said. The presence of Land, who became CLC executive director in 1988, has made the CLC "an active participant"

in the Religious Right, he charged.

The inclusion of a denominational agency such as the CLC "has given a sense of legitimacy to the movement it didn't have before," Hudson said.

Such an assertion is wrong, Land responded, claiming the CLC addresses issues outside the normal scope of the Religious Right, such as hunger, racism and substance abuse.

Land said he accepted the invitation to speak at the Dallas briefing because that is one of his assignments. His job, he said, is to address Southern Baptists and others "about moral, social, public policy issues and to seek to inform and energize them to active, principled involvement in the political process and interaction with society at large."

While Baptist involvement in national politics is nothing new, "this seems to take it to another level," said ethics professor David Nelson Duke of William Jewell College in Liberty, Mo. "I can't think of a parallel."

And church historian Bill Leonard of Samford University agreed.

"If Roy Honeycutt had come out for Michael Dukakis, I think it would have been a whole different thing altogether," Leonard said, referring to the president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and the Democratic presidential candidate in 1988.

"But the whole climate has changed, and this is now normative," Leonard continued. "This is part of what it means to be a conservative Southern Baptist."

At the briefing, Land concluded his remarks by saying: "I'm a sixth-generation Texan. I've been a Southern Baptist since I was 6 years old and was immersed in a church in Houston, Texas. Don't vote your geographical origin. Don't vote your denominational affiliation. Don't vote your pocketbook. Vote your values. Vote your convictions. Vote your beliefs."

That should not be construed as a partisan comment, he asserted. "I am doing precisely what Southern Bap-

tists and the Christian Life Commission have engaged me to do. I gave a non-partisan speech in the best sense of that term. I didn't mention either presidential candidate or either party. I talked about principles, issues and values, and I called upon Christians to vote their convictions."

Although some might charge that Land's speech was an attempt to sway Southern Baptists away from Clinton and Gore, who both are Southern Baptists, Land said that was not so.

"In this specific case, President Bush is a Texan, Gov. Clinton is a Southern Baptist, and I happen to be both," Land said.

"I sought to identify elements I shared with both candidates' backgrounds and to use those to illustrate that neither loyalty to one's state and region or loyalty to one's denomination should influence how one votes unless such factors happen to coincide with one's own beliefs, convictions and values."

Land previously served as a senior adviser to former Texas Gov. Bill Clements, a Republican. But that doesn't mean Land should be identified with the GOP, he said.

"As head of the Christian Life Commission, I am particularly careful about my political involvement," Land said, noting he attended neither the Democratic nor the Republican conventions. "I simply cannot take part in partisan politics."

However, during his speech in Dallas Land had harsh words for the Democratic Party platform, particularly the planks supporting rights for homosexuals. "As far as Southern Baptists are concerned, homosexuality is not a question of right and left. It is a question of right and wrong," he said.

Written by News Director Mark Wingfield with reporting by Ken Camp of the Baptist General Convention of Texas and Greg Warner through Associated Baptist Press and Tom Strobe of the Christian Life Commission through Baptist Press

Clinton voices misgivings on prayer case

WASHINGTON (BP)—Democratic presidential candidate Bill Clinton has expressed misgivings about the Supreme Court's June decision prohibiting prayer at public school graduations.

"I'm not sure I agree with that decision," Clinton said in an interview telecast on a delayed basis by the ACTS network.

President George Bush registered disagreement with the decision the day it was issued by the Supreme Court, June 24, saying the justices had "unnecessarily cast away the venerable and proper American tradition of nonsectarian prayer at public celebrations."

According to Clinton's comments on ACTS, Southern Baptists have "always been very firmly for the separation of church and state, and I adhere to that, but I'm not sure that public expressions of faith that are plainly open for people not to participate constitute a violation of the First Amendment."

Clinton said he has agreed in general with the Supreme Court's decisions on school prayer.

He also said he had not read the June opinion.

Nothing government does should be "construed as coercion in any way, shape or form to adhere to a particular religious belief," Clinton said. "I had always felt that nonsectarian prayers to open football games, for example, ... or at a graduation ceremony were no more oppressive than having the chaplain of the Senate or the House of Representatives open the Congress with a prayer."

Congressman wants 'Christian heritage' observed in U.S.

WASHINGTON (ABP)—A resolution was introduced in the House of Representatives Aug. 11 that would designate Thanksgiving week, Nov. 22-28, as "America's Christian Heritage Week."

The resolution's author, Rep. Nick Rahall, D-W.Va., said America is witnessing emerging democracies struggle with the same difficult questions America's founders wrestled with more than 200 years ago.

"And while we watch and wait for those emerging democracies to turn from the long-held atheism of communism to true religious freedoms, we find ourselves, with heavy hearts, watching our own government succumb to pressures to distance itself from God and religion," he said.

House rejects educational 'choice' bill

WASHINGTON (ABP)—The U.S. House of Representatives has rejected attempts to include President George Bush's plan to channel tax dollars to private and religious schools in a major education-reform bill.

The Neighborhood Schools Improvement Act (H.R. 4323), approved 279-124 Aug. 12, faces a near certain veto because the measure rejects the administration's school-choice proposal.

Educational choice would provide federal funds for parents to send their children to the private or public schools of their choosing.

Earlier this year, the Senate approved an education bill (S. 2) that would allow choice only among public schools. A conference committee will have to iron out the differences between the House and Senate versions.

Before approving its bill Aug. 12, the House rejected two school-choice amendments. One would have required choice while the other simply

would have permitted it.

Rep. Richard Arney, R-Texas, proposed a requirement that 25 percent of the federal grants be used for choice programs. His amendment was defeated 80 to 328.

Rep. William Goodling, R-Pa., offered an amendment that would allow choice—even for private schools—if state laws permit it. It was defeated 140 to 267.

James Dunn, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee, applauded the House's rejection of school choice, which the Baptist Joint Committee has opposed on church-state grounds.

"It's incredible to me that advocates of public education, like Congressman Goodling, could actually support an amendment so destructive to public schools," Dunn said. "The Congress has once again reflected fairly and honestly the public will: public monies should be used only for public purposes."

The Southern Baptist Christian

Life Commission has not taken a position on school choice, according to Jim Smith, CLC director of governmental relations, because there is "not a consensus" among Southern Baptists on the issue.

"We perceive that Southern Baptists are deeply divided over the educational-choice concept, with a large number holding the view that it is unconstitutional and bad public policy," Smith said. "There is another large number of individuals who believe it's not unconstitutional and indeed is good public policy because the educational establishment needs to be reformed."

Another education bill that would channel tax dollars to private and religious schools was introduced July 22 in both houses of Congress. The GI Bill for Children (S. 3010, H.R. 5664) would provide \$500 million in fiscal year 1993 for \$1,000 scholarships to help low- and middle-income families send their children to public, private and religious schools.

Religious Right still alive but taking new forms

By Ken Camp
Texas Baptist Convention

DALLAS (ABP)—Spokesmen for the conservative Religious Roundtable and the liberal People for the American Way agree on one point: Twelve years after its birth, the Religious Right is alive and well.

But a noted church-state scholar argues that while the Religious Right is not dead, it certainly is in poor health.

In 1980, the National Affairs Briefing, sponsored by the Religious Roundtable, brought 18,000 conservative religionists from at least 40 states to Dallas' Reunion Arena.

That meeting is best remembered for two unscripted remarks:

■ Bailey Smith, then president of the Southern Baptist Convention, said as a brief aside in a sermon, "God Almighty does not hear the prayers of a Jew."

■ Presidential candidate Ronald Reagan, departing from his prepared text, told the crowd, "I know you can't endorse me, but I endorse you."

Smith's remark drew widespread attention after a transcript of his address was distributed by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. But it was Reagan's endorsement of the Religious Right that had lasting impact.

"That was the beginning of the love affair" between the Religious Right and the most conservative wing of the Republican Party, according to Jerry Falwell, founder of the now-defunct Moral Majority.

"I believe the strength of evangelicals politically is at least 10 times greater today than it was then," said Ed McAteer, president of the Religious Roundtable and national chairman of both the 1980 and 1992 National Public Affairs Briefings in Dallas.

But James Wood Jr., director of the

J.M. Dawson Institute of Church-State Studies at Baylor University, disputes that assessment.

"The New Religious Right definitely has peaked," Wood said. "Its best days are in the past."

