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FOR THE RECORD

This week's Western Recorder contains extensive coverage of the Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meeting, held in Louisville Nov. 10-11. Additional coverage of the convention and most pre-convention meetings will be included in next week's paper.

EVENTS

The third issue of Events for All Kentucky Baptists is included in this week's Western Recorder. Events is a supplement prepared by the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Executive Board staff as a way to reduce direct mailings to church leaders and thereby better control costs. If you receive multiple copies of this week's paper, please let us know. Some subscribers are getting more than one copy on the weeks Events is published due to undetected duplications between the Recorder's mailing list and the KBC's mailing list. To report duplication, please send the mailing labels from all copies you received this week to Western Recorder, Box 43969, Louisville, Ky. 40253, or call (502) 244-6470.

Stewart accepts presidency for bivocationalists

By Marv Knox
Editor

LOUISVILLE—Charles Stewart characteristically accepted the presidency of the Kentucky Baptist Convention "on behalf of 800 bivocational pastors in Kentucky" Nov. 11.

Bivocational pastors are at the forefront of Stewart's mind. He was one for 31 years, and he's their national leader this year.

Stewart has been pastor of Rose Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Ashland since 1964—10 years and two bivocational congregations after his ordination. He served bivocationally until he retired from the Kentucky-West Virginia Gas Co. in 1985. And he's the current president of the Southern Baptist National Council on Bivocational Ministries.

So, although he headed a slate of conservative-backed nominees for KBC offices, Stewart said his com-

mitment to bivocational ministry and his appreciation for the Kentucky convention prompted him to accept the nomination.

"I'm honored and really pleased" to be elected KBC president, Stewart said in an interview the day after his election. "I feel the bivocational recognition was one of the things that appealed to the people. I accept this on behalf of all the bivocational people in Kentucky. They work hard, and I really appreciate them."

One of the goals of the bivocational council has been to get bivocational ministers elected to positions of leadership within the Southern Baptist Convention and the state Baptist conventions, he said.

"Some of my friends asked me to run" for KBC president this year, he reported. "I told them I wasn't well-enough known to be elected. But true to my commitment to the bivocational work, I allowed my name to be sub-

mitted, because I want to encourage bivocationalists."

Stewart was endorsed in a letter to pastors written and circulated by Terry Sammons, pastor of New Heights Baptist Church in Louisville. Sammons attended a conference at Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, Tenn., this summer, which organizers said was designed in part to share strategies for exerting conservative control over state conventions.

But Stewart disavowed his participation in any effort to change the KBC.

"I'm not part of any movement," he said. "My goal as president will be to lead all the churches and encourage all the churches."

"I'm my own man. I answer to my church. Now I answer to the convention. I'll do what's right. But as to being a pusher of an agenda, I'm not a crusader."

"I believe the people put me in

there because they trust me. I'm not going to betray that trust," he stressed. "If I don't do what's best for Kentucky Baptists, then God help me."

His desire to do "what's best" grows out of love and appreciation, Stewart added. "I think the Kentucky Baptist is a marvelous convention, and I love it very much."

"I've been thrilled to be part of the (KBC) Executive Board and its administrative committee and to see the workings of the convention. It gave me an appreciation for the tremendous work our convention does and for the leadership of our convention. They've been mighty good to me."

The KBC has helped Rose Hill Church start its four mission congregations, he noted.

Stewart said he has one primary agenda for his year as president. "My leadership will be exactly like my leadership in church," he explained. □ See Stewart accepts ..., page 7

BJC fund set but critics will try again

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

LOUISVILLE—The Baptist Joint Committee once again will get funds from the Kentucky Baptist Convention starting next year, but that funding could be short-lived if opponents of the religious liberty agency have their way.

Messengers to the KBC's annual meeting Nov. 10 failed to rescind a motion adopted last year in support of the Baptist Joint Committee. That motion instructed the KBC Executive Board "to find a way to provide funds" for the Baptist Joint Committee through the KBC budget beginning in 1993-94.

The day before this year's annual meeting began, the KBC Executive Board approved on a 69-34 vote a way to do what the 1991 motion requested by establishing a \$200,000 special fund. That investment, to be owned by the Executive Board, is to be funded by unspent funds and interest income at the end of the next two budget years.

At current interest rates, that would provide about \$17,000 per year to the Baptist Joint Committee. That amount is comparable to the support it received from Kentucky Baptists before the agency was eliminated from the national Cooperative Program unified budget of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Undesignated money sent from local churches to the Kentucky Baptist Cooperative Program is divided, with a portion staying in Kentucky and another portion going on to the national CP budget. As conservative Baptists gained control of the SBC's national structure in recent years, they were able to defund the Baptist Joint Committee, which they say is too liberal.

Moderate Baptists, who defend the □ See Joint Committee ..., page 6



CELEBRATION Larnelle Harris, a nationally known Christian singer and member of Maple Grove Baptist Church in Louisville, joins with a Long Run Baptist Association choir to present a musical celebration on the first night of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's annual meeting at St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville.

Summary of KBC messengers' key actions

LOUISVILLE—Here is a summary of the key actions voted on by messengers to the 155th annual Kentucky Baptist Convention, meeting at St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville, Nov. 10-11:

■ **Officers.** Elected Charles Stewart, pastor of Rose Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Ashland, as president; Bill Crosby, pastor of Erlanger Baptist Church in Northern Kentucky, first vice president; Brad Johnson, pastor of Living Hope Baptist Church in Bowling Green, second vice president; Wilma Simmons of Ekron, secretary; and Joe Priest Williams of Louisville, assistant secretary.

■ **Budget.** Adopted an operating budget goal of \$17.34 million for the 1993-94 Cooperative Program unified budget, with 37.304 percent of undesignated receipts going to Southern Baptist causes and 62.969

percent going to Kentucky Baptist causes.

■ **Messenger qualification.** Defeated by a vote of 718-705 a proposed constitutional amendment that would have allowed churches to gain messenger status by contributing "to the work of the KBC" rather than through the Cooperative Program only.

■ **Baptist Joint Committee.** Declined to rescind an action taken by last year's convention to provide KBC funds for the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs. Although 409 votes were cast in favor of the motion to rescind—more than the 402 votes in opposition to rescinding—the measure failed for lack of a two-thirds majority.

■ **Foundation.** Approved amendments to the Kentucky Baptist Foundation's articles of incorporation and covenant agreement with

the KBC.

One change will allow the Foundation "to serve and administer funds of any Baptist institution, church, agency or enterprise which is approved by the board of directors ... and whose purpose is not in conflict with" KBC causes. Another change will allow the Foundation to administer funds for some non-Baptist causes if the gift also provides funds for KBC-approved Baptist causes.

■ **Resolutions.** Passed four resolutions—one calling homosexual behavior "a sinful act" but not "the unpardonable sin," one calling for prayer for elected officials, one opposing extra-curricular school activities on Sundays and one thanking the convention's host church and presiding officers.

Compiled by News Director Mark Wingfield

BAPTISTS

BAPTIST BITS

■ **Southern Baptists** should lay aside their differences and unite to reach the \$84 million goal for the 1992 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions, said Don Kammerdiener, the Foreign Mission Board's interim president. "The \$84 million goal is not only reachable—just 3.5 percent higher than what was actually given last year—but it is one we must meet if the board is to keep from curtailing some of its work," Kammerdiener said.

■ **The largest white and African-American bodies** in South Carolina have announced plans to send volunteers to work together in church projects in Kenya, Africa. The South Carolina Baptist Convention and the Baptist Educational and Missionary Convention of South Carolina will join together in a three-year partnership with Kenya Baptists through the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

■ **An African-American** preached during a worship service at First Baptist Church of Augusta, Ga., "mother church" of the Southern Baptist Convention, for the first time ever Oct. 25. The Southern Baptist Convention was formed at the Augusta church in 1845 in part over a dispute with Baptists of the North about slavery. Philadelphia pastor William Augustus Jones was invited in order to demonstrate the church's commitment to racial harmony.

Chapman says Fellowship should leave

MOORE, Okla. (BP)—As a matter of integrity, the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship should separate itself from the Southern Baptist Convention, Morris Chapman said.

"Their greatest integrity would be openly declaring they no longer are cooperating Southern Baptists, rather than claiming to be Southern Baptists and trying to draw funds from good-hearted, grass-roots Southern Baptists," said Chapman, president-treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee.

Chapman made the comment Nov. 11 during an interview with The Daily Oklahoman of Oklahoma City.

He confirmed his position to Baptist Press Nov. 13. Neither the Fellowship's coordinator nor moderator were immediately available to respond.

Fellowship members and "mainstream" Southern Baptists seem unlikely to overcome their differences, Chapman told the newspaper's religion editor. "Every indication points to the fact that they are a denomination in the making," he said.

Meanwhile, Southern Baptists have "continually elected in this era conservative (leaders) because they

wanted to stay latched to the Bible as God's inspired word," he added.

Chapman's statements came on the heels of a Nov. 6 Baptist Press article in which he voiced concern over the Fellowship's promotion of its Global Missions Offering in 700 Southern Baptist churches, seeking to meet a \$2 million goal.

The promotion's timing parallels the SBC's traditional Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions, with a goal this year of \$84 million to support the work of 3,900 missionaries in 126 countries.

Targeting the Fellowship offering's theme, "Keeping the Promises," Chapman stated: "Don't let anybody tell you that Southern Baptists have lost their long-held vision for world missions. We do need the help of every Southern Baptist church. I have great faith that our Southern Baptist churches, with very few exceptions, will not participate in anything which attempts to undermine our world missions efforts through the Cooperative Program and special missions offerings."

In a statement to Baptist Press Nov. 13, Chapman said Baptists should understand there is a difference

between being a moderate and being a member of the Fellowship.

Not all moderates in the SBC are members of the Fellowship, he said. "In fact, many moderates are loyal to the Southern Baptist Convention and are strong supporters of the Cooperative Program."

The Fellowship is "a different story," Chapman said, because it is "competing against our missions organizations for gifts and manpower while claiming to be loyal Southern Baptists."

While Southern Baptists in the past were approached with alternative funding requests from organizations such as Campus Crusade, the Fellowship is different because it fosters "antagonism against the Cooperative Program," he explained.

Chapman said the Fellowship makes a point of its diversity, but the SBC still is more diverse than the Fellowship. "The SBC encompasses conservatives and moderates in more than 38,000 churches; we worship in 101 languages each Sunday. You will find—and will continue to find—a wide range of perspectives among those who work for our seminaries, agencies and Baptist Press network."

President could be picked by mid-March

LOUISVILLE (BP)—The presidential search committee at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary plans to select a potential president by mid-March, according to committee Chairman Wayne Allen.

Allen, pastor of Briarwood Baptist Church in Cordova, Tenn., said the search committee is "prayerfully optimistic" a nominee will be presented to the 63-member trustee board at its April 19-21 meeting.

The seven-member trustee committee has not decided whether it will announce the name of its choice prior to the board meeting, he said. Committee members are seeking a successor to Roy Honeycutt, who announced

Oct. 12 he will retire from the seminary presidency at the end of 1993.

Meanwhile, the search committee is developing a profile for the school's ninth president with input from various seminary constituency leaders, Allen said. The committee met Nov. 5-6 with the seminary's deans, vice presidents, provost and faculty representatives. "All our meetings were very positive," said Allen, who is also chairman of the trustee board. "We had good input from each group."

A "short list" of candidates for the presidency will be developed at a meeting in mid-January, Allen said.

Interviews of candidates on the short list will be conducted in mid-

February, Allen said, noting that search committee meetings in 1993 will be held off campus.

Allen said the search committee hopes the next president will be able to assume full-time duties as president-elect in early summer and serve alongside Honeycutt through December. The lengthy period of full-time service as president-elect was suggested by Honeycutt as a way to provide a smoother transition, he added.

Nominations are being accepted through Dec. 18. All letters of recommendation should be accompanied by a complete resume and mailed to Presidential Search Committee, Box 7767, Louisville, Ky. 40257-0767.

Parks: SBC had 'hostile takeover'

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas (ABP)—What has happened in the Southern Baptist Convention since 1979 is tantamount to a "hostile takeover," said Keith Parks, who recently left his post as leader of the SBC Foreign Mission Board.

Parks became FMB president in 1979, the same year conservatives won control of the denominational structure. He retired Oct. 31—three years earlier than planned—because he said that controversy is now disrupting the SBC's foreign missions efforts.

"Intimidation, reward and punishment are the order of the day," he charged in his first speech since leaving the presidency. "I can document that."

Parks spoke Nov. 10 to an overflow crowd of more than 1,100 people gathered for a meeting of Texas Baptists Committed, held in Corpus Christi.

He said trust among Southern

Baptists, which has since become a victim in the controversy, was what made the denomination vulnerable. "We didn't build in (constitutional) safeguards to avoid takeover," he said, because it would "violate our trust."

"We have changed from being the people we have been," the 65-year-old Parks said.

When he described those changes in a recent letter to missionaries, Parks was criticized by trustees and others. But his critics didn't deny that there had been a change, Parks said, they only said he shouldn't have spoken out publicly.

"When you reach the point where the truth can't be revealed, I want no part of it," Parks said.

Southern Baptists have lost spiritual authority, he said, and have become "the laughing stock of the world" because they have not followed through on their commitments.

SBC missionary abducted in Cali

CALI, Colombia (BP)—An unidentified Colombian man briefly kidnapped and threatened a Southern Baptist missionary Oct. 28, according to reports from strife-torn Colombia.

The missionary, now on a regularly scheduled furlough with his family in the United States, was abducted by a man who forced his way into the missionary's vehicle at gunpoint at a traffic light in Cali.

The man ordered the missionary to drive and then issued general threats about "gringos" and said they should leave Colombia, according to an official of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

After about 30 minutes, the man ordered the missionary to stop the car and left without harming him.

FMB officials declined to release the missionary's name for security reasons but noted that missionaries in Cali in particular and throughout the country in general have been on an increased state of alert since the incident. The FMB has 55 missionary personnel assigned to Colombia.

They also said they have no idea how or if the incident relates to general strife in Colombia, a nation now operating under a national state of emergency declared by Colombian President Cesar Gaviria to combat a new wave of guerrilla and drug violence.

As missionaries increase security measures, they urge Southern Baptists to pray for the situation in Colombia and for them as they go about their normal duties, an FMB official said.

Messengers object to preacher

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa. (BP)—History was made at the 22nd annual meeting of the Baptist Convention of Pennsylvania/South Jersey Nov. 5-7, but not everyone was happy with it.

"In our diversity there is unity," said William Johnson, convention president and pastor of the Christian Mission Fellowship Baptist Church in Philadelphia. He told the 282 messengers and visitors at the opening session it was historic that the first African-American president was presiding and a woman would be bringing the convention sermon.

Not all people attending were pleased with the program. Several pastors and wives left the meeting just before the message by Gaynor Yancey, a 22-year Southern Baptist home missionary in Philadelphia.

Yancey, invited by the program and arrangements committee to speak, told about sharing Christ with the homeless, abused women, people with AIDS, children at risk, people who are hungry and others.

Danny Crow, pastor of Pittsburgh Baptist Church and the convention's representative to the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, brought the issue to the convention floor. He expressed deep appreciation for Yancey and her ministry, but said he felt the action was unscriptural.

