

FOR THE RECORD

Parks speaks

Keith Parks, missions coordinator for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, spoke in Danville last week about differences between the Fellowship and the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. *See page 2.*

Private meeting

A group of conservative pastors held a "by invitation only" meeting in Eastern Kentucky last week to counter a perceived threat from the Kentucky Baptist Fellowship, which recently held a series of public meetings around the state. *See page 3.*

Editorial

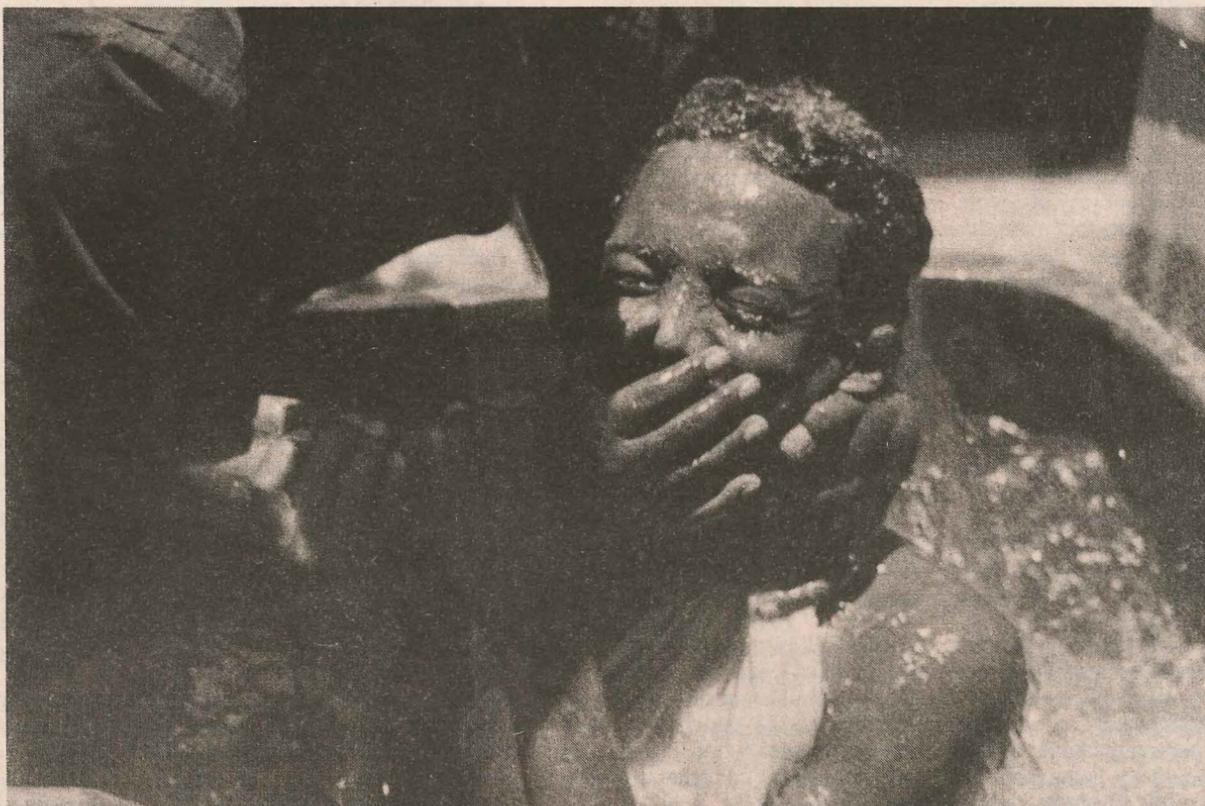
Poll reveals need to stress evangelistic mandate. *See page 5.*



Pages 6, 7 & 8 offer a special report on the first of six Super Saturday training conferences currently being offered around the state. Story topics include:

- Church transition
- Adult Bible teaching
- Youth Bible teaching
- Church types
- Small-church music
- Flexible Curriculum
- Children & worship
- Positive discipline
- Money management
- New members

Moving? See page 4 (0824)



HEAVENLY SUNLIGHT After more than a decade of having to baptize quietly and secretly inside a warehouse, the New Covenant Baptist Church of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, now can baptize new believers in open daylight—and sing loudly as each one rises from the water. Here Yendil, son of an Ethiopian Orthodox priest, baptizes a young woman. He was chased from the Orthodox church for preaching evangelical doctrine. Now he travels across Ethiopia as the "encourager" to new congregations of the Baptist convention. (BP photo by Melissa Bird)

Missionary says prayer saved his life

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)—Missionary Ed Ables says he is certain Ruth Nolen's prayers saved him and his wife from death recently.

On June 15, Nolen couldn't get Ed and Linda Ables out of her mind. Nolen and her husband, Steve, are Southern Baptist missionaries in Mendoza, Argentina, 600 miles west of Buenos Aires, where the Ables and his wife, Linda, are missionaries.

Nolen felt such an impression to pray for the Ables that she kept trying to call them, starting at 10:30 that night, but failing to get through.

Tragically, her fears were well-founded. When she finally reached another missionary in the area, Nolen learned the Ables were in a hospital emergency room being treated for wounds and bruises from a robbery and beatings in their home.

During the attack, Ed Ables was hit in the head at least a dozen times and his wife was struck on the head and in the face.

"At the same time that Ruth was praying for us, one of the robbers had cocked a pistol, put it to my head and snapped the trigger," Ed Ables later explained.

He figured the gun used by the robbers was empty, but police later told him a person could not pull the trigger on such a gun unless it had shells in it. The gun simply misfired.

"I really feel like the gun didn't go off because she was praying," said Ables, who has served 25 years in Argentina.

The Ables currently are recovering in Birmingham, Ala.

Miss Kentucky gives a hand to church's Habitat ministry

By Melanie Childers
Staff Writer

MOREHEAD—Miss Kentucky 1993 isn't bothered by a little dirt under her fingernails.

Working alongside fellow volunteers from First Baptist Church in Morehead, where she attends, Tonya Virgin spent the weekend prior to this summer's Miss Kentucky competition helping build a Habitat for Humanity house.

She said she didn't worry too much about splinters, bruises or broken fingernails, although she did admit to momentary concern when someone warned her of poison ivy in the area.

Overall, she said, the experience was worth the risk: "We had a great time. It was a lot of fun."

And the work certainly didn't keep her from performing well in the competition; she was named Miss Kentucky that next week and now is preparing for the Miss America competition Sept. 3.

First Baptist Church has adopted Habitat for Humanity as a way to reach out to the community. The Christian, non-profit organization uses volunteers to provide affordable housing for the poor across the United States.

Pastor Don Mantooth, who is president of Morehead's Habitat for Humanity chapter, estimated about 60 church members were involved as volunteers with the most recent project.

Working through the organi-

zation, the church has helped build five houses in Morehead.

Although Virgin's membership remains at Oldtown Christian Church in her hometown of Oldtown, she has attended First Baptist Church in Morehead during her college years.

She recently received her undergraduate degree in radio and television broadcasting and marketing from Morehead State University. This fall, she plans to begin work toward a master's degree in business administration.

Virgin said she appreciated church members supporting her with cards and letters during her preparation for the Miss Kentucky competition, even though they hadn't known her very long and she wasn't actually a church member.

Virgin has sung in the choir and frequently has been invited to sing solos during worship services—a gift she has been sharing for many years.

"I was raised on gospel and country music, ... and started singing in church at age 11," she said, explaining that she hopes to pursue a career in country music.

It was through her involvement at First Baptist in Morehead that Virgin became interested in Habitat for Humanity.

"I don't pretend to be a great carpenter, but I was out there helping build," she said. "By the end of the day, I knew how to set

□ See Miss Kentucky ..., page 3

Be advocates for children, Garland asks

LOUISVILLE (BP)—Forget "Leave It to Beaver" if you want to understand the lives of modern American children, Diana Garland says.

On the old television series, the Beaver and his brother, Wally, always had meals—balanced and beautiful—with their entire family. There never seemed to be any worry concerning a house to live in or a good school to attend.

But today, life for most American children is a far cry from those days, according to Garland, dean of the school of church social work at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

The challenges and difficulties today's children and youth face are described in Garland's new book, "Precious in His Sight, A Guide to Child Advocacy," published by New Hope Press. New Hope is a publishing arm of Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union.

Some of the most critical problems, according to Garland, are:

■ Children are considered innocent and dependent, yet are put in situations that require them to act like adults long before they are ready. For example, many school-age children are left unsupervised at home for hours while parents work.

■ Some children suffer from having it all; other children suffer by living in poverty. "Children are the poorest population group in our country, and they are getting poorer," Garland noted. "One out of five children lives in a family which lives below the poverty level."

■ Almost 29 percent of American young people who entered the ninth grade in 1984 failed to graduate from high school four years later. And even those who remain in school may fail to be educated.

■ One out of every four babies in the United States is born to a single mother, many of whom are teen-agers. "Teen-age mothers are most likely to be poor not only as teen-agers but for the rest of their lives," Garland said. "They earn an average of half the lifetime income of women who wait until age 20 or longer to have their first baby."

But the situation facing children of today isn't without hope, Garland believes.

"A comprehensive response is needed," she explained. "Churches can respond directly to the needs of adolescents. Churches can empower parents to tackle the forces in the lives of their children which place them at risk. Christians can advocate for changes in communities and schools."

In her book, Garland outlines exactly why Christians should and can become effective advocates.

For example, she suggests:

■ Welcome children into the church as valuable members.

■ Include children in the worship, ministry and administration aspects of the church.

□ See Be advocates for ..., page 2

BAPTIST BITS

■ **Andrew Lee** has been named director of the Northeastern Baptist School of Ministry, a division of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. A native of Hong Kong, Lee is on the ministerial staff of Trust in God Baptist Church in New York City.

■ **Clyde Meador**, a missionary and mission administrator in Asia for nearly 19 years, was elected area director for mission work in southern Asia and the Pacific Aug. 18 by trustees of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. Meador replaces Jerry Rankin, who became the FMB's 10th president in June.

■ **Thurmon Bryant**, a 33-year veteran of foreign missions, was elected vice president for mission personnel by Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board trustees Aug. 18. A former missionary to Brazil, Bryant, 63, has been associate vice president for mission personnel since 1987.

■ **O.S. Hawkins** could become the next pastor of First Baptist Church of Dallas, the chairman of the pastor search committee said. Hawkins, a 46-year-old former Texan, has been pastor of the 10,000-member First Baptist Church of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., since 1978. He will be nominated to succeed legendary Dallas pastor W.A. Criswell Aug. 29. Joel Gregory was elected pastor in 1990 but resigned in September 1992, saying the 83-year-old Criswell was unwilling to relinquish leadership of the church as promised.

Parks speaks in state, cites different approaches

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

DANVILLE—The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship ultimately has the same missions goal as the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board but will pursue a different way of accomplishing it, Keith Parks told more than 200 Kentuckians Aug. 21 in Danville.

"The bottom line is we're all trying to spread the gospel, to bring people to know Jesus Christ," said Parks, former FMB president and current director of the Fellowship's missions program. "The goal is the same; the way we go about it is different."

Parks was the featured guest at the summer meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Fellowship, held at Lexington Avenue Baptist Church in Danville. He spoke during a morning breakout session and then preached during an afternoon worship session.

The 250 people attending the one-day gathering represented the largest crowd ever to attend a Kentucky Fellowship meeting, said Carolyn Hale, the group's communications coordinator. The Kentucky Fellowship is a state chapter of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, a group of moderates displeased with the Southern Baptist Convention's leadership.

Parks left the FMB last year, citing "philosophical differences" with conservative trustees.

One of the areas of disagreement between Parks and the trustees is the most obvious difference between the FMB and the Fellowship, he said. That is the Baptist seminary at Ruschlikon, Switzerland, which the FMB defunded and the Fellowship later began supporting. The Fellowship also supports several former FMB missionaries in Europe.

Beyond Ruschlikon, Parks cited other differences between the FMB and the Fellowship:

■ Focus on unreached people

groups. Aside from the European effort, which launched the new missions program, the Fellowship will concentrate on what missiologists call "World A," Parks said. World A is a region where about one-fourth of the world's population lives, predominantly people who never have heard the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Only about 1,000 of the world's missionaries work in World A, Parks said.

Despite some emphasis on World A, the FMB "is predominantly working in parts of the world that have the most missionaries, the most churches and the most money," he said.

■ Missionary assignments. The FMB assigns missionaries to nations, Parks explained. If a nation closes its doors to missionaries, FMB missionaries stop working with that people group until the country reopens, he said.

The Fellowship assigns missionaries to people groups, not nations, Parks said. This allows missionaries to work across geographic boundaries, both with nationals and expatriots, regardless of whether a country is open or closed.

For example, twice as many Albanians live outside that country as live inside it, he said.

■ One mission board. While the FMB and its domestic counterpart, the Home Mission Board, separate missions inside and outside the United States, the Fellowship draws no such distinction, Parks said. "We're not dividing the world. We think that's long since passe to divide the world between home and foreign missions."

■ Missionary grouping. The FMB places missionaries near each other, so they can be organized into administrative groups known as missions. The Fellowship, though, "plans to scatter people and let them communicate electronically," Parks said.

■ No institutions. Institutions such as hospitals and seminaries have been a mainstay of FMB programs. But aside from its support for the Ruschlikon seminary, the Fellowship has no plans to start institutions, Parks said.

■ Divorcees and women. While the FMB opposes appointing divorced individuals as missionaries and won't appoint women to certain roles, the Fellowship won't be so restrictive, he said.

Women will be considered for more roles, and divorcees will be considered on a case-by-case basis, Parks said. "That doesn't mean everybody who's divorced is qualified to be a missionary, but it doesn't mean they automatically aren't qualified either."

In a question-and-answer period during the morning session, Parks also defended the Fellowship against what he said are the most common accusations against it.

The four most-common accusations, he said, are that the Fellowship is theologically liberal, pro-abortion, pro-homosexual and doesn't believe in public prayer.

"All four are blatant lies," he declared.

Parks recalled that during his difficulties with FMB trustees, he challenged them to cite any area where he was out of line theologically.

"Not a one of them ever tried," he said. "They know, and I know, that there's no deviation in my teaching from sound biblical teaching."

Another common criticism of the Fellowship is that the new organization is "tearing down the Cooperative Program," Parks said. The Cooperative Program is the SBC's unified missions-giving plan, which many moderate churches have at least partially bypassed to give to Fellowship causes.

To refute this argument, Parks cited a study done by Lloyd Elder of

Belmont University. "The coordinating council members of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship—their churches—give a higher percentage to the Cooperative Program than any group among Southern Baptist leaders—Executive Committee, Foreign Mission Board, Home Mission Board—except Woman's Missionary Union's executive board."

Parks then referred to a "by invitation only" meeting of Kentucky Baptist conservatives held in Louisa Aug. 19, called by its organizers a Cooperative Program Rally.

"I would guarantee you if we took an average of giving through the Cooperative Program of churches represented here and the churches represented there, the percentage given by your churches would be higher than the percentage given by theirs."

"They can talk CP all they want to, but until they start supporting CP, there's a lot of hypocrisy."

Parks said the Fellowship currently employs 22 missionaries and plans to approve six more in September. These will be the first "young, career missionaries" appointed by the Fellowship, he said.

Also during the Danville meeting, participants heard a message by Charles Bugg, professor of preaching at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville and attended break-out sessions on preaching, Christian education, the work of the Kentucky Baptist Fellowship, worship and the ministry of Quest Farm in Lexington.

Frank Hatfield of Shepherdsville, the Kentucky Fellowship's treasurer, reported income of \$6,154 and expenditures of \$5,449 during the four-month period ending July 31. Most of the income was from individuals and churches.

Unlike the national organization, the Kentucky chapter does not process gifts from churches for missions field work.

Rankin outlines possible FMB restructuring

By Robert Dilday
Virginia Religious Herald

RICHMOND, Va. (ABP)—A decentralized staff structure may be in the works for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, whose trustees discussed a proposed reorganization of their Richmond-based work force during the board's Aug. 16-18 meeting.

