

FOR THE RECORD

Not so easy

Keeping the Southern Baptist Annuity Board's investment portfolio as morally pure as some would like isn't as easy as it sounds, two officials explain. See page 2.

Letter helped

A letter from 56 Kentucky Baptist pastors apparently helped Rep. William Natcher of Bowling Green lead a charge in the U.S. House of Representatives to retain a controversial ban on government funding for most abortions. See page 3.

"Here's Hope" again

A pilot project for the 1995 simultaneous evangelism project, "Here's Hope. Share Jesus Now." was a success at Rose Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Ashland, Pastor Charles Stewart says. See page 3.

Editorial

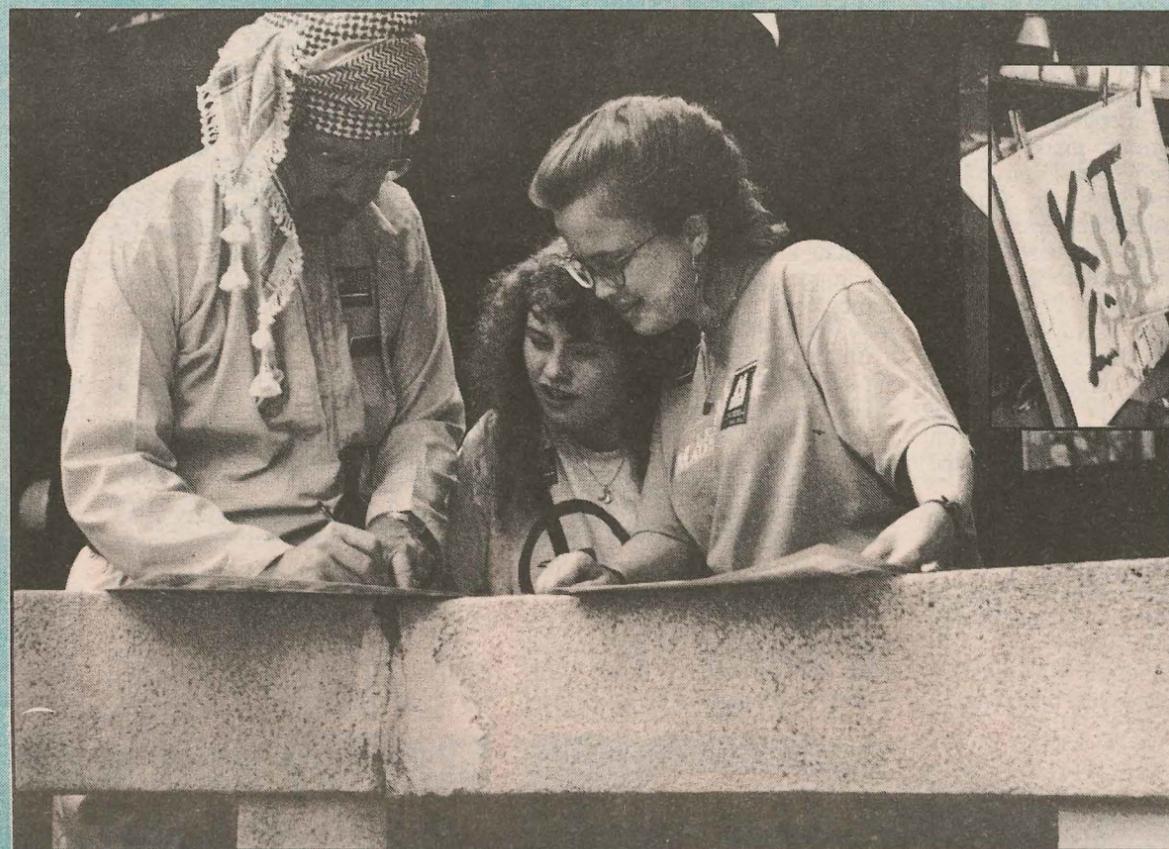
Need a small group? Get up and go to Sunday school. See page 5.

Stay strong

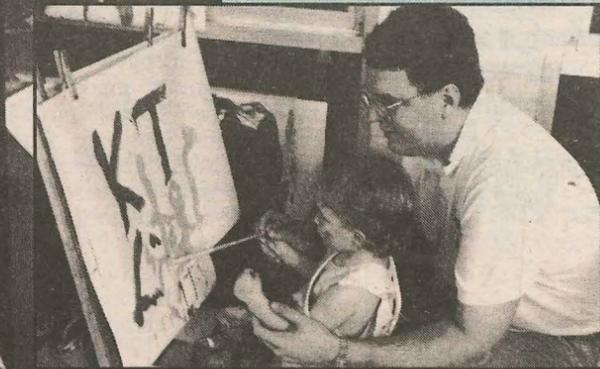
"Spiritual inertia" will claim a Christian unless the Christian fights to stretch and think and grow, the author of a new book contends. See page 8.

Russia threat

A new law passed by Russian Parliament could be a serious threat to religious liberty and missionary work there. See page 9.



ON THE JERICO ROAD Nearly 300 Kentuckians attended the "Jericho" missions festival at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center July 3-9. See story on page 9. ■ **Above:** Dale Thorne, area director for the Middle East and North Africa at the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, points out the region of the world where he serves to Mary Kay Williams and Bridget Hays, members of Berea Baptist Church in Berea. ■ **Top right:** 19-month-old Kaitlyn Teafatiller gets some help from her father, James, of Victory Memorial Baptist Church in Louisville as she tries her hand at painting. ■ **Right:** 4-year-old Anna Holladay of Highland Baptist Church in Louisville takes a break during the missions fair, attired in her "Future Nurse" hat. (BP photos by Linda Lawson)



Sandi Patti sings of Christian's journey

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

ANDERSON, Ind.—Even gospel superstars sometimes sing the blues.

Just ask Sandi Patti.

The winner of five Grammys, 32 Dove awards and considered by many as the foremost contemporary Christian singer in America, Patti was riding the crest of popularity a few years ago. Then her Anderson, Ind., office and headquarters was destroyed by arson, her marriage fell apart and she began unraveling childhood secrets of sexual abuse.

These were the "darkest of the darkest times" in life, she said.

There were times, Patti said recently in a telephone interview, when she thought she might never be able to sing again. And if she did sing, she thought, perhaps no one would listen anymore.

"I knew I had a lot I wanted to say, but I thought, 'God, have I blown it so far with you that I'll never have another way to say it?'" she recalled. "Then the Lord said, 'Sandi, I'm here with you, and if there's something you need to say, I'll help you say it.'"

"Then I thought maybe nobody would listen," she continued. "But I've realized I just have to leave that in the Lord's hands. He has had his

hand in all I've done in this last year. He has his hand in today; he has his hand in tomorrow. ... It's my responsibility to do what he calls me to do today."

Patti is back now with a new album, "Le Voyage," which uses the framework of "Pilgrim's Progress" to talk about life's journey.

"It has been a song that I've been able to say is not only true for someone else, it's true of my life. There have been days when I've felt like all is lost, and yet when the smoke clears, there is this hand on my shoulder.

"I have really found that to be so true in my life. It reminds me of the Scripture, 'Nothing can separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.'"

The Christians Patti feared wouldn't listen to her anymore apparently have seen themselves in that song, she explained. "People have found a real message of hope with that."

The Christian life must revolve around more than praise songs, she

said. "There are days when we do mess up. There need to be some songs that talk about God's faithfulness in those times. ... Sometimes there are days that don't have happy endings."

After the past year, Patti said, she doesn't worry about portraying a perfect image anymore. And that makes her a more honest person, she added.

"It's not that I was dishonest before. But now I'm honest in the sense to say I failed in some ways, I made some bad decisions."

On the other hand, Patti said she never has felt closer to God than she □ See Sandi Patti ..., page 7



On the beat:

Contemporary
Christian music update



And although most of the album's songs were written by someone else four to five years ago, they express many of the lessons she has learned through her recent difficulties, she said.

"I felt like it was a wonderful way of talking about the Christian life, about how life does have some ups and downs, and how the one thing that is constant is our companion, Jesus Christ."

Only one song, "Hand on My Shoulder," was written within the last year. Patti calls it a "Cliff's Notes version of the whole project."

Want to help a friend in crisis?

By Chip Alford
SBC Sunday School Board

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)—A couple from your Sunday school class is getting a divorce after 20 years of marriage. What do you say?

Your best friend's son has just been arrested for drug possession. How can you reach out?

"Just make yourself available and let people know that you care. That's the important thing," Polly Johnson told participants in a recent seminar on "Ministering in Times of Crisis" at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center.

Johnson, adult Sunday school division director at Calvary Baptist Church in Renton, Wash., said most people experiencing a crisis want people to reach out to them.

"Not long ago, I had to be away from home for four months to care for my father-in-law in Tennessee. It got very lonely at times and I was inwardly crying out for someone to reach out to me.

"I got cards and phone calls from several people in my home church. It was amazing really because I heard from people I wasn't even that close to. Those contacts from friends back home were a real encouragement to me. I needed them, and they helped me get through a difficult

□ See Here's help ..., page 10

Keeping Annuity Board investments 'pure' not easy

"If you tried to itemize every objectionable product or activity, you would find yourself tied in knots."

Thomas Miller, Annuity Board senior vice president

DALLAS (BP)—Making the financial investments of the Southern Baptist Annuity Board as morally pure as some would like isn't as easy as it sounds, Annuity Board officials said in a recent interview.

Three motions made at last month's Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting cited the Annuity Board's investment policies.

One involved a request that the board divest itself of stocks in companies contributing to Planned Parenthood. Another asked the Annuity Board to "study the ramifications of owning stock in companies whose products or services are generally viewed as being incompatible with the moral and ethical posture of the SBC."

The third asked the convention to direct the Annuity Board to divest itself forever of all holdings in entities "whose business endeavors conflict with the teachings, commands and spirit of the Holy Bible."

Gordon Hobgood Jr., executive vice president and chief operating of-

ficer of the Annuity Board, would not comment specifically on the motions since the "official" versions referred to the agency had not been received.

But Annuity Board trustees have established an investment policy to direct the investment of retirement funds, Hobgood noted. "We will stay with that policy," he said.

The existing guidelines prohibit investing in any company engaged in the liquor, tobacco, gambling and pornography industries or any company whose products, services or activities are publicly recognized as being incompatible with the moral and ethical posture of the Annuity Board.

That policy was followed earlier this year when the board sold stock it held in Kmart Corp. Kmart had been asked by the Annuity Board and other shareholders to stop selling pornography in its Waldenbooks subsidiary but refused to do so.

Thomas Miller Jr., the board's senior vice president for public relations, said the Annuity Board wants to abide by the spirit of the investment

policy that requires funds be placed in honorable industries or companies.

But it's not so simple, he said.

For example, he said the Annuity Board does not invest in American Brands, a conglomerate that owns American Tobacco Co. and Jim Beam and Gilbey's liquors. But American Brands also owns Ben Franklin Insurance Co., Swingline Staplers and Master Lock Co.

"Churches that buy Swingline staplers and individuals who buy Master locks may have contributed more to the bottom line of American Brands than the Annuity Board would have if it owned stock in American Brands," Miller said. "Owning stock does not contribute to the bottom line. The purchase of goods does.

"It is about as feasible to try to be perfectly pure in the investment arena as it is in an individual's business intercourse in his daily life. But the Annuity Board makes a good faith effort.

"It is very much subjective," Miller added. "If you tried to itemize every objectionable product or activity,

you would find yourself tied in knots."

Miller said another example of the sometimes mixed-up investment picture is the fact that the Annuity Board will not invest in Hilton Hotels stock because the chain is deeply involved with the gambling industry and has casinos in many hotels.

"But when the Southern Baptist Convention went to Las Vegas (in 1989), the SBC Executive Committee contracted with the Hilton Hotel as the headquarters hotel," Miller said. "The Annuity Board had its annuitant breakfast there and I stayed there. We contributed to their bottom line, but we don't invest in their stock."

Another example, he said, is investments in banks and insurance companies, both of which make money by lending it to others.

"They will use the money we lend to them to make loans," he said. "And is there anyone who doesn't know they might make loans to individuals and to businesses of which we would not approve?"

Stanley and wife separate

ATLANTA (ABP)—Charles Stanley, one of Southern Baptists' best known pastors, told his Atlanta congregation July 4 that he and his wife are separating.

"Last week Anna filed an action against me and it appears that a separation is now unavoidable, which I deeply regret," Stanley told members of First Baptist Church in Atlanta during the Sunday morning worship service. "I am committed to reconciliation. I am asking you to pray that God would heal our marriage."

Anna Stanley filed for divorce under Georgia's no-fault divorce provision in late June. But the lawsuit was later amended by the couple's mutual agreement to seek a legal separation, according to a church spokesman. The two have been married 38 years.

In an apparent attempt to conceal their identity, the suit filed in Cobb County's courthouse omitted the Stanleys' names and listed the couple's initials only.

Although the three lawyers representing Anna Stanley initially declined to identify the parties, one of the attorneys, Penn Nicholson, told a local newspaper: "It won't remain a mystery forever. You can't finalize a divorce without identifying yourself."

Stanley resolved the mystery by telling his congregation about the lawsuit. "Over the past 23 years I have walked with you through your heartaches and griefs. Now I am asking you to walk with us through ours," he said.

Stanley, 60, is considered one of the most popular preachers in America because of the church's extensive television ministry. He has been pastor of the 13,000-member church since 1970 and was president of the Southern Baptist Convention in 1985 and 1986.

Church officials indicated July 7 that Stanley intends to continue as pastor of the church, one of the largest in the SBC.



SING ALONG Cathy Anderson, a student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, leads a choir rehearsal during Centrifuge camp at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center in New Mexico. Anderson is serving on the Glorieta Centrifuge staff this summer. (Photo by Jim Vene-man)

Chairman hopes credentials challenge set precedent

NASHVILLE (BP)—The Southern Baptist Convention's credentials committee "had no choice" but to hear a challenge to unseat messengers from President Clinton's home church during last month's annual meeting, according to the committee chairman.

Chairman Tommy Knott, an associational director of missions from South Carolina, said the committee was required to devote lengthy attention to the challenge in light of a newly enacted amendment to the SBC constitution declaring churches that act to "affirm, approve or endorse homosexual behavior" are "not in cooperation" with the SBC and thus ineligible to send messengers.

However, the experience hopefully served a purpose in setting a precedent for dealing with future objections, he added.

The objection was raised on the convention floor by Bo Hammock, a pastor from Florida.

While such a motion would have been ruled out of order in previous years, the committee on order of business was required by the provision of the new amendment to refer such objections to the credentials committee.

Knott said the Credentials Committee meeting was intentionally left open to anyone wanting to attend. Having served on the committee 12 years, Knott said all objections in previous years were handled within the committee.

However, in giving members of Immanuel Baptist Church in Little Rock opportunity to clearly state that their congregation had in no way affirmed homosexual behavior, the process was regarded by some observers as putting them on trial.

SBC legal counsel James Guenther said the discussion was not "a dog-and-pony show" but served to deal with the ramifications of the constitutional revision and how challenges would be handled.

The committee decided future challengers must keep in mind that:

■ A church acts only by an official vote of the congregation.

■ A church is not out of cooperation with the SBC because of a position on homosexuality held by a member or members of the church.

■ The convention retains the right to determine when a church may send messengers to the convention. The test of cooperation is a test of the church and not a test of its members.

Knott said he hopes the work of this year's committee will make it unnecessary for any discussion in future years when similar challenges are

waged. Without evidence that a church has acted to affirm, approve or endorse homosexual behavior, such motions could be ruled out of order immediately, he said.

Knott said he hopes the SBC Executive Committee will instruct future SBC committees to view this year's incident as precedent-setting.

Immanuel Baptist Pastor Rex Home said he has no complaint with the credentials committee. "The committee was only carrying out their assigned work. I don't have any argument with them," he said.

"My frustration is with an atmosphere whereby a guy can make a charge against a church like Immanuel and it be taken to that length," Home said. "Our leadership is going to have to say we are all free to follow our convictions and that this kind of affront is out of place."

Natcher & pastors' letter impact abortion vote

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

WASHINGTON—A letter from 56 Kentucky Baptist pastors apparently helped Rep. William Natcher, a Kentucky Baptist layman, lead a charge in the U.S. House of Representatives to retain a controversial ban on government funding for most abortions.

Kentucky Baptist Convention President Charles Stewart, pastor of Rose Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Ashland, heads the list of pastors who signed on to the letter written by the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission. Although Stewart does not live in Natcher's district, the other pastors do.

James Smith, the CLC's director of government relations, hand-delivered the letter to Natcher June 28, just two days before the House took a hotly contested vote on keeping the Hyde Amendment, which has restricted government funding for abortions since 1976.

Natcher, a Democrat and member of First Baptist Church in Bowling Green, serves as chairman of the

House Appropriations Committee and as chairman of the appropriations subcommittee which handled the bill in question.

The Hyde Amendment, named for its author, Rep. Henry Hyde of Illinois, faced a serious challenge from abortion advocates in the current Congress. Natcher, who supports the Hyde Amendment, faced a quandary because the challenge was to come in the form of a parliamentary maneuver he was not willing to rebut.

The House has a rule against inserting legislation in appropriations bills, a rule routinely violated but one Natcher has prided himself on upholding as chairman. Opponents of the Hyde Amendment intended to challenge the abortion restriction on this basis.

The letter from the Kentucky pastors urged Natcher to use his power as chairman to protect the bill against such a point-of-order challenge, which he legally could have done. However, to do so would have violated his own pledge not to seek special privilege for appropriations bills.

In the end, Natcher successfully rallied support for the amendment

without violating his own pledge not to seek special privilege, the CLC's Smith explained.

As part of a complex parliamentary maneuver, Natcher had to offer a motion in his role as committee chairman and then oppose his own motion.

"This was an extraordinary act on Congressman Natcher's part," Smith said. "It was a critically important vote, and a Congressman Natcher played a huge role."

"I really think the letter from the 55 ministers in his district, plus the president of the Kentucky convention, had an enormous impact on Congressman Natcher, such that he would go to the floor to oppose his own motion."

Ultimately, the House voted 255-178 to keep a version of the Hyde Amendment. The vote was considered a surprising defeat for pro-abortion forces.

"I was delighted to hear that members of the Southern Baptist association were on the side that I have been on now for 19 consecutive years," Natcher told the Western Recorder in a statement July 13. "I believed we would win by some six to 12 votes,

but it never occurred to me that it would go as high as 255-178.

"This is the right side, and the letter was of great assistance to me when I presented the bill."

