

FOR THE RECORD

KBC preview

This issue includes a preview of the issues to be considered by messengers to the Kentucky Baptist Convention's annual meeting. See page 1, 3, 8 & 9.

High point

Serving as president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention has been a high point in the career of Charles Stewart. See page 3.

Letter criticized

The Kentucky Baptist Fellowship has mailed a letter statewide asking moderates to attend the Kentucky Baptist Convention and listing possible candidates for elected office. Kentucky's conservative leaders, meanwhile, have charged the Fellowship with engaging blatant politics. See page 3.

Editorial

We are not enemies. See page 5.

Faith & morals

Faith impacts Americans' moral outlook more than any other factor, a poll by the Barna Research Group has found. See page 6.

Health care

Some Baptists say they will oppose President Clinton's health-care reform package as long as it includes abortion coverage. Others say they oppose abortion but believe it is important to get health-care reform passed. See page 7.

Islam gaining more among black men

By Ray Waddle
Nashville Tennessean

NASHVILLE (ABP)—Suleiman Aziz gave up Christianity to become a Moslem for lots of reasons.

Growing up a black Baptist in Nashville, he said he never saw a biblical character in church literature that wasn't white. Also, the various denominations seemed to give a confusing picture about just who Jesus is. Is he God, or son of God? Perhaps most of all, church was attended mostly by women. Where were the men?

"It seems there's something lacking in the message if it's not attracting men," said Aziz, 37, a businessman who left the church by age 18.

"In Islam, I found a stronger ideal of brotherhood and moral discipline—and of manhood. Muhammad was a man just like us, and still he led a life that was pleasing to God," said Aziz, owner of Vision Books International in Nashville.

Aziz's story could be multiplied by the thousands in America, and that's what worries African American church leaders.

Though black churches remain a thriving institution, the conversion of black males to the religion of Islam poses a worrisome threat as the century winds down, according to a new national report.

"It is already clear that in Islam the historic black church denominations will be faced with a far more serious and more powerful competitor for the souls of black folk than the white churches ever were," said church historians Eric Lincoln of Duke University and Lawrence Mamiya of Vassar College, writing in the new Yearbook. □ See *Islam attracting ...*, page 11



MORE FOOD Despite the current political turmoil in Haiti, Southern Baptist missionary Mark Rutledge (left) continues to help Haitian farm workers develop better crops to sustain their families and others. He teaches Haitians better ways of raising crops using locally available materials. (BP photo by Don Rutledge)

As Haiti boils, Baptists help grow food

By Erich Bridges
SBC Foreign Mission Board

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (BP)—As trucks packed with Haitians streamed out of Port-au-Prince, they rolled past Southern Baptist missionaries Mark and Peggy Rutledge—who were driving in the opposite direction.

The Rutledges, who work in Haiti's countryside, drove into the tense Haitian capital Oct. 17. They came to assess how the developing standoff between Haiti's military regime on one side and the United Nations and United States on the other might af-

fect mission work.

"We just came in to touch base with (three other Southern Baptist workers), make sure everything is all right, go over our contingency plans and get a feeling for what's going on," said Mrs. Rutledge in a phone interview Oct. 18. "Everyone's in good spirits. We've been through this before."

The Rutledges, of Murfreesboro, Tenn., and Glendale, Calif., work in agricultural ministries. Volunteers Ed and Mary Brentham of Belton, Texas, live in Port-au-Prince and work in well drilling and evangelism. Journeyman Todd Lowe of Central, S.C.,

has been studying language and culture in the capital in preparation for working with the Rutledges.

The five have no immediate intention to leave Haiti, despite warnings from some foreign embassies to their citizens to depart as fears of violence rise.

"We tend to follow the U.S. Embassy's lead," Mrs. Rutledge said. "They have several stages for going on alert or pulling out. But the embassy to this point has not issued any such warnings. We're trying to be prepared in case, but at the moment things don't seem to be to that level." □ See *Missionaries offer ...*, page 12

Annual meeting forecast: Overflow crowds

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

Here's important advice if you're headed to the Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meeting Nov. 16-17: carpool and get there early.

Although no one knows in advance how many people will attend any convention, this year's meeting could draw crowds of up to 2,500 registered messengers, predicts Jim Hawkins, executive associate with the KBC Executive Board.

Last year's convention in Louisville drew fewer messengers—1,726—to a larger facility.

The main sanctuary at Severns Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethtown seats about 900 people, Hawkins said. An overflow hall to accommodate about 600 more will be set up in Fellowship Hall, located beneath the sanctuary.

Two other overflow seating areas will be set up within the church building, Hawkins said.

All three overflow rooms will be equipped with video monitors to view the proceedings and with tellers to count votes. But Fellowship Hall will be the only overflow room where messengers can speak to proceedings on the main floor.

"Everybody will be able to see the proceedings and vote," Hawkins said. "If they want to speak to a motion, then they will need to be in the auditorium or Fellowship Hall."

Despite the way it sounds, the convention "will not be a three-ring circus," Hawkins predicted. "The church is going all out to accommodate us."

Severns Valley's facility includes on-site parking for 600 vehicles, plus a gravel lot for vans. Parking also will be available at two overflow lots, which will be served by shuttles. One overflow lot will be

at the old IGA grocery store on Dixie Avenue. The other, which is within walking distance of the church, will be at the corner of Poplar and North Miles.

Registration for messengers will open at 10 a.m. Monday, Nov. 15, in Room W-20 at Severns Valley. That room is located immediately inside the rear entrance to the education building, which is covered with a portico.

Registration continues through 8 p.m. Monday, and then is open from 8:30 a.m. through 8 p.m. both Tuesday and Wednesday.

Most hotel rooms on the list published by the KBC already are booked, Hawkins said, but rooms still are available in the area. Messengers unable to find lodging may call the Elizabethtown Tourism Bureau at (800) 437-0092.



More on pages 3, 8 & 9

RFRA passes Senate, nears final stretch

WASHINGTON (ABP)—After three years, the Religious Freedom Restoration Act is about to become law.

The U.S. Senate Oct. 27 overwhelmingly approved the bill that is regarded as one of the most important measures affecting religious liberty since the Bill of Rights was ratified in 1791. The Senate vote was 97-3.

An effort to amend the measure failed 41-58.

The U.S. House of Representatives unanimously approved the bill last May on voice vote. But the Senate returned the bill to the House because the Senate version has some technical changes. Reaching agreement on those minor changes is not seen as an obstacle.

President Bill Clinton endorsed RFRA and is expected to sign it.

The bill would restore a high level of protection the Supreme Court formerly required government to meet before restricting religious practice.

BAPTIST BITS

■ **Enlistment** is underway for "Cross Over Orlando," an evangelistic emphasis to precede the Southern Baptist Convention's annual meeting in Orlando, Fla. next June. The emphasis will include block parties, rallies and door-to-door witnessing. For information, call the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board at (404) 898-7688.

■ **The Uniform Church Letter**, the annual statistical report from Southern Baptist Convention churches, will be changed in 1994. The name has been changed to "Annual Church Profile," and the document will help churches assess their health, growth and progress, said Tom Carringer of the SBC Sunday School Board. The format of the report has been changed to make it easier for church clerks to complete, he said.

■ **Robert Crowder**, an Alabama layman who filed an unsuccessful lawsuit against the Southern Baptist Convention in 1985, died Oct. 13 in Birmingham, Ala. He was 83. Crowder and his wife, Julia, and several other plaintiffs, argued that SBC President Charles Stanley violated the convention's bylaws in 1985 by refusing to allow nominations to replace the committee on committees.

■ **A \$3 million goal** has been set for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's 1993-94 global missions offering. Promotion of the offering began last week, with the mailing of promotional materials to more than 1,200 churches. The offering emphasis extends from October through April. The Fellowship received \$1.94 million for its 1992-93 global missions offering.

Masonic study author fired by HMB

ATLANTA—The staff member who wrote the controversial study on Freemasonry for the Southern Baptist Convention has been fired from his position with the SBC Home Mission Board for "gross insubordination."

Gary Leazer, who formerly was director of the HMB's interfaith witness department but recently was reassigned as an associate director, resigned Oct. 22, after HMB President Larry Lewis asked for the resignation.

Lewis said he requested Leazer's resignation for "gross insubordination" stemming from an address Leazer gave Aug. 6 to the Southeast Masonic Conference meeting in Atlanta. A transcript of Leazer's speech was printed in the October issue of "The Masonic Messenger," a publication of the Grand Lodge of Georgia.

In 1992, messengers to the SBC annual meeting in Indianapolis directed the HMB to conduct a study of Freemasonry and its compatibility with Christianity. As director of the interfaith witness department, Leazer was assigned the task of researching the issue.

The assignment was seen by many observers as a "no-win" situation for Leazer because feelings were so intense on both sides of the issue. Critics of Freemasonry wanted Leazer's report to condemn the fraternal organization; supporters of Freemasonry wanted the report to prove their critics wrong.

Leazer's study was submitted to Lewis and HMB trustees, who then drafted their own summary report. That final report was approved by messengers to last summer's SBC annual meeting in Houston.

The strongest critics of Freemasonry—particularly layman Larry Holly of Beaumont, Texas—were not satisfied with Leazer's study or the HMB trustees' report. Holly has continually called for Leazer's dismissal and for the HMB to repudiate the report.

After a flap erupted last spring over a letter written by Leazer to some members of a Masonic lodge, Leazer was reassigned from department director to associate director.

In his Aug. 6 speech to the the Masonic group, Leazer reportedly criticized HMB administrators and trustees for their handling of the Masonic issue.

"My study does not agree with the conclusions in the Home Mission Board report ... (The report) does not reflect my conclusions as a non-Mason and I feel certain it does not reflect yours," Leazer said, according to the published manuscript.

The transcript includes numerous encouragements for Masons to take action concerning the HMB report. "You should not be satisfied with the report. I hope you will respond clearly and quickly ... you simply cannot afford to ignore the report," Leazer said in one portion.

Leazer also charges in the transcript that "none of my supervisors asked me for my side of the story" and that his study was so altered by administrators and given "a more negative spin ... that I requested my name not be attached to the study."

Lewis denied the charges that Leazer's side of the story had not been heard. He charged Leazer with "outright advocacy for the Masonic Lodge," an attribute he called "extremely unprofessional."

Lewis also said he objected to Leazer's "name-calling and disparaging remarks" about Freemasonry opponents in the transcript.

Lewis said by making these comments to the Masonic meeting, Leazer violated a direction given him by Lewis and HMB Vice President Darrell Robinson last March.

"After he was relieved of duties as director of the interfaith department last March, Dr. Leazer was directed to refrain from any and all involvement in the Freemasonry issue,"

Lewis explained. "He has clearly violated that directive and in doing so has demonstrated his unwillingness to submit to the authority of his supervisors."

Leazer, however, said he does not remember being told he could not speak about Freemasonry.

"Dr. Lewis and I remember things differently," Leazer said. "I do not recall being instructed that I was to have no further involvement with Freemasonry. I was only told that I was to have no further involvement in writing of the 'Report on Freemasonry.'"