Declining viewership of once-powerful televangelists and the erosion of their financial bases are obvious measures pointing to a decline in the movement's strength, according to Wood. All empirical evidence by researchers points to a serious drop in support for the Religious Right, he said.

"People are beginning to realize that the issues they touted in such simplistic terms are much more complex than they originally imagined them to be," Wood said.

Attendance at the National Affairs Briefing in Dallas Aug. 21-22 would seem to support Wood's assessment. In contrast to the 1980 meeting of 18,000, the most recent briefing attracted fewer than 10,000 to its largest session featuring keynote speaker President George Bush.

Falwell insists, however, that the politically conservative evangelical movement is simply more decentralized today than in the early 1980s.

"There will never be another Moral Majority. There will never be that kind of centralized organization again. It isn't needed today," Falwell said.

"We're better off now that the issues are clear and we know one another. Now people are willing to pick up the phone and call when an issue comes up. Used to, we wouldn't even talk to each other."

High-profile evangelical leaders also are far more willing to publicly endorse "pro-family" candidates today than they were 12 years ago, said McAteer, a member of Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, Tenn.

His pastor, three-time Southern Baptist Convention President Adrian Rogers, introduced Bush at the 1992

National Affairs Briefing. Rogers had declined to introduce Bush to the 1988 National Religious Broadcasters convention, according to McAteer.

"Evangelical leaders, almost without exception, are totally committed to George Bush," said McAteer, who announced the formation of a pro-Bush coalition—Evangelical Leaders and Laymen—Evangelical '92—at the conclusion of the National Affairs Briefing.

Two Southern Baptists serve as leaders of the coalition: Paige Patterson, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, and Jess Moody, pastor of Shepherd of the Hills Church in Van Nuys, Calif.

The Religious Right is "alive, well and very influential," according to Michael Hudson, general counsel with People for the American Way. As evidence, Hudson pointed to the "family values" planks adopted in the Republican Party platform.

Although the Moral Majority has disbanded, its mantle has fallen on a number of other organizations, including Donald Wildmon's American Family Association, Phyllis Schlafly's Eagle

Forum, and Pat Robertson's Christian Coalition.

The Religious Right is "stronger than ever," according to Phil Swantek, Dallas County coordinator for the Christian Coalition.

Swantek noted that 300 Christian Coalition members were voting delegates at the Republican Party convention in Houston. The coalition currently boasts about 500 county chapters nationwide.

Phyllis Schlafly, president of the Eagle Forum, said the Religious Right carries clout in the Republican Party today that was undreamed of in 1980.

Baylor's Wood acknowledged the impact of Religious Right activists in drafting the Republican Party platform, but he predicted those planks will prove to be a detriment to the party because they are not commonly shared by the voting public.

"The Republican Party will find the impact a millstone around its neck," he said. "It will find that its position on aid to parochial schools is a minus, not a plus. I believe they seriously have misjudged the electorate."

CONVENTION & CONSTRUCTION ■ Below: Democratic candidates Bill Clinton and Al Gore stand in front of a Habitat for Humanity house they recently helped former President Jimmy Carter build for a poor family in Atlanta. ■ **Bottom:** Vice President Dan Quayle joins hands with television evangelist Pat Robertson during a "God and Country" rally held in Houston as the Republican National Convention got underway last month. ■ **Top left:** Delegate Bill Eichen of Houston drops to his knees and prays the rosary in front of the speaker's platform at the Republican National Convention, where conservative Catholics and Protestants rallied around a platform built on anti-abortion and anti-gay rights planks. (RNS photos)

CLC wants Bar's review cut

By Tom Strode
SBC Christian Life Commission

WASHINGTON (BP)—The American Bar Association should no longer have a role in selecting judges for federal courts and the U.S. Supreme Court, according to the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission and a coalition of 20 other groups.

The CLC joined in a letter to U.S. Attorney General William Barr asking him to immediately end the ABA's role in the judicial selection process. The letter, sent in response to the ABA's recent vote endorsing abortion rights, claims the lawyers' group "has chosen to be a political interest group rather than a non-political professional association."

The attorney general refers nominees to the ABA's Standing Committee on Federal Judiciary, which assesses prospective appointees to federal district courts and circuit courts of appeals and appointees to the Supreme Court.

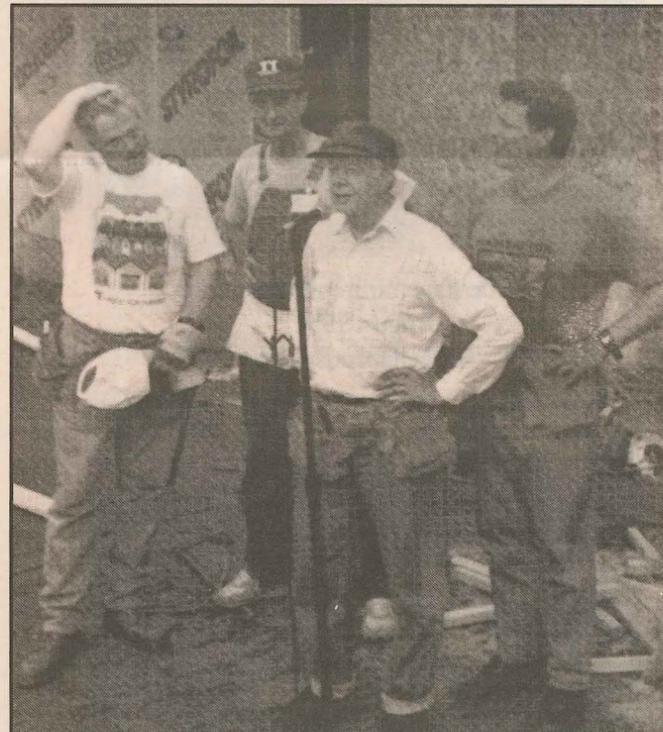
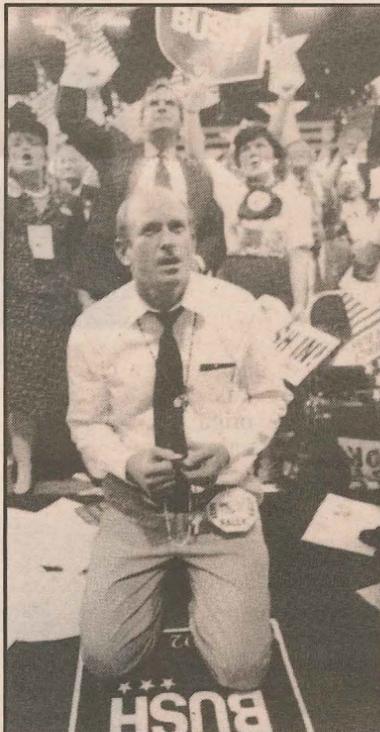
"Judicial nominees over the past decade have been subjected to intense

probing to determine their position on abortion, the death penalty, and other controversial issues," the letter said. "Can anyone really believe that the ABA will implement its positions by lobbying for federal legislation but will suddenly refrain from implementing them in evaluating judicial candidates?"

The ABA voted to support abortion rights in both its assembly and incoming President Michael McWilliams plans to lobby on behalf of the ABA for passage of the Freedom of Choice Act, an abortion rights bill.

In a written statement, the ABA's McWilliams said, "The ABA adopts hundreds of policy positions on legislative issues; none of these has ever been or will be a factor in the Standing Committee's evaluation of prospective candidates for the federal bench. Their evaluations focus entirely on only three factors: professional competence, judicial temperament and integrity."

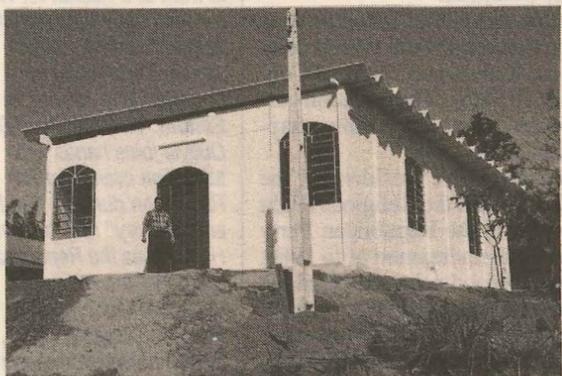
The ABA has no "litmus test" regarding the candidates' public policy views, McWilliams said.