FMB President Jerry Rankin, elected in June, presented a preliminary outline of changes in staff structure he said he is contemplating and hopes to complete in time for trustee action in October.

Highlights of the plan include disbanding the top-level Global Strategy Group, creating a new post called overseas vice president, and permitting more missions strategy to be formulated by missionaries on the field.

In addition, the role of the five regional vice presidents, who administer the work of missionaries around the world, would be changed to an advisory or consultative one. Area directors, who are field-based liaisons between missionaries and regional

vice presidents, would report directly to the new overseas vice president.

Assisting Rankin in fine-tuning the proposal is a 10-member committee of staff and trustees.

During their three-day meeting, trustees endorsed the plan in general and gave specific approval to the new overseas vice president's position. A candidate for that spot may be presented in October, Rankin said.

Portions of Rankin's plan are reminiscent of the leadership style of Baker James Cauthen, FMB president from 1954-79, who gave every mission—the organization of missionaries in each country—the autonomy to devise strategy and draw up budgets.

In contrast, Keith Parks, a missions veteran who succeeded Cauthen in 1980, focused more decision-making in Richmond and created a cabinet of high-level administrators—the Global Strategy Group—to set worldwide policy and priorities.

Parks' centralized approach drew praise for its emphasis on accountability and was a key factor in the board's success in signing so-called non-residential missionaries to coun-

tries closed to traditional evangelistic ministries.

But the diminished decision-making role of the individual missions was criticized by some missionaries who doubted Richmond fully understood needs in their regions. Rankin addressed those concerns in his comments to trustees.

"We must strengthen a sense of ownership on the part of missionaries in determining methodology and give them more involvement in strategy planning which they are responsible for implementing," he said. "They must not be treated as employees restricted by a plethora of policies and burdened by a sense of corporate responsibility."

In place of the Global Strategy Group a common global strategy will be devised by the collective input of the area directors meeting in Richmond twice a year, he said.

In addition, Rankin indicated he and the overseas vice president, along with Executive Vice President Don Kammerdiener, would comprise a decision-making triumvirate to evaluate worldwide missions strategy.

Be advocates for children: Garland

Continued from page 1

■ Organize a network of family child-care providers.

■ Encourage state and federal legislation for child care for preschoolers and school-age children and monitor child-care programs in your community.

■ Participate in community ministries.

■ Volunteer to work in a shelter for homeless families or other programs which serve the poor in your community.

■ Provide tutoring and educational support for disadvantaged children.

■ Reach out to teen parents.

■ Become a special adult in the life of a child who needs an adult friend.

■ Develop partnerships with concerned citizens inside government agencies.

■ Write letters and make phone calls.

■ Speak to decision-makers.

Conservatives hold 'by invitation only' meeting

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

Conservative pastors held a "by invitation only" rally in Eastern Kentucky last week to counter a perceived threat from the Kentucky Baptist Fellowship, which recently held a series of public meetings around the state.

Invitations to the conservative rally were issued in a letter written by Mike Taylor, pastor of First Baptist Church in Prestonsburg, and sent to an unknown number of pastors. The letter also included a flier highlighting the event.

"I would caution you that we do not want to give these (fliers) to anybody that we are not certain of where they stand," Taylor wrote in the letter. "This is not an open rally. This rally is by invitation only."

The Western Recorder obtained a copy of Taylor's letter from a pastor who received it in the mail.

The Cooperative Program Rally was held at First Baptist Church of Louisa. Rally speakers identified in the letter were Bill Hancock, pastor of Highview Baptist Church in Louisville, and Mike Routt, pastor of Eastern Gate Baptist Church in Shepherdsville.

Hancock is immediate past chairman of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. He told the Western Recorder he had been engaged to speak at the meeting by L.R. Hume, pastor of Pollard Baptist Church in Ashland, but had no knowledge of Taylor's letter. Repeated calls to Hume last week were not returned.

Routt is one of two Kentuckians who attended a meeting in Memphis last August in which leaders of the Southern Baptist Convention conservative movement explained strategies for gaining control of state conventions. Routt also did not respond to a telephone message left by the Recorder at his home.

When contacted by the Recorder, Taylor acknowledged he had written the letter.

"The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship is holding several regional rallies at which you and I are to believe nothing political is going on," Taylor wrote. "The reality is that we surprised them in Louisville and they are

now preparing for Elizabethtown.

"We must increase our efforts to get as many messengers as possible, as the issue of contributing to the Fellowship through the KBC will certainly be brought up. If we lose the fight on this vital issue, we will lose the Kentucky Baptist Convention to the Fellowship."

Taylor's reference to Louisville relates to last year's KBC annual meeting in which several initiatives supported by moderates were either defeated or narrowly passed. Moderates, who generally had been assumed to hold the advantage, also lost several key elections. This year's annual meeting is slated for Sevens Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethtown Nov. 16-17.

Steve Hadden, moderator of the Kentucky Fellowship and pastor of Faith Baptist Church in Georgetown, said there's no way the Fellowship could take over the KBC even if they wanted to.

"We have 70 churches contributing to the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship out of more than 2,000 Baptist churches in the state of Kentucky," he explained.

"The intent of the Fellowship is not to take over anything, and certainly not to take over the KBC. We want to support the KBC.

"It is our intent to prevent the sort of takeover that has occurred in the SBC and to resist fundamentalists who have a political agenda, who want to take over our agencies and institutions," Hadden said.

Taylor's letter also criticized KBC Executive Director-Treasurer Bill Marshall and Western Recorder Editor Marv Knox as being "members of Fellowship churches."

"I don't know about you, brethren, but it really concerns me that they are paid by Cooperative Program monies to support the Fellowship in their editorials and Executive Committee decisions," Taylor wrote.

Marshall is a member of Broadway Baptist Church in Louisville, and Knox is a member of Crescent Hill Baptist Church in Louisville. Both churches channel some of their missions money through the Fellowship but continue to contribute directly to the KBC's work.

Last year, Broadway gave \$52,327 and Crescent Hill Baptist Church gave \$24,364 directly to the KBC, according to KBC records. Broadway gave \$2,250 undesignated through the Cooperative Program, and Crescent Hill gave \$1,720 undesignated through the Cooperative Program.

Taylor said he had not discussed his concerns with Marshall or Knox before criticizing them in the letter but that he intends to talk to each of them.

The purpose of the conservative rally, Taylor said, was to talk about the effects the Fellowship might have on the Cooperative Program, Southern Baptists' unified missions budget. A growing number of moderate churches nationwide are directing their money through the Fellowship rather than the conservative-controlled SBC Executive Committee. However, most all of these churches have continued to support their state conventions as before.

"We just wanted to get together with people who are loyal to the Cooperative Program," Taylor said. The reason for being selective in who was invited was to avoid having a "divisive" meeting, he explained.

In contrast, the Fellowship meetings Taylor criticized were advertised publicly and were open to all who wanted to attend, Hadden noted.

The regional meetings were held Aug. 2-6 in Erlanger, Corbin, Flatwoods, Paducah and Owensboro. About 190 people attended the six sessions, according to Carolyn Hale, communications coordinator for the Kentucky Fellowship.

LaVerne Butler, a well-known conservative leader in Kentucky, attended the Paducah meeting and engaged in a lively debate with the speaker, Cecil Sherman, coordinator of the national Fellowship group. Several others attending the Paducah meeting were antagonistic toward the Fellowship, according to several people who were present.

Butler told the Western Recorder he is concerned that the Fellowship will "undermine" the SBC by not becoming a separate convention.

"Everything that has been done in the conservative resurgence has been done within the system," he said. "It doesn't speak well or bode well for

somebody when they can't work in the system. Then they have problems."

Butler said there is a difference between the way the Fellowship is supporting causes outside the Cooperative Program and the way conservatives continue to support independent schools such as Mid-Continent Baptist Bible College in Mayfield, where he is president.

Mid-Continent and numerous other schools were started by Baptist conservatives in earlier years when they were unhappy with the way moderates ran Southern Baptist schools. Mid-Continent officially remains unaffiliated with either the SBC or KBC.

"Mid-Continent saved this area for Southern Baptists," Butler said of West Kentucky. "The strongest CP-giving churches in this area are the supporters of Mid-Continent. All our students are trained to support the Cooperative Program."

Although Butler has been a spokesman for conservative causes in Kentucky, he said he had no knowledge of the Louisa rally.

However, he said there has been discussion of holding several "talking meetings" around the state prior to the KBC annual meeting. Butler said he wasn't that involved in conservative leadership anymore and that Routt would know more about such meetings.

Routt was out of his office last week and did not return a call to the Recorder for comment.

Some moderates have said they believe Kentucky is one of several states conservative forces intend to gain control of in the same way they captured the SBC.

A second national meeting of state-level conservative strategists was held in Nashville last February as a follow-up to the August 1992 meeting Routt attended in Memphis.

The meeting's organizer, T.C. Pinckney of Virginia, said he couldn't remember if any Kentuckians attended the second meeting, but there "probably were" Kentuckians there.

As for concerns that Kentucky has been targeted for a takeover, Pinckney said that is "not true, and I think I would be knowledgeable about that."

"I would caution you that we do not want to give these (fliers) to anybody that we are not certain of where they stand. This is not an open rally. This rally is by invitation only."

Letter from Mike Taylor to pastors in Eastern Kentucky

Counseling center opens in Erlanger

ERLANGER—Cornerstone Counseling has opened a new counseling center in Northern Kentucky as a joint venture between Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children and Northern Kentucky Baptist Association.

The new office is located in the association's building at 3001 Riggs Ave. in Erlanger.

Currently, eight hours of counseling are offered each week by Amy Coleman and Thomas Noye, both of whom hold master's degrees in counseling.

Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children began Cornerstone Counseling in 1992 with an office in Bowling Green. The program was developed based on requests from

pastors and associational directors of missions, said Cornerstone Director Jane Parker. The pastors and DOMs cited a need for affordable Christian counseling in all parts of the state.

Discussions are underway about opening additional counseling centers in other areas of the state, said Curtis Mooney, president of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children.

"We're extending our mission to include prevention, in that if we can teach families and individuals how to function healthier, then that makes for healthier families who can deal with family issues on their own," Parker explained.

To contact the Erlanger center, call (606) 727-9946.

Miss Kentucky lends a hand

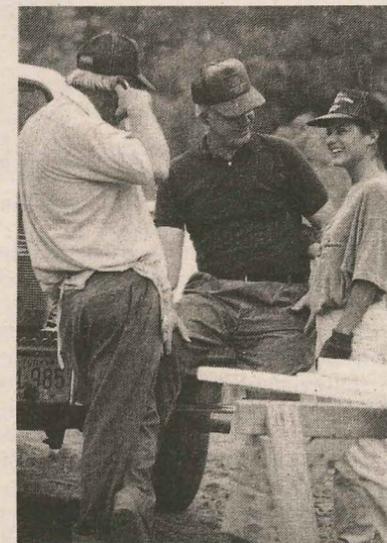
Continued from page 1
up scaffolding."

She spent a good part of the day setting up scaffolding, lifting roofing material and pulling up weeds around the lot, she explained.

Seeing the expressions on the faces of the new residents has been Virgin's favorite part of working with Habitat for Humanity," she said.

"When you see that you can make a difference, you want to do more. It makes you feel good to be able to help someone else."

ON THE JOB Miss Kentucky Tonya Virgin chats with fellow volunteers at the Habitat for Humanity worksite where she got her hands dirty in ministry the week before the Miss Kentucky competition.



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

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God gives hope for infertile couples

In a culture that focuses as much attention as ours on the experience of childbirth, infertility can be traumatic. As half of an infertile couple, I know firsthand the sadness, isolation and confused self-image that are often a part of infertility. My wife and I have been married 19 years this month and have not been able to have children using what we consider to be reasonable and ethical means.

The numbers are daunting. Sociologist Arthur Griel, author of "Not Yet Pregnant: Infertile Couples in Contemporary America," says there are more than 2.4 million infertile couples. As many as 15 percent of married couples in America are infertile, and nearly 50 percent of infertile women have been to a physician or clinic to seek treatment. Between 80 percent and 90 percent of couples who seek treatment find some medical reason for their infertility.

Paradoxically, the trauma is compounded by the fact there are so many ways to get pregnant. Considering all the assisted reproductive possibilities, including in vitro fertilization, artificial insemination, surrogacy and frozen embryo transfer, there are at least 38 ways to "make a baby"—some of them unethical. While the variety of technologies offer hope to some couples, they make others who find it impossible to conceive feel even more

Then there is the persistent barrage of extremely private questions people ask and the not-so-sage unsolicited advice they sometimes offer. "Who's fault is it, yours or your husband's?" some will ask, as if blame is to be assigned. Others will offer home remedies too silly to repeat. Still others will advise, "Just relax, and you'll get pregnant." Relaxing can be tension-

filled if you think having a baby depends upon it. Sadly, not meaning to be cruel, some insensitively and inaccurately will tell you, "If you had enough faith, you would conceive."

Young married Sunday school classes are filled with couples having babies. Seemingly there is a baby shower to attend every month or so.

And you feel guilty when you ask, "Why them and not us?"

For those who are traumatized by their infertility, the road to recovery is at its foundation theological. Infertile couples need to reflect on what the Bible says about infertility.

First, without question, parenthood is the biological and biblical norm for married couples and, when possible, is certainly to be celebrated (Genesis 1:28; Psalm 127:3-5). Children are a heritage from the Lord.

Second, it is equally true that it is God's will for some couples not to have children. All of the assisted reproductive technologies notwithstanding, it is still the sovereign Lord who opens and shuts the womb (I Samuel 1:5-6; Proverbs 16:9; James 4:15; Ephesians 1:11). Our Creator is intimately involved with every aspect of his creation.

Third, our heavenly Father loves us, always acts with purpose and has

our best interests in view. Romans 8:28-29 is not a passage to quote flip-pantly; but at the same time, it is a sweet and assuring balm when eagerly waiting to discover God's purpose.

Our Father works everything together in such a way as to bring glory to himself and good to his children. Infertility is not a cruel joke played on couples by an antagonistic deity. When we ask for bread, he does not give us rocks. For when we ask for fish, he does not give us snakes. God has promised always to do what is best for his children.

Finally, infertility should encourage prayer. That is not to say that if one prays hard enough or has enough faith fertility will result. We always can trust the goodness of the Father. At the same time, God does use means to accomplish ends. It may well be that he is going to use your faithful supplications as the means to bring about conception as he did with Hannah and Zechariah.

As much as Nancy and I would rejoice in having children, we realize that, at least for now, that is not God's will for us. He has never mistreated or been cruel to us, nor will he. We do not always understand his ways, but we trust him.

Ben Mitchell
SBC Christian Life Commission
Nashville

VIEWPOINT

'God loves us all'

Regarding the letter from Eddie Mitchell (WR, July 27), I would like to see some dialogue regarding the question of homosexuality.

Many good Christians have been turned away from their churches be-

cause they are homosexual, which is ridiculous. Homosexuality is just a little difference, like being black or white, right-handed or left-handed, etc.

We need to confirm that God loves us all, and it is not bad to be gay.

Dorothy Crider
Louisville

BAPTIST FORUM

Home again

Our extended overseas journey came to an end on Aug. 5, my longest absence from the office in 10 years as executive secretary.

Combining work and vacation, we had quality time in Russia; Berlin, Interlaken, Switzerland; and Cyprus. Our primary hosts were Kentuckians: Norman and Martha Lytle (Russia); Charles and Carolyn Warford (Berlin); Bill Clark and Ruth Thomas (Interlaken); Bob and Eddie Fields (Cyprus). Five were Georgetown College classmates; two of the couples had been our missionary colleagues during our years in the Middle East.

The journey was made easier with the assurance that the Baptist Building was in the capable hands of colleagues Jim Hawkins, Barry Allen, Vernon Cole, Guy Futral and Benton Williams. Executive office staffers Pat Beverly, Naomi Paul and Ella Mae Young kept things flowing so smoothly that I should return before people began saying, "Bill who?"

Dr. Frank Owen's willingness to be guest columnist was especially

appreciated. I suspect that many Kentucky Baptists would have enjoyed even more of his articles. Thank you, "Dr. Frank."

