

OCTOBER 6, 1992 VOL. 166, NO. 39

FOR THE RECORD

Somalia is tip of iceberg, experts say

Gregory quits
Joel Gregory resigned as pastor of First Baptist Church in Dallas last week, citing conflicting leadership responsibilities with Senior Pastor W.A. Criswell. See page 2.

New hospital
Baptist Healthcare System has purchased Tri-County Community Hospital in LaGrange, bringing the number of hospitals in the Baptist system to five. See page 3.

Editorial
The causes of hunger are many, but Christians are called to respond. See page 5.

School aid
Representatives of George Bush and Bill Clinton say the presidential candidates differ on whether government should provide aid to religious schools. See page 7.

Kentucky first
Kentucky sent the most messengers of any state to this year's Southern Baptist Convention in Indianapolis, but registration data shows fewer churches are sending large numbers of messengers. See page 8.

As Kentucky Baptists focus on World Hunger Day Oct. 11, images of suffering children in Somalia will flash across many minds.

But Somalia is only the tip of the iceberg, relief workers say, and sending food or money to buy food is not the only answer.

Hunger is a pressing problem from the hollers of Appalachia to the dusty villages of Africa. And at least one Kentucky relief worker sees a correlation between the concern Americans show for international crises and the amount of support he receives for relief efforts at home.

Gregory Whitetree, director of the Freeda Harris Baptist Center in Lookout, said the amount of Southern Baptist hunger relief funds his center receives has declined since the world's attention was riveted on Ethiopia's drought in the mid-1980s.

But hunger needs in Kentucky have been increasing during this time, he said. Even in the past year, Whitetree explained, he has seen an increase in the number of families coming to his center for food assistance.

"As the coal mines in our area are shutting down, more and more people are losing their breadwinning capabilities simply because there's no work for them."

Baptist workers in other parts of the state report similar news.

At the Baptist Fellowship Center in Louisville, the number of individuals served with food has increased 50 percent in the past year, said Micki Davis Robison, center director.

Robison said it takes one full-time

staff person just to interview the people who come in for assistance. And she hopes she'll continue to have funding for that position.

"The monies coming to the center from state and national agencies aren't increasing, but the needs are increasing," she explained.

On an international scale, relief workers say, Christians need to increase their contributions for hunger but also find ways to influence governmental roadblocks to relief.

The situation in Somalia, for example, "is a man-made disaster," said Nancy Aosse, executive director of International Medical Corps. "It is unethical for the

world to stand by and let this happen."

Aosse and seven other hunger experts who recently returned from Africa gave grim reports of the conditions there at a Sept. 14 press conference at the National Press Club in Washington.

In the Republic of Somalia, 25 percent of children under 5 have died in the past 12 months, with 200 children dying daily from starvation in the country's capital city of Mogadishu.

According to the Red Cross, Somalia has a 95 percent malnutrition rate, with 1.5 million people at risk of starving to death by the end of the year.

But the hunger experts said Somalia's devastation is part of a greater disaster sweeping the continent, with nearly 60 million people at risk. Africa's worst drought of the century is compounded by civil wars in Somalia and Mozambique.

Somalia is "engulfed in anarchy" □ See *Hunger calls for ...*, page 9



WAITING FOR FOOD A group of Somali boys stand in line waiting for food at a feeding center at the Monya Hawo village near Jowhar, Somalia, about 90 kilometers north of the capital city of Mogadishu. The United Nations estimates that 2,000 children throughout Somalia are dying each day. (World Vision photo by Jacob Akol)

Poll shows opportunity for family ministry

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

Research on American attitudes about parenting shows churches have a "grand opportunity" for ministry, a family ministry expert said.

"As family structures change, many people feel isolated and cut off from family members. Churches have a grand opportunity to reach out with ministries of compassion to families who hurt," said John Lepper, director of family ministries for the Kentucky Baptist Convention and author of the new book "When Crisis Comes Home."

And as churches model healthy relationships, families will be encouraged to practice healthy relationships, he added. "In this way, the church becomes the family of faith providing guidance, affirmation and support for parents and their children."

New research by the Barna Research Group indicates some of the pressures parents feel.

A major issue identified in the study is a concern that most children today are influenced more by schools, government, the media and other

sources than by their own parents.

But Lepper said values taught at home still have a greater impact than what children learn elsewhere.

"While outside sources influence our children, parents remain the primary influence which shapes their children," he explained. "The family system shapes the way in which a child perceives the outside world."

And while forces such as the media do have an influence, they cannot be blamed solely for the problems, Lepper said. Ultimately, parents still have the greatest influence.

The Barna study also found that Americans are concerned about lack of time to raise children properly.

Nearly three-fourths of those surveyed agreed with the statement, "To raise children properly, a parent must spend a lot of time with each child every day."

But even more—83 percent—agreed that it is "more important that a parent spend quality time with a child than spend a lot of time with the child."

Lepper said the Barna data may indicate parents are too harsh on themselves.

"Parents need to take their role seriously, but parents need to accept God's grace, even for their role as parents," he said. Parents need to nurture, affirm, guide and discipline their children, he said, but added guiding doesn't mean parents can control their children.

"We as parents must rely on the grace of God. As we do so, we are not as rigid on ourselves and we are able to ease up a bit and not think we can mold our children the way we want them to be."

There is a difference, Lepper said, between accepting responsibility as a parent and being responsible for everything a child does.

The time issue is much more complex than a survey can reveal, he continued. "The complicating factor is that children of busy parents tend to be very busy. Churches further complicate this by multiplying demands and activities for family members."

Lepper said he doesn't suggest churches plan fewer programs but that they pay closer attention to the kinds of programs they plan. "Activities and programs are needed which contribute to family time and family growth."

Parable of Wink shows love of God

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

PRESTONSBURG—It was a "dog" of a sermon, but Dale Holloway used the bite of dry humor to make a serious point about God's love.

Holloway, national consultant for bivocational ministries in the Southern Baptist Convention, spoke about "My Dog Wink" during one session of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's fall evangelism conference.

Holloway told the story of finding a stray dog to illustrate the biblical parable of the lost sheep recorded in Luke 15. Jesus told the parable to explain his love for every person.

Wink, Holloway explained, was a stray dog with an odd coloring and one eye that always looked like he was winking. Just as Jesus cares for people who have strayed, Holloway cared for his newfound dog, he said.

And just as Holloway washed the dog to make him as clean as possible, Jesus washes his lost sheep of their sins, he said.

Holloway said he quickly wanted to feed Wink, and that's the way God treats those in his care. "God loves me and feeds me a lot more food than I need."

Further, Wink soon knew his master's voice and responded to it, Holloway said.

And Christians should be the same way toward Jesus, he added: "Does your voice sound like you belong to Jesus? Do people look at you and say, 'He belongs to Jesus?'"

Wink was always faithful to his master, which is more than Jesus can say for most Christians, Holloway continued. "Most dogs are more faithful to their masters than most Christians are to their Lord."

Wink didn't have many gifts, but what he could do—chase chickens—he did very well, Holloway said.

But Wink had one fatal flaw, he said. Wink liked to chase cars. One day Wink saw a '38 Chevy, chased it and caught it, Holloway related. "Wink didn't need a car. He didn't know what to do with one."

But that desire to catch something he didn't need led to catastrophe, as the '38 Chevy hit Wink and critically injured him.

That's another lesson Christians should learn from Wink, Holloway said. "What are you chasing today? Sometimes the things we chase may be fatal—fatal to our Christian witness or to our marriage."

BAPTIST BITS

■ **The Eastern Baptist Religious Education Association** will meet Oct. 19-21 at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. Kathy Lowery of Contemporary Learning Concepts will be the presenter. For information call (912) 423-1134.

■ **The Baptist hospital** in Yemen will remain open after receiving government permission to charge paying patients more, offsetting losses from giving care to patients too poor to pay. The cost of living in Yemen has soared 200 percent in the past 18 months, but Baptist officials had encountered difficulty in gaining permission for a rate increase, causing the possibility of closing the hospital.

■ **Richard Melick**, professor and chairman of the New Testament and Greek departments at Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary in Memphis, Tenn., has been elected president of Criswell College in Dallas. He succeeds Paige Patterson, who now is president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C.

■ **A hunger convocation** planned for May 1993 has been rescheduled for May 1994. The event is being coordinated by the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission and other Southern Baptist agencies.

■ **Enrollment** at the Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond has tripled this fall to a total of 90 students in the school's second year. Founded by the Alliance of Baptists, the seminary gets the largest portion of its financial support from the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

Gregory resigns, citing Criswell's lingering role

By Greg Warner
Associated Baptist Press

DALLAS (ABP)—A struggle between Joel Gregory and W.A. Criswell for leadership of First Baptist Church in Dallas prompted Gregory to resign suddenly Sept. 30 and then walk out of the Wednesday evening prayer service.

Gregory, 44, was hired in late 1990 to succeed the legendary Criswell, who has been pastor of Southern Baptists' largest congregation for more than 47 years.

Speaking to a stunned congregation, Gregory announced he was resigning "immediately and irrevocably" due to Criswell's reluctance to leave the pulpit as agreed. Gregory and Criswell have been sharing leadership responsibilities, with Gregory handling most of the administrative matters and preaching at the early Sunday service and Criswell preaching at the televised 11 a.m. service.

In an earlier "verbal agreement" Criswell agreed to step down as leader of the 29,000-member congrega-

tion after a short transition of "a very few months," Gregory said.

But that has not happened, Gregory told the congregation in a prepared statement: "Recently the senior pastor has announced in several contexts his desire to continue in that role until his 50th anniversary."

That would be two more years. "I didn't anticipate it would be 20 months. I certainly didn't anticipate it would be four years," Gregory told the Fort Worth (Texas) Star-Telegram in a later interview.

Criswell, 82, was on the podium during Gregory's announcement to the 300 church members attending the prayer service. He declined to comment immediately afterward. However, the next Sunday he said he soon will be devoting his time to his role as chancellor of Criswell College and let church leaders determine his preaching responsibilities.

Gregory, in his statement, suggested church leaders refused to intervene to resolve the dispute over Criswell's tenure. He said he met with leaders who expressed the de-

sire that Criswell be allowed to remain until his 50th anniversary and "preferred" Gregory work out the problem privately with Criswell.

"That places unilaterally on my shoulders the burden of solving what the congregation and its leadership might have solved," Gregory said in his statement. "For me to force the issue and make demands for myself neither honors God nor conforms to my personality."

The church's "primary agenda" is "the prolonging of the incumbent's ministry instead of the enabling of the new pastor's," he said. "Any conceivable future circumstance presents the specter of a divided congregation, a distracted pastor and a diminishing return," he added.

However, the next day about 25 church leaders voted to refuse to accept Gregory's resignation. Gregory played down the prospect of returning to the church by telling news media he didn't see how it could work out, humanly speaking, but was open to God's direction that might reveal something beyond what has

been seen.

In his resignation statement, Gregory said he decided to resign rather than spark a battle within the church over Criswell's tenure.

Most observers close to the situation interpret Gregory's resignation as final and not part of a power play to get Criswell out.

Gregory said he has no immediate plans. "I plan to rest and read," he told the Fort Worth newspaper. "That congregation is a huge burden, a day-and-night responsibility. I'll rest and see what opens up."

Gregory's departure immediately spawned speculation he may become a candidate for the presidency of the denomination's Foreign Mission Board. Gregory, an FMB trustee, serves as chairman of the presidential search committee.

Other observers predict he will wait for one of Southern Baptists' other major pulpits to become available, perhaps if and when the new FMB president is chosen from among the denomination's leading pulpits.

Lowrie: Evangelism & missions go together

NASHVILLE—Baptists should not be forced to make a choice between missions and evangelism, D.L. Lowrie said in his parting words to the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Lowrie, who is leaving his post as executive director of the convention to return to a Texas pastorate, shared some "concerns and counsel" in his last presentation to the convention's Executive Board Sept. 4.

"I am concerned that in our denomination at this time some want us to make a choice between missions and evangelism/church growth," Lowrie said.

He illustrated by telling about a

church in another state with a strong overall missions program. The church called a strong young pastor with church growth and evangelism at the top of his agenda, Lowrie explained.

However, because missions was not a high priority with the young pastor, he soon became suspicious of what the church's missions organizations were doing, Lowrie said. Eventually, the church was forced to choose between evangelism/church growth and missions.

"A church never should have to make such a decision," Lowrie declared. "Neither is an option. You cannot have a great missions church with-

out giving of yourself."

He then warned that some people want to force Southern Baptists to make a similar choice on a larger scale.

"I caution you not to do that," he said. "Our convention has always been strong in missions and evangelism. They go together; they are not enemies. You can't do New Testament evangelism without missions; you can't do missions without evangelism."

Information from the article was taken from the *Tennessee Baptist & Reflector*

Baptists sought for Kazakh-American Festival

ALMA-ATA, Kazakhstan (BP)—Planners of the Kazakh-American Festival are poised for a third volley of cultural exchanges and hope to send hundreds of Southern Baptists to the former Soviet republic next year.

The festival is part of a partnership project between Pennsylvania-South Jersey Baptists and Kazakhstan, but organizers are encouraging volunteers from across the United States to participate. The festival allows Americans of various faiths to make contact with Muslim people in Kazakhstan who have been isolated

from the West for centuries.

Kazakhstan, one of the 15 former Soviet republics, is about the size of Alaska. It is a central point where East meets West, where Russia meets the Muslim south, and where Central Asia and Europe mix.

The first Kazakh-American festival, in 1991, took more than 300 Americans from a wide variety of professional and creative fields to gatherings throughout Kazakhstan that attracted 100,000 Kazakhs.

Earlier this year more than 300 Kazakhs returned the favor and visited the United States.

In 1993 it will be America's turn to travel again. Planners seek teams of volunteers to sign on for two-week stints in Kazakhstan between May 15 and June 26. They expect to send teams into nearly 30 Kazakh cities.

Festival organizers need people with backgrounds in business, education, health, the arts, science, industry, governmental law and social work. They welcome individuals, but would prefer Southern Baptists to organize teams through their local churches and then contact Bill Peacock at (800) 999-3113, or writing Box 6767, Richmond, Va. 23230.

1,100 decisions made at Centrifuge, Crosspoint

NASHVILLE (BP)—More than 1,100 children and youth professed faith in Jesus Christ and more than \$190,000 in missions offerings were collected at Centrifuge and Crosspoint camps last summer, according to reports from the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

According to spokesman Joe Palmer, 923 youths in grades seven through 12 made professions of faith

at Centrifuge camps at 29 locations.

Mission offerings collected at Centrifuge camps totaled almost \$178,000, Palmer said, adding the money will help pay for evangelistic booklets and tracts used at the Summer Olympics in Barcelona, the translation of vacation Bible school materials into Spanish and the New Testament into Arabic and a Christian radio broadcast in Afghanistan.

Crosspoint coordinator Deane Hartzell said 206 children in grades four through eight professed faith in Christ at camps last summer.

Missions offerings totaled \$13,074, Hartzell said. Part of the money will be used to pay for last summer's Crosspoint camp for underprivileged children in New York and part will be used by West End Baptist Chapel, also in New York.