Obrigado



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June 1991
Liberty Point Baptist Church, Cadiz



Bairro Uniao of Cachoeiro
July 1992
Broadway Baptist Church, Louisville



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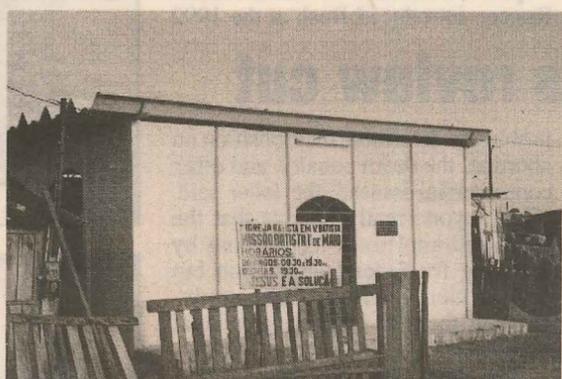
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November 1991
Northern Kentucky Association



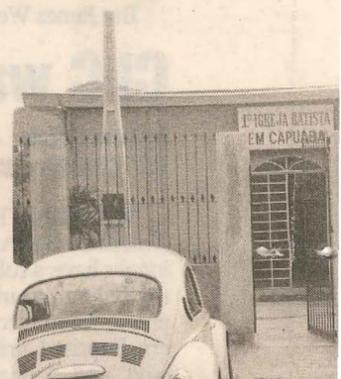
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Richmond Baptist Church, Bowling Green



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Primeiro de Maio of Vila Velha
June 1992
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“Thank You,” Kentucky

For Providing Funds to Build these 11

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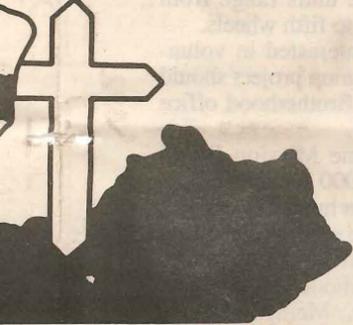
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Lucky Baptist Churches The 15 Chapels in Espirito Santo, Brazil

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August 1991
Union Association

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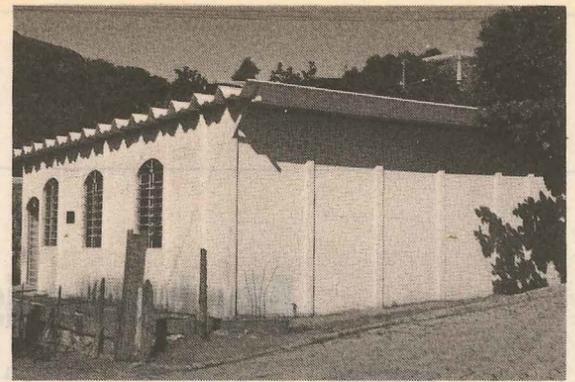
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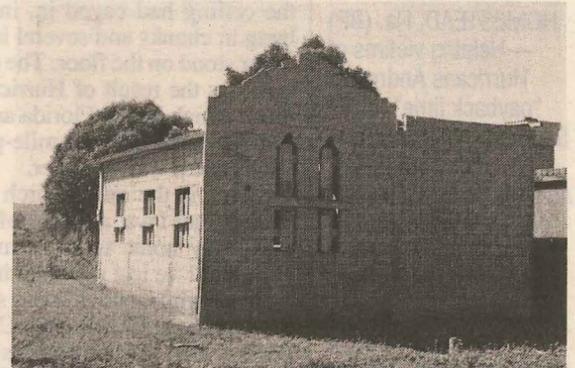
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June 1992
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Bandeirantes of Cariacica
June 1991
Liberty Point Baptist Church, Cadiz



Bela Vista of Vitoria
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Miscellaneous Gifts



Vila Bethania of Cariacica
March 1990
Volunteers



Nova Carapina of Vitoria
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High Point Baptist Church, Brazilians Built



Serra Dourada of Serra
November 1991
Liberty Point Baptist Church, Cadiz



Central de Carapina of Serra
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My home is gone, my car is gone and I've lost my church

Carolina volunteers remember what it was like

HOMESTEAD, Fla. (BP) —Helping victims of Hurricane Andrew is "payback time" for 11 South Carolina Southern Baptists. As soon as the hurricane touched land in Florida, the South Carolina team headed for Homestead, the hardest-hit area. They wanted a chance to share the loving ministry they received in 1989 when Hurricane Hugo blasted the South Carolina coast. "We went through it and we know just what they're going through," said Dave Tracey, who fought back tears while remembering the compassion his community was shown three years ago. After Hugo, a Baptist relief team from Florida rolled into Macedonia, S.C., and set up a food line at Providence Baptist Church, where Tracey is a member. In the next two weeks, workers served three meals a day; more than 58,000 in all, Tracey said. That effort inspired Providence to establish its own relief team, he explained. "When that hurricane hit, we saw God's power," he said. "After we got organized as a relief unit, we saw his love, his grace and his mercy."

MIAMI (BP)—Carolyn McAdams began weeping as she walked into the sanctuary of First Baptist Church of Cutler Ridge, Fla., last week.

Although the walls were standing, the ceiling had caved in, insulation hung in chunks and several inches of water stood on the floor. The devastation was the result of Hurricane Andrew, which hit the Florida and Louisiana coasts with 150-mile-per-hour winds and a wall of water.

"This is the only church I've attended since I was a child," McAdams said. "My home is gone, my car is gone and I've lost my church."

Meanwhile, two deacons surveyed the damage at First Baptist Church of Perrine, Fla., which looked as if someone had tossed a bomb inside. Pointing to the room that showed daylight through the roof, deacon John Reed

said, "There's where I teach Sunday school. I guess I won't be using it for a while."

South of Miami in Homestead, Fla., workers scurried over concrete debris to cook hamburgers, corn and beans while Dave Tracey made announcements to hurricane victims.

"Go back and tell your friends there's free food," said Tracey, of the 11-member relief team of South Carolina Baptists. "It don't cost nothing but a smile, and Jesus loves you."

Asked when the South Carolina team would stop serving supper, Tracey replied, "Whenever we don't have any more people in line or we run out of something to feed them."

"Our idea is to give a cold cup of water in Jesus' name," he said as a nearby power generator sounded for the first time.

"Devastation" was the word of the

day from victims and witnesses across South Florida and Louisiana, but relief team members said they hoped to bring encouragement to people surrounded by flattened homes, overturned trucks and dangling power lines.

Yet the heat and humidity combined with long hours to make fatigue a factor among many relief workers.

"We're just running on adrenalin and God. Our bodies are going to start failing us soon," said Steve Mosley, relief worker with North Carolina Baptists. "We definitely need everybody's prayers."

In Florida, the second day after Hurricane Andrew was filled with emotional scenes for many Baptists who responded to the disaster. More than 200 elderly residents of a nursing home spent Monday night at the Citrus Grove Elementary School after

they had been evacuated there before the hurricane.

The senior adults spent hours in the hot, dark, urine-stenched school propped up on chairs and desks and cared for by a single nurse. Their only hot meal and comfort was provided by Georgia Baptist volunteers.

After learning a feeding site would be set up at First Baptist Church of Cutler Ridge church to feed 5,000 meals a day, a paramedic began to cry. "That's where my family is; thank you for coming here."

More than 300 elderly adults had sought shelter in the Richmond Heights Middle School, yet no provisions had been made for their food.

During a near riot, Red Cross officials summoned a North Carolina Baptist team to the school in the middle of the night to provide food relief and calm heated tempers.

Baptist volunteers respond to Hurricane Andrew's victims

Continued from page 1

supplies were sent to South Florida Aug. 27 by about 20 Florida Baptist churches with ties to the state's Fellowship chapter.

The national Fellowship provided a \$15,000 emergency-relief grant to aid the project, using money from a missions contingency fund.

In Florida, at least seven Southern Baptist churches were among the thousands of buildings and homes demolished or badly damaged by Andrew.

Destroyed were First Baptist Church of Cutler Ridge in Miami, First Spanish Baptist Church in Homestead and First Baptist Church

of Perrine. Badly damaged were First Baptist Church of Homestead, Wayside Baptist Church in Miami, First Baptist Church in Redlands and Glendale Baptist Church in Miami.

Several pastors' homes received extensive damage. Thirty families from University Baptist Church in Coral Gables completely lost their homes.

Florida Baptist Convention officials fear at least several other churches are lost in Florida City and South Miami Heights, areas among the hardest hit during the storm.

In Louisiana, reports of damage to churches were not immediately available.