"I have looked through my files, notes and personal journals and can find no notes that would indicate those instructions," Leazer said. "That is not how I recall the conversation."

Despite Leazer's protestations, Lewis and Robinson stand by their version of the conversation. "Dr. Leazer was removed from the entire Masonry assignment and was instructed not to address the issue further," Robinson said.

Lewis said neither Leazer's remarks nor his termination should reflect negatively on either the department's study or the board's report.

"Southern Baptists can be assured that both these documents are reliable; neither has been seriously challenged and, in fact, each has been praised by proponents on both sides of the issue," Lewis said.

But in an Oct. 27 letter to Lewis, Holly has called on the HMB to "stand up and say 'We blew it!'" and conduct another study of Freemasonry.

Holly leveled several charges at Lewis personally as well as at HMB trustees. He charged the report was developed "under the direct supervision" of Masons, of Freemasonry sympathizers such as Leazer or of "those who were fearful" of Masons.

Based on information provided by Baptist Press

Texans stand by Baylor and Joint Committee

DALLAS (ABP)—For the second year in a row, Texas Baptists decisively rejected attempts to defund Baylor University and the Baptist Joint Committee.

The Baptist General Convention of Texas, which drew more than 5,200 registered messengers to the Dallas Convention Center Oct. 25-26, also elected officers backed by moderate Baptists—Jerald McBride, pastor of First Baptist Church, San Angelo, president; Maurice Johnston of San Antonio, first vice president; and David Becker, pastor of University Heights Baptist Church, Huntsville, second vice president.

By an overwhelming margin, messengers defeated an amendment to the budget which would have reduced from \$4.05 million to \$1.78 million the allocation for Baylor University.

Three years ago, the Baylor board of trustees changed the university's charter to create a virtually self-perpetuating governing board. Under an agreement approved in 1991, the convention now elects 25 percent of each class of Baylor's governing board, and Baylor elects the remaining 75 percent.

Messengers also rejected an amendment to the budget which would have deleted the \$63,000 allocation for the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

In his post-election news conference, McBride said Texas Baptists need to "stay on the right track and not get distracted" by controversy. Of the 15-year controversy in the SBC, he said: "Don't mess with Texas. We don't need that here."

Southern down, other seminaries up

LOUISVILLE (BP)—Enrollment at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary is down 4 percent this fall, but enrollment at the other five Southern Baptist Convention seminaries is up.

Nationwide, the number of students enrolled at the six SBC seminaries is up 8 percent this fall.

"This report is encouraging for the seminaries and for Southern Baptists," said Russell Dilday, president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, and current chairman of the Seminary Presidents Council.

Enrollment at Southern Seminary, located in Louisville, is 1,807 students this fall, a 4 percent decrease over enrollment last fall.

The largest increase came at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, which saw a 28 percent jump this fall. That increase reflects an 88 percent increase in the seminary's baccalaureate and pre-baccalaureate programs, which grew

from 269 students last fall to 506 in 1993. SBC seminaries traditionally have focused on graduate programs rather than baccalaureate degrees.

Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Mill Valley, Calif., and Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Mo., each grew by 15 percent. Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., reported a 10 percent increase. Southwestern Seminary registered a 3 percent increase.

Overall, the six seminaries reported a total of 9,136 students enrolled in courses for academic credit, an increase of 650 students from 1992.

Southern Seminary remains the SBC's second-largest seminary, outpaced only by Southwestern Seminary's enrollment of 3,458 students. New Orleans Seminary has 1,682 students, Golden Gate Seminary has 966, Southeastern Seminary has 688, and Midwestern Seminary has 535.

Students and trustees talk in Midwestern Seminary forum

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP)—In an open forum Oct. 20, students at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary expressed support for Wilburn Stancil, who two days earlier was denied tenure by trustees.

The forum drew 120 students, faculty and staff, as well as five trustees. Students expressed emotions ranging from shock to anger to grief.

Midwestern President Milton Ferguson convened the forum at the request of David Martin, president of the Student Body Association, and first-year trustee Joe McKinney.

In opening remarks, Martin told fellow students he had talked with McKinney after the tenure vote and felt the trustee wanted to bridge the hurt and for both sides to understand each other.

During the forum, Martin addressed one of the reasons the trustees' instruction committee rejected Ferguson's tenure recommendation for Stancil: Committee members reported Stancil "rejects inerrancy as an

appropriate model for understanding the nature of Scripture."

Martin said the seminary's bylaws list nine criteria for tenure and "inerrancy is not one of them. If you're going to deny a man tenure, then as our bylaws state it must be one of those nine criteria which are violated. ... I ask that the process that you follow be your stated process."

Student Rob Casebolt said, "I am angry and I am hurt, and I think those feelings permeate a large majority of the people at this institution."

Trustee McKinney told students he spent hours preparing for the trustee meeting and said the vote against granting tenure to Stancil "was not a decision that was made blindly, but out of deep prayer and conviction. ... You have the idea that it was done in a spirit of anger or secret agenda or political manipulation, and that it wasn't 33 people who prayed and sought God, and hurt, and cried, and agonized." The decision "was not entered into frivolously," he said.

KBC presidency has been high point for Stewart

By Marv Knox
Editor

ASHLAND—The past year has been a high point in Charles Stewart's eventful life.

He already had been named Southern Baptists' bivocational pastor of the year and has led one of the state's most missions-minded congregations. But last year the Kentucky Baptist Convention elected him president.

"It's certainly been one of the greatest years of my life," said Stewart, pastor of Rose Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Ashland, who will preside over the 1993 KBC annual meeting this month in Elizabethtown.

"It's a great honor the convention places on a man who is president. It means they place confidence in you to lead the whole convention."

Stewart singled out two events as special times in his presidential year.

"The highlight would be my trip to Brazil" to participate in Kentucky Baptists' missions partnership with Baptists in the state of Espirito Santo, he said. "I loved the Brazilian people because of their faithfulness to the Lord, their dedication and their appreciation for what Kentucky Baptists were doing in their state."

"I also was deeply moved by the dedication of our Southern Baptist missionaries—their commitment, their hard work and their love for the lost people of Brazil."

The Brazilian partnership will end in December, after four years of combined ministry. Among other projects, "Kentucky Baptists will have constructed 27 buildings where the gospel will be preached," Stewart noted. "Only eternity will reveal how many people will be reached through that permanent ministry we have left."

Another special event was the Kentucky Baptist Woman's Missionary Union convention, he added. "The WMU convention was one of the highlights of my year—to see the dedication, commitment and zeal the WMU has. They keep focused on their calling—to promote missions through our churches."

The past year has been a time of personal growth, Stewart added.

"I've learned a lot," he explained. "Kentucky Baptists have a tremendous missions program, with many areas of ministry. It's overwhelming

to think of all God has led Kentucky Baptists to get involved with down through the years.

"I don't think you could beat our schools. These are tremendous ministries. We underestimate the ministry they do for Kentucky Baptists."

"And our children's homes," he added. "Their ministry has changed with the times to meet the needs of children today."

Stewart also praised the KBC Executive Board staff, led by Executive Secretary-Treasurer Bill Marshall. "They provide opportunities to train people

and offer so many programs and conferences," he said. "I've been so pleased with the quality they put out there, and the wonderful cooperation and sweet spirit we've had with the KBC staff."

"Our convention out there is alive and well," he stressed. "The people in the main want to keep the emphasis on reaching people, training them, and on worldwide missions."

Consequently, the KBC annual meeting Nov. 16-17 should be positive, despite some predictions of a political battle, Stewart said.



Kentucky Fellowship's letter upsets conservatives

By Marv Knox
Editor

A letter sent by the Kentucky chapter of the moderate Cooperative Baptist Fellowship has drawn criticism from two prominent conservatives in the state.

The Kentucky Baptist Fellowship sent a two-page letter, along with a list of possible candidates for top Baptist state offices, to people on its mailing list last month.

The organization also provided the Western Recorder with a copy of the letter.

The letter, signed by Steve Hadden, president of the Kentucky Fellowship and pastor of Faith Baptist Church in Georgetown, expresses "deep concern for the Kentucky Baptist Convention." It warns "a fight for the KBC is slated for the convention when we meet in Elizabethtown Nov. 16-17."

It mentions "secret meetings" held by conservatives; challenges to the church membership of KBC leaders; an expected motion to rescind Kentucky funding of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs; and the presence on the program of the KBC Pastors' Conference of Morris Chapman, president of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee "and one of the main leaders among conservatives in the takeover" of the national convention.

The letter asks recipients to take five actions:

■ "Plan to attend the entire Kentucky Baptist Convention and to take all of the messengers to which your church is entitled."

■ "Conduct meetings with your messengers to prepare them for the convention. They should understand the organizational makeup of the

KBC. They should know the issues which are to be decided. They should be encouraged to vote their individual consciences—as free Baptists have always done."

■ Contact possible candidates for top convention offices and "converse with these people regarding their positions so that you may cast an informed vote."

■ Make sure clergy "plan to attend the Pastors' Conference and to be present for the election of officers."

■ Attend the Kentucky Fellowship's Laity Luncheon Wednesday, Nov. 17, during the second day of the KBC annual meeting.

A sheet included with the letter lists two possible candidates each for the presidencies of the KBC and the Pastors' Conference.

For KBC president, it notes:

■ "Bob Browning, First Baptist Somerset; former president of the Pastors' Conference; strong supporter of Southern Baptist missions through the Cooperative Program; supporter of the autonomy of the local church."

■ "Bill Hancock, Highview Baptist Church, Louisville; former president of the (SBC) Foreign Mission Board trustees; for his stand on the Fellowship, read the point/counterpoint article in the Oct. 12 issue of the Western Recorder."

For Pastors' Conference president, it says:

■ "Brad Johnson, Living Hope Baptist Church, Bowling Green; preached the convention sermon in 1992; church is experiencing tremendous growth; desires to keep KBC open."

■ "Rodney Burnette, Ninth and O Baptist Church, Louisville."

Contacted by the Western Recorder, Browning, Burnette and Johnson

all expressed some willingness to be nominated or at least to consider a nomination.

When he was reached for confirmation, Hancock blasted the letter and said he does not intend to be nominated.

"I'm real upset about this letter," Hancock said.

"This is politics, hypocritical and contradictory. They attack Morris Chapman, ... and that burns me to the core."

The letter verifies his assertion that the Kentucky Fellowship is a political organization bent on "taking over" the KBC, Hancock insisted.

He also stressed the Kentucky Fellowship should either work exclusively within the KBC or get out. "If you lose at the convention, stay in there and work," he said. "If you can't do that, go on and start your own convention."

About his possible nomination for the KBC presidency, Hancock acknowledged he had been asked to run but said: "My answer has been 'no' from day one. ... I don't think I'm compatible with what (KBC Executive Secretary-Treasurer) Bill Marshall is trying to do, and I don't want to be president with someone whose agenda I can't fully endorse."

The letter's inclusion of his name on a list of possible candidates is "pure, irresponsible heresy" and cast doubt on the credibility of the entire letter, he said.