"Philosophically and theoretically, we tacitly endorsed carte blanche women pastors/preachers by our actions last night. And this practice is not practiced nor is it approved in most of our churches. I think we should say that when we say a convention sermon."

Lyle Dease, pastor of Yellow Breeches Baptist Chapel in Boiling Springs, Pa., and chairman of the program and arrangements committee, was asked to respond.

"It was not our intention, and it was not any thought of ours that we were setting a precedent," he said. "All we did was in honor of the years of service that Gaynor Yancey has given to our convention."

Mollette appeals for harmony in president's address

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

LOUISVILLE—Just hours before the Kentucky Baptist Convention conducted one of its most tense business sessions in recent history, the convention president appealed for harmony based on the model of Jesus.

Glenn Mollette, pastor of First Baptist Church of Pikeville, delivered the KBC president's address during the opening session of the annual meeting Nov. 10. The sessions were held at St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville.

The afternoon session that followed Mollette's sermon brought hotly contested balloting on several is-

issues, impassioned speeches from messengers and bickering over parliamentary rules of order.

But in his sermon, Mollette spoke from Philippians 2 to say Jesus should be messengers' model for harmony.

"The biggest mandate we may have before us as a state convention, as a national convention and in many of our churches is just to get along," he said.

"While the world is ready to delight in every church fight and denominational squabble, it should not be so with us," he declared. "If we will look to Jesus, if we will follow Jesus, if we will love Jesus, we will have harmony."

Harmony is essential to the surviv-

al of any organization, Mollette said, noting people will not be attracted to churches or conventions where members "cut each others' throats."

Further, the convention "cannot function unless all the parts of the body are together," he said.

Kentucky Baptists should seek harmony "for Jesus' sake," Mollette suggested. The harmony of believers could be one of the greatest testimonies the church has for non-believers, he explained.

"We live in a world that says look out for No. 1. ... But that's not what the Bible says."

The keys to achieving harmony, Mollette said, include gaining humility, seeing the spiritual lostness of

America, being determined to make it work and having "a team spirit that says we can."

The stakes are high, he said, because the church carries God's message of hope for hurting humanity.

"Bill Clinton doesn't have the answer to hurting America," he said. "George Bush doesn't have the answer to hurting America."

"We have the answer in this book," he said, pointing to his Bible. "The answer is Jesus."

Rather than debating divisive issues or looking in vain for a perfect state convention, Kentucky Baptists should be pulling together to tell people about the hope of Jesus, Mollette said.



Glenn Mollette

Convention sermon warns of trading treasure for trivial

By Marv Knox
Editor

LOUISVILLE—Christians must beware the folly of "trading a treasure for something trivial," Brad Johnson warned in the Kentucky Baptist Convention's annual sermon at St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville last week.

Johnson told the story of Esau and Jacob, twin brothers from the third generation of the biblical family that became the Jewish people.

As a young man, a hungry Esau traded his birthright—the privilege of becoming the patriarch of the family and the right to a double portion of the family inheritance—to Jacob for a bowl of soup, reminded Johnson, pastor of Living Hope Baptist Church in Bowling Green.

Consequently, Jacob went on to become one of the fathers of the Jewish nation and religion instead of Esau, he added.

"Why Esau?" Johnson asked. "In

a moment of temptation, Esau was trapped."

Characters from throughout the Bible also succumbed to temptation, he noted, adding Christians still face temptation.

"It's your own worst nightmare. It's sudden. It's sin. It hits quickly. No one is free from the treachery of sudden sin."

Fortunately, Christians can take several steps to avoid Esau's mistakes, Johnson confirmed. They include:

■ "Beware the issue of hunger," he urged. The temptation is not one of actual food, but of selfishness versus selflessness.

People fall into this temptation when they fail to consider God's plan for their lives, he said, noting, "We must look beyond 'the plate' to consider God's plan."

■ "Don't fly solo," Johnson added. "What would have happened if a friend would have been with Esau? What if someone had been there to

say, 'Esau, you're making a big mistake?'"

People need companions to help them and encourage them when temptation beckons, he stressed.

"Even the Lone Ranger had Tonto," he recalled. "And the first time God said something was 'not good' was when he said, 'It is not good that man should live alone.'"

Christian leaders, from the Apostle Paul to current authors and speakers such as Tony Campolo have insisted they need constant Christian companionship to avoid temptation, he reported.

■ "Slow down," Johnson cautioned, admitting, "I'm the guy on your bumper when you're driving the speed limit."

But he noted: "It is in decisions made in haste that we find those things that come back to haunt us. ... When somebody tells us to slow down, we look at our lists of things to do and don't know where to get off."

"Did you ever study the pace of

Jesus?" he asked. "Every period of expended power in our Savior's life was preceded by or followed by a period of rest."

"Though it may sound noble to say, 'I'd rather burn out than rust out,' in both cases we're out. God put us here for the long haul."

■ "Consider the consequences of the long haul," Johnson said.

He recounted the tragic example of Earvin "Magic" Johnson, the basketball player who contracted AIDS from promiscuous sexual activity. "The message of Magic is this: There are consequences," he insisted. "Magic traded his career, intimacy with his new wife and ultimately his life."

Unfortunately, temptation is a fact of life, Johnson acknowledged. But he warned Christians to keep their lives and the things they value in perspective.

"What's on the line in your life?" he asked. "What do you treasure? I would plead with you not to sell yourself short."



Brad Johnson

Stewart, Crosby & Johnson elected KBC's top officers

By Marv Knox
Editor

LOUISVILLE—Charles Stewart, a national leader among bivocational pastors, defeated a pastor and a layman for the Kentucky Baptist Convention presidency last week.

Stewart, pastor of Rose Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Ashland for more than 28 years, worked for the Kentucky-West Virginia Gas Co. for 38 years. He is president of the Southern Baptist National Council on Bivocational Ministries.

He was challenged by Herbert Booth, a retired physician from Florence, and Greg Earwood, pastor of First Baptist Church of Murray.

On the first ballot, Stewart received 578 votes, to Earwood's 493 and 333 for Booth. Stewart won a runoff vote with Earwood, 646-560.

Stewart was nominated by Rodney Burnette, pastor of Ninth & O Baptist Church in Louisville. Booth was nominated by Michael Watts, pastor of Edgewood Baptist Church in Hopkinsville, and Earwood was nominated by Howard Cobble, pastor of Severns Valley Baptist Church in Eliza-

bethtown.

In other officer elections:

■ Bill Crosby, pastor of Erlanger Baptist Church in Erlanger, defeated Louisville businessman John Michael for first vice president, 366-285.

Crosby was nominated by Robert DeFoor, pastor of Harrodsburg Baptist Church in Harrodsburg, and Michael was nominated by Bill Hancock, pastor of Highview Baptist Church in Louisville.

■ Brad Johnson, pastor of Living Hope Baptist Church in Bowling Green, won second vice president over John Nunley, director of missions for Liberty Baptist Association in the Glasgow area, 432-262.

Billy Compton, pastor of First Baptist Church of Mt. Washington, nominated Johnson, and Jewell Pruitt, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church in Glasgow, nominated Nunley.

■ Messengers re-elected Secretary Wilma Simmons of Ekron and Assistant Secretary Joe Priest Williams of Louisville by acclamation.

They were nominated by outgoing First Vice President Floyd Price, pastor of Buck Grove Baptist Church, near Ekron.



KBC OFFICERS Joe Priest Williams, assistant secretary; Wilma Simmons, secretary; Charles Stewart, president; Bill Crosby, first vice president; Brad Johnson, second vice president.

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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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Pastors' Conference examines talks with Jesus

By Marv Knox & Mark Wingfield
Editor & News Director

LOUISVILLE—Jesus communicates with people today through the discussions he had 2,000 years ago, speakers at the Kentucky Baptist Pastors' Conference said last week.

"Let Us Have a Little Talk With Jesus" was the theme for the conference, held Nov. 9 at St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville.

"When we're having a little talk with Jesus, not infrequently our words focus not on him, but on ourselves and that which is 'for show' in our lives," Eddie Hatfield, regional director of development at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, stressed in the theme interpretation.

"It is God's nature to reach out to humankind," Hatfield insisted. "We do not storm the citadels of heaven to get God's attention, but it is he who initiates communication with us. ... That communication is instant, total, absolute, loving and caring."

It also is life-changing, he added, noting, "After we talk with Jesus, we can never return to life as usual."

An all-Kentucky lineup of preachers presented sermons on seven conversations Jesus had with individuals. In those discussions, Jesus talked to:

■ **The centurion.** This Roman soldier told Jesus that if Jesus would only say the words, the centurion's servant could be healed.

Such faith is simple, said Bill Crosby, pastor of Erlanger Baptist Church in Erlanger: "We live in a complicated world, but faith is simple."

The centurion's "simple faith" was able to do three things, he added: see the potential of Christ's ability to heal, break down racial and legal barriers between a Roman soldier and a Jewish teacher, and provide ultimate meaning and understanding.

"When we come to God in ultimate faith, he gives us his love, gives us his grace and gives us what we need—not what we deserve," Crosby promised.

■ **The rich young ruler.** This good man followed the Jewish law and asked a most serious question of Jesus: "What must I do to be saved?" reported C.C. Brasher, pastor of Briensburg Baptist Church in Benton. "The rich young ruler looked more

at what he had done than what Christ had done for him," Brasher said. "Every one of us has something that keeps him from Christ, and in this case it was money" because he refused Jesus' command to sell what he had and give it all to the poor.

"There is only one reason people die and go to hell, and that is because they reject the Lord Jesus Christ," he added, noting the young man's failure to follow Christ's command was such a rejection.

"Jesus is more interested in what we are or can be than what we have in this world," he said

■ **The devil.** Satan tempted Jesus three times, urging Christ to turn stones to bread, to jump from the pinnacle of the Temple and to worship Satan, reminded Willis Henson, pastor of Lone Oak First Baptist Church in Paducah.

Those temptations appealed to the humanity of Jesus, he said, and those temptations mirror three temptations that face ministers all the time.

First is the temptation "to let the message of (Jesus') ministry be narrowed down to meet the physical needs of people," he said, urging a focus on the spiritual needs as well.

Second is "to use sensational gimmicks and second-rate methods to reach the lost," he added, challenging ministers to present a straightforward version of the gospel.

And third is the temptation "to compromise and be less than successful," he noted, calling on ministers to trade worldly standards of success for godly ones.

■ **The woman caught in adultery.** This woman was trapped by hypocritical religious leaders who also wanted to trap Jesus, said Ted Sisk, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington.

Noting one Bible scholar speculated Jesus listed the accusers' sins by their names in the sand, Sisk said, "One by one, they began to slither away like snakes."

Comparing the woman to the religious leaders who tried to trap her, Sisk observed: "Jesus didn't come to call the righteous. The well have no need for a physician. Who goes into heaven before the self-righteous? Sinners and prostitutes."

And Jesus admonished the woman



PASTORS' CONFERENCE OFFICERS C.C. Brasher, president; Paul Blizard, vice president; Rodney Burnette, secretary; Barry Allen, treasurer.

to "go and sin no more," he added. "Let God rule and reign in your heart. That's what it's like to dwell in the kingdom."

■ **God the Father.** Jesus' prayer to God the night before he was crucified was "not a 'little talk' with anybody," stressed Chuck Bugg, professor of preaching at Southern Seminary.

Jesus' prayer was big because "a great part of prayer is the letting go of ourselves, letting go of the idea that everything in life will happen the way we want it to happen," Bugg insisted.

Jesus illustrates a truth about prayer, he added: "Prayer is letting God have ourselves, putting ourselves out of ourselves and into the hands of God."

■ **Nicodemus.** This religious leader came to Jesus under cover of darkness and ultimately asked Jesus what being "born again" means, said Carl Jones, pastor of Green Street Baptist Church in Louisville.

Jesus gave three responses, he added: "The 'new birth' is not a natural phenomenon or transaction. ... The new birth comes by way of man's repentance and the regeneration of the Spirit. ... The new birth comes by trusting God's plan."

Ultimately, new birth is the only pathway to God, he said: "God has no other plan. We must believe."

■ **"Doubting" Thomas.** This follower of Jesus "has gotten a lot of bad press but a lot of good Bible" for wanting to see Jesus before believing in the Resurrection, said Ron Higdon, pastor of Broadway Baptist Church in

Louisville.

"Thomas was correct in his doubt," Higdon asserted. "This was not something you could believe half-heartedly. This is worth a doubt because it is worth faith."

Noting "Doubting" Thomas also could be called "Honest" Thomas, Higdon said the disciple "was into real doubting because he was into real believing. ...

"This Thomas, who was so skeptical, is the same Thomas who also made the greatest confession of faith in all the New Testament—'My Lord and my God!'"

The pastors elected Brasher of Benton as the conference's next president.

Brasher, who was nominated by Don Short, an evangelist and member of his church, won the post 179-80 over Jimmy Gentry, pastor of Lewis Lane Baptist Church in Owensboro.

Gentry was nominated by James Jones, pastor of Campbellsville Baptist Church in Campbellsville.

The other two open positions were filled by acclamation. Vice President Paul Blizard, pastor of First Baptist Church of Fairdale, was nominated by Mike Routt, pastor of Eastern Gate Baptist Church in Shepherdsville. Secretary Rodney Burnette, pastor of Ninth & O Baptist Church in Louisville, was nominated by Charles Stewart, pastor of Rose Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Ashland.

KBC Business Manager Barry Allen is conference treasurer by virtue of his office.

Face the future with focus on Jesus, KBC speakers urge

LOUISVILLE—Baptists should face the future with their focus on Jesus Christ as their sure foundation, speakers said during the Kentucky Baptist Convention's annual meeting. "Jesus Christ: Our Foundation, Our Focus, Our Future" was the theme of the meeting, held at St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville.

Rapid change has made people feel uneasy about the future, noted Gerald Sharon, pastor of Highland Hills Baptist Church in Fort Thomas. "The future seems to be uncertain at best, frightening at worst," he noted.

But faith can help Christians face even the most challenging times, he said, illustrating with the story of baseball pitcher Dave Dravecky. "Even when you can't come back,

you can go on," Sharon noted.

The future will come into clearer focus when Christians focus their attention on Jesus, added James McKenzie, pastor of First Baptist Church in Hopkinsville.

"Jesus Christ is the focal point of all creation. When we fail to fix our eyes on him, our perception is blurred," McKenzie said.

Quoting the biblical admonition to "lay aside every encumbrance" that stands between a person and God, he urged Christians to unload some of the "cumbers" they carry around.

"Cumbers," he explained, is his word for the things that encumber people unnecessarily.

Dellanna O'Brien, executive director of Southern Baptist Woman's

Missionary Union, urged messengers to become "leading servants" after the model of Jesus.

O'Brien described three characteristics that reflect the "leading servant" attitude: obedience, selflessness and humility.

"Christ emptied himself until all that was left was a servant," she insisted. "We, on the other hand, measure out our service to him like doses of medicine."

Although all three qualities are important, true Christian servanthood only comes about when people commit themselves to Christ, she said. "No offering we have to give is enough unless surrounding it all is a gift of myself."

Paul Powell, president of the

Southern Baptist Annuity Board, urged messengers to beware of seven deadly sins of the modern church.

He said those sins are worship without reverence, forgiveness without repentance, evangelism without discipleship, affluence without sacrifice, faith without works, organization without unity and privilege without responsibility.