The time away left me with several general impressions which I would like to share in today's column, to be followed more specifically to the Russian part of the journey.

First, I was away long enough and far enough to really "disconnect" from the usual routine and demands of this job. Absences of shorter duration, which have been my practice, have kept me too "in touch" with the office. The resulting preoccupations with the job often reduced the value of my time away. This journey helped

me "flush out" most of those administrative preoccupations.

Second, we were back in a familiar context of foreign missions. Lengthy exposure, prayer times and long hours of conversation with missionaries put us back in touch with the "price" of cross-cultural missions—language struggles, cultural adjustments, religious "minorityism," separation from children and family in times of crisis—just to name a few.

ON MISSION TOGETHER



William W. Marshall



FAMILY FORUM: AGING

Seniors & youth

By John Lepper

Q. What can senior adults do to provide for closer relationships with and better understanding of youth?

A. At a recent gathering of senior adults, I asked those present to raise some questions which could be addressed in this column. The above question is representative of several similar concerns.

Differences between generations sometimes become barriers to relating. However, each generation is more alike than unlike the other. We may have different interests and lifestyles, and our backgrounds and experiences may vary widely. However, when we scratch beneath the surface, each generation has the same basic needs and concerns. For example, no matter our age, all of us have a need to love and be loved.

Someone must take the first step toward building a meaningful relationship. You can be that person by communicating your desire to a young person or the leader of young people.

Healthy relationships are based on mutuality and include such things as communication, trust and respect. While you may be much older and wiser than the young person, try to relate as an equal.

Even though your life experiences are different, God creates every one as persons of worth. Showing interest in a young person shows you care for that person. It does not necessarily mean you approve of that person's behavior.

Make an effort to be teachable. Exhibiting a tough exterior may help maintain one's image, but it may also create distance.

Seek to understand the other person's perspective. One way to do this is to simply ask the other person what you could do to improve the relationship. Other questions which will help you understand their perspective and will communicate respect are: What is it like to be a teen today? What do you like about being a teen? What do you like about being an adult? Listening will encourage the young person to listen also, moving you toward developing a more meaningful relationship.

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.

EDITORIALS

Poll reveals need to stress evangelistic mandate

Are Baptist Christians capable of leading others to faith in Christ? Our pastors aren't so sure.

Interestingly, pastors of churches whose members are most likely to share their faith are the ministers with the least confidence their flocks are prepared for the assignment, according to a poll by the Barna Research Group. "Many church leaders do in fact feel uncomfortable about how well-prepared their congregations are for evangelism," pollster George Barna reported. "Though 68 percent of born-again Christians and 52 percent of church members feel a responsibility to evangelize, few pastors feel they are up to the task. Only three in 10 pastors think most Christian adults are capable of effectively sharing their faith."

And ironically, pastors of evangelical Protestant churches feel less confident in the gospel-sharing ability of their members than pastors of less-evangelistic denominations, the Barna poll showed. For example, only 24 percent of Baptist pastors said they believe their members are competent witnesses, compared to 46 percent of less-evangelistic mainline Protestant pastors.

"Pastors' opinions about evangelizing are paradoxical," Barna said. "The Christians who actually do the evangelizing have pastors who think they are not up to the task, while the Christians who hold back have pastors who think they are up to the task. Either the people who evangelize

are ineffective, or the really effective ones are staying quiet, or a lot of pastors are wrong about their people."

Perhaps Barna is missing a fourth option: Maybe Baptist pastors realize that in evangelism—as in all other phases of church life—only a few people do most of the work. It's the 80/20 Principle: 80 percent of the members do 20 percent of the work, while 20 percent do 80 percent of the work. The principle generally holds for tithing and for staffing church programs, so why not evangelism?

This factor is compounded by another Barna finding, that "42 percent of evangelizers essentially believe in salvation by works." That percentage—almost half the people who believe they must share their faith—said they think "if people are generally good, or do enough good things for others during their lives, they will earn a place in heaven." Such belief flies in the face of the central message of Protestant Christianity, that salvation is received by faith alone, through the grace of God.

The Barna findings illustrate the need to stress the Great Commission mandate: Christ commanded each Christian to go out and share the faith. They also emphasize the need for our churches to provide more witness and discipleship training, so that Baptists who do share their faith actually tell it right.

Marv Knox

"Only three in 10 pastors think most Christian adults are capable of effectively sharing their faith."

Pollster George Barna

Changing rural scene presents challenges & opportunities

Hamlets, villages and small towns in rural America have fallen on hard times. Once they served the economic, social, educational and spiritual needs of several hundred farm families for three or four miles in each direction. Changes in transportation and agricultural technology, the economic order, and the delivery of governmental and health services have caused hundreds of such places to "dry up" or die. Many were once proud centers of commercial and social life. Now empty stores line old Main Street. Dreams of a former time have become nightmares.

The "C" word, consolidation, is a fighting word in these places. Schools, services and stores are being "consolidated" in a larger town, often the county seat, six, 12 or 18 miles away. There is much to be mourned. Some very important things and relationships have been lost.

Change must never be equated with progress. Most change results in both benefits and loss. Certainly this is true in the case of the reforming of

community life in rural America. What is of prime importance is for the lay and pastoral leaders of the churches in these places to comprehend the new reality and act accordingly.

The fact is that for the most part the county is replacing the township as the basic form of community in rural America. It is here that the people shop, work, learn, "doctor" and play. Most of the functions once served by the village are now performed in the dominant town of the county. Consequently, the villages and hamlets have become analogous to the neighborhoods in a city. While people still live there, many of their needs are met elsewhere.

What does this mean for village and hamlet churches? First, they must learn that the place which they serve has diminished importance to the life of the people who live there. No longer can people in or near the village be expected to attend church there simply because it is there.

Second, it lives in mixed cooperation and competition with other orga-

nizations, especially the churches, in a 15-mile radius of its building. If it is to continue, it must find some reason more than location.

Third, some may need to consider following the lead of other hamlet institutions such as the schools and consolidate with a church or churches, perhaps in the county seat. But be warned: This has not often worked well for those who have tried it.

Fourth, if people can leave the village to worship in some other place, so too can people come from these places to worship, work and witness in the hamlet church.

For this to happen, at least three things must occur. One, the pastor and the people must want it to happen. Two, they must find a distinct ministry or mode of life that they do better than other churches and use this to draw those who need it or wish to perform it. Finally, the church must see its church field as not just three miles from the front door, but at least 15 miles.

In sum, societal change is redrawing rural community boundaries. So, it is imperative for most hamlet and

village churches to rethink their roles and their fields of ministry. The brightest hope for many is to develop a unique and effective ministry that will draw people from all around. To do so is to shift from being a church focused on a small field to one focused on ministry.

It also will mean that the churches of a Baptist association within a county might offer 10 or more distinct ministries complementing one another. The fact that neighbors might drive off on a Sunday morning in different directions to different churches will not be a major problem because they are all part of the emerging new rural community which is no longer six miles across but now embraces a whole county or even more. Some good stuff will be lost. Some good stuff will be gained. In reality, the churches will respond appropriately to the new community reality. Implicit in this change is a new and expanded role for the association as an evoker of the gifts of the churches.

Gary Farley
SBC Home Mission Board
Atlanta

The changing dynamics of rural America are forcing churches in these areas to rethink their roles and their fields of ministry.

Here's a true test of marital durability: Simultaneous sickness

Bad news: Joanna and I finally got sick at the same time.

Good news: Our marriage can survive anything.

We've enjoyed wedded bliss for 14-plus years. Well, most of 14-plus years anyway. And this—if memory serves me—was the first time illness ever knocked us out of commission simultaneously.

The wicked virus hit Joanna on Friday night, about the girls' bedtime.

"I don't feel so good," she griped. You know how suspicious minds work; I thought she was just trying to get out of cleaning up the kitchen.

But sure enough, she stayed up sick most of the night. This was the night before our neighborhood yard sale, and by the

time we got all our stuff spread out, she turned green as the grass.

She stayed out in the yard long enough for me to finish the breakfast dishes, and then she retreated to our bedroom to moan and groan. I'm not sure whether moaning and groaning helps when you're sick, but it definitely sends a clear signal that you're not coming out of the bedroom anytime soon.

Joanna's retreat, of course, left me out in the yard to dicker with the yard-shoppers. Talk about a buy-

er's market:

"I'll give you 50 cents for this little blouse," a woman said.

"Sold!" I said.

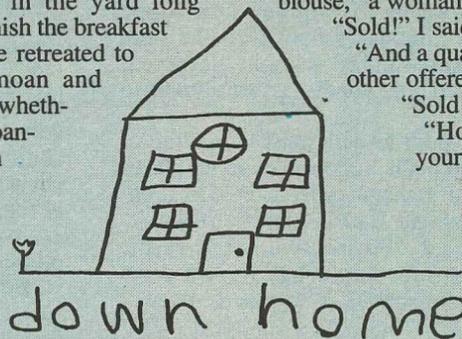
"And a quarter for this book," another offered.

"Sold!" I repeated.

"How about a dollar for your car?" another asked.

Fortunately, I suffered sun stroke before "Sold!" crossed my lips.

By the time a neighbor reported my slipshod selling system, I started moaning and groaning myself and had a note from my doctor say-



ing I was too sick to stand trial for yard-sale treason.

After the sale, Joanna and I staked out turf in different parts of the house. That's the key to staying married if you're both sick. Every wayward moan or groan brings on a pitiful game of "Top This!"

"My stomach hurts!" one whines.

"My hair follicles are exploding!"

"So what? My freckles ache!"

"Big deal. My kneecaps just fell down to my ankles!"

Stay away from each other if you want to stay married.

And get someone to look after the kids. A neighbor kept our girls. She's Catholic. The pope named her Saint Sarah.

Marv Knox

CHURCH GROWTH

Learn transition lessons from David, Cole advises

Additional dates

Super Saturday training conferences are planned for four additional locations this year:

- Aug. 28—Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington.
- Sept. 11—First Baptist Church in Ashland.
- Sept. 18—First Baptist Church in Mayfield.
- Sept. 25—Central Baptist Church in Corbin.

The Kentucky Baptist Convention-sponsored events are designed to help church staff and lay leaders alike. For registration information, see the purple "Events" insert in this week's paper.

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

BOWLING GREEN—Churches struggling to make transitions should take a few lessons from the Old Testament character David, according to Vernon Cole.

A study of David's life reveals at least 14 principles about how to deal with change, Cole told pastors and church leaders during the Super Saturday conference at Eastwood Baptist Church in Bowling Green Aug. 14.

Cole is director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's church growth and administration division. His division sponsors the Super Saturday events each year in various parts of the state.

Here are highlights of some of the principles he outlined:

■ **Stay in touch with your calling, your strengths, and be honest about your limitations.**

David's predecessor as king, Saul, was rejected when he did not follow God's instructions and would not ad-

mit his mistakes, Cole said. In contrast, although David made some big mistakes, when confronted he listened and repented.

"If you try to have the image that you don't have or the person you're lying to is yourself," Cole warned.

■ **A called person fulfills the call when people are reminded of God's power to overcome**



Super Saturday Conferences
1993

■ **"big" obstacles. Often in fighting "big battles" it is the use of non-traditional weapons that brings the victory.**

Saul had been ineffective in addressing the Philistine oppression, Cole noted. Yet David, even as a youngster, addressed the problem head-on by slaying the giant Goliath.

"Whereas Saul and his army operated as if God were irrelevant, David introduced God into the equation," he explained. "He acted on faith, assuming God is living and would defeat the giant who mocked God."

■ **Demonstrate leadership skills but do not use these skills to cut off established leaders.**

Even though Saul chased after David and sought to kill him, David did not attempt to harm Saul, Cole said. And even though God had chosen David to be king, David did not prematurely usurp authority.

Cole noted that David demonstrated his leadership but did not use his leadership to eliminate Saul. Also, David was respectful of Saul even in Saul's death.

■ **Remember the context of the people with whom you work and identify their key values.**

Saul had not respected the importance of religion in the lives of his people, but David did, Cole said. This was to his credit because it made him a more respected and effective leader.

In the same vein, pastors must determine what is important to their peo-

ple—not just to themselves—and attempt to lead the congregation to accomplish those things, Cole advised.

■ **When wrong, admit it. Demonstrate repentance when you have violated principles instituted for others to live by.**

David committed a grievous sin by lusting after and then sleeping with Bathsheba, Cole said. But when confronted with his sin, David turned back to God.

"David simply said, 'I have sinned.' He made no excuses, no self-justifications," Cole noted. "God forgives even leaders who make 'big' mistakes. David made some big mistakes. Note that David did not repeat the same mistake; he learned from his errors."

■ **When polarizing forces are near equal strength, find new ground for establishing unity.**

David created a new bond between the northern and southern kingdoms by establishing Jerusalem as the capital, Cole said. "Jerusalem had been a Canaanite city, which had never been captured by Israel. Therefore neither north or south had any traditions connected with the new order for Israel."

Relevant lessons take work, Bible teachers reminded

BOWLING GREEN—Making an adult Sunday school lesson relevant doesn't just happen but takes planning and work, a teaching consultant said during the Super Saturday event in Bowling Green Aug. 14.

"There are no easy answers to making Bible study relevant," said Richard Dodge, a consultant with the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville. "Only you in your context with your people can make Bible study relevant."

Even though some Bible study teachers want "instant Sunday school lessons in a box," relevant teaching takes hard work, Dodge said.

Some methods of teaching will be more effective with some groups than others, he advised. "The most ineffective method you can use is the one you use all the time."

However, methods that move the

class beyond just hearing the teacher foster greater learning, Dodge said. He explained that adults retain only 10 percent of what they hear.

Retention doubles to 20 percent when adults read material, then jumps to 50 percent when they see the idea and 90 percent when they do something related to the idea, he said.

Also, adults will respond better when they feel the teacher is a co-learner, "someone who guides them to discover what the Scriptures say" and helps apply that truth to life situations, Dodge said.

When preparing a lesson, he added, teachers should ask, "What do I want to achieve with this lesson?"

Then, Dodge said, they should keep in mind the golden rule of teaching: "Teach to meet others' needs as you would have others teach to meet your needs."

Irvin: Cooperate to reach youth

BOWLING GREEN—Team spirit among youth leaders is a key element for building a successful youth Sunday school, a group of Kentucky youth leaders were told Aug. 14.

Doug Irvin, minister of youth at Calvary Baptist Church in Wichita, Kan., said youth leaders must constantly evaluate how they can best fit into the youth Sunday school. Irvin addressed a youth workers during the Super Saturday conference at Eastwood Baptist Church in Bowling Green.

"It's fine if people want to switch roles (within youth Sunday school)," he said. "Just because someone is a department director this year doesn't mean they should always be in that role."

Irvin recommended that youth Sunday school departments have a

director, secretary, outreach/evangelism leader, class group leaders. Churches with a total Sunday school enrollment of fewer than 150 should not have more than six enrolled in a single youth Sunday school class, he said. Larger Sunday schools, he noted, should limit youth class enrollment to 12.

Youth leaders must be willing to go to malls, schools and other places youth gather in order to build relationships and find prospects, Irvin explained. "Prospecting is one of the most important things we can do in Sunday school. A large percentage of our time should be spent trying to find prospects."

A prospect list, he added, should number twice as many people as are enrolled in Sunday school.

Cole describes 3 church types, calls for intentional balance

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

BOWLING GREEN—Churches typically are driven by at least one of three common mindsets, Vernon Cole believes.

And understanding which of those three are dominant in any church will help church leaders understand the congregation's strengths and weaknesses, he advised. Cole is director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's church growth and administration division.

During the opening session of the Super Saturday conference at Eastwood Baptist Church in Bowling Green Aug. 14, Cole briefly outlined these three "meta-phors" for churches:

■ **Community.** Congregations that adopt the community approach to doing church emphasize "family" as a key word, Cole says. These churches focus on the person who is most needy and are known by all as a place of support and nurture.

■ **Cause.** Cause-oriented congregations strive to win the battle for their cause and focus on the person who gives his or her all to win that battle, Cole explains. The benefit

people find in the church is knowing they have given their all to a cause larger than themselves.

