

**FOR THE RECORD**

**FMB wish list**

The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has released its annual priority list for needed missions personnel. It includes requests for church starter as well as lay specialists.  
See page 2.

**Rethink AIDS**

A medical doctor who works with AIDS patients told a group of Baptists last week that Christians need to get over their homophobia and realize that AIDS is spreading rapidly into the heterosexual community.  
See page 2.

**Glasgow glowing**

A revival at Immanuel Baptist Church in Glasgow resulted in 45 professions of faith in Jesus Christ.  
See page 3.

**Editorial**

Must different opinions about the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship divide the Kentucky Baptist Convention?  
See page 5.

**Honeycutt speaks**

Roy Honeycutt, outgoing president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, told a group of alumni last week that God has the right to call women as ministers.  
See page 6.

**Fellowship meets**

Former President Jimmy Carter embraced the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, while the Fellowship embraced missionaries during its annual meeting in Birmingham, Ala.  
See page 7.

**Training combats secular pressure**

LOUISVILLE—By training disciples, churches help Christians face the pressures of a secular world and draw closer to God, speakers said during Kentucky Baptists' first Statewide School of Discipleship.

Proper training can build up Christians who will not wither in the face of secular assault, Perry Sanders, pastor of First Baptist Church of Lafayette, La., said during the opening session of the May 7-8 meeting at Highview Baptist Church in Louisville.

"God, give us men and women who have conviction founded in the personhood and authority of God: Who will not flinch, who will not waver, who will not retreat," Sanders said.

The Hebrew leader Moses was such a person, Sanders said, noting Pharaoh of Egypt gave Moses four opportunities to compromise his convictions, but he would not.

The first, translated into modern language, was, "Don't be conspicuous; be like the rest of us," Sanders said. However, God commands be-

lievers to be different and distinctive from the rest of the world, he added.

In the second, Pharaoh urged Moses, "Just take it easy. ... Don't be very different (from the world), and not for long," Sanders reported.

"But discipleship demands that we be totally different—philosophically, mentally and socially," he said. "No cheap, easy, superficial brand of Christianity is going to turn our world toward God."

Pharaoh's third seduction to compromise urged Moses to refrain from imposing his convictions on the younger generation, Sanders noted. But he countered that instilling Christian beliefs and values in children is a parent's biggest responsibility.

The final compromise proposal was to fail to give God material possessions, he added. "You can't out-give God. When God says, 'Follow me,' bring everything," he urged.

"Stand tall, true, lovingly and firmly," Sanders said. "Let's not make compromises."

In addition to Sanders' keynote

address, the school's 350 participants each heard three of four major presentations on discipleship training:

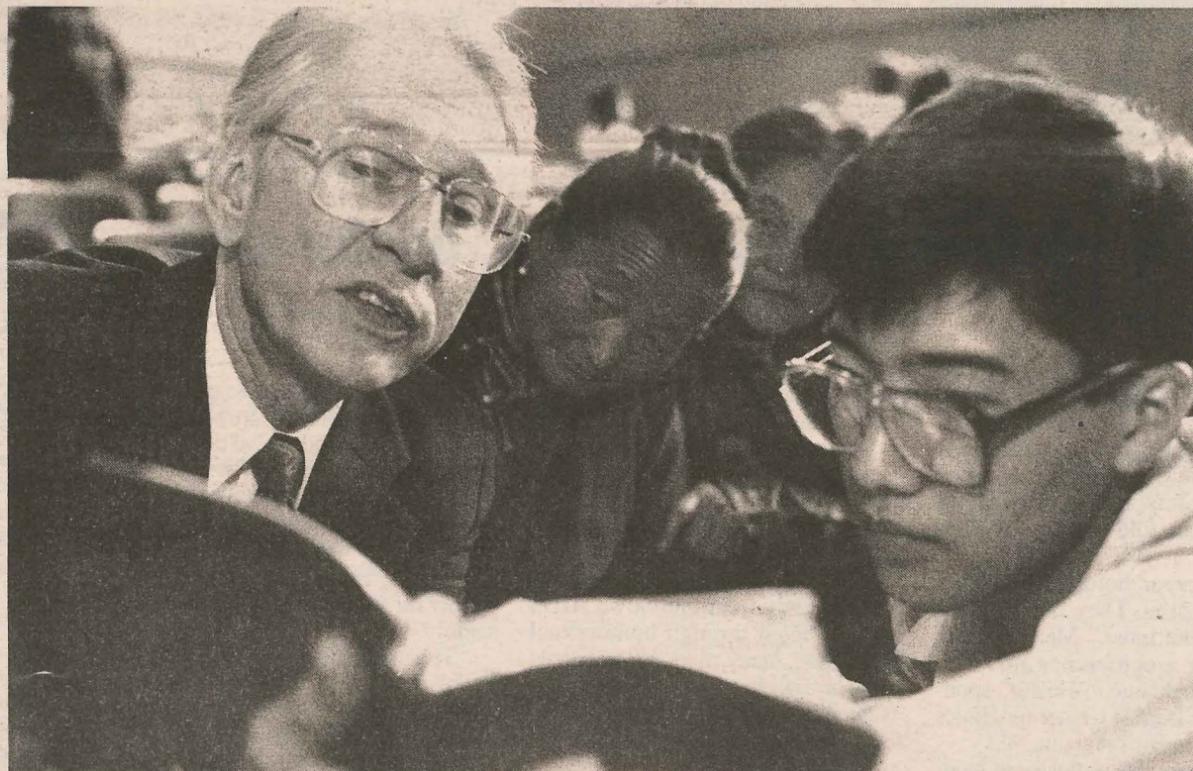
■ **The No. 1 priority.** Training disciples should be a major priority of every church, insisted Avery Willis, manager of adult discipleship training for the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

He cited several illustrations of churches where discipleship was determined to be the mission of the congregation. When that decision was made, he said, the churches began to grow.

■ **1-5-4 formula.** Participants learned the 1-5-4 principle from Roy Edgemon, the Sunday School Board's discipleship training director.

The 1-5-4 formula, developed by the board's church growth council, emphasizes one Great Commission, five functions and four results of effective ministry.

The Great Commission, taken from the final verses of the Gospel of Matthew, gives Christians their purpose.  
□ See *School of Discipleship* ..., page 3



**DAY OF PRAYER** Southern Baptist representative Don McNeely (left) and a Mongolian believer talk about a Bible passage after a worship service at Christ Church in Ulan Bator, Mongolia. The Mongolian people of Asia are the focus of this year's Day of Prayer and Fasting for World Evangelization, May 28-29. Today, Mongolia has about 800 known Christians, and about 1,400 Mongolians regularly attend church services. The country's population is 2.3 million—about the size of metropolitan Atlanta. (BP photo by Charles Ledford)

**King James still reigns, but audience aging**

GLENDALE, Calif.—The King James Version of the Bible remains overwhelmingly the most popular translation in America, but its strong influence could die out within the near future as older adults die.

That's the finding of a new nationwide poll on Bible-reading habits of Americans by the Barna Research Group.

Nearly one-third of American adults claim they still prefer the King James translation. The only other translation preferred by more than 5 percent of the population is the New International Version.

However, the season for King James' reign may be passing, the survey found. King James use peaks with adults over age 65, with 45 percent reading it.

Among 47- to 65-year-olds, 35 percent prefer the KJV, as do 33 percent of baby boomers. But the popularity of the KJV declines precipitously among baby busters—adults 18-27 years old—with only 18 percent preferring the KJV.

Younger generations cool to King James' stiff tone turn to other translations. And many baby busters don't know what translation they read.

"Recent marketing efforts emphasizing 'specialty' Bibles over specific translations may also be making Bible readers less conscious of what translation they are reading," noted George Barna, president of Barna Research Group.

Other findings from the poll:

■ More women than men regularly read the Bible (54 percent to 36 percent).

■ Bible reading declines as income increases, from 54 percent of those earning less than \$20,000 annually to 30 percent earning more than \$60,000.

■ Only 15 percent of Americans who do not attend church read the Bible once or more per week, compared with 54 percent of regular churchgoers.

**Expert offers parents tips for cult-proofing children**

COLUMBUS, Ohio (EP)—Few parents want their child to wind up burning in Waco or drinking poison Kool-Aid in Guyana.

But how does a parent prevent that from happening?

In his soon-to-be-released book, "Cult-Proofing Your Kids," cult researcher Paul Martin offers these suggestions from a Christian viewpoint:

■ Don't overprotect your children. "Parents who are overprotective and who teach their children that they can't survive without Mommy or Daddy may inadvertently be creating a situation where the children become vulnerable to dependency on authority figures," Martin notes.

■ Allow your children to express their thoughts and emotions. For instance, anger isn't always a sin, since one can be righteously angry at injustice, he says. And questioning isn't always defiance, but can be the sign of a healthy mind at work.

■ Don't overcontrol your child. Allow children to act independently, gaining more control over their own lives as they mature, Martin says.

■ Teach obedience and discernment. "As parents, we should teach obedience, but we should also teach discernment, that is, whom to obey, in which situations, in what ways," he explains.

■ Respect your children's different

learning styles. Some children are analytical and systematic, while others are creative and intuitive, Martin notes. Don't try to fit them into the same molds, he advises. That's what cults do.

■ Encourage your church to teach about cults and fringe churches. Such teaching can reinforce what parents teach their children at home, Martin believes.

■ Discipline your children, but do not abuse them. Martin suspects a link between early abuse and later vulnerability to cultic involvement.

■ Recognize your own addictions. If you have addictive behaviors, your children learn behavior patterns that

may render them vulnerable to cults, which often function as addictive systems, Martin warns.

■ Give your children loving and correct moral training. Children learn morality from parental actions, not words, he says. "We need to teach kids why moral principles, especially as expounded in the Bible, are correct and practical."

■ Watch how your child responds to discipline. The child who is a bit too compliant, a bit too good or a bit too sensitive—because he or she cannot stand feelings of disapproval or rejection—may need help developing self-esteem and assertiveness, Martin suggests.

Moving? See page 4 (0518)

## BAPTIST BITS

■ **Brotherhood Commission** trustees have approved an expansion of the World Changers co-ed missions program to include senior adults and college students. The shape of Senior Adult World Changers and Collegiate World Changers will be similar to the high school version, which includes a series of preparation sessions and week-long work projects at sites across the country.

■ **Applications** for career missions service through the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board are up 7 percent over last year, according to Thurmon Bryant, FMB interim vice president for mission personnel. Based on increased applications, Bryant estimates career missionary appointments for 1993 will total between 215 and 220, up from last year's 205 appointments.

## Church planters, lay professionals needed by FMB

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Church planters top the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's "help wanted" list, but many needs still exist for lay professionals and people in specialized, church-related vocations. That's the word from officials who monitor the hundreds of career mission job requests on file in the board's personnel selection department. "Because our greatest need is for church planters, most of our high-priority requests fall into this category," acknowledged Lloyd Atkinson, director of personnel selection. "Sometimes the perception is that this is the

only kind of request we have. In reality, we need many different kinds of people with many different gifts." In fact, Atkinson said, about a third of the 1993 personnel requests call for lay specialists, the term board officials use for missionaries in professions such as health care, education, business and media. The rest of the requests are for people in church-related vocations. These include church planting as well as specialized ministries such as religious education, church music and theological education. Some needs are for combination

jobs such as a church planter skilled in teaching English as a second language. Currently, there are about 660 jobs on the 1993 personnel request list, according to Riddell. About 370 of them are for missionaries other than church planters. Approximately 200 of these are for lay specialty jobs. Among the priority needs for lay specialists are:  
■ Community health worker to serve in public health and relief ministry in east Africa.  
■ University teacher to work in evangelism and church development

in east Asia.  
■ Physician to work in family practice at a hospital in Nepal.  
■ Relief and development worker in agriculture, medicine and hydrology in east Africa.  
Some of the top needs for people experienced in specialized, church-related vocations include:  
■ Religious education consultants to work in Russia, the Ukraine, Belarus and Bulgaria.  
■ Student and youth worker in Hungary.  
■ Music consultant in Bulgaria.  
■ Youth worker in Burkina Faso.

## Seminary lost multi-million-dollar gift over Mason fight

FORT WORTH, Texas (ABP)—The current flap between Southern Baptists and the Masonic Lodge may have cost Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary a major gift of between \$3 million and \$6 million, according to seminary President Russell Dilday. That is just one example of how a decade of denominational conflict is making donors wary of investing in SBC institutions, Dilday told a group of Dallas pastors recently. Dilday said many donors or potential donors are asking how they can retrieve their money if Southwestern's leadership changes radically in the future. "I expressed concern to the men in

Dallas and to other groups to whom I have spoken that raising money in the last five to seven years has become increasingly difficult because of denominational conflict or tension," Dilday said in a telephone interview with the Baptist Standard of Texas. Conservatives, who began to dominate the SBC in 1979, have solidified their control of convention boards over the last few years, and administrative leadership of many institutions and agencies has been replaced. "Donors are asking ways they can take their money back if the institution is negatively affected by fundamentalists—the term they use," said Dilday. "They ask if exclusions can be written into a trust agreement that

lets them redirect the money if the president is fired." The dispute over Masons—which even many conservatives believe is out of line—has complicated one highly significant gift to the seminary, Dilday noted. He declined to give details but said the gift of between \$3 and \$6 million had been delayed and "possibly withdrawn" because of the Masonic conflict. The reluctant donor is reported to be a Baptist who is a Mason. After a yearlong study of the secret order by the SBC Home Mission Board, the board concluded that, while membership in Masonic Lodges should be left to individual Chris-

tians, some Masonic teachings are incompatible with Christianity. Other donors are placing restrictions on their gifts. One major gift funding a chair of instruction at Southwestern was made with the stipulation that the professor holding the chair must be approved by both the president of Southwestern and the president of Baylor University in Waco, Texas. A couple of major foundations with whom seminary officials have talked recently have expressed reservations about the stability of the convention and have indicated that "until Baptists settle their disputes, we will not be favorable to proposals from your schools," Dilday reported.