It is the church's responsibility to give people "a message, not a message," Powell declared.

Accommodation to modern culture has "turned God's sheep fold into a zoo," he added, saying too many churches are like Noah's Ark: "If it weren't for the storm outside, we couldn't stand the stench on the inside."



FAMILY FORUM: TEEN-AGERS

How old?

By Wade Rowatt

Q. How old should my teen be before one-on-one dating? How old of a youth would you allow to stay at home overnight without supervision? How long until an adolescent no longer needs a sitter after school?

A. Each question reflects the tension between parental control and teen freedom.

Teens want the right to make up their own minds. Responsible youth want to be trusted. Angry youth rebel. Well-meaning kids take risks and learn not everyone can be trusted. Adolescents seek for balance between obeying parents and becoming independent and trustworthy.

No universal age guide for teen freedom exists. Sixteen often surfaces as the age to date "one-to-one." Like driving a car, some are ready; others are not. What's a parent to do?

Do your children remember their first steps? They needed to hold on to your hand for awhile. But one day they turned loose. As they grew stronger, you carried them less. If you had continued to carry them, they would not increase their walking skills. Children learn to walk at different ages, but wisdom dictates that as they are ready, parents let them do so. Naturally, parents watch that they don't wander into the street, or teeter down the stairs, or step off a high bank. As children grow, we teach them to cross streets, climb stairs and navigate around cliffs. We pull back our safeguards as they grow.

A similar process works with freedom. Under supervision, teens get a test run at new activities. They go on a date for a few hours the first time. If all goes well, they go more often and for longer. A 16-year-old might stay alone (with neighbors looking out and an emergency plan in hand). If all goes well, more trust is in order. If a 13-year-old comes home, does homework, has no one else in the house and stays out of trouble, then OK. But a 17-year-old may need to be watched.

Give a little freedom. Watch a little closer. See a little growth, give a little more. As parents, we cannot stay in control of a teen's life, but we can train them up to handle freedom responsibly.

Wade Rowatt is professor of psychology of religion at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

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

Can we repeat a Brazilian miracle?

Addison Cintra, the recently retired executive secretary of the Espirito Santo Baptist Convention in Brazil, told a heart-warming story during the closing moments of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's annual meeting last week in Louisville.

"We are very grateful to God for your missionary vision," he began, offering a word of thanks for Kentucky Baptists' participation in the 3-year-old missions partnership with Baptists in Espirito Santo.

Then he described what partnership missions did in one town in Espirito Santo:

Previously, the two Baptist churches there were "on the outs with each other." Members had bad feelings for each other. They let those feelings fester, and they lost their vision for the community. They failed to witness and minister to people beyond their own doors. The estrangement between the congregations was hostile and tragic.

But then some Kentucky Baptists wanted to journey to that town to build a new mission chapel during the day and lead revival services at night. Espirito Santo Convention leaders talked to the pastors of the feuding churches and told them they could receive a construction team if they would stop fighting and work in harmony.

"So these two churches came together," Cintra reported through an interpreter, missionary Tony Gray. "The project was completed, and recently a second mission congregation was started. A union has begun, and now they are sharing together for the glory of God in our community."

Cintra's message was stirring and ironic. Stirring, because it illustrated what God can lead ordinary Baptist people to accomplish, even against difficult odds in far-away lands. Ironic, because of its timing and

contrast. Cintra thanked Kentucky Baptists for bringing healing to his land, even as they spent parts of two days feuding and fighting among themselves.

Kentucky Baptists have climbed on planes, flown thousands of miles, worked with embittered Baptist colleagues, and brought about reconciliation. One would think we could sit down together and work out the differences that divide us right here in our own state.

Make no mistake; we are divided, at least some of us. The two major focal points of our business sessions—the link between financial support for the Southern Baptist Convention and participation in the KBC, and how/if we are going to support the Baptist Joint Committee—split messengers to our annual meeting right down the middle.

When we gathered for business sessions, we seemed to forget the truth of the theme for last week's annual meeting, "Jesus Christ: Our Foundation, Our Focus, Our Future." Instead, we fought over the propriety of supporting Baptist causes with which some of us disagree. We fought over the "purity" of our contributions to the convention.

During the final address of the meeting, Paul Powell, president of the SBC Annuity Board, told another story with stinging irony. It was the story of T.E. Lawrence, better known as "Lawrence of Arabia," who helped the then-divided Arabic tribes fight the Turks.

Powell recounted Lawrence's words to bickering tribal leaders. They are appropriate for Baptists who focus more on jihad than on Jesus, who see conflict rather than the Cross:

"If you do not unite, you will forever be a silly and inconsequential people."

Marv Knox

A 'preacher story': A dog-gone tough day at the church house

My long-time friend and native of Mays Lick, Elmer West, loaned me a book recently, titled "Mountain Preacher Stories." This compilation of humor was completed by the writer's widow in 1990, five years after his death.

Ben Fisher was executive director-treasurer of the Southern Baptist Education Commission until his retirement in 1978. A very large man, with a knack of a good story, used to say to friends: "If you don't give me more respect, I am going to provide in my will that you must be one of my pallbearers."

Perhaps the reader will enjoy one of his "preacher stories."

"A young preacher who had been ordained to the gospel ministry only a short time before was very much excited when he received one of his first opportunities to preach. He had been invited to come to a small 'quarter-time' mountain church, located in a rather isolated area of the county. He rose early, put on his best suit, picked up his Bible and notes, got into his car and checked his directions.

In his eagerness and anticipation, he arrived at the church about an hour before preaching time.

"As he started into the church, there was an old hound-dog stretched full-length in front of the door. He had to step over the dog, and he went on into the church, whereupon he discovered he'd forgotten his Bible. When he came back, the old hound was still there, and wouldn't move. He stepped over the dog again, went back to the car and decided that while he was there, he would just sit out in the cool air and review his sermon.

"The time got away, and people began to gather, so he thought he had better go into the church.

He got his Bible and his notes and started back, and this time the old hound-dog rose up just as he got to the threshold. The young preacher tripped, and fell his full length down the aisle. He got up very angry, and rushed back and kicked that dog in the ribs. The old hound went howling down around the side of the mountain.

"The young man had started back

into the church when someone tapped him on the shoulder and said: 'Friend, I want to tell you something. You've made a terrible mistake. I guess you're the preacher, and I think you ought to know that the dog you kicked belongs to the chairman of the board of deacons of this church. That man's got 11 children, and he thinks as much of that dog as he does of any young'un he's got, and I just thought you ought to know it.'

"Well,' the young preacher said, 'after the service, I'll try to make it right.'

"Immediately following the service, the young man rushed up to the deacon and said: 'I want to apologize. I lost my temper, and I did an un-Christian thing. I'm sorry I kicked your dog, and I want you to forgive me.'

"The old mountaineer looked at the young preacher for a long time without changing his expression. Finally, he said: 'Now, son, don't let that worry you. I'm glad you kicked that dog. I wouldn't have had him hear that sermon for fifty dollars.'"

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

If we can climb on a plane, fly to South America and help feuding Brazilians make up, why can't Kentucky Baptists settle our differences and focus on Jesus?

Kicking the deacon's dog was only the young preacher's first mistake.

ON MISSION TOGETHER



William W. Marshall

KENTUCKY

Joint Committee gets money, but not without fight

"The Baptist Joint Committee is not the most important issue in the world. We're just making it that."

Floyd Price, KBC first vice president

Continued from page 1

Baptist Joint Committee, have been critical of that defunding. And in some cases, they have channeled their missions money through designated funds that bypass the CP in protest. National CP funds that formerly went to the Baptist Joint Committee now go to the SBC Christian Life Commission, which most moderates claim is too ultra-conservative for their tastes.

That led to last year's motion to restore the Baptist Joint Committee to the Kentucky CP budget so churches favorable to the Baptist Joint Committee would not have to bypass the state CP as well as the national CP. The 1991 motion passed with a 331-195 vote.

The Executive Board referred the motion to a special workgroup of the business and finance committee charged with recommending a way to implement it. That workgroup presented its report to the Executive Board Nov. 9, the day before the KBC annual meeting began.

The workgroup considered six possible methods of funding the Baptist Joint Committee, said workgroup Chairman Mike Thomason, pastor of Temple Hill Baptist Church in Glasgow. In the end, the workgroup decided the best compromise to keep peace between opposing sides was to establish the special fund and then move past the issue, he said.

"We want to try to move this thing to the back burner," he told the Executive Board. "We are not going to settle this issue."

The issue for now is not to determine whether the Baptist Joint Committee is good or bad, he said, but to realize Kentucky Baptists are deeply divided in their views of the agency and find a way to get along anyway.

The workgroup's written introduction to the recommendation says the proposal represents a compromise that allows Kentucky Baptists to "move ahead with our greater mission with respect and support for both

points of view."

The Executive Board considered the funding recommendation for an hour and a half, with opponents of the Baptist Joint Committee making several attempts to derail it.

Mark Boes, chairman of the business and finance committee, reminded the board they did not have the option of not funding the Baptist Joint Committee, since that was the specific instruction of KBC messengers.

"We cannot say we will not do this," explained Boes, pastor of Cecilia Baptist Church in Cecilia. "We can say we don't want to do it this way."

Several board members wanted to take the recommendation to the floor of the convention for approval. However, both Thomason and Boes said that was not appropriate since the convention already had charged the Executive Board with a specific task.

After a motion was made to refer the recommendation to the floor, parliamentarian Eldred Taylor ruled the motion out of order "because the convention has told its board to act on this action."

Arguments were made both for and against the funding proposal, with opponents saying they knew churches would reduce CP giving in retaliation if it passed and proponents saying they knew other churches would reduce CP funding if it didn't pass.

Opponents of the Baptist Joint Committee said they didn't want one penny of their money going to the agency, and that the funding proposal was not a compromise because it still used some portion of their gifts for the \$200,000 fund.

Supporters of the Baptist Joint Committee said it was a good compromise because they would be giving money to the Christian Life Commission against their preference just as conservatives would be giving a small amount to the Baptist Joint Committee against their preference.

In the course of discussion, the Executive Board considered an amendment to the proposal that would have changed the total amount of the fund from \$200,000 to \$100,000. That amendment failed by a 61-32 vote.

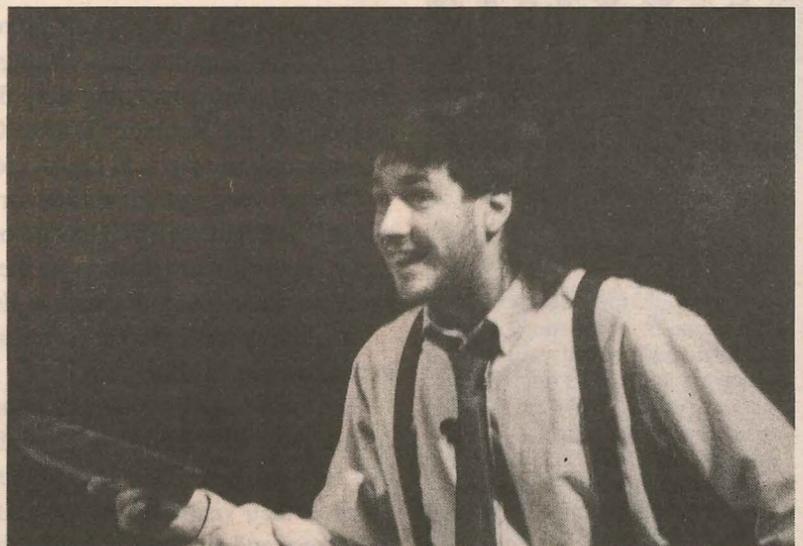
Later, a substitute motion was offered to use only designated monies rather than unspent CP monies to build the endowment fund. The substitute motion also failed.

After the final vote to approve the funding recommendation, KBC First Vice President Floyd Price appealed to the group to set the issue aside during the KBC annual meeting.

"I know there are many churches in the Kentucky Baptist Convention channeling money to the Baptist Joint Committee right now," he said. "There are many churches which will channel money away from the Baptist Joint Committee. But what both are doing is channeling money away from the KBC."

"Now that we've gone this far, why don't we be wise and let this thing set," he urged. "The Baptist Joint Committee is not the most important issue in the world. We're just making it that. ... The love of Jesus needs to take precedence over everything."

Messengers to the convention did



LONELY GUY James Sutherland portrays "one of the last Baptists in Kentucky" in a dramatic theme interpretation during the opening session of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's annual meeting. The drama emphasized the importance of outreach to ensure Kentucky Baptists remain in future generations.

not follow that advice, however, as they opened debate on the Baptist Joint Committee the minute the floor was open for business.

Terry Sammons, pastor of New Heights Baptist Church in Louisville, presented the motion to rescind the 1991 action to fund the agency. His motion was sent to the committee on order of business for scheduling.

But Mike Routt, pastor of Eastern Gate Baptist Church in Shepherdsville, appealed to the chair to discuss the Baptist Joint Committee issue immediately. He did not state why he wanted the discussion held then, but the hall was filled with overflowing with messengers who had come to the afternoon session to vote for KBC officers.

Sammons and Routt were the two Kentucky representatives at an August meeting in Memphis, Tenn., where conservatives discussed ways to make their views known in state conventions. The Baptist Joint Committee was a topic of that meeting, Sammons told the Western Recorder at the time.

A strategy used by leaders of the conservatives' successful campaign to control the Southern Baptist Convention has been to make sure all major business items are voted on the same day officers are elected. That traditionally has been the one day messenger registration and attendance swells.

In response to Routt's request, Howard Cobble, chairman of the committee on order of business, said KBC bylaws require a unanimous vote to consider new business immediately. No such vote was attempted, and Cobble later announced that Sammons' motion would be discussed the next morning.

When the motion was considered the next day, Sammons told messengers he opposed funding the Baptist Joint Committee because KBC funds are tight and because "this action is in direct opposition to action taken by our Southern Baptist Convention."

"Attempting to fund entities other than our convention-supported causes sets a dangerous precedent ... and opens Pandora's Box," he warned.

Those for and against the motion

made similar arguments to the ones offered the day before in the Executive Board meeting. Some argued funding the Baptist Joint Committee even one cent would damage CP giving, while others argued not funding the agency already is damaging CP giving.

Debate was heated and intense.

Finally, Jerry Kibbons of New River Memorial Baptist Church in Campbellsville called for the question, saying, "We'll talk all day and no minds will be changed."

The vote was 409 in favor of rescinding and 402 against rescinding. Although opponents of the funding registered a simple majority in their favor, they did not have the two-thirds majority required to rescind a previous action without advance notice on the vote.

In a later business session that day, Routt gave notice of intent to bring a motion to next year's convention to rescind the Baptist Joint Committee funding. Because of the advance notice, the vote on that motion will require only a simple majority to pass, rather than the two-thirds majority required this year.

Sammons later told the Western Recorder his desire not to fund the Baptist Joint Committee is a matter of principle. "The national convention has voted, and that should settle the issue."

A decisions of the SBC should not be binding on state conventions, "but in all honesty, we ought to follow it," he said.



THANKS Addison Cintra, executive secretary-treasurer of the Baptist convention in Espirito Santo, Brazil, greets KBC messengers, while missionary Tony Gray translates and KBC President Glenn Mollette listens in the background. Cintra thanked Kentucky Baptists for the contributions they have made through a partnership missions project.