Holly meets with HMB staff

ATLANTA (BP)—The man who prompted the Southern Baptist Convention's latest struggle with Freemasonry met Sept. 17 with the Home Mission Board group assigned to determine whether Masonic teachings are compatible with Christian doctrine.

Larry Holly, a Beaumont, Texas, physician, met for more than three hours with six members of the HMB interfaith witness department. HMB President Larry Lewis, Vice President for Evangelism Darrell Robinson and trustee Brad Allen of Duncan, Okla., who chairs the trustees' evangelism committee, also joined the group.

The HMB interfaith witness department was directed to compare Freemasonry with Christian doctrine by messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention's annual meeting in Indianapolis. The final report is expected to be brought to HMB trustees before next year's convention June 15-17 in Houston.

During the Sept. 17 meeting, Holly reviewed a 628-page notebook he prepared for the group.

Holly has asked to meet with the research group again before the final report is prepared and to see the report before it is presented to the convention in Houston.

Those who support Freemasonry have been invited to discuss their teachings and writings with the interfaith witness department, Lewis said.

Crouch inaugurated as Georgetown president

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

GEORGETOWN—William Crouch Jr. was inaugurated as the 23rd president of Georgetown College Oct. 2 in a two-hour ceremony on campus.

Crouch, who assumed the presidency last year, was praised by representatives of the student body, alumni association, community, faculty and Kentucky Baptist Convention.

"All of our expectations are being accomplished. Fasten your seatbelts, we're in for an exciting ride," said James Barnett, trustee chairman.

"For the first time in Georgetown College history, you have reached out to students," noted Amy Warren, a senior from London. She praised Crouch for taking an interest in students by calling incoming freshmen to welcome them personally and by seeking the counsel of students on the school's future.

Alumni, too, are pleased with Crouch, said Robert Mills Jr., president of the alumni association: "The alumni are excited about the spark and

energy you have brought to Georgetown College."

Fujio Cho, president and CEO of Toyota Manufacturing U.S.A. Inc., described the inauguration as "a great day for this college and this town." Crouch, he said, is "a leader who has set no boundaries for what can be accomplished through Georgetown College."

Glenn Mollette, pastor of First Baptist Church in Pikeville and president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, assured Crouch Kentucky Baptists are ready to help him. "My prayer for you is that God would bless you with an extra portion of wisdom to face the days ahead," he said.

John Durham, pastor of Greenville Baptist Church in Greenville, Conn., delivered the charge to the college community. He challenged that group to give the president room to dream, study, do his work, be himself and play.

Craven Williams, chairman of the board and president of Capitol Dominion Corp. in Raleigh, N.C., challenged Crouch to maintain academic freedom, institutional autonomy and

institutional quality.

The measure of success for a college is no longer found in enrollment statistics, Williams said. The new standard is assessing how good students were and when they came to the school and what they are able to accomplish after they leave, he said.

Crouch said Georgetown College stands at a moment in history with unique opportunities.

Even though colleges across the nation are facing difficult times, Georgetown is "perfectly positioned not only to survive but to thrive," he insisted.

Crouch used his inauguration speech to announce several new programs and scholarships, including a lecture series named in honor of his sister, Deborah, who he said faced overwhelming medical problems with determination.

Fighting back tears, Crouch said she "did not lie down and die but fought against incredible odds. ... She believed that one person could change the world."

The lecture series will bring to campus speakers who, like Deborah,



have learned to survive against the odds, he explained.

Crouch also said he wants Georgetown College to provide more support for Christian ministry training. He said he dreams of creating a center for Christian ministry and wants to emphasize the training of Christian lay leadership.

NEW PRESIDENT William Crouch Jr. stood beside his wife, Jan, last week as he was inaugurated president of Georgetown College. Trustee Chairman James Barnett (right) of Danville led the new president as he was inaugurated. (WR photo)

Despite doubters, mission gets permanent building

NADA—When Doris and Don Henry first started with the Nada Baptist Mission four years ago, they were told no one wanted them there and that the mission's trailer would be burned down in two weeks.

But it wasn't, and the work that started with a backyard Bible club on a blanket became a permanent mission—and a strong presence in the community.

The mission in Eastern Kentucky now has a new building with five Sunday school rooms, a sanctuary, two restrooms and a kitchen.

The permanent building is a long-awaited answer to prayer for the Henrys and the community.

Ross Figart, longtime mountain missions director, received a request for Southern Baptist work in the Nada community 15 years ago. He prayed about that request and sought a way to accomplish it for several years.

The Henrys were part of a backyard Bible club team sent to the area by First Baptist Church of Winchester in 1988.

"We came here the second week

in August, and the last Sunday in August we decided to stay," Mrs. Henry explained.

The couple knew the history of slow progress in the community and had experienced it firsthand previously. "We would come up here at Christmas with baskets and then get out as quickly as possible," Henry recalled.

Since its beginning, the Nada mission has relied on contributions from churches, individuals and the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Several ministries have been started as a result, including a GED study program, food and clothing distribution, Sunday school and vacation Bible school.

And though the mission is small with only nine members, it is an important work, according to Bob Jones, director of the KBC's direct missions department. "The fact that there is a permanent, ongoing work in Nada means we Kentucky Baptists care. Folks are ready and willing to lend a hand to reach unreached people."

In addition to support from First Baptist Church in Winchester, more

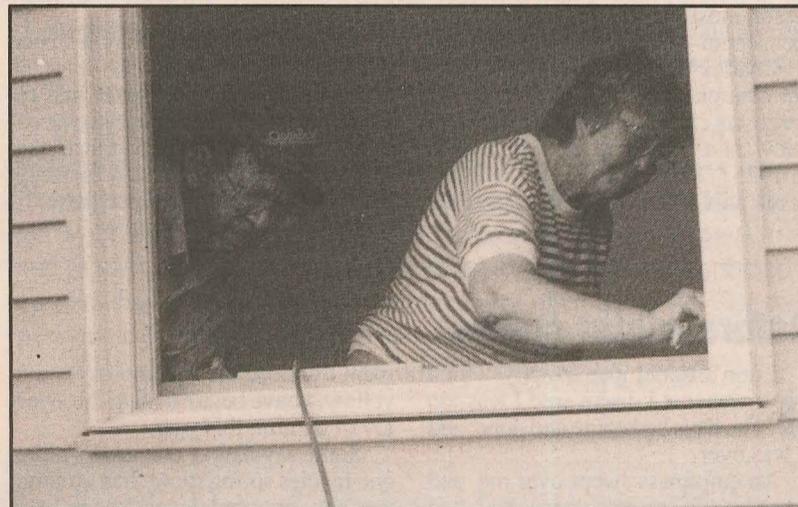
than a dozen churches have helped with the construction of the mission's new building. Some supporters are from other states, including one woman from Florida who discovered the mission while visiting the Red River Gorge and now sends a check every month.

The mission also has received

funding through the Eliza Broadus State Missions Offering.

Prior to construction of the permanent building, the congregation met in a donated trailer divided into four sections separated by curtains.

Reported by State Correspondent
Mary Royals Driskill



"We came here the second week in August, and the last Sunday in August we decided to stay."

Doris Henry, shown at left with her husband, Don, working on the new building for the Nada Baptist Mission

Baptist Healthcare System buys La Grange hospital

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

LA GRANGE—Baptist Healthcare System acquired its fifth hospital last week and pledged to make an immediate difference there by instituting a chaplaincy program.

Tri-County Community Hospital in La Grange was purchased from Columbia Hospital Corp. for an undisclosed amount Oct. 1.

The 120-bed acute care facility will become a non-profit hospital operating as part of the Baptist sys-

tem. Baptist Healthcare System also operates hospitals in Louisville, Lexington, Corbin and Paducah.

"The acquisition of this hospital is consistent with our long-range plan," said Edgar Vaughn, president and CEO of Baptist Healthcare System. That plan, he said, calls for creating networks of regional health-care systems across the state.

Vaughn said there are no immediate plans to add other hospitals, but future additions are possible.

Baptist Healthcare System's presence in La Grange will "add val-

ue" to the community, he said.

The hospital's 444 employees will remain, as will Administrator Paul Jennings. But the first addition will be a full-time chaplain, Vaughn explained.

"This hospital has never had a chaplaincy program before. We will institute one immediately for patients and their families and for employees and their families."

Chaplaincy is one way the hospital will "help promulgate the faith we stand for," Vaughn said.

Also, the hospital in the future

will attempt to attract employees who have "the same kind of values commitment we have," he added. "We are committed to provide Christ-centered healthcare."

The transition to a non-profit enterprise should have little impact on the business side of the hospital, Vaughn said. "There will be some difference attitudinally. What drives us is different than what drives for-profit hospitals."

The hospital's name will be changed in the future to include the word "Baptist," he said.

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MARV KNOX
Editor

MARK WINGFIELD
News Director

RAY L. HAYES
Business Manager

C. R. DALEY
Editor Emeritus

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

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Christians should feel satisfied in life

If I accurately read the lives of most people today, I sense that they are very unsatisfied.

Quite frequently, people voice their dissatisfaction with life in general and often mention special parts of it that contribute to their dissatisfaction. I believe that Christians can deal with the problems of their lives so that they can know true satisfaction.

Let me list just a few of the reasons why Christian people should feel some sense of fulfillment and satisfaction in life:

First, Christians are most satisfied when no one rules over them except God.

Our dissatisfaction often stems from our misguided priorities as we attempt to satisfy our own demands or the demands of others around us. The life surrendered to God will give supreme attention to the rules of God and not become frustrated by all the

demands of life on them. This leads to satisfaction.

Second, Christian people should be satisfied when other people look at them and see the work of God in their lives.

If I understand the teachings of the New Testament, they lead us to believe that Christ lives inside Christians and Christians should reflect the goodness and righteousness of God as they let God live through them. This certainly would lead to satisfaction.

Third, Christian people should be satisfied when they are not overcome or destroyed by their enemies.

Our enemies are those thoughts, ideas, practices and habits that take us away from God and lead us through the paths of indifference and disobedience. These enemies rob Christians of true satisfaction.

Fourth, Christian people should feel satisfied in knowing that God

keeps his promises to his people.

God keeps his promises. He keeps his word in a world that seems to crumble or fade under the pressures of modern life, but remains the same day after day. Knowing we have this unchanging Father brings to Christians a grateful satisfaction beyond measure.

Finally, Christians' true satisfaction grows out of their knowledge that God will meet their real needs.

Nowhere in the Bible does God promise to meet all of our desires or wants, but he does promise to provide for our needs. The apostles were told, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and all these things will be added unto you."

With such a promise, who could be dissatisfied?

*Willis Henson, pastor
Lone Oak First Baptist Church
Paducah*

AIDS & church

An article detailing the refusal of three Texas Baptist churches to minister to the 3-year-old child of Scott Allen (WR, Sept. 15) describes a little boy turned away from Sunday school because he had AIDS.

A poster of Jesus surrounded by small children is a feature in many Baptist Sunday school rooms for children. Jesus said, "Let the children

come unto me, and do not hinder them" (Matthew 19:14). That is the lesson most 3-year-olds learn in Sunday school—unless they have AIDS.

Charles Wade, pastor of First Baptist Church of Arlington, Texas, excused his church, saying, "We didn't know as much about the AIDS virus in 1985." True enough, but we knew Jesus said, "Whoever receives one

such child in my name receives me" (Matthew 18:5).

Jan Hill, minister of childhood education at Broadway Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas, said, "We could not get the same story twice from physicians." Apparently the only physician not consulted was the Great Physician—Jesus.

Joel Gregory, then pastor of Travis Avenue Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas, "offered to do anything Travis Avenue would do." But did he offer to do anything Jesus would do?

Have any of these churches been censured? If not, why?

Having experienced pain and rejection from Southern Baptist churches, Allen says: "It is unfortunate that society is moving so slowly to accept us. Ours is not an isolated case." I

hope he is including gay male AIDS patients and those who love them.

*Carolyn C. Mitchell
Hardinsburg*

Good job

Brother Bill Jagers, director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's office for evangelism, is to be commended for the excellent program he put together for the Fall Evangelism Conference Sept. 25-26 at First Baptist Church of Prestonsburg.

From the opening prayer to the final benediction, the Holy Spirit was in complete control. I only regret that more people did not take advantage of such a fine conference.

God bless you, Brother Bill. Keep up the good work.

*Roy Faulkner, director of missions
Laurel River Baptist Association
London*

BAPTIST FORUM

Before winter comes

I don't remember exactly which day it was that I discovered I was too late. The days had come and gone, and it was over.

An emptiness swept over me, and I became angry with myself. I had missed most of it and it was my own fault.

It was no small thing to me last year when I discovered that autumn had virtually passed me by. My favorite time of the year and I had let it slip through my fingers with hardly a trace.

Glimpses, fleeting glances on the way to and from work; a long car journey eastward or westward are no substitute for a walk in the woods or along some meandering path beside a stream; or even a walk on a public golf course before the golfers get there, or after the last players of the day have gone.

I made a note to myself on my calendar for this year. And from the mo-

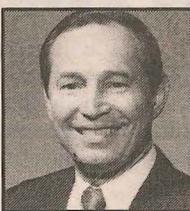
ment I noticed the sycamores turning yellow, I have begun tasting the sweet joy of autumn this year.

Some say that as one grows older, one fancies spring more than autumn; that autumn symbolizes "dying" and announces winter. Since I have some affection for winter also, that presents me no problem.

Granted, for some of us, it is a melancholy time of year. For me it is a "holy" time of year; the time of year when I stand in awe in the midst of a mural being painted by the Master Artist; leaves falling—yellow, red and gold—like drops of glory spilling from the brush in his hand; the sun casting light that no man can produce artificially. Breath-taking!

Lest one be tempted to suggest: "he is off in a field of dreams; a moment of ecstasy," I admit that somewhere within me is the capacity for awe; for ecstatic moments in the midst

ON MISSION TOGETHER



William W. Marshall

FAMILY FORUM: CHILDREN

Separate 6th?

By Jewell Nelson

Q. I teach sixth graders. My church wants to move the sixth graders into the youth department. Is this good or bad?

A. Churches will help sixth graders most by recognizing the importance of meeting the needs of these "in-betweeners." Sixth graders are too old to be called children, and too young to be called youth. Call them special!

Before moving them into a youth department, think on these things:

■ Why rush sixth graders into a youth department? Pushing children results in burnout, boredom, dropout and strike out.

■ Many sixth graders have the physical appearance of youth, but emotionally they are not ready for a youth department.

■ Adding them to a youth department may cause sixth graders to drop out, as well as youth.

■ Sixth graders, no matter where they are placed, should be learning from content on sixth-grade level. Pushing sixth graders into youth curriculum skips a section of their age-level Bible content.

■ Teachers in sixth-grade departments can make sixth grade super. Sixth-grade special events, recognitions and attention help make the transition from children to youth departments easier.

■ The summer between sixth grade and the youth department is a time to gradually introduce them to the youth activities.

Each sixth grader needs a big brother or big sister from the youth department during the summer. Churches who bridge the summer for sixth graders have less dropouts after sixth grade. By promotion time in the autumn, the sixth grader will feel more secure about the advancement.

■ Work with parents and church leadership in helping them understand the importance of making the sixth grade a special ministry.