## Church needs new view on AIDS, doctor says

By Mark Wingfield  
News Director

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Christians need to get over their homophobia and realize AIDS is a "national disaster" that threatens all people, a medical professor who works with AIDS patients told a group of Baptists. "Throw your homophobic fears out the window. They don't count. That's not the issue," Michael Saag said during a conference on "The Church's Challenge in Health" sponsored by the Baptist Center for Ethics May 12-13 in Birmingham, Ala. Saag is associate professor of medicine at the University of Alabama—Birmingham and director of the school's AIDS outpatient clinic. AIDS is perceived as a homosexual issue only because it hit the gay community first, he explained. Had AIDS appeared in the 1940s, it might have hit servicemen the same way venereal disease did, he added, calling AIDS "the VD of the 1980s and 1990s." AIDS is "no different than any other sexually transmitted disease," said the physician who has treated more than 15,000 AIDS patients. Future AIDS cases will impact heterosexuals as much or more than homosexuals, Saag predicted. The number of Americans who already have died from AIDS equals three and one-half times the number of Americans who died in the Vietnam War, he said. And the number who will die of AIDS this year alone

equals the U.S. casualties in Vietnam, he added. "The epidemic is just beginning," Saag warned. He showed statistical projections to buttress his point that the number of AIDS cases is multiplying exponentially every year and moving strongly into the heterosexual population. Although most of the Americans who currently have full-blown AIDS were infected through homosexual encounters, many more of the people who currently carry the HIV virus that eventually leads to AIDS became infected through heterosexual sex, he explained. And most AIDS victims are young people—between 20 and 45—cut down in the prime of life, he added. These statistics demand to grab the church's attention, Saag declared. "For too long we as a society have turned our backs on this epidemic and pretended it didn't exist," he said, noting that in the future "it will affect you in ways you cannot imagine." This denial has happened in large measure because AIDS has been linked almost exclusively with homosexuality, Saag said. He showed a clipping from a secular newspaper with the headline, "Pastor pickets AIDS victims' funerals." A photo accompanying the article showed a man outside a funeral carrying a large sign proclaiming, "God Hates Fags." "We are supposed to be a compassionate people," Saag lamented. "And frankly, we are anything but compas-

sionate. The compassion you preach about on Sunday morning, it's not out there." America has "a crisis, an emergency of overwhelming proportions screaming at us and we've done vitally nothing but hating," he said. Saag advocates teaching adults and children the facts about AIDS at home and in churches. Americans also need to be taught to take responsibility for their personal behavior, he said. "The uninfected need a message to be responsible," Saag said. "The church is an excellent place to start, but the home is the best place to start." Children and teens need to be taught that "the only safe sex is abstinence," the doctor declared. However, he said teens who obviously won't be responsive to a plea for abstinence need to know they should find some protection through means such as condoms. There is no data to support the claim that sex education promotes teens to engage in more sex, he charged. However, he said children need to be taught that when they take on adult decisions, they face adult consequences. Parents and churches must do all they can to fend off the spread of AIDS, he urged. "We are in a war, and we're losing badly." "I am sick and tired of watching young people die. And I am sick and tired of watching us watch young people die and do nothing but hate," Saag said.

## 'Help people die'

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—The church has a role in health care reform by teaching people how to die and how to experience wellness through spirituality, speakers said during a conference on "The Church's Challenge in Health." The event, sponsored by the Baptist Center for Ethics, was held at Southside Baptist Church in Birmingham, Ala., May 12-13. The conference included a panel discussion about options in health care reform. One of the issues that surfaced repeatedly on that panel and among other speakers was the enormous amount of money Americans spend fending off terminal illness and natural death due to old age. For example, 80 percent of all money spent on health care in the United States is expended in the last six months of a person's life, said Jerry Hickson, chief of general pediatrics at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville. This expense could be reduced if the church would help people learn to deal with death, he said. Further, Christians could set an example for keeping families together and reduce costs through means such as respite care for the dying, Hickson suggested.

## School of Discipleship totals up growth formula

Continued from page 1

pose in ministry, Edgemon said. "It means you have the world in your heart."

The five functions that help accomplish the one Great Commission are evangelism, discipleship, worship, ministry and fellowship, he said.

That emphasis results in growth in four main areas: spiritual, numerical, ministries and church extension, he insisted.

Citing contemporary authors and new statistics, Edgemon contended churches are in great danger. "Culture has the church by the throat and is choking it to death," he said.

Consequently, churches must be willing to change if they expect to grow and be relevant to people's needs, he said.

**■ Changing world.** Christians are faced with sharing the gospel in a world that's changing, said Art Criscoe, director of discipleship training management support at the Sunday School Board.

"We live in a unique era in human history," Criscoe said, noting the multitude of doors that have been opened to the gospel since the collapse of communism. And although the threat of communism is gone, problems of ethnic violence and poverty still pervade the globe, he added.

The disparity between affluent nations in the Northern Hemisphere and poor nations in the Southern Hemisphere is growing, Criscoe said, adding God is on the side of "hungry and hurting people."

Meanwhile, Christians in America are living in a society in moral and intellectual decline, he said, citing society's humanistic rejection of God,

lack of commitment to absolute truth and fascination with mysticism and exotic religions as evidence of cultural decay.

Although huge challenges loom before Christians, the gospel is the only force that can mend the world's broken lives, he said: "You and I can't do everything. We can do something. We can make a difference."

**■ Prayer helps.** Prayer can play a major role in helping Christians make that difference, said T.W. Hunt, the Sunday School Board's prayer consultant.

He describe six kinds of prayer illustrated in the Bible, noting he had recorded all the prayers of the Bible on a computer and classified them according to type.

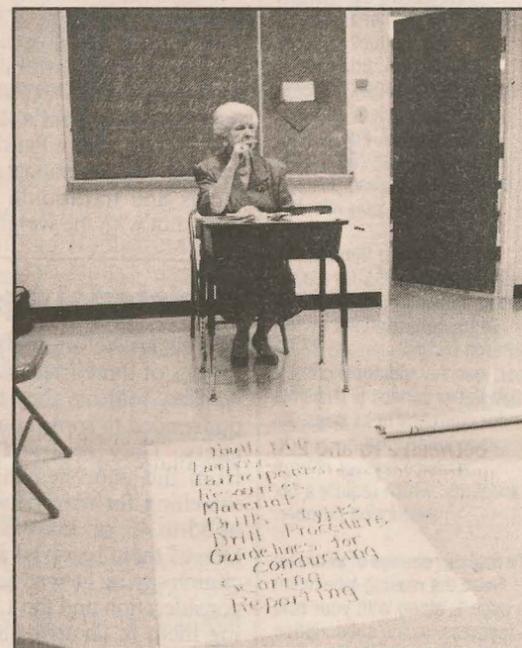
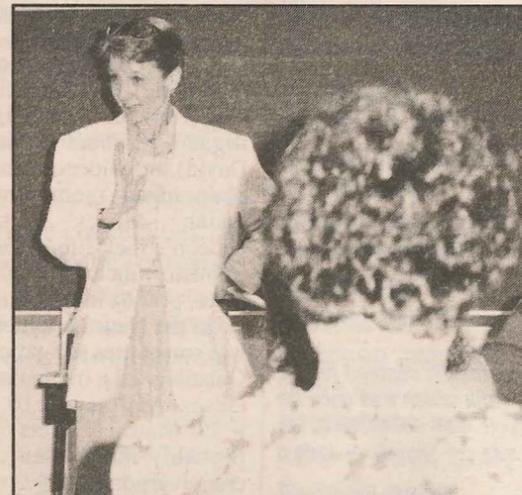
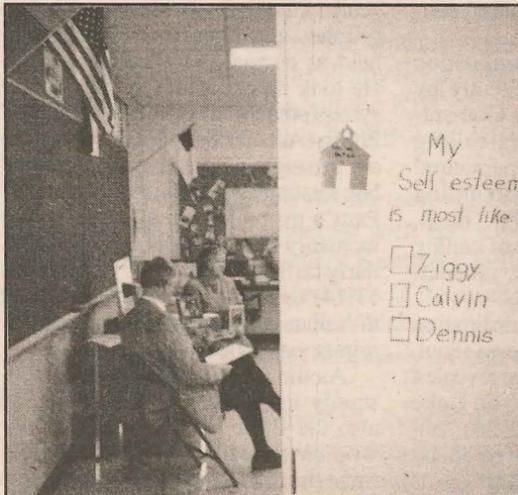
"God's first purpose in prayer is to make us like himself," Hunt reported. "God's second purpose in prayer is to make us participate in his work."

Four types of prayers focus on human response to God, he said. Confession is response to God's holiness; worship is response to God's glory; praise responds to God's attributes; and thanksgiving responds to God's bounty.

Two types of prayers involve asking God for things, he added. Petitions ask God for things for the person praying; intercessions ask God for things for other people.

"Intercession is the greater prayer," Hunt noted. "God does not work alone. He could; he's God. But God's basic pattern in the Bible is to find a human intercessor to bring about the world of God on earth."

Written by Editor Marv Knox with additional reporting by Melanie Childers, Mark Wingfield and Pat Cole.



**LEARNING HOW** Participants in the first Statewide School of Discipleship joined in about 30 small-group conferences. John and Mary Liz Penick (clockwise, from top left) of Burgin led "Parenting by Grace: Christian Self-Esteem"; Priscilla Pursiful of Louisville teamed with her husband, Larry, to discuss "First Place," a weight-loss program; Charlene Tallant of Bowling Green led a workshop on youth Bible drills and speakers' tournaments; and Nell Bruce of Louisville taught intercessory prayer.

## 45 profess Christ in Glasgow

By Melanie Childers  
Staff Writer

GLASGOW—Revival services still are a viable means for reaching people with the message of Jesus Christ, a Kentucky pastor said after 45 people became Christians during a revival at his church.

More than 450 people attended each service in a revival that began Easter Sunday at Glasgow's Immanuel Baptist Church, said Pastor Jewell Pruitt.

"We are grateful to God for ... this re-affirmation that revival is still possible today—that people do still respond to the Gospel," Pruitt said.

Members of the church prepared for the services by participating in three weeks of cottage prayer meetings and a two-day "around-the-clock" prayer effort before the revival began.

"We were asking God for something that would reach the whole area," Pruitt said.

The pastor said the evangelist, R.V. Brown, had a tremendous impact on the revival's success.

"R.V. is warm, open and engaging. He relates extremely well to people. He preaches the word, but with a lot of interaction from the

congregation," Pruitt explained.

Brown, an evangelist from Chattanooga, Tenn., also is founder and president of Outreach to America's Youth, an organization which educates young people about the dangerous effects of drugs and alcohol.

Pruitt noted that Brown may be the first African-American evangelist invited to lead revival services in a predominantly white congregation in his area.

The overwhelmingly positive response is evident, Pruitt explained, from the ecumenical gathering of several denominations and of both black and white congregations at the revival.

However, Pruitt said race was not the issue.

"We didn't invite R.V. because he was black; we invited him because we thought he was God's choice as our revival leader," he said.

The church now has begun work following up on the 45 professions of faith in Jesus Christ made during the services.

"It wasn't R.V. Brown, or Immanuel Baptist Church, but the Holy Spirit that made this happen," Pruitt said. "We're just grateful to God."

## Interest in WMU tribute grows

By Marv Knox  
Editor

MURRAY—Interest in a national tribute to the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union is growing across Kentucky, reported Greg Earwood, statewide director of the effort.

WMU drew fire from critics in January, shortly after the missions organization announced it would expand its role in missions support. That move opened the door to work with the moderate Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and other evangelical groups, as well as to continue its support for Southern Baptist mission work.

Since then, conservatives have accused WMU of being disloyal to the Southern Baptist Convention. The SBC's Executive Committee and its home and foreign mission boards have adopted resolutions asking WMU to maintain its exclusive relationship to the SBC.

In response, a core of WMU supporters has launched a campaign titled "My Heartfelt Tribute to Our WMU."

The campaign is geared to generate "an outpouring of support" from individuals for WMU, which has been subjected to abuse and pressure in recent months, said the tribute's national leader, Daniel Vestal, a Houston pastor.

"The long and distinguished work of the WMU deserves recognition at this critical time," noted Earwood, pastor of First Baptist Church of Murray.

Earwood is heading up the effort in Kentucky at the request of friends at Tallowood Church, he said.

Individually signed copies of the tributes are to be delivered to the WMU Executive Board during its annual meeting June 13-14 in Houston.

"I see this effort as a marvelous way to communicate our gratitude to the Southern Baptist organization which has led the way in the support of missions around the world," Earwood said. "Only God can measure the contributions of the WMU to the cause of Christ."