■ **Corporation.** The core of corporation congregations is to put all resources to their most effective use, Cole says. They focus on the individual who does his or her work with efficiency, organization and direction. The benefit found by members is knowing their resources are being used efficiently to bring about kingdom growth.

In reality, churches often emphasize one or two of the three areas and neglect the third, Cole says.

For example, congregations that emphasize community but not cause probably have "the best-organized love-in ever," he explains.

On the other hand, congregations that emphasize cause and corporation with no community can't keep the new members they bring in. And congregations that emphasize community and cause with no corporation often exist amid confusion.

The goal for all churches, Cole explains, should be to tap into elements of all three ideas for a healthy church life. "The three areas need to be overlapping and interactive."



EVENTS

FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

A SUPPLEMENT TO THE WESTERN RECORDER ■ AUGUST 1993

INSIDE Sunday School Convention Has Something For Everyone

- Page 2**
Sunday School: 1993 Sunday School Convention; new Flexible Curriculum; Super Sunday.
- Page 3**
Stewardship: Stewardship conferences added to Super Saturday. **Discipleship Training:** Disciple Youth leadership training scheduled. **Direct Missions:** Language Leadership Conference.
- Page 4**
Media: Church Media Library Workshop. **Church Music:** Senior Adult Choir Festival.
- Page 5**
Church Growth & Administration: God and the Cooperative Program?
- Page 6**
Church Growth & Administration: Three more opportunities for Super Saturday. **Brotherhood:** Two workshops remain, Brotherhood Convention upcoming. **Family Ministry:** Realize your potential through life enrichment.
- Page 7**
Minister/Church Support: Ministers' Wives Retreat Oct. 29-30. **Annuity:** Why not a lump sum package? **Cedarmore Assembly:** Never a dull moment.

Ready to test your Sunday school smarts?

Here's a brief quiz about the 1993 Kentucky Sunday School Convention slated for Oct. 8-9 in Florence. (Hint: The answer to all questions appears in a prominent place on this page.)

Q: Is it true the Sunday School Convention is free for anyone to attend?

Q: Will there be 75 different conferences offered, with something for every church and Sunday school leader?

Q: Will Kentuckians get to meet and hear Ken Hemphill, director of the Southern Baptist Center for Church Growth?

Q: Will attending this conference help all church leadership get a vision for everything their congregations could be?

The answer to these questions is Yes!, Yes!, Yes!, Yes!, says Chip Miller, director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Sunday school department.

Miller and his staff are encouraging Baptists from across the state to say, "Yes!" to attend, to grow their churches and to share their Christian faith.

"Our ultimate goal is for people to go back to their local churches renewed and enheartened to see the church reach out and touch hurting

people," Miller explained. "This will be one of the largest gatherings of people interested in Sunday school work ever held in our state."

The general sessions and conferences are geared to be practical, with application for both church staff and lay leadership of all ages, he added. "Because of the wide variety of con-

ferences offered,

churches can bring vanloads and busloads of leaders and there will be something for everyone.

Conferences to be offered range from a pastors' dialogue with Ken Hemphill to keys to effective children's worship to how changing family structures impact

adult classes. "We want to undergird the basics of good Sunday school work, but also present innovative ideas for doing the basics," Miller explained. The featured speaker at two general sessions will be Hemphill, former pastor of First Baptist Church in Norfolk, Va.

Miller describes Hemphill as "an experienced pastor who has a proven track record." Hemphill's leadership at the Virginia church proved that Southern Baptist growth principles work, Miller said, even though these ideas sometimes conflict with the latest trends taught at other church growth seminars.

"For example, he is opposed to camouflaging our identity as Baptists," Miller said. "He believes in seeker-friendly congregations, not just seeker-oriented services. Rather than simplified themes, he advocates preaching biblical truths and principles clearly."

Other important highlights of the conference, Miller said, are:

- The location—Florence Baptist Church, located at 283 Main St. in Florence.
- The schedule—separate sessions on Friday, Oct. 8, and Saturday, Oct. 9, that can stand alone or together depending on how much time a participant can devote.
- Other special features—such as

a two-hour conference for pastors of black congregations led by Lincoln Bingham, drama by the Northern Kentucky Baptist Student Union drama team, a complete display of Sunday School Board curriculum, and a book table highlighting the best of current church-growth literature.

Yes!

Sample Listing of Conferences

- Marketing Your Church Strengths
- Increasing Enrollment and Attendance
- Pastor Dialogue with Ken Hemphill
- Discovering God's Vision for Your Church
- Growing the Sunday School in the Black Church
- Keys to Effective Children's Worship
- Making Adult Bible Study Come Alive
- Outreach Ideas
- How to Lead an Adult to Christ
- Moral Issues Facing Youth
- Creative Teaching Ideas for Youth
- Faith Development of the Child
- Outreach Ideas for Un-churched Parents
- Teaching the Bible Creatively to Children
- Weekday Programs for School-age Children
- Teaching Those Rowdy Kids
- What Shall We Do with the Sixth Grade?
- Cradle Roll: Reaching Young Families

Sunday School Convention Schedule

Friday, Oct. 8

- 4:00 p.m. Early Bird Conferences
- 5:00 p.m. Dinner break
- 7:00 p.m. General Session
- 8:00 p.m. Conferences
- 9:00 p.m. Red-Eye Special Conferences

Saturday, Oct. 9

- 8:15 a.m. Early Bird Conferences
- 9:00 a.m. Conferences
- 10:00 a.m. General Session
- 11:00 a.m. Conferences

All sessions are free. No child care is available. Watch next month's "Events" insert for a complete list of conferences.

What does Ken Hemphill teach?

Here's a sampling of Ken Hemphill's views on several key church-growth issues:

■ **Marketing.** "One of the dangerous trends of much current-day church-growth material might be an over-emphasis and over-reliance on methods and marketing to the detriment of supernatural encounter and prayer. ... We must constantly bear in mind that authentic church growth is supernaturally empowered."

■ **Evangelism.** "The suggestion that door-to-door visitation and personal evangelism do not work is based on a misunderstanding of confrontational evangelism, poor statistical research and a lack of theological understanding of authentic church growth."

■ **Discipleship.** "Short-term numerical growth at the expense of long-term discipleship growth is a poor trade."

■ **Cell groups.** "I do not see any conflict between cells and Sunday school. The Sunday school properly organized and administered fulfills all the functions of cells and involves a greater percentage of church members."

■ **Megachurches.** "We will not reach our nation simply by focusing on growing the megachurch. We must have many churches of many sizes to penetrate our nation with the gospel."

■ **Cooperation.** "Church growth is not a competitive sport but a cooperative ministry. It is not enough that you simply grow 'your church.' ... No one church will win the world."



Quotations taken from "Balancing Church Growth," a series of articles published by the Southern Baptist Center for Church Growth.

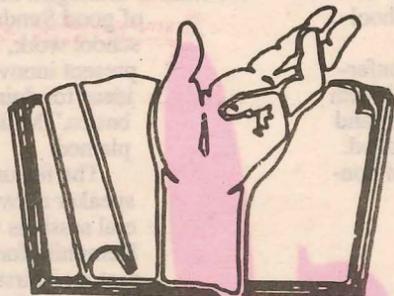
EVENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Equipped to Claim Our Future

**1993 Sunday School Convention
October 8-9**

**Florence Baptist Church
283 Main Street
Florence, Kentucky**



Schedule

Friday, October 8

4:00 p.m. Early Bird Conferences
5:00 Supper Break
7:00 Opening General Session
8:00 First Session
9:00 Red Eye Special

Saturday, October 9

7:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast
8:15 Early Bird Conferences
9:00 Conferences
10:00 General Session
11:00 Conferences

Attending the Kentucky Baptist Convention's 1993 Sunday School Convention could be the most convenient and rewarding investment you will ever make.

The October 8-9 statewide event, hosted by Florence Baptist Church, offers quality conferences which will help both new and experienced workers beat burnout, improve efficiency and leadership skills. Teachers will also learn practical methods of instruction.

A gifted speaker, educator and writer, Dr. Ken Hemphill, director of the Southern Baptist Center for Church Growth, will be the keynote speaker during both general sessions. He will also conduct a Pastor's dialogue.

Take advantage of this unique spiritual opportunity and say **YES!**

State Sunday School Convention Conferences include:

Pastors/General Officers

Dealing with Discouraged/Ineffective Workers
Sidedoor Evangelism
Motivation and the Volunteer
Marketing Your Church Strengths
Let's Reach Baby Boomers
Let's Reach the Baby Busters
Ministry to Persons with Special Needs
Building Ministries through Spiritual Gifts
Building a Leadership Team
Discovering God's Vision for Your Church
Keys to Effective Children's Worship
Pastor's Role in the Sunday School
Growing the Sunday School in the Black Church
Innovative Sunday School Approaches
What's a Sunday School Director to Do?

Adult

Effective Listening Skills
Making Adult Bible Study Come Alive!
Building Relationships
Keys to Spiritual Growth in Adults
Ministry Motivations through an Adult Class

Senior Adults: An Untapped Opportunity
Single Adults: Reaching, Teaching, Winning
How to Lead an Adult to Christ
The Changing Family Challenge

Youth

Dealing with Moral Issues Facing Our Youth
Youth Sunday School: Hub of Youth Ministry
Ways to Engage Youth in Missions
Youth Outreach Ideas
Creative Teaching Ideas for Junior High
Creative Teaching Ideas for Senior High
How to Lead Youth to Christ

Preschool/Children

Faith Development of the Child
The Child's Moral Crisis in Today's Society
Teaching the Bible to Preschoolers through Learning Centers
Extended Session for Preschoolers
Teaching Resources Made from Throwaways
Outreach Ideas for Unchurched Parents
Cradle Roll—Reaching Young Families
Teaching the Bible Creatively to Children
What Shall We Do with the Sixth Grade?
Weekday Programs for School Age Children

New Flexible Curriculum available for children 6-12

Uses of FLEXIBLE CURRICULUM:

Before and after school
Day camps
Apartment complex missions
Trailer court missions
Family vacation activities
Home use
Scout groups

Use any time curriculum is needed to teach Bible-centered activities to children ages 6 to 12.

Bible related activities galore can be reduced or expanded to meet the time available and the age of the children.

Low budget? FLEXIBLE CURRICULUM has many creative Bible related ideas to use with little cost. FLEXIBLE CURRICULUM includes ideas

for gathering resources at little or no cost. FLEXIBLE CURRICULUM gives suggestions for recycling materials into teaching materials.

Each FLEXIBLE CURRICULUM packet features a Bible character or characters. Creative activities are related to the Bible character(s).

Packets available this fall include: David, Joshua, Mary and Martha, and Ruth. Timothy, Paul, Barnabas, and Lydia, available in December.

For more information on FLEXIBLE CURRICULUM, contact the Sunday School Department, Attention: Jewell Nelson, Kentucky Baptist Convention, P.O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433, (502) 245-4101.



October 31, 1993

State Attendance Goal: 210,000

Watch for the Super Sunday promotion packet being mailed to your church this month. The packet contains

posters, how to order buttons and information on making Super Sunday 2 a High Attendance Day for your church!

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship conferences added to Super Saturday lineup

The Kentucky Baptist Convention's Stewardship Department is happy to join the SUPER SATURDAY team this year. Stewardship will be offering two special interest conferences at each Super Saturday location; one begins at 1:00 p.m. and the second at 2:00 (local time).

The two interest conferences are: ABC's of Church Budgeting and Promotion and Live Wisely: Five Steps to Successful Money Management. A brief synopsis of each is given in this feature.

Who will benefit from attending these Stewardship conferences? Budget committee members, stewardship committee members, deacons, Sunday School teachers, Discipleship Training leaders and other church leaders.

Four Super Saturday dates remain. They are:



- August 28 Lexington Immanuel Church
- September 11 Ashland First Church
- September 18 Mayfield First Church
- September 25 Corbin Central Church



of Church Budgeting and Promotion

Advance Planning and Evaluation

- Church giving history
- Stewardship Standard
- Projects to be budgeted
- Ministry proposal form
- Church budgeting task assignments

Budget Preparation

- Example of budget format
- Church staff compensation
- Presentation suggestion

Cultivating Commitment in Giving

- Budget program suggestions
- Committed to Ministries Program
- Tithers Commitment Program
- Other ideas for cultivating commitment

Development Projects for Growing Standards

- 1993-94 planning calendar
- Suggested stewardship and Cooperative Program activities

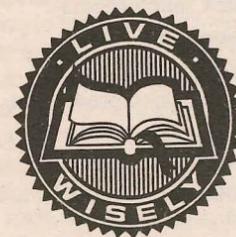
Live Wisely: Five Steps to Successful Money Management

Live Wisely can help members learn how to...

- Keep from worrying about their bank balance
- Be more contented.
- Have a happier family.
- Stop paying interest to other people.
- Make their money work for them.
- Pay cash for their own automobile.
- Have more money to give to their church and to give to help people in need.
- Have an adequate retirement income.

Live Wisely Preparation

- Select leaders and order materials six to eight weeks in advance.
- Begin publicity—posters, newsletters, worship bulletin, announcements and letter to church families with tract two to four weeks in advance.
- Promote in Sunday School and worship services one week before.



Live Wisely Schedule

- Live Wisely Bible study, Wednesday night before Sunday of emphasis.
- Sunday of emphasis—devotional in Sunday School departments or classes. In morning worship service, preach Live Wisely sermon. Sunday afternoon or evening, conduct the one hour conference.

For more information, contact the Stewardship Department, Attention: Doug Strader, Kentucky Baptist Convention, P.O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433, (502) 245-4101, extension 335.

DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING

DiscipleYouth I, II leadership training-- all in an evening and a day

Training for both DiscipleYouth I and DiscipleYouth II leaders is scheduled for September 24-25 at South Elkhorn Baptist Church in Lexington. The Friday sessions run from 6:30-9:00 p.m. and the Saturday sessions are 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

The event is also open to pastors and ministers of education, youth and music.

Attendees will gain knowledgeable in the administration and use of DiscipleYouth materials, be involved in interactions with other youth leaders and be inspired to become a more effective youth leader.

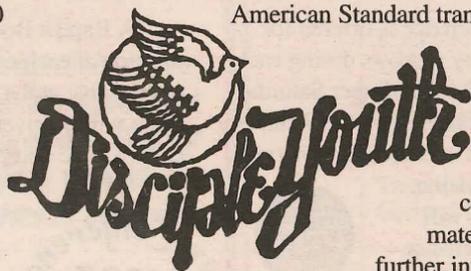
Materials included in the training sessions are:

DiscipleYouth Library - Resources needed to lead DiscipleYouth I and II. These include books, notebooks and other items which cover such topics as personal Bible study, prayer, witnessing,

ministry and other areas.

DiscipleYouth Bible - A special Bible designed for today's youth. Included in this contemporary English text (New American Standard translation) are 132 pages of supplementary material.

The general cost for training materials is \$45. For further information and a breakdown of individual and/or sharing of materials fee, check the appropriate information box on EVENTS page 8a or contact Douglas T. Strader, Discipleship Training Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, P. O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433, (502) 245-4101, extension 335.



DIRECT MISSIONS

Language Leadership Conference offers help to ethnic ministries

Statistics:

There are 12 ethnic language Kentucky Baptist congregations.

The Southern Baptist Convention has become the most ethnically diverse denomination in the United States.

Southern Baptists worship and study the Bible in 98 languages and dialects.

The Kentucky Baptist Convention's Direct Missions Department, with assistance by the Southern Baptist Convention's Home Mission Board, is hosting a Language Leadership Conference on Saturday, September 25, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., at the Kentucky Baptist Building (10701 Shelbyville Road) in Louisville. The cost is free and lunch is provided. Pre-registration, though, is encouraged by September 22 (fill out the registration form on EVENTS page 8a).

Three conference sessions will be offered. They are:

- **Refugee Resettlement** — To equip churches ministering with refugees as they establish new homes and lives in America.
- **Cross-Cultural Dynamics** - For understanding different linguistic terms, communication plus



understanding what's acceptable in the United States versus different cultural values.