In addition to Stewart, other pastors signing the letter included Carl Nelson, Charleston Farber, James Watkins, Gary Taylor, Mike Chambers, Charles Gresham, E.W. Greenwalt, Haywood Casey, Don Wilkins, Towandra Dougherty, Tom Franklin, John Nunley, Steve Ross, Dewey Keys, Wendell Rone, L.C. Gray, Bob Litton, Wendell Sandefur, Richard Oldham, Sam Gray, Jewell Pruitt, Billy Compton, Odell Beauchamp, John Deacons, Walter Jordan, Clyde Gordon, Scott Ford, Tom Hughes, Jeffrey Fuller, James E. Jones, Mike Burnette, Howard Cobble, Wyman Copass, Philip Hunter, Ronald Kinzel, Oliver Sanders, Art Hatfield, Stanley Stevenson, Oliver Hawkins, Donald Cole, Dan Gutenson, Richard Easterling, Vola Brown, Gary King, Bill Beard, Eddie Miller, James I. Kelly, Paul Badgett, Gary Frizzell, Dan Moore, John Walker, Mike Routt, Robert Wright, Todd Gettys and James Shutt.

BLUEGRASS BURGEO

■ **Jane Allison**, formerly of Georgetown, is the guest editor of the July-August-September issue of "Magazette," a publication of Woman's Missionary Union SBC. Writers for the issue include Mary Wallace of Lexington, Delores Spears of Paducah and Kentucky WMU Director Dee Gilliland.

■ **James Hargrove** of Lexington has been named chairman of the board of directors for Baptist Healthcare Foundation. Doyle Baker of Lexington has been named vice chairman. Hargrove is a founding member of the law firm Newberry, Hargrove & Ramicure and is a member of Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington. Baker is retired vice president of engineering for Kentucky Utilities Co. and a member of Calvary Baptist Church in Lexington.

■ **Campbellsville College** has signed its first international student as a football player. Simon Boohy, a running back from Brackley, Northants, Great Britain, will play on the Tigers' 1993 squad, said Ron Finley, head coach.

■ **Sarah Norman**, a 17-year-old senior at Pikeville High School, has been named Kentucky's Female Athlete of the Year by the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Her father, Bob, is pastor of Grace Baptist Church in Shelbyville.

■ **Roy Puckett**, a recently deceased retired pastor from Louisville, has given nearly \$200,000 to Campbellsville College as part of the settlement of his estate. A major part of the funds will establish an endowed scholarship fund in memory of his wife, Jennie Puckett.

'Here's Hope' pilot a success, Stewart says

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

ASHLAND—A Kentucky pastor whose church was in the pilot project for a 1995 nationwide evangelism emphasis says it was "one of the most exciting things I have ever been involved in."

The "Here's Hope. Share Jesus Now." pilot project "really changed the life of our church and our people," said Charles Stewart, pastor of Rose Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Ashland.

The nationwide, simultaneous effort sponsored by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board is scheduled for Jan. 9 to March 9, 1995. "Here's Hope. Share Jesus Now." will be the message to church members, while the message to non-Christians will be "Here's Hope. Jesus Cares For You."

HMB leaders hope 15 percent of each church's average Sunday school attendance will attempt to share their

faith in Jesus with someone else every day for 60 days. After the 60 days of personal evangelism, churches are asked to have a "harvest revival" to encourage more people to make professions of faith.

Ten churches in the pilot project recorded 733 professions of faith and 359 baptisms in 60 days. Rose Hill recorded 64 professions of faith, of which about 20 already have resulted in baptisms, Stewart said.

A total of 66 people from Rose Hill were involved in the pilot.

"It was a tremendously well-received thing. It could be one of the greatest years in the history of the state of Kentucky in 1995," said Stewart, who also is president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

The most important part about it, Stewart said, is it made Rose Hill's members "more spiritually alert to soul-winning opportunities."

One member told Stewart, "I'll never be the same. Now I'm looking

every day for someone to share my faith with."

Stewart will be leading sessions on how to prepare for the evangelism emphasis during several of the "Super Saturday" conferences planned across Kentucky this fall.

One of the things he plans to emphasize to pastors is that they must not pressure their members to be concerned about meeting a quota.

Making a commitment to witness to someone every day for 60 days can be intimidating to many people, Stewart said. "I told my people to do the best you can, and we told them that if you'll do the best you can, that's all God asks you for."

"We encouraged them to make even one soul-winning encounter. We said nobody was going to spank their hands or get after them for not making their daily soul winning goal. All we did was rejoice in what was accomplished."

With reporting from Baptist Press

Boehms named academic dean at Georgetown

GEORGETOWN—Charles Boehms, chairman of the biology department at Georgetown College, has been named the college's senior vice president and academic dean.

Boehms assumed his new post July 15. He came to Georgetown in 1987 from Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tenn., where he was vice president for student affairs.



Boehms

The new dean currently serves as president of the Kentucky Academy of Science.

Boehms earned the bachelor's and master's degrees in biology from George Peabody College of Vanderbilt University in Nashville and a doctorate in zoology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

"As we equip ourselves with a new vision for the future, we are convinced Dr. Boehms can provide the spark necessary to prepare Georgetown College for the next level of academic accomplishment," said President William Crouch. "He will be a dynamic leader of our academic programs."

Although Boehms already has begun his work, his nomination must be ratified by the college's trustees when they meet in August.

Dockery promoted to top academic post

LOUISVILLE (BP)—David Dockery, dean of the school of theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, will become the seminary's top academic administrator Aug. 1, according to President-elect Al Mohler.

Dockery will become vice president for academic administration and will retain his responsibilities as dean of the theology school.

He will direct the seminary's entire academic program and oversee the work of the seminary's other three deans. Dockery's vice presidential responsibilities, Mohler said, will be similar to those performed by the seminary's former provost, Larry McSwain, who recently resigned to



Dockery

become president of Shorter College in Rome, Ga.

"Dr. Dockery is an outstanding Christian scholar whose well-earned reputation for scholarly pursuits is matched to an unquestioned commitment to the gospel and tremendous professional gifts which have served him well as dean of the School of Theology," Mohler said. "He has proved himself to be an effective, winsome and insightful leader."

In addition to serving as dean, Dockery also has taught New Testament at Southern. From 1990-92, he was general editor of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's Broadman Press. Prior to that, he was a professor at Southern

Seminary for two years and Criswell College in Dallas for four years.

As Mohler prepares to assume presidential duties, he also is looking to fill vacancies in two other key academic positions—deanships in the schools of Christian education and church music. Both of those deans—Bill Rogers and Milburn Price—have stepped down in conjunction with the retirement of seminary President Roy Honeycutt.

"We are looking for the very finest candidates to assume these two important leadership roles," Mohler said.

Meanwhile, Mohler said the two schools are being well served by their acting deans, Robert Hughes in Christian education and Lloyd Mims in church music.

OPINION

WESTERN RECORDER

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

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Info unavailable

I do not intend to continue a war of words with the Kentucky Lottery Corporation through our Baptist paper, but I feel compelled to answer Mr. Greg Donaldson, media relations director, as he attempts to win support of Kentucky Baptists for the lottery (WR, June 22). His announcement that he knows players of the lottery receive the Western Recorder should serve as a message to all Baptists that it is testimony time.

Mr. Donaldson states that the information the Temperance League of Kentucky asked for is available in another form and was offered. If that be true, why did the Lottery sue to keep the information from becoming public knowledge?

What we asked for was a listing of each lottery retailer by location and the amount of retail sales of each retailer by location for the year 1992.

*Claude M. Witt, executive director
Temperance League of Kentucky
Louisville*

Thanks for camp

We just wanted to take this opportunity to thank Kentucky Baptists for the experiences available to young boys at Royal Ambassadors camp at Camp Rabro. This is the third year our son, Jeremy, has attended camp. The first year, he made his profession of faith at camp and followed that up at our church, Shively Baptist. Needless to say, that was a very special memory for us.

Jeremy has talked about the church services from this year's camp. He said, "It just touched my soul." He also enjoyed the missionaries' sharing. He also has expressed an interest in becoming a future counselor, which is a tribute to the wonderful experiences he has had there.

Each year as we go to camp, I am impressed with the organization and ease in which the boys are greeted. It is a special place to be, and we feel at

Does hope yet abide?

About 2,500 people attended the Southern Baptist Convention in Fort Worth, Texas, in 1934. For messengers sitting near the back, speakers' facial expressions were discernible and natural voices audible.

After years of denominational growth, I sat facing one of the 30-foot screens along the sidewall for each seating section which showed magnified proceedings from the tiny-appearing rostrum at mid-point. One's mind would note occasionally, "There (in miniature) is what I am watching on the screen." In recent years, I believe attendance has peaked at 40,000. Can a crowd of 40,000 deliberate democratically? Can 20,000?

I remember strong, steady, trusted leaders of stature (elder statesmen) who could sense the right moment; when discussion had pretty well covered the subject and the heat was cooling down—such men could rise and speak a calming word, perhaps a sub-

ease leaving our son there.

We feel strongly that the mission programs are the heartbeat of the Baptist church. We strongly commend the programming at Camp Rabro for its emphasis on missions to young boys. Thank you for your commitment to Baptist young boys.

*Pamela and Samuel Ross
Louisville*

Disavow paper

I must voice my objections to Dr. Paige Patterson's assertions in his recent position paper, "Understanding the Controversy."

In it, he slams many of our excellent institutions and leaders who have done God's work in ways not quite to his liking. At the same time, he upholds those persons and institutions which have held the "party line" over the last dozen years.

I believe that it is not only important for Dr. Patterson to disavow the presence of the position paper at the Southern Baptist Convention, but also its contents. It is time for mainstream, conservative Southern Baptists to hold the president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary accountable for his words.

*James Stillwell
Lexington*

Do it right

The Associational Officers' Briefing is a good thing. It provides training for officers and program directors for all the associations in Kentucky. It exposes them to all resources, both material and personnel. The Kentucky Baptist Convention staff ministers to our associational leaders in building excitement and expanding awareness. Participants learn from one another. We enjoy going together. It helps build our associational team.

From the state convention's point, it also is a good thing. Our KBC staff has more contact with local leadership

seek common Christian ground. Could we yet "return to old paths"?

The great old Northern Baptist Convention fragmented—it couldn't hold its far-flung, (Maine to California) varied viewpoint fellowship together. We are farther flung (Maine to Hawaii, Alaska to Florida). Can we hold together—reconcile and heal the hardening rift? The fracture deepens. Dare we yet hope to restore the great fellowship we've loved and served so long?

The recent peace movement launched by Herschel Hobbs and Lloyd Elder deserves a favorable response and raises the question: Is there still reasonable hope for reconciliation?

Just before World War II, a submarine sank in the English Channel. During the extended but futile rescue efforts, the entombed men communicated (weaker and weaker) by Morse Code, beating against the inner wall with some heavy object. The last words heard from them broke my heart: "Is there any hope?"

Franklin Owen, of Lexington, is the retired executive secretary-treasurer of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

BAPTIST FORUM

ON MISSION TOGETHER



Franklin Owen



Getting involved

By John Lepper

Q. Why won't some senior adults become involved with our senior adult group at church?

A. Various reasons can be given to why some senior adults avoid becoming involved in a senior adult group. Some older people may avoid such involvement as a way of denying the fact that they are older. I've actually heard people nearing 70 years of age say, "I'm not old enough to be a senior adult yet!"

A church is experiencing a declining interest in the senior adult group. One contributing factor to this decline may be the pastor's attitude about aging. It seems the pastor is speaking retirement, and he has spoken openly about his feelings saying, "I'll never retire." These and other such words say to those in early retirement that being part of a senior adult group is bad.

Another reason some older people don't want to become involved with a senior adult group may relate to the type of activities in which the group engages. A typical expression of this attitude is, "That's for folks with nothing to do but meet and go on trips."

Remember, senior adults are a diverse group with assorted interests. Contributing to this diversity is the fact that senior adults now comprise two, and sometimes three, generations. Those just entering the senior adult years may feel that they have nothing in common with those who have been senior adults for a number of years.

Consider targeting the early senior adult group (say those 60-70 years of age) with some special activities of interest to them. As you make plans for this group, be sure to ask for their suggestions and allow their leadership. Become intentional in including all senior adult generations by providing a variety of activities and programs.

Many seniors are very busy with their own lives and activities. However, many make time to be a part of their own peer group. Doing so adds depth to friendships and provides a natural emotional and spiritual support group.

John Lepper is director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's family ministry department.

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

Need a small group? Get up & go to Sunday school

Americans in general are discovering something Baptists and other evangelical Christians have known for decades: Participation in small groups (in our context, read that "Sunday school") is good for you.

"Millions of Americans today are seeking help for psychological, physical, emotional or spiritual problems in small nurturing and caring groups of various kinds," reported pollster George Gallup. "Perhaps ... the 1990s will become known as the Decade of Healing."

Up to four in 10 Americans are "currently involved in small groups that meet regularly for care, support and nurturing," Gallup's survey revealed. Another 7 percent are interested in joining such groups.

The study showed several reasons people have begun "to seek the solace of small groups," Gallup said:

■ "We appear to live in an addicted society—addicted not only to chemicals, but to possessions, to success, to wealth and to an easy, self-indulgent lifestyle."

■ "Six of 10 new marriages will end in divorce, a 'root problem' in our country and the cause of any number of other social ills."

■ "We are physically detached from each other. We continue to move our places of residence frequently. Seven in 10 persons do not know their neighbors."

■ "Loneliness is widespread. As many as one-third of Americans admit to frequent periods of loneliness ... the absence of deep and meaningful relationships."

■ "Privatism contributes in a major way to a go-it-alone philosophy in religious matters."

Taken together, these trends have fragmented society and have "con-

tributed to separatism, even unrestrained individualism," Gallup said. "The small-group movement appears to be bringing us back together, answering what would appear to be one of the central needs of our era—the need for intimate and healing community."

A couple who came to a Sunday school class I taught several years ago illustrate this concept. They were young, bright, ambitious. He was on his way "up" in his company, and they had lived in our community about six months. Both of them grew up in church but had dropped out in college. When they got to town, they knew they needed a network of friends, so he joined a civic organization that often involved families. Those relationships proved shallow and unfulfilling, and by the time they came to our class, they were lonely, frustrated, angry and starved for nurture and community. Fortunately, they found what they needed in our church through the members of that class.

Of course, the first and basic purpose of Sunday school is to study Scripture. As Bible-believing Christians, we realize an understanding of God's word forms the foundation for how we live our lives.

That's exactly why Sunday school provides such an effective "small group" for millions of us. As we study the Bible, we open ourselves up to challenges that pound our souls and shape our lives. And by doing this in community, we build relationships that are founded on the bedrock issues of life, not superficial social whimsy. Small wonder, then, that Sunday school classes become the vehicles for life-, emotion- and spirit-sustaining relationships.

Get yourself to Sunday school. You need it.

Marv Knox

"Millions of Americans today are seeking help ... in small nurturing and caring groups"
Pollster George Gallup

The span of life is uncertain, so do your best every day

I attended two funerals yesterday. What a contrast: One was for a 90-year-old woman, and the other for an 18-year-old boy. One life was long and filled with experiences; the other was cut too short by the ugliness of death.

As I sat listening to the preacher eulogize Aunt Isabel, my mind began to wander. I have known Aunt Isabel for over 30 years. As the preacher read on, I kept asking myself: "Just what does it mean to live 90 years? Does it only mean that she almost lived a century? Does it mean that she achieved that position of honor of being the oldest-living member of Burlington Baptist Church. Or does it mean that she out-lived most of her closest friends?" The service went on, and the pianist played a lot of those old favorite hymns.

My wife, June, had told me a lot of

stories about Aunt Isabel, and they began to come back to my mind. Aunt Isabel was one of those ladies in the community that affected many lives. She was a lady in the truest sense. She was a wife, a mother, a school teacher

and a Sunday school teacher. Aunt Isabel had that unique ability of taking the most ordinary event and turning it into a hilarious story. She had the ability to laugh at herself; what an asset.

June told me what a caring wife she was when Uncle Kirt was sick, and about the love she had for her two sons. June had her for a Sunday school teacher, and I know that she was affected by Aunt Isabel.

Ninety years. How many lives can you affect in that period of time? I, too, was affected and grew to love her over the past 30 years, and our daughter also loved her.

She had a good 90 years by most people's standards, and she left her mark on many lives.

We journeyed on to pay our respects to the family of the 18-year-old. I asked myself: "Why so soon? Andy hadn't even lived two decades, much less his allotted three score and 10. Why had Aunt Isabel been allowed to live 90 years and Andy only 18? Where is the justice?"

We want to start blaming someone, and too often we blame God. It is said that God has a plan for us all, and we should seek his will. Does this mean giving up someone so soon?

Death must take place in order for new life to begin. You plant a seed and it dies, but in the process of dying it gives energy and life to the new plant. The inside of the egg is used up and the shell is broken so the little chicks can hatch. Jesus suffered the horrible death of the cross in order to

give us life.

I was unable to accept my day's experiences as I went to bed. One living so long, and one dying so soon. Why did Jesus die at 33?

The one thing we must know is that God has a purpose for all of us, and we must try our best every day. When we lie down to sleep at night, the day we just finished is gone—forever. When we awake in the morning, fresh, with a clean new slate, what we do will be influenced by the yesterdays. It is up to us to pick and choose from these past experiences. If we live to be 90 or only 18, each day is a whole new beginning.

God has called us to do our best. He has equipped each of us with different talents and allotted times. I suppose that there will always be new beginnings and endings.

Joseph P. Richey
Georgetown

"The one thing we must know is that God has a purpose for all of us, and we must try our best every day."

VIEWPOINT

If flowers grew more like weeds, I'd plant a great, big garden

If horticulture is an art, then I must be color-blind and tone-deaf.

That's probably been true for quite awhile, but Joanna confirmed the sad fact a few weeks ago.

We've got this patch of yard—between the driveway and the fence—that's just about good for nothing. Too skinny to get the lawn mower in there. Too visible to let go the way of reckless nature.

So, we decided to make it into a flower bed. I dug up the old grass, and Joanna planted the new flowers. Seemed like a brilliant idea at the time. Flowers are pretty, and they don't need to be mowed. Besides, we had some bare patches in the back yard, and the grass plugs from the new flower bed made good sod over the old soil.

Since the original division of labor on this botanical bailiwick called for me to remove the old, unwanted foliage, I've tried to hold up my end of the bargain. Every now and then, usually on my way from the garage to the back porch, I stop off to pull weeds and tufts of old grass from around the lilies, irises and other floral stuff.