PASTOR SCROOGE Chip Miller and Jack Palmer, both of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Sunday school department, portray characters in a drama as part of their division report during the KBC annual meeting. Palmer portrayed Pastor Scrooge, a man who learned almost too late the importance of church growth.



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Upcoming Events; Reply form

"It grieves me when I deal with churches that have the old attitude: 'Lord, you keep our pastor humble. We'll keep him poor,'" says Don Spencer. Fortunately, it doesn't happen all that much, adds Spencer, the Kentucky Baptist Convention's annuity director.

Still, a big part of Spencer's job involves educating churches about enough compensation for their ministers—for the good of everybody.

"If churches want to provide adequate financial support, they need to do that with a view to having the best minister possible," he insists.

"Because if a minister has financial need, that creates stress. And that stress subtracts from the attention the minister can give to the church."

Spencer cites surveys which consistently rank finances as one of the major stress points for ministers.

"Now, some say ministers should be 'above' that," he reports. "But I remind them of the Apostle Paul's first letter to Timothy, where it says those who do not care for the needs of their families are worse than an infidel. I've had biblical scholars tell me the original language of that verse implies care should be taken in planning for the future as well as the present."

Spencer has worked for the KBC for more than 15 years, the last seven and a half as its annuity director. He's a certified financial planner, with training and experience in investments, insurance, retirement planning, taxes and estate planning.

The comprehensive nature of his work has led him to a concern for the scope of financial help churches give their ministers.

"Very often, the issue is not the amount they're being paid, but the way it's being paid," he says.

"For example, a church may decide to allocate \$30,000 to 'pay' their next pastor. In a typical pastor's situation, the real pay will be less than \$20,000, after ministry-related expenses are covered and protection benefits are bought."

That's consistent with statistics from industry, he adds.

Spencer lists two major aspects of ministers' compensation he wishes churches would recognize.

"First, when they structure their support, ministry-related expenses should be reimbursed for what it costs to get the job done," he says. "Expenses can't really be considered part of the pay."

If expenses are rolled into part of a minister's overall package, then two things happen, he notes: Ministers have to pay taxes on money they actually use to do ministry, and church members get an inflated view of how well they're compensating the ministers.

At least more churches are beginning to recognize these problems and "deal with it in a responsible manner," he says.

"Second, when they prepare a compensation package, churches need to realize the need for adequate protection coverages—for retirement

and insurance," Spencer adds. "Churches must view retirement and annuity as more than protection for the minister, but also as protection for the minister's family and the church."

To illustrate, he cites the case of a minister who is disabled but doesn't have disability insurance. "What's the church going to do?" he asks. "They're going to have guilt feelings. And some are going to want to support the minister's family, which indefinitely will draw support from their tithes and offerings."

Kentucky Baptists aren't the only ones who benefit from Spencer's concern.

He's the president of the Southern Baptist Fellowship of State Annuity Representatives. And as an avid computer buff, he has developed two software programs—one for structuring ministers' financial support packages and the other for tracking prospective participants in the church annuity program—that are used by the Southern Baptist Annuity Board and other state annuity representatives.

Annuity Services

The Kentucky Baptist annuity department provides a range of services. They include:

- Individual consultation. Department Director Don Spencer holds face-to-face meetings with about 200 ministers each year, focusing primarily on pay packages and pre-retirement planning.
- Church consultation. Spencer provides similar advice for 25-30 churches each year.
- Telephone consultation. He answers 100-150 compensation-related inquiries over the phone each month.
- Conferences. Spencer conducts numerous seminars and other meetings in associations and

regions across Kentucky every year.

■ Seminary leadership. He teaches classes, holds individual consultations and leads seminars at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville about 20 days per year.

■ Ministry to annuitants. Services for retired ministers and their widows range from delivering death insurance checks to help with a wide range of annuity services.

■ Promotion. Although Spencer is an employee of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, he represents the Southern Baptist Annuity Board, trying to help ensure proper financial support for ministers and their families.

Media Helps Churches Tell Old, Old Story in New Ways

Part of Paul Lee's job is to help Kentucky Baptist churches tell the old, old story in new ways.

Lee is director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's media department.

In that role, he supports the work of other KBC offices by producing videos, multi-media programs and other presentations. But he also is available to consult with churches about their communication needs.

"We're not a private production company for churches," he explains. "But I do conduct workshops and consult with churches about establishing a media or TV ministry."

"I try to help churches see how they can communicate better in their communities."

Lee, who has years of experience in media production related to churches, encourages churches to find the right communication plan for their particular communities.

Some churches do well using television spots—brief commercials or public service announcements—while others successfully produce variety shows for their local cable systems, Lee says.

Still others, he adds, focus most of their media efforts on special seasonal programs, such as Christmas or Easter pageants.

One of the most overlooked—and economical—media outlets is radio, Lee contends. "The radio audience is vast. And without as much investment as in TV, you still can have a wide-ranging audience."

Lee advises that while broadcasting worship services has its place, churches need to move beyond that to find "creative ways to reach other audiences."

The people who tune in to worship broadcasts usually already have some connection with a church, he notes. But people who are unchurched must be reached through different means.

When developing a communications program, churches should consider needs both outside and inside the church body, Lee says.

For example, churches should consider how best to use newsletters, bulletin boards and signs to communicate internally, he explains.

Lee's office at the Kentucky Baptist Building contains a treasure-trove of resources for expanding a church's awareness through media.

The media department's video loan library contains more than 1,400 titles, with helps for every imaginable area of interest for leadership training or personal enrichment. The video library also includes current and back issues of the video magazines produced by the Southern Baptist home and foreign mission boards.

And Lee produces a video magazine especially for Kentucky Baptists three times a year. Called "Kentucky Baptists Today," it features segments about missions work, Kentucky Baptist people and special

convention emphases.

"Kentucky Baptists Today" is sent to every associational office, where it may be loaned to churches for use in Woman's Missionary Union meetings, Brotherhood meetings, Wednesday evening services or other gatherings.

The video magazine also is available on loan from the KBC media department, or individual subscriptions are available.

Videos are just one part of another media tool churches ought to consider, Lee says. By establishing a church media library, a congregation or association can provide training resources for leaders and inspiration for families, he explains.

Church media libraries typically contain everything from books to recordings to computer equipment.

Specific training and certification are available for church media library workers. At the most recent training event sponsored by the KBC, Lee helped train 89 workers.

Church media libraries have another advantage in that they help meet one of the most difficult communication challenges churches face, Lee says. That challenge is to communicate across generational lines.

"People of different ages relate in various ways to media," he says. "Our challenge is help all ages feel like they've had a communion experience through our media programs."

Viewers' Guide

The upcoming edition of "Kentucky Baptists Today" video magazine will include these segments:

- Kentucky Baptists' volunteer ministry in Florida in the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew.
- Kentucky Baptist students' summer ministries in Russia.
- Coverage of the state Baptist Student Union convention.

■ Reports from the Fall Festival of Marriage conference held in Louisville.

■ Coverage of MissionsFest, a foreign missions awareness event held this fall in Lexington.

This volume will be available about Jan. 1 from associational offices or from the KBC media department. For more information, call (502) 245-4101.

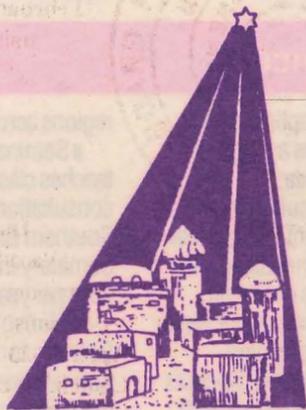
STUDENT MINISTRY

Student Day at Christmas provides sharing and worship

"Love that Surpasses Knowledge"
(Ephesians 3:14-19) is the
1992 theme

Christmas! It will be arriving soon and with it a break from school. Students and faculty alike rejoice. The holidays are a time for giving and receiving gifts. It's a time to put down the books and clear the cobwebs from one's brain. It's a time to get the Christmas cards addressed and mailed. The holidays are a time for renewing old friendships. Christmas helps us reflect on life and one's part in it.

At this particular point in their lives, students are seeking knowledge. They are bombarded with knowledge from every conceivable realm. They will believe some of what they hear and it will shape the rest of their lives. Paul, in Ephesians, spoke of knowledge as well—a knowledge about a love that could not be contained in rules or by obeying religious rules and regulations. He was speaking about a living Christ and His willingness to come into the world in human form and to die and be raised on the third day. Indeed, a love that surpasses knowledge. What an excellent gift the students can share with your congregation in a special worship



service.

Student Day at Christmas is a worship service designed to allow college students to share how God's love has been a part of their lives the previous semester. This Christmas, encourage your church to develop and participate in such a special event. Whether you have one or hundreds of college students in your church, this can be an exciting time of sharing and worship. Here's how to implement this service in your church:]

1. This special event could be sponsored by the collegiate Sunday School class or department and/or by the entire Sunday School program at your church.
2. The suggested date for this year's service is Sunday, December 27. But, depending on your church's situation, **Student Day at Christmas** may be observed during a different Sunday that same month. There is a special bulletin for this Sunday. You may order these through the Customer Service Center by calling toll free at 1-800-458-BSSB.
3. Contact students early about this event. A suggested time for recruiting students to help with the service is before the Thanksgiving holidays. Advance planning will allow maximum input as to how the service can utilize

students in your congregation more effectively.

4. Examine the varying ways students can participate throughout the worship service effectively—for example, students could serve as greeters, ushers, musical accompanists, soloists or perform in music or drama groups.
5. Seek to develop a service that speaks to students' needs, even those soon entering college. Let students or others selected to lead incorporate your chosen theme into the message.
6. Make sure each student has an activities list that includes the service for **Student Day at Christmas** in advance. Communicate that your church loves and cares for them and encourage their participation in special event.
7. Acknowledge those students present in the service and have a special prayer for them.

The Student Ministry Plan Book for 1992-93 suggests using the theme, "Love That Surpasses Knowledge," using Ephesians 3:14-19 as the scripture passage. If you would like to see a suggested worship format for this service, refer to this book or feel free to call your local Baptist Student Union.

FOUNDATION

The Executor's Job

"My estate is simple. . .my executor won't have any problems."

Do you feel this way? Many people do. They viewed settlement of their estates as uncomplicated—just dividing things up as their will says.

However, the facts don't support this viewpoint. And, sadly, if your executor makes costly mistakes your beneficiaries will suffer.

Why Estate Settlement Isn't Easy

Picture your executor trying to cope with all the tough financial decisions you have always made. Consider what your executor must do.

- **Fulfill a host of obligations** - An executor's days are crowded with heavy responsibilities: collecting and protecting assets; checking on insurance coverage; arranging appraisals; keeping detailed records; complying with probate court rules; paying bequests accurately and promptly; accounting to beneficiaries. Errors on any of these duties can prove expensive and troublesome.

- **Manage investments** - Stocks, bonds, mutual funds and other investments require constant attention. Critical decisions will be required about what must be sold if cash is needed for estate settlement expenses.

- **Keep taxes low** - Filing a bewildering federal estate tax return probably isn't something

you have ever faced, but your executor must be prepared to do so. Even if there's no estate tax due, income taxes continue with new complications. Post mortem planning by an experienced executor can minimize taxes.

- **Preserve family harmony** - Strange as it may seem, the division of your estate may cause conflict among your beneficiaries. Your executor must be fair.

How to Choose the Right Executor

Weigh carefully the qualifications of your proposed executor. What is your candidate's knowledge of estate settlement? Finance and investments? Taxes? Record keeping? What about the individual's availability and health? Will your executor be impartial when dealing with your beneficiaries?

If you think you might name a bank or trust company, visit that institution and talk with its officers before you make up your mind.

Whoever you choose as your executor will be honored. But make sure your confidence is warranted.

For more information, write or call the Kentucky Baptist Foundation office, P. O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433, (502) 245-4101, extension 205.

ANNUITY

Money Matters for Ministers and Churches

Q. - What percentage of a minister's salary can be designated as housing?

A. - There is NO percentage of income limit. There are three housing allowance limits:

- a. Amount set by church
- b. Amount spent by minister
- c. Fair Rental Value of house (furnished) plus utilities

The lowest of these is the limit. For example, if Fair Rental Value plus Utilities is \$9,000 and the housing allowance is set for \$9,000, but a minister only spent \$8,000 during a year, the excess of \$1,000 must be reported as taxable income.

Q. - I hear the Annuity Board will have a new medical plan next year that will cost less. Is that true?

A. - Yes! There will be two new plans. Both are catastrophic plans. While lower in cost, the benefits will be significantly different. In my opinion, these plans should be considered only as a better option than having no insurance at all. The coverage is NOT comprehensive. Also, if one changes to one of these plans and later wants to move

back to thew comprehensive plan, they must provide evidence of good health. We have a brochure with information for those interested in details of the new plans.

ANNOUNCING: REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON TAXES FOR MINISTERS AND CHURCHES

February 15 - Owensboro
February 16 - Paducah
February 18 - Lexington
February 19 - Louisville

Send your questions concerning money matters for ministers and church employees to:

Don Spencer
Annuity Department
Kentucky Baptist Convention
P. O. Box 43433,
Louisville, KY 40253-0433
(502) 245-4101, extension 253

Winter Bible Conference

Adults and youth will be studying the same passage: Matthew 5:7. The teaching guides are entitled, "Design for Discipleship." This up-to-date study of the Sermon on the Mount will open doors of study and discussion that can brighten a winter day.

January Bible Study '93: "His disciples came to Him, and He began to teach them, saying..."

Blessed are... You are the salt... Go with him two miles... Love your enemies... This is how you should pray... Look at the birds of the air... Do not judge... Ask... seek... knock...

FIVE KEYS TO SUCCESS

1. Set dates for Winter Bible Conference.
2. Order materials from **Baptist Book Store** or current dated order form.
3. Start early promoting the dates to the entire congregation.
4. Provide study groups and leaders for all ages.
5. Launch personal study plan of this passage of scripture.



Neil Jackson to Lead...

Small Church Growth Tour in January '93 in the following locations:

- January 18 - Henderson
- January 19 - Princeton
- January 20 - Mayfield
- January 21 - Hopkinsville
- January 22 - Central City
- January 23 - Leitchfield



Receive Simple Growth Ideas You Can Use!

Plan now to attend the one nearest you. Look for more details next month.

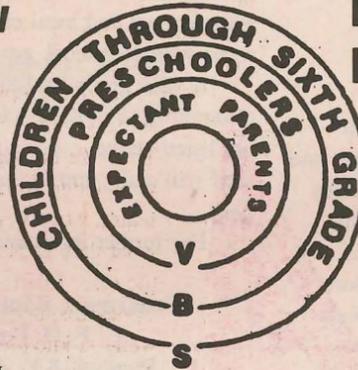
TARGET



What's New

- **Jesus My Savior** (grades 4-6) by Judy Latham. Judy led a children's conference at the Lexington Super Saturday. This book helps older children gain a better understanding of God and why Jesus came.
- **Jesus Loves Me, Too** by Lou Heath. This book helps younger children understand God and the meaning of Jesus as Savior.

Both books are \$3.95 each at Baptist Book Store.



Dates to Remember

February 6-7 - ASSISTeam training at Immanuel Church, Lexington. Begins at 6:00 p.m. Friday, ends Saturday at 3:00 p.m.