■ For more information on ministry to sixth graders, contact the Sunday school department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

So, to answer your question, is it good or bad? Bad.

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

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

World hunger challenges Christians to respond

What a year: We've seen squalid refugee camps, storm-ravaged wastelands and bombed-out cities. And from Somalia, South Florida and the republics of what once was Yugoslavia we've seen starving people—or desperately hungry people, at the very least.

Their causes ought to freeze in our minds and move our hearts this Sunday, Oct. 11, as Baptists observe World Hunger Day.

The causes of hunger, of course, are many.

Somali warlords have capitalized upon the region's drought, and they use food as a weapon. Ironically, the chieftains and their lackeys—the people who hate each other and try to eliminate each other—have food. Women and children have been the primary victims. You've seen them. Mothers with no milk to nurse their babies. Malnourished youngsters, so emaciated they look like skeletons with eyes. Civil war has robbed them of bread, and life. Reports indicate between 2,000 and 5,000 people die every day in Somalia; about 25 percent of the children under age 5 have died within the past year. Bread for the World reports nearly 60 million Africans are in danger of starvation right now.

Nature has created hunger many places. We know about the loss of home and infrastructure in Florida, Louisiana and Hawaii. We've seen folks queuing up to the mobile field kitchens to get a hot meal. Kentucky Baptists have journeyed to South Florida to help with the relief effort, and Southern Baptists from numerous states have gone out to help the hungry and homeless in those devastated areas of the country.

Unfortunately, natural disasters in other parts of the world have not been so well observed. Floods in Pakistan have done more damage to that nation than Hurricane Andrew did to our own. An offshore earthquake created a tidal wave that killed many Nicaraguans and left multitudes homeless. These are but examples. Carnage is global.

We've also seen man-made carnage in eastern Europe, particularly in Bosnia-Herzegovina, creating refugee crises in Croatia, Slovenia and Serbia, as well as some neighboring nations. War has disrupted all facets of commerce. Little food can get to the markets, even if the people feel safe enough to go shop for it. So, people suffer, and some die, in the ruins of towns that just months ago were middle-class working communities, very well off by the world's standards.

All of these stories are spectacular. They have grabbed the headlines and taken up precious time on the nightly news. But hunger is not isolated in far-off places. Just ask Kentucky Baptists who minister in mountain hollers, inner cities and rural areas ravaged by economic recession. Hunger stalks people right inside our own commonwealth.

The breadth and scope of hunger this year is overwhelming. Trying to think about alleviating it is like thinking about filling Lake Barkley with an eyedropper. You can hardly conceive it. And that's part of the problem. People who feel powerless to make a difference have a hard time summoning the gumption to try.

But we must try. We must try on several fronts:

■ First, we must pray. Baptists get called to pray for so many things that we almost get bored with the idea, but that's no excuse for not praying. We must lift those who are suffering to the God who protects, nurtures and heals.

In our prayers, we also ought to ask God to give us a divine vision of our world, so that we may see these situations, and our own lives and lifestyles, as God sees them. That new vision may provide the most effective answer to our prayers, as we then move forward to respond to our new view of all God's world.

■ Second, we must give. Despite our nation's economy and even despite the relative disparity of incomes in Kentucky, we are wealthy. We can give of our abundance so that others may live.

Last year, Kentucky Baptists gave an average of 55 cents per member to alleviate world hunger—about the price of a small soft drink. Last week, a leading fast-food chain was selling a combination meal of a cheeseburger, french fries and drink for \$3.25. If each of us would “sacrifice” the amount of one fast-food meal this year, we could increase our hunger gifts almost sixfold. At that rate, we would give \$2,522,898 to supply food to hungry people, up from \$426,952 in 1991. This modest goal is attainable; it should be a bare minimum.

You can send your hunger-relief gift to the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Box 6767, Richmond, Va. 23230; the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, 1350 Spring St., NW, Atlanta, Ga. 30367; or the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Box 43433, Louisville, Ky. 40253-0433. The FMB uses its resources to alleviate hunger overseas, and the HMB works stateside. Undesignated hunger-relief gifts received by the KBC are divided, with 85 percent going to the FMB and 15 percent going to the HMB.

■ Third, we must go. Volunteers are needed all along the food chain. Opportunities for food distribution are available through the Foreign Mission Board on a variety of assignments, and similar opportunities await volunteers who want to work in the United States. Kentucky's Baptist Men program can use more volunteers to go to South Florida and help feed the hurricane victims. But you don't need to go that far. Volunteers are needed at Baptist ministry centers across Kentucky, and you can pitch in. A list of those centers is printed on page 9 of this issue of the Western Recorder.

■ Fourth, we must learn and respond. Some problems are too big to tackle individually and even as a denomination. That's why we need to keep up to date concerning global and regional situations that affect hunger worldwide. As Christian citizens, we can urge our government to act and to use its influence for good, working toward peaceful resolution to conflict that is starving millions of citizens of other countries. Our compassionate exhortation for good can press powerful forces into action to achieve positive change that will bring food to hungry people.

Marv Knox

The causes of hunger are many. Yet all of them challenge us to respond. For if we ask ourselves, “What would Jesus do?”, we know he would feed people who are hungry.

'New' math may be old, but this 'primary' thing is something else

Our parents had it easy.

When my generation was in school, they tried to help us with “new math.” We never knew what “old math” was, because “new math” was the king-of-the-hill math back then.

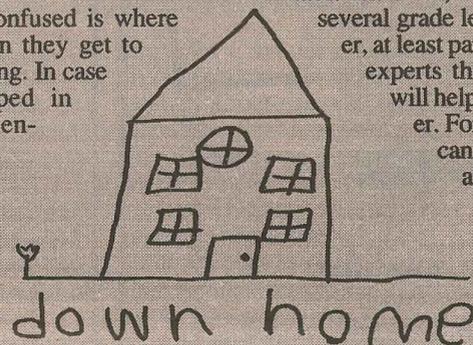
But our parents struggled valiantly to help us young 'uns do homework.

It was, of course, their patriotic duty. We were in a Cold War with the Soviets, and a space race, too. If Diane or Donnie failed math, the Commies might build a space station before the US of A, and then they'd paint the world red, and we'd be in bondage.

I've been looking at Lindsay's third-grade homework, and math is the smallest part of my confusion. She hasn't had to memorize multiplication tables the way we

did, but 7 times 7 still equals 49. Maybe “new” math has grown old, but it still works.

What has me confused is where these kids go when they get to school in the morning. In case you've just dropped in from Neptune, Kentucky has launched education reform. More specifically, kids in the lower grades now attend un-graded “primary” programs. It all sounds kind of like a high-tech version of the old one-room schoolhouse, which Kentucky worked hard to get rid of years



ago. From the vantage point of the kitchen table and PTA, it appears that kids from several grade levels are mixed together, at least part of the day. Education experts think “peer interaction” will help our children get smarter. For instance, a first grader can learn some things from a third grader that a teacher with 12 years experience and seven years of college can't teach.

Maybe yes; maybe no. One thing is certain: I can't keep up with the answer to my simple dinnertime question, “What did you do at school to-

day?” From the answers I get, it sounds as if our elementary schools need to hire air-traffic controllers to be hall monitors.

We know, in our brain of brains, that the goal is to teach our children to be as smart as the Japanese. If they're going to compete with the Takahiros and Kashimotos of tomorrow, they've got to get it right today. Forget space; we're talking export-import ratios.

And I think we'll win. Not because homework has tripled in volume. Nor because second graders are explaining the Gross National Product to kindergartners. But because kids smart enough to figure out where to go and what to do next have developed the analytical skills necessary to take on the world.

Marv Knox

EVANGELISM

Lifestyle evangelism needs verbal witness, Crutcher says

"It's a real misnomer and something people can hide behind to say, 'I'm just going to live it.' As soon as you say that, Satan's going to trip you up."
Mary Lou Crutcher

PRESTONSBURG—Lifestyle evangelism and a verbal witness are two sides of the same coin, according to Mary Lou Crutcher.

Crutcher, consultant in the Kentucky Baptist Convention's evangelism office, led a small-group session on lifestyle evangelism during the KBC fall evangelism conference at First Baptist Church in Prestonsburg.

"Lifestyle witness without a verbal witness lets you take credit for a good life," she said. "It's a real misnomer and something people can hide behind to say, 'I'm just going to live it.'"

"As soon as you say that, Satan's going to trip you up."

On the other hand, Christians who

offer a verbal witness must balance that with a lifestyle witness, Crutcher said. "Verbal witness without lifestyle witness has no credibility."

Properly understood, she said, lifestyle evangelism means "verbalizing one's personal faith in Jesus Christ to a non-Christian through the normal course of daily living in the power of the Holy Spirit."

Understanding this task is an urgent need because more than 170 million Americans need to respond to the gospel, Crutcher said.

While it is true that some Christians have the gift of evangelism, Jesus taught that all Christians should be witnesses about him, she said.

Biblical evangelism must be clear & plain, pastor explains

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

PRESTONSBURG—Baptists need to ask some hard questions to make sure the evangelism they do is biblical, according to Philip Kazee.

Kazee, pastor of First Baptist Church in Oneida, Tenn., spoke during the Kentucky Baptist Convention's fall evangelism conference at First Baptist Church in Prestonsburg.

The old hymn "Christ Receiveth Sinful Men" carries good advice for evangelism, he said: "Make the message clear and plain."

"We need to be sure our manner of evangelism is wholly biblical and able to be used by God," he explained.

"Are we making the message clear and plain?"

To illustrate, he told about visiting a non-Christian in the hospital. During their conversation, they were interrupted by a well-meaning Christian who told the man, "Just confess your sins to God and you'll be saved."

After the advice-giver left, the man Kazee was visiting asked, "Is that true?"

The pastor said he then found himself in a difficult position because he wanted to be honest without endangering the man's movement toward God.

So he told the man the truth: No, it isn't that simple.

The truth of the gospel, Kazee ex-

plained, is that God already has forgiven sin through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Sinners are called to repent of that sin and turn toward God.

"The atonement of our Lord Jesus—does it provide a way for salvation or does it save?" Kazee asked. "It is not for the sinner to ask Jesus to forgive him of his sins. Jesus has already died for his sins."

The issue is not a "sin question but a son question," he said.

That question—such as, "Would you say you know Jesus personally or that you're in the process of knowing about him?"—can indicate whether a person needs to hear the gospel and is open to hear it.

And for breaking the ice with a close friend who needs to hear about God's love, Crutcher suggested something like this: "I need to apologize to you because the things that are most important to me I've not shared with you before."

In almost any circumstance, a personal testimony is an appropriate evangelism tool, she added. "People really want to know what Jesus is doing in your life right now."

"The sin question was settled on Calvary. 'What are you going to do with the Son?' is the question."
Philip Kazee

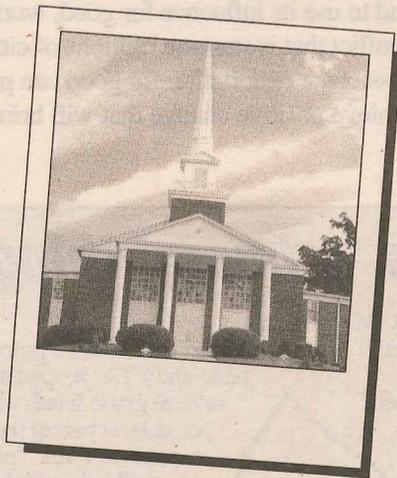
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Boston Church of Christ not what you think

ATLANTA (BP)—The newest Church of Christ congregation in some American cities may not be part of the mainline denomination with the same name, warns a Southern Baptist interfaith specialist.

The Boston Church of Christ is a "splinter of a splinter" of the traditional Church of Christ, said Tal Davis, associate director of the Home Mission Board's interfaith witness department.

The sect began in Boston in 1979 as an offshoot of the Crossroads Church of Christ movement, Davis said. The group is known as the Boston Church of Christ because of its beginning, but new congregations use the name of the city where they are located.

That has caused public confusion between traditional Churches of Christ and the Boston group. Churches of Christ in St. Louis purchased a full-page newspaper advertisement to identify themselves as different from the splinter group.

"We refer to the Boston Church of Christ as an authoritarian sect because of the way it controls people," Davis explained. "They have a strong structure based on a shepherding model where members must submit to their Bible study leader."

"They regulate peoples' lives to an extreme," Davis said. "Members are not even allowed to make mundane decisions for themselves."

The strategy is evidently appealing to many people, however. In 13 years, the group has grown from one community of 30 members to 103 congregations worldwide. Their total Sunday attendance reaches 50,000, according to Time magazine.

One reason for the growth is the demand for a high degree of commitment from members, Davis said.

The group has a strong emphasis on evangelism and discipleship, but the evangelistic thrust may come from proselytizing people from other denominations, Davis said. The group rejects all other churches, including mainline Churches of Christ, and categorizes them as inferior and unscriptural.

Consequently, leaving the Boston Church of Christ is stressful. Davis has counseled several people involved in the churches and found "they are made to feel like they are not just leaving this group, but in essence that they're leaving God," he said.

Religious talk doesn't get bill passed

WASHINGTON (ABP)—Congress has failed to enact the most important religious liberty legislation of this generation despite politicians' touting of religious values on the campaign trail, two church-state experts said.

The Religious Freedom Restoration Act, supported by a diverse coalition of religious liberty and civil liberties organizations, appeared to be dead for this session as Congress raced toward an Oct. 6 adjournment.

"I am puzzled because both political parties and their presidential candidates are falling all over themselves to appear religious, and yet neither party appears to see the importance of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act," said Oliver Thomas, chairman of the Coalition for the Free Exercise of Religion and one of the drafters of the proposed legislation.

"So it's been a bit ironic that, while parties and candidates have been scurrying around looking for the right religious issue, the most important bill affecting religion, certainly in our lifetime, has been languishing in the Congress," said Thomas, who is general counsel for the Baptist Joint Committee.

His sentiments were echoed by Forest Montgomery, attorney for the National Association of Evangelicals.

"I'm really concerned about the lack of passion for religious liberty in the U.S. Congress," Montgomery

said. "There has been not that much interest in this bill."

And the Bush administration didn't help, he said: "The White House cares so much for religious freedom it hasn't raised a finger."

The bill never made it to the floor of either chamber for a vote.

RFRA would restore the strict "compelling interest" test the U.S. Supreme Court formerly required government to meet before restricting religious liberty. That test permitted government to restrict religious practice only to further a compelling governmental interest, such as health or safety, and if the least restrictive means of safeguarding that interest had been used.

The compelling-interest standard, articulated in 1963, virtually was abandoned in the court's 1990 *Oregon vs. Smith* decision. The *Smith* decision said that government needs only a rational basis to justify burdens on religious practice unless the restriction singles out religion.

In testimony before a Senate committee Sept. 18, Thomas pled with senators not to let RFRA fail because of abortion politics.

He said that critics "will tell you that religiously based abortion claims have been made in the past and will be made under this bill, and for that reason, you should vote against it. Mr. Chairman, they will not be able to cite one case, not one, where such

a claim has stood up on appeal."

