

SEPTEMBER 22, 1992 VOL. 166, NO. 37

FOR THE RECORD

European treaty

Representatives of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board and the European Baptist Federation met in Hamburg, Germany, and agreed to resolve their differences. See page 2.

KBC proposal

A special study committee has finalized its proposal that would amend the way churches gain representatives to the Kentucky Baptist Convention. See page 3.

Family Forum

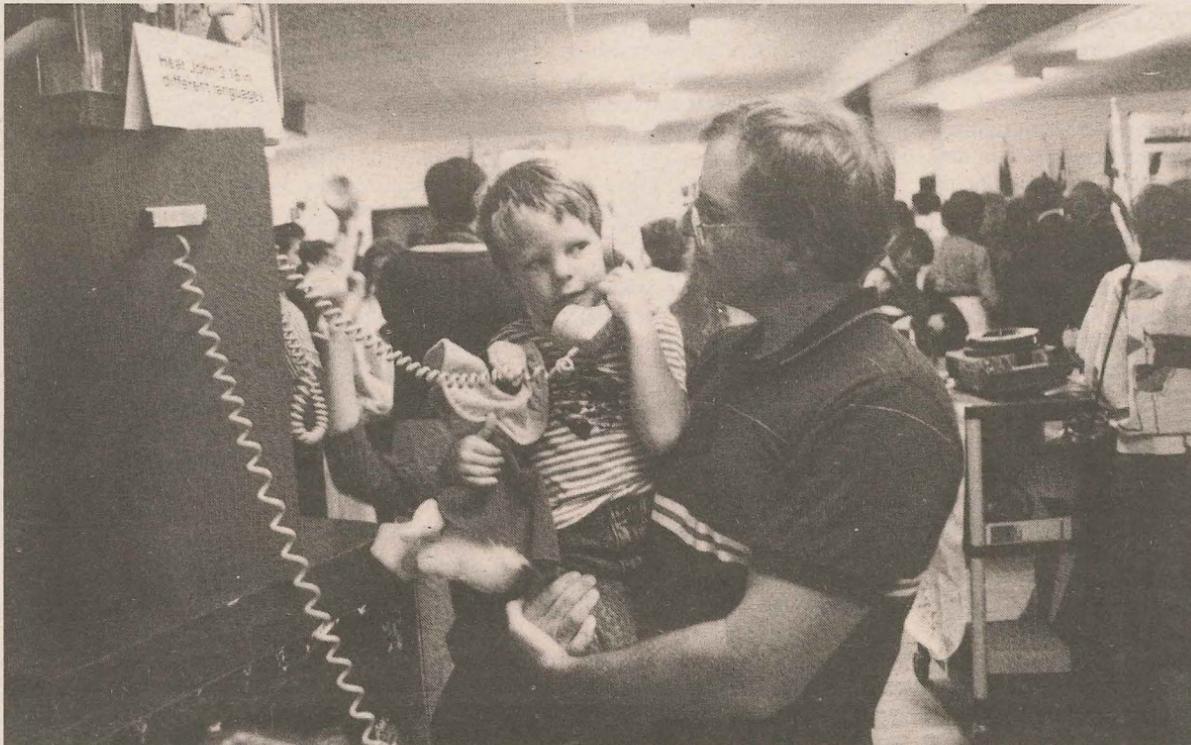
Five myths about single adults. See page 4.

Editorials

MissionsFest may have been a defining moment for Kentucky Baptists. See page 5.

Photo essay

Baptist Healthcare System sponsored its first foreign missions trip to provide medical services in Brazil. See page 9.



LANGUAGE LESSON Michael Folkerth and his father, Richard, listen to John 3:16 in one of several languages offered at a display in the Global Walkaround at MissionsFest in Lexington. More than 2,600 people attended the two-day event highlighting the work of missionaries around the world. The Folkerth family, currently of Louisville, plans to be appointed as missionaries by the Foreign Mission Board next month.

Parks' last MissionsFest draws 2,600

By Marv Knox & Mark Wingfield
Editor & News Director

LEXINGTON—If Baptists really believe missions is the central theme of the Bible, they ought to do more about it, Keith Parks said in one of his last appearances as president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Parks, who will retire as FMB

president next month, addressed Kentucky Baptists several times during MissionsFest, a foreign missions extravaganza in Lexington Sept. 11-12.

More than 2,600 people attended the meeting, making it the second-largest MissionsFest ever. The FMB sponsors four of the festivals per year.

"If someone who had never read Scripture came to your church and listened for a month to all that was said and taught, and they examined your

budget ... do you think they would come out saying the most important thing for these people is sharing Jesus with all the world?" Parks asked. "Or would they find that hard to believe?"

He called for Baptists to get a "vision for going" in response to God's teaching through the Bible and through Jesus Christ.

"The central teaching of Scripture is the concept that God is the God of all people and his message is for all people," Parks said. "If this is the primary theme of the Bible, then we ought to do something about it."

But both the Jewish people and many who claim to be Christians have missed this basic concept, he said. "We have the feeling that somehow God loves some people more than others. This is not true."

Americans have a responsibility to share not only their material wealth but their spiritual wealth with a needy world, Parks said. "Christians in America ... need to carefully examine our relationship to our Lord and our

□ See *God still sends ...*, page 6

Kids cussing more today, teachers say

By Kathy Palen

Georgetown freelance writer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (ABP)—When one of Peggy George's kindergarten students lets loose with a four-letter word, George tries to explain calmly that such language is inappropriate at school. If her little chat fails to convince the child, George has that child call his or her father on the telephone and repeat the newly employed word.

"Usually that takes care of it," says George, a Southern Baptist who teaches at Nashville's Julia Green Elementary School.

George, who returned to teaching several years ago after an 18-year absence from the public school classroom, said she has seen a vast difference in the amount of profanity children use.

"When I returned to teaching, I was at a school in a low-income area of Nashville, where the students often struggled just to survive," she said. "I was shocked by some of the language that was used by the students."

"But I was more shocked that the same language was being used by my students at Julia Green," she said. "I would estimate that two-thirds of my students are from homes in which both parents have a college education."

George, a member of Immanuel Baptist Church in Nashville, notes that all children experiment with language, especially language that evokes emotion or shock. But, she adds, the increased use of profanity by children reflects more than just experimentation.

George cited several factors that may be contributing to the upswing in children's use of profanity.

As families face more pressures, parents' frustrations may come out in the use of profane language in front of their children, she said. And children may be hearing and learning inappropriate language from other children in such settings as day-care centers.

"It also alarms me that American

□ See *Cussing kids ...*, page 11

SPECIAL REPORT

KENTUCKY & THE WORLD

More MissionsFest stories on pages 6, 7 & 8

Kentucky native gets on the ball for missions

By Mary Speidel
SBC Foreign Mission Board

NORMAN, Okla. (BP)—Kentucky native Steve DeVoss plans to get the ball rolling in foreign missions.

That quality should serve him well as the first sports consultant for Cooperative Services International, the aid organization related to the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

DeVoss has a vision for linking sports resources—including professional, collegiate and amateur athletes and coaches—with existing needs across the globe.

"Sports is a common denominator throughout the world. It builds bridges," said DeVoss, a Henderson native who will begin his new work in Octo-

ber.

He's seen those bridges built at home and abroad and hopes to develop an international network of them.

From a base in east Asia, DeVoss and his wife, Pam, will operate an organization offering sports consultation and sports partnerships in other countries.

They will ask volunteer sports groups such as Athletes in Action and Professional Athletes Outreach to help supply them with athletes and coaches for the program. They also hope to involve Christian sports volunteers from all over the world.

"Wherever I've been, I've used sports," said DeVoss, who played baseball at Murray State University in the 1970s and most recently has

served on the staff of First Baptist Church in Norman, Okla.

For nearly 10 years, he has led sports clinics and demonstrations across the United States, from Honolulu to Chicago. The clinics, staffed by volunteers, have covered all kinds of sports—baseball, tennis, gymnastics and volleyball, to name a few.

DeVoss' dream of being a global sports consultant took shape in 1988 in Seoul, South Korea, at the World Congress on Sports, a coalition of Christian groups working in sports projects. Nearly 600 delegates from 106 countries attended.

DeVoss taught seminars on how to conduct sports clinics and worked as a consultant to delegates from Ghana

□ See *Former Murray State ...*, page 3

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EVENTS FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

This week the Western Recorder begins a joint venture with the Kentucky Baptist Convention to publish "Events for All Kentucky Baptists," a monthly supplement filled with information about services available from KBC staff. If you are a church leader receiving the Recorder for the first time—or for the first time in a long time—we hope you'll use the coupon on the back page to become a regular subscriber. And be sure to see the supplement pages inside for details on upcoming Kentucky Baptist events.

BAPTISTS

BAPTIST BITS

■ **A task force** to examine "where we've been, where we need to be" will be named by Southern Baptist Convention President Ed Young Sept. 23 so that "we can come together as a denomination." Young has scheduled a news conference immediately after the Sept. 21-23 meeting of the SBC Executive Committee. He said he plans to appoint nine special study groups with 11 members each.

■ **A former employee** of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board failed to convince a Richmond, Va., Circuit Court that the FMB wrongfully fired her last year. The court ruled Sept. 16 that Beverly Pierce had not produced evidence of a binding contract that could have prevented her firing.

■ **Enrollment** at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, is up this fall for the first time since 1985. The fall enrollment of 3,364 is an increase of five students over last fall. Southwestern's cumulative enrollment over three semesters last year was 4,014.

■ **Alumni** and friends of Southwestern Seminary will hold their annual meeting in Kentucky at noon Nov. 11 at the Kentucky Baptist Building in Louisville. For information or tickets, contact Bill Simmons at (606) 254-3491.

■ **A new divinity school** has been approved by trustees of Gardner-Webb College in Boiling Springs, N.C. Robert Lamb, former chair in the college's department of religious studies and philosophies, was named dean of the new school.

FMB mends rift with Europeans, signs agreement

HAMBURG, Germany—European Baptists and the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board have declared peace.

But a former Southern Baptist missionary administrator involved in the dispute between the groups said he is not hopeful the truce will hold.

Six FMB representatives met with seven European Baptist Federation leaders Sept. 11-12 at a hotel outside Hamburg, Germany. Together they signed a 10-point pact pledging future cooperation, partnership and joint ministry throughout Europe.

The "Hamburg Agreement" is intended to end the breaking of fellowship that resulted from the FMB's defunding of the Baptist Theological Seminary at Ruschlikon, Switzerland, last year.

As the leaders reviewed events leading up to the defunding, "both parties increasingly recognized the extent of the damage caused by the decision, but they experienced by the grace of God forgiveness in Christ and reconciliation," the agreement states.

By signing the agreement, FMB administrators and trustees agreed to work with the European Federation even though the Federation plans to

work also with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. The Fellowship, an organization of Southern Baptist moderates, now has at least eight missionaries, all former FMB missionaries, assigned to Europe.

The document now must be approved by the European Federation's Council during a Sept. 28-Oct. 1 meeting and by FMB trustees at their Oct. 12-14 meeting. Leaders from both bodies said they anticipate no problems in gaining ratification.

The agreement "will signal a new beginning in our relationship," said Karl-Heinz Walter, general secretary of the European Federation. "I expect unanimous approval of both the EBF Council and the FMB trustees."

"My own expectations for this meeting have been surpassed," said Don Kammerdiener, FMB executive vice president. "I feel deeply that what we have done is right."

However, Isam Ballenger, the FMB's former top administrator for Europe who left his post in a dispute with FMB trustees, said the agreement offers hope but may not be upheld.

Ballenger announced in January he would take early retirement rather than continue to work for the trustees,

whom he said want to impose their own theological orthodoxy on Baptists abroad.

Ballenger said the truce was to be expected. "I expected the Europeans to want to have good relations with the Foreign Mission Board, and I expected the board to want to improve things after the fiasco of last year."

But FMB trustees may have trouble living up to the agreement, which calls for mutual respect and shared decision-making, he warned.

"It's not natural for them," he said. "They may find that it is expedient for them to go along with it. But the agreement calls for consultation, and I'm afraid the trustees of the Foreign Mission Board do not know the meaning of consultation."

"Given the manner in which the fundamentalists have worked in our convention, it seems to me that it's going to be difficult for them to regard Baptists in other countries, with other theological statements and emphases, in an appropriate and proper way," Ballenger said.

During the Hamburg session, FMB trustee Chairman John Jackson and trustee Skip Smith apologized to the Europeans for how the Ruschlikon

defunding was handled. The European leaders then expressed forgiveness.

Wide-ranging discussions were "frank and open and carried out in an atmosphere of Christian love and included times of prayer and devotions," according to the agreement.

The session marked the first time since the Ruschlikon defunding both sides have sat down together to discuss future work.

The European Baptists wanted to wait until the FMB had elected a new regional vice president to replace Ballenger. FMB trustees hurried the election of Sam James to that post so the discussions could take place sooner, Jackson said.

EBF leaders "heartily endorsed" the election of James, the agreement said, recognizing in him "the kind of attitude to mission and Christian spirit which should lead to fruitful cooperation."

"We are moving forward together with the realization that there are no differences between us," Jackson said after the meeting.

"We all agree on the great spiritual needs that exist on the continent of Europe and we are going to work together to meet those needs."

Insurance rates same for 6 months

DALLAS (BP)—The Southern Baptist Annuity Board will make no rate changes in the Church Comprehensive Medical Plan or the Seminarian Comprehensive Medical Plan for the first six months of 1993.

An improvement in recent claims experience helped the board avoid a rate change, according to Joel Mathis, senior vice president for insurance administration.

Churches wishing to know rates now have accurate budget planning information for the first six months of 1993, Mathis said. However, he cautioned church budget planners to keep in mind factors that could increase participant's rates, such as a birthday that could move a partic-

ipant into a higher age bracket, or the addition of a dependent.

In the six-month rating period that begins in July 1993, Mathis said, some participants again may not see a change. However, depending on where they live, some participants could see their rates change in July, he said.

Mathis urged participants who feel they can't afford the comprehensive plan to consider enrolling in or switching coverage to one of the two new lower-rate "catastrophic" plans available in January 1993.

The two plans will be available at reduced rates compared to comprehensive plans. The proposed plans will have higher deductibles and limited benefits.

Georgia split deters executive

ATLANTA (BP)—Deep divisions within the Georgia Baptist Convention apparently derailed the election of a new executive director last week.

Gary Jones, vice president for the services section of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, was elected to the post by a 69-34 vote of the GBC Executive Committee. However, he declined the call, saying "no person on God's earth can serve with a 66 percent vote."

The GBC Executive Committee considered Jones' nomination in a grueling one and one-half hour discussion.

"My prayers are with you. My commitment to you has not changed. My commitment is to missions, evangelism and ministry; the difference is I'm going to be doing it at the Home Mission Board," Jones told the committee after the vote.

During the questioning before the vote, several members of the commit-

tee pressed Jones on his positions on controversial issues such as women in ministry, abortion and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

Jones made inclusion a central theme in his responses. He stated that positions on the ordination of women, abortion and participation with the Fellowship "should not be tests of fellowship" among Georgia Baptist churches. He pledged to work toward the inclusion of diverse elements of Baptist life at all levels of denominational involvement.

His refusal to take a strong stand against ordaining women, abortion and participation with the Fellowship apparently fueled the vote against him.

"Persons who are issues-oriented have expressed themselves. I'm not sure we could have brought anyone else and had any other vote," said search committee Chairman James Ramsey.

Fellowship wants Parks, will meet in Birmingham

By Greg Warner
Associated Baptist Press

ATLANTA (ABP)—Leaders of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship "wholeheartedly" endorsed an effort to hire Keith Parks to lead the Fellowship's own missions program.

However, Parks, who will retire as president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board Oct. 31, said he has received several job offers and will not make any decision until after his last day with the FMB.

The Fellowship's Coordinating Council, meeting Sept. 10-12 in Atlanta, also approved two new staff positions, heard that an interim missions coordinator had been hired, and heard of plans to place a mission worker in Miami to aid in hurricane relief.

The 84-member council also voted to change the site of the Fellowship's general assembly May 13-15, 1993, from Atlanta to Birmingham, Ala., and was told no merger is planned for now between the Fellowship and the Alliance of Baptists.

The council's endorsement of a job offer to Parks followed a lengthy debate about the manner in which the invitation was extended. Earlier, the Fellowship's global missions ministry group had issued an offer to Parks.

Fellowship Coordinator Cecil Sherman said Parks is "very seriously considering" the offer. "I think this organization would be greatly blessed if for three or four years he could lay the foundation" for the Fellowship's mission program, he added.

In the meantime, the council was told, retired FMB administrator Grayson Tennison has been hired as interim global missions coordinator. The

Fellowship already has hired eight "missioners"—all former FMB missionaries—and plans to hire 12 more in 1993.

In his report to the council, Sherman said 680 churches have contributed funds to the Fellowship in 1992, up from 391 last year. That includes an unspecified number of churches that contribute directly from their budget and churches that send designated gifts from individual church members.

As the number of contributing churches has grown, so has the Fellowship's budget, Sherman said. In the first eight months of 1992, the organization has received as much money as in all of 1991—about \$4.5 million—and is on target to reach its projection of \$6.4 million to \$6.6 million.

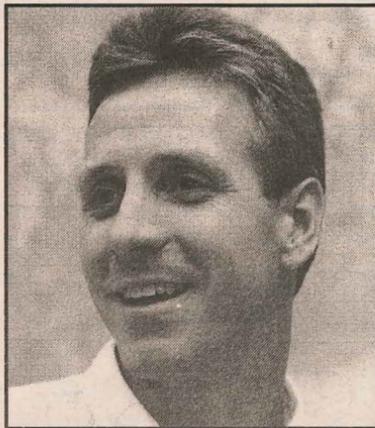
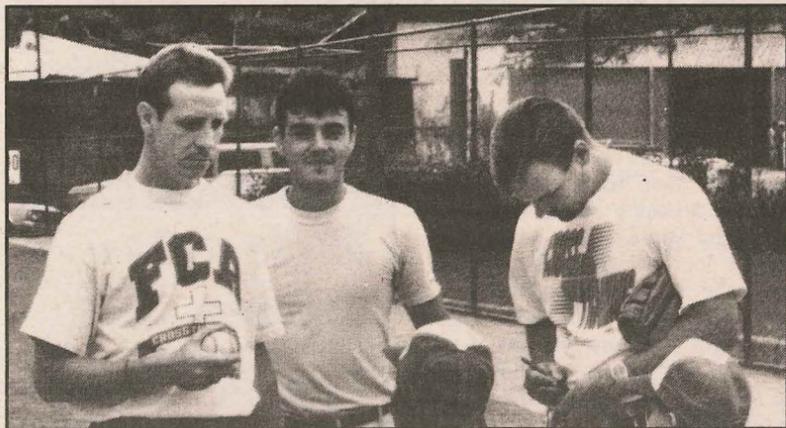
In other action, the council:
■ Heard a report on hurricane relief work in Miami performed by Fellowship churches and funded in part by \$15,000 in Fellowship money. Earlier, the global missions ministry group agreed to employ a missions coordinator for up to a year to coordinate recovery and rebuilding efforts.