- **Effective Ministry to Non-Anglo Cultures** - To help those ministering with individuals from backgrounds other than white, western hemisphere or American.

Two keynote speakers will address conferees: Bill Fulkerson, director, Refugee Resettlement, Home Mission Board and Donna Strauss, director for Kentucky Refugee Ministries.

For more information, contact the Direct Missions Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, P.O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433, (502) 244-6461.

MEDIA

Come check out this year's Church Media Library Workshop

Church librarians and media specialists will gather at Elizabethtown's Severns Valley Baptist Church September 25 for their annual state Church Media Library Workshop. This year's agenda includes five CML workshops and one video production conference.

The conference topics and leaders are as follows:



1993-94
Media Libraries ...
Focus on Service

Beginning and Maintaining a Church Media Library

Nancy Hasting
Tells how to get started in developing a church media library. Basics of set-up and cataloging included.

Video Production

Paul W. Lee

A look at creative ways to use video in the church, including interfacing video productions with the church media library to increase resources available for church members and leaders. Resources in the field of media production will be discussed.

Paul W. Lee - Paul is director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Media Department. He has produced video productions for state conventions, colleges and institutions related to the Southern Baptist Convention and has also authored booklets on video production and media communications.

LEADERS

Norma Benton - Norma is TACMO (The associational church media library organization) director of the Northern Kentucky Baptist Association. She is also certified by the Sunday School Board's Church Media Library Department.

Nancy Hasting - A Shepherdsville resident, Nancy has served as president of the Kentucky Baptist Media Library Association the past two years.

Jacquelyn Anderson - Jackie, now retired, is a former consultant with the Sunday School Board's Church Media Library Department. She is a recognized authority in church media library work and has authored several books on the subject.

Bill Hoff - Bill is minister of media at Louisville's Walnut Street Baptist Church and also president of the community's religious cable station, The Faith Channel.

Steve Gately - Steve is a consultant in the Sunday School Board's Church Media Library Department. He specializes in the field of computerized assistance for church media libraries.

CML Workshop Schedule (times are EDT)

8:00-8:30 a.m.	Registration
8:30-8:45	General Session
8:45-10:15	Selective Conferences
10:15-10:30	Break
10:30-12:00 noon	Selective Conferences
12:00-12:45 p.m.	Lunch; KBMLA Business Session
12:45-2:15	Selective Conferences
2:15-2:30	Break
2:30-4:00	Selective Conferences
4:00-4:30	Closing Session

To register for the CML Workshop, please fill out and send the form on EVENTS page 8a with a \$10 per person registration fee (check made out to Kentucky Baptist Convention) by September 17. On a separate, enclosed sheet of paper, please indicate what conference sessions each person will attend. Lunch is included in the registration cost.

TOPICS

Promoting the Church Media Library

Norma Benton

Deals with how to develop creative ideas for promoting the church media library throughout the year. Other basics will be covered concerning establishing a library.

Classification and Processing

Jackie Anderson

Explains how to classify and process items contained in the church media library. Resources and materials will be discussed.

How to Use and Maintain Audiovisuals

Bill Hoff

Will show how to use and maintain various audiovisuals. Emphasis will be on training church leaders how to use audiovisuals. Demonstrations given.

How to Computerize Your Church Media Library

Steve Gately

Introduction to computerized cataloging and administration, using software available through the Sunday School Board's Church Media Library Department.

CHURCH MUSIC

Seniors in for a treat October 25-26

Searching for something "out-of-the-ordinary" for your church's senior adult group? Extraordinary inspiration and motivation are sure to be plentiful at this year's Senior Adult Choir Festival. Louisville's Westport Road Baptist Church is host to the annual event October 25-26. The festival will include several mass choir rehearsals as well as opportunity for participating choirs to perform individually.

Grover Waller, long time minister of music at Owensboro's First Baptist Church, is our guest director; Sandra McCormack of Louisville will serve as accompanist.

This year's featured seniors are from Calvary Baptist Church, Lexington. The Calvary senior adult choir will present special music on Monday evening, October 25, at 8:00. Fellowship and refreshments will follow.

The music for this year's senior adult choir festival is *Psalm Songs for Senior Saints*, written by Joe E. Parks. It may be purchased through the Baptist Book Store. Choirs are urged to begin preparing this music several weeks in advance of the festival. A final worship service (11:00 a.m.



Tuesday) will include *Psalm Songs*, which is the highlight of the festival. The public is invited to attend free of charge.

Registration per choir is \$50 if reservations are made prior to October 8. To register or seek additional information, complete and mail the form on page 8a or contact the Church Music Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, P. O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253, (502) 245-4101, extension 325.

CML part of '93 Super Saturday team

A special conference is offered for church media library workers during each Super Saturday '93 event. Super Saturday conferences are sponsored by the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Church Growth and Administration Division. Afternoon sessions will provide workers a chance to attend other special interest conferences focusing on Sunday School, church music, discipleship training, family ministry, pastor/staff relations and stewardship.



- Four Super Saturdays remain:
- August 28 Lexington Immanuel Church
 - September 11 Ashland First Church
 - September 18 Mayfield First Church
 - September 25 Corbin Central Church

A Baptist Book Store will be on location at each event. A \$2 coupon redeemable at the Super Saturday '93 Book Store will be given to those who register early for the conference. The Super

Saturday registration fee is \$8 per person in advance and \$10 at the door. For more information concerning church media library services or church media ministry, contact the Media Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, P.O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433, (502) 245-4101, extension 266.

CHURCH GROWTH & ADMINISTRATION

God and the Cooperative Program?

"How's the Cooperative Program doing?"

That's a common question among Southern Baptists these days. The state of the financial support system for missions and ministries around the world is important to Southern Baptists.

"What's God doing through the Cooperative Program?" is perhaps the question

that expresses a more basic interest. In other words, how is the work supported through Cooperative Program gifts helping people discover the richness of God's grace?

Example: Kentucky's Baptist Student ministries work with 23,000 students on 45 campuses across Kentucky. How is this supported? Through Cooperative Program gifts from churches in Kentucky. Each church can figure the amount they invested in this life changing ministry by multiplying the amount they gave by 5.8%. If a

church gives \$10,000 to missions through the Cooperative Program, then \$580 of their gifts is distributed through 45 campus

ministries. **Have you thought about praying for leadership at these 45 campus ministries?** Since October is designated as the month to pray for God's working through Cooperative Program ministries, why not focus prayer one Sunday during October for campus ministries?

Example: Kentucky Baptists will provide \$3,723,939 Cooperative Program support for Christian education at five schools: Campbellsville, Cumberland, Georgetown, Clear Creek, and Oneida. Can you imagine the benefits of touching approximately 4,767 (93 enrollment figures) students with the 3.7 million investment? That is less than \$782.00 per student. **Let's join together in prayer for the students, teachers, faculty, and administrative staff of these schools.** Why not highlight this prior to the offertory prayer on another Sunday during October?

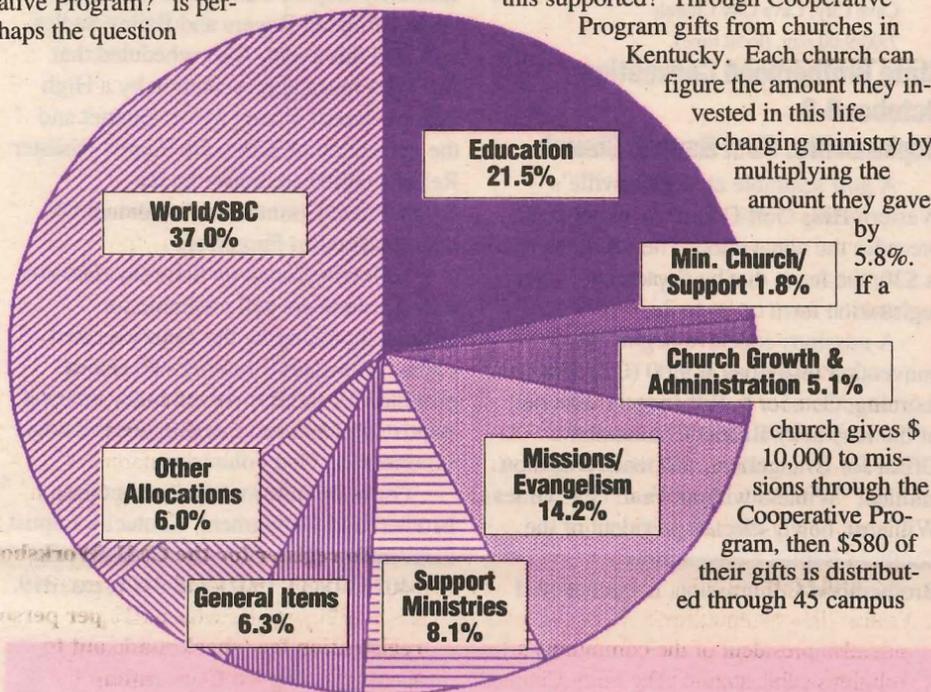
Example: Our Foreign Mission board receives 18.5% of Kentucky Baptist Cooperative program gifts. We receive reports of one baptism overseas every 2 1/2 minutes and 30 new churches begun each week. **Lead your church in prayer one Sunday in October that expresses praise**

to God for working through our missionaries in outreach.

God is doing mighty things through the Cooperative Program. Involve your church in prayer for His continued force in missions and ministries. The Church Event Guide contains a variety of ways your church can be inspired to pray during the month of October for Cooperative Program supported work.

For copies of the Church Event Guide or the 1993-94 Cooperative Program Budget brochure which includes the graphic below and information detailing the amounts and percentages of Cooperative Program in Kentucky and through the Southern Baptist Convention. To order these free materials send a completed order form to Church Growth & Administration division, Kentucky Baptist Convention, PO 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433 (Phone 502/245-4101).

Visit the Church Growth & Administration division exhibit at the Kentucky Baptist Convention in Elizabethtown to receive a personalized report indicating the amount and percentage breakdown of your church's Cooperative Program gifts and how they have been invested in life changing ministries.



Every two and a half minutes one person is baptized overseas and thirty new churches are begun each week

Lead your church in prayer one Sunday in October that expresses praise to God for working through our missionaries in outreach.

Kentucky Baptist Convention Cooperative Program Materials Order Form

Quantity	Item	Item#	Quantity	Tracts	Item#
	Cooperative Program Church Event Guide	CP-32		"Southern Baptists Working Together"	CP-22
	Cooperative Program Month Poster	CP-14		"What is the Cooperative Program?"	NCP-28
	Transformation Through Cooperative Giving • Cooperative Program 1993-94 Budget Brochure <i>Identifies destination of CP dollars, includes pie graph</i>			"Do My Church's CP Gifts Count?"	NCT8-1
	Transformation Through Cooperative Giving Poster			"A Plan that Works"	NCTO-7
	A Cooperative Program Cram Course <i>A concise presentation of the Cooperative Program especially for youth and adults</i>	CP-25		"Why Increase Cooperative Program Giving?"	NCT5-9
	Cooperative Program Messages for Children	CP-2	Get Ready for 1994		
	Cooperative Program Bulletin Board Ideas	CP-8		Cooperative Program Day in Your Church April 17, 1994 • Planning Guide	CP-4
	Giving Together (limit one) <i>A Cooperative Program/Stewardship drama and activities book for use in churches of all sizes.</i>	CP-23		Cooperative Program Feature <i>Plan monthly mission features</i>	CP-21
	Personalized Computer Printout of your church's CP giving September 92-August 93 <i>Allow 2 weeks delivery</i>		Church _____ Contact Person _____ Address _____ Zip _____ Phone _____ Association _____		

**Send orders to: Church Growth & Administration, KBC
P.O. Box 43433 • Louisville, KY 40353 • 502/245-4101**

EVENTS

FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

CHURCH GROWTH & ADMINISTRATION

BROTHERHOOD

Three more opportunities for leadership training

Three Kentucky regions September



You still have time to register for one of three Super Saturday conferences held in September. Each location offers a full net of leadership and interest conferences designed to enhance your leadership skills through Sunday School, Church Music, Family Ministry, Discipleship Training, Stewardship, Media Library, Evangelism, and understanding how growth can take place during transition.

Become a force in a more effective and fulfilling ministry that is uniquely qualified to cope with the issues of the '90s. Find answers and resources to tackle the challenges of ministering to the people of your church and community. Interact with involved Christians and

make new friends. Choose from over 40 conferences that will help you accomplish your responsibilities in the church.

Call the Church Growth & Administration Division office for materials that will help you promote attendance at one of these Super Saturday training events! Pre-registration is \$8.00 per person; the fee includes a boxed lunch and conference materials. Registration begins 8:00 AM at each location and training concludes at 3:00 PM. Sorry, but we cannot provide childcare. For more information call 502/245-4101 and say,

"Super Saturday!"

September 11, First Baptist Ashland
September 18, First Baptist Mayfield
September 25, Central Baptist Corbin

Two workshops remain; Hopkinsville plays host to '93 state Brotherhood convention

Leadership/Hope for Hurting Humanity regional workshops

Two regional Leadership/Hope for Hurting Humanity Workshops remain in August. Those workshops include:

August 26 Southeastern
 Manchester, Manchester Church

August 27 Southern
 Cave City, Cave City Church

7:00-9:00 p.m. (local time)

State Brotherhood Convention

October 8-9

Hopkinsville, First Baptist Church

A golf scramble at Hopkinsville's Western Hills Golf Course on October 7 precedes the convention. The scramble fee is \$30; the fee is due by September 7. See registration form on page 8a.

A missions conclave begins the convention festivities at 9:00 (CT) Friday morning, October 8. Bill Jagers, director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Office for Evangelism, will teach a session entitled, "Witness without Fear." Dr. James Williams, newly-elected president of the Southern Baptist Convention's Brotherhood Commission, is the featured

guest speaker that day. Other activities include a pastors and directors of missions dialogue, laymen sporting event testimonies, singing, the Brotherhood Wheel and sharing of information about Kentucky's new partnership with Russia.

A Prayer Breakfast is first on the Saturday agenda. Dr. William W. Marshall, executive secretary-treasurer of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, and prayer leaders Randall Rogers and Bailey Sadler will lead this event. Also scheduled that day are a musical presentation by a High School Baptist Young Men's Quartet and the dedication of Kentucky Baptist Disaster Relief's child care trailer by the Brotherhood Commission's national DR coordinator, Jim Furgerson.

Following lunch on Saturday, Disaster Relief volunteers will assemble for advanced training by the American Red Cross. Informative training will also be provided for those involved in lay renewal, Baptist Builders and marketplace missions/experiencing God volunteers.

For more information, contact the Brotherhood Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, P. O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433, (502) 245-4101, ext. 319.

FAMILY MINISTRY

Realize your potential through life enrichment

1994 Area Daytime Celebrations

March 4 Princeton First Church
March 17 Elizabethtown Severns Valley Church
March 22 Hindman First Church
March 24 Lexington Porter Memorial Church

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

1994 Senior Adult Retreats

May 16-18 Bagdad Cedarmore Baptist Assembly
May 23-25 Hardin Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly

Daytime meetings as well as overnight retreats provide senior adults an

opportunity to have fellowship, deepen their spiritual lives and renew their commitment to serve.

Enrichment for Single Adults

1994 Single Adult Retreat
March 11-13
 Cave City Convention Center

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

Enrichment for Couples

1993 Fall Festival of Marriage
September 24-26
 Louisville Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

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

Especially for Leaders:

"Enriching Marriages in Your Church"

Receive assistance in leading marriage enrichment by attending the special training conference offered prior to this year's Louisville Fall Festival of Marriage. This workshop, also at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, is 11:00 a.m.-3:45 p.m. Friday, September 24. Leaders are Dr. John Lepper, director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Family Ministry Department and Dr. Diana Garland, director of Southern Seminary's Gheens Center for Christian Family Ministry and dean of the Carver School of Social Work.

Meet us on a Super Saturday

You will have an opportunity to receive training to meet the needs of families on a Super Saturday* in August or September. Family Ministry-related interest conferences



on Super Saturdays include:

- Sex Education: A Biblically Based Approach
- Responding to the Needs of Families
- Communication and Intimacy: Covenant Marriage
- Christian Self-Esteem: Parenting by Grace

*Look for information about Super Saturdays on page 8a of EVENTS.