The letter also drew criticism from Mike Routt, pastor of Eastern Gate Baptist Church in Shepherdsville. Routt's leadership among Kentucky conservatives has surfaced in the past 15 months.

He has participated in several private meetings of national conservative leaders who have shared informa-

"I expect a great convention in many respects," he declared. Kentucky Baptists can anticipate a large crowd, an exciting conclusion to the Brazilian partnership and kick-off of a new partnership with Russian Baptists, and exciting reports and proposals, he added.

Stewart has heard of issues—such as a move to rescind a previous vote to provide funds for the Baptist Joint Committee—over which KBC messengers will be divided, he said.

He pledged to moderate the meeting fairly and move messengers toward conclusions. "Most people have their own convictions about this matter (the Baptist Joint Committee)," he said. "It will be presented and voted on based upon their own convictions. But a decision will be made. I don't see a need for long debate. Most people know what they will do."

"My desire is to keep the convention focused on the ministries we do together. I will be fair to every messenger. I will treat them with respect and honor, but I will try to keep the convention focused on the ministry."

"I'm hoping our people will keep focused on making the main thing the main thing in winning people to the Lord."

tion about conservative strategies in their states, including one meeting in Louisville last month which he reportedly organized. He also has taken the lead on rescinding the KBC decision to provide funds for the Baptist Joint Committee.

Routt questioned the letter's assertion that conservatives are holding secret meetings. "I'm not involved in any meeting," he said.

"Who has met to determine Browning or Johnson are candidates?" he asked, accusing the Fellowship of sponsoring closed, secret political meetings.

"I will circulate this letter across the state," he warned. "This letter is not going to help the efforts of the Kentucky Baptist Fellowship and the moderate movement."

Responding to charges of politics, Hadden said: "That is not our intent. That's not the basis of the meeting of our group."

He cited one of the Kentucky Fellowship's purposes, "the maintenance of fellowship, mission and integrity of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, independent of developments within the SBC."

"We are against a takeover in Kentucky as was done in the SBC," he said. "The genius of the KBC is that we have shared leadership. But if they're going to repeat what has happened at the SBC, we're going to oppose them. ..."

"There are a bunch of us who don't believe the SBC's in better shape after the (conservative) takeover, and we don't want it to happen in Kentucky. This is a repeat; we've been watching this for 15 years."

Hadden noted all the Kentucky Fellowship's meetings are announced in advance and open to all who will

BLUEGRASS BURGEO

■ **Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's** workshop in church music will present a double-bill production Nov. 9 and 11. Each night's performance will include "The House by the Stable," a one-act play by Charles Williams, and "And David Wept," a one-act opera by Ezra Laderman. Performances begin at 8 p.m. in Heeren Hall.

■ **Kathleen Bush** has been named an admissions counselor at Campbellsville College. She is an Elizabethtown native and May graduate of the college.

■ **Correction:** An article in the Oct. 19 issue of the Western Recorder incorrectly identified the endowed professorship awarded to William Cromer at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is the Gaines Dobbins professor of Christian education.

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

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Witness for Peace

Seventeen people visited Guatemala with Witness for Peace Sept. 11-25. There were 11 Catholics, two Baptists, two Presbyterians, a Methodist and a Unitarian.

Not only did we share the hardships and emotions of the trip, but we formed similar conclusions about the problems there.

My impression is that the Catholic church is doing an excellent job of identifying with the poor and oppressed in seeking justice for them.

Southern Baptists have impressive work in Guatemala—a seminary and ministry with the Indians who make up over half the population.

Though most of the country is in poverty, the Indians are at the bottom. Due to oppression and war, over 100,000 of them fled to Mexico 10 years ago. Nobel Peace Prize winner for 1992, Rigoberto Menchu, was among them.

Last January 2,500 of them returned. We spent two days and nights in their community. Their Christian faith and hope was amazing.

Witness for Peace delegations and long-termers visit to give moral support and let people there and here know that others are concerned for the returnees and remaining refugees.

*Bill Moore
Owensboro*

Why pay more?

Why should Kentucky Baptists pay \$5 more per night for lodging at Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly than they would pay at a motel?

I called JCBA to see about housing 20 missionaries during our house missions conference, and the cost quoted was \$21 per person, per night.

The motel down the road quoted a price of \$16.18 per night. That was \$192.80 less than the cost of our own assembly. I am responsible for stewardship of the mission money given by Blood River Baptist Association people, and to pay \$192.80 more for housing is poor stewardship.

Something is wrong when Baptists must pay more to stay in their own assembly. Why is it necessary to pay the second time? It is already ours! We are getting ripped off by our denominational leadership. If a local businessman can make a profit at \$16.18 per night, Baptists can too. But we should not be interested in making a profit, just breaking even.

It is time KBC leadership started giving the people who pay their salary a break and get the prices down where we can afford them.

The local motel owner has to pay taxes, which KBC does not, and he still beats our prices. The local motel owner has to repay the original price of purchase, which KBC does not.

*Terry M. Sills
Hardin*

We all need help

If a handful of people have their way, the editor of our Baptist paper and the executive secretary-treasurer of our state convention will have to either give up their jobs or their churches. Have we really come down to this? A police religion? This makes me very angry.

What if Marv Knox or Bill Marshall quit their jobs? What if they moved their church memberships? Either would satisfy the handful of people, but only for a short while. Who would be next? What has happened to our freedom and autonomy?

Let's think about what kind of persons would replace these men. They would possess little or no integrity. They couldn't think for themselves and would have to make a phone call before making any decisions. They would be people who are "politically correct," and they would have to belong to the "correct" churches.

I have never understood why people want to control other people's lives. This is wrong. We are free Baptists—free to choose our places of worship and places of employment.

We've got a lot of work to do. People are lost. The word needs to get out, and it is up to us. Whether we are

mechanics or college presidents, let's do our jobs and leave other people to do theirs. Instead of trying to run them off, let's support them and pray for them. We all need help.

*Larry Kemp
Cadiz*

Put aside politics

The right of a church to channel funds toward non-Cooperative Program mission endeavors has been practiced for years. Frankly, any funds designated to causes other than the CP take away from mission monies. For example, church allocations to one of the colleges, Clear Creek, children's homes, Mid-Continent could cause the same cries of outrage now voiced toward churches supporting the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Complaints lack credibility, because these churches strongly support the Kentucky mission program.

The question that bugs me is whether support for the CP is the sole test for being a Baptist. I don't think so, since the CP is a man-devised unified budget. Early Baptists stood on believer's baptism and freedom to worship and function their own way.

Baptists always have had philosophical differences. The real question is: Will we allow things which are insignificant in God's sight to curtail Kentucky Baptists' mission program? Can we afford to sacrifice important mission work for personal philosophy?

We have a common ground, missions, and whether or not our churches do it the same is not as important as reaching our world. We can put aside politics and focus on working together as "co-laborers together with God."

How? By placing the biblical principle of unity above philosophical differences. By emphasizing our purpose over things that separate us. By realizing it is more important to attend to kingdom matters than fight one another over human issues that matter little to God.

*John Dunaway
Corbin*

The 'cancer factor'

Cancer is a terrifying interruption to the body and psyche of a human being, and it is the rare individual who does not know of someone in his or her extended family who has experienced it.

In my own family, cancer took my mother, grandfather, an uncle and two aunts. My wife, Alice, experienced successful surgery for thyroid cancer 14 years ago.

I remember the terror we both experienced; the long nights on the bed together, before and after surgery; praying for her healing, often through tears.

Even though our work—she was a math teacher and I with the Foreign Mission Board—had to go on, the "cancer factor" was always lurking in our minds.

As the check-ups and tests passed with the years, the "cancer factor" ceased to be a matter of concern. In fact, only rarely do we think of it. We were and are among the fortunate.

Alice has been healed of her cancer.

There is, I think, another kind of "cancer factor" which has been spreading within the body of Southern Baptists for a long time now. It

has been slow-growing, but we have sensed for some time that it was there. Still we have refused to seek treatment for our illness, like some stubborn old man who, though sick, refuses to go to a doctor.

It is absolutely pointless in such times to try to blame it on something or someone. It is of little comfort to the patient, for example, to be told "well,

if you hadn't smoked all those cigarettes, you wouldn't be in this mess!"

And like the rain, cancer "falls upon the just as well as the unjust." There are many innocent, caring folks in our denomination who are suffering or who will suffer.

And it is the "innocent" about whom I am most concerned; the "little ones" about whom Jesus said, "it is better for a millstone to be hung around our necks than to cause them

to stumble."

My grandson hasn't done anything to deserve to inherit a denomination wracked with a "cancer factor." Nor have millions of other Southern Baptists who have, without any blame on their part, discovered the "body" of which they are a part is dealing with a "cancer factor."

Some folks will likely never face up to the reality that the body through which we carry out our part of Christ's mission has a crippling and potentially fatal disease. Some have already given up and accepted death as inevitable.

For Marshall's sake, and for the sake of all our grandchildren, I accept the fact that we have sickness in the body, but I have not given up hope for recovery.

For his sake, and the sake of all who will follow when we are gone, my inclination is to believe that it is not too late for healing.

For his sake, and the sake of all who have been hurt and offended, I will still believe in miracles.

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



What do you like?

By John Lepper

Q. What do you like about being a senior adult?

A. I have asked this question of senior adults on numerous occasions. I've chosen to reverse the question-and-answer format for this article and report some of my findings.

The responses are as varied as the people giving them. "I like the time I have with grandchildren," said one. Another quickly responded, "I like the grandchildren, but I also like to be able to send them home." "I like to sleep late," and, "I can go to bed when I want to," made me a bit jealous. One said, "I have time to do the things I've always wanted to do," and quickly added, "I'm busy now, but at least in retirement, I have a choice of what I do and when I do it." A lady responded, "I like the respect people give older people." One person was grateful for Medicare, while many spoke of good times of fellowship with friends at church.

It has been interesting hearing the responses to my question. I learned about some of the many joys of the senior years.

I'm well aware that all aspects of life for senior adults are not cheerful and without distress. Senior adults may have more than their share of pain, suffering and grief. However, I'm aware of the power of positive purpose in life. Bringing to mind reasons we like being a senior adult can create a positive, uplifting feeling, if only for a moment.

I'm not suggesting senior adults need to deny or suppress their aches and pains or their sorrow. However, it is true that a person's outlook can make a difference in emotional, spiritual and physical well-being.

Senior adult years can either be depressing or joyful. People with purpose, no matter their age, are better able to cope with life's struggles and make a contribution to the world.

God in Jesus Christ gives ultimate meaning and purpose to life. Senior adults who have discovered this secret never outlive their sense of purpose. They have many reasons to like being a senior adult.

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.

No matter what 'they' say, we are not enemies

Despite the hot tone of political rhetoric hurtling across the state these days, Kentucky Baptists are not each other's enemies. At least the Bible says they're not supposed to be.

Baptists have been conditioned to think adversarially in recent years. Our theological/political controversy has been a war of words, with verbal bombshells decimating Christian believers who cross their trajectories. One side has called the other "liberals," "skunks," "infidels," "vipers" and similar terms of enjoinment. The other side has countered with such labels as "fundamentalists," "fascists," "demagogues," "rednecks" and worse. Both have blasted the other with identical terms, like "hypocritical," "arrogant," "deceitful," "secretive" and such. They have slandered good and godly people. Few public members of our denomination have been spared, and many innocent people have been wounded.