■ Approved future sites for the annual meeting: Greensboro, N.C., May 5-7, 1994; Austin, Texas, 1995; Richmond, Va., 1996; Orlando, Fla., 1997; San Antonio, Texas, 1998; and Louisville in 1999.

■ Heard a statement from a dialogue group of Fellowship and Alliance members exploring the possibility of a merger of the two organizations. "We agree on the continued existence of each group at this time," the statement said.

■ Laid plans to produce a booklet on "reverence for life" for release in December.

Former Murray State player shoots for new mission



BASEBALL BRIDGES Kentucky native Steve DeVoss (left) and a Venezuelan translator wait while Major League pitcher John Wetteland of the Montreal Expos signs autographs during a Baptist baseball clinic in Venezuela. "Sports is a common denominator throughout the world. It builds bridges," said DeVoss, who along with his wife, Pam, has been appointed by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board as a global sports consultant. (BP photos)

Continued from page 1
and Nigeria. He also helped lead a basketball clinic in Taejon.

Last year his dream grew stronger when he worked as a sports clinic leader in South America and in the former Soviet Union.

In Venezuela, where baseball is the No. 1 sport, DeVoss helped lead a baseball clinic teaching skills of the game to young people. The clinic featured Major League pitcher John Wetteland of the Montreal Expos and Carlos Rios, a scout for the Atlanta Braves and former coach and infielder in the Atlanta farm system.

In Kazakhstan, DeVoss participated in a cultural exchange organized by that country and the Baptist Convention of Pennsylvania-South Jersey. More than 300 Americans visited Kazakhstan, a former Soviet republic.

DeVoss and a team of American volunteers led a baseball clinic and an American football demonstration for the Kazakhs. They also competed in a soccer match, although only one person on the U.S. team had ever played the sport. They tied 1-1.

"It was very fitting," DeVoss said.

The teams exchanged medals, trophies and jerseys as symbols of their cross-cultural friendship. The Kazakhs presented the American team a sash bearing the word "champion" in Russian. The Americans gave their football to their Kazakh host, Vitaly Sifoudanov, for his 35th birthday. Sifoudanov is an international rugby player for the former Soviet Union.

Last May, Sifoudanov joined a delegation of 300 Kazakhs who visited the United States as guests of Southern Baptists. During their stay, DeVoss flew to Norfolk, Va., to spend a day with the Kazakh sportsman. The two men have developed a strong friendship.

"When you get involved in sports with someone, you're sharing your life. ... There's an automatic bonding," observed Pam DeVoss.

The DeVosses hope to do a lot more of that as they develop a network of athletes.

All the workers in their sports projects don't have to be athletes, DeVoss said.

His wife is a good example. Mrs. DeVoss, a former high school biology teacher, said she's no athletic star. But she's found ways to use her talents in many of the sports clinics her husband has coordinated.

When they get settled in their new assignment, she will be office manager for the sports organization. She also will care for the couple's two young daughters and play hostess to sports volunteers who come to their area.

The DeVosses have a favorite photograph that shows how sports communicates across cultures. The photo—taken during DeVoss' 1991 trip to Kazakhstan—shows a Kazakh holding a baseball and staring at it, completely amazed.

"You can tell he's never seen a baseball before," Mrs. DeVoss said.

Moments like that have convinced DeVoss that sports is a powerful way to build bridges.

"After all," he mused, "didn't God create the world in the shape of a ball?"

BLUEGRASS BURGEOO

■ **Andy Sears** has been named director of planning for Baptist Healthcare System, the Louisville-based company which owns and operates the four Baptist hospitals in Kentucky. Sears, a graduate of Western Kentucky University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, has worked in the Baptist hospitals system since 1979.

■ **Howard Pardue** has been named executive director of athletics and director of career planning at Georgetown College. Pardue will be responsible for athletic fundraising, athletic management and career planning. He has been vice president and managing director of Right Associates, an international human resource consulting organization.

■ **Donald and Angie Finley** have been named missionaries-in-residence at Georgetown College this year while on furlough from their work in Vitoria, Espirito Santo, Brazil.

Proposal would change KBC qualification

By Marv Knox
Editor

A proposal to change the way the Kentucky Baptist Convention accepts messengers from participating churches has taken the final step before being presented to the KBC in November.

A special committee, created in 1990 to study Kentucky and Southern Baptists' Cooperative Program unified budget, approved the measure last week. It will be included in the committee's report and recommendations to the KBC Nov. 10-11.

Currently, each church which is "in friendly cooperation with" and "a bona fide contributor to" the convention's work gets two messengers to the KBC annual meeting. One additional messenger—up to a total of 10—is added for each 250 members over the first 100 or for each \$250 contributed annually to the Cooperative Program.

The new proposal would allow one additional messenger—up to 10—"for each \$250 contributed to the Cooperative Program and/or the work of the Kentucky Baptist Convention." It would not change the formula for determining messengers based on church membership.

It also specifically recommends "that no changes be made in the poli-

cy for receiving and distributing Cooperative Program funds." It notes those funds are "undesigned gifts received and distributed between the Southern Baptist Convention and KBC in accordance with the KBC-approved percentages."

The KBC keeps 62.696 percent of undesignated receipts and passes 37.304 percent on to the SBC.

If approved, the special committee's proposal would alter a constitutional amendment introduced at the KBC annual meeting in 1990.

An amendment, offered last year by Louisville pastor Jim Holladay, would have changed the financial qualification for messengers from each \$250 given to the Cooperative Program to each \$250 given to "the convention's work."

The special committee's proposal includes both the current messenger formula, based on contributions to the Cooperative Program, and Holladay's proposed formula, based on contributions to KBC work alone.

The issue has become a focal point within the KBC in recent years, as SBC controversy has escalated.

The Kentucky convention defines "Cooperative Program" contributions as only those which are undesignated. As such, they are subject to the KBC/SBC division.

Moderates have objected to contin-

ued undesignated support of the SBC, arguing they have been shut out of national decision-making. But because of Kentucky's stringent definition of Cooperative Program, they have had to maintain at least some undesignated national giving to qualify their messengers to the state convention.

The special study committee was created to study that issue.

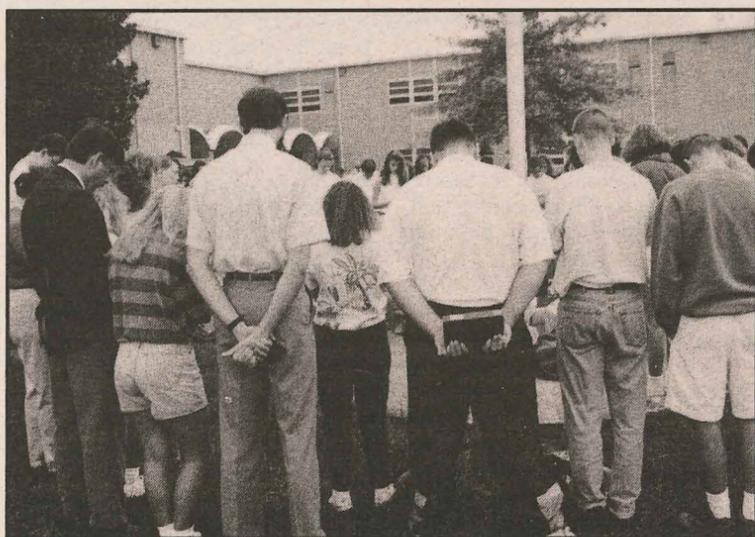
In its report last fall, the committee only recommended a change in how congregations qualify to use the Church Annuity Plan for ministers' retirement funds. It also asked that it be allowed to work this year.

The committee's report notes the committee understands the presentation at this year's annual meeting will constitute the second and final reading of the motion, which would amend the third article of the KBC constitution.

The committee also will recommend that it be disbanded.

The committee approved the report and recommendations unanimously, during a meeting which lasted just 35 minutes.

The committee's two-year tenure has been healthy and productive for Kentucky Baptists, said Chairman Eugene Siler, a federal judge from Williamsburg. "Even though we at times disagreed," he said, "I believe we agreed in the work of the Lord."



POLE PRAYERS About 75 students at Oldham County High School gather around the flagpole before classes Sept. 16 for a time of prayer. An equal number also met a few miles away at South Oldham High School. Both groups were among hundreds nationwide participating in a simultaneous, interdenominational prayer rally called "See You at the Pole." Although statewide statistics were not immediately available, a record might have been set in Elkhorn City, where 524 people prayed around the flagpoles at Elkhorn City Middle School and Elkhorn City High School. "It was the biggest prayer meeting we've had in a long time," said Truman DeBord, pastor of Elkhorn City Baptist Church.

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

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Slim support

I read with interest "2 attend conservatives' event in Memphis" (WR, Sept. 1). I'm just curious by nature, but when I read that the two Kentucky pastors who attended the meeting played down the state-control issue and said they attended because they want to strengthen the Cooperative Program, I decided to check the 1991 Kentucky Baptist Convention Annual to see the level of commitment to the CP demonstrated by their pastorates.

I was amazed to discover that Mike Routt, who claimed, "I'm a member of the Cooperative Program bunch," pastors a church which in 1991 had undesignated receipts of \$93,375 and gave only \$1,950 to the Cooperative Program. Our mission efforts are in serious trouble if this "bunch" is giving only 2.09 percent of their undesignated receipts.

I was equally staggered to see Terry Sammons, who wants "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," pastors a church which in 1991 had undesignated receipts of \$150,535 and contributed just 0.8 percent, or \$1,200, to the Cooperative Program.

I hate letters like this, but I hate righteous rhetoric even more. Let's be men and women and stand where we stand with integrity. Before any of us fly a banner, we would behoove ourselves to be sure that we stand with demonstrable commitment at the base of the pole on which the banner flies.

*Gerald D. Sharon, pastor
Highland Hills Baptist Church
Fort Thomas*

Two responses

I am writing to respond to two letters which have appeared in the Baptist Forum.

Somebody to do for

She was 93 when she died. I cannot remember her being sick for any length of time.

My Grandmother Marshall remained in the same home all the years I knew her until her last few weeks in the small Frankfort hospital.

As the first grandson, and named for my two grandfathers, I suppose I got special treatment. At least my brothers and sister insist that I did. Maybe so.

Whatever may have been the reasons, I remember spending almost as much time at their home as at my own.

In the '60s, when I was traveling for the Foreign Mission Board to seminary campuses, I usually spent a night with Grandmom. I slept in an upstairs room; she, in the downstairs room where she and granddaddy had slept together for so many years.

Because it was usually in the fall or winter, I remember the smell of the cedar chest from which she took an

extra quilt in case I needed more cover. Lying there, in the moments before sleep, my memories always carried me back to some wonderful times with them there in that home connected to their grocery store, telephone number 329.

In those latter years, she would fix supper and we'd eat on the round, oak kitchen table our son now has. Later we would go into the living room. I'd sit on the couch and face her in the corner where she rocked in her favorite rosewood rocking chair.

It was on one of those evenings, still several years before her death, she began to cry as we talked.

"Billy, sometimes I wish God would just take me on. It hurts so to see my children die before me."

I remember saying something like, "but we need you, Grandmama. We don't have any other grandparents."

Her response to whatever it was I said was one of the phrases which have remained with me: "I guess as long as I have somebody to do for, I'll be all right."

Practice preaching

An ad appearing in your paper concerns me. It stated: "Mormonism is a cult misleading many ..." (WR, Aug. 4).

Webster's Dictionary defines "cult" as "a way of worshipping; a system of religious rites." Thus, Baptists, Lutheran, Catholics, Mormons

and the numerous other religions throughout the world are all cults. It's not a negative expression, yet Baptists have been led to believe otherwise, because it's the term used when teaching that other religions are "wrong."

Baptists are ignorant of those they criticize. An area conference on witnessing to "cult" members presented literature accusing Mormons of forsaking the Virgin Birth. However, I know a local Mormon family who does believe in the Virgin Birth.

Neither are all Mormons polygamous. Not all Mormons are of the same sect. Remember, not all Baptists are Southern Baptist, and the beliefs do differ.

Why are Catawba Indians of South Carolina primarily Mormon? In 1773, their request for a "Christian" missionary was in vain. According to anthropologist Charles Hudson, a few Catawbans worshipped at Baptist and Protestant missions but were confined to "back" pews. Mormon missionaries visited and converted the Catawbans in 1883.

If our concern for the lost world is real, let's stop the bickering among ourselves and the pulpit bashing of Catholics and Mormons and do something about it. Mormonism is the fastest-growing religion in the world. They practice what they preach. What are Southern Baptists doing?

*Dawn Blackburn
Burlington*

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Readers may continue to speak to issues of concern to Kentucky Baptists. But we must refrain from political endorsements.

Marv Knox

Somebody to do for. I remember Christmases past when their gift to the grandchildren was a handkerchief with a five dollar bill in it. Or the Christmas they gave their three sons \$1,000 to "help them a little" as she used to say. That was big money in the early '40s.

I still have letters from her when I was in the Marine Corps; and later when Alice and I were serving a year in Israel in 1957. One of those letters bore the sad news that my granddaddy had died.

All of her life that I remember, she was doing something for somebody else—cooking, quilting, sewing, writing, sending little monetary gifts—so many things for others.

There are lots of folks out there like my grandmother who make this world a better place because their lives are focused on others rather than themselves.

They continue to find "somebody to do for." Maybe they, more than anyone else, understand the Kingdom of God.

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

BAPTIST FORUM

after reviewing a tape of the ceremony, I could find no instance where either the announcers or performers made any references to Satan or hell.

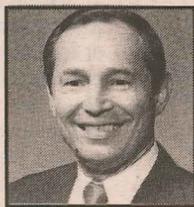
Secondly, I must also disagree with Michael W. Nicholson (WR, Sept. 8) and various others who have written concerning Baptists' latest brunt of hostility, homosexuals.

Mr. Nicholson makes several references to laws and regulations listed in Leviticus. Jesus Christ transcended the law when he came; were this not so, we would still be governed by other rules in Leviticus, such as making burnt offerings and not eating pork. Christ never condemned anyone for their sexuality (look at the Samaritan woman at the well); consequently, salvation comes not from living a blameless, sinless life but is a free gift from God.

As Christians, I feel it is our responsibility not to condemn but to do all things with love, concern and humility.

*William D. Overby
Dawson Springs*

ON MISSION TOGETHER



William W. Marshall

began to cry as we talked.

"Billy, sometimes I wish God would just take me on. It hurts so to see my children die before me."

I remember saying something like, "but we need you, Grandmama. We don't have any other grandparents."

Her response to whatever it was I said was one of the phrases which have remained with me: "I guess as long as I have somebody to do for, I'll be all right."



FAMILY FORUM: SINGLES

Single myths

By Harry Rowland

Q. I don't want to be single—what do I do?

A 44-year-old, 18-month divorcee explains how she has never really been single. She married at a young age, raised three children and remained married 23 years. Now she does not feel single. She has no desire to participate in the "single lifestyle" and feels "nothing in common with today's singles."

A. Dispelling the myths of singleness can ease the anxiety of transition and provide a glimpse of a future hope.

One myth is that singles are unhappy. People often associate being alone with loneliness and unhappiness. Logically, since singles are alone, they must be unhappy. The determining factor is whether a person, single or married, has another person with whom to share. This person can be a friend just as easily as a spouse. Loneliness and unhappiness are just as much married issues as single issues.

A second myth is that singleness is filled with a glamorous lifestyle of unlimited money and never-ending parties. The reality is that singleness, just like marriage, is a day-to-day growth process, filled with ups and downs, tough times and good times.

A third myth is that singles want to get married; thus, they are frustrated and only half a person. God never created "half" people. Wholeness is found in a personal, growing relationship with Christ; not in a person.

A fourth myth is that singles are irresponsible. Society has a tendency to label anyone who does not conform to its expectations as irresponsible. The truth is that singles are succeeding in careers and running major companies. Singleness offers a time of freedom for education, careers, service and involvement.

A final myth is that singles are sexually frustrated. There is the reality that some singles, even Christian singles, are sexually active and/or living together. This must be addressed. However, singles consistently rank sexual frustration below such issues as being left out, finances, meaningful relationships and parental responsibilities.

Harry Rowland is pastor of Fort Mitchell Baptist Church.

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

Was MissionsFest a transforming moment?

Transforming moments define all of life that follows.

Think about the moment you became a Christian, said "I do," started school or watched your firstborn enter the world. The little piece of history you made in that moment changed everything that came after.

Many Kentucky Baptists participated in personal transforming moments during MissionsFest, a foreign missions extravaganza held in Lexington this month.

Keith Parks, the venerable president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, addressed Kentucky Baptists at the conclusion of one of his final appearances as head of the overseas missions agency.

"What does God say to you?" Parks asked, after 2,600 Kentucky Baptists spent two days meeting missionaries, hearing testimonies of God's work in foreign lands and thinking about the missions challenges Christians face around the globe. "Why did God save you? What good works did he have in mind for you? ... Without that vision, you'll perish, you'll wither away, you'll die."

Scores of Kentucky Baptists, mostly college students and young adults, walked the aisle as Parks pleaded. They responded with their feet and spoke with their voices, pledging to spend their lives telling others

about Jesus. Expect to see their names and faces in stories about missionaries heading for distant lands. Anticipate their testimonies, which will begin, "I remember that night in Lexington, when Dr. Parks ..."

The sight of those willing followers of Christ, many of them weeping, hugging missionaries and praying, capped an enriching two-day festival that lived up to its billing, "a wonderful foreign missions experience." Even older observers—somewhat jaded by more than a decade of denominational controversy and ambivalent about the options for mission service—found their hearts stirred.

MissionsFest provided numerous snapshots of hope: A line of 34 missionaries who have devoted their lives to the spiritual welfare of people in foreign lands. Several hundred college students crammed into the mammoth choir loft. Children carrying flags from mission fields. A "global walkaround" room crammed with information and people.

The scenes were ripe with emotion. But the question remains: Was MissionsFest a transforming moment for Kentucky Baptists? We will answer in the years ahead, when we determine if our priority will be to use all the means at our disposal to share the gospel with a lost world.

Marv Knox

MissionsFest lived up to its billing, "a wonderful foreign missions experience."

'Events' to highlight immediate future of state convention

Want to know what's coming up in Kentucky Baptist life?