However, Baptist relief workers headed directly to some of the state's worst-hit areas, including New Iberia, a city of 32,000 that was directly in Andrew's path. An 18-wheel tractor-trailer feeding unit capable of serving 15,000 meals daily was sent by Texas Baptists. Another Texas unit served 2,000 breakfasts Aug. 27 in Lafayette, where about 20,000 homes and businesses were without utilities.

As the hurricane cut its way across the Florida peninsula, teams of Baptist volunteers from Florida, Georgia and North Carolina were en route to the hardest-hit areas, where they began serving hot meals immediately upon arrival.

The mobile disaster relief units will serve up to 30,000 meals a day, said Douglas Beggs, vice president of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission. The units range from tractor-trailer rigs to fifth wheels.

Kentuckians interested in volunteering for the cleanup project should contact the KBC Brotherhood office at (502) 245-4101.

The SBC Home Mission Board has released \$25,000 for disaster relief and \$25,000 for hunger funds. But other donations are needed. Donations designated for disaster relief should be sent to the Brotherhood Commission, 1548 Poplar Ave., Memphis, Tenn. 38104.

U.S. children need more help

Continued from page 1

progress or slipped backward in seven of nine measures of child well-being," Nelson noted. "Child poverty expanded. Births to unmarried teens climbed. More children are now living in families with only one parent. More babies are being born at risk because they are underweight. We made no progress in graduating young people from high school on time. The chances that a teen-ager, particularly an African-American teen, will die as a result of an accident, suicide or murder rose. And more young people are required by juvenile courts to spend formative years away from their families and communities because they are in trouble."

The outlook improved in only two national categories of child welfare—infant mortality and child death rates.

The trend was downward in all other instances—percentage of low birth-weight babies, violent deaths of teens, births to single teens, juvenile custody rates, high school graduation rates, child poverty rates and percentages of children living in single-parent homes.

"Many American families are confronting greater stress than ever before," the study reports:

■ On average, families have less income and time to spend on their children. In the 1980s, median income for

families with children fell 5 percent.

■ Having a parent at home full time is becoming an exception rather than the norm it used to be. While only 39 percent of American children had working mothers in 1970, that figure stood at 61 percent by 1990.

■ About 20 percent of American children have no health insurance.

■ About 1 million children a year experience the divorce of their parents.

These statistics prompt Massey to speak of what she calls "orphans of a new age"—children who face family breakup through divorce, separation and other causes.

Family disintegration is the driving factor in the dangers confronting children, she said. "The family is just not holding together."

"Every adult who cares about children and cares about the future of America must be an advocate for children," Massey declared.

The local church is a good place to "plug in" and make a difference, she suggested, offering two practical ways to get started:

■ Provide positive role models for children. "Just being involved in a teaching, relational way with children in the church is advocacy," she said.

■ Support initiatives and programs to assist and aid families and children in need, such as hunger offerings, soup kitchens and clothes closets.

CLASSIFIED ADS

POSITIONS: The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary will make faculty appointments during the academic year for the following positions. Nominations and applications are invited by Oct. 15, 1992. All faculty must be active members of a Baptist congregation and emphasize a conservative-evangelical theology. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply. Send biographical information to: Search Committee Dean, Office of the Provost, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 2825 Lexington Road, Louisville, Ky. 40280.

New Testament: Associate or Full Professor, tenure track. MDiv. or equivalent, PhD., experience in teaching, scholarly publications in gospels literature essential.

Social Work: Assistant Professor, three-year, renewable contract, MSW and theological training essential, doctorate preferred. Social policy, gerontology interests desirable.

Church History: Assistant or Associate Professor, three-year, renewable contract. MDiv., completed PhD. essential. Specialization in Baptist history, racial ethnic Baptist studies or Patristics desired.

Christian Education/Church Administration: Associate or Full Professor, tenure track. Theological training, church administration experience

and EdD. or PhD. in the discipline. Courses to be taught in administration theory, leadership and practical application. Experience and interest in church growth desirable.

AVAILABLE: Roger Cowen, music evangelist, taking revival and sacred concert dates for fall, '92. September dates available. Thirty-five years in the music ministry. Leave message (502) 267-7247.

WANTED: Late-model mini-bus (21-25 passenger). Contact Stanford Baptist Church, (606) 365-2178.

AVAILABLE: All-season retreat facility; just off I-65 at Sonora, Ky. A Christian-owned and operated center. For information, call (502) 324-3036—Bud or Shirley.

POSITION: Single adult female to live with young adults beginning independent living. Stipend provided. Call Maryhurst, 245-1576 for more details.

SEEKING: The Search Committee of First Baptist, Pineville, Ky., seeks applications and resumés for pastor. Send information to Ernest Slusher, P.O. Box 623, Pineville, Ky. 40977.

WANTED: Minister to Children/Youth, part-time, approximately 25-30 hours per week. Contact Rev. C.M. Baker, Victory Memorial Baptist Church, 3805 Southern Parkway, Louisville, Ky. (502) 368-2521.

WORSHIP

Music called vitamin or tranquilizer

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)—Music in a worship service is either a vitamin or a tranquilizer, according to Robert Wagoner, minister of music at First Baptist Church in Euless, Texas.

"Our music needs to prepare the people to hear the word of God," Wagoner said during church music leadership conference at Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Center this summer.

Describing himself as a minister first and a musician second, Wagoner said his philosophy has evolved to a greater focus on appealing to the unchurched and seeing music as an integral part of church growth.

"When people consider joining a Southern Baptist church, a key factor is the effectiveness of the music ministry," he said.

Wagoner has been mixing the use of hymns and praise choruses in worship services since the 1970s when he was minister of music at First Baptist Church of Springdale, Ark., a church

in a town of about 20,000 that grew from 300 members to 2,000 in 10 years. The use of choruses is gaining widespread popularity in Southern Baptist churches.

He attributed his willingness to take creative risks to the freedom given him by pastors he served with and to the fact he grew up in First Baptist Church of Tulsa, Okla., under a creative minister of music, the late James Woodward.

"I was playing in the church orchestra when I was in the seventh grade," Wagoner recalled. "The seeds he (Woodward) planted in my life allowed me the freedom" to try new things.

Wagoner cited several ways his philosophy has changed during more than 20 years in music ministry:

■ He provides a basic order of worship for the congregation which is a guide but does not include every element that will take place. "This allows the Holy Spirit to do something we

didn't plan on," he said.

■ He favors greater use of drama and media because "this is what is reaching the unsaved."

■ He prefers mission trips for youth and adult choirs rather than choir tours.

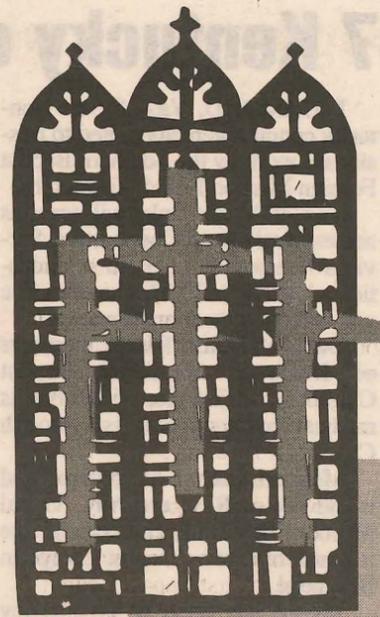
■ He prefers the use of pageants to cantatas for special presentations, especially at Easter and Christmas. "I see a pageant as an outreach tool. It is basically for the unchurched who see the message unfold. It appeals to the heart of unsaved persons and helps them see their need for Jesus."

He urged ministers of music to write out their personal philosophies and to evaluate themselves by asking five questions:

■ Why am I using this music, these methods, these avenues of ministry?

■ What am I doing this year to stretch my creativity, my talent, my ministry?

■ Is what I am doing achieving the overall goals our pastor desires our



Windows on WORSHIP

church to accomplish?

■ Am I reaching the goals I have personally set for the music ministry?

■ How could I be more effective?

Banners focus worship on God

GLORIETA, N.M.—Making banners for a worship service is not an arts-and-crafts activity but an avenue to "awaken people to the reality of who God is," according to the coordinator of the banner ministry at Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, Tenn.

Since 1986, Carolyn Higginbotham has directed the ministry in which 100 banners highlighting names for God in the Bible have been researched and created. She led a conference on banners in the worship service during the church music leadership conference at Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Center.