March 6, 13, 20, 27 -

Dates for Vacation Bible School training for associational VBS teams.

April 21-23 - "Children and the Church," a conference sponsored by the Gheens Center for Christian Ministry, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. The conference will be at Louisville's Galt House Hotel. For more information, contact Diana Garland, SBTS, 2825 Lexington Road, Louisville, KY 40280.

I Didn't Know That: Did You Know That?

Check the following and see what you know:

- "Help Preschoolers Deal with Death," is a video available on loan through Sunday School Department, KBC.
- Before and after school newsletter "School-Age Notes," P. O. Box 40205, Nashville, TN 37204.
- Amblyopia, an eye disorder must be caught by age six. The Kentucky Society to Prevent Blindness, 101 West Chestnut Street, Louisville, KY 40202, is one place to get information and educational material.
- Kentucky has numerous writers and authors. Look for curriculum and articles in Southern Baptist publications. Just to mention a few, preschool and children's curriculum writers: Jeroline Baker, Sue Huston, Linda Coulter and Bonita Johnson.
- Books of the Bible Puzzle Postcards are helpful for children learning the books of the Bible. The postcards cost \$6.50 per 100 and are available at Baptist Book

Store.

- You can get a copy of an article "The Benefits of Nongraded Schools" from the Sunday School Department, KBC.
- Small toys and pieces of toys can lodge in a child's throat. Mini cars and original Fisher Price people have been known to cause death by choking. The new Fisher Price people are fatter and safer. Anything that can go through a toilet tissue tube needs to be away from small children.
- If you have a Church Weekday Education Program, you would benefit from becoming a member of the Kentucky Association for the Education of Young Children. Contact Elizabeth Rightmyer at (502) 425-6904.
- The Challenge series of study course books are challenged by the new set of "Ideas for Reaching" series. The books are slick, colorful and notebook size (and hole punched). Try them you'll like them. Available at a Baptist Book Store.

- Jewell Nelson

EVENTS

FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

CEDARMORE ASSEMBLY

Cedarmore Has the Time, Place and Events

The Time

The time grows short for fall and winter planning. Cedarmore Baptist Assembly will be closed during the months of December and January. However, it is not too soon to begin planning an early 1993 event. Although Kentucky Baptist Convention events are presently on the calendar, there are many choice dates remaining for your group.

The Place

Unlike Rome, which was built on seven hills, Cedarmore is on two ridges and in a valley. The assembly has many acres for you to explore during your free time during conferences.

The adult and youth facilities house the largest number of guests and provide adequate conference space.

The out-lying encampments include cabins for those who like to "rough it." The cabins sleep up to 15-16 people and are in secluded areas of the assembly grounds.

The Events

The events are as numerous as your imagination. Cedarmore has hosted children's events, youth retreats, women's prayer groups, WMU-oriented meetings (state, associations and local churches), men's rallies, choirs, specialized groups, singles, deacon/pastor and wives retreats, staff and committee retreats (state, associational and local church) and even some volunteer work groups.

If your group wishes to come to Cedarmore or if you have a need for an event not listed above, contact us and Cedarmore's staff will assist you in providing necessary help.

For further information contact:

Cedarmore Baptist Assembly
P. O. Box 37
Bagdad, KY 40003-0037

JONATHAN CREEK ASSEMBLY

It's Test Time

Let's test your knowledge:

1. **What Kentucky Baptist Assembly is located in the heart of one of the nation's finest vacation and outdoor recreational areas?**
2. **Where could your church and/or association group find excellent accommodations, good food and gracious service at reasonable rates?**

The answer to these two questions:
Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly

Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly is located three miles west of Aurora, Kentucky. The facility is at the western entrance of the Tennessee Valley Authority's Land between the Lakes.

Jonathan Creek is now offering a special rate during this coming February and March. Based on two people per

room, the cost per person for one night's lodging is \$26.00. This is a savings of \$10.50. The special rate also includes three meals, insurance and use of the assembly facilities.

Plan your next church outing with us!

For further information, contact:

Deward Hurst, Manager
Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly
Route 1, Box 418
Hardin, Kentucky 42048
(502) 354-8355



Deward Hurst, Manager

MINISTER / CHURCH SUPPORT

Help for the Search Committee

Questions: "Our pastor has resigned. What do you suppose the future holds for our church?"

"How are we going to find another Minister of Music?"

Comments like those above are heard in a congregation whenever there is a change in staff positions. And it happens regularly.

Surveys in Kentucky indicate full time pastors and staff ministers stay an average of six years. Bivocational pastors have an average tenure of 5.2 years. No accurate record is kept, but at any given time in our state there will be between 300-400 churches needing to fill pastor and staff vacancies.

Search Committees are elected by the church and charged with the task of examining suitable candidates and bringing one as their recommendation to the congregation. More often than not, these committees are composed of people who have never served on such a group before. Sometimes one or two will have had prior experience. Training and orientation for their work are needed and welcomed by these folks who have accepted such an important work.

Several resources are available for them

to call on: (1) The Director of Missions; (2) The Minister/Church Support office of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and (3) Some interim ministers.

The Minister/Church Support office is glad to provide any or all of the following services upon request of a committee:

1. **Provide a training/orientation session for the Search Committee. Call or write our office to schedule a date and time.**
2. **Provide the Committee with appropriate resumes and biographical information for potential candidates.**
3. **Provide the Committee with some printed materials to guide the search process.**

Search Committees serve their congregations during a most important time. More than most of us realize, the actions of the committee affect the present as well as the future life of the church. Many committees have the dual task of finding an

interim minister or scheduling the supply ministers as well as searching for the permanent one. Life in the church goes on "between-the-times" and good leadership then is vital. The members begin think about the future, not only the qualities of the next minister, but the hopes and dreams they have for the church. The committee will help the entire membership if they will find a way to let this "dreaming" and "future thinking" be encouraged and shared. It will also provide some very solid information to guide their work.

To request further information or to discuss your committee needs, write or call:

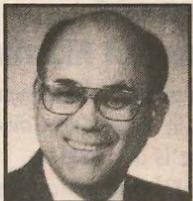
Guy Futral, Director
Minister/Church Support Division
Kentucky Baptist Convention
P. O. Box 43433
Louisville, KY 40254-0433
(502) 245-4101, extension 243



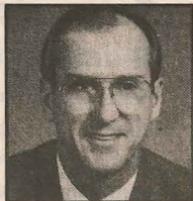
EVENTS

FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

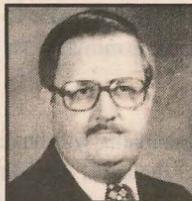
MISSIONS MINISTRY & CHURCH GROWTH PERSONNEL



Guy Futral
Division Director



John Lepper
Director
Family Ministry Department



Don Spencer
Director
Annuity Department

Minister/Church Support Division



Richard Carnes
Executive Director
Kentucky Baptist Foundation

Kentucky Baptist Foundation



William Marshall
Executive Secretary-
Treasurer



Jim Hawkins
Executive Associate



Paul Lee
Director
Media Department



Doris Yeiser
Archives

Executive Office Media Department Archives

Kentucky Baptists' Most Wanted...

they're wanted by congregations, ministers, associational leaders, college students, youth, volunteers. . .because they're resource persons. . .experienced, trained and caring persons. . .leaders who know how to share what they know to nurture and equip you for ministry and witness.

Many of you are new leaders in your congregation and association. While you may be receiving leadership guides and resource materials through the mail and "EVENTS," you may not yet know the folks pictured on this page. They are your "staff," employed by the Kentucky Baptist Convention Executive Board. Your Woman's Missionary Union staff are employed by their Board.

This page is just one way to give a face to a name and a name you can call on for help. Kentucky Baptists have made sure every congregation and every association will have assistance, training, materials, counsel, conferences, missions opportunities, camps, retreats, study resources, fellowship and the confidence that here are brothers and sisters in Christ who will respond to your needs and hopes for growing as disciples and as congregations and as fellowships of cooperating churches.

As you read and clip out sections of EVENTS each month, you'll be more aware of the wide variety of provisions to undergird congregational and associational development.

Whatever you want to know is accessible through these folks; they want to give you the particular aid you need to fit your situation. It would be a joy to them to be placed on your list of MOST WANTED . . .co-laborers in Christ.

Missions/Evangelism Church Services Division



Delores J. Gilliland
Executive Director-
Treasurer



Anna Mary Byrdwell
Consultant
BW/BYW



Mary Ellen Langley
Consultant
Acteens/Campus BYW



Carol Noffsinger
Consultant
WMU



Brenda Price
Consultant
GA/Mission Friends

WMU



Vernon Cole
Division Director



Jim Cordell
Director
Church Music Department



Douglas T. Strader
Director
Discipleship Training/Stewardship

Church Growth and Administration Division



Jim Clontz
Associate
Discipleship Training



Chip Miller
Director
Sunday School Department



Jeff Hicks
Associate
Sunday School



Jewell Nelson
Associate
Sunday School



Benton Williams
Division Director



Robert C. Jones
Director
Direct Missions Department



Ken Forman
Associate
Direct Missions



Tony Hough
Associate
Direct Missions



Calvin Wilkins
Coordinator
Partnership Missions



Bill Jagers
Director
Office for Evangelism



Bob Simpkins
Director
Brotherhood Department



John Lott
Associate
Brotherhood



Don Blaylock
Director
Student Work Department



Ralph Hopkins
Associate
Student Work



Tom Smoot
Associate
Student Work

FAMILY MINISTRY

When Families Hurt, Churches Can Help

A Leadership Conference

February 8-9

Cedarmore Baptist Assembly

Registration Information:

When: Begins at 2:30 p.m. Monday and ends at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday

Cost: \$36.50 per person, per night double occupancy
This includes lodging and meals.
Material cost is additional.

If more information is needed, complete and mail the form on page eight of this insert.

Churches have an opportunity to provide help for hurting families. But where can church leaders receive guidance to effectively help? This year's Haworth Conference provides leadership training related to three specific needs families face. If you would like to become equipped to develop ministries to enhance a specific area of family life, this conference is for you!

This conference is for you if . . .

- you are concerned about families
- you wish to effectively touch hurting people
- you wish to learn how to help couples grow in their relationship
- you wish to help families during times of crisis

•you desire to enable your church to provide a more effective ministry to families

Participants will have a choice of attending one of three tracks:

Making Peace with Your Past

helps church leaders develop a recovery ministry for adults raised in a family where a parent's addiction or some other problem

disrupted family relationships.

Those who attend this conference will be challenged to come face to face with their past and help others through this process. If you wish to learn the basic skills and concepts for leading a recovery support group, this workshop is for you.

Resource material cost: \$12.00



Communication and Intimacy: Covenant Marriage

helps church leaders provide enrichment for couples. The second in a series of *Covenant Marriage*, this course is designed to compliment the first *Covenant Marriage* course on commitment and partnership. It focuses on the dimensions of effective communication and development of intimacy within the marriage. If you wish to learn the basic skills and concepts for leading marriage enrichment, this workshop is for you.

Resource material cost: \$18.00

When Crisis Comes Home

helps church leaders provide a ministry to families in crisis as well as a comprehensive ministry to families on other occasions. Participants will look at specific ways of responding to the needs of families. If you wish to gain skills and concepts to help your church implement a ministry to families, this workshop is for you.

Resource material cost: \$9.00

EVANGELISM

Building Witnessing Relationships

Building Witnessing Relationships

- Equips Christians who know how to present the gospel to build relationships with people not immediately receptive to the gospel.
- Helps Christians develop a witnessing lifestyle.
- Contacts are to be made in a local church context. Pastors and/or outreach staff persons should be trained in BWR.
- Seminars are designed for participants from churches with ongoing witness training (Continuing Witness Training; Witness Involvement Now; One Day Soul Winning Workshop)

The Home Mission Board offers training ...

in the beliefs of the Mormon and New Age cults on January 25-26 at the Kentucky Baptist Building in Middletown. The cost is \$10. For more information, contact the Office for Evangelism at (502) 245-4101, extension 330 or complete and mail in the request for information on the page eight of this insert issue.



BWR Seminar
January 18-20
Hurstbourne Baptist Church
Louisville
(8800 Shelbyville Road)
Cost: \$75

BROTHERHOOD

An Update

CONGRESSES

Our eight regional congresses are scheduled for this February:

- February 6** - Central Region - Pleasant Grove Church, Shepherdsville
 - February 13** - Southwestern Region - Liberty Church, Mayfield
 - February 20** - North Central Region - Rosemont Church, Lexington
 - February 27** - Southeastern Region - Cumberland College, Williamsburg
- Western Region - First Church, Madisonville
Northeastern Region - Rose Hill Church, Ashland
Southern Region - South Fork, Hodgenville



The events scheduled are: **Around the World Missions Shoot-Out; R A Racers; Knot Tying; Advancement and The Jerry Clower Speak Out Competition.** Note: The **Around the World Missions Shoot-Out** and **R A Racers** events will have associational runoffs as well. Your local association will need to endorse one or both of these events in order to endorse a team for run-off. If your chapter is interested in

any of these events, please contact the Brotherhood office.

Even though your association does not sponsor an event, bring your boys anyway because they will be eligible for individual awards in their age groups.

A REMINDER

If your unit or chapter has not filled out a new green registration form, please send it in soon. The deadline is January 1. This assures that your group is on our mailing list and also registered with the KBC Brotherhood office, a prerequisite for competing in State Track Meets.

CO-ED OPPORTUNITY

The Youth Missions Workshop, a March 12-13 event for high school-aged youth, is an effort to give skills to reach out to a lost world through missions. The workshop will be at Cedarmore Baptist Assembly. For a brochure, contact the Brotherhood Department, KBC, P. O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433, (502) 245-4101, extension 319.

DISASTER RELIEF

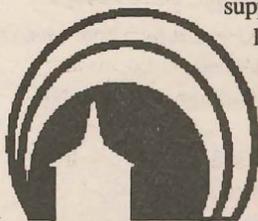
The Kentucky Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers and unit are back home. Over 200 Kentucky Baptist volunteers served over 320,000 meals to Hurricane Andrew victims.

EVENTS

FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

CHURCH GROWTH

Biblical descriptions of the church repeatedly encourage each member. Peter, remembering the Lord's teaching, called the church a flock that needed



Leaders for Church Growth

support from loving leadership (Acts 20:28-29; I Peter 5:1-4). A common Biblical theme is to speak of church as "family" (Ephesians 2:19; I John 2:28-3:3). What do we hope to receive from family? Acceptance, forgiveness, love, remembrance, prayer, presence, discipline and guidance to name a few.

Deacons, along with pastors and staff, lead the church in modeling a caring ministry. Ministry is caring for or giving loving service to another. Ministry is something done; it calls for some kind of action. While the ways of ministry might change or be different from one church to another, the need to do ministry does not change. Ministry can be done by one person as well as the entire church. It is called Christian ministry when service is performed for God's glory and under His direction.

"Providing Hope through Help" is

the theme for the upcoming statewide Deacon, Pastor, Spouse Retreats. Make plans now to attend either February 12-13 (Cedarmore) or February 26-27 (Kentucky Dam Village). Conferences offered include:

- Assisting the Unemployed
- Help with Financial Planning
- Deacon Ministry in a Single Staff Church
- Ministry to Families Dealing with Aids
- Touch—Its Power to Heal
- Guiding a Church in Ministry to the Mentally Retarded

Who of us does not need to be the receiver of care? Giving and receiving is the ebb and flow of Christian life. Join us as we explore ways to give and receive.