Turn to the center section of this issue of the Western Recorder. You'll discover Events For All Kentucky Baptists, a new monthly feature.

Events is a joint project, reflecting the communication efforts of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Executive Board and the Western Recorder. It's designed to provide you with a single monthly source of information about upcoming events sponsored by the Executive Board for Kentucky Baptists. We hope you'll pull it out from the center of the Recorder each month and keep it handy, as a reference and reminder.

Each issue will include three main components: The cover will be dedicated to a feature about the work and ministry of the Executive Board. The inside pages will be filled with information about conferences, seminars, programs and services offered by the board's staff. Emphasis will be placed on upcoming events. And the back page of the section will include a three-month KBC calendar as well as a form to request more information or to register for events described in Events.

Events has been a long time in coming. A committee of Executive Board and Recorder staff started working on this new publication almost two years ago. We wanted to design and produce an attractive, helpful piece that puts the KBC program information Kentucky Baptists need in their hands every month. We hope and pray Events fills that bill. We also believe Events reflects good stewardship of:

■ Resources. The Executive Board staff is channeling much of its

direct-mail budget into Events. By consolidating resources, we believe Events will carry more information to more people for less money.

■ Time. You're busy, and so are most other Kentucky Baptists. Pastors, other church staff members and laypeople with church leadership roles have been inundated with those direct-mail pieces. By consolidating them into one publication, Events provides readers with a consistent, easy-to-use guide to events planned for them.

■ Relationships. Events carries the Executive Board and the Recorder into a new era of partnership and cooperation. And by the extended hand of communication, all our readers are involved in that partnership. We believe God will bless us as we work more closely together.

■ Outreach. The Events mailing list combines the Recorder's subscription list with the Executive Board's direct-mail list. They share around 6,000 names in common. But with Events, the Executive Board now can promote its work to about 42,000 other Kentucky Baptists, and the Recorder can communicate the world of Baptist news to more than 15,000 non-subscribers who get mail from the KBC.

To all of you, we extend our best wishes for informed reading. We want Events to be useful. To our new monthly readers, we express a warm welcome to the pages of the Western Recorder. We pray you'll be inspired as well as informed. We hope you'll subscribe to your Kentucky Baptist newspaper so you may get the rest of the story.

Marv Knox

Events will provide you with a single monthly source of information about upcoming KBC activities.

The spy who came in from the cold ducked into a phone booth

Have you ever wondered what happened to all the Cold War spies?

What's a spy supposed to do in this post-perestroika era? Only so many spooks can spy on China and Cuba. And what happened to all those super-secret sensing devices—microphones that can hear a whisper four houses down the block? Has the cost of trench coats plummeted since the CIA and KGB stopped buying them by the gross?

Questions like that probably are pointless. But they stick in your brain when you're driving down the highway or mowing the grass. Anyway, I'd almost given up on the spy question when the answer rang like a bell.

Actually, it rang like a telephone, which interrupted our dinner.

All those former spies work for companies that sell stuff over the phone while you're trying to eat supper. They've bugged your home, so they know when you set the last dish on the table. Then they call you up to sell you tulip bulbs or motor oil or life insurance.

Two theories explain this scenario:

The first is that you can't say "no" with your mouth full of meatloaf. They think if they call you at dinner you'll buy whatever

it is they're selling, just so you can get back to your mashed potatoes before the

gravy gets cold.

The second is more cynical. It was thought up by the people who developed the "big lie" theory to explain evil propaganda: Masses of people will believe a preposterous lie if you just tell it often enough.

This corollary, the "big bother" theory, has its basis in human reaction to prolonged annoyance. "Big bother" proponents believe they can get you to buy a 124-horsepower, dual-cam turkey smoker if they ask you to buy steel-mesh pantyhose

57 evenings in a row. Eventually, you'll slip

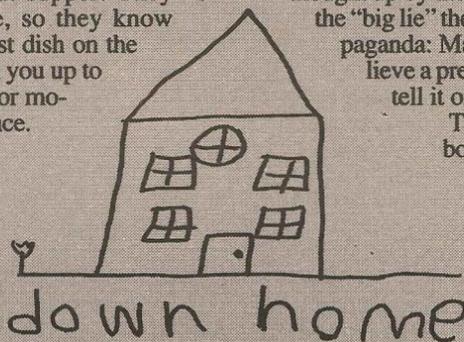
into what they call "perpetual affirmation."

At that point, they can sell you anything automatically. When the phone rings during dinner, you'll just get up from the table, walk over and say, "Yes, I'll take a dozen. My Visa number is 4321-00-1234. It expires in August 1997. Thank you." You'll never know what you just ordered. Imported guava preserves

A friend told me he's never bothered by callers during dinner. "We turn the volume on the ringer all the way down," he explained. "We never hear the phone until after dessert."

That makes sense, but I just heard a country song that gave me a better idea. It's called "Bubba Shot the Jukebox." I'm painting a bull's-eye on the phone.

Marv Knox



MISSIONS

Parks says he didn't want his job to hinder missions



MISSIONS TALK Keith Parks, president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, talks with a young man and his father after a session of MissionsFest at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington.

By Marv Knox
Editor

LEXINGTON—Keith Parks chose to retire rather than get in the way of progress, he told Kentucky Baptists.

Parks, a veteran missionary who has been president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board since 1980, will retire Oct. 31. He visited Kentucky during MissionsFest, a foreign missions extravaganza held this month in Lexington.

And even though his departure is little more than a month away, Parks said he does not know what his plans will be for the future.

"I honestly don't know," he said when asked about future plans during a dialogue session with Kentucky pastors. "I would be delighted to tell you if I knew."

Parks requested prayer as he considers several options after getting free of his current hectic schedule. "It has been difficult to get alone enough to pray through and think through what God wants me to do," he explained.

His decision to retire was an abrupt about-face and conflicted with previous feelings of God's will for his life,

Parks admitted.

In August 1991, following one of the deepest spiritual experiences of his life, Parks told FMB trustees he felt God wanted him to stay on as president until 1995.

"The Lord seemed to be saying, 'This is the moment when Southern Baptists can rise above their differences and recapture the spirit of Bold Mission Thrust,'" he recalled. Bold Mission Thrust is Southern Baptists' campaign to share the gospel with the whole world by the year 2000.

Parks announced his decision to stay until '95 amid global change. The Soviet Union was crumbling, and Eastern Europe was opening up to the gospel. Revivals were breaking out in other parts of the globe. "We were witnessing an openness in the world," he said.

At the time, Parks believed his decision to stay at the board would give Southern Baptist missions efforts continuity and would maintain the momentum of missions progress.

"I hoped it would galvanize the board," Parks said of his decision to stay, which he presented with a list of his missions dreams for the future. "I hoped to move together in harmony."

That hope for harmony was

drowned out by discord two months later, when trustees voted to defund the Baptist Theological Seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland, against the recommendation of Parks and FMB administrators.

"By the October board meeting, although many trustees felt as I did, as a whole they did not," Parks remembered. "There was concern about my leadership for three more years."

"I felt if we could move ahead as one, we could capture the moment in Eastern Europe and elsewhere. But we faced continuing differences over leadership style and philosophy. I felt if I stayed, I would be a distraction. ... If my leadership was not something (board members) could trust, I should get out of the way. Month by month, we were losing that momentum."

Parks shocked board members and staff early this year, when he announced plans to retire next month, when he turns 65.

Although he felt his vision of August 1991 reflected "a better will of God" for himself and the board, he gradually began to feel "God's will to step aside rather than let the Foreign Mission Board get bogged down in what I felt were personal matters" over leadership and direction.

God still sends Christians as missionaries, Parks says

Continued from page 1

responsibility to share our spiritual blessings. If we turn inward and fail to share that message, God will move on and find someone who is useable."

But the needs of the world—even though they are great—should not be the primary motivation for going, Parks said.

"The need is a valid consideration, but that is not where the call to missions originates," he said, noting the city of Lexington contained enough needs to keep every Baptist at MissionsFest busy.

"The vision for going begins with God's call," Parks stressed. "My prayer is we can be open and look in God's face and say, 'Lord, for what purpose did you create me?'"

Finding that answer is the key to Christian success, he added: "God speaks. God reveals what he wants us to do. And if we fail to respond to the vision God has set for us, we are ab-

ject failures."

However, most Americans take a "purely human" view of the world and do not feel compelled to spread the gospel overseas, Parks reported.

"Unless we as God's people look into the face of God and see God's vision for us, we are going to refuse to go," he predicted. "But when one looks in God's face and begins to see the world as God sees it, he rises up and goes."

"God's nature is always one of going, and human nature is always one of drawing to itself. That's why more have not responded to the call to go."

Consequently, the Christian's task is to see the world as God sees it, Parks said. When people see and follow that vision, they will be changed as much as the people who receive their ministry, he explained.

He quoted the late B.H. Carroll, a Baptist theologian and educator, who said missions is the centripetal force

that keeps Baptists together, against the centrifugal force of church sovereignty that pulls them apart.

"Missions may be our last hope for ourselves," Parks declared.

"What does God say to you?" he asked. "Look at it from God's eyes. ... Why did God save you? What good works did he have in mind for you? Without that vision, you'll perish, you'll wither away, you'll die."

Parks said he knows God is saying "go" to many Christians.

"I believe with all my heart God still calls people with an open-ended, no-limitations calling," he insisted.

Parks cited three reasons God still calls people to missions:

■ "God is the god of all people," he said. "He created all people; he is not a tribal deity of a bunch of white, southern Baptists. He loves spindly-legged, bloated-bellied babies in Somalia in what may be the most neglected place on earth. God intended

all people should know him."

■ "All have sinned," he stressed. That means all people have been separated from God and need to hear that God wants to be reconciled to them.

■ In the "fullness of time," Jesus came to people on earth, Parks said. "When it came time, God didn't send a videocassette. ... He sent a person, a God-man."

God still wants to come to people in human form, but Christians must be willing to go, he said, explaining "God will incarnate himself" in the lives of people who tell his story.

Those who would follow the example of Jesus will be drawn beyond their homeland to places where millions have never heard God's message, Parks said.

Consider this, he suggested: "If Jesus Christ were here today incarnated in a human body, where do you think he would go to preach the gospel?"

Kentuckians quiz Parks about Somalia, Hong Kong & China

LEXINGTON—The future of mission work in Hong Kong, what's being done in Somalia and the need for English teachers in China were among the concerns a group of Kentucky Baptist pastors and their spouses shared with Keith Parks.

Parks, president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, fielded questions from Kentuckians at a banquet for pastors held in Lexington immediately prior to the Sept. 11-12 MissionsFest.

"One of the most frustrating things in the world to me is Somalia," Parks admitted. "Delivering food in Somalia is probably the most dangerous thing you can do in missions these days."

Baptist workers attempting to deliver food there must travel in an armored truck with a big gun mounted on top, he said. Southern Baptists also have work among refugees gathered in surrounding countries.

"We're doing a little bit, but not nearly enough," Parks said.

However, roving gangs with guns and intense political turmoil prevent most humanitarian groups from doing more to help that nation's thousands of starving residents, he said.

And in Bosnia-Herzegovina, where civil war is bringing a different kind of disaster, Southern Baptist missionary Nela Williams remains despite the danger, Parks said. "We've offered several times to bring her out,

but she says she has too many opportunities to witness in the bomb shelters."

Kentuckians also wanted to know what plans are being made to ensure Christian witness continues in Hong Kong after the territory is returned to China in 1997.

Southern Baptists are among a group of evangelicals who have developed a plan called Hong Kong 2000, Parks said. "Our goal is to prepare leadership in such a way that if we did have to leave, they could carry on."

The plan focuses on starting churches and developing leadership, he added, noting that the national Baptist convention there already is

strong.

In response to other questions, Parks said:

■ "We're raising a generation of mission illiterates. ... The bottom line is we really do need to emphasize the biblical basis for missions and tell people about what we're doing. I wish more pastors would challenge their young people to commit themselves to a career in foreign missions."

■ "People in other states look at Kentucky with envy for the support, leadership and enthusiasm you have here for partnership missions."

■ "We have not had enough response to fill all the requests for English teachers in China. We could use more people."

MISSIONS

Speaker suggests missions fair ideas

LEXINGTON—A church "missions fair" might be a way to tell the missions story to people who normally would avoid learning about missions, Mary Jane Welch said during a MissionsFest seminar.

Churches have a wide array of options for presenting the missions story through fairs, added Welch, assistant director of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's news and information office.

For example, missions fairs could be centered around a travel motif, with publicity, decorations, booths and materials carrying out the travel theme, she said. Or they could be set up on a carnival motif, with all the arrangements mirroring carnival promotion and activities, she added.

Missions fairs should achieve several objectives, Welch said. They should help church members appreciate foreign culture, learn about missions, get to know missionaries, understand the role of prayer in missions and see how the church contributes to missions.

Those goals can be accomplished through a variety of booths and activities, she said:

- Ethnic interviews with internationals in the community.
- A fashion show featuring clothes from other countries.
- A tasting booth, with food samples from different lands.
- A display of travel photos from around the globe.
- Computer games that feature missions information.
- Media displays, with books, videotapes and other resources about foreign missions.
- A mailbox, complete with cards, so participants can write letters to missionaries.
- Dramas and a puppet theater about life on mission fields.



KENTUCKY
& THE
WORLD

■ **Left:** Karen Crawford of Lexington helps a child put on a mask made as a crafts project during MissionsFest day camp. Campers made the masks as part of a study on the culture of Nigeria. ■ **Far left:** Bonnie Brown tells MissionsFest participants about her work as a missionary in Nigeria. ■ **Below:** Deaf participants were able to see the music, while an overflowing choir composed of college students sings in the background.



Consider foreign missions a family affair, panel explains

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

LEXINGTON—Foreign missions is a family affair, a panel of missionaries said during a MissionsFest seminar.

Even though the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board only appoints adults to missions service, the entire family becomes involved in the work, said Gerald McNeely, retired missionary to Spain.

"Our two daughters considered themselves missionaries as much as we did," he explained. "When one of our girls found out she wasn't appointed by the board like we were, she was very upset."

That daughter, he said, carried on evangelistic conversations across their balcony with children of a neighboring family—a family the adult missionaries could not reach.

The natural love for children

shared by many people worldwide also can be helpful in foreign missions, said Marie Harris, missionary to Hong Kong. Her two blond-headed boys opened many opportunities to share the gospel in a land dominated by dark-haired children, she explained.

And children have a natural ability to adapt to new settings that adults don't come by as easily, the panel agreed.

When Harris and her husband, Larry, first moved to Hong Kong, she was fearful that her children would have no one to play with because of the language barrier. But the family had barely begun to unpack before the American children had made new friends and begun playing with some of the local children, she said.

Lisa Morgan, who as a 7-year-old moved to Indonesia with her family, said she easily found new friends there and learned enough of the lan-

guage to get by: "I either had to play with my brother or with the Indonesians, so I learned Indonesian."

But despite their adaptability and the many ways children find to serve God on the mission field, foreign missions service puts other strains on children that influence the entire family.

Children often must travel long distances to attend schools, must attend boarding schools or must be home-schooled by a parent.

Living in Indonesia was "like living in a fishbowl," Morgan said, explaining she was one of very few white-skinned people in a country full of brown-skinned people. "People watch everything you do," she said.

After serving several years in Hong Kong, the Harris family moved to another island where they were the only white family living among 150,000 people. And because of the remote location, their young children traveled nearly two-hours each direc-

tion to go to school.

Beyond the concerns of finding friends and schools for their children, some missionary families also face daily challenges as simple as finding the food desired for that day's meals.

"You can't really plan a day in Brazil," said Angela Finley. "You can count on whatever you plan to have for dinner, the store won't have it that day. ... If you decide you're going to have baked potatoes for dinner, you may have to go to five stores to find any larger than a walnut."

Despite these trials, Americans serving as missionaries overseas find new families in their relationships with fellow missionaries, the panel said. And children especially get a world perspective few others are privileged to know.

Doubts about the hardships fade "when I think how wise my children are in comparison to what I was at their ages," Harris said.

■ **Far left:** Martha Lytle (left), missionary to Israel, offers a taste of Middle Eastern cuisine as part of the Global Walkaround at MissionsFest. The exhibit area featured interactive games and other demonstrations to teach participants about other cultures where missionaries work.

■ **Center:** The smallest flagbearer in the MissionsFest flag procession carefully balances his flag while carrying it to a display at the front of the worship center. ■ **Above:** William Marshall, executive secretary-treasurer of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, interviews Keith and Helen Jean Parks during the first MissionsFest worship service.

MISSIONS

KENTUCKY & THE WORLD

There's more than 1 way to foreign mission fields

LEXINGTON—Options for participation in Southern Baptists' missions efforts have increased dramatically, said Kenn Shirley.

"When I was a boy, there was only one way to do missions—go as a career missionary," said Shirley, a Foreign Mission Board staff member who works with missionary candidates. "In the 1990s, we have lots of options for missions service."

Shirley outlined those options at MissionsFest:

■ **Career missionaries.** "The stack pole around which Southern Baptists build their work overseas is the career presence," he said.

Career missionaries must be age 26 or older and be "qualified Southern Baptists who sense God's leadership," he noted.

They do a variety of jobs, and requests for specific skills come from deliberations on the mission fields. However, the primary job of all career missionaries is "evangelism that results in churches," he said.

■ **Missionary associates.** This program formerly was designed for volunteers who were too old to be career missionaries, but that was changed when the board erased the upper age limit for career missionaries.

"The associate program now is focused more on skills," Shirley said.

Associates typically are laypeople who have specific skills. Their assign-

ments vary in length, but usually are predetermined by demands for their services.

■ **International Service Corps.** ISC is "one of the neatest things we as Southern Baptists have created in the last couple of years," Shirley said. This program uses volunteers for terms from four months to two years in "an incredible range of jobs."

Requests for ISC workers come directly from missionaries. Jobs include teaching missionaries' children; working in student centers or friendship houses; providing expertise in agriculture, construction or well-drilling; using medical skills; and more.

■ **Journeymen.** This program is for college graduates age 30 or younger. It places them on the mission field for two-year terms, doing jobs requested by career missionaries.

■ **Baptists Abroad.** Participants in this program are volunteers whose secular jobs take them overseas.

Baptists Abroad puts laypeople in contact with missionaries on the field, enabling them to use their skills, contacts and spare time for the benefit of missions.

■ **Tentmakers.** These volunteers use their business contacts or vocational skills to "get into countries we normally couldn't get into," Shirley explained.

Tentmakers coordinate their personal mission activity with the board.

Missionaries give tips on how to pray

LEXINGTON—Missionaries depend upon Christians to pray daily for them, participants in Kentucky's MissionsFest were reminded.