Writing to a church torn by stress and dissension, James warned against the power of malicious speech. "So the tongue, too, is a little organ but can boast of great achievements. See how a spark, ever so tiny, can set a vast forest on fire! And the tongue is a fire, and takes its place among the parts of our bodies as a world of evil; it soils the whole body and sets on fire the circle of man's nature, and itself is set on fire by hell. ... With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse men who are made in God's likeness. Out of the same mouth flow blessing and cursing! It ought not to be like this, my brothers. ... Stop talking against one another" (James 3:5-6, 9-10; 4:11).

Ironically, the wounds created by sharp words among Christians are self-inflicted. The Apostle Paul called the church the "body of Christ." He demonstrated how various members have different functions, just as parts of a body are given unique assignments. But he stressed that all the parts make up the same body. So, when one member or group's words strike another, the entire "body" suffers.

If you don't believe this is so, stand out front of your nearest super-

market and take a survey. Stop shoppers and ask them what comes to mind when they hear the word "Baptist." A disappointing number of them are likely to mention the fighting and turmoil that has raged among our ranks for the past decade or so. On another level, take the pulse of members of our own denomination, particularly laypeople. Many, many of them will express one or both of two emotions: distrust of Baptist "opponents" and discouragement over the seemingly endless fighting.

Those are natural reactions from people who have been subjected to the political nastiness of the denominational debate. In order to promote one's cause, human nature inclines combatants to vilify or demonize the opposition. So, we have "infidel skunks" on one side and "fascist rednecks" on the other. Who would want to trust, much less embrace, either one?

Such invective naturally should be aimed at the one true enemy of Christ and all Christians. The Bible tells us Satan is the real Adversary. Satan is the "Ruler of Darkness," murderer, "Angel of the Bottomless Pit," serpent, "Wicked One," tempter, "Unclean Spirit." Satan—not fellow brothers and sisters in Christ—is the one who deserves our worst words and pure hatred. Energy spent waging war on other Baptists is energy that would have been better spent fighting the devil.

Unfortunately, Baptists' rhetoric heats up this time of year, as we approach our Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meeting. Energy engendered by upcoming elections and other crucial votes loosens political tongues, and the words fly like missiles across the Baptist battleground. And unfortunately, Baptist people and causes get hurt.

Jesus told us the world will know we are Christians by the way we love one another (John 13:35). The world and other Baptists are waiting for our witness. What will we say?

Marv Knox

Other Christians, in our case Baptists, are not our enemies. The Bible tells us Satan is the real Adversary and the true opponent of followers of Christ.

Religious Freedom Restoration Act about to become law

After a Supreme Court take-away and a three-year struggle, religious freedom is about to be guaranteed in America again.

That guarantee was lost in 1990. In *Oregon vs. Smith*, the high court ruled that government no longer had to prove a "compelling interest"—such as public health or safety—in order to interfere with the religious exercise of citizens.

People of faith disagreed and launched a campaign to pass the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, which languished in Congress until this year. The House of Representatives passed the act in May, and the Senate finally approved a version of the act last week. The House is expected to ratify the Senate's version. President Bill Clinton has endorsed the act and is expected to sign it.

The act drew together an amazing coalition of supporting groups, "including the National Association of Evangelicals, the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, the American Civil Liberties Union, Concerned

Women for America, People for the American Way, the American Jewish Committee and the U.S. Catholic Conference," noted Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass. The Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission also endorsed the act.

"These organizations don't agree on much, but they do agree on the need to pass" RFRA, Kennedy said.

"This bill ... restores to every American the precious balance conceived by our founding fathers between the interests of our government and the religious liberties of our citizens," said Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah.

A behind-the-scenes hero of the act has been Oliver Thomas, outgoing general counsel of the Baptist Joint Committee. Thomas helped pull together and chaired the pro-RFRA coalition, helped draft the act and pushed for its passage before returning to his native Tennessee.

Prayers for a new guarantee of religious freedom have been answered.

Marv Knox

The Religious Freedom Restoration Act ensures that government must prove it has a "compelling interest" before it restricts citizens' religious exercise.

Can you really, truly say 'I love you' if you don't know her name?

What a difference a single word makes—especially if it's a name.

A little girl in our Mission Friends class told her mama she wanted to keep coming to our church, simply because her teachers call her by name.

"Honey" and "Punkin" won't substitute for a real name. And actually knowing this child's—or any child's—name makes all the difference when a "big person" is trying to reveal the love of God. Knowing her name says, "I care enough about you to know who you are."

Remember key people named in the Bible. Do you think they accomplished marvelous feats because God called them out, by name? Abraham, Esther, Samuel, Naomi, David, Isaiah, Mary, Peter, another

Mary, Paul, Lydia. The second chapter of Ezra lists a whole roster of people brave enough to return to Jerusalem and reclaim their Promised Land. The first chapter of Matthew's gospel provides a list (the "begats") of Jesus' ancestors. You can recall others. We know them by name because God first knew them by name and called them out to be God's own special people.

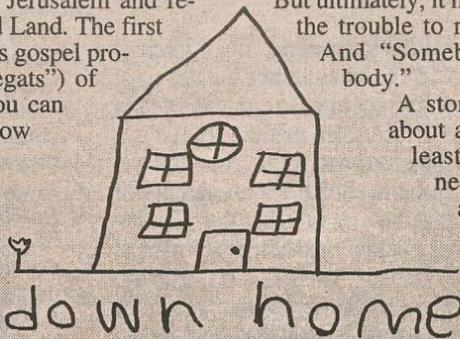
Sometimes, we try to get along not knowing names. One fellow calls almost everybody

"Doc." At first, that sounds sort of flattering, like he thinks you're "Dr. Somebody." But ultimately, it means he's not going to the trouble to remember your name. And "Somebody" turns to "Nobody."

A story recently circulated about a pastor who failed, at least in part, because he never bothered to call anybody by name.

Members of the church eventually got the impression he didn't care for them very much.

As the owner of a somewhat unusual name, I can relate to folks who are sensi-



Faith impacts moral views, poll affirms

GLENDALE, Calif.—Strong religious belief may be the most significant factor in distinguishing the views of Americans on moral issues, according to George Barna, president of the Barna Research Group.

"Among the demographic groups we studied ... none were more different from each other than Christians and church people on the one hand and non-Christians and unchurched people on the other," Barna said.

For instance, Americans classified as "born-again" are significantly less likely than others to support gay marriages, divorce on demand and euthanasia. "Born-again" Christians also are significantly more likely to support bans on explicit images in movies and magazines.

"On issues of personal liberty and privacy, religious beliefs and practices are clearly major influences," Barna said. "While the other demographic divisions are significant in many

ways, faith may be the most significant of all."

The poll also found that different demographic groups can arrive at vastly different conclusions about the same questions related to privacy and personal freedom.

For example, women are more sympathetic than men to allowing homosexuals to marry each other. But women are less inclined to favor divorce on demand and more ready to prohibit movies and magazines from showing explicit images.

Married couples are more positive about legal euthanasia than singles but less positive than singles about legalizing homosexual marriages.

"Baby busters" (ages 18-28) are much more favorable toward homosexual marriages than senior adults. Meanwhile, Americans between the ages of 48 and 66 are nearly twice as likely as any other age group to say sexually explicit images should be

outlawed.

College graduates are more hesitant to censor explicit images than are people with only high school experience.

Taking the nation as a whole, the poll found:

■ 58 percent favor allowing adults to die by taking lethal drugs if they choose to because of physical impairment or suffering.

■ 44 percent believe magazines and movies should be prohibited from portraying pornographic or sexually explicit images.

■ 42 percent favor a system of divorce on demand, where no court is involved but couples merely file notarized papers to end a marriage.

■ 29 percent favor legalizing marriage between adults of the same sex.

The data were drawn from telephone interviews with a representative sample of adults in July and August.

Dentist seeks help drilling 'Donahue' sponsors

FORT WORTH, Texas—A Baptist dentist waging a one-person war on dirty television is close to winning.

Richard Neill, a Southern Baptist deacon from Fort Worth, Texas, got fed up with "the often-sleazy, sexually explicit" TV talk shows and decided to do something about it.

Rather than fight a battle on several fronts, he decided to focus on Phil Donahue, dean of the talk-show hosts.

"The sponsors are the Achilles' heel of these programs," he told author/minister Chuck Colson, theoriz-

ing he could get a show off the air or force it to clean up if sponsors would side with him.

So, Neill contacted the sponsors of the Donahue show. He sent them transcripts of the program, which included discussions by transsexuals, victims of sexual abuse, prostitutes and strippers.

As of last month, he had persuaded 203 national and local Donahue sponsors to drop their support for the show, he said. They include Sara Lee, Johnson Wax, General Mills, Keebler

and Revlon.

Now, Neill is stepping up his campaign, seeking help. "I am recruiting as many people as possible to write to the stubborn sponsors to politely ask that they discontinue their advertising on the Donahue show," he explained. "We are very close to victory in this campaign."

Neill's campaign is "economic democracy," Colson said. "One man really can make a difference—especially if we, his Christian brothers and sisters, stand alongside him."

Pope asserts adherence to church stance

VATICAN CITY (RNS)—Roman Catholic bishops and theologians have been warned by Pope John Paul II that they must continue to uphold traditional Catholic moral teaching, even in the face of dissent.

Theologians who publicly protest or dissent from church teaching break faith with the church, he said.

The pope's warnings came in the long-promised encyclical letter, titled in English, "The Splendor of Truth." The document was written over six years.

He reiterates from documents of the Second Vatican Council a list of acts which he describes as "intrinsically evil." The list includes homicide, genocide, abortion, euthanasia, torture, subhuman living conditions, arbitrary imprisonment, slavery, prostitution and trafficking in women and children, along with "degrading conditions of work which treat laborers as mere instruments of profit."

Elsewhere, he uses artificial contraception as an example of an intrinsically evil act.

At the heart of the letter is the assertion that morality is determined by objective norms as set forth in the 10 Commandments and the gospel, and as they are interpreted by the church's popes, bishops and church councils.

Americans say they go to church more than they do

CLEVELAND (EP)—A new study finds that Americans not only have been attending church less than previously thought, but have been misrepresenting their attendance to pollsters.

For generations, about 42 percent of Americans surveyed have been telling the Gallup Poll they attended church services within the past week.

So sociologist and researcher Kirk Hadaway determined to seek an answer to a troubling question: Why do polls report that weekly church attendance is holding steady, while mainline Protestant churches have witnessed significant declines?

To do that, Hadaway's team went out counting noses. The researchers worked to determine average attendance at every church in Ashtabula County, Ohio, over a given period.

"We found about 20 percent actually in church by our estimates," Hadaway said. "We tried to allow the figures to be as high as they possibly could in order to give the Gallup figures the greatest benefit of the doubt."