The support for the bill is extraordinary, Thomas said, noting the diversity of the 54 religious and civil liberties organizations that form the coalition. Among coalition members are the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, American Civil Liberties Union, People for the American Way, Concerned Women for America and Home School Legal Defense Association.

However, two major organizations oppose the bill. The U.S. Catholic Conference and the National Right to Life Committee oppose any legislative response to *Smith* that does not have an amendment specifically excluding potential abortion claims.

"While we have been haggling over a hypothetical abortion question, more than 50 cases have been decided against religious claims," Thomas noted. He gave some examples: churches have been zoned out of commercial areas; Jews have been subjected to autopsies against their families' religious beliefs; and a Catholic shelter for the homeless was closed because it could not afford an elevator.

Both Montgomery and Thomas said they believe RFRA has a good chance of passage in the next session.

"We really didn't lose the Religious Freedom Restoration Act this year," Thomas said. "We just ran out of time."

Clinton & Bush differ on school aid

WASHINGTON (BP)—Government aid to religious schools is one area Bill Clinton and George Bush strongly disagree, spokesmen for both the presidential candidates said during a conference sponsored by Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

Clinton and the Democratic Party oppose aid to religious schools, while George Bush and the Republican Party favor educational vouchers parents can use in such schools.

The Clinton campaign was represented by Robert Drinan, a Catholic priest and law professor at Georgetown University, while Bush was represented by Herb Ellingwood, national co-chairman of the Bush/Quayle evangelical coalition.

Clinton and his running mate, Al Gore, oppose aid to church-related elementary and secondary schools, favor the Supreme Court's decisions

on prayer in schools and support the free exercise of religion, Drinan said.

Bush and his running mate, Dan Quayle, support vouchers for low- and middle-income families to use in religious and other private schools and endorse a voluntary prayer amendment, Ellingwood said. He did not address free exercise of religion.

Bush has not taken a public position on the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, a bill designed to restore to its previous standard the free exercise of religion restricted by the Supreme Court in its 1990 *Employment Division vs. Smith* opinion. Clinton recently endorsed a legislative remedy to the *Smith* decision.

Bush "believes that there should be choice in education, so that there's competition," Ellingwood said. "George Bush believes that monies given to parents rather than to the schools, wherever the parents choose,

is certainly not a violation of the separation of church and state."

Drinan seemed to surprise the Americans United audience when he expressed sympathy for parents who pay for a religious education for their children and suggested there could be government assistance for secular aspects of church-related schools.

But he rejected the concept of vouchers, saying they create a problem of religious freedom.

The bulk of questions from the audience were directed to Ellingwood and concerned school choice and prayer in the schools.

The focus of voluntary prayer is "God is to be honored," Ellingwood said. "The (Bush) position is that there should be a formalized statement that there would be voluntary prayer in the schools. We're not arguing for a teacher to make up a prayer of their own..."

Race pushes candidates toward center

WASHINGTON, D.C. (EP)—In what could be described as a race for the middle, figures in the presidential campaign are working to portray themselves as centrists rather than as captives of extreme ideology.

On the Democratic side, Bill Clinton's wife, Hillary, has been baking cookies and softening her hairdo, and now has received the support of her adult Sunday school class.

Members of the class which she occasionally teaches wrote a letter to newspaper editors in mid-September calling her a "child of God" and a good mother. The letter, which also

says Mrs. Clinton carries Bible verses in her address book, is an effort to counter Republican claims that she is "a militant feminist who doesn't have any values," one class member explained.

On the Republican side, Vice President Dan Quayle has toned down some of his anti-abortion and anti-homosexual rhetoric. On "This Week with David Brinkley" Sept. 13, Quayle appeared to distance himself from the call for a nationwide ban on abortion, suggesting that states be allowed to set their own regulations.

Clinton's pollster, Stanley Green-

berg, accused the Bush campaign of "cynicism," saying, "They believe they've gotten all they can from evangelical voters, and now they want to put it to bed and appeal to the more moderate, independent, suburban supporters."

But Gary Bauer of the Family Research Council said backing away from family values would spell disaster for the Bush-Quayle ticket. "If they really plan to back away, they should go on and plan their next career, because they need that vote. They need the traditional values votes."

BRIEFS

■ **John Schlafly**, first-born son of conservative activist Phyllis Schlafly, acknowledged Sept. 18 that he is gay. A 41-year-old attorney who lives with his parents, Schlafly said, "I don't have any problem with those who say marriage and family are the fundamental and basic unit of society and that should be protected. I don't see that as threatening to gay people."

■ **Barry Lynn**, a United Church of Christ minister, civil liberties activist and attorney, has been appointed executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State. He succeeds Robert Maddox, who returned to the pastorate.

■ **The political battle** surrounding an anti-homosexual rights initiative in Oregon has sparked threats of violence and attempts to intimidate voters supporting the measure. Measure 9 would mandate that state government refuse to promote homosexuality through political appointments and educational institutions. Four posters threatening violence against Christians have been circulated in Portland. One displays the fish symbol known as the ichthus and says, "Vote no on 9 or we shoot the fish. We're not asking you, we're telling you."

■ **An anti-abortion law** passed in Louisiana in 1991 has been struck down by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit as unconstitutional. The law would have prohibited abortions except in cases of incest, rape or when the mother's life is threatened.

Kentucky top state at SBC

NASHVILLE—Kentucky provided the most messengers to the 1992 Southern Baptist Convention in Indianapolis, reported Registration Secretary Lee Porter.

The 1,631 Kentucky messengers comprised 9.08 percent of the 17,956-messenger total for the annual meeting.

"The 1992 SBC marked the first time Kentucky has supplied the most messengers to an annual meeting since the convention met in Louisville in 1959," Porter told the Western Recorder.

Tennessee placed second in the rankings, with 1,533 messengers. Other states in the top 10 were Georgia, 1,529; North Carolina, 1,507; Texas, 1,287; South Carolina, 1,176; Alabama, 1,131; Florida, 879; Indiana, 858; and Mississippi, 817.

Despite the close proximity of this year's convention, the number of Kentucky churches that have sent large contingents of messengers to the annual meetings has fallen dramatically, Porter noted.

Sixty-one Kentucky churches sent a full complement of 10 messengers to the 1990 SBC in New Orleans. At that meeting, conservative standard-bearer Morris Chapman defeated moderate hopeful Daniel Vestal for the SBC presidency.

That election—following an all-out effort on both sides to win the convention's top post—marked an end to the decade-old political battle within the SBC, longtime observers claimed. That notion seemed confirmed two months later, when more than 3,000 SBC moderates gathered in Atlanta to launch what has come to be the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

The next year, when the SBC met in Atlanta, only six Kentucky churches sent 10-messenger contingents. And this year, even with the annual meeting less than four hours away from hundreds of Kentucky churches, only 22 Bluegrass churches sent 10 messengers each.

Porter provided the accompanying list of top-messenger churches during the past three conventions.

1990 New Orleans



Ten Messengers

Rose Hill, Ashland
Bloomfield, Bloomfield
Barren River, Bowling Green
Eastwood, Bowling Green
First, Bowling Green
Glendale, Bowling Green
Providence, Campbellsburg
Calvary, Central City
Temple, Central City
Latoria, Covington
Madison Avenue, Covington
Crescent Springs, Crescent Springs
Crestwood, Crestwood
Lexington Avenue, Danville
Severns Valley, Elizabethtown
Erlanger, Erlanger
Florence, Florence
First, Frankfort
Immanuel, Frankfort
Memorial, Frankfort
Georgetown, Georgetown
Glasgow, Glasgow
Immanuel, Glasgow
Harrodsburg, Harrodsburg
Hazel, Hazel
First, Leitchfield
Porter Memorial, Lexington
Audubon, Louisville
Baptist Temple, Louisville
Broadway, Louisville
Buechel Park, Louisville
Cedar Creek, Louisville
Crescent Hill, Louisville
Deer Park, Louisville
Farmdale, Louisville
Fern Creek, Louisville
First Southern, Louisville
Highland, Louisville
Highview, Louisville
Hurstbourne, Louisville
Lakewood, Louisville
Lyndon, Louisville
Parkland, Louisville
St. Matthews, Louisville
Shively, Louisville
Springdale, Louisville
Valley Station, Louisville
Walnut Street, Louisville

First, Madisonville
Northside, Mayfield
Woodland, Middletown
First, Murray
Lewis Lane, Owensboro
Parrish Avenue, Owensboro
Third, Owensboro
Bellview, Paducah
First, Princeton
First, Shepherdsville
Pleasant Grove, Shepherdsville
First, Somerset
Central, Winchester

Nine Messengers

Burlington, Burlington
Campbellsville, Campbellsville
Central, Corbin
First, Corbin
Great Crossing, Georgetown
First, Grayson
DeHaven Memorial, LaGrange
Calvary, Lexington
Corinth, London
East Audubon, Louisville
Westport Road, Louisville
Midway, Midway
First, Paducah
Rosebower, Paducah
First, Pineville
First, Williamsburg

Eight Messengers

Fairlane, Alexandria
Harrods Creek, Crestwood
Gethsemane, Danville
Buck Run, Frankfort
Evergreen, Frankfort
First, Franklin
Hopewell, Harrodsburg
Beechwood, Louisville
Christ is King, Louisville
East, Louisville
Immanuel, Louisville
Ormsby Heights, Louisville
First, Morehead
Edgewood, Nicholasville
First, Owensboro

1992 Indianapolis



Ten Messengers

First, Bellevue
Glendale, Bowling Green
Calvary, Central City
Temple, Central City
Severns Valley, Elizabethtown
Falmouth, Falmouth
Kentoo, Florence
Gilead, Glen Dale
First, Grayson
Grace, Lexington
Beechland, Louisville
Highview, Louisville
Lakewood, Louisville
Ninth and O, Louisville
Ormsby Heights, Louisville
Ridgewood, Louisville
Shively, Louisville
West Broadway, Louisville
Edgewood, Nicholasville
Parrish Avenue, Owensboro
Lone Oak First, Paducah
First, Paris

Nine Messengers

Green River, Cromwell
Hebron, Hebron
DeHaven Memorial, LaGrange
Lebanon, Lebanon
First, Lexington
First Southern, Louisville
Walnut Street, Louisville
Third, Owensboro
Rosebower, Paducah

Eight Messengers

Florence, Florence
Highland Hills, Fort Thomas
Great Crossing, Georgetown
Beechwood, Louisville
Cedar Creek, Louisville
Crescent Hill, Louisville
Melbourne Heights, Louisville
First, Ludlow

1991 Atlanta



Ten Messengers

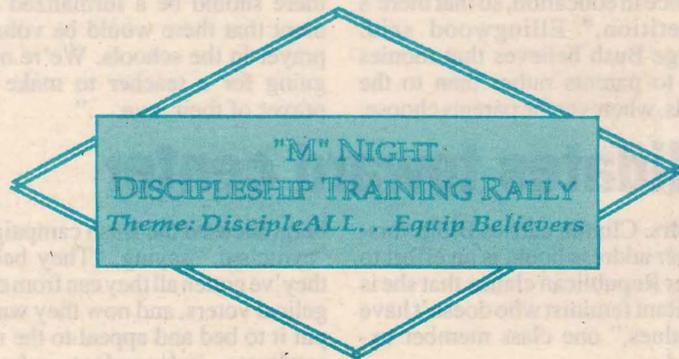
Temple, Central City
Calvary, Danville
Immanuel, Lexington
Porter Memorial, Lexington
Liberty, London
Crescent Hill, Louisville

Nine Messengers

Glendale, Bowling Green
First, Grayson
DeHaven Memorial, LaGrange
Ninth and O, Louisville
Walnut Street, Louisville
Bellview, Paducah
Rosebower, Paducah

Eight Messengers

Campbellsville, Campbellsville
Severns Valley, Elizabethtown
Immanuel, Glasgow
Highview, Louisville
St. Matthews, Louisville
First, Madisonville



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Can Christians be rich in a world of need?

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)—Is it possible to be Christian and "rich" in a world full of human need?

Nathan Porter thinks it may be possible, but difficult.

Porter, a Southern Baptist home missionary specializing in hunger and migrant ministries, said he judges many Christians to be rich in comparison with others in the United States.

Speaking to students at Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center during a national student conference, Porter asked students who attend universities and still have the funds to attend the conference, "How can you be rich, have so much for yourselves and still have a genuine concern for the poor?"

In America, Porter said, "we live for things—moving up the stepladder of income, success, a bigger home, a better car. The good life is our goal."

But Porter pointed to figures from the 1990 U.S. Census and other data-gathering sources to contrast the richness of America:

- More than 33 million Americans live in poverty.

- Of all poor people, 51 percent are children and senior adults.

- As many as 40 million Americans have no health-care insurance.

- 27 million Americans are illiterate, with another 35 million marginally illiterate.

Jesus, he pointed out, lived a life of poverty, never accumulated anything for himself and was dependent on wealthy friends to bury him. The focus of his ministry was on the poor, the sick, the outcasts and the powerless.

While Porter acknowledged there is no easy or clear-cut answer to the dilemma of Christian wealth in a world of need, he offered some thoughts for individual consideration.

First, he said, operating out of guilt is not the answer. Establishing priorities, one's mission and purpose in life can help determine how Christians respond to needs.

"Not living out of guilt has something to do with the gospel—repentance, faith, commitment," Porter emphasized.

Second, Porter noted, it is hard for rich people to be followers of Jesus. The Bible offers several examples of Jesus addressing the subject—the difficulty for a rich man to enter heaven, the need for the tax collector to give his wealth away, the promise of the kingdom of God for the poor.

One's lifestyle, motivation and relationship to human beings can reflect individual response to need, Porter said.

"Don't work for money," Porter suggested. "Work for people."

Hunger calls for money, action & prayer

Continued from page 1

where gunmen and looters are in control of the country," Aosse said.

Mozambique, which also is embroiled in civil war, threatens to become the next Somalia in terms of death and devastation, added David Beckmann, president of Bread for the World, a Christian citizen-action group.

In the past decade, 1 million people have died in Mozambique as a result of war.

The people of Africa want peace, said Sharon Pauling, Africa policy analyst for Bread for the World. But for that to happen, the international community must become more involved in conflict resolution, she said.

Tom Getman, director of government relations for World Vision, said the international community is allowing a humanitarian disaster in which children use automatic weapons to secure a cup of water. Teen-agers in Southern Africa are not shooting each other for fancy tennis shoes or sports jackets but for a plate of food, he said.

Getman said three actions are needed to help eradicate the problem:

- Private relief organizations need more donations. Americans are providing only 3 percent of the aid they contributed during the 1984-85 Ethiopian famine.

- Increased media exposure is necessary to keep the problem before the public.

- U.S. governmental action—particularly congressional approval of \$80 million in disaster aid for Africa—also would make a significant difference.

Speaking in Lexington last month, Keith Parks, president of the Southern

Baptist Foreign Mission Board, said understanding how to respond to Somalia is one of the most frustrating things he has encountered in missions.

Most Southern Baptist relief work is going on near Somalia's borders, where refugees are fleeing the country. The FMB already has channeled more than \$115,000 in hunger and relief funds to help refugees since March 1991.

Southern Baptist missionaries in Kenya have tried to ease the suffering of some of the thousands of Somalis who have fled south to Kenya.