Charolette Rock, a Kentuckian who serves with her husband in Argentina, urged Kentucky Baptists to pray for missionaries and gave some suggestions on practical ways to do that.

She joined Helen Jean Parks, wife of Foreign Mission Board President Keith Parks, in addressing a small-group session on prayer during the Sept. 11-12 MissionsFest at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington.

"It's not possible for us as individuals to pray daily for all 3,900 of our Southern Baptist foreign missionaries," Rock admitted. "But one thing you can do is adopt a missionary to pray for daily."

People often use a variety of methods to select a missionary to adopt for prayer, she explained. Some choose a missionary they know personally. Others choose someone with their same name or with children the same age as their own children.

Whatever method is used to select a missionary, Rock said, the important thing is to pray and to pray as specifically as possible. "When I pray for missionaries in other countries, I try to think about what's going on in those countries,"

she said.

And praying for missionary family members—both those with them on the field and those remaining behind in the U.S.—always is appropriate, she said.

Christians should pray for missionaries in the best way they can, Parks added. "If all you can say is, 'Lord, bless the missionaries,' that's better than not praying at all. But it's best to be more specific."

Other common prayer concerns, she said, include:

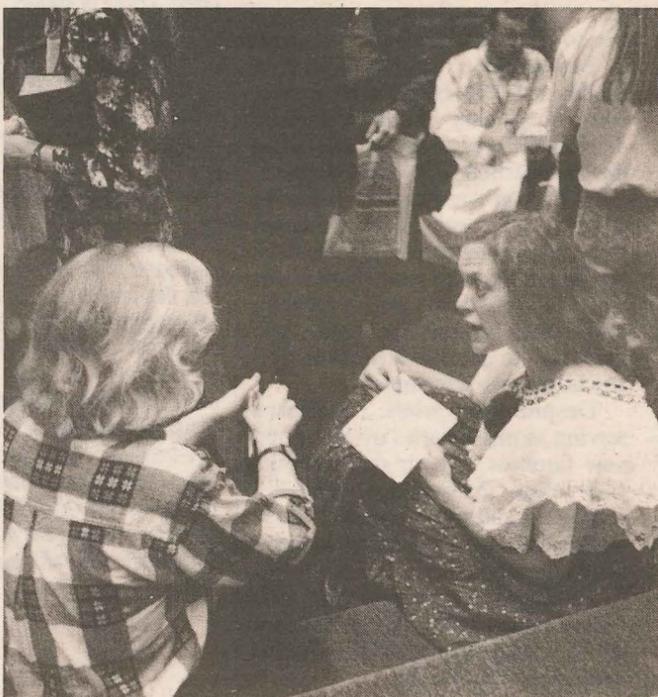
- Protection from Satan.
- Ability to avoid temptation.
- For missionaries' service to be acceptable to the national people.
- Safety.
- For more missionaries to be called, committed and sent out.
- For unreached people groups, living in areas where traditional missionaries cannot go.

The FMB operates a prayer line to provide information about current prayer concerns. The number is (800) 395-7729.

Printed resources also are available from the FMB's customer service center by calling (800) 866-3621.

Available resources include "Overseas Personnel," a directory of FMB missionaries, and "Your Guide to Foreign Missions," a daily prayer guide with detailed information on missions work in every region of the world.

FOOD & FAITH ■ Top: Tanya Koch of Lexington serves lunch to a line of hungry MissionsFest participants. She was part of a disaster relief crew on hand to demonstrate in a practical way their brand of mission action. ■ Bottom: Sue Hatfield, missionary to Panama, counsels with a young woman at the conclusion of a MissionsFest service. Dozens of people walked the aisle to record spiritual commitments during the two evening services.



Strategists taking new look at missions

By Marv Knox
Editor

LEXINGTON—Southern Baptist mission strategists have been trying to look at their task through new lenses, said Harlan Spurgeon, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's vice president for mission personnel.

Spurgeon highlighted what they've been seeing in a MissionsFest seminar titled "New Directions in Missions."

Since the mid-1980s, the board has been engaged in assessing its effectiveness in accomplishing Bold Mission Thrust, the convention's plan to "share the gospel with everyone in the world by the year 2000," he said.

FMB President Keith Parks asked some hard questions, he said: What does that goal mean? Does it mean everyone should become a Christian by the year 2000, or that everyone should have heard the gospel by then? How can either task be accomplished, especially since missionaries can enter only about half the world's countries?

"We've seen enormous changes since 1987," Spurgeon said. "And we must continue to view the world as the world changes around us."

A key acknowledgement was that Southern Baptists weren't ministering in many of the world's countries, he noted. Consequently, the board hired David Barrett, an Anglican priest and the foremost researcher on the distribution of Christians around the world.

The subsequent influx of informa-

tion and board reorganization was vital, Spurgeon said, adding, "You usually don't hit anything you don't aim at."

The board organized geographically, with regional vice presidents joined by the director of Cooperative Services International, the board's new corporation for ministering to unreached people groups.

The board has divided the world into three categories:

■ **World C**, in which 60 percent of the people claim to be Christian, comprises 33 percent of the world's population.

■ **World B**, which has been the recipient of missionaries but in which most of the people have not responded to Christ, comprises 43 percent of the whole population.

■ **World A**, which has been closed to the gospel, is home to 24 percent of the population.

Of the world's 11,500 people groups—people who share a common language, culture and experience—2,000 have not been touched by the gospel, Spurgeon reported.

"This new direction in missions includes a focus to reach these unreached people groups," he said. "We won't ignore the other groups, but it's not fair for these people not to have the gospel."

Consequently, the board has been developing ways to minister to these "creative-access" or inaccessible countries.

One way is to use other names, such as Cooperative Services Interna-

tional, which don't sound as threatening as "Foreign Mission Board" to the governments of closed countries, he said.

The board has appointed non-residential missionaries to live in one country but aim their work at, and sometimes travel in, countries where missionaries cannot live.

Their ministries are being supplemented by participants in Tentmakers and Baptists Abroad. These programs use the services of volunteer laypeople whose businesses take them to foreign countries and who coordinate the proclamation of their faith with missionaries and board personnel.

In addition, the board's International Service Corps has been effective in placing volunteers with specific vocational skills—particularly secular skills valued by the host countries—to work in conjunction with missionaries.

Beyond these developments, new directions in missions are presenting the board with serious questions, Spurgeon said.

"We must reallocate some resources," he explained. That means looking at continued funding for "enormously expensive" institutions, such as schools and hospitals, on mission fields. It also means studying whether to keep large mission forces in World C countries—such as Brazil and South Korea—or to reassign them to other locales.

Despite the challenges, "it's the most exciting time in Christian history," Spurgeon insisted.

INSIDE

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Brotherhood: Thanks for keeping the kitchens open in Florida. **Media:** Church librarians are back in circulation. **Annuity:** Is the pastor an employee or self-employed? **WMU:** Get ready for Baptist women's day of prayer and the 1992 foreign mission study.

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Student ministry: "Good News! Gotta Share It!" is theme for state student convention.

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Cedarmore: It's time to plan fall retreats. **Jonathan Creek:** Consider the advantages of having an event at Jonathan Creek. **Church music:** Singing Seniors to gather in Elizabethtown

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Sunday School: "Events" replaces the purple "Target" newsletter. Information on the new Handbook for Ministry with Persons with Mental Retardation and Super Saturday at Clear Creek Baptist Bible College.

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Evangelism: Remember the fall evangelism conference and the cooperative ministry/evangelism clinic. **Foundation:** What does the Kentucky Baptist Foundation do? **Family ministry:** Discover your potential through Life Enrichment.

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Discipleship Training: Could your church use \$100 worth of literature? **Partnership missions:** Brazil project schedule for 1993. **Executive office:** Daily planners available for retired ministers. **Kentucky Baptists Today:** The Kentucky Baptist Convention's videomagazine has a new name.

KBC staff ready to help churches & members

Here's a pop quiz.

Q: Where could a member of a Kentucky Baptist church find help to have a better marriage or be a better parent?

A: The Kentucky Baptist Convention's family ministry department.

Q: Where could a pastor-search committee get information about current salary trends?

A: The KBC's annuity department.

Q: Where could a church find help for building a new facility or building an addition?

A: The KBC's Sunday school department.

Surprised? These are just three of the hundreds of services offered to Baptists across the commonwealth by the KBC Executive Board staff in Middletown.

And "services" is the operative word. The KBC exists as an extension of Kentucky Baptist churches—to help us do together what we could not do collectively.

For example:

■ The missions and evangelism division provides a range of services primarily geared toward leading people to faith in Christ and starting churches.

This division leads our churches in directing their efforts to share the Christian gospel with people across the state. It helps develop and direct a missions program for Kentucky Baptists, works with various Brotherhood men's missions groups in the churches, and directs the ministry to students on 45 college campuses. Missions and evangelism workers also lead in training churches to provide for the human needs of people in their communities, direct the partnerships Kentucky Baptists share with Baptists from other areas, guide the KBC's participation in joint ministries with black Baptists in the state and provide assistance for Christian recreation ministries.

■ The church growth and administration division works on numerous fronts to strengthen Kentucky Baptist churches and their ministries.

Some of the division's leadership relate to church-wide efforts, such as the "dream team" long-range planning process and other growth/development

strategies.

Staff members from the division also give expert guidance to key programs conducted in most Kentucky Baptist churches: Sunday school, discipleship training, church music and stewardship development. They work

more effectively and also strengthens the churches' focus on ministry to families.

Minister/church support staff help churches obtain ministers, help churches and ministers relate to each other effectively, help

ple, parents, senior adults and single adults, and it also gives guidance to ministers who try to lead their churches in family ministries.

■ The KBC's executive office and business division support these ministry-oriented divisions. They provide many of the administrative services that make the work possible. They also provide such diverse resources to the churches as media, archives, camps, public relations and the overall work of the convention.

■ The Kentucky Baptist Foundation, which is housed in the Baptist Building in Middletown, provides services in estate planning, funds management for Baptist causes, trusts, wills, scholarships and endowments.

■ Woman's Missionary Union, also in the Baptist Building, leads in all the local church components of the national missions education/action organization for women, girls and preschool children—Acteens, Baptist Women and Baptist Young Women, Girls in Action and Mission Friends. It also leads in education and promotion of foreign, home and state missions and offerings to support them.

These brief descriptions aren't comprehensive, they merely point to the rainbow of services and ministries offered by the KBC staff. This new monthly Western Recorder insert, Events, will tell the story of what's available from the KBC staff in the years ahead.



HELP FOR YOUR CHURCH IS A PHONE CALL AWAY (502) 245-4101

directly with churches and associations, and they provide services to entire regions of the state, all aimed at building the base of the churches' ministries.

■ The minister/church support division helps ministers and churches work together

churches and ministers resolve conflicts and even help ministers who are fired get back on their feet. They also provide the link to ministers' annuity and insurance resources.

The family-ministry component provides support for cou-

Here's help for Kentucky Baptists

Kentucky Baptists and their churches have access to a wealth of resources through the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Here's a brief listing of some of the most frequently used services.

For help in any of these areas, call (502) 245-4101. Office hours are 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Eastern time.

- Acteens programs for teen-age girls
- Annuity programs for ministers
- Architectural assistance
- Audiovisual assistance
- Baptist Women groups
- Baptist Young Women groups
- Bible study helps
- Bivocational ministry resources
- Baptist Men groups
- Camps
- Campus ministries

- Children's ministries
- Christian education
- Church-growth helps
- Computers for churches
- Cooperative Program giving
- Conflicts in churches
- Counseling for ministers
- Deacon training
- Deaf ministries
- Designated gifts
- Disaster relief
- Estate planning
- Evangelism training
- Family ministry
- Forced-termination counseling
- Furniture for churches
- Girls in Action groups
- Handbell choirs
- Handicapped ministries
- Historical documents
- Hunger funds
- Insurance for ministers
- Lay renewal

- Literacy missions
- Loans for churches
- Marriage enrichment
- Missions
- Mission Friends groups for children
- Music ministries
- Organists
- Parenting helps
- Pianists
- Preschool ministries
- Pulpit supply
- Royal Ambassador groups for boys
- Salary studies for ministers
- Senior-adult ministries
- Single-adult ministries
- Small-church concerns
- Stewardship
- Tax planning for ministers
- Tracts
- Vacation Bible school
- Volunteer opportunities in missions
- Youth evangelism

BROTHERHOOD

Your team in Florida thanks you for keeping the kitchens open. . .

and your fellow Americans thank you for saving them from starvation.

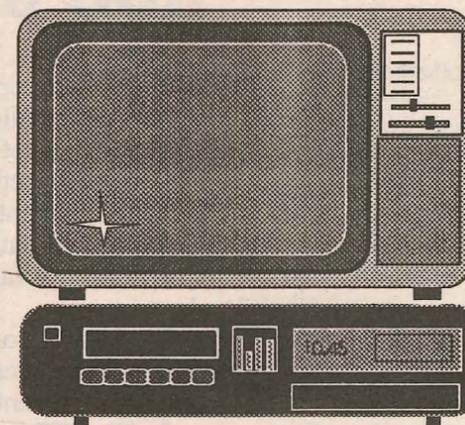
- Bob Simpkins and John Lott



MEDIA

Church Librarians Are Back In Circulation

Church media librarians will be packing their bags for the annual meeting and workshops of the Kentucky Baptist Media Library Association. The renewal of this conference has generated widespread participation in the five workshops scheduled 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Saturday, September 26, at Lexington's Immanuel Baptist Church, 3100 Tates Creek Road, just north of New Circle Road. You can still register. call (502) 245-4101, extension 266.



Video in the Church

Dr. Paul Lee, director, Media department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, will conduct a workshop on "Using Video and Television in the Church" when church librarians and media directors gather September 26 at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington. This workshop will be offered as a section of the Kentucky Baptist Media Library Association annual conference. For late registration call (502) 245-4101, extension 266.



ANNUITY

Money Matters for Ministers and Churches

Q. I'm a church treasurer. My pastor says he is self-employed. A CPA says our pastor is a church employee. Another tax preparer says he is an employee and self-employed! This sure seems confusing. Which is correct?

A. For Social Security, your pastor is self-employed for services performed in exercise of ministry. IRS common law rules would indicate your pastor probably is an employee for income tax purposes. Thus, he has a dual status: employee for income taxes and self-employed for Social Security. This is confusing, even for IRS personnel. Social Security rules are very clear. The IRS is not uniform in their interpretation for income taxes. Most "experts" would be of the opinion that pastors as they relate to Southern Baptist churches would have this dual status.

Q. I'm a bivocational pastor with a retirement plan at my full time job and an IRA. A friend told me I should be in a church retirement plan. I'm happy with my bank IRA. It has done well. Are there any reasons why I should change?

A. There are several advantages in Church Annuity Plan participation:

1. You pay Social Security self-employment tax on money contributed to your IRA. You pay NO Social Security self-employment tax on contributions made through the Church Annuity Plan. This saves close to 15% in taxes.
 2. You can receive a tax free housing allowance in retirement through the Annuity Board. Thus, some money contributed on a tax deferred basis will be paid to you in retirement tax free. It is doubtful your bank can provide this benefit.
 3. Your state convention is a partner in the plan. You can receive as much as \$17.50 per month in matching dollars.
 4. You may be eligible for up to \$67,500 survivor benefit and \$300 per month disability benefit. This Church Annuity Plan benefit is provided at NO COST TO YOU!
 5. At the Annuity Board, SBC, a team of highly qualified professionals manage the Church Annuity Plan. None receives a commission. This reduces costs and increases your benefits.
- Your denominational retirement plan gives you advantages not available in any other retirement plan. As your KBC Annuity Board representative, I can help you and your church get started in this plan.

If you have a question or need additional information, contact Don Spencer, director, Annuity Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, P.O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY, 40253, (502) 245-4101.

WMU

Baptist Women's Day of Prayer November 2, 1992



Baptist Women, you are encouraged to meet and pray as a group in your church or with other churches in your association. Plans for the Day of Prayer will be in November Royal Service and Nuestra Tarea. Baptist Women from over 150 countries will meet and pray on this day. This is a time to celebrate.

A reminder about FALL RETREATS:

At Cedarmore:
 BYW/BW, October 2-3
 BW/BNF, October 9-10

At Jonathan Creek:
 BYW/BW, October 16-17
 BYW/BW, October 17-18

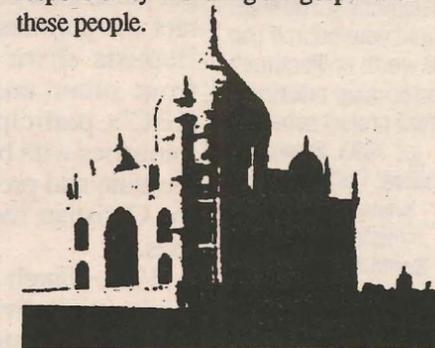
For more information see the October-November-December issue of Kentucky Notes.

Foreign Mission Study

November 15-18, 1992

Theme: India: Growing Cities, Witnessing Churches

Every church in Kentucky should have a churchwide Foreign Mission Study. As you do, your members will become more aware of the people of India, their way of life, their need for a Saviour (only two percent are Christians), what Southern Baptist missionaries are doing there, and our responsibility in sharing the gospel with these people.



Resources: Dimension, Foreign Mission Study 1992 Complete Planning Kit, teaching guides and study books (adult: India: Where Cross the Crowded Ways; youth: India, Land of a Million Gods; grades 4-6: Friends of India; grades 1-3: Let's Go to India)

STUDENT MINISTRY

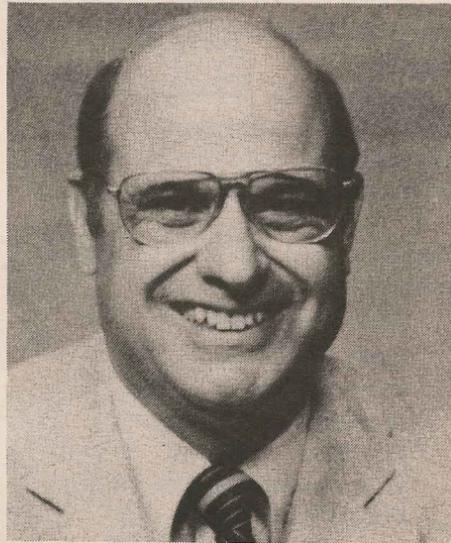
"Good News! Gotta Share It" is theme of Oct. 2-4 State Student Convention

Tony Campolo to address BSU students

Dr. Tony Campolo is a minister, sociologist, television personality and author. He is the chairman of the Department of Sociology at Eastern College, St. Davids, Pennsylvania and founder and president of Evangelical Association for the Promotion of Education (EAPE), an organization that sponsors education, medical and economic development programs in Third World countries as well as establishes extensive ministries for "at-risk" children and teenagers in urban America.