"I shudder to think where our churches would be without the WMU's mission involvement. ..."

Executive Committee Chairman David Hankins discounted the effort, saying the committee's resolution supported WMU. "If they're affirming the WMU, we've already done that," he noted.

Copies of the tribute can be obtained by calling (800) 580-7729, toll-free, Earwood said.

Tributes and signatures should be sent to Tallowood Baptist Church, 555 Tallowood, Houston, Texas 77024 by June 4, he added.

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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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## Ordination best understood as 'calling'

Ordination is best understood coupled with "calling."

In the Old Testament, ordination (anointing) was handled directly by God (Abraham, Samuel), or God-surrogates (Samuel anointing-calling David), or evidenced in supernatural phenomena—seraphim appointing Isaiah, Moses' burning bush, Gideon's rock-fire. Offices of calling (ministry) include prophets, prophetesses, priests, kings, judges.

In the New Testament, ordination was sometimes self-proclaimed (Paul, Galatians 1:1), miraculously revealed (Jesus, Matthew 3:16, 17 or Luke 9:35; Matthias, Acts 1:22-26), but probably most often conferred by church leaders of fellowships (Acts 14:23)—elders, bishops, deacons—to establish diverse ministries for church-order and gospel-propagation.

Contentions concerning ordination of women, considered little better than chattel in Paul's day, derive almost entirely from Paul's writings regarding congregational worship protocols and traditional male-female roles, not with the weightier matter of

"call." However, women praying and prophesying aloud in worship Paul held as normal (I Corinthians 11:5). He took no exception to the prophesying (preaching) of the daughters of Philip (Acts 21:8,9). How can a widow or single woman be instructed by her husband (I Corinthians 14:35)? Paul's pronouncements concerning womanly silence must be viewed similarly as his assertion (I Corinthians 11:14) denoting the shame accruing to a man having long hair, a popular ministerial style today.

As the Constitution must be constantly interpreted by the courts, so also the Bible by the churches, else women today could perform only mute ministry, while all preachers must wear crew-cuts or fuzz. The only exception: explicit words of never-changing Jesus, who elevated women to equality with men in spiritual matters, even affirming that a womanly act of worship be memorialized forever in gospel-preaching (Matthew 26:12, 13).

Deborah, ordained Old Testament judge and prophetess with the power

of life and death, ordered Barak into the battle inculcating 40 years of peace. Since Old Testament scriptures were all he knew, Deborah's role was considered legitimate by Paul (II Timothy 3:16) in his declaration that inspired Scripture is profitable for doctrine, reproof, etc. Perhaps the first generic New Testament "preacher" was the adulterous woman at the well, whose town-wide testimony effected a two-day revival.

Asserting that ordaining women will eventuate in ordaining "just anyone" is hogwash, since, while condemning evil, Scripture never condemns gender. Concerning call, personal and initiated by God, in whose image are made male and female (Genesis 1:27), Jesus' words: "judge not..." (Matthew 7:1).

Ironically, churches or pastors ignoring Paul's words regarding discipline-morality (I Corinthians 5) or celibacy (I Corinthians 7) disfellowship other churches for honoring godly women. Absent agreement, let there at least not be supercilious ostracism or let there be stringent, literal exercise of all Paul wrote.

James L. Clark  
Danville

## Ministerial age-limits restrict God's will

This article originates from experiences of three friends.

They told me they had been recommended to some churches as ministers. They received information from the churches that they were searching for men between the ages of 35 to 45, or 35 to 50, or 38 to 45. One of them received a letter from a church saying he was no longer under consideration and the Lord was leading them in another direction. Since the man was 58, he could not help but wonder if the "Lord's leadership" in another direction was because they realized he was 58.

If a church sets an age-limit in which the Lord must lead, is it not dictating the grounds under which God must work and limiting God?

Does a church have a right to set certain standards for its ministry? Certainly. A church should expect appropriate education, a level of spiritual maturity, ministerial experience, and even require a physical examination, but not tell God the age limits to operate under.

It seems that if age discrimination is both illegal and unethical in the business world, then it is illegal and unethical in the church. Discrimina-

tion should not be practiced in the name of the will of God by a church or religious institutions.

I think of two large churches who called older men to serve. One called a 62-year-old man who led them effectively and another called a 55-year-old man who led a badly split church to new heights.

The purpose of this article is to say, "Let us return again to simply ask God to lead us to the person who loves the Lord and wants to serve the people of God—without age restrictions." All will benefit and God's will done.

John Dunaway  
Corbin

## Reading for church leaders

Among the 37 state convention directors, Louisiana's Mark Short may be the most disciplined and prolific reader.

Recently he shared with us his selection of "The Top 50" books with a brief description of each.

From his list of 50, I have selected several which have been of special interest to me. The brief review is also by Dr. Short.

■ "Healing the Dysfunctional Church Family," by David Mains, Victor Books. Here is a book every pastor needs. The material would also be timely in a church seminar, discipleship training group or deacons' retreat. This book will help you recognize destructive family patterns as they infiltrate the Body of Christ.

■ "Investing for the Future," by Larry Burkett, Victor Books. Every book Larry Burkett writes I try to recommend to you. He deals with practical matters for the Christian and the economy. There is wise counsel in this substantial book.

■ "The Complete Church Newsletter," Baker Book House. I see some

very poor church letters each week. All could be improved without any increase in costs. This little book is a "how-to" for better church communication.

■ "The Subtle Power of Spiritual Abuse," by David Johnson and Jeff Van Vonderen, Bethany House. Unfortunately, I have known pastors who have abused their people.

The authors help us recognize and escape spiritual manipulation as well as false spiritual authority within the church. Powerful!

■ "Stress and Your Child," by A.D. Hart, Word. My heart ached for the children who were described in this book. The author teaches parents how to deal with moody, resentful and insecure children. His section on "Ten Commandments for Stress-Free Parenting" is worth the price of the book.

■ "The Power of Vision," by George Barna, Regal Press. A "how-to" guide to capture and apply God's vision for your ministry. The section on "myths" is very helpful. His chapter on "vision killers" will speak to all

### ON MISSION TOGETHER



William W. Marshall

of us.

■ "Basic Bible Sermons on Handling Conflict," by Paul Powell, Broadman. Charles Harvey recommended this new book to me. It is a winner! Paul Powell is a superb communicator and speaks to the needs of pastors and churches in a lucid fashion.

■ "A Church for the 21st Century" by Leith Anderson, Bethany House Publishers. I love to read the books of Leith Anderson. He speaks about the church from a pastor's heart. This book is filled with helpful advice for pastors and other church leaders.

■ "101 Ways to Simplify Your Life," by Paul Borthwick, Victor Books. Here are some practical steps you can take to restore sanity to your life. If you feel out of control, overstressed and burned-out, you could use this little paperback. Good book!

■ "Trouble at the Table," by Doran and Troeger, Abingdon. Differences in worship are detailed in this book. There is a thoughtful discussion in its pages and also some helpful suggestions.

I would be glad to send the reader a copy of the entire list of 50 upon request.

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



## How far away?

By Wade Rowatt

**Q.** My teen-age daughter doesn't want me around when she is with her friends. She claims she would "totally die of embarrassment" if her "cool" friends saw us together shopping. How can I be "cool" and keep our friendship?

**A.** Parents can expect teens to want space, freedom and distance. The relative calm of older elementary age passes into a turbulent transition of youth. Pulling away, trying to break the apron strings and "testing ones wings" are to be expected.

Parents who hold on too tight and refuse to permit any time away with friends just make matters worse. Either adolescents will rebel more and perhaps run into wild, behind-your-back experimentation, or they will give up and become overly dependent on their parents. After all we do expect them to grow up some day.

Balancing time with friends and time with family isn't simple. Each teen-ager has their own time and degree of readiness. Some are ready for more freedom at 13 and others not until 16 or 17. Where your family lives can affect freedom. Rural areas, small towns, cities and large metropolitan areas differ in the opportunities for teen-agers to be together in safe places.

A few hints might help you as an adult relate to the youth in your school, family and church: First, act your age! Most youth are turned off by adults who try to pass for a teen-ager.

Be comfortable with people your own age. "Have a life" apart from your kids, but be supportive of, interested in, and willing to teach the teens if they ask.

You are the limit setter. You build the fences in their lives. Be flexible, but set realistic rules and live by them yourself.

One last thing: If your teen-ager does risk being seen with you in public, don't embarrass them. Don't kiss and hug them in public. Don't try to entertain their friends with funny stories about them. Don't try to be hip. Be yourself, be a parent, and step out of the spotlight. Let your teens be free like God intended at creation.

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.

## Does the KBC have to split over the Fellowship?

Ironically, the most divisive issue inside the Kentucky Baptist Convention is the reaction to something outside the KBC.

For most of the past decade, reactive attention has been focused on the Southern Baptist Convention. Partisans have viewed the SBC's theological/political controversy as either a "hostile takeover" or a "conservative resurgence."

The denominational war effectively ended in June of 1990, when conservatives won what had been considered a wide-open presidential election by a 60-40 margin. Many moderates, still stinging from 12 straight losses, determined political victory was out of reach. They decided a new approach to denominational life was in order. They said they were tired of politics and defeat.

Two months later, more than 3,000 moderate Southern Baptists answered a call to converge on Atlanta to try to figure out what to do. They called themselves a "fellowship." Some still licked wounds of political defeat. But others tried to envision a denominational future without political battles, a non-fighting future, a future in which both sides could invest themselves positively.

Nine months after that, those people and others re-converged on Atlanta to form the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Friends and foes alike still do not agree whether the Fellowship is a new denomination or not. Observers who ascribe to the "duck theory" (if it looks like a duck, quacks like a duck and walks like a duck, it's probably a duck) build a strong case for a new denomination: The Fellowship collects a budget, sends out missionaries, relates to a seminary, helps support a publishing house and works with several other agencies. On a small scale, that looks much like the structural pattern of the SBC. But observers who hold to the "remnant theory" (a remnant of people can remain within an organization, even if they don't abide by all the traditional expectations) also argue that the Fellowship still remains part of the SBC: Almost all Fellowship churches still give money to the SBC Cooperative Program budget and consider themselves Southern Baptists. And besides, this is a "post-denominational" age, a lousy time to start a new denomination.

New denomination or not, the Fellowship looked strong when more than 7,000 people gathered in Birmingham to celebrate its second birthday last week. The Fellowship commissioned 23 missionaries. It expects to take in \$3.7 million this year and \$5 million next year, not counting greater amounts churches send through the Fellowship on to the SBC. Churches are joining up at the rate of one per day. Whether or not it's a new denomination, the Fellowship looks as if it's far from folding.

And that prospect creates tension within our Kentucky Baptist Convention. As you might guess, some Kentucky Baptists support the Fellowship, while others see it as adversarial, if not down-right wicked. A strong number of Kentucky Baptists don't want any other Kentucky Baptist or KBC-affiliated church to have anything to do with the Fellowship. They claim Fellowship Baptists are disloyal and should get out—of the SBC and the KBC.

This begs a big question: Must the KBC split over the Fellowship?

Some would answer yes. Their Baptist identity is so strongly wedded to their unified vision of the SBC that they believe they would be "un-

equally yoked" if asked to work alongside others who do not share their enthusiasm and support for the current leaders of the SBC. They see loyalty to the Fellowship as disloyalty to the SBC and as disloyalty to everything Baptist—including the KBC.

That is not, however, how the SBC and KBC constitutions, as well as historical precedent, see it.

First, both constitutions define membership in terms of messengers from churches which cooperate with and support the conventions. As far as can be determined, every Kentucky Fellowship church continues to give full support—both in terms of finances and participation—to the KBC. And even though the Fellowship has formed a Kentucky chapter, Fellowshipers have focused nationally and specifically vowed their support for the KBC.

Second, article IV of the SBC constitution states: "While independent and sovereign in its own sphere, the convention does not claim and will never attempt to exercise any authority over any other Baptist body, whether church, auxiliary organizations, associations or convention." Article V of the KBC constitution says: "This body has no jurisdiction over the local churches or the district associations and shall exercise no authority over them." In other words, both conventions stress that they cannot tell other Baptist entities what to do, nor can they proscribe the relationships of affiliated churches.

Finally, Baptist heritage is replete with examples of church and convention alignment with other Baptist groups. Many African-American congregations dually align with the SBC and National Baptist conventions. The District of Columbia convention is dually aligned with the SBC and the American Baptist Churches. All kinds of Baptists relate to the Baptist World Alliance. These groups raise money and expect loyalty, but their relationships do not negate other relationships.

If Kentucky Baptists are going to face a positive future without splitting asunder, we must find a way to allow churches to relate to the national entities of their choosing. We must focus our common endeavor on the Kentucky issues and challenges which can unite us.

Whether you approve or not, the Fellowship offers no indication that it will go away. If we opt to choose sides based on national allegiances, we will split our state convention and seriously injure, if not cripple, our entire undertaking. That would be a tragedy, not because of the national consequences, but because of the damage it would inflict on our life together here in Kentucky. Thousands of unbelievers need to hear and receive the gospel. Churches need to be started. Our agencies and institutions are providing bountiful ministries and merit our support. Our Executive Board is doing a strong job of extending missions and strengthening churches. Our partnerships offer us the opportunity to touch lives and spread the gospel around the globe. If we tear ourselves apart because we demand a single national relationship, these needs will go unmet, and we will be held accountable.