For several months, medical missionary David Sorley has worked a few days each week in three refugee camps north of his home in Nairobi. The camps, set up by the United Nations, shelter more than 120,000 Somali refugees.

Sorley has assisted Canadian Baptists in treating the camps' sick as well as working with Somali children left severely malnourished by the drought and civil war.

Southern Baptist workers in Yemen also are trying to aid Somalis who have fled there.

And there are needs in other parts of the world as well.

As war drags on in Bosnia-Herzegovina, hundreds of thousands of refugees flooding neighboring Croatia, Slovenia and Serbia face a harsh winter of hunger and homelessness.

A small band of Baptists are carrying out heroic efforts to feed and aid refugees in these fragments of shattered Yugoslavia—and even risking their lives to deliver food into Bosnia itself on dangerous border roads.

The FMB authorized a \$225,000 allocation Sept. 30 to fund feeding programs in seven areas of the three republics. It will help churches feed about 33,000 hungry people for periods ranging from two to six months.

Croatia is overwhelmingly Roman Catholic. But the tiny Baptist Union—with only 40 churches and five full-time pastors—has formed a relief arm called "My Neighbor" that is so effective the government has called on it for help.

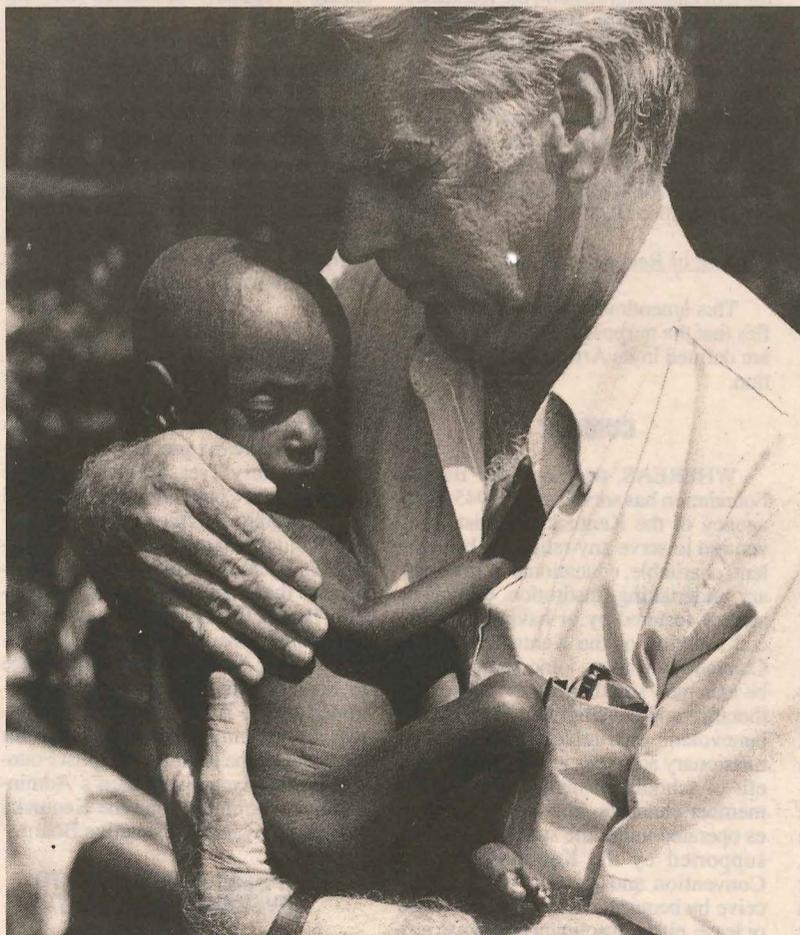
The union has challenged its churches to feed 1,000 families each. They are delivering food packets to each family containing basic survival items about once every three weeks.

"The complete effort is coordinated with evangelistic follow-up, and each packet includes evangelistic materials," said FMB administrator John Cheyne. "In one situation, the local church attendance increased almost 300 percent following the distribution."

Written by News Director Mark Wingfield with reporting from Baptist Press, Associated Baptist Press and Evangelical Press.



Food for thought: Southern Baptists' primary mission-funding mechanisms do not provide money for hunger relief. Gifts to the Cooperative Program, Annie Armstrong offering for home missions and Lottie Moon offering for foreign missions do support an infrastructure to administer hunger-relief funds. But hunger funds must be given as designated offerings. The Foreign Mission Board and Home Mission Board then apply these offerings 100 percent for hunger relief, without keeping any for administrative overhead.



CRADLING THE INNOCENT Graeme Irvine, president of World Vision International, comforts a malnourished child who lives in the Horn of Africa. World Vision, along with other relief agencies, is attempting to break through unpredictable military barriers that keep food from getting to thousands of starving Africans in places like Somalia.

Where to send help

Designated hunger funds may be sent through three Southern Baptist channels:

- Kentucky Baptist Convention, Box 43433, Louisville, Ky. 40253.

- Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Box 6767, Richmond, Va. 23230.

- Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, 1350 Spring St. NW, Atlanta, Ga. 30367.

Additional information about hunger issues may be obtained from other Christian organizations such as:

- World Vision, 919 W. Huntington Drive, Monrovia, Calif. 91016, (818) 301-7782.

- Bread for the World, 802 Rhode Island Ave. NE, Washington, D.C. 20018, (202) 269-0200.

Baptist ministry centers affiliated with the Kentucky Baptist Convention also receive direct contributions for hunger relief. These centers usually can accept contributions of non-perishable food. For information about current needs, contact the director:

- Caney Baptist Center, Box 437, Pippa Passes, Ky. 41844. Lawrence Baldrige, director. (606) 368-3512.

- Jefferson Street Baptist Center, 733 E. Jefferson St., Louisville, Ky. 40202. Steve Golden, director. (502) 584-6543.

- Baptist Fellowship Center, 1351 Catalpa, Louisville, Ky. 40211. Micki Davis Robison, director. (502) 774-2734.

- Freeda Harris Baptist Center, Box 190, Lookout, Ky. 41542. Gregory Whitetree, director. (606) 754-7414.

- Wheelwright Baptist Center, Box 73, Wheelwright, Ky. 41669. Charles Wilson, director. (606) 452-2051.

Other hunger-relief ministries are operated by Kentucky Baptist churches and associations.

Concord Church celebrates 150th year & history of giving

Taylor & Herndon rejoin Homes for Children

Eldred Taylor and J.D. Herndon have returned to active roles with Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children. Both have been named regional representatives for the childcare agency. Taylor will serve in the central region of the state, while Herndon will serve in Western Kentucky. Taylor is a former executive director of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children. Herndon is a former development director for the agency and former director of the Spring Meadows campus. Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children has four regional representatives assigned to the state. All are available to speak in local churches and meet with individuals or groups to answer questions.

HOPKINSVILLE—Missions and ministry go hand in hand for Concord Baptist Church in Hopkinsville.

Marking their church's 150th anniversary this year, the congregation is celebrating an equally long heritage of giving money to missions.

The first mission offering was recorded in 1846, when the church was 4 years old. They collected 65 cents.

Pastor Buddy Crabtree said the church's heritage has been character-

ized by a continuing dedication to missions.

"Our church gives 15 percent to the Cooperative Program," he said. "We've also sent out groups to Kenya and Brazil, and we sponsor a mission church at the Western Kentucky Correctional Complex in Eddyville."

An anniversary committee planned the celebration weekend Sept. 12-13 to include a gospel music concert Saturday evening and a potluck lunch

and recognition service Sunday afternoon. Bill Jagers of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's evangelism office was guest speaker for the morning worship service.

The church recognized Virginia Luttrull as the member who has attended the most number of years. She has attended since 1918, when she was 4 years old.

Luttrull's 74 years of service in the church include 40 years of teaching

Sunday school to preschoolers.

Helping tell the church's story during the historic weekend, Luttrull said she has seen attendance grow from about 10-20 people to its current average of 300.

With 100 people joining the church last year, Crabtree said the congregation has a mentality to "grow."

"We want to be even more of what our Lord wants us to be in the next 150 years," he said.

Recommendations from the Kentucky Baptist Foundation Board of Directors to the 1992 Kentucky Baptist Convention Messengers

RECOMMENDATION I

In accordance with Article XII of the Articles of Incorporation and paragraph 9 of the Covenant Agreement, the Kentucky Baptist Foundation Board of Directors recommends to the messengers of the 1992 annual meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention the following Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation. This Amendment was approved by the Foundation Board of Directors during a regularly scheduled meeting on September 10, 1992.

Purpose of Recommendation:

This amendment further clarifies and provides direction for the Foundation's powers of funds management.

CURRENT II

The purpose for which this Corporation is formed is to serve any religious, benevolent, charitable, educational or missionary undertaking, institution, church or agency fostered by or having the official sanction of the Kentucky Baptist Convention with co-joined purposes, to be executed simultaneously in the furtherance and development of religious, benevolent, charitable, educational or missionary activities in and for the benefit of schools, hospitals, orphanages, member churches, and other enterprises operated under the supervision of or supported by the Kentucky Baptist Convention and to such end may receive by bequest, devise, gift, purchase or lease, either absolutely or in trust, any property, real, personal, or mixed, and to administer such property, to convey such property, to invest and reinvest the same, or the proceeds thereof, in such manner as in the judgment of the Directors will best promote such objects.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION II

The purposes for which this Corporation is formed are:

(1) to serve, administer funds of, and promote any institution, church, agency, association, or enterprise fostered by or having the official sanction of the Kentucky Baptist Convention; such conjoined purposes to be executed simultaneously in the furtherance and development of religious, benevolent, charitable, educational and missionary activities in and for the benefit of schools, hospitals, orphanages, homes for the aged, churches, and other enterprises operated under the supervision of or supported by the Kentucky Baptist Convention;

(2) to serve and administer funds of any Baptist institution, church, agency

or enterprise which is approved by the Board of Directors of the Corporation and whose purpose is not in conflict with Kentucky Baptist Convention causes, and

(3) to administer funds for the benefit of other 501(c)(3) organizations which are approved by the Board of Directors of the Corporation and whose purposes are not in conflict with Kentucky Baptist Convention causes, where a portion of such funds or a part of the income from said funds is used or is to be used in furtherance of the purposes specified in subparagraph 1 or 2 of this Article II.

To such ends, the Corporation may receive by bequest, devise, gift, purchase or lease, either absolutely or in trust, any property, real, personal, or mixed, and shall administer, convey, invest and reinvest such property or the proceeds thereof, in such manner as in the judgment of the Directors will best promote such objects.

RECOMMENDATION II

In accordance with paragraph 10 of the Covenant Agreement, the Kentucky Baptist Foundation Board of Directors recommends to the messengers of the 1992 annual meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention the following Amendment to the Covenant Agreement. This Amendment was approved by the Foundation Board of Directors during a regularly scheduled meeting on September 10, 1992.

Purpose of Recommendation:

This amendment directs and identifies that the purposes of the Foundation are defined in its Articles of Incorporation.

CURRENT

WHEREAS, the Kentucky Baptist Foundation has served since 1945 as an agency of the Kentucky Baptist Convention to serve any religious, benevolent, charitable, educational or missionary undertaking, institution, church or agency fostered by or having the official sanction of the Kentucky Baptist Convention with co-joined purposes, to be executed simultaneously in the furtherance and development of religious, benevolent, charitable, educational or missionary activities in and for the benefit of schools, hospitals, orphanages, member churches, and other enterprises operated under the supervision of or supported by the Kentucky Baptist Convention and to such end may receive by bequest, devise, gift, purchase or lease, either absolutely or in trust, any property, real, personal, or mixed, and to administer such property, to convey such property, to invest and reinvest the

same, or the proceeds thereof, in such manner as in the judgment of the Directors will best promote such objects.

Since its creation the Foundation has functioned under the general provisions of its purpose.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO COVENANT AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, the Kentucky Baptist Foundation has served since 1945 as an agency of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and since its creation the Foundation has operated in furtherance of the purposes specified in its Articles of Incorporation.

RECOMMENDATION III

In accordance with paragraph 10 of the Covenant Agreement, the Kentucky Baptist Foundation Board of Directors recommends to the messengers of the 1992 annual meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention the following Amendment to the Covenant Agreement. This Amendment was approved by the Foundation Board of Directors during a regularly scheduled meeting on May 7, 1992.

Purpose of Recommendation:

This Covenant section, defining the Board of Director nomination process, which is included in all other covenants, was inadvertently omitted from the Kentucky Baptist Foundation Covenant, Paragraph 4. This amendment brings the Foundation's Covenant into uniformity with the other covenants.

CURRENT

(4) The Executive Director of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation shall be nominated and elected in accordance with the following process. The Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Kentucky Baptist Convention will chair and lead a search committee consisting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention Business Division Director, three (3) members of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation Board (to be determined by the Foundation Board), and three (3) members of the Administrative Committee of the Executive Board (to be determined by the Administrative Committee), in recommending a candidate for approval by the Kentucky Baptist Foundation, the Executive Board's Administrative Committee, and the Kentucky Baptist Convention Executive Board.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO COVENANT AGREEMENT

(4).(a). The Executive Director of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation shall be nominated and elected in accordance

with the following process. The Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Kentucky Baptist Convention will chair and lead a search committee consisting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention Business Division Director, three (3) members of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation Board (to be determined by the Foundation Board), and three (3) members of the Administrative Committee of the Executive Board (to be determined by the Administrative Committee), in recommending a candidate for approval by the Kentucky Baptist Foundation, the Executive Board's Administrative Committee, and the Kentucky Baptist Convention Executive Board.

(b). The Directors of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation shall serve for a period of three (3) years. The Directors of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation shall be nominated and elected in accordance with the following process. The Executive Director of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation shall submit to the Committee on Nominations of the Kentucky Baptist Convention two (2) names for each director vacancy. The Committee on Nominations may choose from the names so nominated but if such Committee decides not to choose from the names submitted by the Executive Director, the Committee on Nominations will confer with the Executive Director before making any other nominations. All nominations submitted by the Executive Director shall state the qualifications of the nominees and the reason for the nominations. The Executive Director shall receive permission from the person nominated for the nominee's name to be placed before the Committee on Nominations for each director vacancy and subsequent election by the Kentucky Baptist Convention. The Committee on Nominations shall submit to the annual meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention one nomination to fill the vacancy in the Board of Directors of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation. Directors shall be elected in accordance with the Constitution and By-laws of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and the Articles and By-Laws of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation. The Kentucky Baptist Foundation and the Kentucky Baptist Convention will conduct orientation sessions for directors as may be deemed advisable to clearly establish the relationship of trust that exists between the Kentucky Baptist Convention and the Kentucky Baptist Foundation and to clearly establish the responsibilities of each director in their relationship with the Kentucky Baptist Foundation.

(Signatures in witness of these amendments would be executed by the president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and the president of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation board of directors following adoption.)

Kentucky unit among 3 still feeding in South Florida

MIAMI (BP)—The Kentucky Baptist Convention's disaster relief unit is among three units continuing ministry in South Florida one month after Hurricane Andrew hit.

Floridians report the area is slowly showing signs of healing as Southern Baptists enter the second phase of their relief work.