Campolo has traveled all over the world sharing his gift for communicating wise and witty insight into the compelling issues of Christian life.

His books include *A Reasonable Faith; Partly Right; It's Friday, But Sunday's Comin'* (also a film) and *You Can Make a Difference* (also a film series). He resides with his wife, Margaret, in St. Davids, Pennsylvania. They have two grown children, Bart and Lisa.



Tony Campolo

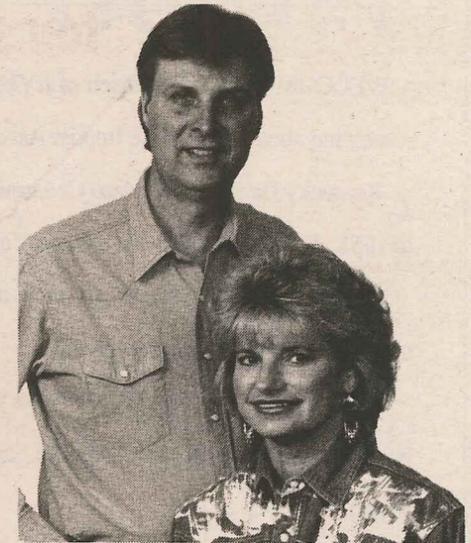
Gentle Spirit: Gloria Gill and Kent Fox to deliver theme interpretation

Gloria Gill is a nationally recognized leader in the field of puppetry. She has been a consultant in the area of puppetry for Walt Disney World in Orlando and the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville.

Gill has entertained and spoken in numerous churches in the United States, and abroad as well as corporations such as Coca Cola, General Electric and Tropicana. She has written four children's books, seven volumes of puppet scripts and has recently released a collection of children's stories on cassette.

Kent Fox, a Kentucky native, is a respected songwriter, producer and engineer. He also owns Fox Farm Recording.

He has entertained parties for such stars as Bob Hope, Mary Martin and other celebrities. Tennessee Ernie Ford was the first to record, "Sunday's Still a Special Day to Me," penned by Fox. He has appeared in churches throughout the Southeast, Texas



Gloria Gill and Kent Fox

TRUTH Scheduled to Sing

The musical group TRUTH will present a concert for the Kentucky Baptist Student Convention following the Friday evening session (October 2) at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's Alumni Chapel.

Southern Seminary is the host site of this year's convention.

TRUTH began their pilgrimage in 1971 when Roger Breland and 14 other musicians piled into their station wagons and a recycled moving van and started singing on the road. TRUTH is still a product of the times. The 1960s gave us the Jesus Movement and, with it, the hippie culture. The traditional church service was not ready for them. Jimmy Owens, Ralph Carmichael, Andrae Crouch and others began writing for a crowd that did not exist five years earlier. The "electric church" had begun. By 1968 and 1969, youth musicals were common in America's churches and teens were packing the pews in record numbers.

Breland was minister of music at such a church in Mobile, Alabama. With many

hundreds of people involved in his various music programs, he had a large base of talent from which to draw. From within this ministry a group of older teenage singers and instrumentalists was formed and Breland named them "The Varsity." Singing invitations soon followed which outnumbered available days to travel. They were limited to Fridays and Saturdays during the school year.

No one was surprised when Breland spoke of venturing into full time music ministry. He was planning to move out of the four walls of the church with all signals saying, "go!" Soon the concept for TRUTH was born. The mission: to use music as a tool to share the gospel of Jesus Christ. Trust—Receive Unchangeable True Happiness in Jesus. There were many quartets on the circuit but no one had attempted taking 18 people full time on the road for ten month tours.

Drawing at first from local and regional talent, most members were 19 or 20 years of age. Today TRUTH members come from all over the United States and average 25 years or older.



TRUTH in Concert

With all the abilities of America's finest young adult Christian musicians to draw on, TRUTH is an amazing collection of talent. The group now numbers 21 people and travels in a customized motorcoach followed by a huge 18 wheel truck loaded with musical instruments and state-of-the-art sound equipment. TRUTH presents an

average of 310 concerts each year to 500,000 people. Their travels have covered all 50 U. S. states, 15 countries, while logging nearly two million miles.

TRUTH has recorded more than 30 top-selling albums and have won Grammy, Dove and Angel award nominations.

EVENTS

FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

CEDARMORE ASSEMBLY

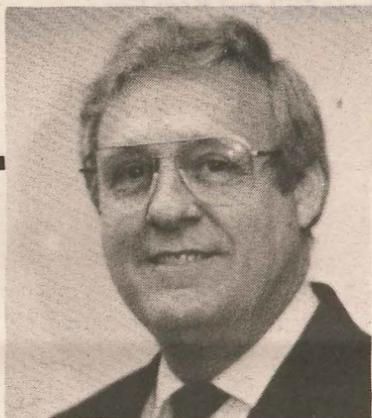
An Open Letter from Harold Barnes

WELCOME to this first insert of EVENTS! It will be our pleasure to share something about Cedarmore Baptist Assembly each month.

Kentucky Baptists purchased Cedarmore from Long Run Baptist Association in 1951. It has been a Baptist assembly and camp grounds since 1949.

The Christmas holidays are just three months away! It's still time, ministers of music, to plan your retreats with us!

In the quiet and beauty of Cedarmore you can withdraw from the hustles and bustles of everyday life. A lot of work can be accomplished during a weekend retreat.



Harold W. Barnes
Manager

For more information contact:

Cedarmore Baptist Assembly
P. O. Box 37
Bagdad, Kentucky 40003-0037
(502) 747-8911

JONATHAN CREEK ASSEMBLY

Imagine the Possibilities...

Just imagine the possibilities – your church and Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly!

Nestled along the shores of Kentucky Lake and vacation area, Jonathan Creek offers an ideal location for church retreats, camps, seminars and fellowships.

Consider the advantages of having your event at Jonathan Creek:

- Positive spiritual setting
- Plenty of dates available
- Easily accessible
- Reasonable rates
- Good food
- Close to major attractions
- Dedicated staff

Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly is located one mile south off Highway 68 on Beal Road and four miles west of Aurora. Interstate 24, connecting with Purchase and West Kentucky Parkways, loops near Jonathan Creek on its way to southern Illinois to Tennessee.

For more information, contact:
Deward Hurst, manager
Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly
Route 1, Box 418
Hardin, KY 42048
(502) 354-8355



CHURCH MUSIC

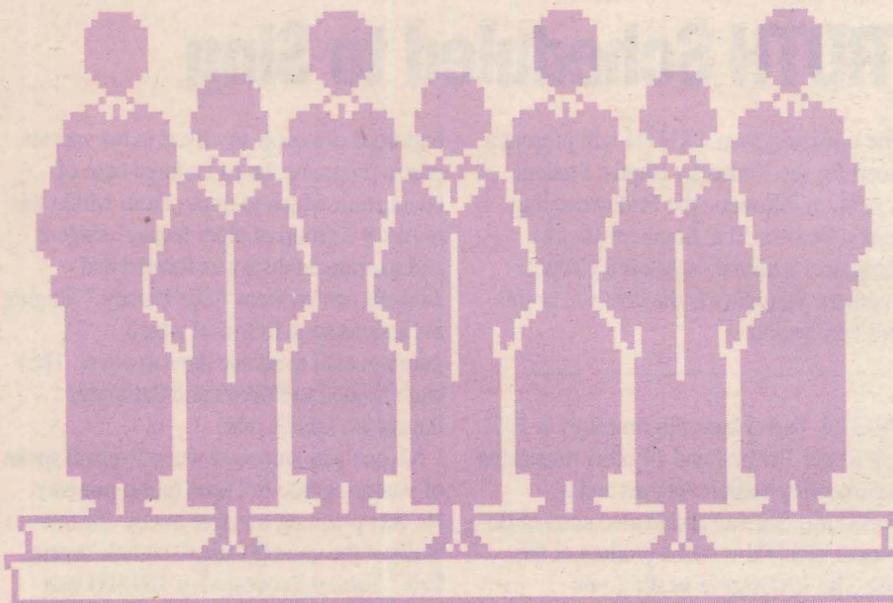
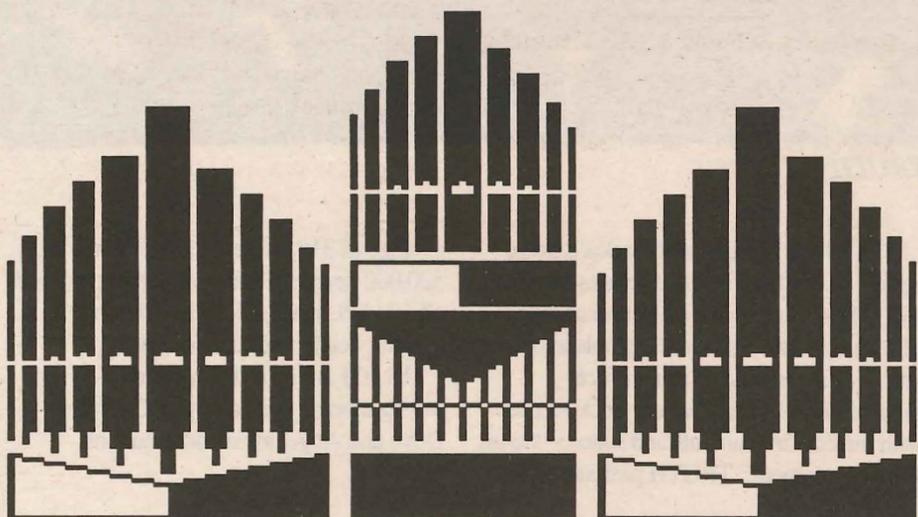
Church Musicians to Explore Worship Possibilities

Kentucky Baptist church musicians will convene for the annual meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Music Conference on November 9 from 1:00-9:00 p.m. at the Music Building on Southern Seminary's campus in Louisville. Everyone interested in church music is welcome!

Highlights of this year's meeting include an afternoon worship service designed and led by Dr. Donald Hustad, senior professor

of church music at Southern. A panel discussion focusing on worship ideas and planning will ensue. The evening session will feature a banquet with light entertainment, and conclude with an 8:00 concert performed by the Seminary Winds and Seminary Choir.

For registration information, contact the Church Music Department at (502) 245-4101.



Singing Seniors Gather in Elizabethtown

Senior adult musicians from across the Bluegrass will assemble at Elizabethtown's Severns Valley Baptist Church for fellowship, musical inspiration and worship. The event is scheduled for October 26-27. Lyn-del Vaught, senior adult specialist from FBC, San Angelo, Texas will lead the group in several mass choir rehearsals. The festival will culminate with a worship service featuring the combined senior adult choirs

and speaker Verlin Kruschwitz, whose topic is "Age is No Excuse." The service will begin at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 27 and is open to the public

There is still time for your senior adult choir to register! Just call the Church Music Department, (502) 245-4101 for registration information, or fill out the request form on the last page of the insert.

SUNDAY SCHOOL



A Tribute to Jack Palmer

Jack Palmer joined the Kentucky Baptist Convention Sunday School Department in July 1980. Across his dozens years of service, hundreds of churches have been encouraged to do outreach through the Sunday School. Jack has been called upon to lead in many areas: ASSIST, summer assemblies, Winter Bible Conferences, Workers with Mentally Handicapped, VBS, church growth, new Sunday School starts, adults, homebound, Growth Spiral and

Sunday School Breakthrough Growth campaigns. In each area he has developed knowledge and expertise.

Palmer has also served as pastor, BSU director, college professor, director of missions and state convention staff member.

Following retirement, Jack and his wife, Gloria, plan to move to Florida.

Jack, we want you to know that Kentucky Baptists will miss you!

Special Needs for Special People

Call or write Jewell Nelson for information and training event dates featuring a new Handbook for Ministry with Persons with Mental Retardation.

This handbook is fresh off the press, written by Kentucky writers who meet needs of Special Needs people. The handbook was compiled by Jack Palmer.

New Handbook

The new Handbook for Ministry with Persons with Mental Retardation is designed to help a church minister to the special needs persons and their families. It is not a comprehensive description of ministry to the

total needs of these persons and families. Subjects covered include: a support group, the special needs of the family, your building's accessibility, respite care, legal responsibilities, special activities and procedures, characteristics of learning disabilities.

Churches may receive this handbook by requesting a consultant to present it to the congregation in a three-to-four hour orientation training. Requests may be made to: Mrs. Jewell Nelson, Kentucky Baptist Convention, P. O. Box 43433, Louisville, Kentucky 40253-0433 or by calling (502) 245-4101, extension 305.

What's New

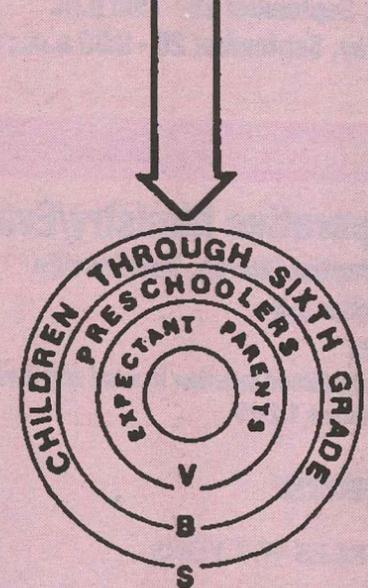
* The purple *TARGET* newsletter has been replaced by this insert. Pass the word.

* Two new books worth knowing: When I Go to Church—An Introduction to Congregational Worship for Preschoolers, Kay Henry

* The Ministry of the Cradle Roll Department, Ann Liles. (Check with a Baptist Book Store for the books.)

* A free pamphlet is available from the Sunday School Department, "Meeting Needs—Middle School Sixth Graders."

TARGET



Super Saturday

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE
October 3, 1992

Target Audience: Sunday School - Discipleship Training - Music Leadership
Conference Fee: \$5.00 (includes lunch)
Registration: 8:30 a.m.

Core Conference: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Two Selective Conferences: 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Pre-Registration Requested: Send to Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, Pineville, KY 40977

Kentucky Association on Children Under Six will hold its fall conference October 30-31, 1992, at Drawbridge Inn, Ft. Mitchell. For information write Marinell Brown, 521 Garden Way, Edgewood, KY 41017,

How Does Public School Mixed-Age Grouping Affect Sunday School?

Mixed age grouping of children in our public schools has some church leaders wondering what to do in Sunday School groupings. Mixed-age grouping should not be a great concern for churches who use the Foundation or Convention curriculum. Teachers who teach from Searchers, Discoverers, or Learnners are given guidance in ways to group children according to interests in Bible projects. Bible projects lend themselves to small group work. Children choose, even within the Bible project, to do what they feel capable of doing.

The Convention series, Children's Bible Study, is planned for combined age grouping. Maybe we share ahead of the public school.

To lesson confusion, remove signs designating grades. Use birth dates rather than grades to place children in classes or departments.



In Sunday Schools Across Kentucky

OCTOBER 25, 1992

Kentucky Baptist Convention Goal • 200,000

EVANGELISM

A Reminder - Fall Evangelism Conference

First Baptist Church, Prestonsburg
Friday, September 25 - 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, September 26 - 9:00 a.m.; 1:00 p.m.

An Invitation

Cooperative Ministry/Evangelism Clinic

First Baptist Church, Hopkinsville
November 2-3

Theme:
"Perfectly joined together in mind and thought"
I Corinthians 1:1-10

Speakers:

CHARLES W. LYONS
 Pastor
 Chicago, Illinois

JOE RATLIFF
 Pastor
 Houston, Texas

PAUL BLIZARD
 Pastor
 Fairdale, Kentucky

LINCOLN N. BINGHAM
 Superintendent of Missions General
 Association

BILL JAGGERS
 Kentucky Baptist Convention

Sponsored by the
General Association of Baptists and
the Office for Evangelism,
Kentucky Baptist Convention

FOUNDATION

Let's Identify Kentucky Baptist Foundation

Who is the Foundation?

The Kentucky Baptist Foundation is the only agency of the Kentucky Baptist Convention whose primary responsibility is to receive, manage and administer endowment funds. The Foundation was chartered as a charitable, non-profit corporation under the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky in August, 1945.

What does the Foundation do?

The Foundation receives gifts for endowments, invests the principal wisely and distributes the income to Kentucky and Southern Baptist causes as directed by the donors.

Why does the Foundation perform this service?

The Foundation functions to encourage and motivate individuals in the making of planned gifts and donations for the advancement and promotion of the various Kentucky and Southern Baptist causes. Through this effort, the Foundation perpetuates the Christian witness and influence of the donor.

How does the Foundation perform its task?

The Foundation serves Kentucky Baptists through three primary program efforts:

(1) General Estate Stewardship Consultation - Foundation personnel advise, on request, any person who wishes to make a will leaving part of his or her estate to Kentucky and Southern Baptist causes;

(2) Endowment and Charitable Giving Education/Promotion - estate/financial stewardship seminars and will seminars are conducted in local churches, associations and state Baptist settings

(3) Investment Management - the Foundation conducts an investment service consistent with the best business practices and the highest Christian stewardship ideals.

Where can Kentucky Baptists contact the Foundation?

The Kentucky Baptist Foundation office is located in the Kentucky Baptist Building, 10701 Shelbyville Road, Louisville, KY, 40243, (502) 245-4101.

The Kentucky Baptist Foundation will be glad to assist you and your legal and tax advisors in creating personal plans to suit your immediate needs and your long-range charitable goals.

FAMILY MINISTRY

Discover Your Potential through Life Enrichment

Enrichment for Senior Adults

1993 Area Daytime Celebrations
 March 2 - Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville
 March 5 - First Baptist Church, Owensboro
 March 16 - Eastwood Baptist Church, Bowling Green
 March 23 - Florence Baptist Church, Florence

By meeting in four areas, daytime celebrations bring events closer to senior adults. These events provide senior adults from varied-size churches an opportunity to have fun and fellowship.

1993 Senior Adult Retreats

May 10-12 - Cedarmore Baptist Assembly, Bagdad
 May 17-19 - Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly, Hardin

Daytime meetings as well as overnight retreats provide senior adults an opportunity to have fellowship, deepen their spiritual lives and renew their commitment to serve.

Enrichment for Single Adults

Single Adult Retreat
Cave City Convention Center
March 12-14, 1993

This centrally located event aims to minister to the distinctive needs of single adults and their leaders. The event is of special interest to never married singles and those single again as a result of divorce or death of a spouse.

1993 Enrichment for Couples

Fall Festival of Marriage
Southern Baptist Seminary
September 24-26

Offers couples a time to get away and concentrate on one another and their marriage. Couples find ways to strengthen their marriages, worship and fellowship with other couples through workshops.