(By the way, have you ever realized how much easier it is to grow weeds than grass? I never knew why until I helped Lindsay study for a third-grade sci-

ence test last winter. Weed roots are a zillion times stronger than grass roots—bigger, thicker, deeper. So, it's no wonder they choke out the dainty grass and live forever. The world will turn a little more smoothly when weeds become "in" and grass is "out.")

Anyway, after a recent weed-pulling do-gooder excursion, Joanna confronted me with a great flora faux pas, which is Latin and French for "you've got a mulch

pile for brains."
"You realize, of course, that you pulled

up some of my flowers with your weeds," she accused.

"Uh, no," I responded, because I didn't. "Well, it's true," she said.

Just as I was about to ask her how she could tell the difference—this was the herbal equivalent of telling boy fish from girl fish—she left me alone to ponder my wayward weed pulling.

That exercise was fruitless, because I still can't tell a wild onion from a white orchid. But it got me to thinking about how we cultivate our spiritual gardens. Do you suppose we sometimes pull up fresh, young floral shoots while we fertilize wanton weeds?

Only God, the first Gardener, knows.

Marv Knox



down home

Tongues Stop twisting

I have observed the glossolalia movement (speaking in tongues) since its inception back in the 1950s. One of the canons I have used to determine the authenticity and/or affirmation of "speaking in tongues" is this: To my knowledge, not one missionary has ever been blessed with the instantaneous ability to speak or understand the language of the country or geographical area to which he/she has been assigned or called to serve.

Doesn't it seem logical that if God, in his infinite wisdom, placed so much emphasis on tongues-speaking that he would save a missionary all the time, study and effort by simply blessing him/her with that ability?

Oscar Davidson
Somerset

Regarding the office of deacon and bishop, some say Paul wrote I Timothy 3:1-15 to balance the customs and culture of that day. He didn't want to rock the boat or give cause for dissension. He never meant these offices were only for men.

I have difficulty with this interpretation. First, who is the ultimate author of the Bible? It is God's word. Paul never wrote one word that God didn't intend him to write (II Peter 1:21).

Second, I have never known God or Paul to be afraid of controversy.

Third, where do you draw the line when interpreting the Bible in light of customs? Do you say the husband is no longer head of the wife (Ephesians 5:22-24)? With this type of interpretation, do we not stand in danger of speaking for God and interpreting Scripture any way we choose?

I always find difficulty with those who quote, "God is no respecter of persons" (Acts 10:34) to argue that God can call anyone to any office. This verse deals with salvation and not an office. God has in the past and will continue to have certain qualifications for certain offices. If you do not believe this, show me one woman who held the office of high priest.

Isn't it time we stop trying to twist God's word to conform to a sick, distorted culture?

Doug Fuller
Deatsville

Obey Scripture

Regarding "God's gender" (WR, June 29), it was said, "The Bible was written by men contaminated by their own prejudices." It was also said, "Nothing Jesus said or wrote has survived directly from his lips or pen."

Many is the time in the gospels that the writers write of Jesus saying something, and it is presented as coming directly from Jesus' lips. Technically, if we believe the Bible, Jesus' words were preserved by the Holy Spirit as he gave them through chosen men. I believe John 14:26 to be true. "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." So, virtually, in effect, if the Bible is true, we do have the words of Jesus surviving for us.

If the Bible is true, we have Jesus' preauthentication of the New Testament in John 14:26 and 16:12-14. It is obvious in the gospels that Jesus and the apostles accepted the Old Testament as truth from God. Granted, God used sinful men to write his word, but the end product as these holy men of old wrote is the God-breathed word.

We should be careful in reacting from modern culture to make the Bible conform to us. We should act upon the teachings of the Bible, which is God's word through men to all mankind—girls, boys, women and men—by obedience.

Ray Gilliland
Smithland

BAPTIST FORUM

Sad commentary

I am writing this as a Southern Missionary Baptist who has been a member of First Baptist Church of Greenup for 45 years and a Mason who has been a member of Greenup Lodge No. 89, F. & A.M. for 42 years.

It is a sad commentary when our Southern Baptist Convention expends time, energy and resources "investigating" any secular organization over which the SBC has no control and for which we are not responsible.

However, since "investigation" was done, it is a sad commentary, also, that it was a "luke warm" report. I do not believe that God condones such compromises. If it is wrong, then it is wrong. If it is right, then it is right. If we are luke warm, he will "spue" us out of his mouth, as Laodiceans, neither cold nor hot.

The report is right in saying it is left to the individual. It is wrong in saying the teachings of Masonry are incompatible with Christianity.

Arty E. Hardyman
Greenup

Increase CP

I write this to inspire other churches to do what ours—Pleasant Green Baptist in Cynthiana—has done.

As we have observed the changes in our convention during the past several years, we are encouraged! The convention is taking a stronger stand in believing and living out God's word, even in the midst of an increasingly godless society.

We applaud the new directions of the convention, and we voted in our

last business meeting to increasing our giving to the Cooperative Program from 12 percent to 14 percent of our total offerings.

We invite and encourage other free and faithful Baptists to take similar steps. We believe the Cooperative Program is a wonderful tool in God's hand, and we continue to support its work and the thousands of missionaries—God's workers—it enables.

John Carson
Cynthiana

Not mean-spirited

I am writing in response to Marv Knox's editorial, "SBC steers away from controversy, but threats remain" (WR, June 22).

He commented on several actions he claimed were divisive, petty and mean-spirited. Twenty motions were referred to Southern Baptist Convention agencies for consideration, but Mr. Knox only singled out four that he felt mean-spirited and divisive. What about the motion to allow state conventions, rather than the convention officers, to name members of the SBC Committee on Committees? I suspect the only motions that were mean-spirited were those Mr. Knox did not agree with.

The motion requesting SBC publish church contributions to the Cooperative Program in the SBC Annual was not drafted with intimidation or coercion in mind, nor was it mean-spirited. I can state this with certainty, for I have lived with Stan Cole, the author of this motion, for 31 years, and he is not mean-spirited. Mr. Knox doesn't know Stan Cole.

Gayle Cole
Florence

Silent minds

A recent article pointed out the reluctance of Baptist theologians to openly comment about the movie "Jurassic Park" in its relationship to Darwinistic evolution because of a fear of reprisal (WR, July 6).

There is a problem in spiritual liberty and freedom if the best minds in a denomination are afraid to honestly discuss any subject, in particular creation. The society in which we live has a mandatory science lesson on evolution at about the seventh grade within the public school system. If the state is free to "discuss" its views via textbooks with children, why are Baptist adult thinkers bound by fear?

Orthodox Christians are as free to

question and learn with an open mind to God's truth like early church reformers were! Are we becoming like a cult instead of a free people before God? Can we define our faith with such censor?

I am not for error, but it is an error to silence our best before they speak (Acts 17:11).

Dinosaurs may just remind the convinced of the unknown and, in the present climate, unspeakable.

David Fletcher
Mayfield

No conflict

I would like to add to Mark Wingfield's article on "Jurassic Park" (WR, July 6). This movie gives us as Christians an excellent opportunity to instruct our children, showing them that science in no way conflicts with the word of God.

The fact that so many dinosaur fossils are found all over the earth with many being found in Alaska and Siberia proves that the earth had a tropical climate over its entire surface before the flood. This was caused by a water canopy that encircled the earth at that time. When God sent the flood, this canopy disintegrated, greatly changing the climate on the earth.

Noah probably took baby dinosaurs with him onto the ark, but they did not survive very long after they came off the ark due to the radical change in the climate after the flood.

Dinosaurs were still living in the Jordan River valley at the time of Job, and he speaks of them (Job 40:15-24).

Also, fossilized human footprints on top of dinosaur footprints have been discovered in the state of Texas.

Clair Stewart
Winchester

Not Protestant

The Southern Baptist Church is not a Protestant church.

To be a Protestant church, we would have had to come out of another church, where a person has protested against its teachings and started a church of their own.

I feel our church is the only true church and its only founder is Jesus Christ. All other churches are Protestants, with false prophets as their founders, since they set up their own rules and regulations. We strictly go by the teachings of Jesus Christ. Therefore, we are not Protestants.

Wanda Howard
Penrod

Prayer provides experience of silence, solitude, relaxation

Opinion polls have become quite popular in America. On a regular basis these polls demonstrate that religious people are happier and healthier than those who are indifferent or hostile to a life of faith. The essential element of religious faith is prayer. It is simply true that a pattern of daily prayer and weekly worship is good for the body, the mind and the spirit.

Prayer provides a few moments of silence, solitude and relaxation. In our hurried and hectic world, a quiet time each day calms the spirit. The psalm-

ist wrote years ago, "The Lords leads me beside quiet waters, he restores me soul."

Prayer cultivates an attitude of gratitude. The first element of prayer is praise. The daily habit of praise and thanksgiving helps override the negative emotions that are pushed to the surface by the ugliness of life. "It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord."

Prayer unburdens the soul. What is better than a thorough, honest talk with someone who cares about us? In the dialogue of prayer, we can talk

straight to God. Just the opportunity to vocalize our concerns lifts our spirit and often opens a way through our troubles. "Cast all your cares upon him, for he cares for you."

Prayer promotes honesty. Confession is an integral part of prayer. And this daily habit of personal honesty makes us all better people. We can acknowledge to the Lord what we are reluctant to admit to people. "Create in me a clean heart, O God."

Prayer promotes a sense of direction in life. Decisions confront us every day. Life-changing opportunities bring choices. We seek God's will each day when we pray, "Your will

be done." To leave the place of prayer with a sense of peace about a certain decision is the surest way to live with purpose.

Prayer focuses the spiritual energy of God into human situations. Like the laser that focuses the power of light and brings about wondrous things, so prayer directs the power of God into the needs and hopes of our lives. Great things happen because we pray.

"Pray at all times, in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication."

Dwight Moody, pastor
Third Baptist Church
Owensboro

MINISTERIALLY SPEAKING

A pattern of daily prayer ... is good for the body, the mind and the spirit.

Baptist looks at debate over music

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

Is contemporary Christian music a tool of the devil or a legitimate expression of Christian faith?

That's the question debated in many churches and homes—especially among parents and children—and the question addressed by Steve Miller in his new book, "The Contemporary Christian Music Debate," published by Tyndale.

Miller is a Baptist with earned degrees from Columbia Bible College, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He most recently served on the staff of Flat Creek Baptist Church in Fayetteville, Ga., and now works in Eastern Europe with Reach Out Ministries.

In the opening lines of his book, Miller writes, "After years of research, I have reached this conclusion: Contemporary Christian music is a medium whose day has come for families, churches, evangelists, and to an increasingly greater extent, foreign missionaries."

He urges all Christians to study the issue with open minds and get beyond emotion.

Among the questions he addresses:

■ Have scientists proved that rock music harms both mind and body? No, he contends, refuting point-by-point several studies to the contrary.

■ Does contemporary music use the same kind of beat used by African tribes to call upon demons? There is no universal "demon beat" copied from African tribes, he asserts.

■ Do contemporary styles lead to moral corruption? No, but the lyrics and lifestyles of some secular rock groups offer a strong immoral influence that must be countered, Miller says.

■ What does the Bible say about music and styles of worship? A variety of styles and forms of praise are called for in the Bible, he says, urging church leaders to use discernment in knowing what to use when.

■ How can parents talk to their children about music? Miller speaks against record burning, but suggests five steps parents should take to communicate with their children about music.

■ How can churches use contemporary Christian music without alienating those who object? By helping Christians move beyond a "fortress mentality" and see the need to reach the unchurched, Miller says. He illustrates this point with examples of how four churches have found a use for contemporary music.

Contemporary music hits the big time

By Tim Palmer
Missouri Word & Way

ST. LOUIS (BP)—Why is Michael English telling the crowd he's nervous? There he stands, center stage, an up-and-coming solo artist with top billing at the fabulous Fox Theatre in St. Louis.

On this night, more than 2,000 contemporary Christian music fans have gathered to hear him and two other acts: the group 4HIM and the duo Angelo and Veronica.

The Gospel Music Association's top male vocalist for two years running, English has the audience in the palm of his hand. As if a voice that soars like the Concorde and drives like a freedom train weren't gift enough, English has looks, as they say, to die for.

But he sings for the one who died for him.

He tells the crowd how his faith in Jesus Christ helped him overcome panic disorder and how he believes God will heal his overused vocal cords. He thanks his fans for their prayers.

After the concert, Harvester Baptist Church youth minister Mitch Marlowe is chauffeuring 15 youth back to St. Charles, Mo. Marlowe wants to listen to a basketball game on the radio, and his riders are rebelling. They want to continue the "pumped-up feeling" by listening to the music of the performers they just saw. The majority rules.

Marlowe doesn't mind—he's a fan of the music himself. He takes his youth group to Christian concerts "whenever we get a chance and whenever we can afford it," he said.

"It gives them an opportunity to worship, most of all," he said. "It gives them an opportunity to put a name with a face, and in doing that to realize these people are real and they have struggles in their everyday life just like the kids do."

Contemporary Christian music—known in shorthand as CCM—has exploded in popularity over the past decade. It now represents the third-largest-selling form of recorded music, behind rock and country and ahead of classical and jazz. Its 5 percent share of the market makes it a \$480 million a year industry in recording sales alone.

CCM is available in styles from pop-folk to country to hard-rock to rap. Some radio stations play nothing else.

The artists produce music videos as well as compact discs and cassette tapes. Youth ministers employ the music during weekly group meetings and retreats. They lead Bible studies based on the videos.

"Music is a big thing with teenagers," Marlowe points out, "and it really needs to be an avenue for reaching them." Harvester Baptist Church

has brought in artists such as Al Denson and Michael Card for concerts in the church auditorium.

Kirk Sullivan of 4HIM has performed Christian music for 15 years. Backstage prior to the show at the Fox, he recalls when artists recorded in second-hand studios.

But no more. "Production is second to none now," he reports.

He also notes a greater emphasis on ministry. From the stage, 4HIM promotes the American Bible Society's efforts to send Bibles to the former Yugoslavia. They also issue an invitation to accept Jesus Christ as Savior or to recommit to him.

Another change Sullivan points to is the quality of material.

"I believe the Holy Spirit has allowed people to write songs more powerful than have ever been before."

In "Back to the Basics," title song of 4HIM's newest CD, the lyrics deal with the disturbing fact that lifestyles formerly considered wrong have become acceptable. "Nowadays anything that's pure and holy is made fun of," Sullivan says.

When he was with the group Truth, Sullivan took part in more than 300 concerts a year. He considers 4HIM's 140-date schedule fairly easy by comparison, but the quartet works hard.

"The Psalm says to play and play skillfully," he says. "If you've rehearsed it and you do the best you can, you've done a good job. We don't sing perfectly every night, but



■ Above: The contemporary Christian group First Call performs during the opening worship service of a national youth ministers' conference in Nashville last spring sponsored by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board. ■ Left: Christian artist Michael English (right) visits with Bryan Howard, marketing specialist for Baptist Book Stores, backstage after the annual Dove Award program in April. (BP photos by Jim Veneman)



On the beat:
Contemporary
Christian music update

Sandi Patti sings of life journey

Continued from page 1

does now. "It's not anything I can really explain. Some people who have walked through tough times and come out on the other side will understand."

The singer said she has learned several valuable lessons through her trials.

"The first lesson I have learned for myself is that I am no one's judge but my own," she said. "I used to be a very black and white person."

Now she sees things differently, realizing that "judgment is in God's hands, not in mine."

A second lesson is that "God loves me unconditionally," she said. "His grace abounds. That is something I really have had to learn. I've not ever known what that was about before."

Patti is taking her message about the Christian journey on the talk show circuit to promote her new album. She recently has appeared on "Entertainment Tonight," "Crook & Chase," "John and Leeza from Hollywood" and "Live with Regis and Kathie Lee."

Next spring she plans to take "Le Voyage" on tour.

we try."

John Wehrle, a 17-year-old high school junior and a member of Marlowe's youth group, describes himself as a "totally big fan" of contemporary Christian music. He hasn't always been that way.

"Before I thought Christian music was like choirs and dopey music," he says. "I thought it was really corny." Now he thinks CCM is "two times better" than secular music.

"I would say that the words just capture your heart," he says. "They just inspire me more and more to live by my Christian walk and standards that the world doesn't want me to have."

He adds that the music is an "awesome witness" to secular friends at his 2,400-student public high school.

Meanwhile, she's preparing for a Christmas tour of "Handel's Young Messiah" with several other Christian artists and caring for her four children.

The children, Anna, 9, Buddy and Jenny, 5, and Erin, 3, live with her during the school year and then share time with her and their father during the summer.

EXCERPT

My heart's breaking up inside me.
How could anyone feel so alone?
Tears flow, pouring from my sorrow.
No one here but me knows I'm alive.
And the thunder rolls in me,
As the rain falls endlessly.
Who can save me from my life?
There's a hand, a hand on my shoulder,
Through the storm, however it blows.
There's a hand, a hand on my shoulder,
Stays with me wherever I go.

■ From "Hand on My Shoulder," as recorded by Sandi Patti on her new album "Le Voyage." Words and music by Greg Nelson and Bob Farrell.

'Spiritual inertia' stalks Christians, author warns

"I believe the key for Christians is to see the extraordinary in the ordinary, to see the uncommon in the common and to find grace in places we don't program it so that every day becomes pregnant with possibilities."

Larry Taylor, author of *"In Christ's Name: A Bible Study on Spiritual Growth"*

By Lacy Thompson
Louisiana Baptist Message

ALEXANDRIA, La. (BP)—"Spiritual inertia" will claim a Christian unless the Christian fights to stretch and think and grow, warns Southern Baptist Pastor Larry Taylor.

"We have to stay in motion spiritually," insists Taylor, pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church in Alexandria, La., and author of a new book on spiritual growth.

"Inertia claims us all unless we make an effort to grow. Spiritual inertia claims us and captures us," he says. "We have to work to overcome it."

Every Christian can grow and move closer to the way God wants him or her to live, Taylor notes.

"I believe the key for Christians is to see the extraordinary in the ordinary, to see the uncommon in the common and to find grace in places we don't program it so that every day

becomes pregnant with possibilities."

Taylor wants to help Christians do just that. In his new book, *"In Christ's Name: A Bible Study on Spiritual Growth,"* Taylor provides Bible lessons on power, call and accountability, servanthood and involvement.

Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union Executive Director Dellanna O'Brien wrote practical exercises which appear at the end of each chapter. The book has just been released by New Hope Press, a publishing arm of WMU.