Perhaps the most visible sign of recovery is seen on sprouting trees that four weeks ago stood barren of

bark and life.

"The trees are amazing to me," said Debbie West of First Baptist Church in Eustis, Fla. "They have been tortured, yet there's life on the tree. It shows God is working through it all."

Phase two of the Baptist effort will be "proactive instead of reactive," said Cecil Seagle, director of the Brotherhood department of the Florida Baptist Convention.

"In the past we've had to react to emergencies, providing vital necessities such as water, ice, hot food and groceries. Now we're looking at the long-term needs."

Changing priorities means that Baptist relief efforts will be shifted away from the feeding sites to local churches. Each of the 33 congregations significantly affected by the hurricane will be assisted by an assigned member of the Florida Baptist Con-

vention.

The staff liaisons will coordinate the flow of volunteers and construction projects, distribute financial assistance earmarked to provide subsidies for families, salary grants for staff and building grants and loans, as well as assisting in the acquisition of supplies, materials and equipment.

They also will initiate church-to-church linkages with other Southern Baptist congregations.

The Kentucky disaster relief unit, along with units from Florida and Tennessee, continues to prepare meals for the Red Cross to take out into devastated communities.

Seagle said the philosophy Baptists have held in ministering to the community remains unchanged. "We don't care if they are Baptist or Buddhist, if we can help in Jesus' name, we will."

General commends Baptist response to Andrew

HOMESTEAD, Fla. (BP)—The highest-ranking military official deployed in South Florida applauded Southern Baptist disaster relief efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew.

Brig. Gen. Carl Ernst, commander of the 82nd Airborne Division stationed in south Dade County to provide security and humanitarian assistance, called the Southern Baptist disaster response "one you can count on."

"The Southern Baptist Convention has been one organization you can count on when it really gets bad," he said. "They are able to get volunteers in large quantities and keep the volunteers flowing. From the very young to retirees and some folks in between. It's been marvelous."

"The Southern Baptist Convention has been one of the folks who throughout this whole tragedy has been shoulder to shoulder, joining ranks to help people in these neighborhoods."

Ernst added that the 82nd Airborne Division had become attached to Southern Baptists as they have served on the church grounds with several Brotherhood disaster relief feeding vans. "It's amazing what you will find on these sites. It's amazing to watch all the helping hands that have shown up here in Florida to help. You know who you can count on, and that's important to me."

JOHN GUEST

The Greater Louisville

CHALLENGE

A united effort to make a long-term impact in Greater Louisville in the name of Jesus Christ.



Joseph Jennings

October 4 – Youth Gathering
"Will You Be the One?" John Guest
7:00 p.m., Knights Hall at Bellarmine
Guest Artist: Al Denson
Testimony: Joseph Jennings



Larnelle Harris

October 7 – Opening Celebration
"Power For Living" John Guest
7:00 p.m., Freedom Hall
Guest Artist: Larnelle Harris with Local 1,000 Voice Choir

October 8 – Community Night
"Forgiving, Forgetting & Being Free" John Guest
7:00 p.m., Freedom Hall
Guest Artists: Cynthia Clawson, The Black Diamond Choir
Special Speaker: Doug Cobb



Dick & Mel Tunney

October 9 – Family Night
"Made To Be Loved" John Guest
7:00 p.m., Freedom Hall
Artists: Dick & Mel Tunney, The Master's Men
Special Speaker: Junior Bridgeman
Peanut Butter Night – Bring a jar of peanut butter for admission. Jars will be presented to Dare to Care.

October 10 – Kids Morning Out
"Jesus' Favorite People" John Guest
10:00 a.m., Freedom Hall
Guest Artist: Eddie Elguera



ETW

October 10 – Youth Rally
"Fatal Attraction" John Guest
8:00 p.m., Freedom Hall
Guest Artist: ETW

October 11 – "Go For It"
John Guest
7:00 p.m., Freedom Hall
Featuring: Bill Owens with Margaret Cloud, Percy Metcalf, Rick Marksberry, and the Local 1,000 Voice Choir



John Guest



Al Denson



Cynthia Clawson



Eddie Elguera



1,000 Voice Choir

CLASSIFIED ADS

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

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).

WANTED: Church seeks full-time Minister of Music and Education. Send resumés to First Baptist Church, Box 366, Calvert City, Ky. 42029.

WANTED: Minister Music/Youth (part-time); resumés, inquires. Burgin Baptist Church, P.O. Box 266, Burgin, Ky. 40310. (606) 748-5188.

WANTED: Late-model, low mileage, heavy duty, air-conditioned van for Caney Baptist Church, Pippa Passes, Ky. Please contact Bill Melton, church treasurer, at (606) 368-2101, ext. 4404.

FOR SALE: Good, used organ; recently serviced. Church asking \$500. Call Aberdeen Baptist Church (513) 795-2334.

RETREATS: Bud's Lake, I-65, exit 81, Sonora, Ky. (502) 324-3036. Dormitories, kitchen, gym, swimming and campground. Year-round Christian fun.

FOR SALE: Baldwin Acrosonic piano; \$850. Call Julie at (502) 459-9509 evenings after 6 p.m.

FOR SALE: 19" LaserMaster DTP monitor, controller and printer controller; \$995. Includes drivers, fonts, installation. (502) 244-6470.

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Scam targets missionaries

ATLANTA (BP)—Home and foreign missionaries are apparently the latest target of a money-bilking scheme by prisoners, said Bill Donovan, director of institutional chaplaincy for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Donovan said letters from inmates at the Mississippi Department of Corrections institution in Parchman, Miss., have been sent to home missionaries and retired foreign missionaries.

The letters include a request for money orders, with the use of the money varying from personal items for the prisoner to money for his family. Some letters give instructions about how to send the money orders so they can be credited to the prisoner's account.

"It's dangerous to respond to any unsolicited mail from prison," said Donovan, a former prison chaplain. "Sometimes the needs are legitimate, but if the letter comes from prison it has the potential of being manipulation. You need a good, healthy skepticism."

People who decide to respond to a letter first should check with the institution's chaplain or administrator to verify claims in the prisoner's letter, Donovan said. "If you respond, in your very first letter make your boundaries very clear and state your reasons for responding," Donovan said. Such boundaries include subjects that will be addressed in the letters and the intention not to send money or goods.



MISSION TEAM A team of 12 volunteers from Greenup Baptist Association recently returned from a construction and evangelism mission in Castata, Brazil. During the two-week trip, they constructed a church building and led evangelistic services under a tent at night. This photograph shows the construction at right and the tent at left. The sign hanging above invites people of the community to bring their whole families to the revival services. The crusade resulted in 19 professions of faith and 63 rededications. Funds to build the church were provided by the churches of Greenup Association.

Salem Church older than Kentucky

IRVINE—Salem Baptist Church has been ministering longer than Kentucky has been a state.

Although the church chose to celebrate its 200th anniversary this year, pastor Jerry Smith said its heritage began even before 1792.

"At first, we were part of Kentucky County, Va.," the pastor said. "So, even though the building's location has moved only a few feet in 200 years, we've also moved to another state."

Smith said the church celebrated its bicentennial this month by recapturing the heritage of the past.

In addition to riding in horse-

drawn buggies, eating bean stew and wearing dress of the late 1700s, the church invited several guests to lead in the celebration. A revival Sept. 30-Oct. 4 coincided with the anniversary events and featured A.B. Colvin as guest speaker.

"Salem has been a small community church all its life," Smith said. "You don't have to be afraid of getting lost in the crowd at this church," he said.

Smith emphasized the importance of an active, "elastic" church, one that is open to the lost in the community: "We want to be authentic in our Christianity, and vital in our outreach."

A family ministry

I have shared through this column in previous weeks that children in Kentucky are facing a crisis. The number of children in out-of-home care has increased by 39 percent in the last four years. The problems they are struggling to deal with in their young lives have also increased. This has brought a real crisis to both the public and private child welfare systems.

The state social workers are struggling desperately to find resources for hurting children. The percentage of children they placed in our homes has increased dramatically. They also rely on a network of foster families to care for many children. The number of available foster homes has actually decreased over the past four years. Many of those families could not provide for the increasing needs of the children. Also, more families need both parents to work long hours away from home. They often cannot provide for all of the emotional needs of their own children, much less other children who are starved for love and attention.

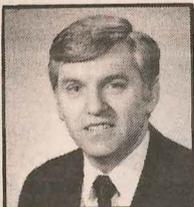
Given this crisis of need, our board has approved the develop-

ment of a Family Treatment Home program contingent upon funding. These will be families who open their homes to a child who has known many of the problems of life and little of what is good about it. The families will be licensed and trained by KBHC. They will have to meet high standards and will go through an extensive training program prior to licensure and the placement of children. Our agency will be responsible for ongoing supervision of the home and will provide a therapist to work with the child on a regular basis.

It is our hope that this work can be seen as a way families can minister directly to hurting children. I am convinced that God equips each of us with gifts for ministry.

Not everyone has the gift of caring for abused and battered children, but I believe for some families this may be an opportunity to serve our Lord as he stands in the place of the hurting child who so desperately needs help.

HOMES FOR CHILDREN



Curtis C. Mooney

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

Paid Column

Cumberland homecoming planned

WILLIAMSBURG—"Where the Memories Were Made" is the theme for the Oct. 16-17 homecoming at Cumberland College.

Registration of alumni and friends, as well as voting for the alumni board of directors, will begin at 2 p.m. Oct. 16 in the Anna Brock Building on campus.

The Cumberland Lodge and Museum also will host a craft fair that day from 2-8 p.m. The music department will host a reunion buffet at 5:30 p.m., followed by a Chamber Choir reunion concert at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday's activities begin with the

annual campus carnival at 8 a.m. and the Boswell 10K Fun Run at 9 a.m.

The second annual alumni auction also will be held Saturday morning, as will class reunions.

The homecoming parade will begin at 11 a.m. on Main Street, followed by the reunion picnic at noon and a football game between Cumberland and Campbellsville College at 1:30 p.m.

Saturday's activities will conclude with an alumni banquet and awards ceremony at 6 p.m. in the T.J. Roberts Cafeteria and two dances beginning at 8:30 p.m.

Campbellsville College Alumni and Friends Breakfast

Tuesday, Nov. 10 at 7:30 a.m.
Louisville Hurstbourne Hotel
Julia Bell Room
9700 Bluegrass Parkway



Reservation Form

Call 1-800-264-6014
or return this to:
Alumni Office
Campbellsville College
200 West College St.
Campbellsville, Ky. 42718
By November 4

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Chasing clouds in the "Sunshine State"

The numbers in south Dade are staggering. Hurricane Andrew blew tens of thousands of lives into turmoil and wreaked property damage into the billions.

In the midst of tremendous devastation, we see hope. It's there in the faces of Southern Baptists and others who sent volunteer workers, food, supplies and financial assistance.

Moved by the aftermath of suffering, the employees and management of Baptist Healthcare System searched for a way to help. We learned that the employees of Baptist Hospital of Miami were especially hard hit. After hearing of their plight, we decided to focus on helping another hospital "family" in distress.

Baptist Hospital of Miami is a 501-bed hospital with about 3,000 employees. Although the hospital withstood the storm's impact, nearly 1,500 of its staff were left homeless immediately after the storm. When we first contacted hospital officials, they were scrambling to resettle these folks in other housing. Federal money had not yet become available, and at that time, area landlords were demanding two to three months' rent in advance before leasing apartments. Some employees lost everything except the clothes on their backs.

A surprising number were uninsured or under insured.

Baptist Hospital of Miami's pastoral care personnel said their most critical need was money to rehouse employees. Their employee assistance fund was fast being drained by a deluge of requests.

On Sept. 8, Baptist Healthcare System sent Baptist of Miami a check for \$50,000. In a sort of "match in reverse," a special payroll deduction recently was set up for employees to make personal donations over the next six months. Each month, Baptist Healthcare Foundation will forward donations to Baptist Hospital of Miami's Employee Sunshine Fund. It is too early to report an amount collected, but knowing our employees, we feel certain it will be a generous gift. We also invited the members of our medical staffs and auxiliaries to donate. Together, we hope to bring a little sunshine back into the lives of Baptist Hospital of Miami employees.

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

Paid Column

Elvis was a Christian, evangelist says in book

By Keith Hinson
Freelance Writer

FORT WALTON BEACH, Fla.

(BP)—Elvis Presley was a Christian, according to a new book by a Southern Baptist evangelist who is the late singer's stepbrother.

Titled "Caught in a Trap," the book by Rick Stanley is scheduled for release by Word Publishing in October.

In the book, Stanley writes: "My religious tradition teaches once saved always saved. I believe Elvis became a Christian as a young boy. While he may have strayed from the teachings of the church as an adult, his original faith remained safely in the hands of God. I believe my (and Elvis') faith depends on God's power and faithfulness, not on mine."

According to Stanley, Presley became interested in Eastern philosophy and spiritualism in 1964 when he met Larry Geller, a young man who cut Presley's hair.

Presley's fascination with spiritualism and New Age-like writings grew, Stanley wrote, so that "as in so many things, Elvis wanted to find a way to have his cake and eat it, too... The central teaching in these writings is that God is the voice within us and that we are all, in a manner of

speaking, God. External authorities need not concern us... Guided by his 'inner light,' he was his own authority, which suited his personality and temperament.

"(Elvis's) Pentecostal background should have provided firmer footing, a way back to something more nearly like the straight and narrow path," Stanley wrote. "Elvis had several problems with traditional Christianity, though. But mainly he found it almost impossible to obey its precepts. He may have thought that something had to be wrong with a religion that demanded marital fidelity from a man who had women toss their hotel keys at him every night. Or maybe this was the 'one great flaw' in his character. I don't know."

Yet despite Presley's theological flirtations with other beliefs, "he always came back to the basic biblical teaching that Jesus is God's son who died for our sins and that salvation is through believing this," Stanley wrote.

"He always came back to the basic biblical teaching that Jesus is God's son who died for our sins and that salvation is through believing this."

Evangelist Rick Stanley on the beliefs of his stepbrother, Elvis Presley

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

Genesis 28:16b



Danzinger-Byrd

Architect - Construction Manager

307 New Venture Drive

Louisville, Kentucky

502-361-0171



RECOMMENDATIONS OF EXECUTIVE BOARD

to messengers attending the 1992 annual meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention

The KBC Constitution (Article VIII, fourth paragraph) requires the Executive Board to report its recommendations in the Western Recorder 30 days prior to the annual meeting.

The 1991-92 convention year has been one of unusual challenges. Our cooperative efforts with Kentucky Baptist churches and associations have been blessed of God with new growth in all dimensions of state missions and ministries.

On the other hand, this growth and development has had to occur with a reduction in resources. The budget goals for 1993-94 will reflect these patterns of cooperative giving.

Recommended 1993-94 Budget Goals and Percentage Distribution between SBC/KBC Causes

Recommended that the Kentucky Baptist Convention approve the following:

1. That the 1993-94 Cooperative Program

Operating Budget goal be \$17,337,909, which is the same as the current 1992-93 goal.

2. That the percentages of the division between KBC and SBC causes remain the same as 1992-93:

SBC = 37.304%

KBC = 62.696%

This is in accordance with the 1989 Convention adopted formula of determining the SBC percentage.