Family Ministry Department, KBC (502) 245-4101, extension 250.

MINISTER/CHURCH SUPPORT

Cedarmore is host to October 29-30 Ministers' Wives Retreat

Cedarmore Baptist Assembly is the site of the seventh annual Ministers' Wives Retreat October 29-30. This year's theme, "Walk with Me...through Change," will be addressed both in conference sessions and in joint worship times. The retreat provides a time for renewal, recreation and fellowship for wives of ministers.

Even in the best of circumstances, times of transition and change can be unsettling and often frightening. Being a member of a minister's family does not exempt us from these times. At some point in our lives, we will face some trauma of transition—whether it be financial stress, illness, relocation or simply the stresses of changing people in an ever-changing world.

This year's keynote speaker is Ginny Sisk. She is a pastor's wife, homemaker, a former Kentucky Baptist Convention second vice president and author of This Too Shall Pass. In her addresses to the group, Mrs. Sisk will deal with the fact that, even though we live by faith, we often take for granted our lives and blessings. The result is we sometimes find ourselves ill-equipped to deal



Ginny Sisk

with the changes and the tragedies that come to us.

In addition to worship and fellowship times together, a number of conferences are planned to cover a variety of interests and needs. Participants will have the opportunity to choose three or more of the following sessions:

Prayer through the Changes - Sharon Dowd, Lexington. Sharon is professor of New Testament, Lexington Theological Seminary

Decorating on a Budget - Ginger Fuller, Chaplin (KY).

Ginger is a minister's wife, a mother and student at Campbellsville College.

Decorated Sweatshirts - Lou George, Shelbyville. Lou is a minister's wife, homemaker and a retired school teacher.

Redesigning Personal Paradigms - Dee Gilliland, Louisville. Dee is executive director-treasurer, Woman's Missionary Union, Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Sex! What's That? Talking to Your Pre-Adolescents about Sex - Susan Lanford, Nashville, Tennessee. Susan is a freelance writer and speaker.

Celebrating Sex in Your Marriage - Susan Lanford

Hostess with the Mostest:

Entertaining with Ease - Alice Marshall, Louisville. Alice is a homemaker and wife of Bill Marshall, KBC Executive Secretary-Treasurer.

Putting a Face on AIDS - Chip and Nancy Miller, Louisville. Chip is director of the KBC's Sunday School Department. Nancy is a homemaker, interior designer and student Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

No-Sew Fabric Wreaths - Lynnnda Parker, Pleasureville (KY). Lynnnda is a minister's wife and homemaker.

Financial Planning for Retirement - Don Spencer, Louisville. Don is director of the KBC Annuity Department.

The retreat begins with dinner at 5:30 p.m. Friday and concludes at 2:00 p.m. Saturday. (For those wanting a "little extra" Early Bird Conferences begin at 3:30 p.m. Friday. This year, in responses to requests from ministers' wives for a longer retreat, an additional optional conference time has been added to follow the last worship service. This concludes at 3:30 Saturday.)

Pre-registration is \$15 per person and is due by October 11 (check appropriate box on the registration form provided on EVENTS page 8a; make checks out to the Kentucky Baptist Convention). The total registration cost is \$45 but the \$15 pre-registration fee is

included in the total amount. For more information concerning this event, please contact: Peggy Berry, Minister/Church Support Division, Kentucky Baptist Convention, P. O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433, (502) 245-4101, extension 243.



ANNUITY

A lump sum package--Why not?

Question: In recent months you have talked about the church's responsibility for certain parts of a minister's pay. Our church gives our pastor a lump sum package and we let him decide how it should be divided up. What's wrong with that?

Answer: There are several problems with a lump-sum package:

1. It gives the church a false perception of what the minister's pay really is. A church might have a total package of \$35,000. The real pay (salary and housing) will usually be less than \$25,000, while most members will have the perception of \$35,000 as pay.

2. It is unfair to expect the minister to correctly "divide the package up." Most ministers have little training and experience in this area.

3. Often the minister has a higher tax liability than would exist if the financial support were properly structured by the church.

4. Protection coverages are sometimes neglected. This can leave the minister's family unprotected and can reduce the protection a church should have. Adequate protection can be assured when the church plans the financial support.

Next month, this column will feature a five step guide for churches in how to structure a minister's financial support plan.

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

CEDARMORE ASSEMBLY

There's never a dull moment

Youth attending camp at Cedarmore Baptist Assembly the week of July 5 will always have something to talk about.

It was the Thursday morning "Amen in the AM" service. Everyone was having fun. Son Team member, Chip Tillett introduced a special visitor, Troy Dobbs, pastor of New Harvest Baptist Church.

Troy told the group of youth and their counselors about a very special lady he was dating. He then asked Cheri CePugh, director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Student Department camping program at Cedarmore and Jonathan Creek, to join him on the platform. In proper fashion, Troy, on one knee, took Cheri's hand and asked her to be his wife.

It was an exciting time as two dedicated young adults shared this part of their personal lives with 300 campers.

Both Cheri and Troy are students at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.

Oh...by the way—Cheri's answer to Troy was yes!

Spotlight on Cedarmore staff

Greg Cobb

In 1990 Greg Cobb, while waiting to hear about a prospective job offer, agreed to help Cedarmore out by doing seasonal

work. The particular position's responsibilities were within his experience and interest so he agreed to fill in temporarily. When the same position—building and grounds—became open on a permanent basis, Greg accepted.

Greg and his wife Pam, and their two daughters, live in Henry County, where they raise, show and judge sheep. The Cobb's are also committed to church and associational work in Henry County. Pam is the association's director of missions and Greg is an active deacon and Brotherhood member in their local church.

Judy Knoop

Judy Knoop began her employment with Cedarmore last year in food services. Later in 1992 the head housekeeping position was available and she assumed those duties. Judy and her husband Steve have nine children. Maybe that's why work doesn't scare Judy!

Cedarmore could not function without its part time and temporary employees. They come when the work needs to be done and stay until the task is completed.

For more information, contact:

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

EVENTS

FOR ALL KENTUCKY BAPTISTS

OTHER EVENTS

Annuity

There are four Minister's Tax Conferences scheduled in early 1994:

February 14 - Elizabethtown
February 15 - Madisonville
February 17 - London
February 18 - Ft. Mitchell

Watch for more details in upcoming EVENTS issues.

Church Music

Don't miss the upcoming Kentucky Baptist Chorale and Singing Women Retreat.

Both groups will be rehearsing at Elizabethtown's Severns Valley Baptist Church. The Chorale meets October 7-8 while the Singing Women gather October 8-9.

New and former members are encouraged to attend.

Contact the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Church Music Department at (502) 245-4101, extension 325 for further details.

Direct Missions

Barbara Oden, former apartment manager and long-time multi-housing minister in Union Baptist Association (Houston, TX) and now with Metro New York

Association, is coming to Kentucky September 7-10. She will lead conferences on multi-housing in Paintsville, Lexington, Florence, Louisville and Greenville. Call the KBC Direct Missions Department (502) 244-6461 for more information as to the specific location of these conferences.

WMU

Mildred McWhorter, popular speaker and long-time missionary in inner city Houston, Texas, is on the October 8-9 Fall Retreat program. The WMU planned event is for women 35 and older as well as Kentucky Baptist nurses. Cost for overnight accommodations and 3 meals is \$27.50-\$39.50, depending on number in rooms and housing available.

Fill out the form on your right. Registration is \$18 per person. Make your check out to the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Upcoming Events

AUGUST

Brotherhood

Leadership/Hope for Hurting Humanity Workshops:

•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 28
Lexington
Immanuel Church

Church Music

•August 22-29
Church Music-Emphasis Week
All churches

WMU

•August 21-27
WMU Week
Ridgecrest
August 28
WMU Associational Council Training
Hopkinsville
First Church

SEPTEMBER

Brotherhood

•September 5-11
Brotherhood Leadership Week

Church Growth and Administration Division

Super Saturday September dates

•September 11
Ashland
First Church
•September 18
Mayfield
First Church
•September 25
Corbin
Central Church

Discipleship Training

•September 20
School of Discipleship
Prestonsburg
First Church
•September 24-25
Disciple Youth Conference
Lexington
South Elkhorn Church

Evangelism

September 13-16
CWT Seminar
Henderson
Zion Church
Monday (1:00 p.m.) through Thursday noon-local time.

Family Ministry

•September 24-26
Fall Festival of Marriage
Louisville
Southern Seminary

Media

•September 25
Church Media Library Workshop
Elizabethtown
Severns Valley Church

Student

•September 9-10
Church Recreators Retreat
Louisville
Broadway Church
•September 10-11
Student Advisory Committee
Louisville
Kentucky Baptist Building
•September 11
Summer Missions Debriefing
Local campuses
•September 12-19
Eliza Broadus Week of Prayer for State Missions

WMU

•September 12-19
State Missions Week of Prayer and Eliza Broadus Offering
•September 24-25
Young Black Leader's Retreat
Cedarmore Assembly

OCTOBER

This calendar does not include all the October events scheduled. Look for more details in the September issue.

Brotherhood

•October 7
Golf Scramble
Hopkinsville
•October 8-9
Brotherhood State Convention
Hopkinsville
First Church

Student

•October 1-3
State Student Convention
Lexington
Calvary 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

Sending a check? Unless otherwise specified, make your check out to the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

To Receive More Information

- Cedarmore Baptist Assembly
- Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly
- Family Ministry
Fall Festival of Marriage
- Discipleship Training
Disciple Youth
- Sunday School
State Sunday School Convention
- WMU
Eliza Broadus Offering and
Week of Prayer for State Missions Emphasis

Name _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Office _____ Home _____

Church _____ Association _____

Leadership Position _____

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

To Register

Church Growth

Super Saturdays

Pre-registration fee: \$8 per person

- August 28 - Lexington, Immanuel Church
- September 11 - Ashland, First Church
- September 18 - Mayfield, First Church
- September 25 - Corbin, Central Church

Brotherhood

\$30 per person, due by September 7

- Brotherhood Convention Golf Tournament

Church Music

\$50 per choir due before October 8

- Senior Adult Choir Festival

Direct Missions

No cost; registration is needed by September 22 for accurate lunch count.

- Language Leadership Conference

Evangelism

\$75 per person

- Continued Witness Training

Media

\$10 per person fee due by September 17

- CML Workshop

Minister/Church Support

\$15 pre-registration fee due by October 11

- Ministers' Wives Retreats

WMU

Fall Retreats - Registration \$18 p/person

- October 1-2, Cedarmore-All women
- October 8-9, Cedarmore-35 up, nurses
- October 14-15, Jonathan Creek-All
- October 14-15, Jonathan Creek-All

CHURCH GROWTH

Plan music even in small church, Hawkins says

BOWLING GREEN—Preparation is an important key to effective music programs in small churches, said Jim Hawkins of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

"We don't want the pastor walking in without giving a thought to what he's going to say" on Sunday mornings, Hawkins suggested. So neither should the choir and choir leaders enter worship without adequate preparation.

Hawkins, youth/adult consultant for music at the Sunday School Board, led a conference for part-time and volunteer music directors during the year's first Super Saturday conference sponsored by the Kentucky Baptist Convention Aug. 14 in Bowling Green.

With proper planning and preparation, music can be an effective element of worship in the small church, he said.

Church music leaders periodically should schedule time with the pastor to discuss goals for the church and to plan worship services together. If possible, they should plan to attend a worship seminar, Hawkins said.

He also suggested that leaders encourage congregations to find more meaningful worship through their singing.

Hymns can be a great resource for worship, especially if music leaders find ways to keep them new and fresh, making as many connections as possible between the words and the music, he advised.

During the seminar, Hawkins suggested several ways to vitalize congregational singing:

- Spoken introduction. A brief phrase pulled from the hymn can help focus people's minds on the meaning of the words rather than singing from rote memory.

- Hymn story. A short reference to a hymn's origin can add clarity and fresh meaning.

- Themes. Hymns can be effective when they focus on a particular worship theme or idea.

- Authors, composers, eras. Knowing the circumstances surrounding the writing of a particular hymn helps congregations better understand its application to them. An entire service could be built around the life and music of B.B. McKinney, for example.

- Dramatic monologue. More and more brief musical dramas are becoming available that use hymns as their basis.

- Visual aids.

- Hymn requests.

- Hymn-of-the-month plan.

Seminar participants also practiced conducting, discussed ways to prepare for a choir rehearsal and previewed resources available through the Sunday School Board.

New 'Flexible Curriculum' introduced

By Melanie Childers
Staff Writer

BOWLING GREEN—Environmentalists are one group sure to approve of a new, reusable series of teaching materials now available to Kentucky Baptists.

Not only does "Flexible Curriculum" make use of recycled products for teaching purposes; the undated, versatile material itself can be used again and again.

The Kentucky Baptist Convention recently has released the first units of "Flexible Curriculum," a series initiated by Jewell Nelson, associate director in the KBC Sunday school department.

The material is designed for use with children ages 6-12 in a variety of settings.

"It can be used one time or many times, today or a year from now," Nelson said. "Because it's not dated, we can use it as long as the Bible is in use."

She introduced the new materials during the Super Saturday conference at Eastwood Baptist Church in Bowling Green Aug. 14.

While not intended to replace existing curriculum for Sunday school or other programs, Nelson said, the units are designed to be used in situations for which no curriculum exists.

Such situations might include church weekday activities, mission trips, day camps, before- and after-school programs, multihousing ministries, and even scout groups and family vacations.

The first four units in the series—based on Bible characters David,

Mary and Martha, Joshua and Ruth—are to be available this month through the state's Sunday school department.

Units on Timothy, Paul, Barnabas and Lydia are to be released in December.

The material consists of a bright-colored envelope and about 12 separate color-coded 8 1/2-by-11-inch pages.

The front and back of each page includes suggestions and activities geared toward a particular topic.

For example, in the unit on David, a "Bible story" page includes a simplified version of the



Super Saturday Conferences
1993

story of David the shepherd. Other pages—under headings such as Bible games, Bible study, art, music, creative writing, drama and outdoor activities—provide an abundant assortment of children's activities to reinforce the material.

Other pages of more general content appear in each unit as a resource for teachers. These provide suggestions for using the flexible curriculum, a planning sheet and teacher's notes on salvation, health and safety, discipline and resources.

The steps are simple, Nelson added: "Just read it, and pull from it what you think will work in your situation." And as often as possible, involve children in the planning.

Although the idea for Flexible Curriculum first began about seven years ago, Nelson said, it had to be completed in her spare time and only recently was ready for printing.

She said the material should be helpful to churches of all sizes.

People in smaller churches that cannot afford to invest in expensive resources but still want to provide quality programs would find the \$5 packets a tremendous help, she said. The suggestions in the series call for inexpensive, easy-to-obtain items.

And larger churches, Nelson said, can use the material to add extra ministry for children.

Since it is appropriate for those without much Bible knowledge, the curriculum is ideal for mission settings.

Nelson has a wide range of experiences working with children. In addition to serving as a summer missionary, public schoolteacher and church staff member, she has directed a kindergarten weekday program and taught mentally handicapped people.

She has been a frequent curriculum writer for Southern Baptist Sunday School Board materials, as well as a contributor to newspapers and national magazines. She also serves as a columnist for the Western Recorder's Family Forum.

A team of writers has assisted Nelson with the new curriculum: Mary Cells of Highview Baptist Church in Louisville; Tina Cundiff of Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington; Lucy Stewart of Lakewood Baptist Church in Louisville; and Nelson's son, Jay, a schoolteacher.

Make worship understandable for children, Stewart suggests

By Melanie Childers
Staff Writer

BOWLING GREEN—Corporate worship that excludes children teaches them to "tune out" during worship, one leader warned during a Super Saturday conference Aug. 14.

But a good way for churches to include children is to provide well-planned, age-appropriate worship features for them during weekly services, said Lucy Stewart of Lakewood Baptist Church in Louisville.