Our common challenge of ministry here in Kentucky is bigger than national issues which would divide us. Let's stop beating each other up over national affiliation and unite around the tasks we can do together.

Marv Knox

**Like it or not, the Fellowship is not going away. If Kentucky Baptists choose sides based on national allegiances, we'll split our state convention to pieces. But if we focus on common tasks and challenges, we will have enough to do to unify us for several lifetimes.**

## We're blessed to know our leader as a true brother in Christ

One of the best blessings of being a Christian is having the opportunity to extend your "family." That's especially true in households like ours, where relatives live 900 miles away.

For the past three years, I've enjoyed a friendship with an "older brother"—a sibling I never had in my blood family. Somehow, I thought it would turn out this way.

The first time I met Bill Marshall, he was a big-shot vice president of the Foreign Mission Board. I was a lowly news writer at the Home Mission Board.

We ate dinner together at Stone Mountain, Ga., during an FMB/HMB staff meeting. Bill made me feel part of the group and showed individual attention to this new kid, fresh on the denominational block. I re-

member how he listened when he asked me questions, and how he looked in my eyes when we talked.

Eleven years later, the opportunity to work alongside Bill was a big enticement to join the Western Recorder and move back to Kentucky, where he had become executive secretary-treasurer of the Baptist convention.

The leader I discovered in the corner office of the Baptist Building in Middletown is the same friendly, supportive minister I encountered

at Stone Mountain: Caring, compassionate, unselfish with his time, energy and ideas.

These could be embarrassingly personal words, especially since they're written about a public figure. But the 10th anniversary of his work with Kentucky Baptists calls for a little risk-taking and a lot of truth-telling.

You already have observed many of the public truths of his decade of service here: The Mission Kentucky campaign to start 400 churches;

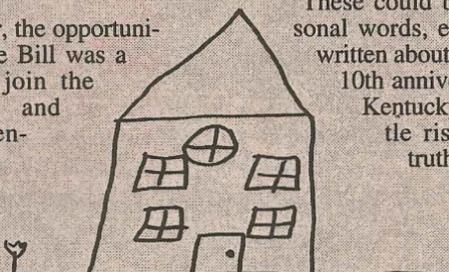
mission partnerships with Baptists in Kenya, Brazil, Ohio, Utah-Idaho and now Rus-

sia; thousands of souls brought to salvation; development of disaster-relief ministries; growth and stability in cooperative giving; expansion of ministry through nine agencies and institutions, as well as the staff of the Executive Board.

These public truths are the stuff of history books and bronze plaques. The private truths—about the kind of people such leaders are—give shape and texture to their lives. And through the ripple effect of relationships, these private truths extend infinitely.

Bill Marshall's private character is as compassionate and caring as his public persona. Kentucky Baptists are blessed to call him our leader—and brother in Christ.

Marv Knox



down home

## Honeycutt tells alumni God can call women, too

By Mark Wingfield  
News Director

**"A local congregation is free to call whom it will as a minister. Does not Almighty God have as much freedom to call whom he will?"**

*Roy Honeycutt, speaking to alumni on the role of women in the church and in seminary training*

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Whether or not churches are calling women as pastors, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary should be training women for whatever roles God has called them to, the seminary's outgoing president said May 14 in contrast to the views of his successor.

In one of his last addresses to alumni, Roy Honeycutt hinted at the despair he has felt in the seminary's transfer of power. But he stopped short of directly criticizing President-elect Al Mohler or the conservative trustee board who elected Mohler to succeed Honeycutt after his retirement July 31.

Honeycutt spoke to a crowd of 400 seminary alumni and friends at a banquet held during the meeting of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship in Birmingham, Ala. Mohler was not present.

Mohler previously has stated he does not believe women should be allowed to serve as pastors or in certain key church leadership roles. Women will be welcome in all seminary degree programs, he has said, but they will be encouraged not to prepare for positions the majority of Baptist churches won't hire them for.

Mohler's position has drawn criticism from advocates of women in ministry, who previously have found a refuge at Southern Seminary.

Prior to the Birmingham banquet, Honeycutt had not publicly rebutted any of Mohler's statements—though many of Mohler's positions differ from his own. And even at the banquet, Honeycutt never mentioned Mohler by name.

"A local congregation is free to call whom it will as a minister," Honeycutt said. "Does not Almighty God have as much freedom to call whom he will?"

There should be "no gender distinction" in the community of God, he added. "God's spirit may empower anyone and everyone to fulfill a prophetic role."

The thrust of Honeycutt's message was two-fold: advice that the grieving seminary community should move beyond despair to hope and a declaration that the seminary is in excellent condition as he prepares to turn over leadership.

"We can live on the other side of despair. There is an afterward," he said in apparent response to the pain the seminary's mostly moderate alumni are feeling at the school's new conservative direction.

Moving from despair to hope requires acknowledging disaster and being open to the promise of God's future, Honeycutt claimed. Then a "new community" can be created.

In an apparent attempt to hold his successor accountable for the health of the seminary, Honeycutt talked about "driving down a stake" to mark the school's health as he leaves.

"We commit to our successors an institutional mystique and image of which we have been stewards," he

said.

Honeycutt cited the school's accreditation standing, "quality faculty," student body, healthy financial condition, sizeable endowment and good physical plant as notches on the milepost stake.

"I want the record clear that of this date, May of 1993, Southern Seminary is a healthy institution," he declared.

The comic relief for the evening came early on in an offhand remark made by William Hendricks, professor of theology. After the crowd had given the faculty and staff present a standing ovation, Hendricks quipped loudly, "Gerald Keown and I will have to remain standing since we cannot find our chairs."

His reference was to a trustee committee's refusal to name him, Keown and another professor to endowed chairs last month, despite Honeycutt's recommendation. That trustee action was viewed by most faculty as an attempt to punish the professors for positions they have taken in the past.

Also during the banquet, Honeycutt presented the seminary's distinguished alumni award to Floyd Roebuck, pastor of First Baptist Church in Rome, Ga.

Other 1993 distinguished alumni, to be recognized later, include Victor Glass, retired director of the black church relations department at the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board; Alton Harpe, retired campus minister at the United States Military Academy at West Point, N.Y.; Roy McClung, president emeritus of Wayland Baptist University in Plainview, Texas; and Eric Henry Ohlman, vice president and dean at Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Philadelphia.

## 265 Kentuckians register at Fellowship

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—At least 265 Kentuckians participated in the annual meeting of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship in Birmingham, Ala., last week.

Kentucky had the ninth-largest gathering of moderate Southern Baptists May 13-15. Alabama, the host state, had the largest registration, with 1,077, followed by 645 from North Carolina and 544 from Georgia.

During a break-out meeting for state groups, Kentuckians elected three people to fill vacancies on the Fellowship's national governing board, called the coordinating council.

Three of Kentucky's four slots were open for renomination.

Jimmy Gentry, pastor of Lewis Lane Baptist Church in Owensboro, explained his resignation from the council one year before his term expired.

Gentry said his church has determined to postpone any decision about channeling missions gifts through the Fellowship. "It is not appropriate for me to serve on the national coordinating council when the church I pastor is not contributing financially to the Fellowship," he said.

The three Kentuckians nominated and subsequently elected by the national body are Jo Garnett, minister of education at Lexington Avenue Baptist Church in Danville; Larry Kemp, layman from Cadiz Baptist Church in Cadiz; and Bill Messer, pastor of First Baptist Church in Ashland. Kemp was re-elected to a second term. Messer fills Gentry's unexpired term through 1994.

Kentuckians also heard brief

greetings from Dellanna O'Brien, executive director of Woman's Missionary Union, which is based in Birmingham.

O'Brien said she is "very optimistic about what's happening in WMU" and also appreciative of Kentucky Baptists' support for WMU and missions.

David Olive, a student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, gave a report on recent events at the seminary.

"Students are leaving Southern Seminary," he said, noting some are transferring to the Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond, some to Louisville's Presbyterian seminary. Other students displeased with the change of administration at Southern are remaining for a variety of reasons, he added.

Olive warned that some students who will graduate from Southern in the next few years fear they will be shunned by both conservative and moderate churches when looking for jobs. These students could be "caught in a cross-fire," he said, "abandoned by both sides."

Sharon Dowd, a Baptist professor at Lexington Theological Seminary, also addressed the group about her school, noting there still are places for Baptist students to be accepted.

Kentuckians also met Fellowship missionaries Jim and Rebecca Smith, who work in Europe. The Kentucky Baptist Fellowship had paid the way for the Smiths to attend the Fellowship meeting in Birmingham, where all current Fellowship missionaries were commissioned.



### The Family Foundation

Presents

An Evening with

## Gary Bauer

Thursday, May 27

7:30 p.m.

Southland Christian Church - Lexington

Gary Bauer, a native Kentuckian, is best known for his work as ...  
President of the Family Research Council, Washington, D.C.  
Author of *Our Journey Home*  
Co-author with Dr. James Dobson of *Children At Risk*

Child Care Provided - Ages Newborn thru 36 Months  
For more information call (606) 255-5400

(Our thanks to Rev. Wayne Smith and the leadership of Southland Christian for their hospitality)

## INSIDE

### Page 2

**Church Growth & Administration:** Super Saturdays offer a full net of leadership and mini-interest conferences. **Discipleship Training:** Grow discipleship makers and disciples at Ridgecrest July 17-23. **Evangelism:** YouthFest '93 and Kentucky Mass Evangelism Conference.

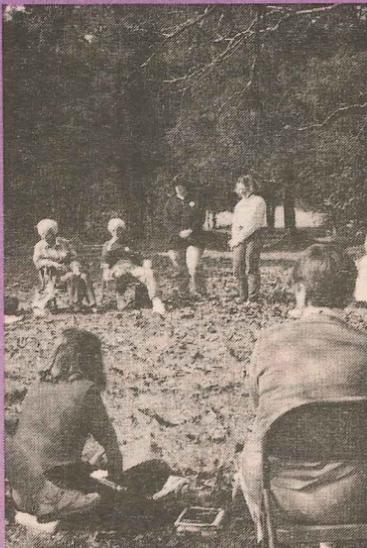
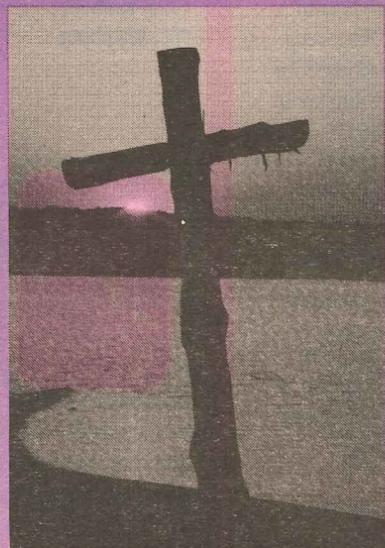
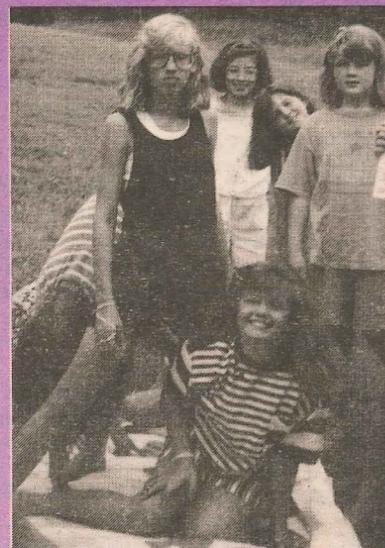
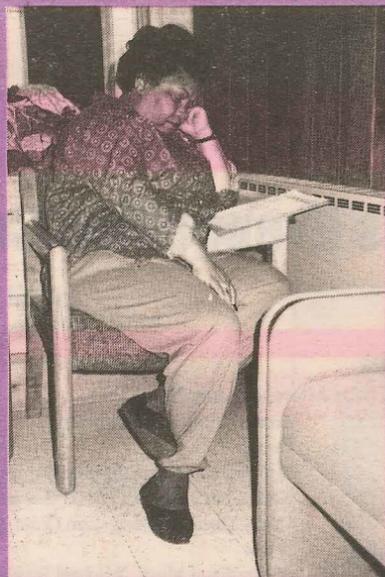
### Page 3

**Sunday School:** State Sunday School Convention Oct. 8-9. **Church Music:** Last call for children's music camp. **Family Ministry:** Fall Festival of Marriage.

### Page 4

**Cedarmore Assembly:** Summer brings no dull moments. **Jonathan Creek Assembly:** Enjoy some R & R in West Kentucky. Registration Form.

# Assemblies Help Spiritual Experiences Happen



Staffs of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's assemblies don't take credit for the spiritual experiences of their guests, but they do everything they can to make those experiences possible.

That means full-service service at Cedarmore and Jonathan Creek, where their aim is to make conferences as productive and fun as possible.

Cedarmore is located near Bagdad in Shelby County, not far off Interstate 64 and even closer to U.S. 60.

Jonathan Creek is situated near Hardin in western Kentucky, one mile off Highway 68 on Beal Road, four miles west of Aurora.

"Basically, we provide the services and facilities," Cedarmore Manager Harold Barnes said of the assemblies' philosophy. "We try to get the facilities ready and provide an atmosphere where people can worship the Lord, grow close together and learn."