That the division be subject to the Executive Board's decision to apply the financial crisis plan approved May 8, 1990, which stated:

"In case of a financial crisis, allocations be reduced proportionately to the Southern Baptist Convention, Kentucky Baptist institutions of Christian Education and the Executive Board staff and/or programs."

3. That the 1993-94 Cooperative Program Challenge Budget goal remain the same as 1992-93, \$1,300,000.

4. That 75.955% of any challenge funds received be distributed to SBC causes and 24.045% to KBC causes. Should the total \$1,300,000 challenge goal be attained, SBC causes will have received 40% of all Cooperative Program receipts in this year.

General Recommendations to the Convention for the 1993-94 Budget

1. We heartily recommend that all our churches seriously consider increasing their support through the Cooperative Program in their new budgets.

2. That Cooperative Program Day be observed on April 17, 1994 or the nearest convenient Sunday. Churches which do not regularly include the Cooperative Program in their budgets are urged to take a special offering on this Sunday. We hope all churches will consider the possible appropriateness of observing this additional offering.

3. We recommend that the Vacation Bible School offerings be given to World-Wide Missions through the Cooperative Program.

4. We further recommend that all contributions received and identified for Bold Mission Thrust be channeled through the Cooperative Program.

5. That we approve the following special offerings: (a) the annual Thanksgiving Offering for our Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children; (b) the annual Mother's Day Offering for charity work in our Hospitals; (c) the annual Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions; (d) the annual Annie Armstrong Offering for Home Missions; (e) the annual Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions; (f) the annual World Hunger/Relief Offering as promoted by the agencies of the Southern Baptist Convention.

6. That (a) future special offerings being proposed for inclusion in the Kentucky Baptist Convention calendar be carefully and prayerfully considered before being offered, and be referred to the Executive

Board; (b) no change in dates and present special offerings as authorized by the Kentucky Baptist Convention be recommended at this time; (c) the special offerings have a focus in the church of not more than two weeks; (d) we urge continual support and increased emphasis on the purposes, missions and ministries of the Cooperative Program of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

7. We look with favor on the request of the American Bible Society for church contributions to print and distribute the Sacred Scriptures.

8. The Kentucky Baptist Convention does not recognize or approve any other special offerings aside from those mentioned above. We request single institutions not to make appeals to be included in local church budgets. We also disapprove of any financial campaign through our churches, organizations in the churches, or lists of members from the churches by institutions or agencies sharing in the Cooperative Program receipts except campaigns that are approved by the Convention. This recommendation does not preclude personal appeals for support from individual friends in any amount.

9. That we ask the Sunday Schools to observe State Mission Emphasis Day for its institutional and educational value.

10. That we instruct all our institutions and agencies sharing in Cooperative Program receipts to furnish a copy of their latest annual audits, made by a Certified Public Accountant, to the office of our Treasurer on or before November 1 of each year. The Treasurer is instructed to withhold Cooperative Program appropriations from any institution or agency which does not send in these reports by the date indicated.

11. That any cost of the Church Annuity Plan (CHAP) in excess of \$610,000 be considered a priority item in the 1993-94 Budget and funded by deducting the balance from the allocations to the institutions and agencies and the Executive Board appropriation in proportion to each's approved share of the total distributable funds received for this budget year.

Illustration

	Actual 1991-92 Receipts	Current Approved 1992-93 Budget	Proposed 1993-94 Budget
Cooperative Program Goal			
A. Operating Budget	17,004,967	17,337,909 (d)	17,337,909 (d)
1. SBC Causes (a)	6,452,025 37.942%	6,467,750 37.304%	6,467,750 * 37.304% *
2. KBC Causes (b)	10,552,942 62.058%	10,870,159 62.696%	10,870,159 * 62.696% *
B. Bold Mission Challenge	0	1,300,000 (c)	1,300,000 (c)
1. SBC Causes (a)	0	987,414 75.955%	987,414 * 75.955% *
2. KBC Causes (b)	0	312,586 24.045%	312,586 * 24.045% *
Total CP Goal	17,004,967	18,637,909	18,637,909

(a) The distribution of these items is approved by the Southern Baptist Convention.

(b) The distribution of these items is approved by the Executive Board, Kentucky Baptist Convention.

(c) If Challenge Goal is attained, total CP through the SBC would equal 40%.

(d) See General Recommendations for CHAP priority item.

* Subject to Executive Board decision to implement Financial Crisis Plan approved May 8, 1990.

KENTUCKY KERNELS

With his inauguration as the 23rd president of Georgetown College last week, William Crouch follows a line of notable predecessors. William Staughton, the school's first elected president, never served because he died while visiting his son in Washington, D.C. J.L. Reynolds of Columbia, S.C., elected in 1849, was the first president from the South. Arthur Yeager, elected in 1908, was the first layman to hold the office. Robert Mills, elected in 1959, served the longest tenure as president, 18 years.

Mountains to the Mississippi

■ **BARDSTOWN**—Bardstown Church called **Eddie Benton** as pastor. He previously served at First Church in Sturgis.

■ **BARDWELL**—**Chris Kurtz** resigned as youth and music director at Bardwell Church.

■ **CORBIN**—Faith Church called **Bennie Bush** as pastor.

First Church ordained **Doug Coffey** as a deacon.

Hopewell Church dedicated its new sanctuary Oct. 4.

Sandstone Church called **Frankie Hunt** as pastor. He previously served as youth leader at Hopewell Church.

■ **FISHERVILLE**—First Church ordained **Lamar Blankenbaker** as deacon.

First Church called **Jerry Walker** as minister of music, effective Oct. 4.

■ **HICKMAN**—**Odis Schultz** retired as pastor of Poplar Grove Church, and is available for supply work. **Larry Salmon** has been called as the new pastor.

■ **IRVINE**—Thomas Church ordained **Rick Kirby**, pastor of Heidelberg Church, to the ministry.

■ **JACKSON**—**Vaughn Rasor**, pastor of First Church, was ordained to the ministry.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—**Gerald McNeely** is serving as interim director of missions and ministries of Long Run Association. A native of Louisville, he is a retired Southern Baptist missionary to Spain.

■ **MADISONVILLE**—First Church ordained **Roger Neal Rearden** to the ministry Sept. 27.

■ **OWENSBORO**—**Candy Miller** resigned as youth director at Buena Vista Church.

■ **ROCHESTER**—Gasper River Association donated \$7,886 to support relief work in Florida and Louisiana. Of the 26 churches in the association, 18 contributed to the fund.

■ **SOMERSET**—First Church honored **Robert Browning** on his 10th anniversary as pastor.

■ **WILLIAMSBURG**—Cumberland College President **Jim Taylor** was presented a Department of Defense certificate of appreciation for support of the military reserves. The award is part of a national effort to recognize supportive employers of Guardsmen and Reservists.

Florida governor thanks Baptists

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Kentucky Baptists have gotten a special "thank you" from Florida Gov. Lawton Chiles.

In an effort to thank Baptists for their response to the devastation of Hurricane Andrew, Chiles sent a letter to Kentucky Baptists, via the Western Recorder.

"The very early and continuing presence of the Southern Baptist relief effort in storm-ravaged South Florida has been overwhelming," Chiles wrote. "The selfless gift of time and material resources has been a blessing to Andrew's helpless victims and a great inspiration to those of us charged with caring for Florida's citizens."

"The millions of hot meals served, the medical assistance, hands willing to serve in any capacity and the countless kind acts are abundant proof of the great compassion of Southern Baptists."

"I want to extend my personal thanks, along with those of all Floridians, for your generous help. May God bless you as you continue your ministry in our state and across the world."

Bible study grew to new Bowling Green church

BOWLING GREEN—Small-group Bible studies can be the start of something big.

That's what Warren Baptist Association leaders found out in 1988 when they chose a Bowling Green suburb as the place to begin a weekly Bible study.

From a core of 11 people led by director of missions Frank Dorris, the Bible study quickly grew to mission status. Last month, the new work was constituted as Meadow Land Baptist Church.

"We feel good about starting on our own," said Kenneth Armstrong,

pastor of the church since 1990. "We feel like we won't continue to grow unless we take responsibility ourselves" for the future of the church, he added. The church now is averaging 100 in worship.

Armstrong cited friendliness of the members and strong lay leadership as two strengths of the Meadow Land congregation.

"We've seen strong leadership development" and growth of previously unchurched families as Christian individuals, the pastor said.

A member of the church, Paul Childers, brought the message at the

constitution service.

"I think it's significant that we have one of our own to challenge us," Armstrong said.

Meadow Land Baptist Church first was supported jointly by Warren Baptist Association and the Kentucky Baptist Convention. As a mission, the congregation relied on Living Hope Baptist Church in Bowling Green for its support.

Because of that heritage, Armstrong said, the church feels a strong commitment to missions. "We're a product of it; ... we must be participating in it," he said.

Hope and help offered at Oneida

A public school principal and his wife, both lifelong teachers, have long been generous supporters of Oneida. For years they have donated \$150 monthly over and above their tithes and offerings to their local church.

A recent letter from them meant much: "As always the Lord has proved faithful and wise! He impressed on my husband and me to visit Oneida some years ago and he placed an unshakable love in our hearts for his work there."

"Our faith in Oneida and in you has never wavered. We have both seen kids from our schools come and go from Oneida, some helped, some not. Those we've known were mostly troubled, rebellious kids and we have enjoyed being a small part of the opportunity the Lord offers these young ones through Oneida."

"Now we have experienced your 'special place' on a more first-hand basis. "Jim" (not his real name), a young man I am very proud and fond of, is enrolled with you. I would like to take this opportunity to express heartfelt gratitude to your Mrs. Underwood (the former Kay Atto, OBI '63, my administrative assistant for the past eight years). She is a jewel! When I called her in August about Jim and his dire circumstances, she was patient, caring, thorough and extremely helpful. I am not related to Jim, but have known him quite well for several years. Mrs. Underwood offered us hope and help. She expedited Jim's need to come to Oneida.

"Jim came up there to enroll, had temporary custody given to one of the teachers here who loves him dearly, quit his job, packed his clothes and is now residing with you.

"All of our communication with him has been

positive and excited. He loves it there so far. He is a very fine young man who, due to family circumstances, has been shifted from pillar to post with no relative really wanting him. A grandparent raised him and died a few years ago. He undertook an investigation to find a natural parent, succeeded, then was disappointed. But he's an overcomer. He is a Christian and relies on the Lord. He is intelligent and an excellent student, has a winsome personality and has won a place in the hearts of many of the faculty and staff of our school.

ONEIDA JOURNAL



Barkley Moore

"I hope you get the opportunity to know him personally. He has a directness and honesty that wins affection and respect. He has the wonderful quality of befriending people from every walk and station in life, yet remains true to who he is, so rare in teen-agers today! He is enjoying his classes and extracurricular activities very much. We are doing all we can to encourage and support him. If he needs anything, we are willing to help."

"Thank you, Oneida, for being a truly special place for Jim. This has given us an opportunity to share our love of Oneida with several more people. We hope to visit you again soon. So much has been done since we first came. Our lives have changed quite a bit also, and my husband really loves his work. We still keep the idea in our minds of working there someday—whatever the Lord wants. We pray for Jim each day, for Oneida and for you. Thank you for doing our Lord's work so well."

This letter arrived at an hour when I so much needed this encouragement. The Holy Spirit was surely in her writing when she did.

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

Paid Column

New academic dean stresses basics

"Athletic teams that win emphasize the basics," Academic Dean Mark Terry said in a faculty retreat prior to the opening of the 1992-93 school year. Terry was beginning his first year in the dean's position, his selection approved at the spring trustee meeting. The dean's hopes for the future of Clear Creek follow the long tradition of sound, practical training for ministry which we have been at since 1926. We continue to do the basics but will do them even better.

Terry emphasized his desire to see every graduate with five basics: "grounded in Baptist doctrine; able to use the Roman road to lead one to salvation; ability to deliver an expository sermon; knowledgeable of Flake's formula for Sunday school growth; and committed to cooperative missions. I would rather our students know a few things well than know a little about many things."

Clear Creek has no intention of becoming a graduate school offering a master's in theology, nor do we intend to be a liberal arts school. Dr. Terry wants us to "emphasize excellence and do our assignment the very best we can." He plans to continue our practical emphasis. Every course will seek the

practical dimension for ministry.

The dean challenged the faculty to "help students develop self-discipline and good work habits. We should also lead students to develop a servant spirit. Too many expect everything to be done for them." Emotional and spiritual maturity also need to be outcomes of ministry training

Like most Clear Creek administrators, Terry will continue to teach a few courses. He is the D.M. Aldridge Professor of Missions. The Terrys came to Clear Creek in 1989 after 14 years in the Philippines, most of that time with the Philippine Baptist Seminary. Terry holds a B.S. from John Brown University; MDiv and PhD from Southwestern Seminary. He has had

three interim pastorates in Bell County and is a certified Interfaith Witness consultant on the New Age movement. His wife, Barbara, is director of library services. They have two children, Joanna, 14, and Micah, 12.

J.G. Grant once said, "No college can rise above its faculty." The Lord has blessed Clear Creek with an outstanding faculty.

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

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Mark Terry

Paid Column

Missionary leads march against Albuquerque gangs

By Sarah Zimmerman
SBC Home Mission Board

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (BP)—At 5 p.m. on a summer Friday, the only traffic jam in Albuquerque's inner city is at a liquor store's drive-through window.

But within an hour, pedestrian traffic will be shoulder to shoulder on the main thoroughfare. The human bottleneck, initiated by home missionary Ken Goode, is protesting gang violence that has wrecked the neighborhood.

The Baptist Neighborhood Center which Goode directs used to be a regular victim of gang destruction, its walls transformed into easels for graffiti artists.

One morning three years ago, Goode found a person reading the graffiti that covered the building. For an hour they talked, with the stranger explaining the gangs' symbols and history.

Goode in turn explained his work at the center and that money he spent to clean up the graffiti took funding from programs to help people in the community. The center has had almost no graffiti problems since then.

"That changed my attitude about gangs. We tend to think they're just a bunch of bums, but he treated me with real respect," Goode said.

In a sense, Goode also has respect for the gangs.

"They offer acceptance and security and an economy. Those three things are deficient in the neighborhoods where gangs are active. Some of the families around here are so bad, it's almost a step up to be in a gang,"

said Goode, who is on the Albuquerque gang task force as well as a Home Mission Board youth gang task force.

Yet Goode has no respect for the gangs' methods. Youths earn acceptance through criminal or dangerous deeds. Security is provided through violence. The economy is based on drugs.

Goode's approach is to provide alternatives, he said. "We're trying to create an environment that does not put these kids at risk for gang involvement."