"There has always been a distinction made between the visible or physical church and the invisible or spiritual church," Taylor says. "The invisible has always come off better because it is the ideal—how the church ought to be. It is humanity at its best."

However, Christians live and move within the physical church, Taylor says. There they must work to move the visible church—and the

world—forward by growing in their own lives.

"What the world needs now is a fresh vision of hope because people are anxious and desperate, and the stakes in our world have never been higher."

For Christians, growth begins with a realization of the power of God in their lives, Taylor explains. Too many times, however, Christians fail to recognize or use that power.

"The power is always there. God is always there. The Spirit is always there," Taylor notes. "But we do not always see the power and the Spirit to be available to us. The key is our relationship with God."

When a person's relationship with God is good, then God's power within that person's life is evident, Taylor says. When the relationship falls into disrepair, the presence of God is frightening and usually seen as judgment, he adds.

In reality, God is in a person's life

to facilitate growth and to help each individual respond to the call of ministry and service, Taylor says. Many times, however, people are not aware of God's presence within their lives and do not see themselves as receiving a call from him, he explains.

Taylor urges Christians to realize God is calling each one of them. "Too often we see 'call' in terms of the experience Paul had on the road to Damascus. And if we haven't had a Damascus Road experience, we feel we haven't been called. But the model most common in the world is probably that of Isaiah, who saw a need and was able to meet it.

"Call" for most comes in seeing a need and meeting it."

Taylor also calls on Christians to open their eyes to God's presence around them. He quotes a poet who suggested that every common bush is afire with God. Those who see it take off their shoes in reverence. Those who don't just pick blackberries.

In a healthy church, the pastor, deacons and church volunteers serve as a leadership team.

Small churches need health check-ups, experts say

By Sarah Zimmerman
SBC Home Mission Board

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)—Small churches that see themselves as close-knit families should be sure their family is healthy, say two Southern Baptist leaders.

Gary Farley, Home Mission Board director of town and country missions, and D.G. McCoury, Baptist Sunday School Board consultant, addressed the needs of smaller churches during Home Missions Week at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center.

Churches with fewer than 100 members and 60 in average Sunday school attendance were the focus of their remarks during the three-day seminar. Such churches compose between 11,000 and 12,000 of the 38,000-plus Southern Baptist congregations, Farley said.

While affirming smaller churches as the backbone of the convention, Farley and McCoury identified three types of smaller churches that may

develop unhealthy symptoms:

■ **Unhealthy "family chapel"** churches focus their ministry only on fellow members. Members of family chapel churches usually are related or they share a common national or ethnic background. Church life revolves around people, not clocks, calendars or efficiency, they said.

Traditions provide a routine that makes the congregation feel secure. Leadership is in the hands of a matriarch or patriarch who has earned members' respect over a number of years. People who join family chapel churches, including new pastors, find it difficult to really belong. A pastor may need six years to move into a circle of influence there, McCoury said.

■ **Clans competing for control** create churches filled with conflict and tension. Clan lines may be drawn over theological or political issues or family ties. Most of the church's energy is spent on arguments.

Pastors of clan churches must be peacemakers, negotiating conflict without getting caught in the middle,

McCoury said. Clan churches need a leader who can love both sides while helping them reach a consensus about the purpose of their church.

■ **The third type of church** is controlled either by the deacons or the pastor.

In the pastor-controlled church, the pastor sees himself as the chief executive officer rather than one who guides and equips members. The pastor assumes control for job security, to meet an ego need or because he does not know how to delegate and work with lay leaders.

In a deacon-controlled church, deacons are the decision-makers, and every motion or report goes through them. Their personalities, sense of fairness and Christian grace will determine the church's well-being. Conflict may result if someone, including the pastor, questions their authority.

In a healthy church, the pastor, deacons and church volunteers serve as a leadership team, and the congregation has final authority in decision-making, McCoury said.

The pastor's leadership style varies according to circumstances, McCoury said. When he is introducing a new concept, the pastor may serve in an authoritarian role, telling members how a program should be organized. While dealing with experienced volunteers, the pastor delegates responsibilities.

Healthy small churches realize they do not have the physical or personal resources to staff all the programs suggested by Southern Baptist agencies, Farley said. Instead, they plan one-day events or short-term projects to accomplish the same tasks.

For example, a church without enough volunteers to lead regular mission education groups for youth might plan one-day mission fairs to teach teens about Southern Baptist mission efforts.

Every activity should be judged based on whether it helps accomplish one of the four functions of a church: worship, nurture and education, proclamation and witness, and ministry, Farley said.

Make burgers of sacred cows to grow, minister advises

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)—Southern Baptists may not worship animals but they do have a few "sacred cows," Sunday school workers and church staff members attending a recent seminar at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center were told.

For example:

■ **Sunday school must start at 9:30 a.m. and worship at 11 a.m.**

■ **Only the deacons can serve the Lord's Supper.**

■ **There must be a printed order of service.**

Arden Taylor, minister of education at Central Baptist Church in Oak Ridge, Tenn., addressed these issues in his seminar, "Sacred Cows Make the Best Burgers," June 19-25.

"If we are having church at 6:30 in the morning or at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, it doesn't matter as long as we are reaching people for Jesus

Christ," he said.

If Southern Baptists are going to impact today's world for Christ, they are going to have to sacrifice some of their "sacred cows," Taylor said, adding part of that process will involve becoming more open to change.

He discussed six of the most common types of today's churches and the way they respond to change:

■ **"The resistant church."** Very insecure. Resists change. Not very evangelistic. More interested in keeping things the way they are.

■ **"Yesterday's church."** A nostalgic church. Focuses on the past. Hopes tomorrow will be 1950. Doesn't equip members to be the "light of the world" or the "salt of the earth."

■ **"The try harder church."** Devoted to doing the same things better. Taylor said he believes most of to-

day's Southern Baptist churches fall into this category.

■ **"The cannot-change church."** Examples: an ethnic or language church dedicated to its "first generation" members and children who are rapidly becoming culturally assimilated or a church in a community with a changing socio-economic and/or racial identity with members moving away and failing to meet the needs of new residents.

■ **"The entrepreneurial church."** A market-sensitive church that takes current societal trends into consideration when planning programs and ministries. Not afraid to try innovative approaches to ministry. Part of its attraction is its lack of tradition.

■ **"The renewing church."** Faithful to doctrine but practical in meeting people's needs. Values both tradition

and change. This church has "an ear to the market and an ear to the Lord," Taylor said, adding he prefers this type over the others.

Too many churches value their buildings, organization and programs over meeting the needs of people, Taylor said.

"Some churches are limiting their ability to reach people because of their structure. They draw circles to keep people out instead of drawing circles to let people in. They are letting their structure dictate the function and it should be the other way around," he added.

For a church to experience growth today, Taylor said two things need to happen. First, as a church grows larger, it has to grow smaller by creating more small groups to foster intimacy and assimilate new members. Second, "everybody has to lose control."

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Questions are Key to Unlock Church Problems

Do problems imprison your church?

The key to unlocking them looks like a question mark, Vernon Cole believes.

"Problems often terrorize our churches," admitted Cole, director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's church growth and administration division. "They seem huge and insurmountable, and we tend to think there's no way out.

"But their power over us diminishes if we ask the right questions."

That's because asking questions reduces those problems down to a manageable size and channels a church's resources toward solving them, he explained.

Bombarding a problem with questions helps a church look at various aspects of the problem, each of which is more solvable than the whole problem itself, he said. Questions also help churches decide what outcomes or results—real solutions—they want to see from the problems. And continued questions lead to specific strategies for solving them.

To illustrate, Cole cited a nagging problem faced by many churches: "We never have enough Sunday school teachers."

The first question is a big one—How do we maintain qualified

teachers?—he said. But it is broken down by the next question—What is our dream or hope for our teachers?

"You've got to keep asking questions—about goals, about aspirations, about the 'climate' of your church—that lead you away from the overwhelming problem and to the specific outcomes you want to accomplish in solving that problem," he stressed. For the "not enough teachers" problem, a possible outcome might be to acquire a leader and leader-in-training for every class or group.

Once a desired outcome is described, how-to questions help a church determine the method for achieving that outcome, he added. In this case, the questions would revolve around how to find, solicit, train and encourage both the teachers and teachers-in-training.

Cole spun out a strategy that began with involving current teachers

in identifying and recruiting their own apprentices, and proceeded to developing a regular program of training for both the teachers and their new associates, incrementally providing the new teacher-recruits with more responsibilities and opportunities for teaching, leading

them to become full-time teachers and beginning the process all over again.

Of course, the details will change, but the question-outcome-strategy process can be used to overcome any church "problem," Cole insisted. It works

on everything from limited parking, to poor stewardship, to anemic ministry.

"Begin by asking, 'What?'" Cole suggested. "First, you've got to identify the problem. Then look at 'Why?' Eventually, you'll come to 'How?' and 'When?' and 'Who?' Those final questions shape your strategy, but you can't come to a good solution until you

understand the what and why of the problem."

Church problem-solving is a key focus of the KBC's church growth and administration division, Cole said. "What our division is about is helping churches face what they often see as insurmountable problems. We try to help them determine the outcomes—what they want to see happen in the church."

That's more than merely promoting programs and plugging them into church buildings, he added. "Our division is not about merely communicating information or getting people to conform to a particular standard. It's about helping churches do the ministry of transformation.

"This is what the Apostle Paul talked about when he said Christians are 'new creatures in Christ.' It must be accomplished through transformation of people, through the power of Christ."

Consequently, the division puts its emphasis on helping ministers and lay leaders develop the skills they need to minister.

"We've got to develop skills, because that's how to be and do church," he said.

And it's how to help churches solve problems.



Church Growth & Administration Purpose Statement:

"To motivate church leaders to envision their potential and to use the methods and resources which result in Kingdom growth for each local church."

Here's Who to Contact for Assistance

The Kentucky Baptist Convention's church growth and administration division exists to help each Kentucky Baptist congregation become a "church on the grow."

The division fulfills that existence by offering an array of resources to strengthen Kentucky Baptist church programs.

It operates through the following components and leaders:

■ **Church growth and administration division.** The divisional office directs and supports the work of the specific program-oriented departments. The division office also handles church administration issues. Administration provides both the vision and the structure necessary to enable churches to grow.

■ Vernon Cole, division director.

■ Michelle Turner, administrative secretary.

■ **Church music department.** Music strengthens the total ministry of the church, from worship to pastoral care.

■ Jim Cordell, department director.

■ Cheryl Davis, secretary.

■ Farris Smith, secretary.

■ June Bailey, preschool/children consultant.

■ Todd Dowdy, associational consultant.

■ Joy Berger, keyboard/handbell consultant.

■ Eddie Howell, adult instrumental consultant.

■ Roger Walworth, youth con-

sultant.

■ **Discipleship training and stewardship department.** Jesus commanded his followers to "make disciples," to strengthen Christians in their spiritual growth.

■ Doug Strader, department director.

■ Jim Clontz, associate director.

■ Alice Seymour, secretary.

■ **Sunday school department.**

Strong Bible study is the backbone of a vibrant, growing church.

■ Chip Miller, department director.

■ Jewell Nelson, associate director for preschool/children.

■ Jeff Hicks, associate director for adults/youth.

■ Mary Catlett, secretary.

■ Donna Wagers, secretary.

Super Saturdays

Become a "fisher of men" by developing your church leadership skills at Super Saturday, the Kentucky Baptist Convention's training conference.

Sponsored by the KBC church growth and administration division, Super Saturday offers a full net of leadership and interest conferences designed to help Kentucky Baptists become better at what Jesus called "fishing for men."

Super Saturday—actually six Saturdays in August and September—offers church leaders a choice from among 40 sessions to build skills.

Super Saturday will be held at the following locations:

■ Eastwood Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Aug. 14.

■ Burlington Baptist Church, Northern Kentucky, Aug. 21.

■ Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington, Aug. 28.

■ First Baptist Church, Ashland, Sept. 11.

■ First Baptist Church, Mayfield, Sept. 18.

■ Central Baptist Church, Corbin, Sept. 25.

Advanced registration is just \$8 per person, and the fee includes lunch. For registration information, contact: Church Growth & Administration, Kentucky Baptist Convention, Box 43433, Louisville, Ky. 40253-0433.

EVENTS

FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

CHURCH GROWTH & ADMINISTRATION

Over forty sessions provide leadership training at Super Saturdays

Pastors
Staff
Key Leaders
Teachers & Workers

Discipleship Training

Church Music

Sunday School

Evangelism

Understanding Transitions

Family Ministry

Church Media Library

Financial Stewardship

Leadership Conferences

9:45 AM - 12:15 PM

Pastors/Staff/Key Leaders

Transitions • Practical step by step approach to navigating transitions in today's church. The principles of transition apply to any church in any context.

Sunday School

The new series, *Ideas for Reaching*, will be taught to directors, leaders, teachers, and workers of all age groups during the morning. The session will enable them in reaching and winning through the Sunday School.

General Officers • Catch a new vision for outreach and growth. Training for Pastors Min. of Education, Staff, S.S. directors.

Adult • Discover and experience creative techniques to reach Adults of all ages and needs.

Youth • Learn how to help youth experience Christ in their lives. Successful ideas for reaching today's youth can be found in this conference.

Children • Younger and Middle Children leaders will learn how to creatively teach *Learners, Discoverers*, and *Children's Bible Study*.

• Older children leaders will learn how to teach *Searchers* and *Children's Bible Study*.

Preschool • Those who teach **Infants through ones** will learn how to creatively teach from *Preschool Bible Teacher A* and *Bible Story Time*. Cradle Roll ministry will be included.

• **2's through Pre-six** preschool teachers will learn how to creatively teach from *Preschool Bible Teacher B*, *Preschool Bible Teacher C* and *Bible Story Time*.

Special Education • Learn how your church can minister to the many families who have special needs members.

Church Music

How to Grow Musical Churches • Back to the basics of church music ministry for part-time music directors. Topics include planning, enlisting, directing and leading in the local church music ministry.

Older Children's/Combination Choir Methods and materials for music leaders working with children in grades 4-6 and grades 1-6.

Younger Children's Choir • Methods and material for music leaders working with children in grades 1-3.

Preschool Music Activities • Methods and materials for music leaders working with children ages 4 and 5.

Full-time Ministers of Music • may receive training in the Pastor/staff conference on working through *Transitions*.

Discipleship Training

Intense training for leaders in Discipleship Training is offered during the morning conference session. New Discipleship Training leadership and current leadership will strengthen skills and discover refreshing approaches to discipleship for the following age groups:

- General Officers • Training for Pastors, Ministers of Education and Discipleship Training directors.
- Adult Leaders
- Youth Leaders
- Children's Leaders
- Preschool Leaders

Church Media Library

Church Media Library Workers will receive 2 1/2 hours of training that will focus on establishing, maintaining and promoting a church media library. Your church media library can be a vital resource center for members of your church.

Schedule

- 8:00 Registration
- 9:00 General Session
- 9:45 Leadership Conferences
- 12:15 Lunch
- 1:00 Special Interest Conference
- 2:00 Special Interest Conference

Conference times are 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM at all locations. *Sorry, but we are unable to provide childcare.*

Conference Fees

Pre-register until one week prior to the conference date. Send your name, or add it to the church group list, with \$8 per person pre-registration fee to: Church Growth & Administration, Kentucky Baptist Convention, P.O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253. The conference fee includes lunch and materials. Each person registered will receive a \$2 coupon toward purchases from the Baptist Book store on the day of the conference. Conference fees will be refunded for only those cancellations received prior to the registered conference date. *Registrations may be transferred to another Super Saturday date, and substitute participants may be enlisted in the event of a canceled registration.*

Special Interest Conferences

1:00 and 2:00 PM (55 minute sessions)

The A B C's of Church Budgeting and Promotion • will assist the church financial stewardship committee to help members in the church grow in giving and lead the church to develop projects and goals for growing stewards.

Live Wisely: Successful Money Management • A cooperative effort to teach money management. The overall impact could be greater contentment, effectiveness, and joy in Christian living. The emphasis can be equally effective in churches of all sizes.

Sex Education: A Biblically Based Approach • When children and youth ask questions about sex, how will parents and leaders respond? At last, your church has the opportunity to provide a setting where parents can receive training and support to teach their children about sex from a Christian perspective.

Responding to the Needs of the Families • How will your church respond to the needs of families today? Attend this conference and discover resources which can meet needs of families in your church and community.

Communication and Intimacy: Covenant Marriage • Its use among couples within the church helps them experience the quality and depth of relationships that God intended for marriage through communication and intimacy.

Christian Self-Esteem: Parenting by Grace • Teaching parents the skills to build self esteem in their children as God's first gift to His highest creation.

Children's Music Reading Session Preview different styles of music for use with Children's Choirs. This conference is for all children's choir directors. (grades 1-6)

How to Lead Choir Rehearsal • Basics on how to plan, direct and evaluate a volunteer choir rehearsal in your church. For all part-time, volunteer and bivocational music directors.

Adult Music Reading Session • Preview different styles of music for use with volunteer church choirs. This conference is for all part-time, volunteer and bivocational music directors.

Creative Methods for Using Music with Children • Training in how to creatively use music with children. Emphasis will be on songs, instruments, autoharp and movement. This is for all music, discipleship training and Sunday School leaders.

Making Peace with Your Past • A support group approach to helping adult children who came from a dysfunctional family.

First Place • Abundant living means you are in good condition spiritually, physically, mentally, and emotionally . . . that's what First Place is about.

Search for Significance • Helps one to see God as the source of your self worth and to help you experience love, acceptance, and forgiveness in your life.

Bible Drills • Helps for leaders of 4-6th grade children and 7-9th grade youth in developing Bible drill skills.

Assimilating New Church Members • Helps for those interested in assimilating new members into the life of the church.

Making Adult Bible Study Relevant • Discover new and effective ways of teaching adults in the 90's.

Adult Resources and Space • Learn to use new improved resources to make your lessons come alive. Visuals and room arrangement ideas.

Teaching Youth • Experience the latest in strategies for teaching youth; involving youth in Bible study and leading them to Christian maturity.

Youth Resources and Space • Develop an effective environment for youth Bible study. You will learn to use lighting, visuals, and space to your teaching advantage.

Using Positive Discipline with Preschoolers and Children • Learn ways to prevent or correct misbehavior.

Division Directors • Preschool and Children's directors will receive ideas, and resources to help with their ministry.

Children's Sermons • Get ideas for providing developmentally appropriate sermons and worship experiences for children.

Flexible Curriculum • A brand new curriculum is now available for teachers of children ages six to 12. To be used with one or many children, indoors or out, any day or night of the week, any time of the year!