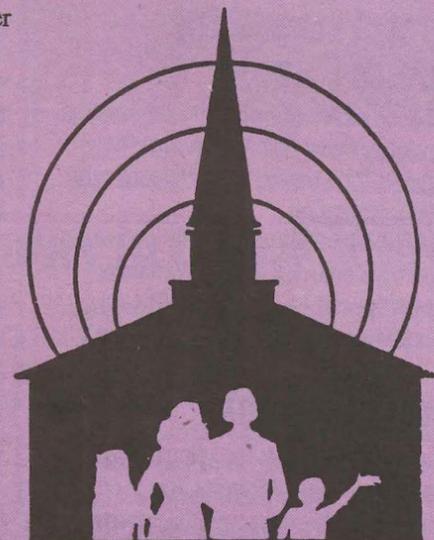
Especially for Leaders

Most enrichment conferences provided by the Family Ministry Department includes a leadership training component. Pastors and other Family Ministry leaders also watch for more information about the Haworth Conference, February 8-9, 1993. This coming year's Haworth Conference provides training for leaders who wish to develop ministries which will enhance family life. Participants will have a choice of attending one of three tracks:

"Making Peace with Your Past" to help church leaders develop a recovery ministry for adults raised in a family where a parent's addiction or some other problem disrupted family relationships.

"Communication and Intimacy" to help church leaders provide enrichment for couples focusing on developing communication and intimacy within marriage.

"When Crisis Comes Home" helps church leaders provide a ministry to families in crisis as well as a comprehensive ministry to families on other occasions.



EVENTS

FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING

PARTNERSHIP MISSIONS



Could Your Church Use \$100...

worth of complimentary Discipleship Training materials to start or restart such a program?

Call Doug Strader or Jim Clontz
Discipleship Training Department
Kentucky Baptist Convention
(502) 245-4101

Espirito Santo Partnership Missions Projects for 1993

Contact:
Calvin Wilkins, Partnership Coordinator
P. O. Box 43433
Louisville, KY 40253-0433
(502) 245-4101



DATE	TYPE	VOLUNTEERS
February 25-March 10	Construction/Evangelism	30 volunteers
March 18-31	Construction/Evangelism	30 volunteers
April 1-14	Evangelism (10 teams)	30 volunteers
April 22-May 5	Construction/Evangelism	30 volunteers
May 27-June 9	Construction/Evangelism	30 volunteers
May 27-July 31	English teachers	6 volunteers
June 17-30	BSU musical group	10 volunteers
June 17-30	Construction/Evangelism	30 volunteers
June 17-30	Handbell Choir	12 volunteers
June 17-30	Youth Music/Drama	12 volunteers
July 15-28	Construction/Evangelism	30 volunteers
August 5-18	Construction/Evangelism	30 volunteers
September 2-15	Evangelism (10 teams)	30 volunteers
September 24-October 6	Construction/Evangelism	30 volunteers
October 21-November 3	Construction/Evangelism	30 volunteers
November 18-December 1	Evangelism (10 teams)	30 volunteers

The Construction/Evangelism projects seeking 30 volunteers will make up two teams.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

1992-93 Baptist Daily Planners were mailed to ministers in August.

Retired ministers may also receive the pocket planner (Baptist Daily Planner) upon request to the address below.

The Pocket Planner includes dates for Kentucky Baptist programs, conferences, special emphases and state convention annual meeting dates.

Order your free copy by writing:

Kentucky Baptist Daily Planner
Executive Office, KBC
P. O. Box 43433
Louisville, KY 40253-0433

KENTUCKY BAPTISTS TODAY

Videomagazine renamed Kentucky Baptists Today

Kentucky Baptists Today is a videomagazine for and about Kentucky Baptists. The Fall '92 edition of KBT, just released, includes a sixteen minute feature on the Eliza Broadus State Missions offering, suitable for promotion in local churches and associations.

Also included in the current edition is a special focus on "World Changers", a cooperative ministry of the Brotherhood Department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and the Brotherhood Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention to involve youth in a massive project in Louisville.

Kentucky Baptists Today is produced by the Media Department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and is available by free

loan to Kentucky Baptist churches. A copy is also provided to each association and may be secured by contacting the director of missions in your association.

Three editions of the videomagazine are released each year. Church leaders and staff can utilize *Kentucky Baptists Today* as an educational resource to promote and encourage cooperative missions and ministries supported by the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Churches may subscribe to *Kentucky Baptist Today* as an excellent resource to place in your church media library. For further information, contact: Media Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, P. O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433, (502) 245-4101, extension 266.

OTHER EVENTS

Church Music

Church Music Resource Packets were mailed recently to all full-time and part-time music ministers. Packets are available at no charge for volunteer music directors or other interested leaders. Call the Church Music Department, KBC, (502) 245-4101, ext. 325 or send a written request.

Kentucky Baptist Convention

November 9
Pastor's Conference
Executive Board meeting
November 10-11
Convention sessions
Louisville
St. Matthews Baptist Church
The host church site is off I-64 in east end Louisville/Jefferson County. For hotel and motel information, see accommodations ad on page 11 in this Western Recorder issue.

Sunday School

Super Sunday (High Attendance Day) is October 25 across Kentucky. Please call your director of missions to report your high attendance for that day.

Upcoming Events

September

Direct Missions

September 26
Language Leadership Conference
Louisville
Beechmont Baptist Church
10:00 a.m.
Lunch provided

September 29
Regional New Work Awareness Workshop
Corbin
Faith Baptist Church
9:00 a.m.
Reservations needed
Lunch provided

Office for Evangelism

September 25-26
Fall Evangelism Conference
Prestonsburg
First Baptist Church

October

Brotherhood

October 1
Baptist Men Golf Tournament
Bowling Green
Hartland

October 2-3
Brotherhood State Convention
Bowling Green
Eastwood Baptist Church

Student

October 2-4
State Student Convention
Louisville
Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

WMU

October 9-10
Baptist Women/Baptist Nurses Retreat
Bagdad
Cedarmore

Sunday School

October 25
Super Sunday (High Attendance Day)

Church Music

October 26-27
Senior Adult Choir Festival
Elizabethtown
Severns Valley Baptist Church

Minister/Church Support

October 30-31
Ministers' Wives Retreat
Bagdad
Cedarmore Baptist Assembly
\$45 fee
Call (502) 245-4101, ext. 243 for additional information

November

Office for Evangelism

November 2-3
Cooperative Ministry/Evangelism Clinic
Hopkinsville
First Baptist Church

Student

November 6-8
International Student Conference
Cave City Convention Center

Church Music

November 9
Kentucky Baptist Music Conference
Louisville
Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Church Growth and Administration

November 9
Bivocational Ministers Dinner
5:30 p.m.
Louisville
Melbourne Heights Baptist Church

Kentucky Baptist Convention

November 10-11
Louisville
St. Matthews Baptist Church

Student

November 20-22
Black Student Leadership Training Conference
Lexington
University of Kentucky

WMU

November 29-December 6
Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions and Lottie Moon offering

December

Student

December 27
Student Day at Christmas

CHECK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION

For additional information, check the appropriate box and mail the provided form below to:

Executive Office
Kentucky Baptist Convention
P. O. Box 43433
Louisville, KY 40253-0433

In future issues, readers will be given the opportunity to register for events, too.

To Receive More Information

Church Music

- Senior Adult Choir Festival
 Kentucky Baptist Music Conference

Church Growth and Administration

- Bivocational Ministers Dinner

Student

- State Student Convention
 International Student Conference
 Black Student Leadership Training Conference
 Friendship International House
 Student Day at Christmas

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

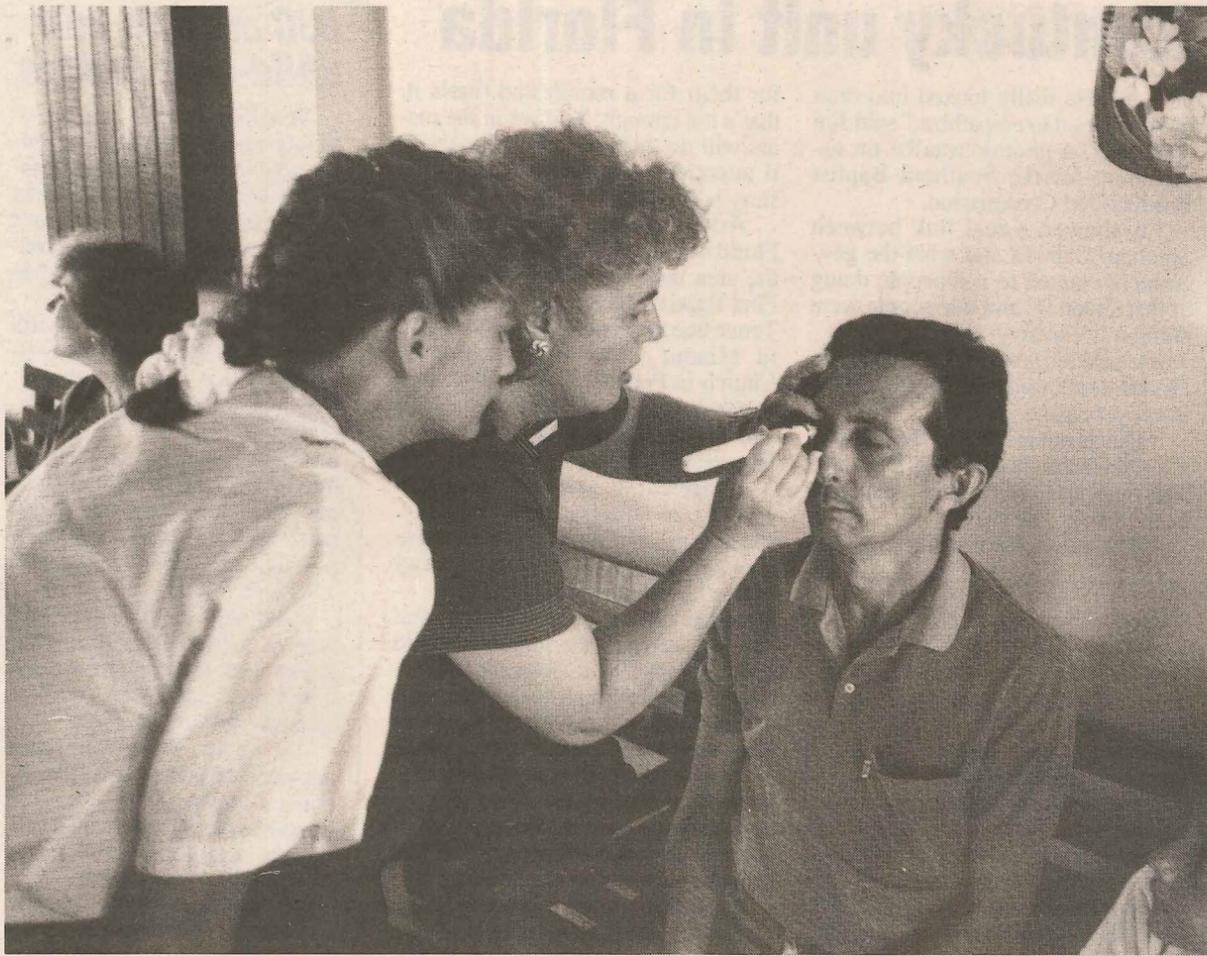
Phone: Office _____ Home _____

Church _____ Association _____

Leadership Position _____

Registration fee (if applicable) \$ _____ Number in group (if applicable) _____

MISSIONS



INSIGHT Sharon Lewis (center), a registered nurse at Central Baptist Hospital in Lexington, and Tammy Dillman, radiology technician at Baptist Regional Medical Center in Corbin, examine the eyes of a Brazilian man.

HEART-TO-HEART Penny Mosier, a registered nurse from Baptist Hospital East in Louisville, checks the heartbeat of a Brazilian child as part of a well-baby clinic set up in one of the churches.

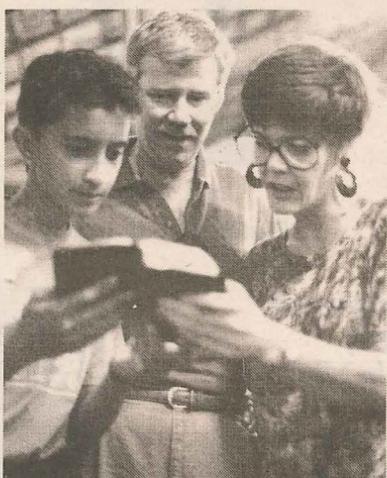


Baptist Healthcare sends team to Brazil

Baptist Healthcare System sponsored its first foreign medical mission Aug. 20-Sept. 2 as part of Kentucky Baptists' ongoing partnership project with Brazilian Baptists. A 17-member team—composed of four doctors, five nurses, a pharmacist, three technicians, a dental assistant, an occupational therapist and two ministers—staffed clinics in two churches in Parnaiba, Equatorial Brazil. They saw 1,250 patients at the clinics, plus many others in home visits. The team dispensed 350 pairs of eyeglasses and extracted 300 bad teeth. And in their spare time, they led 12 worship services attended by 1,625 people. At the end of the trip, 18 people had made professions of faith in Jesus Christ, and 27 had recommitted their lives to Jesus. But thousands more gained a new understanding of Baptists and the Christian faith, said Calvin Wilkins, director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's partnership missions program. "This area had never had a medical missions team to come from anywhere," he explained. "And it was the first time in 20 years for any Baptist volunteers to go there. This project gave the Baptist churches and pastors there greater credibility. The pastors got the credit for bringing in these medical volunteers."



PRAYER TIME Joan Arnold (left), a registered nurse from Central Baptist Hospital in Lexington, pauses to pray with a family after a home visit. Jeanie Johnson (right), a Southern Baptist missionary who worked alongside the volunteer team, was in an automobile accident soon after the team left and currently is undergoing serious medical treatment herself in Atlanta.



BOOK LOOK Bill Sanders, a dentist from Louisville, and his wife, Claudia, a dental assistant, look at a Portuguese Bible with a Brazilian boy.



CHECK UP Jim Hawkins (seated), chaplain at Western Baptist Hospital in Paducah, assists Penny Mosier (left), registered nurse from Baptist Hospital East in Louisville, during a clinic exam. Hawkins had an advantage over other team members because he was raised in Brazil as a missionary kid and speaks the language well.

FRAME TO FIT Bob Browning, pastor of First Baptist Church in Somerset, helps fit a boy with eyeglasses. Browning accompanied the team to preach and lend a hand.

Quayles visit Kentucky unit in Florida

QUAYLE VISIT Vice President Dan Quayle and his wife, Marilyn, visited the Kentucky Baptist Convention's disaster relief unit Sept. 12. The Quayles made a 20-minute stop at the Florida City, Fla., site where Kentucky volunteers are feeding several thousand hot meals daily and providing clean-up services to help low-income residents. The vice president had no prepared remarks. Instead, he and Mrs. Quayle moved around the unit talking to disaster relief volunteers, local pastors, and area residents. "Watching him move around in the crowd, there were smiles on a lot

of faces. He really looked into their eyes and tried to empathize," said Jim Veneman, a photojournalist on assignment for the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission.

"It showed a real link between Southern Baptists and what the government wanted to see people doing in that situation, and our people were doing it," Veneman added.

He said his weekend visit to south Florida convinced him the crisis there is not yet past.

"This is not the end of the effort ... it's right in the middle of it. It's a critical time and they are in desperate need of help," he said.

"If Southern Baptists have prayed

for them for a month and that's it, that's not enough. And we in the media will do them a terrible disservice if attention goes elsewhere and the story is forgotten."

Aside from the Kentucky unit at Florida City, others still operating in the area included the Florida unit at First Baptist Church in Cutler Ridge; Tennessee at Glendale Baptist Church in Miami; Ohio at First Baptist Church in Perrine; North Carolina at Richmond Heights Middle School; and South Carolina and Missouri at Homestead Middle School.

Together, the units are serving an average of 40,000 meals per day. More than 1.5 million hot meals have been provided by disaster relief crews in Florida alone since Aug. 24.

Meanwhile, the Brotherhood Commission took the first step toward disaster relief involvement in Hawaii Sept. 14 with the approval of funds for a mobile kitchen to serve victims of Hurricane Iniki.

Brotherhood Commission President James Williams approved the expenditure to purchase the unit, along with a water purifier, food and equipment.

Southern Baptist disaster relief volunteers Bill Arnold and Milton Schmidt from Dallas arrived in Hawaii Sept. 16 with the equipment to train local volunteers in mass feeding techniques.

American Airlines transported the relief equipment without charge and granted free passage to the Baptists volunteers.

The Hawaii Baptist Convention reported damage to three churches on Kauai but no deaths or injuries among church members.

Further information is available on the Hurricane Andrew Message and Information Line at (901) 278-7839.



BJC dislikes new child-care rulings

WASHINGTON (ABP)—Newly imposed regulations implementing two child-care programs would allow government money to be used for religious instruction and activities, according to the Baptist Joint Committee.

The Department of Health and Human Services recently issued its final rule on two programs designed to help low-income families with child-care needs. The department issued an interim final rule a year ago, and the Joint Committee was among those who filed public comments pointing out church-state problems with the rule.

"Although the BJC comments were noted in the final rule, the department mostly ignored our criticisms," said Brent Walker, associate general counsel.

While the Joint Committee applauds efforts to help low-income families, Walker said, it opposes government money supporting religious activities of church child-care centers.

Religious organizations provide about one-third of the nation's child care.

Walker said the act and the regulations generally disallow religious activities when providers receive direct government aid, but religious instruction is allowed when child-care providers receive vouchers. The rule suggests, however, that a provider receiving direct grant money could still engage in religious activities if government dollars were not used to support those specific activities.

CLC & coalition target beer ads

WASHINGTON (BP)—Beer companies should not be allowed to have their products displayed prominently in movies, according to the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission and 21 other groups joining a petition to the Federal Trade Commission.

The coalition joined by the Christian Life Commission has asked the FTC to use its authority to halt beer company product placements in movies as well as beer advertising aimed at underage people or linking drinking with risky activities such as auto racing and water skiing.

Other organizations petitioning the FTC included the American Medical Association, American Academy of Pediatrics, Center for Science in the Public Interest, National Parent-Teacher Association and the United Methodist Church Board of Church and Society.

The groups petitioning the FTC also support bills in the Senate (S.664) and House of Representatives (HR1443) requiring health and safety warnings in alcohol advertising on television and radio and in newspapers and magazines.