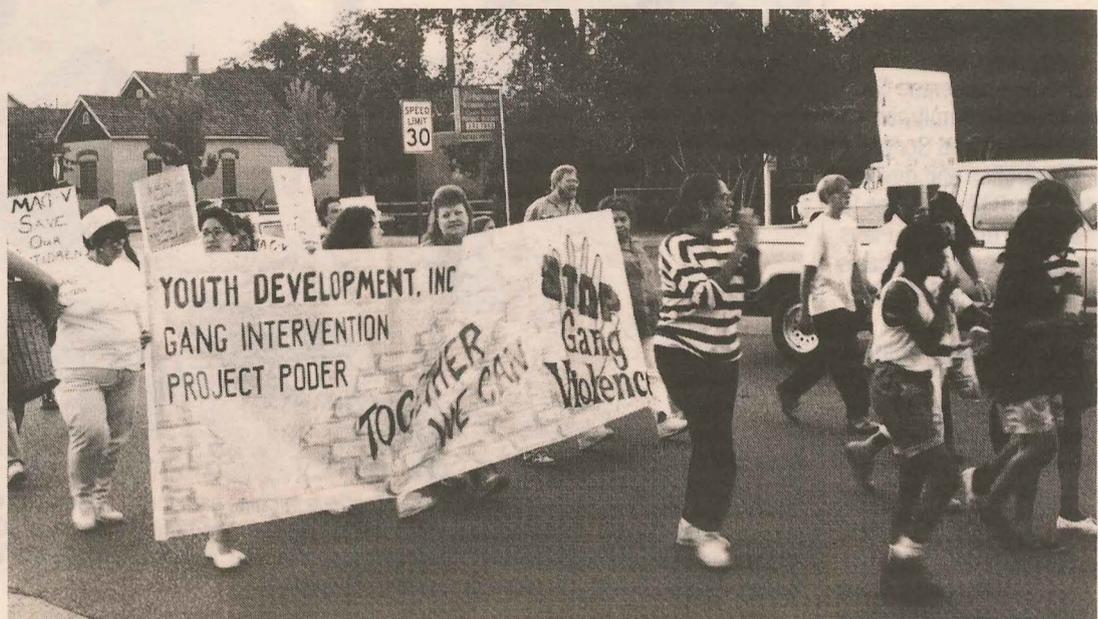
This summer his tactics included neighborhood marches. In June, a group began meeting every Friday at 6 p.m. The 60 people included church members, representatives of neighborhood associations, members of a youth drug intervention group, a local elementary school principal and uniformed police officers.

The marchers carried banners with slogans like "Your hope is our concern" and "When you've tried everything else, try Jesus." They chanted in unison, "We're taking back our neighborhood" and "Say no to dope and yes to hope."

Typically they walked to a known crack house. They stopped outside, sang a chorus or two and witnessed to people on the street.

"I don't know that the march itself has had that much impact, but it has said that a lot of people in this neighborhood are sick of the violence," Goode said. "It's made it a lot quieter summer than usual."

Goode said he is convinced communities of all sizes across the nation are affected by gang activity. And churches which are active in their



communities can be instrumental in gang intervention, he suggested.

Churches are "missing the ball" if they are not available to children in their community, Goode continued.

Only 10 percent of people who say they are involved in gangs are hardcore members. They could be dangerous and should be dealt with by law enforcement officers or others with special training, Goode said. Perhaps another 20 percent are in training to be hard-core members.

But those gang members should not keep churches from ministering to the vast majority of gang-related youths whom Goode described as "wannabes." They talk like gang members for status but Goode said they are easily approachable.

Christians have all the resources they need to minister to gang members, Goode said, because they have the compassion that comes from their relationship with Jesus Christ.

Effective ministry in areas controlled by gangs will include after-school, evening and weekend programs to keep children busy, he said.

The program at the Baptist Neighborhood Center is called "Amigos." It offers crafts, arts, recreation and educational assistance six days a week.

Gang prevention ministry also will include programs that lead to job opportunities, Goode said.

"Gangs are a product of an environment that has no other outlet. The kids are school dropouts, and realistically their job opportunities are zilch."

ON THE MARCH Weekly marches to protest gang violence in Albuquerque, N.M., this summer drew a variety of participants, including church members, representatives of neighborhood associations, uniformed police officers and a local elementary school principal. (BP photo by Sarah Zimmerman)

Small church finds niche in books

ABERDEEN, Miss. (BP)—A small, ambitious church in rural Mississippi has found a unique ministry as a receiving and shipping point for donated religious materials headed for worldwide mission fields.

Central Grove Baptist Church, a 126-member congregation located between Aberdeen and Tupelo is a partner in the the BookLink program of the National Fellowship of Baptist Educators.

Since the BookLink program was authorized by the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission in 1988, almost 60,000 pieces of material weighing 11.4 tons and valued at over \$137,000 have been shipped to 52 countries and five U.S. states.

Tom Booth, Central Grove's Sunday school director and new director of shipping for BookLink, said an article in a Tupelo newspaper sparked his interest in the program.

On a recent night, boxes and bags of donated materials lined the walls of the church's fellowship hall. Church members listened as the national director of BookLink, Hal Buchanan, explained the intricacies of international mail.

Using heavy kraft paper donated by a Tupelo cardboard manu-

facturer, Buchanan carefully wrapped dozens of Baptist Hymnals and explained how to ensure the packages endure the rigors of rough handling and international customs inspections.

The first Central Grove shipment is bound for Nigeria missionary Alma Rohm.

There are many ways for churches and church groups to contribute to the success of BookLink, Buchanan said.

"The opportunities for 'hands-on' mission efforts for all ages are too numerous to list them all," he continued.

The greatest demand, however, is for donations of religious books and other publications to meet the needs of Southern Baptist missionaries, national pastors, church planters, teachers, libraries and seminaries around the world.

Donations of money and supplies to help with the costs of the program also are accepted, Buchanan said.

Donations should be sent to Tom Booth, BookLink Director of Shipping, Route 1, Box 217, Aberdeen, Miss. 39730. For more information on the program itself, Buchanan can be contacted at 2121 Briar Ridge Road, Tupelo, Miss. 38801.

Dakota Baptists sweat it out to thank Floridians in need

By Barbara Denman
Florida Baptist Convention

FLORIDA CITY, Fla. (BP)—Driving 49 hours, 2,000 miles and stopping only for gas and oil, seven men from North and South Dakota celebrated Labor Day toiling in temperatures registering 90 degrees.

"This is quite a change for us," said Rex Tollefson of Rapid City, S.D. "We left 40-degree temperatures back home."

The group of Dakotans came to South Florida in the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew to help Florida Baptists. In the process they discovered a new way to express partnership.

For the past five years, the Florida Baptist Convention and the Dakota Southern Baptist Fellowship have shared a partnership relationship. Over the years, Florida Baptists have sent many mission teams to the northern states, served in church-to-church linkages and subsidized many training events.

The soaring heat, humidity and no-frills living conditions were hard on the Dakotans. One suffered a heat stroke as he carried food to homes.

But Claud Williams, pastor of the Capitol Heights Baptist Church in Pierre, S.D., said the opportunity to say thank you to Florida in a tangible

way was well worth the hardships.

Florida's Campers on Missions recently painted the Capitol Heights Church building, led in worship services and backyard Bible clubs and shared their Christian testimony with the entire town, Williams said.

The men from the Dakotas cleaned out stairways at First Baptist Church in Florida City, cut down trees in nearby neighborhoods and carried food and supplies to people.

During their trips on the backroads, they loaded a horse trailer and offered supplies from "a mobile grocery store." They found several families who had been stranded in devastated homes without electricity, water or transportation since Andrew cut a path through their yard.

They found one couple in their 70s who had pitched a tent in their backyard, unable to walk through the remains of their home. They lost their car, making it impossible to get to the feeding station in town. The only food they had received in the two weeks after the storm was what one neighbor had shared. Portions of their dentures had blown away in the wind.

Covering her mouth in embarrassment, the elderly woman expressed amazement that the Dakota volunteers had traveled so far to help them in their time of need.

WORLDVIEW

■ **The American Bible Society** has made an unprecedented \$100 million commitment to expand Scripture distribution and develop national Bible societies to support that work. Plans call for a new emphasis from 1993 to 1996.

■ **A Korean religious sect** known as the Shela Missionary Society has encouraged its followers to drop everything and prepare for the Second Coming of Christ at midnight Oct. 20 or Oct. 28. Many of the followers reportedly have sold everything they own to buy a "guaranteed" ticket to heaven from the sect.

■ **The tomb of Caiaphas**, the high priest who delivered Jesus to Pontius Pilate for trial, may have been unearthed by workers widening a road in Jerusalem. The large burial site was discovered in 1990, and archaeologists now say the artifacts found there point strongly to Caiaphas' family.

■ **Baptist leaders** in England are looking for people who have lost their spiritual roots. A new program targeting those who once attended church but since have dropped out will culminate in October 1993. "We often think people have rejected Jesus when, in fact, they have simply been put off by the churches," said Stephen Gaukroger, the Baptist pastor who came up with the idea.



FOUR GRANDMAS These four Christian grandmothers in China have found a rewarding way to spend retirement: fluttering and fussing over orphaned babies at Nanjing Children's Welfare Center. The center is home to 300 orphans, newborns to age 14. Many were abandoned because of birth defects or their female gender. The "Grandmothers Project" is supported indirectly by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. (BP photo by Lounette Templeton)

Chinese grandmothers love orphan babies

By Lounette Templeton
SBC Foreign Mission Board

NANJING, China (BP)—Four grandmothers in China have found a rewarding way to spend retirement: fluttering and fussing over orphaned babies.

"Grandma" Li Chengyao looks forward to going to work every morning to care for infants at Nanjing Children's Welfare Center.

Some people wonder why she works when she's already retired. Li says she enjoys "touching and loving" the babies—many abandoned because of birth defects or their female gender.

Li and the three other retirees—who all have their own grandchildren—do more than touch and love. Two are doctors and two are registered nurses. They give expert medical attention to their foster grandchildren.

The center is home to 300 orphans—newborns to age 14.

The Amity Foundation, a non-government Chinese organization providing educational and humanitarian assistance in China, sponsors the "Grandmothers Project." Amity was

begun by Chinese Christians and others wanting to aid their nation.

Cooperative Services International, a Southern Baptist aid organization, has provided resources and funds for a number of Amity projects.

Christians are especially equipped for social work in China because the government doesn't provide such services, according to Tan Liying. Tan administers Amity's social welfare projects that focus on rehabilitating the disabled.

"As Christians we naturally think of humanitarian concern for those who need help," Tan said. "In China, there are no trained social workers. The government takes care of the basic needs of people, but society is more complicated. We do have social needs."

Many Chinese don't understand handicapped people, Tan added. "There's discrimination against the handicapped, the retarded, those with birth defects. Even parents don't know better."

The grandmothers don't discriminate, though. They cuddle and care for each infant with love only a grandmother can give. They spend six hours

a day, six days a week with the infants.

A Nanjing hospital recently offered 64-year-old doctor Li Aizhen a staff position. But she prefers the orphanage job with its small stipend.

"I'm happiest when I see the children respond to my care," Li said.

She told about a child who couldn't walk or talk upon arrival. "The child needed the most basic thing you can give—love."

Within weeks the child was walking and talking. "I've helped five learn to walk," she related.

Ling Xiaohua, a nurse for 38 years, remembered another child whose parents reclaimed her after welfare center surgeons repaired the girl's cleft palate. "I'm so happy to have a part in helping the children get a decent start in life," Ling said.

The fourth grandmother, Guan Qianxu, a doctor for 43 years, summed up the women's work: "We love the children, feed them, change their diapers, talk to them, hold them, give them exercise, make sure they are healthy and continually pray for them. We treat them just like our own grandchildren."

'Jerusalem Syndrome' takes tourists over edge

JERUSALEM (EP)—The "Jerusalem Syndrome" is a name psychiatrists have given to the phenomenon that causes dozens of visitors to Israel to become delusional each year.

Those who fall prey to the syndrome decide they are Jesus Christ or John the Baptist or King David and sometimes begin wandering the streets of Jerusalem. Some are disturbed before they arrive in Israel, but many others with no recorded psychiatric history also succumb, said Dr. Yair Bar-El, director of a government

psychiatric hospital.

Bar-El said victims tend to stick to their own religious traditions, with Christians likely to believe they are Christ, the Virgin Mary or John the Baptist and Jews leaning toward King David or other Old Testament figures.

Exactly what causes the syndrome is unknown. But a Western diplomat told the New York Times that tourists come to Jerusalem "expecting to find a city of peace, where they can put aside their troubles, and they find it is filled with tension. That's when

there's the disconnect."

Bar-El said most people who get Jerusalem Syndrome get over it in a few days.

But his experience has shown there's little point in trying to talk people out of such delusions.

A few years ago, his hospital had two patients at the same time who thought they were the Messiah. Bar-El put them together with little success. "They spoke and they discussed. And finally each decided that the other was an imposter," he recalled.

Carter says Baptist World Alliance expands view

ATLANTA (BP)—The Baptist World Alliance can embrace the world in a way local churches cannot do alone, according to former President Jimmy Carter.

Carter spoke recently with BWA leaders visiting the Carter Presidential

Center in Atlanta.

"While the local church can do a lot, it cannot encompass the world the way the BWA can," Carter said, referring to his local church, Maranatha Baptist in Plains, Ga.

"We go along to church on Sun-

day morning," Carter said, "and our congregations are made up of people who drive similar cars, wear similar clothes and are the same color. That is why the BWA is so important to us. It helps us to reach out to those who are different to us."

Troops leave but churches still needed

WIESBADEN, Germany (BP)—As American soldiers head home by the thousands from post-Cold War Europe, they take with them the need for English-language churches in some areas.

Five English-language Baptist churches in Germany have closed during the past year because of the "draw-down" of U.S. military forces.

But an ambitious church-planting effort begun several years ago has resulted in the starting of seven new churches, reaching mostly English-speaking internationals.

The churches are affiliated with the European Baptist Convention based in Wiesbaden, Germany, a fellowship of 60 English-language churches with close Southern Baptist ties. EBC staffers are Southern Baptist missionaries; most pastors are missionaries or have Southern Baptist backgrounds.

The convention is seeking experienced Southern Baptists to start English-language churches in dozens of cities in Western and Eastern Europe, said missionary John Merritt, EBC general secretary. Leaders hope to assemble a "strike team" of such workers who could move quickly to a site to start work or continue ministry when openings occur.

Ongoing surveys of dozens of European cities will determine top-priority locations for other new English-language churches.

The European convention's latest church-planting push caps a decade during which 18 English-language churches started across Europe. Of that number, 15 were begun in major cities to reach international English speakers. Only three targeted American military personnel.

Increasingly, EBC churches have begun reaching out to English speakers in Europe with no U.S. military connections.

Up to 350,000 American troops were in Europe during the Cold War. But since the breakup of the Soviet Union, U.S. troops there already number fewer than 220,000—with more cuts to come. By 1995, fewer than 100,000 American soldiers will be in Europe, military leaders say.

But English is widely spoken in Europe. Nearly half of all business deals are conducted in English, for example. English-language television, radio, music and movies boost English beyond any other language.

Eastern Europeans are particularly keen on learning English. They see the language as their key to better economic lives.

When a Baptist church in Wroclaw, Poland, opened a school to teach English two years ago, more than 2,000 people applied—far more than the school could handle.

Southern Baptists interested in the church-planting ministry should contact John Merritt or Ray Reynolds at the European Baptist Convention office: 60 Sonnenberger Strasse, W-6200 Wiesbaden, Germany (telephone 011-49-611-523016, fax 011-49-611-590883).