The assemblies offer several advantages, noted Jonathan Creek Manager Deward Hurst:

- Positive spiritual settings.
- Scenic locations.
- Easy access.
- Reasonable rates.
- Good food.
- Dedicated staff.
- Proximity to attractions.
- Plenty of available dates.

The assemblies are comparable to Kentucky's famed state parks. They both provide motel and lodge accommodations, spacious conference areas and a wide array of recreational activities.

Jonathan Creek and Cedarmore are the sites of the KBC's missions camps. But they still have time and space available for other church and associational events, the camp managers reported.

Examples include choir retreats, youth camps and retreats, deacons' or church staff events, senior citizens' rallies, marriage-enrichment retreats, women's prayer groups, children's activities, missions rallies, committee retreats and other events best held away from church buildings.

With someone else around to take care of all the cooking, cleaning, set-up and other arrangements, your group can focus on God, your work and each other.

### Contact the camps

■ Cedarmore Baptist Assembly  
Harold Barnes, Manager  
Box 37  
Bagdad, Ky. 40003-0037  
(502) 747-8911

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

**ASSEMBLING TOGETHER** Whether it's missions camps, Bible studies, age-group rallies or time away for private contemplation, the Kentucky Baptist Convention's assemblies—Cedarmore in central Kentucky and Jonathan Creek near the Land Between the Lakes in the west—provide facilities for spiritual retreats. Cedarmore and Jonathan Creek's accommodations are similar to Kentucky's famed state parks, but the intent of their staffs is to provide Kentucky Baptists with effective locations for spiritual growth.

# EVENTS

## FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

### CHURCH GROWTH & ADMINISTRATION

## Super Saturdays offer a full net of leadership and mini-interest conferences

Six regional locations  
August and September

Each leadership conference and one-hour mini-interest conference is designed to enhance your skills as a "fisher of men (Mark 1:17)." Become a force in a more effective and fulfilling ministry for a contemporary church that is uniquely qualified to cope with the problems of the '90s. Find answers to today's most challenging issues, interact with involved Christians and make new friends. Choose from more than 40 sessions that will help you confidently address issues about:

#### the self

Eye-opening ideas and practical advice for achieving:

- Personal and spiritual empowerment
- Greater significance through serving
- Excellence in teaching, leading, and following

#### the family

Lively discussion plus timely techniques:

- Unifying and strengthening the family

- Dealing with the spiritual, social and economic challenges facing families in the '90s

#### the church

Leadership conferences to help establish and creatively promote:

- Meeting the challenges of church transition
- Effective Sunday School teaching for the '90s and beyond
- A Contemporary children's ministry

#### To register

Choose a location, complete the registration form on page 4a and send with \$8 per person pre-registration fee to the Church Growth & Administration office. Pre-register until one week prior to conference date. More details are available when you call 502/245-4101 and say, "Super Saturday!"



Super Saturday Conferences  
1993

Sunday School • Pastor/Staff • Church Music • Discipleship Training/Stewardship • Family Ministry • Church Media

### DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING

## Grow discipleship makers and disciples at Ridgecrest July 17-23

July 17-23 is Discipleship Training Week at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center.

Ridgecrest, located 18 miles east of Asheville, North Carolina off Interstate 40, is one of two national Christian conference

centers operated by the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Attendees'

benefits at Discipleship Training Week include:

- An increase in skill level as a Discipleship Training director, leader or officer.
- Fellowship with over 100 fellow Kentucky Baptist Convention Discipleship Training leaders and over 2,000 from across the Southern Baptist Convention.

• An opportunity to dialogue with outstanding Discipleship Training leaders from the Baptist Sunday School Board and across the nation.

• Being present at a national launch of LIFE Support Ministries.

*You can feel the closeness of God at Ridgecrest. It is a "mountain of faith!" The impact of the learning that you receive there is incredible.*

Carolyn Hallam, Director  
Discipleship Training  
Daviness-McLean Baptist Association  
Owensboro

• Experiencing a great time of spiritual renewal.

To receive a Ridgecrest brochure, contact the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Discipleship Training Department at (502) 245-4101, extension 335 or check the "To Receive More Information" box on page 4a of EVENTS.

### EVANGELISM

## A busy summer: YouthFest '93 and Kentucky Mass Evangelism Conference

### YouthFest '93

An estimated 6,000 people are anticipated in attendance at YouthFest '93, the annual youth evangelism conference sponsored by the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Office for Evangelism. The Frankfort Civic Center

is the site of the June 25-26 event.

This year's theme is Jesus Christ—Our Foundation, Our Focus, Our Future.

A pre-registration fee of \$4.00 per person is valid until June 10; a \$5.00 per person conference registration fee will be charged at the door during the event. The fee includes two meals and materials.

To pre-register, please use the form on page 4a of this EVENTS insert. For further information, contact the Office for Evangelism, Kentucky Baptist Convention, P. O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433, (502) 245-4101, extension 330.

### Kentucky Mass Evangelism Conference

The Kentucky Mass Evangelism Conference, a July 23-24 event co-sponsored by the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Office for Evangelism and the

Southern Baptist Convention's Home Mission Board, will focus on creative ways of bringing exciting, upbeat worship experiences to revivals and other evangelistic and visitation emphases. First Baptist Church, Mt. Washington is the site of the conference.

"A lot of churches have a revival but there is no planning involved," noted Bill Jagers, the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Office for Evangelism Director. "For every person involved in revival preparations, four people will attend." Jagers added that such participation encourages "ownership."

Besides conferences on creative worship, other revival-oriented topics include effective ways to increase attendance and baptisms, counseling, cost-effective advertising and church communications.

To register, fill out and mail the form on page 4a of this insert. Include your fee of \$10 per person or \$15 per church (unlimited number), with checks made out to the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

For further information, contact: Office for Evangelism, Attention: Bill Jagers, Kentucky Baptist Convention, P. O. Box 43433, Louisville, Kentucky 40253-0433.

### Kentucky Mass Evangelism Conference

July 23-24

First Church Mt. Washing-



#### Friday Afternoon, July 23

- 12:00 Food, Family and Fellowship
- 1:15 Break
- 1:25 Inspirational Music (Michael Smith)
- 1:35 Total Church Life and Mass Evangelism (Richard H. Harris)
- 2:20 Using Music in Evangelism (Tom McEachin)
- 3:05 Break
- 3:20 Inspirational Music (Michael Smith)
- 3:30 Evangelistic Preaching (Ron Phillips)
- 4:15 Evangelistic Invitations (Jerry Passmore)
- 5:00 Adjourn

#### Friday Evening

- 6:00 Banquet
- 6:30 Mini-Concert (Michael Smith)
- 6:45 Break
- 7:00 Workshops (attend one)  
Music Evangelism (Michael Smith)  
Media Evangelism (Tom McEachin)  
Planning Exciting Revivals in the 90's (Richard Harris)  
Special Evangelistic Events (Kevin Shrum)
- 8:30 Inspirational Challenge (Ron Phillips)
- 9:00 Adjourn

#### Saturday Morning, July 24

- 8:45 Welcome and Prayer
- 8:55 Inspirational Music (Michael Smith)
- 9:05 Counseling/Follow-through (Bill Jagers)
- 9:45 Total Church Communications (Tom McEachin)
- 10:15 Break
- 10:30 National Schools of Evangelism and Church Growth (Richard Harris)
- 10:35 Panel Discussion (Jagers, Phillips, Passmore, McEachin and Harris)
- 11:05 Inspirational Music (Michael Smith)
- 11:15 Challenge (Jerry Passmore)
- 12:00 Adjourn

# EVENTS

FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

### "Equipped to Claim our Future"

**State Sunday School Convention  
October 8-9  
Florence Baptist Church  
Florence**

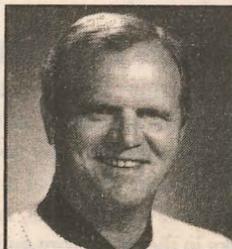
Are you looking for new, fresh ideas to make Sunday School come alive? Kentucky's first state Sunday School Convention since 1987, scheduled on October 8-9 at Florence Baptist Church, will provide pastors, church staff and volunteer workers the opportunity for motivation and inspiration.

Conference topics will be practical and relevant. Attendees will discover new ways to do the basics.

The two general sessions will feature Dr. Ken Hemphill, director, Southern Baptist Center for Church Growth (co-sponsored by the Home Mission Board and the Baptist Sunday School Board), Atlanta.

Other state Sunday School Convention features include:

- 75 elective conferences
- These conferences are for all ages. Conferences include:  
Preschool - Choosing Preschool Curriculum;



**Dr. Ken Hemphill**

Changing Family: The Adult Class Challenge

General - Let's Reach Baby

**Children** - Creative Teaching Ideas (how combined primary grades in school impact Sunday School)  
**Youth** - Dealing with Moral Issues Facing our Youth  
**Adults** - The

Boomers; Can Computers Help My Church Grow?

- Relevant and useful ideas

Other highlights include:

- Neil Jackson, special growth consultant and retired Baptist Sunday School Board staff member, will share growth ideas.
- James Berthelot, Baptist Sunday School Board, will share information about homebound adults.

- Other special speakers

- Complete Sunday School literature display

- Computers/CIS display

- Drama, music and much more!

### Happy summer experiences

Help prevent summer vacation boredom for children and youth in your community—conduct Backyard Bible Clubs. A church or local association must sponsor a club. At least one adult must be with each Backyard Bible Club team. This person may be the homeowner where the Bible club is held, or a responsible church or associational leader. Youth groups and

other interested church people can be trained to conduct Backyard Bible Clubs.

For teaching materials and guidelines for conducting Backyard Bible Clubs, call the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Sunday School Department at (502) 245-4101.

#### New Flexible Curriculum

Super Saturdays will be the time FLEXIBLE CURRICULUM makes its debut. Directors of Missions, pastors in smaller churches and inner city ministers of children inspired FLEXIBLE CURRICULUM. These people asked, "What curriculum can we use when

we teach children who have no church background? When resources are very limited? When we teach at times other than Sunday School—such as during the weeks in summer? What curriculum can we use in our After School ministry?"

The answer: FLEXIBLE CURRICULUM. New, for teachers of children ages 6 through 11. The new curriculum is published by the Kentucky Baptist Convention; its editor is Jewell Nelson, an associate director in the Sunday School Department.

## CHURCH MUSIC

### Last call for Children's Music Camp

**1993 Children's Music Camp  
Cedarmore Baptist Assembly  
July 19-23**

Join 150 other campers, counselors and staff for the annual Children's Music Camp.



**Sherrie Lawhon**

#### Camp Director

Sherrie Lawhon will serve as choir director for this year's Children's Music Camp. She is a graduate of Belmont College and is presently nearing completion of her doctoral degree in musical arts from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Sherrie and her husband, Dan, serve at Louisville's St. Matthews Baptist Church. She is music assistant and director of the young musician's choir; he is minister of music.

#### Registration

Campers must have completed fourth, fifth or sixth grade by June 1993. The camp fee is \$79.00 per person for the week. This cost includes 12 meals, lodging for four nights, insurance and music materials. Check the appropriate box on page 4a of EVENTS to receive a registration form or call the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Church Music Department at (502) 245-4101, extension 325.



## FAMILY MINISTRY

### Get the most out of your marriage

**Fall Festival of Marriage -  
A marriage enrichment weekend  
for couples  
September 24-26  
Southern Baptist Theological Seminary  
Louisville**



#### Other pertinent information:

##### Housing -

A list of hotels located near Southern Baptist Theological Seminary will be mailed to you with confirmation of your registration. Note: SBTS is in east end Louisville--2825 Lexington Road, close to I-64.

##### Keynote Speakers -

**Dan and Sandra McGee  
Arlington, Texas  
Marriage Enrichment Leaders  
Authors of Celebrating Sex in Your  
Marriage**

This autumn, Fall Festival of Marriage celebrates 15 seasons of serving you with marriage enrichment weekends. In its sixth year in Louisville, the event is a weekend to help a husband and wife grow in their relationship. The weekend is designed as a retreat with a wide selection of topics and activities to help with your unique needs.

Our goal at Festivals of Marriage is to help you celebrate. . . to see that you get the most out of your marriage, and to encourage a vital relationship with God. God has blessed you with someone to love and cherish. Plan now to attend a Fall Festival of Marriage this fall.

For more information about this event, please complete the form on page 4a of this insert or call the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Family Ministry Department at (502) 245-4101, extension 250.

# EVENTS

## FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

### CEDARMORE ASSEMBLY

## Summer brings no dull moments

### A beehive of activity

Before this monthly feature is published in June, Cedarmore Baptist Assembly will be bustling with summer staff preparing to lead your youth group coming to camp this summer.

### Staff training

The Son Teams, Baptist Student Union creative ministries student groups, will spend two weeks of long hard days and nights getting ready to inspire and challenge your youth. More than 30 Son Team members and their leaders are expected during this time for

training along with another group of 20 girls and boys camp counselors. Your teen-agers will be in good hands by the time the camps begin.

Tom Smoot, associate director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Student Department, directs the Son Teams. Beth Dunn, a Shelby County school teacher and Louisville resident, is director of the girl's camps. Mark Monfalcone, an intern in the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Brotherhood Department and a student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, is directing

the boy's camp.