Baptist Men's Conclave & Mission Rallies

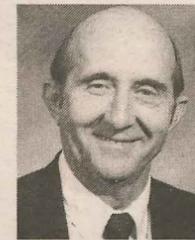
October 2 & 3 • Eastwood Baptist • Bowling Green



James M. Everett
Judge; Frankfort



Jack Parrott
Pastor; Massachusetts



James F. McKinley
Missionary; Bangladesh

Topics that will be addressed:

- Marketplace Ministry
- Laymen Involved in Ministry
- Hope for Humanity
- From Uniqueness to Unity

Interest Group Rallies for:

- Baptist Builders
- Disaster Relief
- Lay Renewal
- Lay Revival

Help! Help! Help!

Volunteers are needed for disaster relief in Florida. If you've had an interest in helping people who are hurting, be at the Brotherhood Convention on Oct. 2 to be trained for disaster relief.

For more information, call: Brotherhood Department (502) 245-4101

Cussing kids influenced by TV, movies, parental example

Continued from page 1

families are not spending enough time with their children," George added. "I think families from other countries often do better with the responsibility of parenting, including helping children to develop language and all kinds of behavior."

George is not alone in noticing an increase in the use of profanity among school children.

Profanity has become a way of communicating among students, said Lynn Yeager, an eighth-grade counselor at a middle school in Birmingham, Ala. Yeager said she has seen a definite increase in the use of profanity during her 15 years in public education.

The use of such language in schools disrupts the learning process, Yeager said. "Because the language is

unacceptable to the teacher and to other students, the teacher can't let it go without correction," she explained. "That takes time away from instructional time. It also imposes embarrassment on the children."

There are several ways parents can help teachers in dealing with the problem of profanity, said Yeager, a member of Riverchase Baptist Church in Birmingham.

First, she said, parents can support teachers in trying to control children's use of profanity rather than being in a state of denial.

"Parents can make the child responsible for his or her behavior," she said. "Too often there are no boundaries, and children are allowed to do what they want to do. Also, some parents deny that their child uses profanity at school because the child doesn't use it around them."

Second, parents can model correct language for their children and monitor the types of television programs and movies their children view, Yeager said.

Marvin Lane, a recently retired elementary school principal from Chattanooga, Tenn., agreed that parents can play an important role in reducing children's use of profanity.

Too often parents today do not take the time to carry on conversations with their children, he said.

Robert Parham, director of the Nashville-based Baptist Center for Ethics, said parents have an ethical responsibility to play an active role in curbing the use of profanity by children.

"The rising tide of four-letter words among elementary school children results from the steady stream of profanity in popular movies, videos and television programs and the failure of parental modeling and discipline," Parham said.

"But it's not enough for parents and others to blame the media," he added. "Parents must be responsible and take initiatives to reign in their own language and that of their children."

"The rising tide of four-letter words among elementary school children results from the steady stream of profanity in popular movies, videos and television programs and the failure of parental modeling and discipline."

Robert Parham, director of the Baptist Center for Ethics

Accommodations 1992 KBC Annual Meeting - Louisville

The 155th Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meeting is November 10-11 at St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville. Make your reservations early!

Please Note: The Executive Office of the KBC Executive Board makes every effort to advise Convention messengers concerning good lodging at a variety of prices in any host city. Messengers should be aware, however, that lodging other than that listed may be available. Also, individuals are expected to exercise personal discretion in the selection of appropriate accommodations. Telephone a hotel if you have specific questions about its services or policies.

St. Matthews Baptist Church is located at 3515 Grandview Avenue, between Cannons Lane and Breckinridge Lane. The church has easy access to the I-64/ Cannons Lane exit or Watterson Expressway (264)/Breckinridge Lane north exit.

All hotel listings are for Louisville.

Rates available on reservations made through October 26, 1992, unless otherwise specified. Tell reservations clerk you are attending the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Add 10.24% tax to rates.

R=Restaurant

All 800 telephone numbers are toll free.

Breckinridge Inn (R)
2800 Breckinridge Lane, 40220
(502) 456-5050
\$60.00 flat rate (1-4 persons)
Located off Watterson Expressway exit 18B south; 5 minute drive to church and restaurants.

Days Inn Louisville East
4621 Shelbyville Road, 40207
(502) 896-8871
\$40.00 single (1-2 persons)
\$46.00 double (2-4 persons)
Complimentary continental breakfast
Located in St. Matthews close to Watterson Expressway; easy access to malls and restaurants. 8-10 drive to church.

Holiday Inn Downtown (R)
120 West Broadway, 40202
(502) 582-2241; 1/800/626-1558
\$42.00 flat rate (1-4 persons)
Downtown location; 15 minute drive to church.

Holiday Inn Hurstbourne (R)*
1325 Hurstbourne Lane, 40222
(502) 426-2600
\$60.00 flat rate (1-4 persons)
Easy access to I-64, restaurants and shopping. 10 minute drive to church.
***Reservations needed by October 20.**

Knights Inn
1850 Embassy Square Blvd., 40299
(502) 491-1040
\$32.95 (1 person, 1 bed)
\$39.95 (2 persons, 2 beds)
\$42.95 (3 persons, 2 beds)
\$45.95 (4 persons, 2 beds)
Easy access to I-64, restaurants and shopping. 10 minute drive to church.

Radisson Hotel Louisville East (R)
1903 Embassy Square Blvd., 40299-1824
(502) 499-6220
\$58.00 flat rate (1-4 persons)
Easy access to I-64, restaurants and shopping. 10 minute drive to church.

Ramada Inn-Brownsboro East (R)
4805 Brownsboro Road, 40207
(502) 893-2551; 1/800/228-2828
\$39.00 group rate (1-4 persons with king or double beds)
Easy access to Watterson Expressway; 10-12 minute drive to church.

Red Roof Inn
9330 Blairwood, 40222
1/800/874-9000
\$39.99 + tax (2-4 persons with double beds)
AM - Free coffee and newspaper
Easy access to I-64 (located off Hurstbourne north of I-64), restaurants and shopping. 10 minute drive to church.

The Hurstbourne Hotel and Conference Center (R)
9700 Bluegrass Parkway, 40299
(502) 491-4830; 1/800/289-1009
\$47.00 (1-4 persons)
Easy access to I-64, restaurants and shopping. 10 minute drive to church.

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Book Store Search Committee
Human Resources Department
Baptist Sunday School Board
127 Ninth Avenue, North
Nashville, TN 37234
(Equal Opportunity Employer)

Lancaster Church lives history in 150th year

By Melanie Childers
Staff Writer

LANCASTER—Members of Lancaster Baptist Church decided making history is better than living it.

The church's 150th anniversary celebration was headlined in a four-page supplement to the local newspaper, *The Central Record*, this summer.

Commenting on the news coverage, Pastor Bob Rush said the church is held in high regard in Lancaster, and the newspaper was one way the community could help celebrate.

"I've heard it said that a church never lives history and makes it at the same time," Rush said. He explained that the church has avoided the "we've never done it that way before" syndrome by finding creative and in-

novative approaches to ministry.

Lancaster Church was organized in 1842 with 15 charter members. At that time, the congregation met at Union Church, a building they shared with three other denominations.

Although they have rebuilt, renovated and extended their facilities in the last 150 years, the church has remained in one location since 1851, when they first were able to obtain their own place of worship.

Growth in the community and increased effectiveness in ministry has occurred because "the people here are willing to attempt new things to see what will meet the needs of the community," Rush said.

The pastor listed two morning worship services, a cancer-support group and facilities donated for adult

education classes as new ideas the church has implemented.

The celebration weekend July 17-19 began with a Hawaiian luau on the county high school lawn. A former minister of music and youth, Bill Rutledge, and his wife, Deanne, lived and worked in Hawaii from 1980-1988. They returned to Lancaster to lead in the event.

Also, the Rutledges performed a free concert open to the public July 18.

The weekend concluded with two celebration services and a potluck meal July 19. Richard Harris of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's evangelism department spoke at the 11 a.m. service.

Rush said more than 425 people attended Sunday school that day. The church usually averages 350.

Jackson resigns at North Phoenix

PHOENIX, Ariz. (ABP)—Richard Jackson, 54, pastor of North Phoenix Baptist Church in Phoenix, Ariz., for the past 25 years, announced his retirement from the pastorate Sept. 13.

Jackson, one of Southern Baptists' most popular preachers, said he will continue his preaching ministry but will not accept another pastorate.

Since Jackson became pastor in 1967, the church has grown from about 200 members to 23,000, making it the largest Southern Baptist church in the West. In that time the congregation has baptized 20,000 people and often has led the Southern Baptist Convention in annual baptisms.

While his Sunday morning announcement came as a surprise to his congregation, Jackson said it was no sudden decision. He said he decided 30 years ago that he did not want to outlive his usefulness in the pastorate.

"I would like to have the grace to step out before the people say it's time," he said, explaining there was no other reason for his sudden announcement.

Once relieved of his pastoral duties, Jackson said he will focus on other avenues of ministry, including crusades, revivals and writing.

Cumberland hires 24

WILLIAMSBURG—Four new faculty members and 24 new staff members have been named by Cumberland College, according to President Jim Taylor. New faculty members include Harry Conn, instructor of military science; Martha Henemier, instructor of education; Tracy Hinshaw, assistant professor of French; and Martha Johnson, associate professor of education.

New staff members include Kim Barnett, Carolyn Byble, Richard Byrd, Virginia Collins, Emily Dalton, Bart Davidson, Mark Douglas, Rick Fleenor, Veronica Freshour, Sara Godby, Edward Hodges, Brooke Jones, Ken Kesserling, Pam McCauley, Rita Moore, Wayne Moore, Brenda O'Dell, Ron Pettit, Eric Schuster, Tracie Schuster, Janine Shackelford, Gary Strunk, Fred Waugh and Lana West.

Georgetown College names 9 more to faculty

GEORGETOWN—Nine new faculty members have been named at Georgetown College, according to President William Crouch:

■ Bonnie Banker, visiting professor of graduate education, previously served as vice president for academic affairs and academic dean at Asbury College in Wilmore.

■ Gail Gonzales, assistant professor of foreign language/Spanish, has taught at several schools, including Centre College, the University of Kentucky and Transylvania University.

■ J.S. Gruber, assistant professor of education, has experience as a high

school and college teacher, reading specialist and as a lecturer on literacy.

■ Zahi Haddad, professor and chair of the business administration and economics department, previously was associate professor and director of the MBA program at Holy Names College in Oakland, Calif.

■ William Harris, assistant professor of mathematics, comes from a teaching assignment at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

■ Richard Kopp, assistant professor of biology, has taught part time at Georgetown and Eastern Kentucky University.

■ Regina Swigert, instructor of

communication arts, has worked part time for the college as well as serving as a reporter and anchor for the National Public Radio affiliate in Bowling Green.

■ John Taylor Thompson, assistant professor of graduate education, previously worked with Arkansas College in Batesville, Ark., and taught gifted-and-talented classes for two school systems in Mississippi.

■ Jayne Sadlon Violette, instructor of communication arts, has taught classes at Georgetown previously and has been director of communications for the Sylvan Learning Center in Gainesville, Fla.

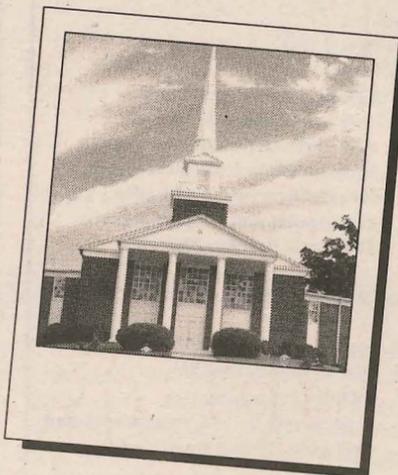
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A fellowship of sharing

From WMU and Brotherhood groups to youth and children's activities, Baptists are an involved group who enjoy the opportunity for fellowship.

At Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, we would like an opportunity to be a part of your fellowship and share with you the difference Kentucky Baptists are making in the lives of children.

At Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, churches like yours are a priority for us. We want to extend our ministry to you. Through our Speakers Bureau, we send qualified speakers across the state.

Our speakers are available to address your congregation or church group on issues like: what really constitutes abuse and neglect, how churches and individuals can play a part in our ministry to Kentucky's hurting children, parenting issues in the '90s, the programs and services that Kentucky Baptists provide for children, will and estate planning and a number of other topics.

Speakers can come to you anytime—Sunday morning or evening, Wednesday night and

throughout the weekdays. Perhaps your group is looking for a concrete mission action project or a way to contribute hands on to our ministry. If so, we would be happy to be present for a baby shower given for the babies and young mothers who are helped through our First Step Pregnancy Counseling and Adoption Service.

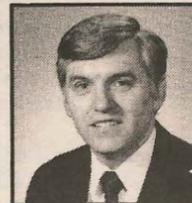
Or, like Louisville and Owensboro churches recently did, you might consider hosting a speaker and following that introduction with a mission trip to one of our campuses for a painting or other work project.

Perhaps you are interested in learning more about our Thanksgiving Offering and how the money we receive provides care for hurting children. If so, now is the time to call.

Speakers are still available to speak to your church about this way to minister to children in need. If you're interested in inviting a speaker to your church group, call us toll-free at 1-800-456-1386.

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

HOMES FOR CHILDREN



Curtis C. Mooney

Paid Column

PEOPLE

Lewis Lane Brotherhood reaches out, paints Youth Ranch

ELIZABETHTOWN—The Brotherhood department at Lewis Lane Baptist Church in Owensboro wanted a challenging mission project, but they hadn't planned on painting a ranch alongside 11 teenage boys.

However, after spending a day painting at the Baptist Youth Ranch in Elizabethtown, the men from Lewis Lane said they knew they had done more than put paint on walls. In addition, they had made new friends and been involved in an important ministry.

And the boys at the ranch didn't mind giving up a Saturday to help with the project, said Youth Ranch Director Bob Milburn. "These boys are hungry for attention. They really need this kind of love and generosity from Baptists throughout Kentucky."

One-on-one contact with church groups does make a difference in the lives of children and youths in the care of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, said Dean Harney and Bill Heaton, regional coordinators.

Not only do the boys and girls see

that people do care about them, but they also begin to trust again and to see the love of God in action, they explained.

The Youth Ranch recently has begun an effort to locate church groups interested in forming lasting relationships with the boys at the ranch. Churches are asked to provide encouragement for the boys, celebrating birthdays and holidays and being available to listen.

For further information, contact Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children at (800) 456-1386.

Children give VBS offerings to aid children

Children from at least 25 Kentucky Baptist churches gave their nickels and dimes to help other children this summer.

During vacation Bible school at 25 churches, the children collected an offering for Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children. In many cases, the children also heard speakers talk about the agency's ministry to children living in poverty, experiencing abuse and neglect or having serious emotional and behavioral problems.

The VBS offerings ranged from \$20 to more than \$300.

Churches participating in this offering included Hays Fork Baptist Church, Richmond; Emmanuel Baptist Church, Berea; Northside Baptist Church, Almo; New Bethel Baptist Church, Wingo; East Marshall Baptist Church, Gilbertsville; Victory Baptist Church, Owensboro; Mint Springs Baptist Church, Tiline; Rockport Baptist Church, Rockport; Pinckneyville Baptist Church, Salem; Uniontown Baptist Church; Milton Baptist Church, Milton; Faith Decision Baptist Church, Paint Lick; Parnell Baptist Church, Monticello; Viney Fork Baptist Church, Berea; Little Union Baptist Church; Valley Station Baptist Church, Valley Station; King Bee Baptist Church, Bethelridge; First Baptist Church, Wooton; Grider Baptist Church, Glasgow; Springfield Baptist Church, Springfield; Berlin Baptist Church, Brooksville; Bells Run Baptist Church, Whitesville; Three Forks Bacon Creek Baptist Church, Magnolia; Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, Owenton; and Bethlehem Baptist Church, Cunningham.

Campbellsville ranked 10th

CAMPBELLSVILLE—Campbellsville College's Fighting Tiger football team was ranked 10th in NAIA Division II statistics after winning their first two games of the season.

The Tigers defeated Olivet Nazarene 35-20 in their season opener Sept. 5 in a home game. Then they defeated Cumberland University 28-27 in an away game at Lebanon, Tenn. The Tigers' next game is Sept. 26 at home.

BABY BOOMERS IN BYW???

Baptist Young Women offers the younger half of the baby boomers an opportunity to make a difference in their world. November *Contempo*, the magazine for Baptist Young Women, poses the question, "Where are baby boomers taking the world?"

Are the young women in your church *involved* in the missions experience? Are they *learning* about missionaries and *supporting* them by praying and giving? Are they *doing* missions through mission action and personal witnessing?

Baptist Young Women provides a plan and a framework. If you are in a church without BYW, give us an opportunity to provide free materials and start you in the right direction.

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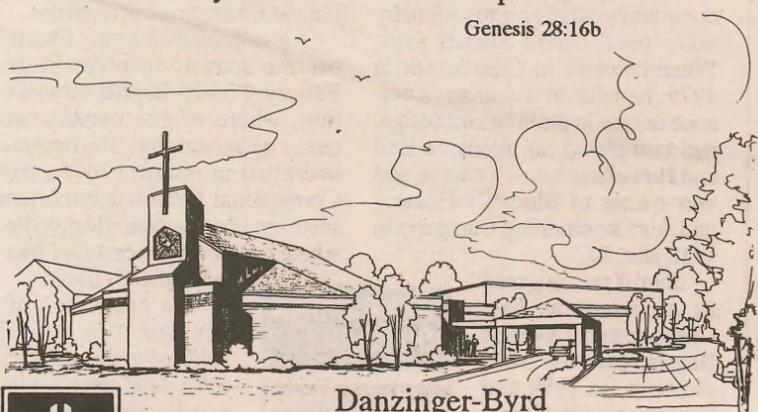
WANTED: Part-time Minister of Music; bachelor, church music and prior church experience required. Send resumes to: Rev. Mike Rodgers, Valley View Baptist Church, P.O. Box 468, Vine Grove, Ky. 40175, or call (502) 877-2150.

TRAVEL: Join me on a 10-day trip to Europe. Visit Ruschlikon Seminary. Cruise up the Rhine River. Stay in the Alps. Visit Mozart's home and dream of the Sound of Music. Worship with European Baptists. For further details call John Dunaway at (606) 528-4738.

WANTED: Donation of a dependable mini-van for use by the Santa Clara (Pueblo) Mission, New Mexico. Anyone—church or civic organization—who may be interested in assisting with this effort may contact the pastor, Rev. Scott Tafoya, Box 875, Espanola, N.M. 87532, phone (505) 753-5785; or Lee Caudill, South Elkhorn Baptist Church, 4867 Versailles Road, Lexington, Ky. 40510, (606) 254-5264 or 273-5618 (home).

"Surely the Lord is in this place...."