At Bellevue, the banners are used in large numbers in major productions, but they also are used in smaller numbers to support the theme of a worship service. Nine women are involved in the biblical research, design and construction of the banners.

After a name of God is chosen, such as lamb of God, shepherd, man of sorrows or Emmanuel, the designer does careful biblical research into the name. Every detail of the banner is planned to communicate a biblical truth.

"We do not fill up our banners with 'stuff' just to make them pretty," she said. "Everything has a meaning."

Noting they have found that banners make the greatest impact on children, she said, "We don't want anything on these banners that would be a stumbling block to anybody."

For maximum impact, Higginbotham said banners should be used selectively and not displayed on a long-term basis.

"Banners are tools used to stimulate people toward worship of our one true God," she said. "They are not idols to be set up in your church and not touched."

All music not for worship, composers say

NASHVILLE (BP)—Churches suffer from a diet of "junk food" music and should realize not all Christian music belongs in the church, two noted composers said during a recent symposium at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Some church members are being fed and are accepting junk food in church music, said Jane Marshall, teacher and choral music composer from Dallas. Such music, she said, is "a style that is quickly consumed, assimilated and forgotten, with very little lasting quality."

Marshall, who has retired from teaching at Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University, said she sees much contemporary music "in the romantic style. We tend to find in most publishing houses a ready market for the musical theater, 1940s ballad-style or Christian pop. It's either sweet or it's toe-tapping."

Marshall said she believes neither style is wrong "if it is well crafted and

if it is balanced with other things."

"Our hymnals are full of all kinds of styles, but we tend to sing the ones we know. What we are not seeing is a balanced diet of the works of composers from all styles."

Marshall's criticism of some contemporary music is compositions which are "poor imitations rather than the real thing. It's an inch deep and miles wide. It smacks of a lack of depth. It's entertainment that uses emotions without the experience that undergirds emotion. It's a starvation diet that we are on today."

Mark Hayes, who works as a composer, arranger and producer, said worship leaders need to realize not all Christian music is fitting for worship.

For example, there are good, spiritual songs that can provide "a high-energy worship experience in the concert venue but which would not be appropriate for the average church," he said. On the other hand, "there is a lot of high-brow music that is perfor-

mance music but which isn't useful in a church," he explained.

An active volunteer musician at Broadway Baptist Church in Kansas City, Mo., Hayes is experienced in both church and concert music.

"Sitting at the front of the worship area, I get a chance to read people's eyes," he said, "to see if they are half asleep or if they are really involved."

"Church music should never be boring," he contended. "Sometimes boredom comes from the execution of the music but sometimes it's the fault of the writer who produced something that shouldn't have God's name on it."

Church music should achieve two goals, he said: to glorify Christ and to lead worshipers to respond.

"God made music to be emotional," he maintained. "If music doesn't evoke emotion, it has failed. We need to ponder the intellectual but we need to have an emotional connection between us and God."

Planned spontaneity cited as worship goal

By Linda Lawson
SBC Sunday School Board

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)—The pattern of worship in most Southern Baptist churches is all-too-predictable: Hymn-prayer-hymn-prayer-hymn-prayer-preach.

Planned spontaneity is an alternative to that routine sameness, according to three leaders of sessions on worship planning during church music leadership conference at Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Center.

To facilitate flexibility in worship planning, R.G. Huff, minister of music at University Hills Baptist Church in Denver, said he puts each element of the service on an individual card so he can easily rearrange them to come up with varied combinations.

"No one has told us worship has to be hymn, prayer, preach," he said.

Planning worship services carefully ahead of time should not preclude

spontaneously changing something during the service, said Don Blackley, minister of music at First Baptist Church of Richardson, Texas. At the same time, a desire for spontaneity should not eliminate careful advance planning, he countered.

"I believe the Holy Spirit can lead me in my preparation just as surely as he can in the spontaneity of the moment," he said.

Worship services should be planned to enable Christians and non-Christians to seek God, Huff said.

Confession and meditation give Southern Baptists particular trouble, both in corporate and individual worship, Huff and Blackley agreed.

"This is the most uncomfortable Southern Baptists get—when there's no sound—and they have to commune with the Lord," Blackley said.

And physical movement also makes many Southern Baptists uncomfortable, he added. "We're too

scared of the body in worship. We won't raise our hands and we won't kneel, so we just stand there."

Despite the need for some silence, dead time between elements of the worship service can distract participants from experiencing God, Blackley said. "If we can make worship seamless and flow from one element to the next, I think we have helped people."

While methods and styles of worship are important and should be tailored to the needs of the worshippers, content is more important, said Ben Loring, pastor of First Baptist Church in Amarillo, Texas.

"We must always focus on the content as we plan worship. It must be Christ-centered, God-honoring and Spirit-anointed," he said. "Our communities are not alike. Our churches are not alike. Each must find its own mix of honoring God and bringing people to know him."

"Church music should never be boring."

Composer and arranger
Mark Hayes

"This is the most uncomfortable Southern Baptists get—when there's no sound and they have to commune with the Lord."

Don Blackley, minister of music at First Baptist Church of Richardson, Texas

PEOPLE

7 Kentucky couples appointed to foreign missions

RICHMOND, Va.—Seven Kentucky couples were appointed to missionary work by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board this month.

Two of those couples will serve as representatives of Cooperative Services International, an aid organization related to the FMB. The other five will serve as career missionaries.

David and Laura Meece, members of DeHaven Memorial Baptist Church in LaGrange, will serve as medical workers in east Asia through CSI.

Meece is a native of Somerset and is the son of Rev. and Mrs. Vestal Meece of Brodhead. The elder Meece is pastor of Ottawa Baptist Church in Brodhead.

Meece has been an emergency room physician at King's Daughters Hospital in Madison, Ind., and previously was a staff physician at Manchester Memorial Hospital. He is a graduate of the University of Kentucky and also attended Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Mrs. Meece is an Ohio native and

also attended Southern Seminary.

Stephen and Pamela DeVoss will live in Asia, where they will develop ministries using sports-related skills through CSI. Currently, DeVoss is minister of youth at First Baptist Church in Norman, Okla.

DeVoss is from Henderson and has ties to Immanuel Baptist Temple in Henderson and First Baptist Church in Murray. He is a graduate of Murray State University and Southern Seminary.

Mrs. DeVoss is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ron Churchill of Murray. She also is a graduate of Murray State University and attended First Baptist Church in Murray.

David and Pamela Emmert will live in Ethiopia, where he will work as coordinator of the Bible school in Addis Ababa. Currently, Emmert is pastor of First Baptist Church in Lovelville, Tenn.

Both the Emmerts are graduates of Cumberland College and former members of Brodhead Baptist Church in Brodhead. He helped start the

school's Mountain Outreach program to build homes for needy families.

Robert and Julie Johnson will live in Taiwan, where they will start and develop churches. He currently is pastor of Salem Baptist Church in Virginia Beach, Va.

Johnson is from Russellville and is the son of Bettie Bond and the late Jay Johnson of Russellville and the stepson of R.T. Bond of Russellville. He holds a degree from Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green.

Anthony and Janet Tench will live in Malawi, where they will start and develop churches. He currently is pastor of First Baptist Church in Kuttawa.

Tench is a graduate of Southern Seminary and previously served as pastor of Bethany Baptist Church in Louisville.

Mrs. Tench is a graduate of the University of Louisville and also attended Southern Seminary. She has been a teacher with Lyon County Public Schools in Eddyville, at Highview Baptist Christian School and with Jef-

erson County Public Schools, both in Louisville.

Brad and Sally Womble will work with the Baptist Community Center in Niamey, Niger. He currently works with the Texas Department of Human Services, and she currently is a prenatal instructor at All Saints Hospital in Fort Worth, Texas.

Mrs. Womble is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Boyd of Hopkinsville. First Baptist Church in Hopkinsville is her home church. She is a graduate of Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond and the University of Kentucky in Lexington. While in Lexington she attended Gardenside Baptist Church and worked as a nurse at Central Baptist Hospital.

Keith and Kathie Reynolds were reappointed as missionaries to Honduras, where they will work in music ministries. They previously served in Honduras but most recently have served Brushy Creek Baptist Church in Taylors, S.C.

Reynolds is a Hazard native and graduate of Southern Seminary.