If you would like to receive more information regarding the Deacon, Pastor and Spouse Retreat, complete and mail the response form on page eight of this EVENTS issue back to the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Deacon Ministry

Vernon Cole, Director

DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING

Give the Gift That Can Last a Lifetime!

One of the greatest gifts you can give your children and youth is involve them in the Children's or Youth Bible Drill.

Encourage your youth to continue their involvement or begin practicing for the Youth Bible Drill.

Kentucky is a field test state in 1993.

Children's drills are given in either the King James Version (KJV) or New International

Version (NIV). The two Bible versions will help



meet the needs of those churches that have been requesting the Drill in a modern translation.

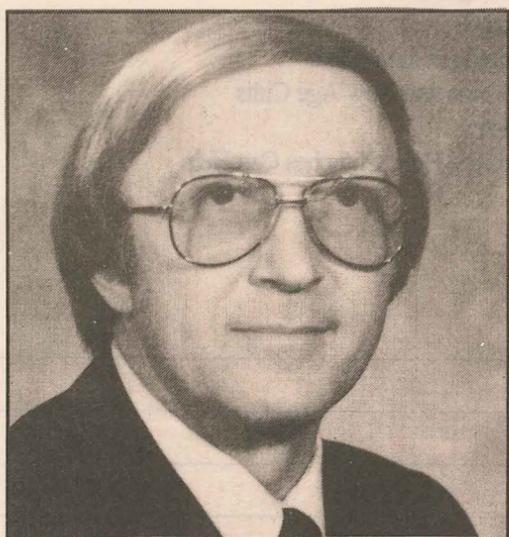
The purpose of the Youth Bible Drill is to:

1. Increase knowledge of scripture.
2. Deepen understanding of scripture as it relates to daily Christian living and,
3. To sharpen skills in locating books of the Bible and memorizing selected scripture verses.

Order your 1993 Bible Drill materials from the Discipleship Training Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, P. O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433, (502) 245-4101, extension 335.

CHURCH MUSIC

Feeling a Little Off Key? Why Not Put Some Harmony in Your Life? Join Us for the Adult/Youth Vocal Ensemble Festival!



Dr. Phillip Landgrave, guest clinician

Your adult or youth vocal ensemble will not want to miss this event—it's sure to be a winner! Dr. Phillip Landgrave, Professor of Church Music, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, is our guest clinician. Lexington's Immanuel Baptist Church, 3100 Bates Creek Road, is hosting the January 30 festival.

General Information

What happens at a Adult/Youth Vocal Ensemble Festival? Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. and the festival starts at 9:30. We will dismiss promptly at noon. Here are some other guidelines you'll need to follow to participate:

•The festival is open to ensembles consisting of **three or more** members. Churches may bring more than one ensemble.

•Each ensemble may sing two selections.

•Evaluation of each ensemble's performance will be offered by the guest clinician while ensembles are on stage for maximum benefit to the ensemble members and the audience. Of course, **evaluation is optional!**

•Each ensemble will be allotted 15 minutes for set-up, performance and on-the-spot evaluation.

•Risers, sound system (including tape

deck), piano and organ will be provided. If other equipment is necessary, it will need to be set up "in the wings" prior to the beginning of the festival.

Registration Information

Cost for the festival is only \$25.00 per ensemble. Simply fill out the request form for more information on the last page of this insert.

Churches across the Southern Baptist Convention are experiencing more growth in this area of music ministry than any other! Start warming up those vocal chords and join in the fun!

EVENTS

FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

OTHER EVENTS

Church Growth

The Kentucky Baptist Convention recognized two bivocational ministers who exemplify the outstanding work accomplished by the over 25% bivocational ministers in Kentucky. Harry Sanders, pastor, Crane Creek Baptist Church, Ashland Association, and Tommy Scott, minister of music, Westside Baptist Church, Blood River Association, were recognized as the 1992 Bivocational Ministers of the Year. A recognition banquet honoring all bivocational ministers was held in Louisville during the annual convention meeting.

Upcoming Events

NOVEMBER

Student Work

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

Discipleship Training

November 23
"M" Night

WMU

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

DECEMBER

Student Work

December 5
Winter InnerMission
Highland Heights
Northern Kentucky
University

December 19-31

Friendship International House

December 27

Student Day at Christmas

KBC

December 14-15
Executive Board Meeting
Middletown
Kentucky Baptist Building

JANUARY

Evangelism

January 10
Soul Winning Commitment Day

January 18-20

Building Witnessing Relationships Seminar
Louisville
Hurstbourne Baptist Church

January 25-26

HMB Training in the Beliefs of the Mormon and New Age Cults
Middletown
Kentucky Baptist Building

Sunday School

Small Church Growth Tour

January 18

Henderson

January 19

Princeton

January 20

Mayfield

January 21

Hopkinsville

January 22

Central City

January 23

Leitchfield

Discipleship Training

January 18-22
MasterLife/MasterBuilder Workshop

Student Work

January 21
Deadline for Student Missions applications

Church Music

January 30
Adult/Youth Vocal Ensemble Festival
Lexington
Immanuel Baptist Church

FEBRUARY

Student Work

February 5-7
Summer Mission Interviews
Louisville
Crescent Hill Baptist Church

Church Music

February 6
All-State Youth Choir Audition
Madisonville
First Baptist Church

Family Ministry

February 8-9
When Families Hurt, Churches Can Help
Bagdad
Cedarmore Baptist Assembly

Church Growth and Administration

February 12-13
Deacon, Pastor, Spouse Retreat
Bagdad
Cedarmore Baptist Assembly

Student Work

February 13
BSU Volleyball Tournament
Louisville
University of Louisville

WMU

February 14-20
Focus on WMU
All churches

February 21-24

Home Mission Study
All churches

Church Music

February 19-20
State Youth Choir Festival
Louisville
Lyndon Baptist Church

February 20

All-State Youth Choir Auditions
Morehead
First Baptist Church

Evangelism

February 22-23
State Evangelism Conference
Lexington
Immanuel Baptist Church

CHECK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION

For additional information or to register, check the appropriate boxes and mail the provided form below to:
Executive Office, Kentucky Baptist Convention, P. O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433

To Receive More Information

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cedarmore Baptist Assembly | Office for Evangelism |
| Church Growth and Administration | <input type="checkbox"/> BWR Seminar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deacon, Pastor, Spouse Retreat | <input type="checkbox"/> HMB Training in the Beliefs |
| Church Music | of the Mormon and New Age Cults |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adult/Youth Vocal Ensemble Festival | Family Ministry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State Youth Choir Festival | <input type="checkbox"/> When Families Hurt, Churches Can Help |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State Handbell Festival | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> All-State Youth Choir Auditions | |

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Office _____ Home _____

Church _____ Association _____

Leadership Position _____

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

CP giving kept as test for additional messengers

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

LOUISVILLE—Undesignated Cooperative Program budget giving will remain a test for gaining representation at the Kentucky Baptist Convention, messengers to this year's annual meeting decided.

That issue was among a slate of business conducted by 1,726 messengers to the KBC's 155th annual meeting, held at St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville Nov. 10-11.

Attendance peaked at the Tuesday afternoon session where convention officers were elected, forcing some people into an overflow auditorium. However, by the last session Wednesday night, only 264 messengers remained, far short of the 432 required for a quorum.

No further business was conducted in that session, although most major items already had been decided.

The messenger qualification issue came to the convention from a CP study committee formed two years ago. The committee, chaired by Judge Eugene Siler of Williamsburg, recommended a change in wording for Article 3 of the KBC constitution.

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

The committee's proposal would have allowed one additional messenger, up to 10, for each \$250 contributed "to the work of the Kentucky Baptist Convention" and/or the Cooperative Program. It would not have changed the membership-based formula.

CP contributions received by the state convention are divided, with a

portion remaining in Kentucky and another portion going to national Southern Baptist Convention causes.

Practically, the change would have allowed churches unhappy with the SBC's conservative leadership to remain fully represented in the KBC without funding the national CP administered by the SBC Executive Committee.

Siler presented the recommendation on behalf of the committee as a "compromise" that he said would allow Kentucky Baptists to continue working together despite differences on the national level.

Although the KBC requires giving to the SBC for additional messengers, the SBC does not require giving to state conventions to obtain national messengers, nor does the SBC require undesignated giving to the CP to obtain messengers, Siler noted. The proposed change is appropriate, he said, because both the KBC and SBC are autonomous bodies.

Messengers accepted the report of the special study committee by a vote of 755-584. However, they then voted down the actual proposal, with 705 votes in favor and 718 against.

Much debate and confusion ensued between the two votes. At first, messengers were not clear on the impact of each vote, and whether there would be two separate votes. Then there were problems with messengers missing ballots and other parliamentary questions.

The committee's motion to amend the constitution was presented as the second reading of a nearly identical motion offered at last year's convention by Jim Holladay, pastor of Clifton Baptist Church in Louisville and president of the Kentucky Baptist Fellowship.

Messengers debated whether the committee's motion actually constituted a second reading, since a slight change had been made from Holla-

day's original wording. Holladay's motion had not included the words "Cooperative Program" but simply stated additional messengers would be gained for each \$250 contributed "to the work of the Kentucky Baptist Convention."

Some messengers argued allowing churches to bypass the national CP would undermine home and foreign missionaries. Others argued the provision would allow the KBC to remain strong despite the 13-year-old internal war in the SBC.

Holladay said the vote "should not be a referendum on the Cooperative Program" but a referendum on the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He cited black Baptist churches aligned with a National Baptist Convention and the KBC that might not be aligned with the SBC. Not changing the messenger requirement punishes them, he argued.

KBC messenger status "ought to be based on your support for the KBC," not on support for the SBC, Holladay said.

But others disagreed, sometimes with intense rebuttals. One messenger charged the proposal was "an attempt to dismantle the association of our state convention with our national convention."

Ultimately, the constitutional amendment failed.

Afterward, Holladay said he saw the vote as a decision to exclude people rather than include people. Requiring those who support the KBC to support the SBC is not wise, he said.

The issue is probably dead for at least a couple of years, Holladay conceded. But he expressed hope that it might be reconsidered.

In other business, messengers:
 ■ Adopted an operating budget goal of \$17.34 million for the KBC's 1993-94 Cooperative Program unified budget, with 37.304 percent of undesignated receipts going to Southern

Baptist causes and 62.969 percent going to Kentucky Baptist causes.

That total is the same as the current 1992-93 budget goal.

■ Approved amendments to the Kentucky Baptist Foundation's articles of incorporation and covenant agreement with the KBC. The change will allow the Foundation "to serve and administer funds of any Baptist institution, church, agency or enterprise which is approved by the board of directors ... and whose purpose is not in conflict with" KBC causes.

Previously, the Foundation was restricted to handle funds given for agencies and institutions supported by the KBC budget. Even if a donor gave a fund to be shared by a KBC institution and some other unqualified Baptist cause, the Foundation could not have taken the money.

Another change will allow the Foundation to accept dual-purpose funds for Baptist and non-Baptist causes within certain guidelines.

■ Approved without change the reports of the committee on nominations and committee on committees, appointing people to the boards of KBC agencies and institutions. The nominating committee's report for the first time included nominations for eight at-large seats on the KBC Executive Board.

■ Received 13 new churches into the fellowship of the KBC.

■ Agreed to hold the 1992 annual meeting at Severns Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethtown instead of First Baptist Church of Bowling Green, which still will be rebuilding from a major fire. The Executive Inn of Owensboro was approved as site for the 1995 annual meeting.

■ Heard the first reading on a proposed change in the covenant agreements with the convention's colleges that would allow each of them to add up to eight trustees who are Baptists from out of state.

Messengers rejected a proposed constitutional amendment that would have allowed churches to gain KBC representation by giving to Kentucky Baptist causes without giving to the national Cooperative Program.

CONGRATULATIONS Mike Thomason (right), pastor of Temple Hill Baptist Church in Glasgow, congratulates Charles Stewart on his election as KBC president. Thomason was chair of a special committee that recommended a funding proposal for the Baptist Joint Committee which was opposed by many of the conservatives who supported Stewart's election.

Stewart accepts presidency on behalf of bivocationalists

Continued from page 1

"Encourage churches to build strong Sunday schools. Reach out and get the people. Win them to Christ. Train them so they will grow and give. And teach them our great missionary vision. That's the goal of my own ministry, and I have no other agenda."

That formula has served Stewart and Rose Hill well for almost three decades. Under his leadership, the church has averaged 100-plus new members per year, with 65 percent new Christians.

The congregation continues to grow and has about 1,750 members, with another 250 in its four missions. It also has operated a Christian school for 13 years, with 320 students from kindergarten through high school, and it runs a day care that provides for 125 children. The staff includes 80 people.

But Stewart began his ministry more modestly. As a teen-ager, he was a member of Pollard Baptist Church in Ashland and participated in vacation Bible school/statistical survey teams that helped start three congregations, including Rose Hill.

He was ordained in 1954 and was

bivocational pastor of two West Virginia churches before he came to Rose Hill 10 years later.

In recent years, a major focus of his ministry has been Rose Hill's mission congregations: Rush Baptist Chapel in Rush, Fellowship Baptist Chapel in South Shore, Garner Baptist Mission in southern Boyd County and First Southern Baptist Chapel in South Point, Ohio.

Stewart also has set his sights on increasing the church's contributions to the Cooperative Program, Kentucky and Southern Baptists' unified budget.

"We're adding 1 percent (of undesignated receipts) per year," he said. "We're at 6 percent, heading to 10 percent, and we give 3 percent to our Greenup Baptist Association. We start our missions at 6 percent for the Cooperative Program and 4 percent to the association. We also want to double our gifts to foreign, home and state missions in the next 10 years."

The church also contributes \$150,000 per year to the work of its mission congregations.

Rose Hill's growth and experience

with mission churches have taken their toll on its Cooperative Program history, Stewart said.

"Our missions giving has not been what any of us want it to be," he admitted. "We've grown fast, and we've had debt. But we will pay off the debt next year, and our Cooperative Program giving ought to go up 2 or 3 percent. ..."

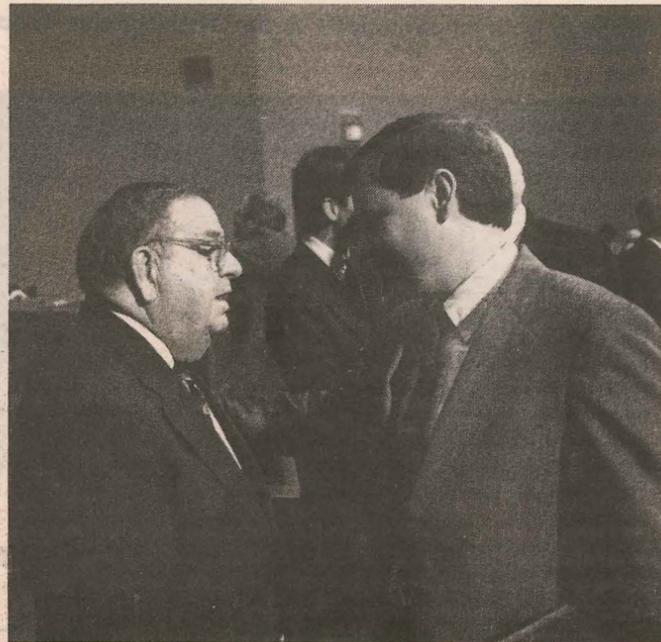
"Ours has not been a great Cooperative Program church, but we will be a great Cooperative Program church."