Then the researchers did a Gallup-type survey in the community to find out how many residents said they had attended church in the previous week. About 35 percent of the local residents told pollsters they had been in church—a little lower than the 42 percent national average reported by Gallup but still significantly higher than the 20 percent actually counted in church pews.

Hadaway's research didn't address the question of why people say they attend church more than they actually do. But he speculates it may be tied to the social desirability of religion.

"People value religion in American society, and many Americans tend to see themselves as religious people. But often their actual behavior does not fit with their own perception of themselves as an every-week churchgoer."

But Hadaway doesn't think most people purposely lie about their church attendance. "Somebody may think of themselves as a person who attends church every week, but there may be something that comes up."

"And in a way they don't want to mislead the pollster, so if they usually attend church but happened to miss the last week, they might still answer yes, they did attend church in the last seven days."

Hadaway's research is part of a larger study of "religious marginality" sponsored by the United Church of Christ.

BRIEFS

■ **Pornography laws challenged.** U.S. Solicitor General Drew Days has filed a brief with the U.S. Supreme Court that calls for redefining what constitutes child pornography. The brief argues child pornography should be determined by two criteria: that it includes "visible depiction of the child's genitalia" and that it depicts the child "lasciviously engaging in sexual conduct."

The Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission opposes this change from the existing standard, which defines pornography based on the intentions of those who use the material, not on the intentions of the child depicted.

■ **Protesters buy clinic.** Anti-abortion protesters in Chattanooga, Tenn., now may enter an abortion clinic they have picketed for years. They own it. When the property ended up in bankruptcy court, 80 donors put up \$300,000 to buy it. The building now is being used to house a Christian-based crisis pregnancy center.

■ **Lutherans consider gays.** A proposed statement on human sexuality by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America would open the way to church support for "affirmation of gay and lesbian persons and their mutually loving, just, committed relationship of fidelity." The draft will be circulated among churches for the next year before a final decision is made. The statement focuses on concepts of fidelity and commitment—and sexual abstinence outside of a lifelong committed relationship.

■ **U.S. called mission field.** The United States is one of the world's largest mission fields, international evangelist Luis Palau said at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary Oct. 19. "America needs the gospel of Jesus, the basic gospel, all over again," he said. "It's like the dark ages. The pagans have taken over."

■ **Clinton asks for prayer.** History may have been made in September when President Bill Clinton spoke to a joint session of Congress about his health-care reform package. Before he spoke, the president called on the assembly to join him in a moment of silent prayer in light of a fatal train wreck that had occurred in Alabama earlier that day. Although other presidents certainly have prayed, Clinton is believed to be the first president to pray before the assembled Congress.

■ **Scientology gets exemption.** The Church of Scientology and 153 of its corporate entities have received tax-exempt status from the Internal Revenue Service, which ruled that the church is a charitable religious organization. The IRS has declined to give the church the exemption for nearly four decades on grounds that the church's activities were operated mainly for the financial gain of church leaders. Scientologists, who are required to make predetermined donations as payments for courses offered by the church, now will be able to deduct those payments from their taxes.

CLC plans health-care meetings; abortion a concern

NASHVILLE (ABP)—Southern Baptist Convention leaders say they're preparing to launch an unprecedented public-relations assault to keep abortion out of American health-care reform.

Giving Americans greater access to abortion under the health-care package would be the greatest blow to the pro-life movement since Roe vs. Wade legalized abortion on demand in 1973, said Richard Land, director of the SBC Christian Life Commission.

"We in the pro-life movement will exert a massive grass-roots effort to prevent this from happening," Land said.

Land and other SBC public-policy advocates met Oct. 13 in Washington, D.C., to air their doubts about the sweeping changes promised by President Clinton in his national health-care proposals.

"There can be little doubt that, in spite of the President's professed desire that abortion be 'safe and legal,

but rare,' the killing of unborn children will vastly multiply as a result of his national health-care plan," Land said.

"It is unfortunate that the President is apparently so committed to the pro-abortion lobby that he seems willing to jeopardize the most significant social policy legislation of this century for a medical procedure which most Americans agree is elective, except in the rarest of circumstances."

Abortion-rights advocates say fairness demands that abortion be included in health care because poor women otherwise could not afford it.

The SBC Christian Life Commission is planning an assembly of medical, legal and religious experts in January in Washington to analyze the impact of Clinton's reform plan.

Hillary Clinton and several congressmen have been invited to attend.

The findings and recommendations of that meeting will be distributed to every member of Congress as well as to all 38,000 SBC churches.

Church members also will get pointers on how to write letters to Congress that express opposition to abortion being tied to health care.

But one Baptist doctor said targeting Clinton's health-reform package over abortion is "very short sighted."

"For me, abortion is not an acceptable choice," said Jerry Hickson of Vanderbilt University in Nashville. "But I still can't say on the basis of that issue that I'm willing to throw out the whole system."

"What concerns me is that all of us can find a single element in any plan that we object to," said Hickson, chief of the division of general pediatrics at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. "If we all run off and refuse to cooperate because of single elements, we never will find consensus and we have no chance of diverting what may be a national disaster."

Land and his staff concentrated most of their concern Oct. 13 on the abortion part of the Clinton plan. They stopped short of saying they

want to torpedo the entire Clinton package, but they did express doubts that the quality of such a massive health-care plan would improve the lives of most Americans.

"Sadly, the American experience of bureaucratized social policy has not been very bright," said Ben Mitchell, director of biomedical issues for the CLC.

But Hickson replied in a later interview that administrative costs consumed about a fourth of all money spent last year on health-care in the United States. "People complain about this fear of big government, but in Great Britain last year they ran their national health-care system on nine cents on the dollar."

The United States now spends \$840 billion on health care, or 12 percent to 14 percent of its gross national product, he added. At the current rate of growth, he noted, that will exceed one fifth of the GNP by the year 2000.

"We as a country simply can't afford that," Hickson said.

Some Baptists want to scuttle President Clinton's health-care reform if it advances abortion rights. Other Baptists say they don't want to advance abortion but see the bigger issue of passing reform as more important.

Health-care reform should tax alcohol, ethicists say

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

National health care reform should be funded in part by increasing the federal tax on alcohol, according to Baptist ethicists and a Washington alcohol policy expert.

No such increase is included in President Bill Clinton's health care reform proposal. However, Clinton's proposal does call for an increased tax on tobacco to help fund health care.

Both tobacco and alcohol should be taxed to fund health care reform, argues Robert Parham, executive director of the Baptist Center for Ethics in Nashville.

Parham wrote Clinton Oct. 1 to express this opinion on behalf of the center, which is supported by moderate Southern Baptists.

The Southern Baptist Convention's Christian Life Commission also supports increased taxes on alcohol and tobacco, said Louis Moore, CLC media director. The CLC will spon-

sor a national conference on the president's health care reform proposals in January.

The CLC conference has been announced primarily to deal with concerns about funding for abortion, euthanasia and living wills, but also will address issues such as alcohol and tobacco, Moore said.

Parham, meanwhile, has called on Clinton to reconsider his position on alcohol taxation. He cites an array of reasons for this point:

- Alcohol is the second leading cause of premature death in the United States.

- Alcohol is a major contributor to the nation's social dysfunctions, including domestic violence.

- Alcohol is a major contributor to the nation's health care bill.

Parham's sentiments are echoed by George Hacker, director of the alcohol policies project with the Center for Science in the Public Interest in Washington, D.C.

Increasing the tax on alcohol

"could raise substantial amounts of revenue" and "would help reduce consumption and reduce health care problems," Hacker said. Ultimately, that means lower health care costs.

"One of the most important results is the effect it will have on youth drinking and drinking among heavy drinkers," he continued. "The economists find that those drinkers are much more likely to be influenced—that is reduce their consumption—than are other moderate or light drinkers."

"The reason is that about 10 percent of the drinkers in this country consume over half the alcohol. All the rest of the drinkers consume very modest amounts of alcohol. Another 35-40 percent of the American adult population doesn't drink at all."

This explains why polls consistently show wide support for higher taxes on alcohol, Hacker said.

For example, a Harris Poll conducted the first week of October shows 71 percent of Americans favor

a \$2 tax on a bottle of liquor to help fund health care for all citizens. That compares with 69 percent who favor a \$1 tax on a pack of cigarettes and 68 percent who favor a 25 percent tax on guns and ammunition.

Currently, federal tax on alcohol amounts to \$2.14 for a fifth of liquor, 33 cents for a six-pack of beer and 21 cents for a bottle of wine.

Increasing that tax to \$2.83 for a fifth of liquor, 83 cents for a six-pack of beer and 76 cents for a bottle of wine could generate about \$4 billion annually in additional revenue, Hacker said.

Even though the president's proposal doesn't call for such an increase, the debate is not over, both Hacker and Parham said.

"As the Congress gets more and more involved, it is likely that alcohol may be picked up again. I'm not sure if the administration is going to propose it. But I don't think the administration will oppose congressional action to raise alcohol taxes."

A recent poll found 71 percent of Americans favor a \$2 tax on a bottle of liquor to help fund health care for all citizens.

Ethicists: Cloning human embryos raises serious questions

WASHINGTON—News of the possibility of "cloning" human embryos raised fears among some Baptist ethicists last week that science fiction is becoming science fact faster than ethical questions can be answered.

Scientists at George Washington University Medical Center report they have successfully cloned human embryos. The researchers have adapted a method long used to clone rabbits, cows and other animals.

The cloned human embryos were abnormal and did not develop into human beings, the scientists said. Even though the technique ultimately failed this time, the process could be perfected within a few years, researchers said.

Cloning is a process of splitting

embryos into twins, triplets or quadruplets. Animal breeders have used the process for a number of years.

The term "cloning" has been popularized in science fiction movies and books for decades, but until the development at George Washington University the process in humans was only speculative.

"Here is another reminder that science fiction can quickly become science fact," said Ben Mitchell of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission.

Presumably, cloned human embryos could be frozen and used at a later date, making it possible for parents to have a child and then, later, give birth to an identical twin, Mitchell said. Parents also could keep a frozen embryo in storage for

later use as an organ donor or replacement in case their child died.

"It is difficult to see how this technology could be used without devaluing the sanctity of human life," Mitchell said. "Human beings are more than the sum of their genetic parts. We are made in the image and likeness of our Creator and even genetically identical twins differ in many respects."

"The notion of producing a child for replacement parts is deeply troubling," he said. "We should resist every effort to view human beings or their body parts as commodities which can be easily replaced."

Robert Parham, executive director of the Baptist Center for Ethics, suggested Christians should consider three factors when evaluating

such a controversial subject.

"First, Christians should be cautious about automatically supporting human embryo cloning," he said. "Our society needs a serious discussion about cloning and appropriate public policy guidelines."

Second, Christians should avoid "knee-jerk opposition" simply because the issue is complex and raises troubling questions, he added.

"Third, Christians should evaluate this technological development based upon an ethic of love for neighbor, not out of fear of technological misuse. We should consider what human good it advances and what human harm it creates," he said.

Based on a Baptist Press story with additional reporting by Recorder staff

Joint Committee could be hottest debate at KBC

By Mark Wingfield
News Director

Funding for the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs and the election of officers are likely to be the most-contested issues for messengers to the Kentucky Baptist Convention's annual meeting Nov. 16-17.