Meeces



DeVosses



Emmerts



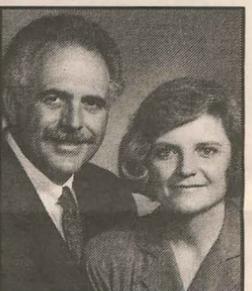
Johnsons



Tenchs



Wombles



Reynolds

Food roundup

September is the start of a busy season at Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children facilities across the state.

The children are heading back to school, busy in activities at school and on campus. All that activity makes for hearty appetites.

The food that fills those growing bodies comes directly from Baptist churches and the individuals in those churches who take part in our ministry to children through the annual September Food Roundup.

By collecting cans of food and personal care items through your church, you are making a lasting difference for children who have been abused and neglected.

As we move toward colder months and holiday celebrations at Thanksgiving and Christmas, we want to give these children the same kind of nourishment that your children enjoy. We want them to know that Baptists truly care about their well-being.

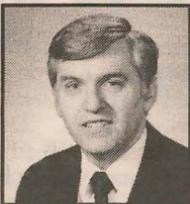
The Food Roundup is an opportunity for you to be involved in meeting the basic needs of hurting children. Last year we collected over 40 tons of food that went to feed children helped by KBHC

ministries across Kentucky.

Some of the items needed include: canned foods, mixes, potatoes, dried beans, cereals, flour, and sugar. We are unable to accept home-canned foods.

Personal care items such as soap, shampoo, toothpaste and deodorant are also needed for youth ages 11-18.

HOMES FOR CHILDREN



Curtis C. Mooney

Pick-up points are located conveniently across the state. Watch for a listing of pick-up points in your region of the state in upcoming issues of the Western Recorder. In the meantime, get the roundup going in your church.

For further information on pick-up sites and dates, call Brenda Gray toll-free at 1-800-

456-1386.

We would be happy to provide a speaker at your church to talk about the Food Roundup and KBHC ministries or provide information for you and your church as you consider what you might do.

Thank you for what you will do for children through the Food Roundup!

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

Paid Column

To cure, to heal

In 1985, Rev. Bill B. Bailey, my former colleague at Central Baptist Hospital, wrote to his hospital co-workers:

"We work in a hospital, the modern edifice that is the latest expression of man's efforts to understand and respond to disease and illness. We also live in a time when medical science, technology and skill are providing fantastic means of treating disease and injury. Yet, persons are still troubled by the effects of disease and injury on emotions, faith and psyche.

"Most of medical science focuses on cure. The effort to deal with the causes and process of disease. There are examples of cure, especially of symptoms. The best examples are those effects of antibiotics.

"Treatment of illness is quite different. The term heal is relevant to illness. To heal is to make whole, sound, healthy. One can have a disease and an illness. One can also be ill without disease. Disease is the response to attack on the body. Illness is our psychological/spiritual response to disease and those other forces which fracture our wholeness.

"Central Baptist Hospital can be the kind of place that treats both disease and illness. All of our expertise and technology is geared

toward cure. The style with which we care for people contributes toward healing."

Almost a year to the day after he wrote these words, Bill died in our hospital. He was only 43 years old. His family, friends and co-workers were then in need of the kind of healing about which he spoke. We found strength and comfort in the style he had modeled, and ultimately, we found healing through the presence of the Christ he had served so faithfully.

In celebration of his life, we began a Bill Bailey Fund for students with financial need who apply to our ministry training program. Through this fund, administered by the Baptist Healthcare Foundation, Bill Bailey continues to contribute to the healing ministry of this hospital and pastors and chaplains who now serve around the world.

Larry Gray is director of pastoral care at Central Baptist Hospital in Lexington.

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

Paid Column

PEOPLE

KBC entities take joint approach to promote their causes

Kentucky Baptists are getting personal visits from their nine agencies and institutions this fall.

Representatives from the organizations—Baptist Healthcare System, Campbellsville College, Clear Creek

Baptist Bible College, Cumberland College, Georgetown College, the Kentucky Baptist Foundation, Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, Oneida Baptist Institute and the Western Recorder—will speak to 68 Ken-

tucky Baptist associational meetings by the end of October.

The agencies and institutions work through a "joint approach committee" to send one representative on behalf of all nine participants to each association which extends an invitation.

The joint approach idea was conceived in 1988 by staff members from several of the organizations, said Marc Whitt, public relations director at Georgetown College.

"We felt there was an important message the state agencies and institutions had that was not reaching the associations," Whitt recalled. "We got together to talk about the uniqueness of our ministries and how to communicate that to Kentucky Baptists."

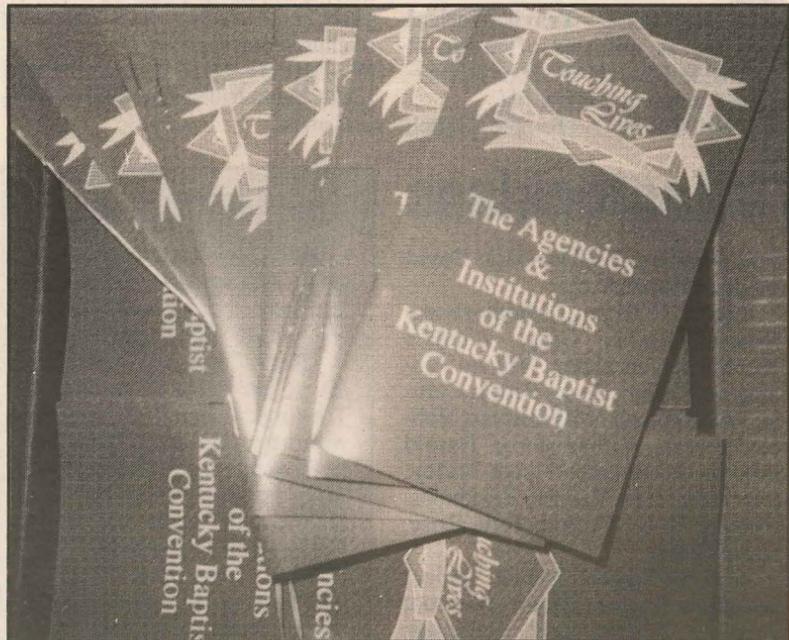
The committee developed a single presentation that could be made to associational meetings, he said. The concept decreased the strain on associational meetings by reducing the requests for platform time, since one agency/institution representative could speak for all nine. It decreased the strain on the participating organizations by allowing them to pool their resources.

The response from associations has been gratifying this year, said Brenda Gray, director of development and communications at Homes for Children. Sixty-eight associations have requested joint approach speakers this year, up from 32 in 1991, she said.

The agencies and institutions also have published a brochure to be presented at the associational meetings.

Titled "Touching Lives," the brochure contains information about all nine organizations.

Speakers are leaving extra copies with the associational directors of missions, who will have them available after the associational meetings have been completed.



JOINT APPROACH This new brochure has been developed to highlight the work of Kentucky Baptist Convention's nine agencies and institutions. The brochures will be distributed at many associational meetings this fall.



PENNIES FOR POUNDS Cindy Effington, a member of New Salem Baptist Church in Cox's Creek, presents a collection of pennies to be weighed in one of the church's several promotions to raise funds for Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children. The church recently expanded the traditional "mile of pennies" campaign to include a "Penny and Pound" Sunday where every member was challenged to bring a penny for each pound they weigh. One member gave a children's sermon on "A 120 Pound Wallet." Now the church is considering a *pounding Sunday* where every member is asked to bring exactly one pound of pennies to support child-care ministries.

Woman's Missionary Union of Kentucky

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Retiring President of the
Foreign Mission Board

and

Mrs. Helen Jean Parks

Sunday, September Thirteen
Nineteen Hundred and Ninty-two
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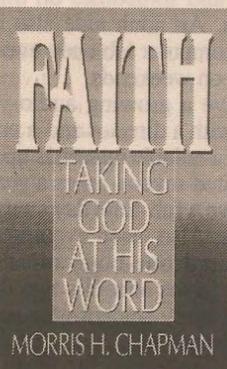
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KENTUCKY KERNELS

The three Kentucky counties projected to experience the largest gains in population by the year 2000 are Oldham (28.6 percent), Boone (23.7 percent), Grant (21.2 percent), Spencer (18.7 percent) and Anderson (17.9 percent). Source: Kentucky State Data Center.