Stewart also has been involved in foreign missions and looks forward to Kentucky Baptists' possible partnership with Russian Baptists.

His brother, Clarence, was the partnership missions coordinator for Tennessee Baptists, and he took three trips to Venezuela, where the Tennesseans worked. He also has gone to Australia and Canada on trips sponsored by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's evangelism division.

Stewart knows he will have a busy year, with his new duties as KBC president, his responsibilities with the national bivocational council and his

church. But his car is in good shape for the Kentucky highways, and the pace shouldn't be too much for a fellow who was bivocational for three decades.



Resolution tackles homosexual behavior

CLASSIFIED ADS

Petitions also circulating

In speaking to the resolution on homosexual behavior, Don Zuberer, pastor of First Baptist Church of Russellville, urged messengers to sign petitions calling for a constitutional amendment to reinstate Kentucky's sodomy law. Copies of such a petition are available from Zuberer at First Baptist Church, Box 383, Russellville, Ky. 42276.

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

LOUISVILLE—Homosexual behavior, elected government officials, Sunday activities and appreciation were the topics of resolutions adopted by messengers to the Kentucky Baptist Convention Nov. 10-11.

The longest of four resolutions adopted—and the one that drew the most comment—pertained to homosexual behavior. The KBC resolutions committee brought the statement after three resolutions on the topic were submitted by messengers.

All resolutions were adopted with few or no negative votes. Resolutions are non-binding statements of the opinions of messengers attending the convention.

The resolution on homosexual behavior cites four events as bringing the issue to the "forefront of Christian consciousness":

- Conflict between the Southern Baptist Convention and two North Carolina churches that affirmed the homosexual lifestyle.

- The recent decision by the Kentucky Supreme Court to overturn the state's sodomy law.

- Debate over a proposed "fairness amendment" to grant homosexuality civil rights status in Louisville.

- The opening of a bed-and-breakfast resort for homosexuals near Russellville.

The resolution claims homosexual behavior is "a sinful act, outside the demonstrated will of God and harm-

ful to its participants."

But it also acknowledges "that all people have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, while testifying that God's grace is sufficient to forgive and redeem all people, no matter what their particular sins." Homosexual behavior is not "the unpardonable sin," it notes, but is one of many other sins condemned in the Bible.

In adopting the resolution, messengers pledged "to be a loving, caring community of faith, striving to minister redemptively to all people."

The resolution also calls on Kentucky Baptists to immediately communicate their views on the subject to their legislators.

The resolution points out Baptist churches, associations and conventions are autonomous and does not call for any action against Baptist bodies who take a different stand on homosexual behavior.

When similar resolutions have been adopted by the SBC and other state conventions, some Baptists who are against homosexuality also have fought the resolutions because they appear to place one Baptist body dictating beliefs to another Baptist body.

At the time of the resolutions committee report, David Jones, pastor of Liberty Baptist Church in London, tried to get his original resolution on homosexuality considered on the floor. Jones had presented one of the three resolutions that were offered.

Jones said his resolution was more specific in mentioning the North Carolina churches. However, his re-

quest was ruled out of order.

Bret Robbe, resolutions committee chairman, then explained that his committee decided it had no authority to suggest changes in the KBC's constitution or to tell other Baptist bodies what they must believe.

The resolution on prayer for elected officials was submitted by T.L. McSwain, pastor of Bethlehem Baptist Church in Louisville.

While his proposed resolution specifically mentioned President-elect Bill Clinton and Vice President-elect Al Gore by name, the final resolution presented by the committee and adopted by messengers does not. It simply refers to their new positions.

The resolution on Sunday activities was presented by Ty Clenny, pastor of Greensburg Baptist Church in Greensburg. It says Kentucky Baptists "oppose all Kentucky school extracurricular activities on Sunday."

The resolution on appreciation cites St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville for hosting this year's annual meeting as well as convention officers and staff for their work.

The resolutions committee declined to present a resolution offered by Carmen Sharp, interim pastor of Buechel Park Baptist Church in Louisville. That resolution would have called for making the KBC Executive Board more representative by including more women and laity.

Robbe said the committee "felt that trend was already taking place naturally" and did not need to be addressed in a resolution.

WANTED: Pulpit search committee seeks resumes for pastor. Send information to: Auburn Baptist Church c/o Gary Woodall, P.O. Box 67, Auburn, Ky. 42206.

TOUR: Holy Land tour, Feb. 17, 1993, 10 days, \$1,548. Contact: Bill Ditto, 1409 Delmar Ln., Louisville, 40216; (502) 366-9496.

SEEKING: Part-time Minister of Music. Send resumé to: Search Committee, Fairview Baptist Church, 6426 Ky. Hwy. 1247, Waynesburg, Ky. 40489.

WANTED: Part-time Minister of Youth. Write or call Calvary Baptist Church, 401 Waveland Ave., Danville, Ky. 40422. (606) 236-5350.

SEEKING: DeHaven Christian Academy seeking teacher, small class, grades 3-5. Elementary degree and certification. If interested, call Rev. Wes Roy, 222-9306.

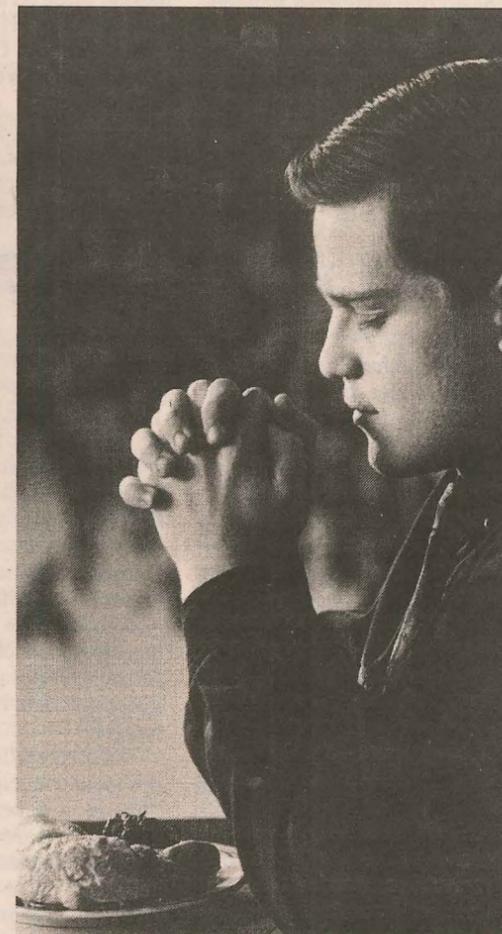
FOR SALE: "175 Year Heritage, First Baptist Church, Frankfort." The church's history in a 350-page hard-back volume will be released in mid-December. Pre-publication price: \$22 (until Dec. 1). Price when released: \$26. Order your copy by calling the church at (502) 227-4528 or by mailing your check to the church. The address is: P.O. Box Drawer Q, Frankfort, Ky. 40602.

SEEKING: Part-time Minister of Music. Send resumé to Alton Baptist Church, 1321 Bypass North, Lawrenceburg, Ky. 40342.

FOR SALE: 75 light beige choir robes, good condition. \$10 each. Call Jack Gordon, (502) 886-0291.

THEY ARE PRECIOUS IN HIS SIGHT

Why do we work so hard to share the message of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children during each year's Thanksgiving Offering? Because each child who bows to pray over the plate of food that you provide is indeed precious in His sight. And each man, woman or child who brings gifts from the heart to children who have never experienced such an outpouring of love makes our ministry happen. YOU make the difference through your contributions to the Thanksgiving Offering.



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KENTUCKY

Possible Russia partnership called gigantic challenge

By Marv Knox
Editor

LOUISVILLE—The Kentucky Baptist Convention faces a gigantic challenge as it considers developing a partnership to do mission work with Russian Baptists, KBC Executive Secretary-Treasurer William Marshall told messengers to the convention's annual meeting last week.

Marshall reported on a recent fact-finding trip to Russia he took with KBC missions leaders Calvin Wilkins and Benton Williams.

He compared the Kentucky trio to

the 12 scouts sent by the ancient Israelites to survey the Promised Land. Ten scouts said the Israelites were like "grasshoppers" compared to the "giant" Canaanites, and two said God would help them occupy the land.

"I also am presenting a split kind of report," Marshall said.

Reflecting the giant obstacles, he said:

■ Southern Baptists do not have a missionary base in Russia, as has been the case in Kenya and Brazil, where the KBC has had partnerships.

The missionary couple with the most experience in Russia have only

been there 18 months and are leaving next summer, he said.

Coincidentally, Russian Baptists and Southern Baptist missionaries cannot yet provide enough translators for significant numbers of Kentuckians to work there.

■ The cost of traveling to Russia is expensive. Round-trip costs will be in the \$2,500-\$2,700 range, he reported.

■ The Russian Baptists need money "more than anything else," he said, noting the KBC does not have financial resources to send large amounts of money and has tended to focus on sending people, not cash.

■ Russia's long, extremely cold winters work against the construction projects and other large-group trips that have been the hallmark of other partnerships.

■ "The Russian political situation is very unpredictable," he reported. "It's very, very precarious."

■ The size of the nation—150 million people—is enormous. Espirito Santo, Brazil, where the KBC currently has a partnership, is home to fewer people than Kentucky, and Kenya has 25 million people. Moscow alone is two and one-half times the size of Kentucky.

"But the obstacles, as great as they are, have to be considered in the context of what God wants us to do," Marshall added, citing positive aspects of a potential partnership:

■ Response to the recent Billy Graham crusade in Moscow was enormous. "People literally ran down the aisles" to accept Christ as Savior, he said.

■ People are free to hear the gospel after more than seven decades of communist suppression.

■ The availability of the prospects. "Kentucky has been given this opportunity," he said. "It fell our lot."

■ The sacrificial stewardship of the Russians. Baptists in Russia send out home missionaries to start churches for only \$100 per month, he said.

■ Providence. "It is more than a coincidence that nine Russian Baptist students have chosen to study at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, right here in Louisville," he declared.

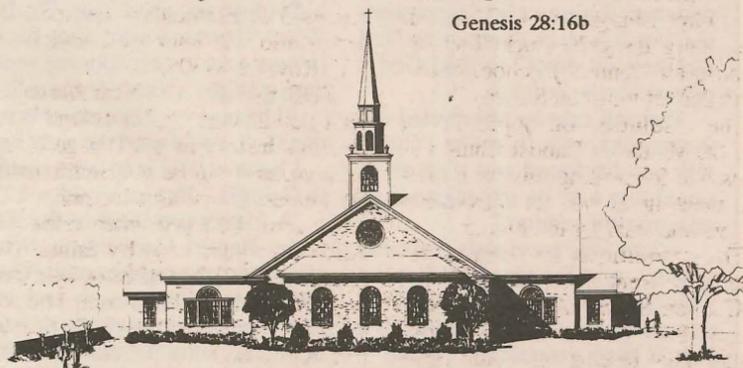
Marshall concluded: "Start praying. Start studying Russian. Start studying everything you can about Russia. Hopefully, ... by April we can wrap things up. We are 'grasshoppers,' but we can do it."

"The obstacles, as great as they are, have to be considered in the context of what God wants us to do."

William Marshall, speaking about a proposed missions partnership between Kentucky Baptists and Russian Baptists

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

Genesis 28:16b



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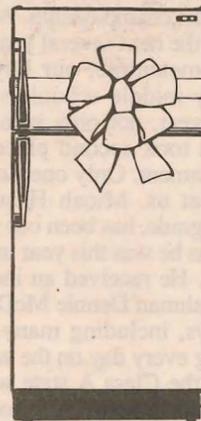
What will your preschooler be 20 years from now? Although we do not know the future, we can lay a foundation of missions education which will influence that future.

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Will your preschooler grow up to be among tomorrow's missionaries and missions supporters? Mission Friends can be a beginning! For more information, contact Kentucky WMU, P.O. Box 43433, Louisville, Ky. 40253-0433, or call (502) 245-4101.



This Christmas, help rescue the perishing.



It may be hard to believe, but two refrigerators in Zimbabwe are helping save lives.

Nancy Carley works as a nurse at Sanyati Baptist Hospital. The refrigerator at the hospital stores vaccines, which she uses to bring hope to hurting children.

The refrigerator at her home was purchased with Lottie Moon Christmas Offering funds and stores cold drinks and snacks for the youth she teaches in Sunday School. Through her work with the young people, Nancy brings hope of eternal life to the Zimbabwean youth.

Pray for Nancy and the hospital staff as they declare hope and give support to the growing number of AIDS patients and their families. Pray that the Zimbabweans will accept the hope offered to them through Jesus Christ.



Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
National Goal: \$84 million

KENTUCKY KERNELS

During the Civil War, Baptists in central, southern and western Kentucky tended to support the Confederacy, while Baptists in Louisville, northern Kentucky and eastern Kentucky were mostly Union supporters. Church and denominational life suffered throughout the state, except in Louisville, where Baptist strength actually increased during the war years.

Source: *The Kentucky Encyclopedia*

Mountains to the Mississippi

■ **CAMPBELLSVILLE**—Ginger Fuller received the Cecile Conaway Meskimen piano scholarship at Campbellsville College for 1992-1993. A sophomore at Campbellsville, Fuller attends Chaplin Church in Chaplin, where her husband, Jeff, is pastor.

■ **CECILIA**—Franklin Crossroads Church called Mitchell Ash as associate minister in music and senior adults. He previously served as pastor of Long Lick Church in Stamping Ground.

■ **FRANKFORT**—East Frankfort Church ordained Jim Garrison and Luke Hutcherson as deacons Nov. 1.

■ **GEORGETOWN**—Mark Pennington is pastor of Mallard Point Church.

■ **HOPKINSVILLE**—Edgewood Church recently has added two new staff members. Don Hall will serve as minister of music, and Joe Ball will serve as minister of education/youth. A native of Vanceburg, Hall previously served as associate minister of music at Severns Valley Church in Elizabethtown. A 1991 graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ball previously served as associate pastor of Chevy Chase Church in Lexington.

■ **LEXINGTON**—Sherl Thomas began Nov. 1 as pastor of Cane Run Church. He previously served as pastor of Kiddville Church in Kiddville.

Mike Wolfzorn, minister of

youth/education at Chevy Chase Church, was ordained to the ministry Nov. 8.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Leo George began Nov. 15 as church administrator at Walnut Street Church.

■ **PINEVILLE**—Newtown Missionary Church called Cleo Goodlett as pastor. He is a student at Clear Creek Bible College.

■ **STURGIS**—First Church has called Lester Nash as interim pastor.

■ **SUMMERSVILLE**—Jimmy Workman is minister of music at Summersville Church. He previously directed the music at Friendship Church in Campbellsville.

■ **UTICA**—Masonville Church has begun a weekly Kids Klub as an outreach program for the children of the community. The 50-60 children already attending participate in music, missions and Bible stories.