The convention's 156th annual session will be held at Severns Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethtown. Overflow crowds are anticipated.

In addition to the BJCPA funding and election of officers, messengers will consider a proposal to require election of a layperson as KBC president every five years, a proposal to allow the KBC's four schools of higher education to add trustees from out of state, and a proposal to expand the board of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation. Messengers also could debate the relationship to the KBC of churches which contribute to the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, a national or-

ganization of Baptist moderates.

Here is a summary of the major issues other than officer elections:

■ **Baptist Joint Committee.** Mike Routt, pastor of Eastern Gate Baptist Church in Sheperdsville, has said he will bring a motion to this year's convention to rescind action which created a KBC fund for the BJCPA.

A motion adopted at the 1991 convention asked the KBC Executive Board "to find a way to provide funds" for the religious liberty agency, which had been defunded by the Southern Baptist Convention.

In response to the 1991 KBC motion, the Executive Board in November 1992 approved establishing a \$200,000 special fund to provide about \$17,000 annually in interest to the BJCPA. This was presented as a compromise method of funding, since it would not make the BJCPA a line item in the KBC's annual budget.

However, at last year's annual meeting, a motion was made to rescind the directive to fund the BJCPA. Those in favor of rescinding the action held a slight majority over those who did not want to rescind. But the 409-402 vote fell short of the two-thirds majority needed to rescind a previous convention action without advance notice given of the vote.

Routt then said he would call for a new motion to rescind the funding at the 1993 convention. Because of the advance notice, the vote to rescind the funding will require only a simple majority to pass.

Putting the BJCPA issue to rest is the No. 1 objective of conservatives for this year's convention, said LaVerne Butler, president of Mid-Continent Baptist Bible College in Mayfield and a conservative voice.

Conservative opponents of the BJCPA have argued that the religious liberty agency is too liberal. They have attacked the BJCPA for not taking a strong stand against abortion, for not advocating school prayer and for holding to a strict interpretation of church-state separation. Some have suggested the KBC should not associate with the BJCPA because the SBC no longer does.

But moderates who resent the SBC's defunding of the BJCPA contend they think the KBC should continue to fund the agency.

Friends of the BJCPA believe the agency has served Baptists well. Issues such as abortion do not fall within the scope of the agency's religious liberty assignment and should not be addressed there, they have explained. Further, they praise the BJCPA's support for church-state separation on a number of fronts, saying the agency represents the historic Baptist viewpoint on First Amendment issues.

■ **Electing laity as presidents.** This year's constitution and bylaws committee will recommend that messengers approve a proposal on lay presidents which had its first reading

last year.

The proposal would add to article IV of the KBC Constitution and Bylaws these words: "At least one layperson shall be elected president within every succeeding five-year period."

The first reading of this proposed constitutional change was offered at last year's annual meeting by Dan Lane of Ridgewood Baptist Church in Louisville.

Changes to the Constitution and Bylaws must be read as a proposal one year and then given a second reading before a vote is taken.

This is not a new issue to Kentucky Baptists. A similar motion was made in 1989, prompting the 1990 constitution and bylaws committee to offer a first reading on a proposed constitutional change.

The 1991 constitution and bylaws committee, however, recommended withdrawing the proposed change rather than giving it a second reading. Messengers to that year's annual meeting concurred.

After Lane's motion at the 1992 convention, this year's constitution and bylaws committee decided to give the new proposal a second reading. In this year's Book of Reports, the committee writes: "Our convention work and our churches depend upon the faithful leadership of laypersons. This amendment affirms the contribution of these laypersons by assuring them the opportunity to serve in the most prominent elected office of our convention."

Advocates of such a proposal have said the constitutional change is required to make it happen, since ministers usually have more visibility than laypeople and are more likely to be elected if no requirement is stated.

Opponents of the amendment in the past have argued the convention is free to elect a layperson as president any year it desires. Mandating such an election is not necessary, they have said.

■ **Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.** The relationship of some Kentucky Baptist churches to the moderate Fellowship organization has become an increasingly controversial issue in recent months—especially for conservative Baptists who oppose the existence of the Fellowship as threatening to the conservative-controlled SBC.

Numerous letters to the editor have been written to the Western Recorder on this issue recently, and leaders of Kentucky's conservative movement repeatedly have questioned the right of a church to affiliate both with the KBC and the Fellowship.

Traditionally, churches affiliated with the KBC have been solely aligned with the SBC on the national level. However, predominantly African American churches often have been dually aligned with the SBC and one of the four major black Baptist conventions.

The Fellowship connection is different, conservatives argue, because it is a group formed in opposition to the SBC's new conservative leadership. Moderate churches affiliated with the Fellowship, on the other hand, respond that they still are loyal supporters of the KBC and have not severed ties with the SBC.

"There is a real anxiety" about this issue among conservatives, explained conservative leader LaVerne Butler. "How we're going to address that, I don't know. But there does need to be some clarification about this."

Some conservatives have been specifically critical of William Marshall, KBC executive secretary-treasurer, and Marv Knox, Western Recorder editor. Both men belong to Louisville churches that support the KBC but allow members to contribute to the Fellowship in addition to the SBC on the national level.

Both Marshall and Knox have defended the actions of their churches, based primarily on the Baptist doctrine of the autonomy of the local church. And both have pointed out that while their congregations may differ with the SBC's national leaders, the churches remain among the state's strongest financial supporters.

Other Kentucky Baptists also have come to their defense, claiming churches' affiliation with the Fellowship should not become a hindrance to participation in the KBC, and KBC employees should be free to attend whatever church they wish.

Contrary to recent rumors, conservatives do not plan to ask for Marshall's resignation at this convention, according to conservative leader Routt. He said he would oppose any motion to dismiss Marshall over this issue. "I have no part of that. No one I'm acquainted with is aware of (such a motion). We are opposed to it."

"We do have differences of opinion, but there are right ways and wrong ways to do it. We disagree with him on his church membership."

■ **College trustees.** The constitution and bylaws committee has endorsed the second reading of a proposal to add a limited number of trustees from outside Kentucky to the boards of Cumberland College, Georgetown College, Campbellsville College and Clear Creek Baptist Bible College.

"Large numbers of alumni and others who support our colleges live outside Kentucky and wish to be represented," the committee's report states. "The amendment limits these out-of-state trustees to eight, which would be no more than one-fourth."

The new trustees would be Baptists and would be added to existing boards gradually, the proposal says.

■ **Foundation trustees.** The Kentucky Baptist Foundation's board of directors will ask KBC messengers to approve a plan to expand the Foundation board from 11 members to 18.

The proposal would not change the way trustees are chosen, but only would expand the number of trustees. This is necessary, Foundation officials report, because the amount of work the board must handle is too much for such a small board to process through subcommittees.

KBC program

■ Tuesday morning, Nov. 16

Pre-session music begins at 8:30 a.m. Call to order at 8:55 a.m.

Session highlights: ■ Appointment of committees and tellers; ■ Credentials committee report; ■ Committee on order of business report; ■ Reports on foreign missions, Woman's Missionary Union, home missions, Cooperative Program, Western Recorder, and Georgetown College; ■ KBC president's address by Charles Stewart, pastor of Rose Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Ashland.

■ Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 16

Pre-session music begins at 1:15 p.m. Session begins at 1:45 p.m.

Session highlights: ■ Reports from Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, constitution and bylaws committee; ■ Report of KBC Executive Board; ■ Election of KBC president; ■ Business session and introduction of resolutions.

■ Tuesday evening, Nov. 16

Pre-session music begins at 6:30 p.m. Session begins at 6:45 p.m.

Session highlights: ■ Reports from minister/church support division, annuity department, family ministry department, public affairs committee, Baptist Healthcare System, missions and evangelism division; ■ Message by Russell Dilday, president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

■ Wednesday morning, Nov. 17

Pre-session music begins at 8:45 a.m. Session begins at 8:55 a.m.

Session highlights: ■ Reports on Campbellsville College, conventionwide education, resolutions committee, arrangements committee, Temperance League of Kentucky, and obituaries and memorials; ■ Miscellaneous business; ■ Christian education message by James Taylor, president of Cumberland College; ■ Convention sermon by Robert Baker, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Lexington.

■ Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 17

Pre-session music begins at 1:50 p.m. Session begins at 2 p.m.

Session highlights: ■ Reports from Historical Commission, business division, committee on committees, nominations committee, Oneida Baptist Institute and Kentucky Baptist Foundation; ■ Miscellaneous business.

■ Wednesday evening, Nov. 17

Pre-session music begins at 6:30 p.m. Session begins at 6:50 p.m.

Session highlights: ■ Reports from Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, church growth and administration division; ■ Miscellaneous business; ■ Message by Jimmy Draper, president of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.



Picture of likely KBC candidates emerging

By Marv Knox
Editor

Bob Browning, pastor of First Baptist Church of Somerset, apparently will be a nominee for president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, but his opponent's identity remains in question.

The two pastors mentioned most often as possible rivals for the presidency—C.C. Brasher of Briensburg Baptist Church near Benton and Bill Hancock of Highview Baptist Church in Louisville—said they do not plan to be nominated.

In other developments, the Western Recorder has learned Bob DeFoor, pastor of Harrodsburg Baptist Church in Harrodsburg, will be a nominee for first vice president. And two other pastors—Rodney Burnette of Ninth & O Baptist Church in Louisville and Brad Johnson of Living Hope Baptist Church in Bowling Green—are likely to be nominated for the presidency of the KBC Pastors' Conference.

The issues will be settled during the Pastors' Conference Nov. 15, and the KBC annual meeting Nov. 16. Both meetings will be at Severns Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethtown.

Browning is to be nominated by Willis Henson, pastor of Lone Oak First Baptist Church in Paducah.

"If nothing changes, I'm going to nominate Bob," said Henson, KBC president in 1983-84. Henson cited three reasons for his decision.

"First, the convention presidency is something you earn, and Bob Browning has spent many years working his way up through the ranks, serving the convention in a lot of capacities," he said.

"Second, when you're nominating a president, you're also recognizing a church for achievement. That church is a strong Cooperative Program-supporting church, which gives 27 percent of its undesignated receipts to the CP.

"And third, he is a Kentucky Baptist who has been fair. Even though he has a place where he stands in the (Baptist) controversy, he's been fair." He noted Browning's selections for preachers at the 1992 Pastors' Conference represented "every segment" of the KBC, including theology, age

and size of churches.

Acknowledging KBC rumors had touted Browning's name as the head of a possible slate of moderate candidates, Henson insisted he is acting alone.

"I'm doing this after asking him last year if I could nominate him, and he refused," Henson said. "He was here this year in revival. We had a good revival, and I asked him if I could nominate him this year. He told me he would think and pray about it, and (later) he said I could."

"I know there have been meetings on both sides, talking about candidates. I have not attended a meeting of any kind. It is a personal decision for me to nominate a fellow Kentucky Baptist pastor."

Browning acknowledged he's "seriously considering" the nomination. "I have been asked by several ministers if I would allow my name to be placed in nomination," he said. "I am making it a matter of prayer and seeking God's will."