One Won A Day • Your church can win one person each day. Discover the impact you can make through evangelism with the SBC 1995 Here's Hope: Share Jesus Now project.

Super Saturday Conferences
1993

EVENTS

FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING

Steps leading to SUPER SATURDAY growth in discipleship

Step One

Choose a date and location from one of the six listed below:

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



Super Saturday Conferences
1993

Step Two

Send your \$8 per person registration fee to the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Church Growth and Administration office, P. O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253. A \$10 per person registration fee is charged the day of a conference.

Registrants will receive \$2 coupons toward purchases at the on-site Baptist Book Store on the day of the event.

Step Three

Pick a leadership conference to attend from 9:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.. Leadership conferences are offered for general officers, adults, youth, children and preschool.

Step Four

Enjoy lunch with fellow disciplers at 12:15 p.m.. The meal is included in the registration fee.

Step Five

Following lunch choose two special interest mini-conferences to attend (1:00-1:50 p.m.; 2:00-3:00 p.m.). Some conferences offered to help you as a disciple maker are:

- Communication and Intimacy:*
- Covenant Marriage*
- Christian Self-Esteem:*
- Parenting by Grace*
- Making Peace with Your Past*
- First Place: A Christ-Centered Health Program*
- Search for Significance (LIFE Support Edition)*
- Bible Drills: Children and Youth*
- Assimilating New Church Members*

BROTHERHOOD

Is Brotherhood in your church?

Leadership/Hope for Hurting Humanity regional workshops

Eight regional Leadership/Hope for Hurting Humanity Workshops are scheduled in August. These workshops will focus on the basics of a Brotherhood organization at two levels—the local church and the local association. The eight regional workshop schedule is:

August 16	Southwestern
<i>Eddyville, First Church</i>	
August 17	Western
<i>Owensboro, Third Church</i>	
August 19	Central
<i>Louisville, Highland Park First</i>	
August 20	South Central
<i>Liberty, First Church</i>	
August 23	North Central
<i>Winchester, Central Church</i>	
August 24	Northeastern
<i>Louisa, First Church</i>	
August 26	Southeastern
<i>Manchester, Manchester Church</i>	
August 27	Southern
<i>Cave City, Cave City Church</i>	

Each workshop will begin at 7:00 p.m. and conclude at 9:00 (local time).

John Lott, associate director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Brotherhood Department, will lead the regional

workshops.

The focus of each workshop's first general session will be the State Wheel, which is a term describing how the Brotherhood organization is involved in mission action and mission education in Kentucky. The second session will divide participants in age level units, with each addressing Baptist Men and Royal Ambassador leadership. Leaders will be instructed in how to motivate men and boys to do projects as well as regular meetings.

Training and State Blitz

September will inaugurate Brotherhood's new training and state Blitz emphasis. The state Blitz goal is to reach every Kentucky Baptist church by next May 31.

Cedarmore Baptist Assembly is the site September 16-18 for the training of 25 teams of three from across Kentucky by personnel from the state Brotherhood department. Each team member will be assigned between 22-25 churches to contact. Teams will present the Wheel, explaining the "how to's" of Brotherhood and its mission action and education for all ages.

Interested in becoming one of the first churches to receive a Blitz team? Call the KBC Brotherhood office, (502) 245-4101.

ANNUITY

Ideal ministerial financial support plan

Over the past year, I have addressed various issues relating to a minister's financial support and taxes. As we approach fall, many churches will be doing budget planning and will be reviewing their minister's compensation. To assist in that review, a committee/church might use the following as a check list:

How does your minister's compensation compare to this MODEL MINISTER'S FINANCIAL SUPPORT PLAN?

1. Employee status for income tax purposes; self-employed for Social Security purposes
2. W-2 form is provided.
3. All ministry related expenses are paid through an accountable reimbursement plan.
4. Adequate life, medical and disability protection coverages are provided by the church.

5. A Social Security equivalent equal to 7.65% of compensation is provided by the church.
6. Retirement contributions by the church through the Church Annuity Plan are sufficient to provide adequate retirement income.
7. An adequate housing allowance has been properly designated.
8. Compensation (salary plus housing) is adequate and appropriate for the training and responsibilities involved.

Please contact me if you have any questions concerning these areas.

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

EVENTS

FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Get your Sunday School hooked on Bible study

BREAK THROUGH--SERVE TO WIN is the 1993-94 Sunday School year emphasis. The basis for reaching and winning is— "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV).

Attend a Super Saturday conference near you

See information on EVENTS page 2a concerning locations and registration information for:

August 14	Bowling Green
August 21	Burlington
August 28	Lexington
September 11	Ashland
September 18	Mayfield
September 25	Corbin

The new "Ideas for Reaching" books are being used in the morning conferences for all age groups to enable Sunday School leaders in reaching and winning.

In addition to the core conference there are two elective conference periods of 50 minutes each in the afternoon.

Outstanding Sunday School faculty include: Richard Dodge, author of Ideas for Reaching Adults, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville; David Apple, Baptist Sunday School Board; James Hargrave, Baptist Sunday School Board; Bill Houndshell, Carlisle, Ohio; Peggy Ward, Vicksburg, Mississippi plus your Kentucky Baptist Convention's Sunday School Department staff and trained consultants who will lead Sunday School conferences.

Morning conference - 9:45 a.m.

General officers - Catch a new vision for outreach and growth. Put handles on mobilizing your team of workers for reaching.

Adult - Discover and experience creative techniques to reach adults of all ages and needs.

Youth - Learn how to help youth experience Christ in their lives. Successful ideas for reaching today's youth will be shared.

Children (younger to middle) - Learn how to teach Leamers, Discoverers,

BREAK THROUGH SERVE TO WIN

and Children's Bible Study creatively.

Children (older) - Learn how to teach Searchers and Children's Bible Study creatively.

Preschool (infants through ones) - Learn how to teach creatively from Preschool Bible Teacher A and Bible Story Time. Cradle Roll ministry will be included.

Preschool (2's through pre-six) - Learn how to teach creatively from Preschool Bible Teacher B, Preschool Bible Teacher C and Bible Story Time.

Special education - Learn how your church can minister to the many families who have special needs family members.

Afternoon conferences - 1:00, 2:00

Outreach techniques are important for Sunday School growth. Poor teaching, lack of effective use of resources and space empties classes quicker than outreach can fill them. The afternoon conferences focus on a balanced approach for increasing teaching skills and effective use of resources and space.

General conferences

Making Adult Bible Study Relevant
Discover new and effective ways of teaching adults in the 1990's.

Adult Resources and Space
Learn to use new improved resources to make your lessons come alive. Visuals and room arrangement ideas.

Teaching Youth

Experience the latest in strategies for teaching youth, involving youth in Bible study and leading them to Christian maturity.

Youth Resources and Space

Develop an effective environment for youth Bible study. Learn to use lighting, visuals and space to your teaching advantage.

Using Positive Discipline with Preschoolers and Children

Learn ways to prevent or correct misbehavior.

Division Directors

Preschool and children's division directors will receive ideas and resources to help with their ministry.

Children's Sermons

Get ideas for providing developmentally appropriate sermons and worship experiences for children.

Flexible Curriculum

A brand new curriculum is now available for teachers of children ages six to 12. To be used with one or many children, indoors or out, any day or night of the week, any time of the year!

Yes!

Make the commitment to attend. . .to grow. . .and to share

State Sunday School Convention

October 8-9
Florence Baptist Church
283 Main Street
Florence, Kentucky

For more information, contact the KBC Sunday School Department (502) 245-4101

EVENTS

FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

STUDENT MINISTRY

Have new college students? Try an On-to-College Day emphasis

August and September are times for discovering new opportunities for every student entering college. Traditionally, August is when your local church honors these new students with an On-to-College Day (OTC) experience. On-to-College Day is part of the emphasis that seeks to involve students in accepting the Christian challenge to live out their lives for Christ on college campuses. This is also a time to encourage them to think about how they can make a difference for Christ on their campuses.

This year's theme is "Discovering New Opportunities." The scripture chosen is Galatians 6:9-10. This passage acknowledges the Christian walk in which students have been involved during high school. It also challenges students to "not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we shall reap if we do not grow weary" (Galatians 6:9, NASB).

Each student entering college for the

first time should know about the Baptist Student Union (BSU) program on campus. Baptist Student Union provides a place for students to go for Christian fellowship and ministry opportunities on their college campus. Throughout the year, the Baptist Student Union makes available to college students Bible studies, witnessing training, community missions opportunities, fellowship activities and much more. Most likely there is a Baptist Student Union; invite the director of Baptist



student ministries to come speak to those about to enter college. Invite the director to bring BSU students who can speak to needs your students will have as they prepare to enter college.

If you would like more information about how to prepare an On-to-College Day at your church, fill out the information form on back page (8a) of EVENTS or call the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Student Department at (502) 245-4101.

CHURCH MUSIC

Wanted: A few good men. . .and women

Membership openings available in the Kentucky Baptist Chorale and Kentucky Baptist Singing Women

The Kentucky Baptist Chorale is a male chorus comprised of ministers of music from Kentucky Baptist churches. Organized in 1965, it is a musical and spiritual contribution of more than 150 music ministers. Dr. John Dickson, a professor in the School of Church Music at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, is the Chorale's new conductor; David Dale, of Lexington's Gardenside Baptist Church, serves as accompanist.

The Chorale is a regular participant in programs of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. They have appeared before the Southern Baptist Church Music Conference, Church Music Week at Ridgecrest, Musicians on Mission Workshops in Ohio and Massachusetts and have toured, including a concert tour to Europe and a mission trip to Brazil.

Events for 1993 include an October 7-8 retreat in Elizabethtown and singing for the Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meeting at Elizabethtown's Severns Valley Church November 16. In 1994, the Chorale will sing for the state evangelism conference

on February 21 and also produce a videotape recording on May 10. Kentucky Baptists are encouraged to attend these significant events.

The Kentucky Baptist Singing Women is a choral group which was formed in 1988. The objective and purpose of this group is to encourage personal and professional improvement, Christian fellowship, ministry, outreach and spiritual growth for women from Kentucky Baptist churches through the medium of music. Dr. Pamela Hopton-Jones of Georgetown College conducts the Singing Women; Nevalyn Moore, Campbellsville College, is the group's accompanist.

Membership in the Singing Women is open to two women from each Kentucky Baptist church, as recommended by the minister of music or pastor.

This year's Singing Women calendar coincides with the Chorale's schedule, with the exception of the October 7-8 retreat dates.

For additional information about becoming a member of the Chorale or the Singing Women, please contact:

**Church Music Department
Kentucky Baptist Convention
P. O. Box 43433
Louisville, KY 40253-0433**

CHURCH RECREATION

To fellowship and refresh--State Church Recreators Retreat

**State Church Recreators Retreat
September 9-10
Louisville
Broadway Baptist Church**

**Next event:
Fun Run and Health Walk
November 16
Elizabethtown
Severns Valley Baptist Church
Site of Kentucky Baptist Convention
annual meeting**

The third annual State Church Recreators Retreat, an event for part time and full time ministers of recreation, is scheduled for September 9-10 at Louisville's Broadway Baptist Church.

According to the church recreators organization's state president, Larry Pursiful, senior minister of activities and youth at Louisville's Carlisle Avenue Baptist Church, the annual retreat is a bonding time. "Our retreat provides time for fellowship and fun, with the main focus being on refreshing each person individually."

This year's retreat agenda includes a golf scramble, a banquet, an informative

meeting and keynote speaker, Jeff Hicks, associate director, Kentucky Baptist Convention Sunday School Department. Hicks will lead two sessions:

**Session one focus -
"Let the Games Begin"**

A game is an instructional method--how to learn more, do more and retain more in less time--and have fun doing it. Not a game for the sake of a game, but because it is the best instructional method.

**Session two focus -
"Creative Visual Preparations"**

The mind thinks in pictures. Ideas, suggestions, examples and reference guides will be taught to help you become more

graphic and visual in your presentations.

A detailed letter describing the retreat agenda will be mailed soon to ministers of recreation.

The retreat registration fee is \$10 per person. The golf scramble charge is separate.

For more information about this event or the September 9-10 retreat, contact Tom Smoot, associate director and recreation consultant of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Student Department, P. O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253.

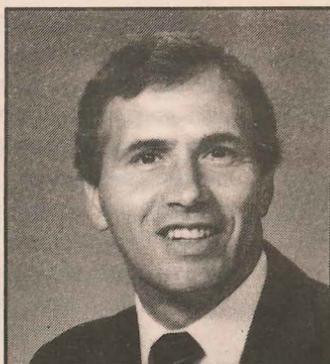


EVANGELISM

Zion Church, Henderson, to host national CWT seminar

A Continuing Witness Training (CWT) national seminar, co-sponsored by the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Office for Evangelism and the Southern Baptist Convention's Home Mission Board, is scheduled for September 13-16 at Zion Baptist Church, Henderson, Kentucky. The seminar begins at 1:00 p.m. (CST) on September 13; it concludes at noon on September 16.

Harry Hunter, a Harry Hunter Office for Evangelism consultant and pastor of Henderson's Immanuel Baptist Church, will lead the event.



Harry Hunter

week training cycle during which apprentices memorize a Model Presentation Outline and CWT principles, then become equippers of others. The beginning group is generally small, but it soon multiplies.

CWT uses a memorized presentation to teach a natural sharing approach to the gospel. The CWT process involves participants in these disciplines:

- Intercessory prayer
- Systematic Bible study
- Scripture memorization
- Personal witnessing
- Follow-up

The process involves church members in a wide range of encouraging, training and praying roles.

How can I become involved in CWT?

A pastor and preferably one other church leader are required to attend an approved national CWT training seminar. [The September 13-16 event at Henderson's

Zion Church is considered a national CWT seminar.] Complete the registration form on EVENTS page 8a, including \$75 for each person attending (make checks payable to Kentucky Baptist Convention). The registration fee covers three meals and materials. Send the registration info and fees to the given address on the form.

When the registration is accepted, copies of the *Model Presentation Outline* will be mailed to the pastor. Each participant is required to memorize the *Model Presentation* before attending the seminar.

Seminars give participants an overview of the CWT process, allowing them to experience the dynamics of CWT in a local church. During the seminar week, each participant will make three witnessing visits with a trained equipper. Seminar attendees will also be required to write the *Model Presentation* from memory during the first session.

Once at home, each participant will enlist a prayer partner and two apprentices for a 13-week training in a local church

Who participates in CWT?

Pastor-Leader - Leads the weekly pastor/leader Bible study and offers overall direction and leadership to the CWT process.

Certified Witnesses - Individuals that have been certified in a national CWT seminar or have successfully completed the 13-week CWT cycle as apprentices.

Equippers - Certified witnesses involved in training two apprentices.

Apprentices - Participate in 13 weeks of study, training and witnessing.

Encouragers - Sunday school members responsible for assisting new Christians in working through *First Steps for a New Christian* and/or *Survival Kit for New Christians* and encourage them to attend all regular church services.

Prayer Partners - Individuals who have made a covenant to pray regularly with specific equippers or apprentices.

For more information, call the KBC Office for Evangelism at (502) 245-4101, extension 330.

What is Continuing Witness Training?

Continuing Witness Training is an ongoing process for training personal witnesses. The process begins with a 13-

WMU

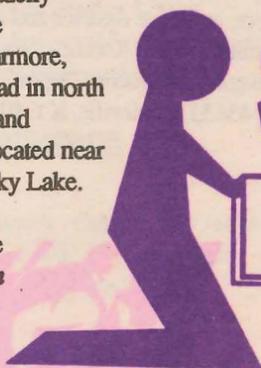
Four fall retreats offer women times for renewal, recommitment and missions inspiration

Women of all ages in Kentucky Baptist churches will have an opportunity to participate in a time of retreat, reflection and a time of renewal and recommitment at four retreats scheduled during fall foliage at Kentucky Baptists' two state assemblies—Cedarmore, located near Bagdad in north central Kentucky and Jonathan Creek, located near Hardin on Kentucky Lake.

Following the emphasis, *Serve in Christ's Name*, attendees will have several conference choices from which to select: Prayer, nursing home/hospital ministry, enlistment, giving, Big A Club/mission VBS, how to teach the foreign or home mission book, Baptist Women, Baptist Young Women, volunteer missions,

witnessing, sharing with missionaries and others. One general session each day will feature music, missionary sharing, emphasis interpretation and prayer.

Missionary guests for the four retreats



Serve in Christ's Name

will include: Bob and Jean Morgan, Indonesia; David and Sonja Coppage, Uruguay; Wiley and Geneva Faw, Nigeria; Mary Lou Emmanuel, Japan; and Ruth Ann McConnell, Yemen.

Each retreat will provide women with inspiration for the new church year and a challenge to *Serve in Christ's Name* in her church and community.

The Kentucky chapter of Baptist Nursing Fellowship will meet in conjunction with the

October 8-9 retreat at Cedarmore. Nurses will have a session on Saturday morning planned just for them which will include sharing with foreign missionary nurses Mary Lou Emmanuel (Japan) and Ruth Ann McConnell (Yemen). Other nurses

will share their experiences in volunteer

missions. Evelyn Mottram, R.N., Lexington, is president of the Kentucky BNF chapter.

The cost per person is \$27.50 to \$39.50, depending on accommodations and the number staying in a room. A \$3 program fee is included in the total cost. Register now (\$18 per person) by filling out the appropriate information and mailing the form provided on EVENTS page 8a. NOTE: If registering, be sure and designate which assembly and date.

WMU FALL RETREATS/DATES/SITES

October 1-2
Cedarmore Baptist Assembly
Bagdad (Shelby County in north central Kentucky)
All women

October 8-9
Cedarmore Baptist Assembly
Women ages 35 and older
Baptist nurses

October 14-15
Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly
Hardin (on Kentucky Lake)
All women

October 15-16
Jonathan Creek
All women

EVENTS

FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

MINISTER/CHURCH SUPPORT

Time out!

It's mid-summer and vacations are on most people's minds. Time off and time away from everyday responsibilities is important for the working folks. Pastors and staff ministers are usually provided at least a week or two for vacation. Most people are aware of the need for rest and renewal. Fewer realize how essential this time is managing our stress. We are better able to handle a crisis, as well as the routine stresses and strains of daily life if we have regular "time out" periods.

Ministers are considered to be on call 24 hours a day. They often see people, talk on the phone, respond to emergency needs or attend meetings well past the normal hours of a work day. In order to stay healthy, manage the stress and be prepared for the next request, it is necessary for them to develop good habits of rest, relaxation, recreation—"time out"—from the routine and demands of work. It is not an easy thing to do. Many ministers do not regularly take a day off each week.