### Cedarmore staff spotlights

**Allen Fortner**, Food Services Department Specialist, is the last person you may or may not see as you complete your meal in Cedarmore's dining hall. Allen works in the dish room and can be seen clearly from the waist up as he clears dishes from guests' trays. Allen was honored last year by the Kentucky Baptist Convention Executive Board for his 10 years of service.

**Patsy Bramlette**, registrar, is the first person you hear when you

call Cedarmore and the person responsible for making housing arrangements for guests. A former employee in the business division of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Patsy has been at Cedarmore since 1986.

For more information contact:  
Cedarmore Baptist Assembly  
P. O. Box 37  
3083 Cedarmore Road  
Bagdad, Kentucky 40003-0037  
(502) 747-8911

### JONATHAN CREEK ASSEMBLY

## Escape for some spiritual R & R in west Kentucky



Jonathan Creek Motel overlooking Kentucky Lake

Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly, nestled along the shores of Kentucky Lake, is the ideal location for church retreats, camps, seminars and fellowships.

For more information, contact:

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

When we say we have...

- Reasonable rates
- Excellent food
- Good facilities
- Dedicated staff
- A positive spiritual setting

...we mean it!

## CHECK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER

For additional information or to register, check the appropriate boxes and mail the provided form below to:

Communications Office, Attn.: Denise H. Withers, Kentucky Baptist Convention, P. O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433

### To Receive More Information

- Cedarmore Baptist Assembly
- Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly
- Discipleship Training: Ridgecrest brochure

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone : (W) \_\_\_\_\_ (H) \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_ Association \_\_\_\_\_

Leadership Position \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Number in group (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

### To Register

#### Church Growth

##### Super Saturdays

- August 14 - Eastwood Church, Bowling Green
- August 21 - Burlington Church, Northern Kentucky
- August 28 - Immanuel Church, Lexington
- September 11 - First Church, Ashland
- September 18 - First Church Mayfield
- September 25 - Central Church, Corbin

#### Church Music

- To receive a Children's Music Camp registration form

#### Sunday School

##### Church Weekday Education Seminars - \$10 per person

- June 5 - Southern Seminary (Norton Hall), Louisville
- June 12 - First Church, Paducah
- June 26 - Rose Hill Church, Ashland

#### Evangelism

- YouthFest '93 - \$4.00 until June 10
- Kentucky Mass Evangelism Conference - \$10 p/person, or \$15 per church (unlimited number)

## Upcoming Events

### MAY

#### Brotherhood

May 21  
Pioneers/High School Baptist Young Men/ Baptist Men Conclave  
Cedarmore Assembly

May 22

Track Meet  
Cedarmore  
9:45 a.m.

#### Student

May 19-21  
Campus Ministers Meeting  
Louisville  
Southern Seminary

May 30

Beginning term for summer missionaries  
WMU

May 21-22  
Camp Staff Training  
Jonathan Creek

### JUNE

#### Brotherhood

June 7-11  
Camp Staff Training  
June 14-August 6  
Royal Ambassador Camps  
Jonathan Creek and RABRO

#### Church Music

June 13-14  
Southern Baptist Church Music Conference  
Houston  
June 19-25  
Church Music Week  
Ridgecrest

#### Student

June 12  
In-State Teams Dinner Theatre  
Cedarmore

#### Sunday School

Church Weekday Education Seminars:  
June 5  
Louisville

Southern Seminary  
Norton Hall  
9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

June 12  
Paducah  
First Church  
9:00 a.m.-3:00

June 26  
Ashland  
Rose Hill Church  
9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.

#### WMU

June 13-14  
WMU, SBC Annual Meeting  
Houston

# BAPTISTS

## Carter embraces Fellowship; they embrace missionaries

By Mark Wingfield  
News Director

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—With a ringing endorsement from former President Jimmy Carter, the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship commissioned its first missionaries and adopted a permanent constitution and bylaws May 13-15.

About 5,000 people registered for the Fellowship's general assembly, and more than 7,000 were present for each of the two evening sessions in the Birmingham-Jefferson Civic Center in Birmingham, Ala.

During a missions commissioning and commitment service the second night, 33 men and women came forward to say God was calling them to be missionaries.

During that session, everyone in attendance had a chance to embrace one of the Fellowship's 20 current missionaries with a word of affirmation, a hug or a prayer. From virtually every seat, people stood and filled the aisles to touch the missionaries, to speak a word of affirmation, to whisper a prayer. Tears flowed and smiles passed during the highly emotional moment.

The night before, President Carter embraced the whole Fellowship movement.

"In the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, my wife and I have found a home," Carter said.

"I pray that as Rosalynn and I cast our lot with this fellowship for the rest of our lives, we can be part of a transcendent movement," he said later in the speech.

Carter recounted his upbringing in a Southern Baptist church and how he served as a lay leader and Sunday school teacher even while in the Naval Academy and as governor of Georgia and to a lesser extent while president. Carter said he had been proud to be a Southern Baptist.

"The last few years, however, Rosalynn and I have been in a quandary about what to do," Carter said, referring to the 14-year-old division within the Southern Baptist Convention that eventually led to the Fellowship's formation by moderates who said they were being excluded.

In a breakfast meeting with about 400 people the next morning, Carter said the moment he determined something was wrong was soon after Adrian Rogers was elected SBC president in 1979.

Carter said he invited Rogers to meet with him at the White House. After a cordial visit, Carter said, Rogers told Carter, "Mr. President, I hope you will give up your secular humanism and return to your Christian faith."

That comment shocked him, Carter said, and let him know his own "deep beliefs were different from those being mandated by pastors of large churches."

In the earlier speech, Carter said Baptists should not force a uniformity of belief on others.

"When there is a difference of what is a proper person, a proper Baptist, a proper American, we are violating the basic principles of what we believe," he said. "When we enforce

uniformity on other people, it saps their freedom."

Carter praised the Fellowship for upholding the Baptist principles he believes in. He cited the autonomy of the local church, total separation of church and state, and the priesthood of believers.

Yet Carter warned against being critical of SBC leaders with different views. He urged the Fellowship to follow the example of Woman's Missionary Union, whom he praised for exemplifying attempts to unite Baptists on mission rather than divide them due to theology and politics.

The president asked the Fellowship to embrace women not only as WMU members, but as ministers and deacons in local churches.

In the breakfast session, both he and Mrs. Carter spoke to that issue again.

"Women should be able to fill all the positions in the church," Mrs. Carter said, recalling her disappointment several years ago when her own church voted against ordaining women as deacons.

"I don't think there should be any distinction," she added. "People are people."

In determining a course for its fledgling missions program, Carter said the Fellowship could draw inspiration from the principles on which the Carter Center operates to conduct humanitarian research and assistance worldwide.

Those principles are not to duplicate the work others already are doing, to be all-inclusive of people with different perspectives and backgrounds, and to undertake only things that will lead to action.

He also urged Fellowship members to focus on both preaching and doing. He cited his own work with the Carter Center and with Habitat for Humanity as examples.

He also used his affiliation with Habitat for Humanity as an example of what he would be willing to offer the Fellowship personally.

Just as he has become a public voice to draw people to Habitat's cause, Carter said he would be willing to rally people to the Fellowship's mission.

Carter said he would especially like to be a spokesman for the Fellowship to reach out to other religious groups, to help support WMU, and to assist Keith Parks. If missionaries encounter problems in other countries, Carter said he could help negotiate with heads of state.

Fellowship supporters focused on the world the next night with the missions service.

In contrast to the recent pattern of SBC meetings, the hall where the Fellowship met filled with the largest crowds for Carter's speech and for the missions service. Business sessions drew about half that number of participants.

Moderates have complained that SBC business sessions draw huge crowds while reports from the home and foreign mission boards attract only a fraction of that crowd.

All 21 missionaries currently supported by the Fellowship were present for the service, where they were in-

troduced. Twenty of those missionaries are former employees of the SBC Foreign Mission Board who work in Europe. The other is a recently appointed worker in Florida.

Parks also introduced Bert and Debbie Ayers and their four children. The family from Gainesville, Ga., soon will be sent by the Fellowship to work as agricultural missionaries in Albania. They are the Fellowship's first full-time missionaries appointed beyond the 20 who transferred from the FMB.

"There is something awesome about sending out a first new family without previous missionary experience," Parks said.

He spoke of the history of Albania, which includes the martyrdom of first century Christians and the later attempt by communists to rid the nation entirely of religious faith.

Martyrdom makes for good sermon illustrations but is not something most American Christians understand, Parks said. "Christians with whom I am comfortable do not believe following Jesus Christ means suffering, persecution and perhaps even death," he confessed.

"When something uncomfortable comes into our lives, we begin to ask why God is punishing us," he said.

But persecution and suffering should be the marks of Christians living out authentic faith in a world where Satan and God are in a spiritual battle, he added. "When we reach the point where we think there should be no discomfort, ... we've forgotten our roots and our promise to follow Jesus Christ."

Parks also spoke about newly open doors for the gospel around the world.

"Timing is not accidental with God," he said. "Who we are, what we are, our coming into being at this very time is providential in nature."

The Fellowship is attempting to respond to these opportunities as quickly as possible, but needs more financial support to send more missionaries, Parks said.

"There is only one force in the world that can prevent the gospel from going to all the world," he said.

That force is not Satan, Islam or even secularism, Parks continued, but apathetic Christians. "The greatest barrier is in the heart of the Christian."

The small force of Fellowship missionaries lined the stage in front of Parks as he issued an invitation for others to commit to missions.

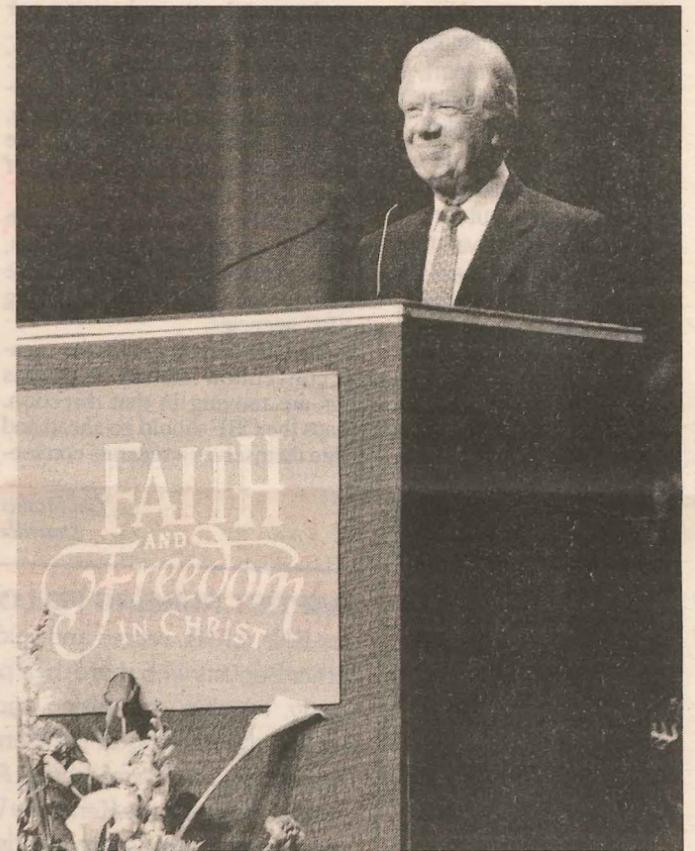
While the assembled crowd remained seated with no singing, people began moving toward the front. Young couples, some with babies in their arms, walked forward to register their commitments. Singles, middle-aged and older adults also came forward.

In business sessions, the Fellowship adopted a permanent constitution and bylaws, made some changes in giving plans, adopted a \$3.7 million budget for 1993 and a \$5.08 million budget for 1994, and chose Carolyn Weatherford Crumpler of Cincinnati as moderator-elect. Hardy Clemons, pastor of First Baptist Church in Greenville, S.C., previously had been elected to serve as moderator for the 1993-94 year.

Adopting a new constitution and bylaws was necessary because the documents adopted in May 1991 included a "sunset clause" stating they expired at the close of the 1993 general assembly unless reaffirmed.

A constitution and bylaws committee reviewed the documents and presented revised versions, which were approved unanimously.

For the first time, the Fellowship will begin in 1994 defining membership by financial contributions. The bylaws state that membership "shall be composed of individual Baptists, Baptist churches and the members thereof, who contribute annually to the ministries and operations of the Fellowship."



All individual members and any member of a participating church may be eligible to vote at general assemblies.

The funding referred to in the bylaws does not include "pass-through" money sent on to the SBC. Individuals and churches qualified for representation must give at least something, however small, to the Fellowship's own causes.

The constitution also mandates that the slate of officers, all committees and the coordinating council represent a balance of "the full diversity of the individuals and churches that compose the Fellowship."

The bylaws also redefine the way states or regional clusters gain representation on the Fellowship's coordinating council. Previously set allotments of three to six representatives per state will be replaced with a formula based on contributions.

The three-day meeting included a variety of speakers and break-out sessions. The 60 small-group sessions offered everything from information about the Fellowship to worship aids, help for parenting and one session where meeting-weary Baptists could simply sit and listen to music.