Mountains to the Mississippi

■ **BENTON**—Headley Thweatt, pastor of Elva Missionary Church, retired Aug. 23.
 ■ **BURGIN**—Burgin Church called Debra Watts as interim minister of music.
 ■ **DANVILLE**—Hedgeville Church called Jeff Fox as pastor.
 ■ **ELIZABETHTOWN**—A group of 21 from Blue Ball Church took a two-day mission trip to assist Blue River Island Church in Irvington, where

they painted, installed stairs, cleaned and did repair work.
 ■ **FERGUSON**—Lighthouse Mission constituted as a church Aug. 16.
 ■ **HAZEL**—James Garland, pastor of Hazel Church, announced his retirement effective Oct. 31.
 ■ **LAGRANGE**—William Day, pastor of DeHaven Memorial Church, resigned to serve as pastor of Calvary Church in Clinton, Iowa.
 ■ **LEXINGTON**—Elkhorn Associa-

tion called Jerry Wilkes as director of missions. Wilkes, a native of Alabama and graduate of New Orleans Seminary, has served as church growth director of the Metro Baptist Association in Lawrenceville, Ga., since 1984. Wilkes will replace Harold Polk, who retired last spring and has continued to serve on an interim basis.
 ■ **LOUISVILLE**—Travis McNeal resigned as minister of music at Southside Church to serve at Bayshore Church in Tampa, Fla.
 ■ **OWENSBORO**—Temple Church

ordained Ken Slaton as a deacon. The church also began "The Prayer of 120" campaign Aug. 2. This is a commitment of 120 people to pray 120 minutes each week for 120 days.
 ■ **PINEVILLE**—Three instructors have been appointed by Clear Creek Bible College: Ben Baird, distinguished professor of pastoral ministries; Beth Bevins, instructor of English; and Tina Murdock, instructor of church music.
 ■ **SHEPHERDSVILLE**—Bullitt Lick Church called Earl Bell as interim pastor.

Cumberland scholarships go to 73 Kentuckians

WILLIAMSBURG—Seventy-three Kentucky Baptists are among the first-year students receiving Baptist Leadership Scholarships at Cumberland College this fall.

The scholarships are awarded to students exemplifying outstanding leadership in their churches, communities and schools. First-year recipients from Kentucky include:

Cori Abbott, Louisville; DeVona Abbott, Monticello; Jonathan Alred, Baxter; Geri Amburgey, Corbin; Glenna Kay Bullock, Orlando; Jeffery Burchett, Wittensville; Tonya Burkhart, Lancaster; Russell Carr, Williamsburg; Timothy Carter, LaGrange; Susan Casey, Cranks; Kimberly Combs, Clay City; Dan Connell, Williamsburg; Curtis Cotton, Mount Vernon; Jennifer Croley, Williamsburg; Carolyn Davis, Williamsburg; Everett Davis, Williamsburg;

Mary Dick, Monticello; Eric Dishon, Stanford; Bobby Joe Eldridge, Somerset; Katherine Etherington, Lawrenceburg; Bradley Fields, Williamsburg; Stephen Fuller, Lexington; Teresa Gambrel, Corbin; Elizabeth Gastineau, Lancaster; John Gentry, Williamsburg; Cheryl Gilliam, Williamsburg; Christi Gillum, Ashland; Stephanie Goforth, London; John Groft, Billa Hills;

Stephanie Hall, Somerset; Carla Hawkins, Florence; Chrystal Hensley, Smith; Miranda Hill, Waynesburg; Misti Honeycutt, Middlesboro; Holli Hoover, Campton; Amy Jacobs, Waynesburg; William Jarboe, Williamsburg; Michael Jones, Williamsburg; James Keith, Owenton; Kimberly Kinser, Bee Spring; Jamie Lockard, Bronston; Lana Logan, Shelbyville; Kelly Martin, Harlan; Sylvia McGinnis, Monticello; Eliza-

beth Meadors, Williamsburg; David Moore, Williamsburg;

Elissa O'Bryan, Middlesboro; Nancy Owens, Gray; Jennifer Passerella, Vanceburg; William Pennington, Corbin; Becky Petrey, Corbin; Willie Powell, Williamsburg; Robert Powers, Williamsburg; Harold Prewitt, Richmond; Tanya Priddy, Lancaster; John Reeder, Rockholds; Heather Rose, Corbin; Julie Rose, Hazel Green;

Christol Sargent, Mount Vernon; Jonathan Saylor, Mount Vernon; Amanda Schweinzer, Bellevue; Timothy Sears, Corbin; Kristy Short, Holmes Mill; Vickie Smith, Williamsburg; Mark Stanley, Williamsburg; Robert Tindal Jr., Shelbyville; Lorinda Underwood, Taylorsville; Robert Warfield II, Versailles; Cynthia Whitaker, Middlesboro; Kristina Williamson, Greenup.

Berea BSUs noted

BEREA—Three Baptist Student Union leaders at Berea College were among students awarded a ministry scholarship.

Cherie Cruze and Mark Gaddis began at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary this fall with help from the scholarship. Both were members of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Son teams, and Gaddis was Berea College's BSU president.

Vicki Kohls' financial award will assist her in studies at a Lutheran seminary in Columbus, Ohio. Kohls was active in the local BSU drama team at Berea.

The scholarships are renewable for recipients who reapply and continue to meet the criteria, said Pat Brunner, campus minister at the college.

Record enrollment and teaching staff

We have had one week of classes in our 93rd academic year. We have the largest group of new students ever, yet we have had the smoothest beginning in memory. Our total enrollment is 574. With the largest teaching staff of our history, we have our best teacher-student ratio ever.

In grades 9-12 we have 358 students with 32 full-time making a ratio of 11:1. We have 191 in grades 6-8 compared to 41 in 1976 when we resumed our under-high-school-level program, not having had it for 14 years. With 11 teachers, that makes a ratio of 17:1.

Then we have our kindergarten-through-grade-five program for the children of our school staff. This group numbers 25 with two full-time teachers for a 12:1 ratio.

Actually, our teacher-student ratio is even better than the figures above. Scores of our students receive remedial tutoring in reading and math from one to six hours daily depending on the amount of help needed. We have a full-time equivalent of 43 students getting the intensive tutoring provided by a full-time staff of 22 men and women. That is a ratio of 2:1. Each hour of the day, there are many being given one-on-one attention, while there are other groups of three with a single teacher.

Twelve of this staff have college degrees and 10 are teacher aides without degrees. Such individualized attention is possible because many of these good people serve as full-time volunteers without salary.

Two of our staff, both Georgetown College graduates, intensively tutor two to five students hourly in a variety of subjects for a few days, weeks or months in a school-day study hall. If a student is having difficulty in a particular sub-

ject, whatever it is, extra help is provided until that particular material is mastered.

We have a full-time Alternative Learning Center for students who need to be removed from the classroom for short periods, several hours or days, of in-school detention.

We have two full-time day librarians who keep the library open, with the assistance of a third staff member for the evenings, from 8 a.m. to 9:15 p.m. The library also is regularly open on Saturday afternoons and sometimes on Sunday afternoons. An adult aide also helps keep the computer lab open evenings as well as on weekends.

We have a growing audio-visual program with a director and a printed catalog of available materials updated and reprinted several times a year.

We have a full-time day study hall supervisor. Also, each evening there is a required one-hour supervised study hall in the school's two dining rooms for every student who has not made the honor roll. Four staff supervise these on a regular basis, and many of our teachers come as they

have time to assist. Students who have an overall B average in all their lessons may attend the evening study halls, but most of these are engaged in other activities at that time.

We have a full-time guidance counselor and within a few weeks will have a second one. A secretary assists.

We also have a school chaplain and another full-time counselor available day and night to listen to students' problems. Supervising our daily academic program is Principal Larry Gritton in his 20th year of OBI service.

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

ONEIDA JOURNAL



Barkley Moore

Paid Column

Air Force veteran begins ministry training

Death took Alan Collier's mother when he was 13. Alan remembers his mother saying, shortly before her death, "When you preach, tell it the way the Lord wants you to; don't sugar-coat it." Alan was saved at age 9 but had no leadership about being a preacher and didn't really know what his mother meant. He went to live with his grandmother in Lee County, Virginia. At age 18, he married Ronda.

Collier joined the military and spent some time in Montana, occasionally attending the base chapel. During a 15-month tour in Turkey, unaccompanied by his family, two Christians became a major influence.

Alan struggled with the question, "God, what do you want?" It seemed as if the Lord said, "I want you to be a preacher."

One barrier raised to God's calling was "I can't get up in front of people." Soon he was sent to leadership school, an unusual assignment for a person of Alan's rank. His classes included preparation of three speeches.