Hancock was listed as a possible nominee in a mailout prepared by the Kentucky Baptist Fellowship.

But when contacted by the Recorder, Hancock was incensed his name had been mentioned and firm in his denial.

"I have been asked (to be a nominee), as I have been asked for the last five or six years," he said. "I've told others I'm not available. My answer has been 'no' from day one."

Brasher, who had been mentioned as a possible nominee since he was elected president of the Pastors' Conference last year, likewise exempted himself.

Asked if anyone is going to nominate him for president, Brasher responded: "Not to my knowledge. Somebody may have intention to, but I'm going to take a rest. I've been in too many things this past year."

Two conservative leaders also declined to say who their candidate might be.

Mike Routt, pastor of Eastern Gate

Baptist Church in Shepherdsville and a participant in several national meetings of conservative state leaders, said he could not respond.

"I do know there are men praying at this time, but nothing definite," he said. "I do not feel at liberty to say. ... I would betray a confidence if I were to say right now."

"I've heard five or six names bantered around, but nobody has zeroed in on anything," added LaVerne Butler, president of Mid-Continent Baptist Bible College in Mayfield. "I'm sure there will be somebody nominated. The last time I discussed it with any group, the consensus was: 'Let's not concentrate on that. Let's wait and see how the Lord leads.'"

Citing his church's support for the Cooperative Program, Browning classified himself as a "denominational loyalist."

"I am committed to the Southern Baptist Convention, whether or not I agree with every decision or direction it takes," he said. "I have always been Southern Baptist, and always intend to be Southern Baptist. I personally am not a member of the Fellowship, and I pastor a church that is a strong supporter of the Cooperative Program."

Browning has been pastor of First Church in Somerset 11 years. In addition to president of the Pastors' Conference, he has been the KBC's second vice president, a trustee of Cumberland College, a member of the KBC Executive Board, chairman of the KBC Committee on Committees and moderator of Pulaski Baptist Association.

Browning listed strengthening two kinds of missions projects as goals if he were elected president.

"I certainly would endorse and support the Russian partnership and build on the foundation that already has been laid by others," he said.

And, as a native Kentuckian who has been pastor of churches across the state, he also is interested in "seeing

how ministry within our state can be enhanced, maybe by looking at its regions," he added. "Perhaps we might draft ministry strategy for the years to come, maybe even a 10-year plan that would focus on Appalachia, the needs of the cities, and then the needs of people in rural western Kentucky."

Regarding other offices:

DeFoor confirmed he would be a nominee for first vice president. "I've been asked if I would be interested, and I said I would," he reported.

Burnette expressed an openness to be nominated for president of the Pastors' Conference. "I have no knowledge of my name being presented," he said. "However, I would consider it an honor to serve my brothers in that capacity."

Johnson sounded a similar note. "I've spoken with the deacons of our church, and they are supportive," he said. "Other friends in the state also have been affirming."

How to get there

To get to Severns Valley Baptist Church, take exit 91 (Highway 31W) off I-65. Go northeast on 31W to Mulberry Street (U.S. 62). Then turn left on Poplar. The church is located about five blocks from the intersection of Mulberry and Poplar.



KBC-related events

Monday, Nov. 15

- Kentucky Baptist Association of Ministries with the Aging, Holiday Inn North, 8:30 a.m.
- Credentials committee, 10 a.m.
- Kentucky Baptist Communicators Forum, Stone Hearth Restaurant, noon.
- KBC Executive Board, Severns Valley Baptist Church, 1 p.m.
- Kentucky Baptist Music Conference, Cecilia Baptist Church, 1 p.m.
- Kentucky Baptist Religious Education Association, Holiday Inn North, 1 p.m.
- Kentucky Baptist Pastors' Conference, Severns Valley Baptist Church, 1:15 p.m.
- Directors of missions fellowship, Glen Dale Children's Home, 6 p.m.
- Kentucky Baptist Recreators, Stone Hearth Inn, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 16

- Boyce Bible School alumni and friends, Shoney's, 7 a.m.
- Fun Run/Health Walk, Severns Valley Baptist Church, 7:15 a.m.
- Mid-Continent Baptist Bible College alumni and friends, Howard Johnson's, 8 a.m.
- Annuitants luncheon, Memorial Methodist Church, 11:45 a.m.
- Women in Ministry luncheon, Pritchard Community Center, 11:45 a.m.
- Directors of missions luncheon, Glen Dale Children's Home, noon.
- Clear Creek Baptist Bible College alumni and friends, Vine Grove Baptist Church, 5:15 p.m.
- Ministers' Wives Fellowship, Northside Baptist Church, 5:15 p.m.
- Bivocational Ministers' Fellowship, Holiday Inn North, 5:15 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 17

- Campbellsville College alumni and friends, Holiday Inn North, 7 a.m.
- Cumberland College alumni and friends, Holiday Inn North, 7:30 a.m.
- Georgetown College alumni and friends, Stone Hearth Inn, 7:30 a.m.
- Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary alumni and friends, Peking House, noon.
- New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary alumni and friends, Western Steer Steakhouse, noon.
- Southern Baptist Theological Seminary alumni and friends, Holiday Inn North, 12:30 p.m.
- Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary alumni and friends, Golden Corral, 12:30 p.m.
- Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary alumni and friends, Western Steer Steakhouse, noon.
- Kentucky Baptist Fellowship Laity Luncheon, Pritchard Community Center, noon.

What's a messenger, and who can be one?

Here are some basic facts about seating of messengers at Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meetings:

■ Voting members of the convention are called "messengers" rather than "delegates" because they are sent to vote their own consciences free of any dictates from their home churches.

■ All messengers must be elected to serve by their churches prior to arrival at the annual meeting.

■ Messenger eligibility cannot be transferred from one church to another.

■ Churches qualify for two messengers by having made any contribution to any KBC cause in the pe-

riod from Sept. 1, 1992, through Aug. 31, 1993. Additional messengers, up to a total of 10, are obtained by churches giving undesignated gifts to the Cooperative Program unified budget or by having more than 100 members. Churches qualify for one additional messenger for each \$250 contributed to the Cooperative Program or for each additional 250 members in the church. No church may have more than 10 messengers.

■ Mission churches obtain messengers only through their sponsoring churches. Only constituted churches which contribute to the KBC's work qualify to send messengers.

■ Ballots are issued only to messengers at registration. Lost ballots cannot be replaced, and every messenger is responsible to check his or her ballot packet for irregularities before leaving the registration area. Ballots cannot be transferred to another person.

■ Churches new to the KBC must have petitioned the credentials committee for acceptance by Sept. 15. Churches qualifying are notified in late October that they either will or will not be recommended for affiliation. Messengers from churches recommended for affiliation may register only after the convention votes to accept that church during the convention's opening session.

GIVING

Corrections to the 1993 KBC Cooperative Program Report

Because the year-end (Aug. 31, 1993) church contribution report which was printed in the Oct. 5 issue of the Western Recorder had not been proofed, there were errors in some churches' amounts. Below are the corrected figures for those churches.

Apologies to those churches. A better system is being developed to prevent this from happening in the future.

-- Vernon Cole, KBC director of church growth & administration

Association/Church	CP92	CP93	Other
ANDERSON			
Glensboro	2,716.99	2,413.20	1,610.00
BELL			
Bennetts Fork	0.00	0.00	532.00
Bethlehem	2,578.50	1,946.46	875.57
Moss Chapel	300.00	300.00	665.50
Riverside	2,462.64	2,605.20	804.92
Southside	1,778.89	3,141.78	3,345.35
Stoney Fork	803.00	695.00	105.00
Tugglesville	84.00	72.00	0.00
BETHEL			
Mt Gilead	4,844.57	4,937.33	2,505.00
Post Oak	16,000.00	16,046.00	7,751.15
Tiny Town	1,388.65	1,205.79	788.00
BLOOD RIVER			
Bethlehem	2,630.62	882.04	580.37
Ledbetter	1,697.24	1,310.85	958.37
Memorial	20,249.57	24,942.64	5,393.51
New Zion	11,386.36	13,962.73	9,232.54
Northside	4,068.00	4,712.00	1,353.22
Oak Grove	3,119.45	3,145.77	475.00
Pleasant Hope	0.00	0.00	540.00
Sugar Creek	800.00	800.00	263.00
Westside	16,858.55	16,568.43	16,349.08
West Fork	7,797.88	7,501.38	4,239.24
BOONES CREEK			
Beech Creek	869.25	853.02	201.29
Central	118,618.48	125,088.16	30,428.46
Clay City	1,134.00	1,121.00	807.50
Cow Creek	3,636.00	3,317.00	462.50
Kiddville	1,615.94	1,570.32	632.00
Macedonia	4,635.79	4,035.42	502.60
Northside	6,122.66	2,645.33	3,432.66
Valley View	315.22	260.13	25.00
BOONEVILLE			
Big Creek	1,012.38	1,141.07	522.00
Crane Creek	135.00	909.34	375.00
Lytleton	7,460.00	8,355.00	2,357.42
Macedonia	7,683.39	7,488.10	2,911.38
BRACKEN			
Lewisburg	1,956.94	2,379.39	720.50
Mays Lick	2,074.47	1,279.50	6,489.95
Mt Olivet	2,794.63	4,418.01	993.00
BRECKENRIDGE			
Bewleyville	423.00	413.00	0.00
Hites Run	3,587.03	3,508.39	2,429.41
CALDWELL-LYON			
Donaldson	7,889.85	8,711.04	3,189.00
Macedonia	4,130.09	4,841.03	1,351.64
Mt Pisgah	1,365.51	1,317.55	1,706.37
CASEY COUNTY			
Grove Ridge	491.02	765.92	558.63
CENTRAL			
Bethlehem	3,722.00	3,908.61	759.00
Mackville	9,051.21	8,520.05	2,297.00
CHRISTIAN COUNTY			
Edgewood	34,365.14	34,825.04	10,959.36
LaFayette	4,513.00	3,965.00	1,730.70
Macedonia	2,228.02	1,717.34	1,323.05
Pembroke	17,859.58	20,050.57	5,095.29
South Union	484.03	471.29	324.60
CRITTENDEN			
Knoxville	6,294.96	6,498.00	3,109.79
Mt Carmel	5,418.40	6,442.00	1,614.00
Oak Ridge	1,408.53	1,371.42	1,633.21
DAVISS-MCLEAN			
Bellevue	57,154.84	68,959.19	13,065.79
Mt Vernon	1,271.94	1,460.73	567.40
Ridgewood	1,108.81	1,361.68	370.11
EAST LYNN			
New Bethlehem	0.00	0.00	0.00
EAST UNION			
Little Poplar	0.00	0.00	84.68
ELKHORN			
Broadway	24,921.19	27,010.35	5,536.66
Brookside	2,466.00	3,030.23	1,411.82