**PRESIDENTIAL ENDORSEMENT** Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter addresses the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's general assembly, saying he and his wife have "found a home" with the dissident group of Southern Baptist moderates (Photo by Donna Newton)

## Bad enough

An article quotes statistics from Marian Wright Edelman of the Children's Defense Fund (WR, April 27). In these statistics, it is claimed that 25 children are killed by guns every two days. It is further claimed that 55 men, women and children are killed by handguns each day. These figures are false. There is no evidence to support these claims, either in the FBI's Uniform Crime Report or in the National Institute of Safety's annual report. It is bad enough that secular papers publish such false statistics without checking for verification, but for a Christian paper given to honesty to do so is even worse.

Why is this paper even reporting on such secular issues while it remains silent about the biblical evils of abortion and rampant homosexuality? Shouldn't the Western Recorder stick to Baptist and other Christian issues and avoid non-biblical secular issues?

Danny R. Zickefoose  
Hickman

*Editor's Note: A Children's Defense Fund staff member said Edelman's information was reported by the National Center for Health Statistics, an agency operated by the U.S. government.*

## CBF, declare

As a loyal Southern Baptist, I feel it is time for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship to declare whether it is a separate convention or not.

All indications point to the fact that the CBF is working toward the goal of separation from the Southern Baptist Convention if not already so. After attending a publicly advertised CBF meeting in Danville last November, I was convinced that the CBF leadership, at least, intends to form a new convention.

At the November meeting, (CBF Coordinator) Cecil Sherman pointed out that present Southern Baptist Convention leadership wished to emphasize our differences. Then Sherman spent the next hour emphasizing our differences. What are those differences? According to Sherman, the SBC and the CBF differ over understandings of the inspiration of Scripture, education, missions philosophy, the role of the pastor and the definition of the practice of evangelism.

These differences come along with the CBF's missions-support options, all which bypass the SBC's Executive Committee and one totally bypassing all SBC agencies.

Is the CBF moving toward a separate convention status? It seems things are moving in that direction. Perhaps the CBF should go ahead and declare themselves a separate convention

Tim Mathis  
Danville

## Give even tolerance

I found the Home Mission Board's study on Freemasonry puzzling. This is not because I disagree with the conclusions of the report. I strongly support the study's emphasis on local autonomy, the priesthood of the believer and personal conscience. What I find troubling is that such tolerance

would be given to Masons but has not been the standard in other areas of debate, such as women in ministry.

The report cites instances where Freemasonry is not compatible with Christianity. Yet it still affirms the right of Masonic membership as a matter of personal conscience.

The incongruity of this report is that freedom and toleration have not been granted in our associations or by the present Southern Baptist Convention leadership. The issue of the role of women in the church is also a matter of local autonomy, personal conscience as well as interpretation of Scripture. The Home Mission Board has not made Freemasonry a test of fellowship, so why have some Baptists made the role of women?

Could it be that in a male-dominated denomination that emphasizes power and coercion over empowerment and conscience that a men's organization was given privileged consideration? I wonder how our Woman's Missionary Union feels as Freemasonry is granted the freedom to co-exist in Baptist life while their efforts to be inclusive in missions have been met with arrogant attacks by SBC

leadership.

Philip Christopher  
Louisville

if a problem exists, work to find a solution.

A pastor's wife

## BAPTIST FORUM

## Disposable pastors

Many churches seem to think they have disposable pastors and staff.

When a church calls a pastor, they not only call him to minister to them, they take upon themselves the responsibility of ministering to his needs.

Too often, we hear statements: "He has been here too long." "We need a younger man." "Our church is not growing like it should."

We also hear other critical remarks. None of them has anything to do with spiritual matters or theology. They are based on personal opinion.

Many times the root problem is that someone has hurt feelings about something the pastor isn't even aware of or there is a question of control. A lady said if the pastor had to do what the deacons said, then he was working for the deacons, not the Lord. This is not to say that the pastor should not work in harmony with the deacons and the church, but they should all be in harmony with the Lord.

Picture your pastor standing alone in a field amidst the congregation. Are they so busy looking at him that they are not turned outward to a lost community? Your pastor and staff have no defense against rumor and gossip. Loving, concerned church members should be their shield from these attacks.

When you hear rumors or gossip, go to your pastor with Christian love and concern. Discuss it with him, and

## Support Southern

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary has long stood for quality religious and theological education. Its professors and instructors have been men and women of stature in the community, whose professional activities and personal lives merged to benefit the region. This tradition is alive and well, but living under threat.

There have been recent changes in tone. Two deans resign unhappily; three trustees resign in protest over a "hostile takeover." The president-elect is under fire. The denomination flusters over Freemasonry.

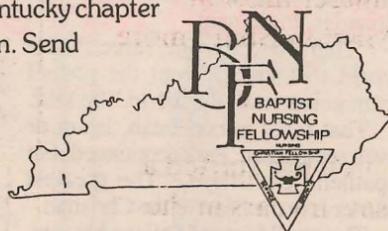
The education I received at Southern changed my life and profession. Now professors must protect themselves from charges of heresy with lists of propositions they sign. In a demanding master of divinity program, I was never exposed to heresy. I was taught service. I never learned dogmatism. Rather, my professors were concerned with inquiry and open horizons for worship.

It seems alumni/ae must send a message to the leadership of the school, asking for a full accounting of their methods and purposes. Perhaps we can ease some of the tension. If you care about this grand old school, join the students, former students and faculty in letting your voice ring out in its support.

Jon A. Dainty Sr.  
Louisville

**BAPTIST NURSING FELLOWSHIP** provides an opportunity for RNs, LPNs, retired and student nurses to come together with other Baptists who share their profession. Objectives include Bible study, worship, witnessing and missions participation. Sixty attended the meeting of the Kentucky chapter at Bruner's Chapel Baptist Church, Harrodsburg, Apr. 23. The dinner meeting was in conjunction with the Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union annual meeting at Harrodsburg Baptist Church.

The next meeting of the Kentucky chapter will be July 31 in Elizabethtown. Send names of nurses to: Kentucky BNF, Kentucky WMU, P.O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433.



## That's my boy

I found myself saying those words recently when Jason hit his first home run in a practice Little League game. It's the same feeling that I have had when Andrea wins a swimming event. I shared that feeling recently with Buckley and Sue Carlin of Glen Dale when we watched one of our boys give a speech about his 4-H projects to the Southern Baptist Child Care Executives who were assembled here in Louisville.

In each situation I was proud of the young person and conveyed that sense of accomplishment to them. As Christians we often see pride as something which we should avoid. We are told in Proverbs 16:18 that pride goes before destruction. The writer of Proverbs tells us in 8:13 that he hated

pride and arrogance. Christ lived a life of humility and told us that the meek would inherit the earth. Am I doing wrong in having pride in these children and instilling within them a sense of pride as well?

Paul, in Galatians 6:4, gave a good answer to that question. He said "each one should test his own actions. Then he can take pride in himself without comparing himself to somebody else." All of us must have a sense of well being. We all need to see ourselves as winners.

The sin comes in when we seek our sense of well being by belittling others. Pride which says I am better than others is wrong, but pride which acknowledges that I have done my best makes a winner out of everyone.

Some of us have had the experience of being the last one chosen for the ball team. The hurt felt there is only a sampling of the hurt felt

by some of the children who come into our care. Some of them have known the ridicule of other children as they came to school poorly dressed and in need of basic training in hygiene. Some have known the embarrassment of an alcoholic parent, the shame of abuse for themselves, their mom or a sibling. Some have known the

rejection of failed placement after placement.

These are children who must gain a sense of pride in themselves. We have to find every opportunity to say to them, "You are somebody, you are a person of worth." We can never praise them too much as we work together to overcome their lifetimes of condemnation.

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

## HOMES FOR CHILDREN



Curtis C. Mooney

Paid Column



## "My House Shall Be A House of Prayer"

- What:** Prayer & Spiritual Awakening Conference
- Who:** Henry T. Blackaby, Director of Prayer & Spiritual Awakening Home Mission Board, Southern Baptist Convention
- When:** Friday, May 28th, 1993 . . . . . 8 AM until 6 PM  
Saturday, May 29th, 1993 . . . . . 8 AM until 6 PM  
Continental Breakfast & Box Lunches will be provided)
- Where:** Chevy Chase Baptist Church  
200 Colony Boulevard  
Lexington, Kentucky 40502  
(606) 266-2601
- Registration fee: \$10.00.** Send fee and information as soon as possible.

# PEOPLE

## Perryville Church recalls struggle to find home of its own

By Melanie Childers  
Staff Writer

PERRYVILLE—Perryville Baptist Church had to work longer than most families do to acquire a home.

The church, which celebrated its 175th anniversary last month, was 55 years old before members built a permanent place to worship.

During their anniversary celebration April 24-25, members of Per-

ryville Baptist Church remembered both the frustrations and joys of their heritage.

A written history of the church notes that at the church's inception in 1818, "the first Saturday of each month was designated as the time of meetings."

From those beginnings, the church met in members' homes and in various meeting houses.

Judy Underwood, chairwoman of

the anniversary committee, explained that the church in early days was "shifting around so much because money was so tight."

By 1873, the church became dissatisfied with worshiping in a town building designated as "an office for religious and moral purposes," the history explained, so members "resolved by the help of God to build a meeting house of their own."

But Underwood explained that in

the church's enthusiasm to build, members chose a brick structure and ran out of money before they got their roof on. "They ended up having to go into debt—about \$500," she said.

Although remodeled and significantly expanded, that same structure still serves the church today.

Underwood expressed pleasure about the results of the anniversary weekend. She explained that about 150 people attended the fellowship with former members and pastors April 24. One of the long-time members of the church, Helen Underwood, cut the anniversary cake.

Services were held April 25 at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. An ensemble of former music directors provided music; many church leaders shared spoken "portraits of the past."

"We had a great time," Underwood said. "I think it strengthened the church in a lot of ways. It was a unifying experience."



**Sandy Hook pastor earns degree**

ATLANTA—Oscar Harold Rose, pastor of First Baptist Church of Sandy Hook, received the doctor of ministry degree from Luther Rice Seminary in Atlanta May 14.

He was among a class of 120 graduates, addressed in commencement ceremonies by Gene Pritchard, pastor of First Baptist Church of Pine Hills, Fla. Rose also is a graduate of Oneida High School, Tennessee Tech University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

## We are doing something right.

Through the work of the Home Mission Board and gifts to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions, Southern Baptists are doing something right. One hundred percent of the home missions offering goes to support 4,868 missionaries serving Christ and sharing his love in all 50 states, the Caribbean, American Samoa and Canada, and in more than 100 languages.



**We are doing something right in Portland, Oregon.**

Missionaries Troy and Jamae Smith direct the SAFE House, an inner city ministry point where up to 13 drug addicts can come to live and find a way out of the bondage of Satan's addiction.



**We are doing something right in Cambridge, Massachusetts.**

Missionary pastor Dale Cross has led his church, Metropolitan Baptist Church, to start more than 20 churches in its 28 years of existence.



**We are doing something right along the Mexican border in Arizona.**

Missionary Ross Hanna has worked for 22 years overseeing three Baptist centers that minister to refugees.



**We are doing something right by involving 70,000 volunteers.**

Long-term and short-term volunteer mission assignments saved the Home Mission Board more than \$95 million last year.



**We are doing something right in Juneau, Alaska.**

The Glacier Valley Baptist Church has started a church every year for the last seven years in the capital city that is 90 percent unchurched.

Please continue to support these and other home missionaries through your gifts to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. If you have not given to the offering this year, please consider doing so now. If you have already given, please consider another sacrificial offering.



**Do Something!**  
Annie Armstrong Easter Offering  
for Home Missions  
National Goal: \$38 million

This message about the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering is provided by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, Woman's Missionary Union and the Brotherhood Commission.

### CLASSIFIED ADS

**FOR SALE:** Dodge 15-passenger, balance of factory warranty, low mileage, \$6,000 off new. Three other 15 passenger vans from \$3,350. Call: Frankfort Chrysler 1-800-289-8223.

**WANTED:** Part-time youth minister. Green Acres Baptist Church. Send resumé to Don Barnett, personnel chairman, 6310 Gayle Dr., Louisville, KY 40219.

**WANTED:** Part-time minister of youth, preferably young married or engaged couple. We also are seeking a part-time minister of music, single or married. If interested in either position, send resumé to: Personnel Committee, 622 Kentucky Ave., Frankfort, KY 40601.

**FOR SALE:** 5'2" Walnut Italian provincial baby grand piano, excellent condition, recently tuned; excellent for church. \$5,500. (317) 326-4403.

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

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## KENTUCKY KERNELS

Not everyone who lives in Kentucky works in Kentucky, and not everyone who works in Kentucky lives in Kentucky. According to U.S. Census figures, 104,251 Kentuckians commute across state lines every weekday to their jobs. Another 98,748 residents of other states commute into Kentucky to work. Northern Kentucky claims the largest number of outward-bound commuters into Ohio. Indiana claims the largest number of inward-bound commuters.

## Mountains to the Mississippi

■ **BRADFORDSVILLE**—Bradfordsville Church ordained **Will Sipes**, pastor of Welfare Church in Jamestown, to the ministry Feb. 21. Also, the church ordained **Kevin Bright** as a deacon May 16.

■ **CARROLLTON**—Prestonville Mission ordained pastor **Dennis Vance** to the ministry.

■ **CATLETTSBURG**—Oakland Avenue Church called **Paul Badgett** as pastor, effective June 1. Badgett currently serves as associate pastor of ministry at Rose Hill Church in Ashland.