Deacons, personnel committees or caring members would help their ministers greatly by encouraging regular "time out".

The brain gets tired as much as the body. We can make a super-human effort to be super productive, but the quality of ministry day in and day out would likely improve if we gave ourselves regular breaks, rest and recreation. The minister's family will benefit also. Whether it is a family vacation or just seeing their loved ones less stressed and tired, the home becomes a happier and more wholesome place.

The Gospels give a clear picture of Jesus' effort to find the balance between work and to do the things that relieve stress. When Jesus came to the end of his physical limits before coming to the end of a line of people, he withdrew for rest. When he needed spiritual restoration and renewal he took "time out". It was essential for his well-being.

Church leaders can give great help to their ministers by encouraging them to observe the needed "time outs", to find the balance between work and rest and play.

Guy Futral
Director

Minister/Church Support Division
Kentucky Baptist Convention

FOUNDATION

A 60-second wills check-up

Does your will need revision? Ask yourself these:

- Has my attorney checked within the last two years to be sure my will reflects current laws?

Yes ___ No ___

- Is the executor I named still alive, available, interested and dependable?

Yes ___ No ___

- Does my will still meet my family's needs given any marriages, births or deaths that have occurred since I signed it?

Yes ___ No ___

- Do I still live in the same state I lived in when I made the will?

Yes ___ No ___

- Does it provide guardians for children or other dependents who may need special care?

Yes ___ No ___

- Does it include bequests to charities I have supported over the years?

Yes ___ No ___

If you answered "no" to any questions, you may wish to review your plans.

Your Kentucky Baptist Foundation will be glad to share further information on this and other estate planning concepts. For more information, call the Kentucky Baptist Foundation office at (502) 245-4101, extension 205.

CEDARMORE ASSEMBLY

The good 'ol summertime

In the good ole summertime you get a variety of things at Cedarmore Baptist Assembly. For example:

Weather

The weather is typical Kentucky, anything from sunny skies to storms and everything in between. And, with an average of 500 campers on campus, there is plenty to do to keep operations functioning.

Activities

Events vary in each camp, with activities such as games, crafts, Bible study or worship.

Blessings

The blessings come as we respond to God's claim upon lives through as pastors, missionaries and Cedarmore's own staff lead in worship.

Outcome

Lives are changed. Therefore, churches are changed, too. We can share in the results of camping as we nurture these who return home with a new sense of God in their lives. Everyone can have a part in the camping experiences of young people who, after all, need fewer critics and better examples.

Spotlight on Cedarmore staff

Margaret Cook is head cook (no pun intended) for Cedarmore Baptist Assembly. She brought cooking credentials from a local school system when she began service at Cedarmore in 1986. In 1987 Margaret assumed responsibilities for the Food Service department. She and the cooking crew work hard in planning, preparation and serving of guest meals. Margaret and her husband, Ralph live in Pleasureville, where they enjoy their favorite hobby—playing with their grandchildren.

Cecilia Ritchie began her Cedarmore employment in 1987. She is responsible for food preparation and the dining hall serving line. Cecilia also contributes favorite recipes to the menu. She also lends a helping hand to other areas of service when needed. Cecilia and her husband, Marvin are the proud parents of four children.

For more information about planning an event at Cedarmore contact:

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

JONATHAN CREEK ASSEMBLY

Quality service at an affordable price

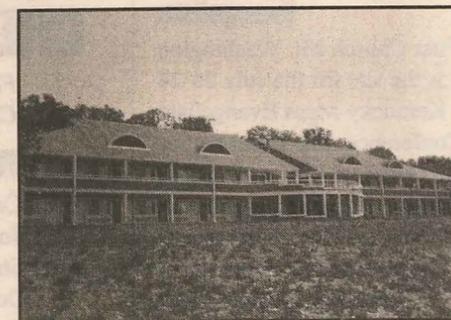
Need an ideal location for your next summer camp, retreat, seminar or fellowship? Check out Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly—a place where it is easy to get so much for so little!

What does Jonathan Creek offer?

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

Some fall dates are still available for your events.

A special discount rate is offered for guests staying at this west Kentucky facility between February and April 1994. During this time, the rate of \$29 per person



Jonathan Creek Motel overlooking Kentucky Lake

based on two persons per room each day will include three daily meals and use of campus facilities.

For more information contact:

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

OTHER EVENTS

Church Music

Are you interested in what's happening in Kentucky church music this year? The KBC Church Music Department has just what you need! Resource packets have recently been mailed to full time and part time directors of music. Volunteers and other music leaders may receive a packet by calling the state Church Music office at (502) 245-4101, extension 325.

Direct Missions

August 8 is *Celebrate Language Missions Day*. This year's theme is "The Dream is the Same." Southern Baptists appreciate God's creation of skin hues, cultures and languages. Recognizing the dignity and worth of each child of God, Southern Baptists offer every individual an opportunity to worship Him in the language or culture in which he or she is most comfortable. For more information on how your church can observe this emphasis or to order materials, contact the Southern Baptist Convention's Home Mission Board, 1350 Spring Street, NW, Atlanta, GA 30367-5601.

Evangelism

First Church Mt. Washington is the site for the July 23-24 Kentucky Mass Evangelism Conference. The event begins on Friday at 1:00 p.m. (EDT) and concludes Saturday at noon. This conference is designated to help local churches and pastors in planning effective media promotions, strong evangelistic preaching, powerful invitations and warm-hearted music for the 90's.

KBC '93

A hotel listing ad for this year's Kentucky Baptist Convention will be published in the following Western Recorder issues: August 24, September 21 and October 12.

Upcoming Events

JULY

Church Growth

- July 30-31
Kentucky Baptist Secretaries Association Annual Conference
Midway
Midway College

Church Music

- July 31
Keyboard Clinic
Madisonville
First Church
9:00 a.m.-noon
2:00-5:00 p.m.

Evangelism

- July 23
Here's Hope '95 State Advisory Committee meeting
Mt. Washington
First Church
- July 23-24
Kentucky Mass Evangelism Conference
Mt. Washington
First Church

WMU

- July 23-24
Mother/Daughter Overnight
Cedar Crest
- July 26-30
GA Camp
Cedar Crest
- July 30-31
Mother/Daughter Overnight
Cedar Crest
- 8 July 31-August 6
Jericho Week
Glorieta

AUGUST

Brotherhood

- Leadership/Hope for Hurting Humanity Workshops:*
- August 16
Southwestern region
Eddyville
First Church
- August 17
Western region
Owensboro
Third Church
- August 19
Central region
Louisville
Highland First Church

- August 20
South Central region
Liberty
First Church
- August 23
North Central region
Winchester
Central Church
- August 24
Northeastern region
Louisa
First Church
- August 27
Southeastern region
Manchester
Manchester Church
- August 27
Southern region
Cave City
Cave City Church
- Each workshop is 7:00-9:00 p.m. local time.**

Church Growth and Administration Division

- Super Saturday August dates*
- August 14
Bowling Green
Eastwood Church
- August 21
Burlington
Burlington Church

- August 28
Lexington
Immanuel Church

Church Music

- State Keyboard Clinics:*
- August 7
London
First Church
- August 14
Hazard
First Church
9:00 a.m.-noon and
2:00-5:00 p.m.
- August 22-29
Church Music Emphasis Week
All churches

Direct Missions

- August 8
Celebrate Language Missions Day

Student

- August 14-20
Student Week
Ridgecrest
- August 15
On-to-College Day

WMU

- August 2-6
GA Camp
Cedar Crest

- August 7
Closing Camp
Cedar Crest
- August 7
WMU Associational Council Training
Louisville
Hurstbourne Church
- August 14
WMU Associational Council Training
Morehead
Morehead Church
- August 21
WMU Associational Council Training
Corbin
Central Church
- August 21-27
WMU Week
Ridgecrest
- August 28
WMU Associational Council Training
Hopkinsville
First Church

CHECK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION

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
- Student
On-to-College Day
- Family Ministry
Fall Festival of Marriage
- Sunday School
State Sunday School Convention
- WMU
Eliza Broadus Offering (state missions) and Week of Prayer Emphasis

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

Pre-registration fee: \$8 per person

Church Music

Keyboard Clinics

- July 31, Madisonville
First Church
- August 7, Louisville
Lyndon Church
- August 14, Hazard
First Church

Cost: \$10.00 per keyboardist if registered before July 19. After July 19, the cost is \$12.00.

Evangelism

- Kentucky Mass Evangelism Conference - \$10 p/person, or \$15 per church (unlimited number)
- Continuing Witness Training (\$75 per person)

WMU

- Fall Retreats* (registration: \$18 per person)
- October 1-2, Cedarmore - All women
- October 8-9, Cedarmore - Women (35+); nurses
- October 14-15, Jonathan Creek - All women
- October 15-16, Jonathan Creek - All women

MISSIONS

Kentuckians touch missions at 'Jericho' festival

By Linda Lawson
SBC Sunday School Board

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)—Have you heard what happened at Jericho this summer?

Nearly 300 Kentuckians experienced missions first-hand—by talking with home and foreign missionaries, seeing a drama portraying the dangers some missionaries face, building furniture and toys for a Hispanic mission, engaging in missions simulation activities and learning about missions opportunities.

Jericho isn't just a town mentioned in the Bible. It's also the name of an annual missions festival, held July 3-9 this year, at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center in North Carolina.

Jericho is sponsored by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, Foreign Mission Board, Sunday School Board, Brotherhood Commission and Woman's Missionary Union.

One opportunity this year was to help build pews, pulpit furniture and toys for the Silver Palms Baptist Mission in Miami, which was virtually destroyed in 1992 by Hurricane Andrew. Eager volunteers arrived at the designated tent at 8 a.m., 90 minutes ahead of the scheduled beginning at 9:30.

"We've had more volunteers than we could take care of," said M.B. Howard, Mission Service Corps construction coordinator for the Brotherhood Commission. A retired mail car-

rier and draftsman whose hobby is woodworking, Howard supervised volunteers from several states as the mission pastor, Eduardo Jordan, looked on.

"In two weeks, I will use this pulpit to preach," Jordan said, pointing to the furniture under construction.

In the same tent, Kathy Burns, Mission Friends specialist for Woman's Missionary Union, supervised the building of four stick horses and design of 100 "boo-boo bunnies" used in first aid with preschoolers.

"People have been so excited to participate in hands-on missions," Burns said.

At the Monday afternoon missions fair in which exhibits, games and other activities were set up on the grounds of Ridgecrest, participants of all ages could throw darts at balloons and receive a missionary's name and suggestion for making contact. They could make puppets, taste foods from foreign mission fields, learn about ministries with the military and disaster relief, write a postcard to a child of a missionary or receive a Scripture portion in another language.

Also, a Brotherhood Commission official demonstrated a water purification unit used in disaster relief by offering cups of water purified from a nearby stream.

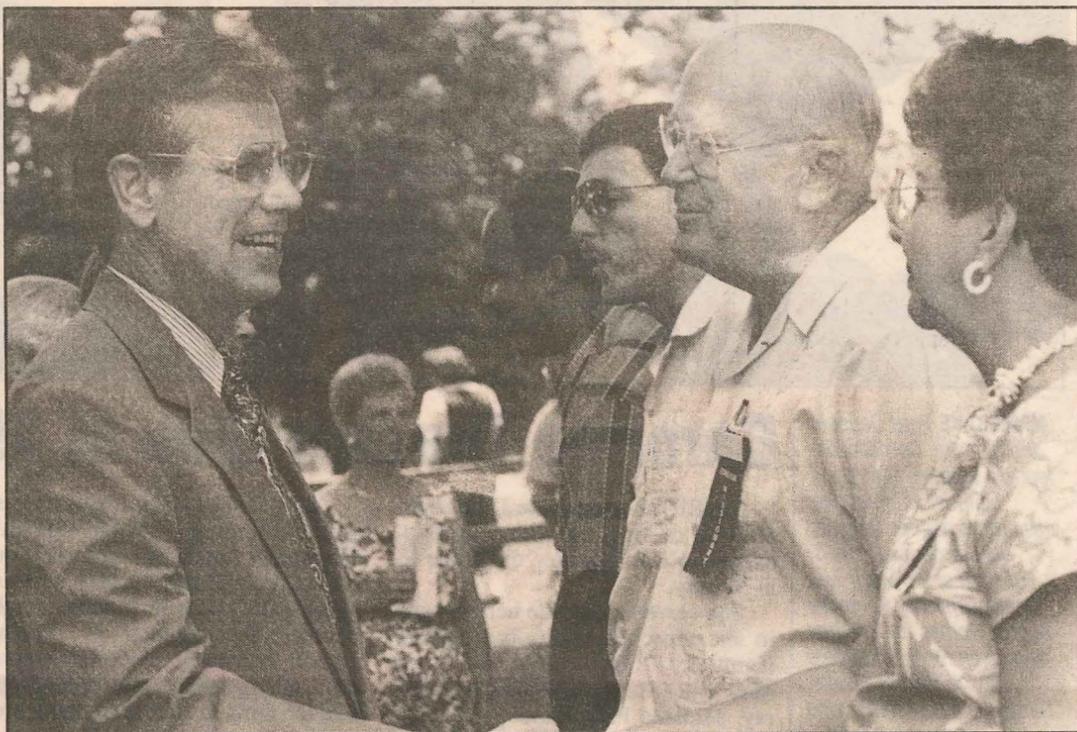
Special-interest conference topics acquainted people with Campers on Mission, agricultural missions, starting churches in a contemporary culture, child advocacy, responding to

the AIDS crisis and understanding the world where the gospel has never been shared.

A colorful Sunday night procession of states and countries where Southern Baptists have missionaries ended on a solemn note as 35 gray flags were carried into the auditorium to symbolize the nations and people groups where the gospel has not or cannot be shared.

Speakers throughout the week called on Southern Baptists to practice world citizenship through personal involvement in taking the gospel to the ends of the world.

Bud Taylor, Mission Service Corps coordinator for Mission Possibilities in Florida, said, "There's a world of difference between being missions minded and missions active. We're hooked on missions."



HELLO, MY NAME IS ...
New Foreign Mission Board President Jerry Rankin (left) greets missionaries Herb and Caroline Jukes during the "Jericho" missions week at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center. Preaching his first sermon as FMB president at the conference center where he was appointed a missionary 23 years earlier, Rankin said God still uses people to break down barriers as imposing as the Jericho wall of old. (BP photo by Sandy King)

FMB offers job to fired employee

RICHMOND, Va. (ABP)—Jerry Rankin, new president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, has reinstated FMB administrator Tom Warrington—though not to his previous position—and apologized for the way the 13-year employee was fired June 23.

Warrington, associate area director for Europe, was fired by Area Director John Floyd nine days after Rankin was elected president.

Floyd, who joined the FMB in February, said at the time that the move was part of a restructuring of the Europe staff and that the position required someone with "different strengths."

Rankin said in a July 2 statement that he supported Floyd's decision to name a new associate director. "But I had no intention to terminate J. Thomas Warrington from the board, merely to transfer him internally."

Rankin did not label Warrington's dismissal a mistake or blame Floyd for mishandling the matter. But he said, "I and other administrators didn't spend enough time making certain everyone had communicated properly."

Warrington said he appreciated Rankin's "gracious" response but has not yet made a decision about what to do.

Baptists respond as flood waters rise

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (BP)—Flooding along the Mississippi River has Baptist disaster relief units and Red Cross teams wet and worn out—yet still willing to work—as nature continues to wreak havoc across the Midwest region.

Kentucky Baptists' disaster relief units were on standby as of July 16, waiting to see where they might be assigned to help people afflicted by floods that covered parts of Missouri, Iowa and Illinois.

Jim Albers, disaster relief coordinator for Missouri Baptists, said the waterlogging from heavy thunderstorms and daily rainfall compounded the damage from flooding along the Mississippi in April.

"The April floods were a Sunday stroll compared to this now," said Albers upon returning from a Red Cross

shelter in Winfield, Mo., between Hannibal and St. Louis. "Houses are underwater, businesses are underwater, crops are lost ... it's a mess."

Al Sorrell, Baptist volunteer at the Red Cross feeding kitchen at Winfield Elementary School, said they have been serving more than 500 meals a day. Sorrell, a member of Pisgah Baptist Church in Excelsior Springs, Mo., said five Baptists work at the kitchen at any one time, usually rotating on a weekly basis.

"It is bad ... and it's only going to get worse, not better," Sorrell said, estimating he will be working on and off at the site until September or October. "Places that were not underwater when we got here last Saturday now have water up to the second floor."

As of last week, Missouri Baptist

volunteers were helping Red Cross units in three flooded areas along the Mississippi and Missouri rivers.

"This is a good time for churches to begin talking, praying and organizing (for) ministry," Albers said. He estimates volunteers will be needed for at least two more months. "We'll need construction crews, people who can push a broom, flop a mop or pick up trash."

Meanwhile, the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission announced July 13 it will spend \$25,000 for a water purification unit to assist flood victims in Des Moines, Iowa.

As of July 13, the Illinois Baptist Convention's disaster relief unit had been at Pleasant Hill, Ill., on the Mississippi River south of Quincy since July 3 and had served more than 40,000 meals.

New law threatens mission work in Russia

MOSCOW (BP)—A June 14 vote by the Russian Parliament to ban the free flow of foreign missionaries onto Russian soil is seen as a serious threat to religious liberty there, but it might have little effect on Southern Baptist missionaries.

The vote represents the first revision to Russia's historic Freedom of Conscience legislation. That law, enacted in October 1990, marked the end of seven decades of religious repression.

The revised measure, which needs President Boris Yeltsin's signature to become law, allows foreigners "to

carry on activities as individual religious workers" if they are affiliated with a Russian religious organization. But it requires other foreign representatives of religion, or Russian citizens appointed under the authority of a foreign religious organization, to receive a special "accreditation."

The organization of Southern Baptist missionaries in Russia received "legal person" status earlier this year, clearing the way for missionaries to buy and sell property, hire people and bring what they need into the country. The Russian government recognizes it as a religious organization.

Whether that recognition strengthens Southern Baptist missionaries' position in regard to the new law is in question, said attorney Lauren Homer, who filed for their legal status. But even if that status is negated, the missionaries still will be able to call on their affiliation with the Russian Baptist union.

"It doesn't appear to be quite as damaging to us as it might be to others because we are in direct linkage with existing Russian churches," said Don Kammerdiener, executive vice president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.