"In the past, children have been in worship services that are not geared for them," Stewart said. And unfortunately, even many children's sermons are "more like an adult homily" than something children could understand.

As a result, "children often learn to tune out worship," she said.

But those children are important people who are capable of worship if it is offered to them at their level, Stewart insisted.

Because of their short attention spans, children need to be led through innovative methods of worship, she said. These might include music, puppets, simple Bible stories and prayers, litanies, pictures, role-plays, monologues or interviews with church leaders.

Children deserve to be treated as

valued people, she said, but more should not be expected of them than is appropriate for their age.

For example, since younger children cannot differentiate between fantasy and reality, the two should not be mixed in children's sermons. Therefore, talking-animal puppets would not be recommended, even if they were used to teach truths.

Neither can children comprehend object lessons or highly symbolic songs.

Stewart gave several general guidelines for preparing and presenting children's worship features:

- Make eye contact. Looking children in the eyes helps reduce their tendency toward restlessness and conveys that they are valued people.

- Keep it brief. Stewart suggests children's worship features should be three to seven minutes long.

- Be focused. "In children's sermons, we do not have three points, a joke, an illustration and a prayer. ... Choose one thing you want the children to remember."

- Use simple words and sentences.

- Use your normal voice.

- Involve the children. While they generally remember only about 10 percent of what they hear, involving them in the process increases retention.

Positive discipline for preschoolers

BOWLING GREEN—The goal of positive discipline for preschoolers should be to learn correct behavior, a children's specialist said during the Super Saturday Conference in Bowling Green Aug. 14.

Mary Liz Penick, a preschool worker from Burgin Baptist Church in Burgin, led a session on "Positive Discipline for Preschoolers" during the one-day event at Eastwood Baptist Church.

Discipline should not be confused with punishment, she explained.

The word "discipline" relates to helping another person learn something, she said, whereas "punishment" means to cause someone pain.

Penick offered three basic rules to guide the discipline of preschoolers:

- "I cannot let you hurt yourself because I love you too much."

- "I cannot let you hurt another because I love them too."

- "I cannot let you destroy property."

Preschool workers should strive to tell children what they want them to do rather than what they should not do, she said. For example, to stop a child from running down a hall, the teacher might say, "Please walk" rather than "Don't run."

Teachers always should call a child by name when offering praise, Penick suggested, but usually should not call a child by name when correcting. This helps build positive self-esteem.

Children may misbehave for a variety of reasons, she said, explaining it helps for teachers to address the root causes of behavioral problems. Some common causes include illness, fatigue, curiosity, family crises, boredom, and hearing too many "no"s, she said.

CHURCH GROWTH

Too often new converts are given little spiritual nurture after being asked to make the most important decision of their lives, Jim Clontz says.

New members not nurtured leave the fold, Clontz warns

By Pat Cole
State Correspondent

BOWLING GREEN—New church members likely will leave the fold if they don't quickly develop meaningful friendships in the congregation, according to a Kentucky Baptist Convention staff member.

Jim Clontz, associate director of the KBC's discipleship training department, noted that the average Southern Baptist church loses 50 percent of its new members in the first two years.

"To say that is a disgrace is putting it lightly," Clontz said during the Super Saturday conference Aug. 14 in Bowling Green. He addressed a conference on "Assimilating New Church Members."

Studies show that relational issues are the primary reasons new church members leave churches, Clontz explained. "Experts say (new members) must develop five to seven friends in six months or they will drop out."

Many times new Christians look for new friends to replace old friends whose lifestyles they may now find unacceptable, he added. "We must prove ourselves to be loyal, faithful and dependable friends."

Established church members, Clontz said, can help assimilate new members by offering to sit with them in worship, inviting them into their circle of acquaintances and introducing them to church leaders.

Churches also must develop programs for new-member training if they hope to reverse the drop-out trend, Clontz said. The New Christian Encourager Plan developed by the Southern Baptist Sunday School

Board is a helpful resource, he said. The plan assigns a mature believer as a mentor to a new Christian.

Too often new converts are given little spiritual nurture after being asked to "make the most important decision of their life," Clontz said.

He gave recommendations for developing a new-member training programs:

- Concentrate on relationship building.

- Teach new members doctrine, how to pray, how to study the Bible, principles of tithing and the mission and ministry of their church.

- Start a new members' class as often as possible. Never let a new member go more than three months without new-member training.

- Monitor involvement of new members for at least six months.

- Invite a church leader to week the new-member class every week.

- Use the Christian Service Survey Card to determine interests and talents of new members.

- Equip leaders for new-member training.

- Work toward requiring new-member training.

- Solicit support within the church for the new-member training program.

- Localize training sessions. Include the church history and a tour of the church buildings.

- Provide new members with a church directory, constitution and by-laws and offering envelopes.

- Plan one social event for each new-member class.

- Have the pastor share his personal vision of the church with the new members.

School memories

Seeing kids getting ready to go back to school always evokes strong memories for me. I remember the stiffness of new blue jeans, the smell of freshly sharpened pencils and the bright colors of new composition books. I remember feeling a special excitement about the first day that kept me awake the night before. The kid in me sometimes even wishes I could once again charge across the playground or tramp down the halls of school with my buddies.

One of my prayers is that the young people being cared for by Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children also will have fond memories of going back to school. This is not something that comes automatically when you consider that for some of our young people, survival has had to take precedence over school work in the past. It's kind of hard to care about math when your Mom walks out on you. It's hard to care about learning science when you've been told

you're dumb so many times you believe it or when you're hungry all the time.

As Kentucky Baptists, you are helping to overwhelm these bad memories with good ones. As the young people find hope and healing from the horrors of their past, school becomes part of the pathway to their futures.

As those of you who are parents know, though, going back to school is expensive even if you just have one or two to get ready. Last year, we sent more than 500 to school. Your help in meeting the many needs for clothing and supplies will be deeply appreciated.

Your love and concern now will mean that in the years ahead, today's young people will be able to have fond memories of school.

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

HOMES FOR CHILDREN



Curtis C. Mooney

Paid Column

Money problems called heart problems

By Pat Cole
State Correspondent

BOWLING GREEN—Responsible Christian stewardship means more than dropping a tithe in the church offering plate, a Kentucky pastor said during the Super Saturday conference Aug. 14.

God is owner of all resources, said Brad Johnson, pastor of Living Hope Baptist Church in Bowling Green. "We tithe as an expression of our thanks, but God owns it all."

Therefore, Christians should live as managers of God's resources, Johnson said. And in order to be a good manager, Christians must plan how they will allocate their financial resources.

Church stewardship often has more to do with discipleship than dollars, Johnson said: "Most churches don't have money problems. They have heart problems."

At nearly every income level, people perceive of themselves as not having enough money to free themselves from financial worries, Johnson explained. Consequently, most people want to find out how better to manage their money.

"When a church says 'We're interested in helping people manage their money,' they will perk up and pay attention, the pastor said. "They will think the church is in touch with where they are."

Johnson said the "Live Wisely" materials produced by the Southern Baptist Convention's Stewardship Commission are excellent for teaching Christian money management.

"Live Wisely" can be taught in conjunction with a church's regular Sunday activities, he noted, adding that one-day programs usually are better attended than those that require a longer commitment.

"Live Wisely" offers a biblical study of stewardship and stresses five key steps for sound money management, Johnson said.

The five steps are:
 ■ Establish goals.
 ■ Estimate income.
 ■ Determine expenses.
 ■ Devise a spending plan.
 ■ Keep simple, accurate records.
 Good financial managers always keep their eyes pointed toward their goal, Johnson said. "Most people fail because they fail to plan."

Did You Know ...



Those who dwell in apartments, mobile homes and high rises in the U.S. currently number about 80 million? Only 2 million of them attend any church. 78 million are probably lost!

Multi-Housing Workshop With Barbara Oden



Barbara Oden, the long-time multi-housing minister for Houston's Union Baptist Association, has moved to New York City's Metropolitan Association. She was an apartment manager for years and loves apartment dwellers, understands them and knows how to get to them.

Plan to attend one of the following conferences:

First Baptist Church, Paintsville, Tuesday, Sept. 7, 6:30-9:30 p.m.
Elkhorn Baptist Assn. Bldg., Lexington, Wednesday, Sept. 8, 10:30-3
Florence Baptist Church, Thursday, Sept. 9, 10:30-3
Highland Baptist Church, Louisville, Friday, Sept. 10, 10:30-3
First Baptist Church, Greenville, Friday, Sept. 10, 6:30-9 p.m.

Please Note: Daytime meetings will have a lunch provided. If you plan to attend, please notify KBC Direct Missions, (502) 244-6461, so we can prepare one for you.

Tax law changes could benefit donors, Carnes says

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

Congress may have given Ken-

tucky Baptist institutions and agencies a pleasant surprise in the recently passed package of tax-law changes, says Richard Carnes, director of the

Kentucky Baptist Foundation.

The legislation passed Aug. 6 creates tremendous incentives for some people to donate cash, stocks or prop-

erty to Baptist causes, he explained.

"With higher 1993 federal tax rates, the after-tax cost of a charitable gift may be lower to a charitably motivated individual," Carnes said. "This may be especially true for those with adjusted gross incomes in excess of \$250,000, who will be in a nearly 40 percent marginal tax bracket."

For such people, the after-tax cost of gifts to charitable causes has fallen to only 60 cents on the dollar, he said.

One way to minimize the blow of the new taxes is to accelerate deductions into 1993 which might otherwise have been taken the next year, Carnes reported.

An additional incentive relates to changes in the way gifts of appreciated property may be given, Carnes added.

For example, if a person bought shares of stock for \$25 per share several years ago, and that stock now sells for \$75 per share, there is a new incentive to give the appreciated stock as a contribution to a charitable cause. Gifts of such appreciated property have not been as desirable since 1986, when a restrictive tax law was passed.

"The new law removes the restrictive alternative minimum tax provisions, which prevented a number of people from securing the maximum benefits of gifting appreciated property held long-term," Carnes said. "These gifts are now fully deductible for both regular and alternative minimum tax purposes."

Even though year-end is still four months away, now is the time to begin making important tax decisions, Carnes advised. "Don't wait until Dec. 31 to start your year-end tax planning. Make your charitable gifts by Dec. 31 in order to claim deductions on your 1993 federal income tax return due next April.

"Gifts to charitable organizations made before the end of the year generally bring income tax deductions for those who itemize deductions," he said.

Because individual situations vary widely, Carnes advised, it always is wise to seek qualified tax counsel for exact information.

For more information about impact of the recent changes on charitable giving, call Carnes at the Kentucky Baptist Building, (502) 245-4101 or contact the development office of any Baptist agency or institution.

Sunday school lesson feeds 500,000

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (BP)—Calvin Horn challenged his Sunday school class back in 1978 to feed the hungry each Wednesday for four weeks. In preparing to teach the week's lesson from Isaiah 58, he discovered a promise: "If we feed the hungry and care for the poor, God will take care of us." Horn decided "to claim it." Fifteen years later, the four-week challenge still bears fruit at the Noon Day Ministry of First Baptist Church of Albuquerque. The ministry began in the church's fellowship hall and now has its own building and board of directors. To date, the ministry has fed and ministered to nearly 500,000 people.



Accommodations 1993 KBC Annual Meeting - Elizabethtown

The 156th Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meeting is November 16-17 at Elizabethtown's Severns Valley Baptist Church. The hotels listed below represent facilities with blocked convention rooms in Elizabethtown, Radcliff, Shepherdsville and Cave City. Room rates are for 1-4 persons per night. Reservation deadlines, otherwise specified, are November 1. **Individuals making reservations must identify themselves as attendees of the Kentucky Baptist Convention to receive the established room rates. Make your reservations EARLY!**

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

ELIZABETHTOWN - Add 9% tax to rates

Best Western/Cardinal Inn
642 East Dixie
502/765-6139; 1/800/528-1234
Located on Hwy. 31W between I-65 and U.S. 62; exit 91 off I-65
Restaurant
\$26-\$42 + tax

Days Inn
I-65 & U.S. Hwy. 62
502/769-5522; 1/800/325-2525
On Hwy. 62 directly off I-65 exit 94
Denny's (open 24 hours) is adjacent.
\$27-\$45.90 + tax

Holiday Inn North
I-65 and U.S. Hwy. 62
502/769-2344; 1/800/HOLIDAY
Off I-65 exit 94 on Hwy. 62
Restaurant
\$43-\$53 + tax

Howard Johnson/Commonwealth Lodge
708 East Dixie
502/765-2185; 1/800/654-2000
On Hwy. 31 between I-65 and WK Parkway
Continental breakfast
\$29.95-\$39.95 + tax

Lincoln Trail Motel
905 North Mulberry Street
502/769-1301; 769-1302
On Hwy. 62 one mile west of I-65 (exit 94)
\$24.06-\$32.88 (this includes tax)

Rodeway Inn
656 East Dixie
502/769-2331; 1/800/228-2000
On Hwy. 31W near I-65 exit 91
Jerry's Restaurant is adjacent
\$29.88-\$39.88 + 9.15%

Towne Inn (formerly a Howard Johnson's)
I-65 and Hwy. 62
502/765-4166
On Hwy. 62 directly off I-65 (exit 94)
\$30-\$45 + tax

Another E-town hotel is available, but blocked rooms were not offered in advance:

Comfort Inn
I-65 and Hwy. 62
(502) 769-3030; 1/800/228-5150
On Hwy. 62 just west of I-65 exit 94
Next to Cracker Barrel and Shoney's
Indoor pool; whirlpool tubs available
\$59.37-\$69.86 + tax (30 day advance deposit)

RADCLIFF - Add 9% tax

Facilities are 9-12 miles of Elizabethtown
Best Western Gold Vault Inn
1225 North Dixie
502/351-1141
U.S. 31W, north side of Radcliff
1/2 mile from Ft. Knox
Shoney's Restaurant is adjacent
\$38 + tax
Reservations deadline: October 23

Econo Lodge
261 North Dixie
502/351-4488
U.S. 31W, north side of Radcliff
Continental breakfast
\$35.97-\$43.60; \$3 extra per person (tax included in this price)

Quality Inn
438 South Dixie
502/351-8211
U.S. 31W south of Radcliff
Continental breakfast
\$40 + tax; \$3 each for additional adults
Children 18 under - free
Reservations deadline: October 15

SHEPHERDSVILLE - Add 9% tax

20 miles north of Elizabethtown
Best Western South
44 Lakeview Drive
502/543-7097
I-65 and State Hwy. 44, exit 117
Restaurant
\$37-\$45 + tax
\$4 each extra person
Suites: \$51-\$65 + tax

CAVE CITY - Add 9.18% tax

30 minute drive south of Elizabethtown
Best Western Kentucky Inn
I-65 and Ky Hwys. 70 & 90
502/773-3161
1 block east of I-65, exit 53
\$28-\$32 + tax
Each extra person add \$4
One night's deposit in advance

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KENTUCKY KERNELS

Over the last six-year period, 52 percent of Kentucky Baptist Convention churches experienced a net loss of resident members. Meanwhile, 47 percent experienced at least nominal growth in resident membership. Thirty-nine percent of KBC churches grew more than 5 percent during this period, while 8 percent grew less than 5 percent. Another 21 percent declined less than 5 percent, while 32 percent declined more than 5 percent.

Source: Analysis of Uniform Church Letter data by Vernon Cole and Douglas Hays

Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by Ann Tatum

■ **BOWLING GREEN**—Jim Browder has resigned as minister of music at First Church to become music minister at First Church in San Marcos, Texas.
 ■ **BURNSIDE**—Burnside Church called Richard Allen as pastor.
 ■ **EMINENCE**—Eminence Church ordained Richard Holcomb as a deacon.
 ■ **EUBANK**—Good Hope Church called Bert Hall as pastor Aug. 1.
 ■ **GREENSBURG**—James Casey Jr., retired director of missions in Russell Creek and East Lynn associations, has moved to 12227 Wedgefield Dr., Leesburg, Fla. 34788, where

he will be involved in missions and evangelism work.

■ **LEXINGTON**—Sherl Thomas resigned as pastor of Cane Run Church to become pastor at First Church in Irvine.