Alan told the Lord, "If you'll help me get through those speeches, I'll do whatever you want." On the first Sunday after leadership school, he surrendered to the min-

istry.

During the next five years, he served as pastor of one church and associate pastor of two others. He had increasing leadership to leave the Air Force for ministry training. The end of the cold war and the downsizing of the military brought an opportunity for early release.

One of his sons came down with juvenile arthritis, and heavy

doses of aspirin led to Rhye Syndrome. "We felt there was no way I could leave the service with these health problems. We needed the medical care." Their son, Aaron, improved and eventually overcame the Rhye Syndrome. Another child, Joe, was added to the family.

Collier applied for release but was told the quota for his section had probably been reached; it could be six weeks before he would hear anything. While on leave, Alan decided to visit Clear Creek anyway, and the Lord gave much affirmation.

Upon his return to the base, he was surprised with quick approval of his discharge. "This has been a big transition, but we know it is the Lord's will," Alan affirmed.

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

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill D. Whittaker

Paid Column

First SBC missionaries now working in Belarus

By Mike Creswell
SBC Foreign Mission Board

MINSK, Belarus (BP)—A huge statue of Lenin still towers over downtown Minsk, a city of 1.7 million people where Southern Baptist missionaries now serve in the shadow of communism's fall.

Dan and Libby Panter worked in the African nation of Togo 14 years before transferring last year to Minsk. They are Southern Baptists' first career missionaries in Belarus, located between Poland and Russia.

Belarus is part of the fledgling Commonwealth of Independent States, the loose confederation of some former Soviet republics.

The Panters join more than a dozen missionary couples who have moved into Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, many of them transfers from other fields. The two have spent much of the past year learning Russian, their third foreign language, and learning to live in a society with a faltering economy. Their specific ministry will be determined later in cooperation with the national Baptist union.

"We see our ministry as working hand in hand with Baptist leaders here in Belarus in evangelism and church planting," Panter said.

Mrs. Panter hopes to teach English as a way to make contacts with people. "I'm going to have these Belarusians speaking English with a Mississippi accent," she declared with a laugh.

For now they continue to study Russian with the help of tutors. They expect it will take two years to become proficient in the difficult language.

The Panters have had to grasp the basics quickly to exist in a city where few speak English or French. Shopping requires the use of Russian numbers. Riding the subway in Minsk requires the ability to read place names. "We were highly motivated; we wanted to eat," Panter admitted.

Baptist work in Belarus is about the same size as that in Togo. About 120 congregations count a total of 10,000 members. Not large for a nation of more than 10 million people.

There are other similarities. In Togo, children sometimes would flee when they saw Panter. Because he was the first white person they had ever seen, they assumed he was a ghost. In Belarus he gets almost the same response when people hear he is American.

"I never would have dreamed I would have an American in my home and have dinner with me," a member of Minsk Baptist Church told the missionary couple.

After their initial shock, Belarusian Baptists are very welcoming, the Panters quickly point out.

But their initial reactions are understandable. Five years ago, a visit by an American almost certainly would have led to questioning by the police, perhaps even a jail sentence. A casual conversation in the street could have led to losing one's job or other problems.

Even today, Baptists talking to the Panters remain highly selective in

what they will discuss by telephone. And they prefer to avoid discussing anything sensitive on visits to the Panter home, still fearing the modest two-bedroom apartment may be bugged.

Yet the Panters have found most people open to discussing the Christian faith and looking for spiritual answers. As they studied Russian at a language institute in Minsk, the Panters evangelized other students and teachers, gave out Bibles and showed a film on the life of Jesus.

They were the first Americans at the institute. "Why are you here?" people asked them, giving an excellent opening for sharing their missionary call and the Christian message of salvation.

"These people are hungry spiritually," Mrs. Panter said. "They have been so squelched. They were not allowed to say a word about God."

Panter feels God called them to the region long before they actually could work there.

Appointed foreign missionaries in 1976, the Panters spent a year in France studying French before heading to Togo. But during that year Panter took advantage of a budget-priced, two-week tour of the Soviet Union. It changed his life.

"The Lord really spoke to me while I was here about how great the need was," he recalled. "One night I made a commitment to him that if the door ever opened I would like to come."

At the time, missionary service in the Soviet region was impossible.

But Panter kept thinking about spiritual needs behind the Iron Curtain. He talked with Russians who visited Togo and read avidly about events in the Soviet Union.

When he casually asked in 1990 about mission work in the Soviet Union, a Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board administrator told him requests for missionaries in the region were coming and that service was possible.

"It was like a bolt of lightning," Panter said. "The Lord said to me, 'You said if the doors opened, you'd go.'"

Mrs. Panter was less enthusiastic at first, but after praying through it, the two united in a sense of call and began to apply for a transfer.

They left for Moscow the day the attempted coup occurred there in 1991. They wound up staying in Amsterdam several days until the coup began to fail.

So far the hardest part of serving in Belarus for the Panters has been sending their three children back to the United States. Traci, 20, is a college student and would be away from home anyway. But Katherine, 17, and Michael, 15, are staying with Mrs. Panter's parents in Florence, Miss., to attend high school there.

Despite such hardships, the Panters feel they are where God wants them.

Belarusian Baptists never thought they would have missionaries from the United States among them. The Panters never thought they would be able to work there. All agree their very presence is a miracle and they intend to make the most of it.



Shopping in Belarus makes 'Twilight Zone' economics

MINSK, Belarus (BP)—When Southern Baptist missionaries Dan and Libby Panter go to market, it's like visiting a financial "Twilight Zone."

Before walking to one of two nearby shopping complexes, Mrs. Panter first checks her ration coupons. This year, common foodstuffs like sugar, flour, macaroni, butter, oil, cereal, rice, washing powder and soap are strictly rationed.

Each person is allotted one bar of soap and one box of washing detergent every three months. Men get two undershirts per year.

Milk may or may not be available today; if it is, you take a container to bring it home in. Meat is in short supply and expensive if you can find it.

But "expensive" is a relative term these days. For Belarusians, prices have been skyrocketing.

The average worker earns about 2,000 rubles a month. A pair of tennis shoes can cost 1,600 rubles—virtually an entire month's wages.

A pair of women's dress shoes costs between 1,300 and 2,100 rubles. Sausage, the most common meat product, has gone from 8 rubles per kilogram (about 2.2 pounds) to 324. Cheese that cost 5 rubles a kilogram nine months ago now costs 77.

Inflation reportedly runs 20 percent per month. Yet prices in Belarus are much lower than in neighboring Russia. The ration cards keep outsiders from cashing in on the lower prices of goods in Belarus.

But here's another "Twilight Zone" aspect: The rapid increases in ruble prices have been accompanied by a sharp fall in the exchange rate of the Russian ruble to the American dollar.

In February 1991, \$1 could obtain 5.4 Russian rubles. In June 1992, \$1

purchased 120 Russian rubles.

For now, a person with dollars can live well—at least within the limitations of a tottering economy in which there is often little to buy at any price.

For a person with dollars, a 6-ruble ice cream cone costs less than 6 cents. A steak dinner in the best restaurant in Minsk costs about \$2.

A subway ride costs 1 cent.

The economic pressure also affects Baptist efforts to construct buildings. A new Baptist complex at Minsk that will include a church, retirement home, medical clinic, library and seminary was originally estimated to cost 2 million rubles. The estimate has soared to 140 million rubles and is still climbing.

A 3.5-million ruble grant from the government for the project evaporated in runaway inflation. "Before, we could buy 1,000 bricks for 60 rubles. Now for 60 rubles we can buy only eight bricks," lamented Ivan Bukatyi, president of the Baptist union.

Bukatyi earns 1,000 rubles a month—less than \$10 at current exchange rates. He held out the union's savings account book to show that Baptists have less than the equivalent of \$15 in savings for now.

FRIENDS Svetlana Kapustin (right), like other Belarusian Baptists, once feared that any contact with an American would result in questioning or arrest. Not any more. Now Southern Baptist missionary Libby Panter (left) is one of her best friends. (BP photo by Don Rutledge)

CHERNOBYL'S CHILDREN Missionary Dan Panter joins Belarusian Baptist Vera Plucheva (right) in visiting a young cancer patient at a hospital near Minsk, Belarus. Radiation from the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear accident blew across Belarus in 1986. As the fallout continues to strike residents, Belarusian Baptists like "Sister Vera" minister to the families. (BP photo by Don Rutledge)



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