NAMESAKE Ford Deusner and his wife, Cornelia, listen to a speaker at a recent banquet where a new award named for Deusner was introduced. The C. Ford Deusner Award was established by Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children and given for the first time to Billy Burden of Echols. Burden is a coal miner who has been instrumental in getting his church, Pond Run Baptist, involved in a partnership to raise sweet corn for the children's homes. He later began setting aside 20 acres of his land for hay for the animals at the agency's Glen Dale campus. Deusner was superintendent at Glen Dale from 1948 to 1963, and then served as director of the overall homes for children ministry from 1963 to 1973.

Caroline Thacker dies at 69 in Murray

MURRAY—Caroline J. Thacker, 69, wife of longtime Kentucky Baptist pastor T.A. Thacker, died June 13 in Murray. She served alongside her husband in six churches, including four in Kentucky—First Baptist in Maysville, Memorial Baptist in Murray, Midlane Park Baptist in Louisville and Hurricane Baptist in Cadiz.

She had been a regional vice president of Kentucky Baptist Woman's Missionary Union. She also laid out and organized the nursery suite at Memorial Church in Murray, taught young adult women in Sunday school, led young people in discipleship training, and helped establish and lead the Girls in Action camping program at Jonathan Creek Baptist As-

sembly. Mrs. Thacker is survived by her husband of Murray; a daughter, Sherry Bouchillon; and two grandchildren, Andrea Lynn Bouchillon and John Shannon Bouchillon, all members of Hurstbourne Baptist Church in Louisville; and a sister, June Tandy Craig, a member of First Baptist Church of Central City.

Reeves named to KBHFC post

LOUISVILLE—Robert Reeves has been named associate director for public relations for Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children. Reeves, 32, has served in a similar position at Connie Maxwell Children's Home, an agency of the South Carolina Baptist Convention, since 1987.

ing promotional materials and handling media relations. He holds the bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of South Carolina and previously was editor and general manager of The Field and Herald, a weekly newspaper in Conway, S.C. Reeves and his wife, Elza, have two children, Steven, 7, and Mark, 3.



His duties with the Kentucky agency will include prepar-

Campbellsville plans visitation

CAMPBELLVILLE—Campbellsville College, one of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's three liberal arts colleges, will host a fall visitation day for high school juniors and seniors and their parents Sept. 11.

Registration will begin at 9 a.m. in the Student Activities Center.

Other highlights of the day include a presentation by President Kenneth

Winters, workshops on student academics, information for parents and financial aid, and campus tours.

The day will conclude with a football game between Campbellsville and Cumberland University of Tennessee.

For reservations or information, contact the admissions office at (800) 264-6014.

Three couples appointed foreign missionaries

RICHMOND, Va.—Three couples with Kentucky ties were appointed to mission service by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board June 29.

Gale and Leslie Hartley will serve in Eastern Europe, where they will start and develop churches.

Hartley is a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Lou-

isville and previously worked on the staff of Jefferson Street Baptist Chapel in Louisville. He most recently has been pastor of East Side Baptist Church in Elizabethton, Tenn.

Lyle and Claren Dease will live in Uruguay, where they will start and develop churches.

Dease is a former student at Cumberland College in Williamsburg. He

Campbellsville College sets concert schedule for year

CAMPBELLVILLE—Campbellsville College has released this tentative schedule of fine arts events for the coming year:

■ Sept. 1, the contemporary Christian music group "Truth," 7:30 p.m., Stapp Hall Lawn.

■ Sept. 7, guest recital by Kathy Karr, flute, and Denine LeBlanc, piano, 8 p.m., Recital Hall.

■ Sept. 16, guest recital by Joseph Mayes, baritone, and Nevalyn Moore, piano, 2 p.m., Recital Hall.

■ Sept. 21, guest recital on "The Living Roots of Music" by Lauren Pelon, 8 p.m., College Theater.

■ Sept. 28, faculty recital by Wesley Roberts, organ, 8 p.m., Campbellsville Baptist Church.

■ Oct. 27, convocation presentation by Betty Jean Chatham, piano, 10 a.m., College Theater.

■ Nov. 11-13, fall drama, 8 p.m.,

College Theater.

■ Nov. 18, Campbellsville College Jazz Band, 8 p.m., College Theater.

■ Dec. 7, Campbellsville College Concert Chorus presentation of "Messiah," 8 p.m., Campbellsville Baptist Church.

■ Feb. 17, faculty recital by Wesley Roberts, piano, and Sida Roberts, cello, 8 p.m., Recital Hall.

■ March 22, Campbellsville College Collegiate Chorale and Handbell Choir, 8 p.m., Campbellsville Baptist Church.

■ April 12, Campbellsville College Jazz Band, 8 p.m., College Theater.

■ April 21-23, spring musical, 8 p.m., College Theater.

■ April 25, Campbellsville College Concert Band, 7 p.m., Ampitheater.

■ April 26, Campbellsville College Concert Chorus, 8 p.m., First United Methodist Church.

Here's help for friends in crisis

Continued from page 1 time."

One of the most important things Christians can do for those who are hurting is "just listen to them," Johnson said.

"Avoid being judgmental or offering advice unless they ask for it," Johnson said. She and other seminar participants shared a number of suggestions for reaching out to those who are hurting, including:

■ Making a phone call or personal visit to express concern and support and let them know you are available to listen if they want to talk.

■ Praying for them on your own and, when possible, in person.

■ Sending flowers or an encouraging card or note.

■ Bringing food to their home or offering to take one or more family members out to dinner.

■ Offering to babysit children so parents can have some time alone to work through problems.

■ Getting them in touch with people who have or are experiencing similar crises.

■ Reminding them of God's love and concern for them.

"Don't say, 'If you need me call me' or 'If there is anything I can do, just let me know,' because most people won't call and they won't let you know," Johnson said. "Offer something, even if it is just a listening ear. They can always say no, but they can't say yes if you don't ask."

Sunday school classes should lead in reaching out to people experiencing crisis, Johnson said. "The Sunday school teacher is to the class what the pastor is to the church."

"Teachers have to take the lead in making sure people are ministered to."



MISSIONS AWARD April Gray, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Paul Gray of Maysville, receives an award for outstanding leadership in multihousing ministries during the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Multihousing Association at Ridgecrest, N.C. Gray is a US-2 missionary appointed by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board to serve in Arlington, Va. She has worked with 45 multihousing communities and 12 area churches to establish new ministries.

PEOPLE

Two Kentuckians minister in Namibia

TSUMEB, Namibia—Two Kentucky Baptists teamed up with a Kentucky Baptist missionary couple to spread the gospel in Africa this summer.

Sherry Hignite, a member of First Baptist Church of London, and Noel Dodson, pastor of McKee Baptist Church in McKee, worked with Bob and Oakie Blevins in Namibia, in southwestern Africa.

Blevins formerly was director of missions in Kentucky's Booneville and Irvine Baptist associations before accepting the Africa assignment.

During her time in Namibia, Hignite conducted vacation Bible schools in five churches in nine days.

"We saw over 600 persons of all ages attending (the Bible schools), and the highlight was when 33 young adults—mostly men—trusted in Jesus for salvation," Blevins reported.

"Sherry melted the hearts of the people—and these missionaries—as she ministered to the physical needs with non-prescription medicine. Tears streamed from her face as she applied ointments to the dry, cracking feet of the children."

Dodson preached revival meetings to more than 1,350 people in 12 churches.

86 people made professions of faith in Christ.

"The meetings were conducted in

some very adverse conditions and situations," Blevins said. "Night meetings were done by gas lights, hoping the mosquitoes would not become too active, resulting in malaria for anyone."

"We always had one, and sometimes two, interpreters, but praise be to God, this did not hinder Brother Dodson from bringing God's word through the Holy Spirit to a lost and dying world."

The Blevinses expressed thanks "to all the wonderful people from London and McKee who helped make the mission possible" by providing travel funds for Hignite and Dodson.

Mid-Continent graduates nine

MAYFIELD—Nine Kentuckians recently graduated from Mid-Continent Baptist Bible College in Mayfield.

Three of those graduated with academic honors: Joe Garrott Farless of Princeton, Steven Jones of Benton and Kenneth Simmen II of Gilbertsville.

Other Kentucky graduates include Michael Shawn Blankenship of Paducah, Royce Dukes of Hebo, Todd Hawkins of Benton, Richard Miller of Arlington, Dennis Norvell of Grand Rivers and Van Russell of Kirksey.

Hosea: God's Redeeming Love

August 12-13
Campbellsville College

Prepare for the 1994 January Bible Study with Dr. Gerald Keown, Old Testament professor at Southern Seminary. Call Dr. John Hurtgen at (502) 789-5029 for reservations (meals and session charges at no cost with advanced reservations).

Hosted by the Christian Studies Division
Campbellsville College



BAPTIST BUILDERS Volunteers with Kentucky Baptist Builders stand in front of the construction site at Blackjack Baptist Church in Simpson County. The volunteer laborers constructed a sanctuary on the top level of an existing building which houses a fellowship hall and classrooms.



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**KENTUCKY
BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP**

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Open Dialogue with Dr. Cecil Sherman

August 2	7:00	Erlanger Baptist (Northern)
August 3	7:00	First Corbin (South Central)
August 4	12:00	Flatwoods First (Eastern)
August 5	7:00	Executive Inn Paducah
August 6	7:00	Executive Inn Owensboro

MID-SUMMER'S GATHERING
Dr. Keith Parks, Missions Coordinator
Cooperative Baptist Fellowship
Dr. Charles Bugg

Carl E. Bates Professor of Christian Preaching, SBTS

Lexington Avenue Baptist Church - Danville
August 21 9:00-3:00 Nursery Provided
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Lunch Res. for 8/21
please include names for reservations

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KBF P.O. Box 11160 Lexington, KY 40574-1160

RECOGNITION OF KENTUCKY BAPTIST LEADERS

The 1993 KBC Obituaries Report will include information on deceased persons who have served our Lord and Kentucky Baptists in a noteworthy manner. We are including persons who died during the convention year, September 1, 1992 through August 31, 1993.

These persons would be Kentucky Baptist ministers, missionaries, educators, laypersons, institutional leaders and staff and others whose Christian service has significantly benefited our state convention fellowship and mission programs.

We need your help to gather the following information:

1. Full name of deceased
2. Date of birth
3. Active or retired status in last position held in city, state where located
4. Name of church where member, association, state where located
5. Service or ministry worthy of recognition (briefly stated)

Please forward this information before September 1 to:

Grace Wetherell
1700 North Beckley Station Road
Louisville, Kentucky 40223

These obituary entries will be reported to the 1993 KBC annual meeting in Louisville. You are an important part of our network to gather information on those servants who deserve to be remembered among Kentucky Baptists.

We are grateful to you.

Grace Wetherell, 1992-93 Obituaries Report

PEOPLE

Man drives 400 miles to attend 100-year-old church



By Wade Daffron
The Russell Register

RUSSELL SPRINGS—The man adjusted his cap against the early morning sun and looked at the old log church.

"This is a special place," he said. "It's humble. ... It means a lot to me."

Pleasant View Baptist Church means so much to Adrian Shepherd that he drives more than 400 miles twice a month to attend services in its rustic building.

Shepherd, of Cincinnati, drives to the church, near the Russell/Adair county line, "to feel closer to the Lord."

The church was built in 1884 and remains the same as it appeared more than 100 years ago.

The original poplar pews still are in use, a wood stove provides heat in the winter and the interior walls are ancient poplar logs.

"This church is so different," Shepherd said. "It's not like some of the churches in the big city, where it's 'show and tell' and 'let's see who can out-dress the other.'"

Shepherd read about the church in a newspaper, came to a worship service and "before long, he was baptized and became a church member," reported Pleasant View Pastor James C. Porter.

Shepherd, in his 70s, was baptized in Butler Creek, which runs directly in front of the church at the foot of two rolling hills.

"Brother Porter likes to dip people in that creek when the water is cold as ice," Shepherd said, "but I've never heard of anybody getting sick or getting pneumonia from it."

The church appealed to him because he is a "naturalist," he said.

"I like simple things," he explained. "I like this church because it's peaceful here."

Pleasant View holds services on the first and third Sundays of each month, at 2 p.m.

Reprinted with permission

FAITHFUL MEMBER Pastor James Porter (right) welcomes Adrian Shepherd at the door of Pleasant View Baptist Church. Shepherd drives more than 400 miles to attend the church twice each month. (Photo courtesy of Russell Register)

Ruth Boozer dies June 19

NASHVILLE—Kentucky native Ruth Foster Boozer, widow of long-time Kentucky Baptist pastor Claud Dow Boozer, died June 19 following a short illness. She was 94.

She was born near Covington and studied voice at the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. Although she dropped out of school to care for her mother, she honored a pledge to her father by graduating from high school at the age of 53, in the same class with her youngest son, John.

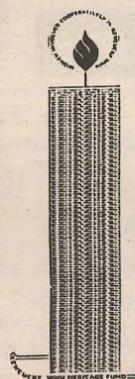
Mrs. Boozer was a life member of the Woman's Association of Georgetown College. She also was active in Woman's Missionary Union, as well as the music and ministry programs of the churches where her husband

was pastor.

Those Kentucky Baptist pastorates included Greenup Fork Church in Monterey, several congregations in Owen County, and Mt. Freedom Church in Wilmore, where they served for nine years.

She is survived by four sons, Howard of Hendersonville, N.C., William of Nashville, Robert of Dover, Del., and John of Roswell, Ga.; a sister, Mary Lou Wheeler of Fort Worth, Texas; 12 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Boozer had requested that memorials be made to Clear Creek Baptist Bible College in Pineville or to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn.



Kentucky WMU Heritage Fund

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The Kentucky WMU Heritage Fund is a permanent endowment created out of gratitude for the heritage of Kentucky WMU and is used to develop and strengthen the work of Kentucky's WMU. Money is given to honor the living, as a memorial for the

deceased, as an extra offering, or through a will.

Write to Woman's Missionary Union, P.O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433, or call (502) 245-4101.

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Wonderful things are happening in the lives of young people! Come find out how the Lord is using Kentucky Baptists to share hope and healing with boys and girls by visiting one of your campuses. Fun, food, and fellowship will be in abundance!

Glen Dale Children's Home

Glendale, Ky.

Saturday, July 24

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Spring Meadows Children's Home

Middletown, Ky.

Saturday, August 7

10 a.m.



Yes, we're coming to Child Care Day at: Glen Dale
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Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children
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PEOPLE

Henderson church honors Alan Chamness

HENDERSON—First Baptist Church of Henderson honored two decades of dependability June 27 with a surprise anniversary celebration for Alan Chamness, its minister of music and youth since 1973.

The First Church job has been Chamness' only full-time ministry position.

He started there shortly after he graduated from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.

Previously, he was part-time minister at three churches in Kentucky and Tennessee.

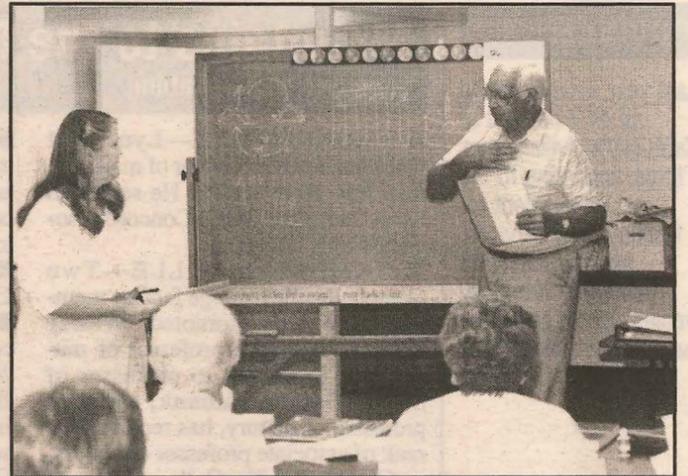
Chamness has served the Southern Baptist Convention through a variety of senior adult leadership roles.

Chamness also has provided Kentucky Baptist Convention leadership as a member of the Kentucky Baptist Chorale, regional music director, Baptist Student Union pastor/adviser, nominating committee member,

camp leader, officer of the Kentucky Baptist Music Association and music clinician.

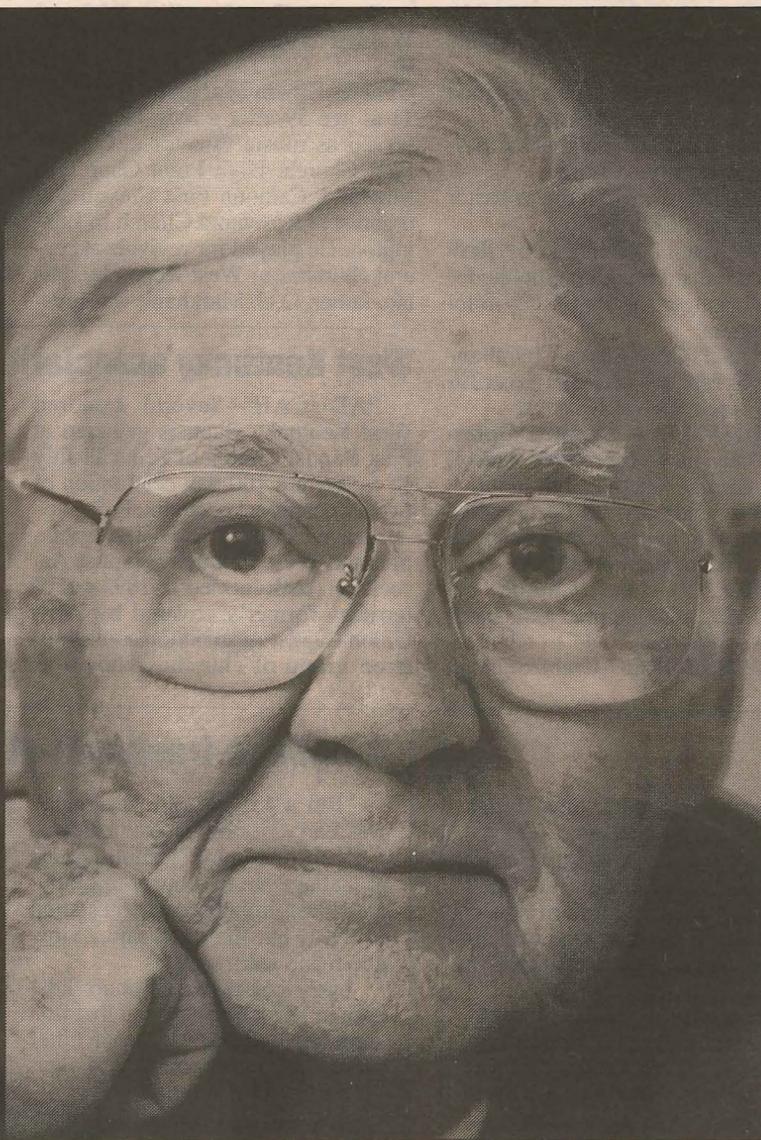
In addition to Southern Seminary, he is a graduate of Union University. In Henderson, he has been involved in an array of civic activities throughout the community.