■ **NICHOLASVILLE**—John Sheppard resigned as pastor of Faith Church to move to Atlanta.

■ **PADUCAH**—Lone Oak First Church called James Jones as minister of youth and young adults.

Olivet Church called Bryan Powell of Franklin as minister of outreach and activities. Also, Mark Link was ordained as a deacon.

■ **RUSSELLVILLE**—First Church

celebrates its 175th anniversary Sept. 11-12.

■ **SHEPHERDSVILLE**—First Church called Isaac McDonald of Elizabethtown as interim pastor.

■ **SOMERSET**—New Enterprise Church called Curtis Keith as pastor. Pleasant Run Church called Eddie West as minister of education and youth. He is a student at Clear Creek Baptist Bible College.

Gilbert Robinson resigned as pastor of Slate Branch Church.

■ **WINCHESTER**—Gerald Chafin resigned as minister of music at First Church to accept a position at Parkwood Church in Louisville.

Georgetown honors Sexton, graduates 90

GEORGETOWN—Georgetown College awarded degrees to 90 graduates in summer commencement ceremonies Aug. 14 during which Robert Sexton was given the honorary doctor of letters degree.

Sexton, executive director of the Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence, was instrumental in developing the Kentucky Education Reform Act.

The 90 graduates in the summer commencement earned the master of arts degree in education.

Sexton is a Louisville native who founded Kentucky's Governor's Scholars program and the Commonwealth Institute for Teachers. He has taught at the University of Kentucky and Murray State University and has been acting deputy director of the Kentucky Council on Higher Education.

He has served in numerous volunteer and advisory posts, including his current assignment with the governor's task force on health care access and on the board of the Kentucky Education Research Assessment Foundation.

CLASSIFIED ADS

LOOKING: Full-time minister of music and education. We also are seeking a part-time minister of youth. The church has a resident membership of approximately 500 and an average attendance of approximately 200. Send resumé and referrals to: Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 200 North Morgan St., Morganfield, KY 42437 (502) 389-1042.

WANTED: Full-time minister. Contact Pastor Search Committee, Nicholasville Baptist Church, Main at Chestnut, Nicholasville, KY 40356, (606) 885-6077.

WANTED: Full-time minister of youth and music. Send resumé to First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 327, Paris, KY 40361.

HOLYLAND PILGRIMAGE: 10 days, Jan. 18-27, 1994, \$1,495 from Nashville or St. Louis; \$1,559 from Louisville. Meet our missionaries, see our Baptist work and all the Holy sites. Call Pastor Jack R. Studie for a color brochure. (502) 247-8331.

SEEKING: Hickory Grove Baptist seeks a full-time youth minister. Send resumé, tape or video to Rev. Charles Steger, Hickory Grove Baptist Church, 11969 Taylor Mill Rd., Independence, KY 41051.

WANTED: Volunteer missionaries (any age) to work with young adults in an urban church. Will commission! Be involved in missions personally. Call pastor (502) 636-1355 or (502) 425-4091.

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

Called to serve

We have opened our 94th academic year with six more classrooms than just one year ago. Since we built our last dorm 10 years ago, we have nearly tripled our academic staff. That means we have a nearly three-times better teacher-student ratio.

Our middle school has grown the most from three teachers to a full-time staff of 12 including a full-time principal with an earned doctorate and 27 years of public school experience.

Ten years ago we did not have an elementary school for our staff children. Today we have three teachers for kindergarten through grade five.

We had one staff member for day care for preschool staff children 10 years ago. Today we have three full-time day care workers in our state-licensed day care program. Those three workers are supervised by a full-time volunteer who owned and operated her own day care center for 44 children for 12 years.

In our high school program we have 177 classes in a seven-period day. We offer four years of English and advanced English each year. Also offered is basic English and speech.

In foreign language are two years of Russian, French, Spanish and German. We also have advanced placement German.

In science we teach physics, chemistry, anatomy, physical science, biology and advanced biology.

Our math curriculum includes consumer math, pre-algebra, advanced algebra, advanced algebra II, essential math, informal geometry, geometry, pre-calculus and advanced placement calculus.

In social studies we have Appalachian studies, U.S. history, world history, advanced placement U.S. history, political science, psychology and

geography.

Home economics classes include marriage and family, clothing, child development and foods.

We teach computer literacy, programming, typing I and II, music, piano, band and drama. We also offer four years of art.

Vocationally we teach manual and computer-aided drafting, three years of agriculture, welding, small engine repair, auto maintenance, building maintenance.

We have a full-time drivers' education program.

All students must have at least one-half year of physical education and many take advanced PE. Also, every student must have at least one semester of health.

All OBI students must have one semester each of Old Testament and New Testament before graduation. Also we teach advanced Bible.

There is supervised study hall for each student one hour per day. One hour of supervised study hall each evening is required for every student who was not on the academic honor roll the preceding nine weeks.

The Oneida class day begins at 7:30 a.m. this year and ends at 3 p.m. Our academic year began with a two-hour worship service with all school staff at Oneida Baptist Church. Along with our teachers and administrators were our cooks, maintenance staff, farm workers, office staff and houseparents. This is an annual tradition I started nearly 20 years ago. Pastor Al Griffin preached on "Called to serve."

Another year has begun.

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

Paid Column

ONEIDA JOURNAL



Barkley Moore

Corbin pastor still walks by faith

"On my way to work in Cincinnati I changed buses in front of Westside Baptist Church, located in an old saloon building. Another saloon was next door. I needed to get back in the church, but I told the Lord I would like to find a church that looked a little better than this one. In God's providence that was the church where I was saved July 4, 1948," Corbin pastor Bill Clouse remembers.

Clouse surrendered to preach after hearing a message from Isaiah 6:8. As a former sailor he often packed his sea bags and told the Lord he was willing to go anywhere. He thought he would end up in some remote country as a missionary. On the Sunday of his decision his pastor asked him to preach in two weeks. "I got everything together that I could and gave everything I had. My wife said I lasted 17 minutes."

A young adult Sunday school teacher who had taught Clouse three Sundays before he was saved operated a Cincinnati dry cleaning business. Whenever he heard of a church needing a supply pastor he would volunteer Bill and often went with him. Bill supplied for six months and enrolled in a Moody correspondence course. A visiting evangelist asked, "Have you

thought about going to school?" He had, but he also had a family. The evangelist said, "I know a school where you can work your way through," and told him about Clear Creek. Bill soon received a letter from Dr. Kelly and went for a campus visit. Clouse asked Kelly, "Can a man work all his way through?" Kelly responded, "Well, we have never had to send a man away who was willing to work and study."

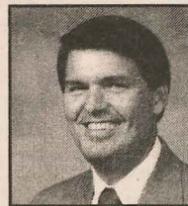
Clouse returned to his job at General Electric and asked the manager if he could work double shift for two months to pay off bills and save some money. Bill got everything paid off except his car, and his dad signed a note for it. He quit a \$100-a-week job and came to a campus job earning about \$25 a week.

Bill cites two grateful experiences of his Clear Creek days: learning to live by faith and the gift of their daughter.

Kelly's words are still true. We have not sent a man away who was willing to work and study. Some have left because they wanted more than they needed and were not willing to live by faith.

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

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

Paid Column

MISSIONS

Patience yields great spiritual harvest in Ethiopia



By Craig Bird
SBC Foreign Mission Board

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (BP)—Southern Baptist missionaries of Ethiopia have quite a resume.

In the past two decades, they have worked under a feudal monarchy that empowered a state religion, a brutal communist dictatorship that persecuted all religions, and a fledgling democracy that at times is hard-pressed to back up its guarantee of religious freedom.

During those same years, they have ministered in one of history's most devastating droughts and famines and through a debilitating civil war.

What's the result?

"We've done a lot of good things on the human level," said Jerry Bedsole of Foley, Ala. "And the Lord has let us take part in some great things on the eternal level.

"Under the (communist government) we couldn't report a lot of what was happening publicly and if we associated too closely with new converts they would be arrested, but the word of God was planted. Today we finally have the freedom to preach and witness openly—and we see what God has been doing."

Two examples:

z Nearly 40 people completed a spring workshop on MasterLife, a Christian discipleship and Bible study program. More than half are active priests in the Ethiopian Orthodox Church.

z In the central highlands, a tiny band of believers cut off from contact with missionaries for more than a decade after the communist takeover has grown into a 300-member congregation that often attracts 1,000 worshippers. It also has started two other Baptist churches.

The foundation for the recent growth is development work.

"Development work allowed Baptists to remain in Ethiopia when communists took over and kicked out all the preachers, including ours," said Bedsole, a veterinarian and discipleship trainer. "And when the new government came to power, they told us up front, 'You can preach what you want and where you want as long as you help us develop this country.'"

The most massive human needs programs came during the famine of the mid-1980s, when Baptists joined the rest of the world in keeping a nation from starving. Baptists manned feeding stations and medical clinics in six remote areas. In each of those towns, strong churches exist today.

But with the end of the famine, the missionaries moved into water development and reforestation and pushed for permission to resume the veterinary and medical clinics suspended by the communists.

"Drought relief was good because we helped many people, but it was frustrating because we were restricted to the feeding centers and couldn't go into villages and develop relationships with people," Bedsole explained.

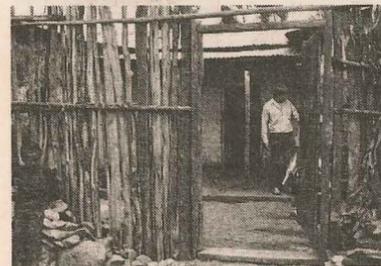
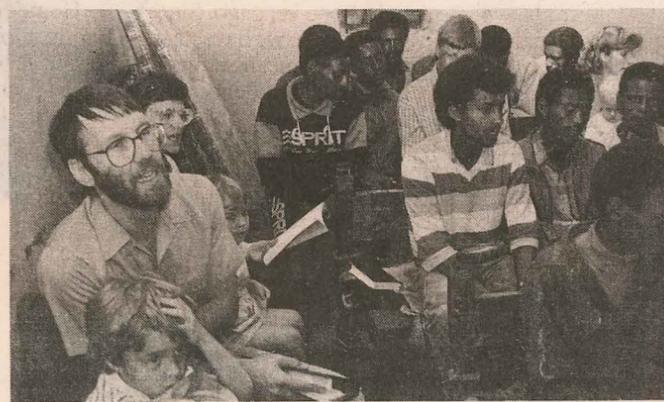
"But to do water development or establish a tree nursery, you have to live where you can really get to know people and share the gospel with them. If you have regular clinics, people learn to trust you."

One unexpected benefit of travel restrictions was that missionaries and Ethiopian Baptist workers spent lots of time together. The workers' commitment grew as they and missionaries studied the Bible and prayed together night after night.

"Several people have told me, 'You Baptists did it right when you trained development teams,'" said Paul Gay of Quitman, Miss. "We didn't do it on purpose, but now when they go to work on water or nurseries, they have a mature faith to share and a bold spirit to go along with it."

Today in Ethiopia, missionaries and Baptists develop the country and believers. Springs long contaminated by animals and people are capped, and clean water flows in pipes. Bare hillsides slowly sprout with seedlings from a Baptist-operated tree nursery—making local people who benefit more willing to attend a home Bible study.

At a medical clinic, men with AK-47 rifles cradled in their arms read Scripture portions and listen to devotionals. Student veterinarians learn animal husbandry from a man who also talks about a living faith in Jesus Christ. In a refugee camp food deliveries are known as "Baptist bread" and hopeless people hear about a God who loves them.

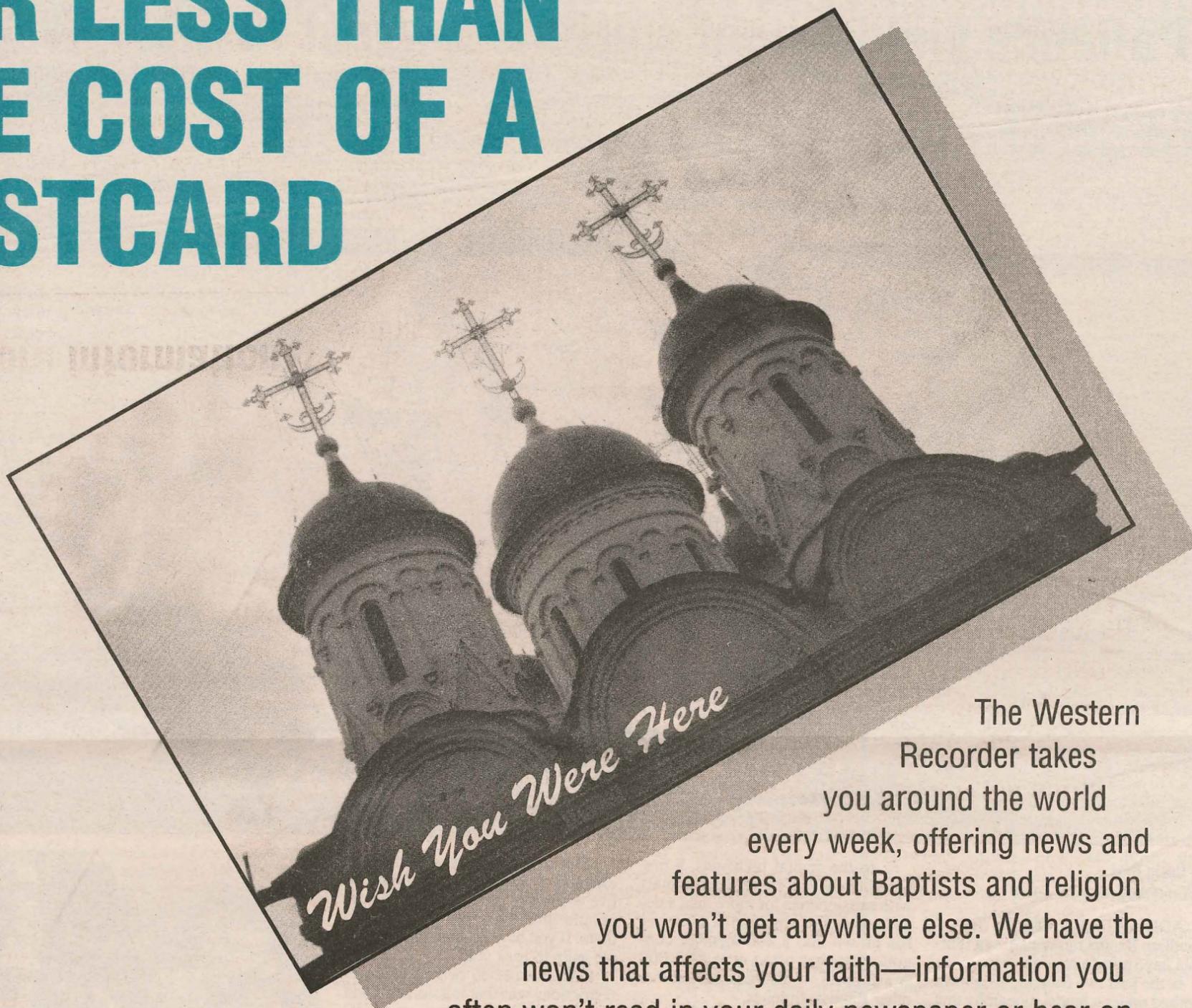


ETHIOPIA ■ Top: Southern Baptist missionary Jeff Pearson (left) discusses the status of a Baptist-funded tree nursery near Sokoru, Ethiopia, with members of the Ethiopian Baptist development team. ■ Above: Former missionaries Paul and Hannah Gay and their children (left) visit a Baptist worship service in Shola Gabeya, Ethiopia. ■ Left: Missionary Jeff Pearson walks out the front door of his residence—a former tavern—in Shola Gabeya. (BP photos by Melissa Bird)

"I loved to teach and witness—and did both whenever I could," Gay said before he returned to the U.S. "But it didn't take me long to realize that if I did well negotiating contracts with the government, I was making it possible for 15 strong Ethiopian Christians to work where the gospel desperately needs to be heard. And they do a better job presenting Christ in their own culture than I could.

"It's not very glorious to sit behind a desk—but the ultimate results have been pretty glorious."

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