MISSIONARY UPDATE

■ **Howard and Libby Atkinson**, Kentucky natives and missionaries to Colombia, are on the field at Apartado Aereo 51687, Bogota, Colombia. He was born in Madisonville and lived in Paducah and Earlinton. She is from London.

■ **Timothy and Brenda Searcy**, missionaries to Colombia, completed language school and are now at their field of service at Apartado Aereo 6613, Cali, Colombia. They are from Winchester.

White named Georgia executive

MACON, Ga. (BP)—J. Robert White, pastor of First Baptist Church in Paducah, was elected executive director-treasurer of the Georgia Baptist Convention Nov. 9.

His unanimous election came less than 60 days after Home Mission Board administrator Gary Jones declined to accept the position upon receiving a 69-39 vote in his favor amid heated debate.

Search committee Chairman James Ramsey said White's name had not come to the committee's attention until after Jones declined the position. After that experience, Ramsey said the committee "made a recommitment to God and to each other" to find God's person for the position.

Ramsey said he interpreted the unanimous vote to mean "God's will can be found and a sense of unanimity can be experienced in our state convention."

White, who previously served as pastor of Tabernacle Baptist Church in Carrollton, Ga., told the committee he was not looking for a job. "I have a wonderful church—we have had a marvelous 11 years," he said. "The only reason I would ever consider (the GBC position) is

if God is in it. I feel God is in this."

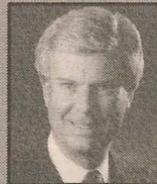
Ramsey cited White's pastoral spirit, commitment to missions and effectiveness in supporting Southern Baptists' Cooperative Program unified budget. The Paducah church ranked second in Kentucky CP giving last year, with more than \$300,000 in contributions.

White's election seemed almost a formality after executive committee member Wayne Hamrick, pastor of New Liberty Baptist Church in Ringgold and a recognized conservative who had opposed Jones, endorsed White. "I

don't know of any better or greater individual anywhere than Dr. Bob White," Hamrick said, citing his experience as a neighboring pastor during White's tenure in Carrollton. "I have prayed like never before that God would send the right man. ... I believe God is in your coming to Georgia," Hamrick said.

A former president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, White also was vice president of the Georgia Baptist Convention and vice chairman of the convention's executive and administration committees.

White's election is effective Jan. 1, 1993.



J. Robert White

Old-fashioned honor roll call

For 93 years it has been customary to call the honor roll each academic period at a daily chapel service. We feel that it is unfortunate that most American schools today do not take the time to so publicly and individually recognize each of their top students in the presence of all their fellow students and the teaching staff. We think it is time well spent in motivating and encouraging young people.

Even the most "cool" boy or girl delights in having their name called for the honor roll if they have earned that type of attention.

This time we had 14 students who made an "A" in every subject. Forty-three other girls and boys had an average of "A" which is possible if they have only one "B." Then there were 96 others who averaged "B" in all their subjects. A total of 153 received the applause of their peers and our staff one recent morning.

We don't just applaud them. Our honor roll students are given some special privileges. The principal one is that they are not required to attend the nightly hour-long study hall in our two dining rooms. Of course, each may do so if one desires. During that time while our weaker students have supervised study, our honor roll students are free to play in our two gyms, to go swimming, watch TV, play billiards or table tennis, to study or sleep in their rooms.

This kind of immediate reward system is far more effective in promoting self-disciplined study habits than preachments about getting a good job someday, taking care of their future families, etc.

It is thrilling each honor roll day to see varying ones honored who have made the honor roll for the first time in their lives. Sometimes they have struggled for many years to do so.

Interesting is the number that not only excel

academically but also become motivated and also excel athletically or in other areas. It doesn't have to be an either/or thing.

For the first time in our history, both our girls' and boys' cross country teams won the regional championship, beating every other Class A school from Oneida to the Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia borders. This was our ninth regional championship in the past 20 years for boys, our first for girls in cross country.

Three of our top six girl runners were middle schoolers, and our seventh top runner is the fifth grade child of two of our teachers. We have our own school for staff children kindergarten through grades 5, and begin our program for the public in the sixth grade. So four of our top seven are not even in high school yet, but beat all the other high school teams of the region for the championship. We ought to do well the next several years.

In the meantime, our boys, also with many middle schoolers on the team this year, not only won the regional but took second place in the state tournament. Only one Louisville school beat us. Micah Hasty, who came to us in the 8th grade, has been our top runner for several years as he was this year in his last high school run ever. He received an individual state medal as did freshman Dennie McDowell.

A total of 63 boys, including many middle schoolers, are training every day on the wrestling team. We have won the Class A state wrestling championship two years in a row. Approximately 30 are on swimming and diving teams as their season begins. Nearly 100 girls and boys are on our varying basketball teams. There are 20 cheerleaders.

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

Paid Column

ONEIDA JOURNAL



Barkley Moore

Ecumenical electricians

When 1983 alumnus Byron Ellington learned that Clear Creek needed a volunteer electrician to assist in bringing renovated student housing to code, he said, "Call my father-in-law, Julian Gibson, in Florida; he will help."

Gibson, a certified electrician, has since made four trips to the campus. Most of his volunteer efforts have been directed to cottages. Following his first trip, a local inspector said, "I hope you will return and help with other projects. You do an excellent job." Students prefer Gibson to work on their cottages because when he upgrades the wiring, he provides temporary service and the electricity is off just one and a half hours instead of one and a half days.

A member of Grace Presbyterian Church in America, Madison, Fla., Gibson was once asked by a fellow Presbyterian, "Have you received any money for Clear Creek from the 'frozen chosen?'" a term referring to what Gibson calls "blue stocking" Presbyterians. Gibson jokingly said that many older Presbyterians state they are just a Primitive Baptist moved to town.

Ray Yeager, Hernando, accompanied Gibson on a recent trip to wire the newly constructed Child Development Center before begin-

ning a similar project on three student duplexes put under roof by volunteers this summer. A member of Hernando's Ebenezer Baptist Church, Yeager, on leave as a regional merchandising executive for Sears-Roebuck, learned of Clear Creek from retired director of missions Ervin Brown, whose Northwest Baptist Association annually makes a Bold Mission Thrust journey to various states to perform numerous building and missions tasks. Members must pay for the cost of the trip and often raise funds to complete projects. This year they did not use all they raised and have voted to send a contribution to Clear Creek.

Gibson regularly tells the Clear Creek story in Florida churches. He recently attended a men's breakfast in a

small Methodist church whose men gave a generous offering. Volunteers play such an important role in development of the campus that many overdue projects could not be completed without their sacrificial efforts. Volunteers like Julian Gibson and Ray Yeager touch lives in much the same spirit as offering a cup of cold water in Jesus' name.

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

Paid Column

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

PEOPLE

Pastor quit church to run for Senate

By Trennis Henderson
Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (BP)—Mike Huckabee, former president of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, resigned earlier this year as pastor of Beech Street First Baptist Church in Texarkana to seek election to the U.S. Senate.

He fell short in that bid Nov. 3 as 18-year Senate incumbent Dale Bumpers was re-elected with an estimated 60-40 edge.

Despite the loss, Huckabee said it was not a mistake to resign the pastorate in order to run. "You never make a mistake when you stand up for what you believe and risk your very career for those decisions," he declared.

"Many people who say they're Christians aren't willing to take any risk. Their god is comfort," Huckabee said during an election night interview.

He said his decision to run was based on "a compelling conviction that we were losing our country because people with convictions refused to get involved in the political process. I did it with a sense of doing something for my children and my country."

Huckabee was pastor of Beech Street First Church nearly six years before resigning in February. He previously was pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church in Pine Bluff, Ark. Huckabee was president of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention in 1989-91. He is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia and attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

Responding to critics' charges that he abandoned a higher calling, Huckabee said, "I never quit the ministry. I continued preaching almost every Sunday. The highest calling anyone has is to follow Jesus Christ, not to fill a particular ecclesiastical role.

"I felt strongly it was not appropriate for me to pastor while campaigning," he added. "It's not fair for my decision to create a division or hardship in the church."

Looking to the future, Huckabee said he would be open to mounting another campaign "if the same processes that led to this one happened again."

Declining to confirm speculation that his next political goal may be to seek election as governor of Arkansas, the Southern Baptist minister said, "I have no plans beyond tonight. I'll wake up in the morning and start all over."

60-year-old found ministry as volunteer

DENVER (BP)—At age 60, Louise Ford said she wanted to volunteer for Christian work but didn't know what she could do.

Ford, who has been active in Woman's Missionary Union all her life, said she found a job to match her convictions when asked to be a Mission Service Corps volunteer secretary for the Colorado Baptist WMU director.

"I know that God just put me where he wants me to be," said Ford, who left her home in Corsicana, Texas, to live in Denver for a year.

Filling a wide range of jobs, from convention office secretary to church music director, Colorado Southern Baptists have almost doubled their use of volunteers since 1990, said Bill Harper, volunteer organizer for the state convention.

"I am convinced that the Lord's work gets done by volunteers," Harper said. "We've gotten into relying on the preacher to do everything, and when the preacher can't do it, let's pay someone."

Volunteers like Ford are a vital part of administrative, church building and evangelistic work, say Colorado Baptist Convention officials.

For churches without resources to pay for every job, it's either volunteers or nothing, said Charles Sharp, the convention's executive director. "If it weren't for volunteers, we couldn't do a lot of the things we're doing."

Ford's knowledge of WMU programs more than made up for her inexperience as a secretary, said Sydney Portis, Colorado's WMU director.

With no office support before Ford, Portis said she spent much of her time buried under administrative duties instead of planning and promoting missions work.

"She became a part of everything I do," Portis said, adding that Ford's help has doubled the time Portis can spend with WMU groups. "When I go out, it's because she's here."

Meanwhile, volunteer construction crews from other states help many small churches get into their own buildings long before they otherwise could, Sharp said. "In starting new churches, we don't have the large churches that have a lot of resources to help."

While people, not a building, make up the church, Sharp said a building gives a lot of credibility to a new

church in a rural community. "They've seen other groups come and go. With a building, you're here to stay."

As with most needs, the demand for volunteers exceeds supply. Harper said he fills about 60 percent of the requests he gets for Mission Service Corps volunteers, a category for those willing to serve full-time for at least one year in home missions.

Sometimes the hardest job is convincing Southern Baptists God can use their skills as a volunteer, said Bob Mills, director of the Mission Service Corps program of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

"Most Southern Baptists do not have a high opinion of their abilities," he said. "When they recognize that their skills could be used, many of them are amazed."

Many mistakenly believe they have to be ordained or seminary trained to be active in Christian work, he said.

"We are more concerned about their availability and their desire to serve," he said. "That's more important to me than their educational pedigree."

Baptist home missionary experienced pain of racism

By David Winfrey
SBC Home Mission Board

ARLINGTON, Texas (BP)—Growing up on a Navajo Indian reservation, Russell Begaye remembers first-hand the effects of racist policies against native Americans in his school.

"I grew up under this system where our mouths were washed out with soap any time we spoke our native language," said Begaye, assistant director for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's language church extension division.

Begaye, a full-blooded Navajo, was appointed in May as one of three Southern Baptists on the Baptist World Alliance's new commission on racism.

The commission was formed after the April riots in Los Angeles. It is charged with exploring the origins of racism, biblical answers to racism and solutions for local Baptist churches to combat racism.

Although American Indians are no longer forbidden from speaking in their own language in classrooms, Begaye said the mindset behind such policies remains.

"Just because we passed a law that eliminated the two bathrooms and the drinking fountains doesn't mean the feelings have stopped," he said. "The policies have changed, but the attitude is still there."

Attitudes have been passed from generation to generation, he said, and more interaction between ethnic groups is necessary before people will appreciate other cultures.

Even the common concept of Columbus discovering America represents a view Begaye contends is ripe

with racism.

"When you use the words 'discovery of America,' you're automatically classifying Indians as a non-person," he said. "You are saying that when Columbus came there were no people here. There were either savages or beasts."

Begaye, a graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, said he hopes the commission will consider more than just traditional Anglo racism against blacks and other ethnic groups.

"There's racism at various levels. Not just color of the skin but economic, education, social status," he said. "The most vicious racism sometimes occurs among your own groups."

The biblical answer to racism, he said, is as simple as Jesus' commandment, "Love your neighbor as yourself." He points to his own life as an example of God's love conquering man's hate.

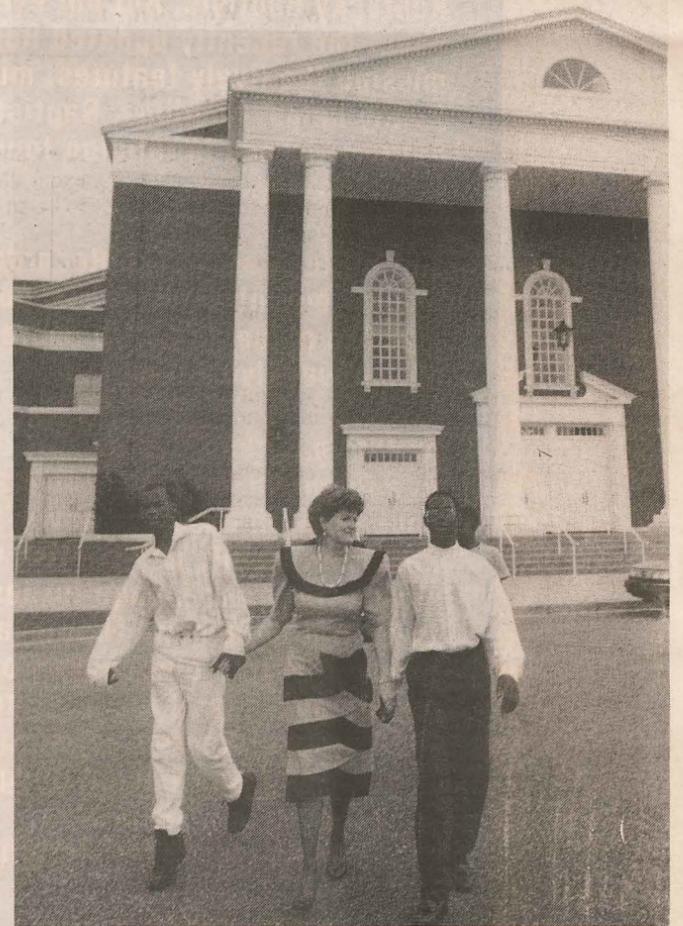
For two years in college, Begaye was a member of the American Indian Movement, a group he now calls "radical" that participated in college and courthouse sit-ins across California in the interest of Indian rights.

"The more I got involved, the greater my bitterness became," he said.

The hatred was gone, however, after he rededicated his life to Jesus Christ, he said.

"The ability to deal with racism, I think, comes from the Lord," he said. "Today I have no bitterness, no resentment, no animosity toward any race. And I believe it's because, as the Bible says, the love of God fills your heart so much that you begin to love people with the love of Christ."

For information about volunteer opportunities in home missions, call (800) HMB-VOLS.



TEACHING HOPE Beverly Chilton (center) stands out on Sundays at Dauphin Way Baptist Church in Mobile, Ala. Not because of her appearance, but because she always is flanked by several students. When she first started teaching English at Mobile's Booker T. Washington Middle School, students jeered and taunted her. Now they call her "mom." Chilton began taking children home from school and inviting them to church. She also shares her Christian faith with students during breaks and after school (BP photo by Deborah Aronson-Griffin)

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