Chamness has served alongside two pastors during his tenure in Henderson—current Pastor Bill Patterson and Pastor Emeritus David Bratcher.



TEACHER TRAINING Bill Hinton, a member of Edgewood Baptist Church in Hopkinsville, practices new skills he learned during an English as a Second Language workshop June 24-27. Sharon Siebold of Murray (left) led the workshop. The 10 Kentuckians who received certification from the workshop will use their skills to teach English to migrant workers and dependents of soldiers at Fort Campbell. The workshop was supported by Christian County Baptist Association, Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union and the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

"We Don't Need Just To Think About Helping The Needy, We Need To Help The Needy."



This concerned Baptist layman says this is *A Time to Remember* God's servants who are in need. In the Bluegrass State there are more than 400 retired pastors, Baptist workers, or their widows who receive annuities of less than \$200 per month. Some are in great need.

Taking time to remember the ministry of these faithful soldiers of the cross will inspire others to join in doing something to help.

Contact Richard Carnes, Executive Director of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation (502) 245-4101 or C. Joe McIntosh, Vice President for Endowment at the Annuity Board.

AB ANNUITY BOARD OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

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FOR SALE: Kimball Organ, church type, 5 years old, double keyboards, 13-note pedals, computer by Eelka, EP-13 series, walnut finish, half price. Kimball organ, P.O. Box 724, Moniticcello, KY 42633. (606) 348-8620.

AVAILABLE: 2-Bedroom, 2-bath condo for vacation rental, Sanibel Island, Florida. Large pool, tennis courts, sauna, bikes, screened porch. Best beach on the island. Call Pat Owen (502) 895-8752.

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

WANTED: Minister of music/youth. Send resumé to: Beechridge Baptist, 9798 Benson Pike, Bagdad, KY 40003, or call 747-8724.

WANTED: Beginning Aug. 1, pianist to accompany at Chevy Chase Baptist Church, Lexington, Ky. Call church (606) 266-2601 or Lee Ann Blackard (606) 272-3976.

POSITION: Church office administrator, part-time (10-15 hours/week). Contact Hunsinger Lane Baptist Church (502) 491-4356.

FOR SALE: 1991 & 1982 Dodge 15-passenger vans, extra nice, air. Also 3 other 15-passenger vans from \$1,970—\$2,950, no air. Others available. Call Frankfort Chrysler 1-800-289-8223.

WANTED: Minister of music and youth. Send resumé to Personnel Committee, Masonville Baptist Church, 6601 U.S. 231, Utica, KY 42376.

PEOPLE

KENTUCKY KERNELS

Last year, women made up 44.7 percent of Kentucky's civilian labor force, according to the Department for Employment Services. Approximately 53 percent of Kentucky females age 16 and older were in the state's labor force.

Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by Ann Tatum

■ **BARBOURVILLE**—Lynn Pat Robbins, former director of missions, died July 10 at age 73. He served in Lynn Camp and North Concord associations for 20 years.

■ **CAMPBELLSVILLE**—Two Campbellsville College faculty members have been promoted. Wesley Roberts, associate professor of music, was promoted to professor of music. Damon Eubank, assistant professor of history, has received the rank of associate professor of history.

Campbellsville College Dean of Student Development Sylvia Morris was elected membership chair of the Baptist Association of Student Affairs.

■ **CORBIN**—Dennis Johnson has been promoted from administrative assistant to assistant vice president at Central Baptist Hospital.

Larry Gray has been promoted from director of pastoral care to vice president of mission effectiveness at Central Baptist Hospital.

■ **ECHOLS**—Pond Run Church ordained Robert Fulkerson and Stanley Frazier as deacons.

■ **EUBANK**—Burney Manning resigned as interim pastor of Floyd Switch Church.

Major Nolan resigned as pastor of Good Hope Church.

■ **FORDSVILLE**—Friendship Church called George Craig as pastor.

■ **FRANKLIN**—Bill Goins, a layman from First Church, was struck by an automobile and died July 9 while on a mission to deliver donated goods to Oneida Baptist Institute.

■ **GATEWOOD**—Friendly Grove Church called Jeff Hays as pastor.

■ **HARTFORD**—Adaburg Church celebrated its 100th anniversary June 26 and 27.

■ **INEZ**—Paul Schmidt is pastor of Inez First Church. He previously served as pastor of Hyland Heights Church in Catlettsburg.

■ **IRVINE**—Salem Church ordained Danny Barnett as a deacon.

James Overbee resigned as pastor of Beech Grove Church.

William Bush will retire as pastor of Irvine First Church Nov. 1.

■ **LAGRANGE**—Suellen Joy Brill has been named marketing/public relations manager for Tri-County Baptist Hospital.

■ **LEXINGTON**—Grace Church ordained Fred Cox, Michael Scott Ellis and Herb Rice as deacons.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Stephen Oglesby has been named corporate controller for Baptist Healthcare System.

Robin Oldham has been named director of giving/special projects for Baptist Healthcare Foundation.

■ **MURRAY**—First Church ordained Marty Davenport and Gregg Travis as deacons.

■ **OWENSBORO**—Crabtree Ave-



Queen

nue Church called Bruce Queen of North Carolina as pastor. Queen has served churches in Kentucky, Ohio and Indiana for the past 15 years, and is a recent graduate of Southern Seminary's doctoral program.

■ **SCIENCE HILL**—McKinney Church ordained Eric Reynolds as a deacon.

■ **SOMERSET**—David King resigned as Sinking Valley Church. Bradley Goforth is interim pastor.

Sunrise Church called Richard Walden as pastor.

■ **SUN CITY WEST, Ariz.**—Charles Edwin Markham died June 11 at age 59 after a long illness. He served as music director at Clinton First Church, High Point Church in Mayfield, Calhoun First Church and organist at Rosemont Church in Lexington. He played for revivals at several churches in West Kentucky. His late father, O.C. Markham, was pres-

ident of Mid-Continent Baptist Bible College in Mayfield from 1957 to 1976. Markham is survived by his wife, Jacquelyn.

■ **TOMAHAWK**—Tomahawk Fellowship and Mount Beulah Mission of Warfield held vacation Bible school and revival services, led by a mission team from Three Creeks Church in Junction City, Ark. There was a total of 18 professions of faith.

■ **WILLIAMSBURG**—Twenty-two members of Northeast Christian Church in Louisville recently participated in Cumberland College's Mountain Outreach program, constructing a home for a family in Whitley County. Mountain Outreach was formed in 1981 by two students. Since that time, the program has built homes for 48 Appalachian families and repaired homes for numerous others. This summer approximately 200 volunteers from 19 churches in seven states will build 10 houses under the direction of Rick Rieffer, director of Appalachian Ministries at Cumberland College.

West Kentucky associations celebrate centennial

PADUCAH—Several hundred West Kentucky Baptists gathered at First Baptist Church of Paducah July 11 to begin a 100-day celebration of two associational centennials.

Graves County Baptist Association and West Kentucky Baptist Association both formed in 1893 out of territory formerly covered by West Union Baptist Association and a scattered group of churches known as

Mount Olivet Baptist Association. Mount Olivet Association disbanded at the time.

The celebration included historical skits and presentations, a combined choir from the three associations and a message by Franklin Paschall.

All 80 churches in the four-county area are encouraged to participate in 100 days of revival to mark the centennial.

Two starlit nights 31 years apart

Last issue I told you about 21 of our students and several staff sharing in a three-day camping trip including 32 miles of hiking.

Looking at the stars while the campfire burned nearly out, getting down to one glowing coal, I remembered other similar experiences—both in OBI service and while serving for over six years in the Peace Corps near the border of the then Soviet Empire in the Turkoman tribal area. Many memories flooded in.

I remembered helping lead a large group of Oneida schoolboys on a camping trip in the fall of 1962. Harold Combs, a 1945 OBI graduate, biology teacher, dean of boys, and principal, was the organizer of that trip. Those mountain trails leading over to the post office that still operates at Mistletoe are little changed these 30 years later.

On that long-ago camping and hiking trip was a senior boy named "Bud" Underwood. Raised in Dayton, Ohio, one who had been in 13 schools over 11 years, Bud had never had such an experience. Walking in the mountains, sleeping under the stars, cooking over a campfire. Later as a husband and father, he saw to it that his four children had many such experiences as a family, time to share, be together, and to later treasure.

Lying there remembering, I recalled that a fellow OBI classmate, Bill Smith and I, college completed, were back working at Oneida when "Bud" was a senior. We were on that hiking trip. In fact, we went back miles to the school's kitchen and had a tremendous amount of hot chocolate made, and surprised the weary and thirsty hikers with this treat late in the night. Just this very morning Bill and his wife, Peggy, surprised me with a visit from Florida.

ONEIDA JOURNAL



Barkley Moore

So, on this starlit night, I think how things change, and how they remain the same. The organizer of that camping trip 31 years ago, Harold Combs, has been retired many years. But "Bud" Underwood is now the dean. His oldest son is named Harold, in honor of the man who was his dorm supervisor at a very critical and formative time of his life.

Young Harold, who grew up hearing his parents' stories of OBI, came to Oneida from college and began teaching on his 21st birthday. That was seven years ago. Now married three years, young Harold teaches automotive repair and welding. He is also our soccer and baseball coach, and has coached three class A wrestling teams to state championships. He also has been a part of this 1993 camping trip.

Much has happened over the 31 years that separate two starlit nights. A few feet away "Bud" Underwood, who has had such a powerful influence on the lives of several thousand boys the past nine years, lies quietly sleeping. All around us are teen-agers, all but two having their first camping and hiking experience. It is hard work and a tremendous responsibility to walk 32 miles and shepherd nearly 20 teen-age boys day and night for three days—cooking, teaching to build fires, referee disputes, doctor mosquito or chigger bites. Out of it and many other experiences, boys are learning to be men, lives are being salvaged for useful work on this earth and for eternity.

I wonder which of these sleeping boys may be leading another generation of Oneida boys hiking 31 more years from now? I probably won't live to see that. Who knows? I would be a mere 83.

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

Paid Column

A college freshman at age 43

"I'm a 43-year-old freshman," was Larry Horton's introduction to a group of campus visitors. Some at that age are in a hurry to graduate. "I was impatient when I started in 1991, but the Lord said, 'Slow down and learn well.'"

Larry contracted Crohn's Disease in 1974. The stress of that first semester and the illness of other family members brought a relapse. He returned for summer school, and this fall he will earn nine hours credit.

Larry grew up in Lincoln County. He early saw the power of God. "My alcoholic dad was converted when I was 5. The Lord totally changed him. He never used liquor again. My mother was a spiritual giant and often prayed either me or my brother would preach the gospel." Converted at age 8, Larry drifted from the Lord after high school. At age 22 he felt the Lord's dealing. "I refused to listen, fearful it was Mama's prayer."

In 1974 he was hit with Crohn's. For three weeks prior to diagnosis he literally crawled around the house. Tests and surgery "put me in a position to pray for six weeks. I thank the Lord for the Gideons. I would wake up early and read the Psalms. It was like medication to

help me sleep. When I left the hospital, my life began to turn in a new direction."

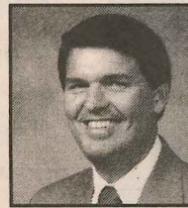
Another major influence came in 1981 when Larry met Judy Rector, a faithful member of Pleasant View Church. They were married the next year. She teaches at King's Mountain Elementary. They have two daughters, Artie, 10, and Chelsea, 6.

At age 40, Larry surrendered to the call he first felt at age 22. Six months ago he was called to Indian Creek Church, Casey County. Ten people have been baptized, including two men age 42 and 62.

The first week on campus Larry discovered Clear Creek's family concern. He forgot orientation lasted a week and came without any extra clothes. Professor's wife Loretta Pfoff found some in the campus Thrift Shop, altered them, and outfitted Larry for the week. Former librarian Carolyn Brooks took time to listen and helped him learn how to study. "It is so much better to stop fighting Christ and put him first. What I feared, he has empowered me to do," Larry testified.

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

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

Paid Column

MISSIONS

MissionsUSA Live takes message on the road

By David Winfrey
SBC Home Mission Board

ATLANTA (BP)—Nine volunteers, an RV and the open road for two years.

What may sound like a TV series plot is actually the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's latest effort to promote missions awareness and involvement.

The performing arts team MissionsUSA Live is traveling to churches, colleges and special events, combining music and drama to tell the story of home missions, said Bill Lee, HMB director of special ministries.

The group has enjoyed good reviews since it began performing in June, said Ginger Howell, team director. "It's a very different area of ministry and it's been received very well because of the creativity involved."

Kentucky native Michael Liter is also a member of the team. Liter, 23, is a graduate of the University of Tennessee.

In addition to performing, the group can assist churches with outreach ministries and evangelism,

Howell said. Performers are also prepared to answer questions ranging from how to become a home missionary to where contributions to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering go.

Their main purpose, however, is "making people realize that Christ has called us to a deeper commitment than just going to church each Sunday," Howell said.

Tom Eggleston, a home missionary who helped coordinate the group, said the troupe can be involved in every aspect of home missions. "I think this is going to get exposure for the Home Mission Board that will really make an impact."

The eight members of the group are US-2 missionaries, volunteers in their early 20s who sign up for two years of mission work. A sound technician also tours with the group.

While traveling and performing around the country sounds glamorous, Howell admits that nine people sharing a 27-foot motor home requires some adjustments. Among them is the need to take "I time," when members can get away from the rest of the group, she said.



700 campers from 20 states gather for annual rally

By Ken Camp
Texas Baptist Convention

DALLAS (BP)—"Sharing Christ As We Go" was the theme as about 700 campers from 20 states and one Canadian province attended the annual Campers on Mission National Rally June 22-25 near Glen Rose, Texas.

More than 300 recreational vehicles filled the Tres Rios campground for the largest rally in the 22-year history of Campers on Mission.

About three-fourths of the campers were commissioned at the closing session of the rally for missions projects ranging from vacation Bible school and construction at nearby First Baptist Church in Glen Rose to long-term church planting ventures in Montana and Alaska.

The 17 educational seminars offered at the rally included ministry-

oriented topics such as personal evangelism, puppetry, balloon sculpturing and resort ministries, as well as "nuts and bolts" conferences on RV highway safety, financial planning and cardiac pulmonary resuscitation.

During the Wednesday evening worship service, B O Baker, pastor emeritus of Plymouth Park Baptist Church in Irving, Texas, challenged the campers to take the "mountain-top" experience of the rally into the "valley" of everyday service.

"Jesus does not want men and women in the valley who have never been to the mountain. Jesus does not want men and women on the mountain who will not go into the valley," Baker said. "Jesus wants men and women in the valley with the mountain in their hearts."

The rally was co-sponsored by the HMB and the church recreation de-

partment of the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Texas chapter President Doil Hammons of First Baptist Church of La Feria said there are about 300 Texas Campers on Mission, making the hosting Lone Star State chapter one of the nation's largest, alongside Florida and Louisiana.

Hammons' personal ministry during several months of the year is leading three Bible studies each week for "winter Texans" in the lower Rio Grande Valley.

"Campers on Mission is really not so much an organization as it is a philosophy," Hammons said. "We are campers who are on a mission of sharing God's word as we go."

About 3,000 families nationwide are members of the 21 state chapters of Campers on Mission, according to Carl Reagan, a Mission Service Corps

volunteer from Franklin, N.C., who serves as national Campers on Mission consultant for the HMB.

The interdenominational fellowship of Christian campers is growing at a rate of 40 to 50 new members each month, and the 22nd Campers on Mission chapter—Kansas—is scheduled to be formed in the near future.

Reagan and his wife, Mary, became involved in Campers on Mission about 10 years ago.

The Reagans' recreational vehicle bears a personalized license plate that serves as both a conversation-starter and a testimony of their missions philosophy: "ASWEGO."

"We're gypsies who feel the need to take the message of Jesus to people who probably are not comfortable in my church or yours," Mary Reagan said.

Mission opportunities abound for campers, leaders say

By Linda Lawson
SBC Sunday School Board

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)—Camping and missions may not sound like they go together, but Christian campers committed to witnessing and ministering are finding a wide variety of opportunities in campgrounds, resort areas and at fairs and flea markets throughout the nation.

Lester Evans, director of missions for the Macon Baptist Association of North Carolina and a member of the state and national Campers on Mission organizations, led a conference on the topic recently at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center.

More than 3,000 families are members of Campers on Mission, an organization of Southern Baptists and other Christians coordinated by the Home Mission Board. Also, chapters have been formed in 21 states.

With more than 20 million Americans involved in camping each year and more than 11,000 campgrounds in the United States, Evans said the potential for ministry is unlimited.

He acknowledged some church leaders are reluctant to become involved in camping ministries out of concern that they will draw people away from attending church. However, he emphasized that ministries should be church-based.

"These (campground and resort ministries) grow out of the church. They become an extension, missionary arm of the church to encourage people to share Christ wherever they go," Evans said. He encouraged churches to endorse and commission camping missionaries.

In addition to worship services, Evans said churches or traveling campers may wish to sponsor week-day activities such as puppets or face

painting, day camps, chaplaincy ministries or other activities uniquely suited to the location.

For example, he said Campers on Mission members are serving as hosts and providing activities in national, state and county parks. A North Carolina group sponsored a diaper-changing station at a local heritage event.

At festivals, fairs, carnivals, race tracks or flea markets, campers might distribute tracts, provide activities or offer a worship or devotional time.

"These are people we may never see in our churches, but we are reaching them in the marketplace," Evans said.

He said in 1992 his family decided to conduct a 10-week ministry in a nearby campground.

"It was one of the most stretching experiences I've ever had. At the end of 10 weeks, people were asking us to continue into the fall," Evans said.

PERFORMING MISSIONS
The performing arts team MissionsUSA Live is traveling to churches, college campuses and special events, combining music and drama to tell the story of home missions. Back row: Clint Bell, Michael Liter, Carey Dyer, Rachel Alderman. Front row: Ginger Howell, Scott Copeland, Missy Woodward, Dena Ratliff. (HMB photo)



FAMILY FORUM

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