■ **LEXINGTON**—Members of Grace Church invite former members to join them for homecoming May 23. A service will be held at 1:30 p.m., after a noon meal.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Deer Park Church commissioned **Dean and Erin Miller** as volunteer ministers to youth May 9.

■ **Bob Johnson**, dean of Boyce Bible School, was elected vice president for the 1993-1994 year by the Southern Baptist Adult Education Association, meeting April 28-29 in Pigeon Forge, Tenn. Johnson also delivered a key-note address during the meeting.

■ **PINEVILLE**—Meta Church in Meta and Allen Church in Allen sent volunteers to assist **Jerry Brock**, of Appalachian Bridge Company, in construction work at Clear Creek Baptist Bible College. About 422 volunteers are expected to be involved in

construction projects on the campus this summer.

■ **SYMSONIA**—Clarks River Church called **Dan Granstaff** as minister of music and youth.

■ **WILLIAMSBURG**—Cumberland College recognized faculty and staff at a banquet in their honor May 1. **Lois Wortman** received the Miles Community Service Award; **Kay Manning** received the Cumberland College Service Award; and **Cynthia Norton** received the Award for Excellence in Teaching. Faculty and staff retiring this year also were honored: **Marjorie Helvey, Jean Moore, Emma McPherson, Irene Peace, Walter Mathes, JoAnn Seymour, Harold Wortman** and **Lois Wortman**.



**GOING UP** The Cumberland Museum of Cumberland College remains open while construction continues on the adjoining Lodge and Center for Leadership Studies. The existing building houses a variety of collections, including the Henkleman Wildlife Collection, the Williams Cross Collection and Blair's Christmas Land. The new building will include guest rooms, dining facilities and conference space.

## Youthquake shatters old ideas of youth revivals

**BARLOW**—Although the city of Barlow is located on a geological fault line, the April 5 quake that hit First Baptist Church didn't jar china cabinets or crack window panes.

However, Youthquake 1993 did shatter young people's old ideas about revival meetings, Pastor Don Phelps indicated.

When weekend youth revivals no longer proved to be effective for reaching teen-agers, Phelps said, First Baptist Church changed its strategy.

"We decided to drop the name revival because it doesn't appeal to

young people," he said. Instead, last year the church hosted its first one-day evangelistic event called "Youthquake."

The new service was designed to be celebrative, to be held on a week night rather than a weekend and to excite youth rather than weary them, Phelps explained.

Last year's service drew more than 250; this time, attendance reached 350.

David Akers, youth minister at the church, invited youth in all area churches to participate in the event.

The evening included a spaghetti supper at 6 p.m. and an hour-long service beginning at 7 p.m.

Leading the service was Ricky Cunningham, pastor of Hardin Baptist Church in Hardin and founder of Youth Explosion—a similar celebrative conference for youth held during the summer.

Effects of Youthquake 1993 will be felt for a long time in terms of decisions made there, Phelps said, noting 15 people made professions of faith in Jesus Christ during the service.

## I'm not ashamed of Christ

Never have I seen the grass a deeper green, the flowers more beautiful, or the birds singing any more sweetly than this month of May. Nor have we ever been busier.

On the first Sunday of the month, a large number of schools were on our campus for a track and field meet. Also, there were many guests. Three of us traveled to the Pine Mountain Environmental School to attend a memorial service for Mary Rogers. This great lady came from her native England to that valley 51 years ago with her Connecticut Yankee husband, Burton, whom she had met and married while doing mission work in India and he in China. I first met her at Christmastime 1955 while a sophomore at Oneida. Then a group of us traveled to Pine Mountain to see the annual Christmas pageant that Mary directed for nearly 50 years.

The pipe organ was played for an hour in the native stone chapel before the hour-long memorial service even started. It was a marvelous two hours of inspiration and worship as we remembered one of God's very own.

That night it was back to Oneida and our annual dinner for the seniors sponsored by the juniors. The meal was delicious and our students were radiant in the most beautiful clothing they could buy or rent. We have no prom, no dancing, no alcohol.

Sunday I was off very early with our choir to Horse Cave Baptist Church. There I spent the afternoon and night with Mr. and Mrs. Lyndon Bales, wonderful supporters of our work, a grandson having attended here 10 years ago. Then on to speak and share in the annual Executive Board meeting at Cedarmore, and back to our Oneida campus after midnight Monday.

Tuesday was our annual Work Awards service in the chapel. The theme, "Whatsoever thy hand

findeth to do, do it with thy might." (Ecclesiastes 9:10) was recalled as we honored over 300 of our young people as good or outstanding in farming and gardening, cleaning, kitchen, grounds and varying other job assignments. Each is given a beautifully printed certificate suitable for framing.

On Friday we had our annual academic awards assembly. Here the top student of each individual class taught was honored. This allows for the recognition of nearly 200 differing individuals, not just the one highest ranking overall at each grade level as on commencement day.

That evening we hosted the annual Three Rivers Conference Athletic Banquet held here every spring. That involves 500 athletes of seven differing schools. Our cooks always outdo themselves with the meal, and our staff and students in decorating the two dining rooms in the emblems of all seven schools. Then the top athletes of the seven schools are honored in the presence of one another.

For the first time I missed the above dinner having gone with 10 other staff members for a dinner at Middlesboro honoring David Pryse, who graduated from Oneida four years ago with the highest honor Oneida can give by vote of the faculty. That night he graduated from Clear Creek Baptist Bible College with one of their highest honors. The 11 of us stood as his family when his name was called, and as his church for, collectively, we had financially supported him through four years of college. A minister of the gospel now, he came to us a 20-year-old dropout with much drug and alcohol experience. He left us with a sermon from Romans: "I am not ashamed of Christ."

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

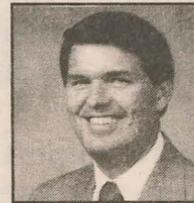
*Paid Column*

## ONEIDA JOURNAL



Barkley Moore

## CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

## Feeding the hungry in Somalia

"Traumatic."

That's the way Marge Wilson describes her stay in Mogadishu, Somalia. When a car backfires outside her house, she jumps. John and Marge Wilson recently returned to their Russell Springs home after six months of relief work in Somalia. They were there several months before the U.S. military. One November night they huddled nearly two hours in their residence hallway. "We had no radio contact. It seemed every gun in town went off." They were stopped by road bandits as often as three times in a day. BBC broadcasts helped them find out what was going on. John noted their vehicle had a machine gun on it "really to protect the truck more than us, but we were grateful."

John recalls when the feeding programs started. "There were so many who wanted help. With limited supplies it was difficult to decide who would receive aid." They took food to 19 villages with a population of 13,000. "In two villages more than half of the people died in the past two years."

For six weeks Marge worked alongside veteran nurse Mary Saunders. Measles immunization, infections and malaria treatment were common. The Wilsons also were involved in a farm project, dry

food distribution and preparation of meals two times a day for several hundred displaced people in three Mogadishu camps. They were not free to do open evangelism. "We tried to live it out among them."

When the Wilsons left Clear Creek in 1965, they never dreamed overseas work would be possible. Later, they hoped an opportunity would come in retirement. After a 1985 Kenya partnership they sold their bookstore, he resigned his church, and they offered themselves. Five of the last seven years have been spent in Africa.

"Our hearts are with the Africans. The urgency of the need motivates us. Somalia shows what happens with people without the gospel. There is enough hatred there for the whole world. Continue to pray for the volunteers who remain. A military escort accompanies all food deliveries, but risks are still high. We know many prayers for us were answered. These months have been times of extreme difficulty. Factions continue to fight and kill while others die from disease and starvation. Progress has been made, and lives are being saved through your giving and our efforts."

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

*Paid Column*

## Day of Prayer focuses on new believers in Mongolia

By Donald Martin  
SBC Foreign Mission Board

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Just as the Asian nation of Mongolia scripts the first chapters of its new democratic movement, the Christian community there has begun chronicling the first pages of its own history.

"It's all so new to them," explained a Christian observer who recently returned from Mongolia. "These days are the first chapters of Acts for Mongolian Christians."

In the early 1990s, as Mongolia turned to a multi-party democratic system, the government began to allow foreigners, including Christians, into the country. With this entrance came the opportunity for Christians to share their faith with people who had never heard the name of Jesus Christ.

And one by one, just as the New Testament church began, Mongolians

began to embrace the faith. Today, Mongolia has at least 800 known believers, and about 1,400 Mongolians regularly attend church services.

But the fledgling Mongolian church is a young body of Christians. Most believers have only been Christians about two years. The most mature Christians accepted Jesus Christ as Savior about three years ago. They have an urgent need for sound discipleship and Christian training.

Administrators at the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board believe Southern Baptists have a role in Mongolia's Christian development. They are asking Southern Baptists to pray for the Mongolian people during this year's Day of Prayer and Fasting for World Evangelization, scheduled from 6 p.m. May 28 to 6 p.m. May 29.

During this 24 hours—just before Pentecost—Southern Baptists will

join other Great Commission Christians in praying for the several million Mongolians scattered throughout far eastern Asia. In addition to the 2.3 million who live in the nation of Mongolia, other Mongolians live to the south in China and to the north in Russia.

Some specific prayer requests include:

■ That young believers will grow and develop spiritual discernment.

■ That personnel who work in the country through Cooperative Services International, the Southern Baptist aid organization, will remain safe and healthy and enjoy success in their work.

■ That God will provide Bibles, draw Christians from neighboring countries to minister in Mongolia and create a network of people to pray regularly for this young Christian community.



## Mongolia today is like living in New Testament times

ULAN BATOR, Mongolia (BP)—For some, it's like living in the New Testament Book of Acts.

What began as a handful of about six Mongolian Christians in 1990 has grown to about 800 believers and about 1,400 attending worship or Bible studies. New followers of Jesus Christ—many young and joyfully enthusiastic—gather often to worship, pray and study Scripture.

Evidence exists that some of the legendary Mongolian khans had Nestorian Christian wives, and some Scripture was available in Mongolia in the past. But following Christ never before has had such a response from Mongolians.

Mongolian believers see God's timing in the availability of a new Mongolian New Testament and in an unprecedented interest in religious faith at a time when Mongolians face hard economic times and collapse of parts of their social structure and political system. People are searching.

"They say now that they don't believe anything," said Altanchimeg Gibbens, thought to be the first Mongolian believer of modern times. She found Christ while assisting in the

translation of the Bible into her language.

"They (Mongolians) trusted communism, and what communism told was lies," said Gibbens, who now directs the Mongolian Bible Society. "They're open toward any religion. They're looking to hold something."

Those working alongside Mongolian believers include several English teachers, medical personnel and others representing Cooperative Services International, a Southern Baptist aid organization.

CSI's first representatives in Mongolia were Stan and Laura Kirk of Tennessee. The Kirks, now in the United States, taught English in 1991-92 at the 3,000-student Mongolian National Medical University. They plan to return on a more permanent basis in late 1993.

In an effort to be effective, CSI has conferred with the government and signed contracts to help in several areas—education, health care and agriculture. "We can place people at every sector of the society to do some kind of work which would benefit the Mongolian society," Kirk said.

Those people include Don and

Helen McNeely of Texas, now coordinators for CSI projects in Mongolia. They arrived in early 1992 after working for years in Zambia. Martha Taylor, a single woman in the middle of a two-year volunteer assignment, teaches university-level English. More recent arrivals are Gary and Evelyn Harthcock of Florida, English teachers; and David and Laura Meece of Kentucky and Ohio, respectively. He is a medical doctor.

The concept of becoming followers of Christ needs to gain credibility with Mongolians, Kirk stated. And Christians from outside Mongolia can play a role in this effort.

There's a lot more talk than action in how Christianity is seen in Mongolia, he said. Practical help, such as agriculture, business, medicine and education, would gain credibility.

For those who have found new life in Christ, reaching others is a matter of satisfying the searching going on in their hearts.

One key is love, said Enkhbayar, a young man emerging as a leader of one of Ulan Bator's Christian groups. "Whatever you say, if they can't see love, it is empty," he said. "What

changed my heart was just love. Even if nobody talked about Jesus but they really (showed) love ... people would start to be interested in Jesus."

The contagious enthusiasm of Mongolian Christians for their new faith inspires non-believers and longtime Christians alike. Almost every Bible study or worship time has a lot of prayer during the meeting.

"We've always been a praying people, too, but I've never been in a group that prayed as much and as often and as long as these people do," Mrs. McNeely said. "This is their power and this is their resource."

Mongolian believers are fighting a spiritual battle at the same time they are growing in their own faith.

As with Enkhbayar, many new believers struggle with what it means to be a Christian. Making the decision is not the hard part, said Gibbens; it's learning to live by what the Bible says.

"They need to leave behind old life and change ... in the heart," she explained. "This is the hardest thing for them. Satan holds them really tightly. Satan doesn't want to lose even one Mongol."

■ **TOP:** Altanchimeg Gibbens is thought to be the first modern Christian in Mongolia. She professed faith in Jesus Christ while translating the New Testament with an English exchange student, who now is her husband. ■ **LEFT:** Visitors to the homes like that of Sambuu Nyadaabatar (foreground) are greeted warmly and served rounds of the "white foods of Mongolia," the milks, curds and cheeses of their camels, goats, sheep, cows and horses. ■ **ABOVE:** Worship leaders and friends wade into the Tuul River in Ulan Bator, Mongolia, for a baptism. (BP photos by Charles Ledford)

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