Genesis 28:16b



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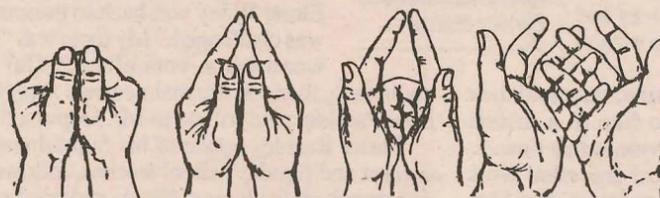
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KENTUCKY KERNELS

Clear Creek Baptist Bible School in Pineville has its roots in a two-week school for preachers held at Clear Creek, between Pineville and Middlesboro in 1926. The school was chartered in 1946 as Clear Creek Mountain Preachers School, but has since expanded to offer a more diverse program of ministerial training.

Mountains to the Mississippi

■ **ELIZABETHTOWN**—George and Bea Mink of Central Avenue Church have maintained a Sunday school perfect attendance record for 38 years.
 ■ **HARRODSBURG**—The Mercer Baptist Associational executive board voted to receive an offering at the October annual meeting for the Kentucky Baptist Convention's disaster relief work in Florida.
 ■ **LONDON**—Corinth Church called James Blaylock as pastor. He previously served at Frazier Church in

Memphis, Tenn.
 First Church will dedicate their organ in a Sept. 20 service at 4 p.m. Don Hustad of Southern Seminary will give a recital during the service.
 Providence Church called Dennis Rush as pastor.
 ■ **LOUISVILLE**—Paul Richardson is interim minister of music at Buechel Park Church. Phil Morrow recently resigned as the church's minister of music.
 Terry Atchison has resigned as music director of Clifton Church.

Campbellsville enrollment up 3.1 percent

CAMPBELLSVILLE—The 1,042 students enrolled at Campbellsville College this fall represent the school's second-largest enrollment ever, according to President Ken Winters.
 This fall's enrollment is up 3.1 percent over last fall, he said, and is second only to the 1966 record enrollment of 1,079.
 Winters said this increase puts the school on target to reach a goal of 1,200 students by 1996. He described 1,200 students as optimal for Campbellsville to maintain a "family atmosphere."
 This year's enrollment increase can be attributed to several things, Winters said.
 Among those factors are the addition of a marching band and a new master of arts degree program in cur-

riculum and instruction.
 Also, this is only the second year for Campbellsville's soccer and cross country teams and the third year for the swim team, he noted.
 Other recent additions include a communications program, an organizational administration program for non-traditional students and extension classes at the Marion Adjustment Center and at area high schools and industries.
 The increased enrollment has created a need for four new faculty positions, new furnishings in residence halls and refurbishing of some classrooms, Winters said.
 Other possible areas for expansion in the future include a nursing program, engineering program and additional majors in the master of arts in education degree, he said.

Michael Nimmo will be guest speaker for Memory Lane Church's homecoming event Oct. 4. Dinner on the grounds and a gospel music concert will follow the 11 a.m. service.
 A gospel music festival will be held at West End Church Oct. 2 from 7-9 p.m. to promote gospel music as a unique, valuable art form.
 ■ **MIDDLETOWN**—First Church called Pete Meulenberg as minister of music and youth. He will begin in October.
 ■ **PADUCAH**—Tony Estes resigned as minister of youth at Immanuel Church.
 ■ **SHEPHERDSVILLE**—Eastern

Gate Church called Gary Quinney as minister of music and education. He previously served as minister of music at First Church in Rincon, Ga.
MISSIONARY UPDATE:
 ■ **Harold and Clara Matthews**, Kentucky natives serving as missionaries to the Philippines since 1957, have retired from active missionary service.
 He worked in theological education and she was a church and home worker.
 The Matthews may be addressed at 4559 S. Third Street, Louisville, Ky. 40214.



SPORTS FANS Kentucky Baptist sports volunteers Sam and Carolyn Finley of LaGrange sign autographs for a young Argentine during a men's basketball game at a sports club near Buenos Aires, Argentina. The Finleys spent a week in Argentina with the Kentucky Baptist Sports Crusaders, a group of volunteers involved in sports evangelism. (BP photo by Robert Sutherland)

"Hoppy" was committed to missions

Melvin and Alice Hopwood came to Oneida as full-time volunteers in the spring of 1984. They had been retired several years. He was an electrician. She was a public health worker. They raised their three daughters in Paducah, saw each of them married, and became grandparents. They were not ready to sit, with the next big event of their lives being their funerals.
 Lifelong servants of Christ, very active in their church, they decided they wanted to serve the Lord full-time, and without any pay. Having heard of OBI in a world missions conference led by our then director of missions, Elmer Wiley, having visited several times and becoming more and more excited about Oneida's work, they chose to serve at Oneida. They reminded each daughter of their love that each had a good education. They reminded each that they were established and doing well in their own homes and jobs. They told them this was their inheritance; that whatever was left of the parents' lives and of their money would be given to missions.

With their children's blessing, they sold their beautiful home and came to live in a mobile home, all that OBI could provide at that time.
 Mr. Hopwood did electrical and other work full-time in our maintenance program, and Mrs. Hopwood taught full-time in our remedial reading program. They not only gave of themselves but, as they worked, also donated thousands of dollars to our school. Their giving and that of other OBI staff—often working far more than eight-hour days—has totalled approximately \$160,000 over the past eight years. Think of that!
 Two years after coming, the Hopwoods assumed extra duties as host and hostess to up to

six guests overnight as they moved into a large staff house which also serves as an overflow guest house. This was in addition to their day-time work.
 Then illness struck Melvin Hopwood. Heart and kidney problems made him an invalid for three years. But he bore it with a smile, much courage and great faith. His wife lovingly cared for him, and various members of our staff assisted as needed. Even this adversity was used of the Lord to strengthen the faith of our students and staff.

Melvin Hopwood is now in heaven. His funeral was held in Mt. Olivet, his former church in Paducah. We also held a memorial service in our Oneida church Sept. 6. Dean of Boys Bud Underwood prayed and the congregation sang "Because He Lives." Retired OBI teacher and Principal Oliver Hawkins, now DOM of Central Association, was back to share Scripture. Retired Director of Missions Elmer Wiley was back to present "He was challenged." My topic was "Hopwood came committed." Our OBI

choir sang, then former maintenance supervisor, Neal Pauline, paid tribute to Mr. Hopwood.
 Pastor Rackley spoke of his faithfulness as a deacon and Sunday school teacher, followed by our church choir singing. Newly ordained minister Steve May, on our staff 11 years, related how Hoppy had helped him. Principal Larry Gritton, with us 20 years, reminded us that Hoppy has gone to heaven. That was followed by "Amazing Grace" and Farm Manager Jack Tillman leading the closing prayer. All of it was very special to those present.
 Barkley Moore is president of Oneida Baptist Institute, Oneida, Ky. 40972

ONEIDA JOURNAL



Barkley Moore

Paid Column

Sheriff volunteers in prison

"I want to get involved in the community wherever my ministry takes me," David Sheriff says. When he came to Clear Creek in 1979, he held an associate of science degree in drafting and design, had completed an intensive Bell and Howell electronics course, and was owner of Sheriff's Heating and Air Conditioning Company in Walhalla, S.C.

Sheriff was assigned as an intern at East Cumberland Avenue Baptist Church, Middlesboro, in 1979 and became associate pastor following his internship. While still a student, he was called as pastor of Hardy's Creek Baptist Church in nearby Jonesville, Va. Sheriff received the Edgar Mitchell Family Award and Work Program Award in recognition of meritorious participation in the student work program. Following graduation, Sheriff became associate pastor of East Bernstadt Baptist Church near London, until 1983.

Because of his electrical training, Sheriff felt led to bivocational ministry. When Avondale Manufacturing decided to open a plant in Burnsville, N.C., Sheriff was hired to oversee the installation of a completely new electrical system in the plant. Soon afterward he was

called as pastor of South Estatoe Baptist Church near Burnsville.
 An ordained deacon, Sheriff became actively involved in the Yancey County Baptist Association, where he has served two terms as moderator. He became interested in ministry to Yancey Correctional Center, a minimum security facility near Burnsville, where he is a volunteer with Chaplain Gary C. Blunt.

The chaplain's office provides several hundred audio and video cassette tapes for inmates, 85 percent of whom are functionally illiterate, and a taping library of religious books shipped statewide in a prison bus. The center is first in the state to begin such a ministry and has become a national model. However, the state does not fund the chaplaincy program; Blunt must raise his support from churches. Each year Blunt baptizes approximately 30 inmates.
 Blunt recommends pastors like David Sheriff search for ministry opportunity. Often, Blunt says, such facilities are overlooked.

Dr. Maynard Head is vice president for development at Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, Pineville, Ky. 40977

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill D. Whittaker

Paid Column

Couple follows slain daughter's dream to China

By Lounette Templeton
& Avah Shelby
SBC Foreign Mission Board

HONG KONG (BP)—Clayton and Scottie Gilbert made a trip to China this summer to close the curtain on a tragedy they didn't author.

The Alexander City, Ala., couple retraced their daughter Mary Anna's six-week experience as a Southern Baptist teacher in China. They began in Meixian where she taught and ended in Guangzhou, where she died in a 1990 plane crash after an attempted hijacking.

The Gilberts began saving for a trip almost from the time their 23-year-old daughter left for China early in 1990. When she called to say how happy she was with her English-teaching assignment at Jia Ying University, they knew they had to visit to see firsthand what made her so happy.

As they read Mary Anna's letters, the Gilberts made mental notes of people and places they wanted to visit on the trip: Mary Anna's students and new friend Yang Ningyu; the foreign affairs officer at the university; her classroom and the college hangout she called "the verandah"; and the Meixian church she attended.

Mary Anna's violent death Oct. 2, 1990, changed all that.

As they coped with their grief, Mrs. Gilbert also had to face hip surgery. Her husband helped nurse her and carried on his part-time pastorate at Pine Grove Baptist Church near Alexander City and volunteer work at a halfway house for recovering drug addicts.

But the trip to China crept back into their lives one day. Gilbert was preparing a message for the Woman's Missionary Union meeting at the Southern Baptist Convention in 1991. As he worked, he felt God wanted them to go to China—but not as tourists.

Their health would not permit a long-term commitment but the Gilberts volunteered for a summer teaching assignment. They contacted Cooperative Services International, the Southern Baptist aid organization that arranged their daughter's assignment.

"We wanted to experience some of what Mary Anna had experienced,"

Gilbert said.

The same day they filled out their CSI application, a letter inviting the Gilberts to teach arrived from Jia Ying University. Later, a letter came from Mary Anna's friend on the university staff, Yang Ningyu.

"She told us if we would come, she would treat us as her parents," Mrs. Gilbert said.

The Gilberts arrived in Meixian June 26. Waiting at the airport were Erin Thomas, the Southern Baptist teacher who survived the crash that took Mary Anna's life. Also waiting were two professors who had known Mary Anna—and their daughter's dear friend, Yang.

The young foreign affairs officer cried, "Mother! Mother!" as she embraced Mrs. Gilbert. True to her word, Yang—and other university officials—treated the Gilberts with all the filial respect Chinese reserve for their own parents.

"They treated us royally. In four days, we had seven banquets," Gilbert said with a laugh. "They couldn't do enough for us."

University officials made sure the couple visited all the favorite tourist haunts in the area—and all the places Mary Anna had written about.

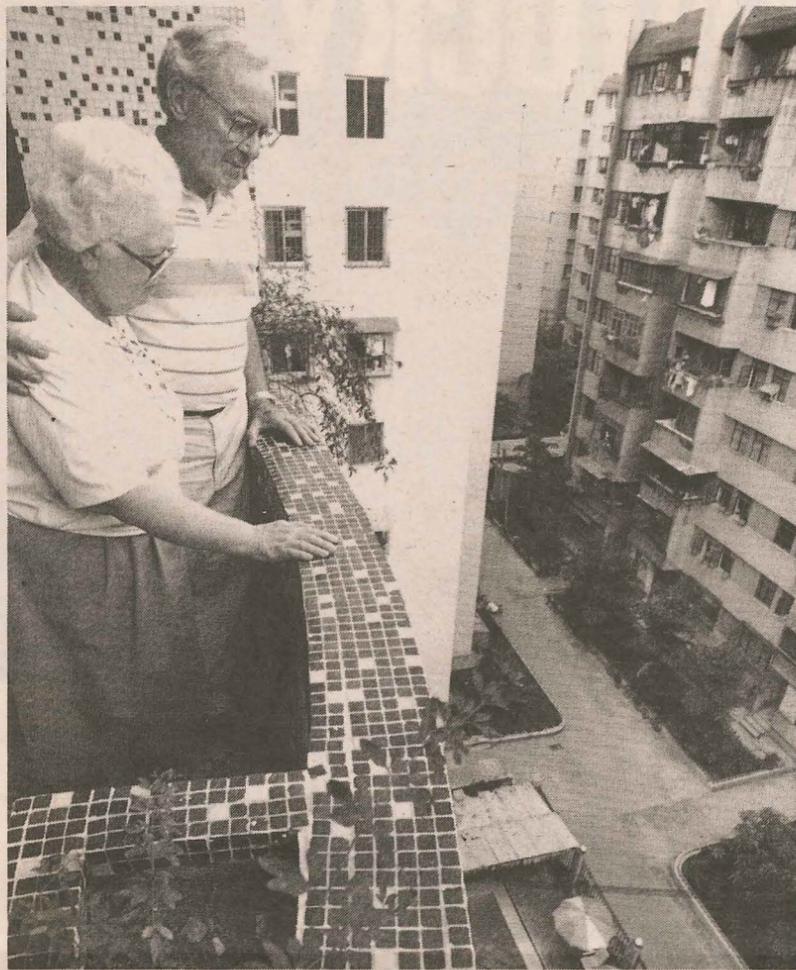
Gilbert's most meaningful experience came when he followed Mary Anna's path to a small store near the university. "In her letters, she told of sitting out on 'the verandah' sipping a Pepsi, looking at a pretty rice field while she meditated," he recalled. He bought a cold drink and sat for a while on the small porch overlooking the rice field.

He also climbed the stairs to a classroom similar to all classrooms. But his daughter had taught there.

The Gilberts visited the church Mary Anna attended and signed their names in a guest book that bore Mary Anna's name on an earlier page. They heard a soft moan pass through the congregation as the pastor introduced them as the parents of the happy young American who had lost her life in China.

"After our visit in Meixian, we understood why Mary Anna was so happy there," Gilbert said.

The Gilberts admit they can't always control their emotions. "Every



MEMORIES Clayton and Scottie Gilbert look out over the Chinese city of Guangzhou. Their 23-year-old daughter, Mary Anna, died there in a 1990 plane crash. The Gilberts went to China this summer to see the land and people their daughter, who taught in China under Southern Baptist sponsorship, loved so much. (BP photo by Warren Johnson)

so often, it's difficult to hold back the tears and not wonder why," he said. "I don't question God. Our children are God's from the beginning. At least we had her for 23 years."

Originally, the Gilberts thought they would teach at Mary Anna's old university. But Jia Ying's summer English-teaching program fell through, so CSI assigned them to teach classes at the YMCA in Guangzhou.

Teaching 18-25 hours a week for five weeks and living in one small room with no air conditioner was tough, but it didn't keep the Gilberts from enjoying their students.

"They make you love them," Gilbert said. "You can't help yourself."

The students obviously loved the Gilberts too.

"They couldn't understand why we couldn't come back next summer and they couldn't believe we'd paid our own way to come," Gilbert said before they left for home Aug. 17—exactly two years after Mary Anna had boarded a plane for China.

Gilbert told of a student slipping back into the classroom after the others had left.

"She asked me to tell her a Bible story," he said. He did more; he gave her a Bible.

1,200 Russians respond to gospel

EL SOBRANTE, Calif. (BP)—More than 1,200 professions of faith were reported during a recent two-week-long Russian mission trip organized by First Baptist Church of El Sobrante, Calif.

Among the new converts were many individuals from Islamic backgrounds, said Danny Griffin, minister of music at First Baptist. Griffin led the 13-member group during the July 17-30 trip.

"We didn't ask them to become Christians," Griffin explained. "We asked them to trust Jesus. When they heard they could do that, a lot of Islamic people got saved."

In addition to members of the El Sobrante church, the mission group included members of Russian Baptist Church of San Francisco, Trinity Baptist Church of Livermore, Calif., and several Alaskan Baptists. Ministering in children's camps, prisons, villages and at a military base, the group found crowds of Russians eager to hear the gospel, Griffin said.

More than 100 decisions were registered when the team presented the gospel for the first time to officers and others at a former communist military base. Griffin said area residents had learned of the existence of the base only last year.

Algerian Christians report increased interest in faith

By Mike Creswell
SBC Foreign Mission Board

ALGIERS, Algeria (BP)—A Christian revival of sorts has broken out in Algeria, according to Algerian Christians.

Actually the movement of people to faith in Christ may be too small now to be called a revival, but it's startling news in this Muslim-dominated nation.

Further, Algerian Christian believers say the spiritual responses are occurring in every part of the North African country—among the minority Berber people as well as the predominant Arab population. The movement is strongest among the Berbers, however.

Asked how many people may be involved, an Algerian Christian shook her head and said flatly, "We don't know." But she and others familiar with the situation are elated over the growth.

Only a loose coordination exists among the small house churches scattered about the country. But the Christian said she knows of one congregation numbering 200, an observation confirmed by multiple sources.

During the past two years, Algeria has been rocked by political victories of Muslim fundamentalists pressing for an Islamic government similar to that of Iran. The government rejected the election results and has jailed thousands in order to maintain its more moderate religious stance cou-

pled with socialist politics. Still, proselytizing among Muslims is outlawed.

Unlike Muslim fundamentalists, Algerian Christian believers have no intent to control the national government. Instead, their leaders say Christians pray for political leaders as the Bible instructs.

Economically Algeria has been very weak in recent years, with high unemployment and a housing shortage. The problems are not so evident in Algiers, the capital city, where the influence of years of colonial rule by France is still seen.

Help from outside Christian groups has been limited to technical aid. Missionary presence in Algeria has not been possible since 1970.

A single Christian bookstore oper-

ates in Algiers but is limited to selling non-Arabic literature. A single official Protestant church is usually attended by a few dozen people for French-language services, local sources said.

The key to the recent church growth appears to be a combination of spiritual hunger among Algerians coupled with bold evangelizing carried out by Christians.

One man told of speaking to a bus passenger about Christ and giving the passenger a New Testament. The person hid the volume in clothing to keep it from being seen.

"The person did not make a profession of faith but was interested. And with a Bible in hand, who knows what will happen?" the Christian believer said.

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