Association/Church	CP92	CP93	Other
Calvary	108,333.42	78,561.06	31,145.39
Edgewood	19,319.84	30,622.35	8,940.10
Highland	2,332.00	2,331.00	1,704.20
Hillcrest	7,095.81	7,257.32	3,112.15
Hillsboro	4,451.52	1,796.52	996.24
Long Lick	3,217.11	1,736.29	3,432.31
Millersburg	100.00	401.00	773.00
Millville	7,251.60	7,457.61	2,013.60
Mt Vernon	2,270.45	2,374.21	876.00
Pinckard	11,201.02	9,295.13	2,487.31
Rosemont	35,940.89	29,655.68	16,195.99
Royal Springs	0.00	0.00	0.00
ENTERPRISE			
Brushy Fork	840.00	840.00	430.20
Jacks Creek	837.31	819.48	725.00
FRANKLIN			
Immanuel	14,200.00	14,200.00	46,161.14
Buck Run	20,796.62	25,714.98	15,699.90
Camp Pleasant	0.00	0.00	0.00
Hillcrest	8,363.44	9,322.91	3,332.60
Memorial	28,737.00	29,547.00	6,733.86
GASPER RIVER			
Big Muddy	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,815.00
Mt Olivet	2,284.52	1,699.90	1,195.49
Mt Vernon	3,039.00	2,589.99	4,068.50
New Harmony	986.00	1,288.00	402.93
Walnut Grove	91.63	296.89	57.76
GOSHEN			
Pleasant View	0.00	0.00	125.00
GRAVES COUNTY			
Hardmoney	1,200.00	1,200.00	800.00
Little Bethel	0.00	0.00	398.69
Mt Olivet	2,002.01	1,950.00	947.50
New Concord	400.00	300.00	0.00
New Liberty	395.41	196.92	103.02
Pilot Oak	3,368.00	4,213.80	499.76
GREEN VALLEY			
Cherry Hill	324.59	307.65	138.00
GREENUP			
Cherryville	725.00	661.00	1,066.00
Danleyton Msny	1,687.38	1,647.70	1,903.56
Emily Northup	0.00	185.00	265.00
Riverview	1,858.48	1,984.60	185.00
Wildwood	11,134.36	12,221.46	8,230.79
HENRY COUNTY			
Bethlehem	9,417.00	7,637.00	1,171.00
IRVINE			
Gray Hawk	2,400.52	2,351.55	2,081.60
Pilgrims Rest	0.00	0.00	0.00
Old Orchard	596.00	439.60	150.00
LAUREL RIVER			
New Salem	4,340.85	2,106.07	1,901.92
LIBERTY			
Grace Union	179.82	0.00	1,197.62
Little Bethel	0.00	92.45	50.00
Walnut Hill	165.00	180.00	850.00
LINCOLN			
Blue Lick	2,973.35	2,465.22	3,199.00
Fairview	12,299.09	9,662.15	3,420.63
Mt Hebron	2,056.78	2,217.58	575.50
New Salem	4,703.58	6,502.11	692.05
Polly Ann	1,293.63	827.61	339.00
LITTLE BETHEL			
Grapevine	5,624.70	1,312.58	6,127.31
Green Grove	600.00	625.00	737.40
New Salem	4,805.21	5,087.07	4,928.00
LITTLE RIVER			
Oak Grove	9,542.15	10,362.02	2,916.15
Rocky Ridge	750.00	900.00	1,645.45
LOGAN			
Beechland	4,918.30	4,799.00	2,917.10
Elk Lick	18,454.60	18,434.90	8,791.70
LONG RUN			
Beechwood	9,521.28	11,200.00	19,982.34
Brookview	1,318.93	1,544.32	651.25
Deer Park	1,893.83	8,850.20	15,308.87
Elk Creek	2,174.17	2,250.74	689.97
Fairmount	1,317.96	1,473.95	782.00
Farmdale	32,313.47	26,906.24	11,082.34
Highview	63,000.00	63,000.00	60,247.46
Hillsdale	7,921.35	9,194.20	3,956.87
Hillcrest	2,057.04	2,108.68	1,910.12
Lees Lane	9,607.00	6,567.65	2,376.89
New Heights	400.00	550.00	886.15
Memory Lane	465.48	26.39	19.00
Lakewood	11,993.21	13,925.79	6,089.60
Parkland	16,730.98	16,823.47	8,136.25
Parkwood	12,699.55	12,100.21	5,628.39
Ridgewood	4,163.05	0.00	2,296.76
Sunnyside	1,679.04	3,610.82	1,183.35
Van Buren	2,941.85	2,870.27	437.32
Woodland	10,569.83	11,802.99	10,730.01

Association/Church	CP92	CP93	Other
LYNN			
Aetna Union	120.00	20.00	105.00
Friendship #2	0.00	0.00	225.00
Mt Moriah	9,584.22	11,518.23	2,030.68
LYNN CAMP			
Lynn Camp	7,331.00	6,371.00	1,659.70
MERCER			
Hopewell	17,420.29	15,665.31	10,795.18
MONROE			
Rock Bridge	515.60	494.00	175.00
MOUNT ZION			
Central	123,996.45	140,081.00	29,776.99
Good Hope	3,053.83	2,702.00	0.00
Greenland	7,018.44	8,462.26	3,308.04
Highland Park	0.00	0.00	0.00
Park Hill	2,294.91	1,233.70	950.00
MULHENBURG			
Beech Creek	825.00	978.62	370.72
Beechmont	4,602.55	5,952.30	1,131.64
Oak Grove	3,153.04	3,037.23	777.64
Pleasant Hill	0.00	0.00	0.00
Woodland	23,324.51	25,211.00	4,542.55
NELSON			
Mt Carmel	3,761.45	2,735.47	600.10
Mt Moriah	3,250.00	3,237.00	592.75
Vine Hill	3,948.90	4,264.00	1,025.00
NORTHERN KENTUCKY			
Decoursey	3,723.18	3,809.92	2,452.97
East Dayton	583.82	520.00	475.71
Erlanger	96,811.49	62,041.14	49,972.70
Fairlane	12,135.98	15,137.43	1,758.86
Flag Spring	100.00	200.00	50.00
Florence	84,163.00	103,292.16	14,206.20
Immanuel	11,623.68	2,422.23	1,200.43
Kento-Boo	3,929.55	2,291.63	1,920.70
NORTH CONCORD			
Springfield	697.43	636.73	174.01
Greasy Creek	60.00	60.00	130.75
Old Flat Lick	0.00	0.00	0.00
Swan Pond	4,346.77	3,509.48	556.90
OHIO COUNTY			
Bells Run	2,499.75	2,838.10	1,045.00
Clear Run	2,620.18	2,726.22	528.69
Hartford	18,004.52	23,005.62	7,210.50
OHIO RIVER			
Dunn Springs	95.70	0.00	30.00
Dycusburg	1,881.03	2,529.57	1,146.14
Dyer Hill	4,414.22	4,273.00	2,905.00
Lake City	5,516.23	6,735.00	1,084.73
Old Salem	8,037.56	8,608.52	4,226.07
OHIO VALLEY			
New Harmony	478.85	462.06	26.00
Uniontown	4,223.01	3,870.00	2,430.01
OWEN			
Old Cedar	1,524.60	1,646.28	273.96
PIKE			
Mouthcard	9,577.43	9,106.74	1,840.00
PINE MOUNTAIN			
Craft Colly	775.90	1,047.60	87.00
Mt Olivet	1,400.00	1,900.00	614.91
PULASKI			
Bethlehem	9,426.64	8,717.61	4,384.10
Fishing Creek	0.00	0.00	50.00
Flat Lick	3,215.30	3,854.00	318.32
Flat Rock	1,195.87	1,097.20	1,464.56
Jasper Bend	681.57	818.04	294.05
Immanuel	11,369.83	12,224.34	2,919.82
Malvin Hill	220.00	976.83	1,774.50
Mt Pisgah	3,371.72	2,763.20	736.00
Woodstock	8,588.00	8,190.00	3,599.70
Rock Lick	5,352.20	4,479.77	1,818.87
Sunnyside	1,450.15	1,576.22	1,177.00
ROCKCASTLE			
Brindle Ridge	0.00	0.00	674.00
Mareburg	2,739.24	2,996.00	1,175.62

PEOPLE

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FOR SALE: Sixty dark blue choir robes with reversible light blue and white collars. Will sell all or in part for \$15 each. Contact Linda Measner, minister of music, (606) 781-6191.

SEEKING: Stithon Baptist Church, Radcliff, Ky., is seeking two full-time staff members. Positions are: Associate minister—Education; Associate minister—Youth. Send resumés to Pastor Gene Waggoner, Stithon Baptist Church, 95 Park Ave., Radcliff, KY 40160. Phone: (502) 351-6055.

SEEKING: First Baptist Church of Whitley City, Ky., is seeking an associate pastor with primary responsibilities in youth and education. Send resumé to Pastor Daryl L. Varble, P.O. Box 670, Whitley City, KY 42653.

INVITATION: The Search Committee of Rosemont Baptist Church is now accepting applications for the position of senior pastor to fill a vacancy which will be created with the retirement of Dr. Jerome F. Browne on December 26, 1993. Those interested in this ministerial opportunity may obtain an application packet by addressing a letter request to: Rosemont Baptist Church, 556 Rosemont Garden, Lexington, KY 40503, Attn. Search Committee. All inquiries will be held in absolute confidence by the committee unless otherwise expressly authorized by the applicant. It is anticipated that this opportunity will not be available for an extended period of time since a number of applications have already been received.

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FOR SALE: Two 22 x 8 folding partitions. Paid \$1,592 each; will sell for \$700 each. Excellent condition. Call (502) 683-2156 Mon.-Fri., 8:30-2:00. We can send a photo upon request.

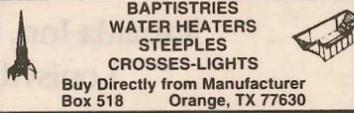
FOR SALE: 15-passenger vans: rear air, two 94s, one 92, two 91s, one 90 and four older ones. Special prices to churches. 40 vans and pickups in stock. Frankfort Chrysler (800) 289-8223.

SEEKING: Hannibal-LaGrange College, a Baptist college with an enrollment of over 900, seeks a chief fiscal officer whose responsibilities include business operations, personnel, supervision of college facilities and auxiliary services. The successful candidate should possess significant knowledge of finance, information systems, human resources and physical plant management. Able to demonstrate superior communication, general management and interpersonal skills to permit effective working relationships with faculty, other administrators and staff. A master's degree in business, finance or related area; and previous experience in administering the business affairs of a college preferred. Send letter of application, resumé and three letters of recommendation by December 1, 1993, to: Paul Brown, president, Hannibal-LaGrange College, 2800 Palmyra Rd., Hannibal, MO 63401.

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

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Report of the Travis Estate Fund for Elderly Baptists and Ministers and Families Crises

October 1, 1992 through September 30, 1993

Medical (elderly Baptists)	\$5,636.10
Minister's Crises	\$1,594.03
Expenses	\$160.00
Total Expenditures	\$7,390.13

Note: This assistance is limited to members and ministers of churches of the Daviess-McLean Baptist Association.

Letters upset conservatives

Continued from page 3

come. "We are not holding secret meetings," he said. "We are not busying anybody (to the annual meeting). We are not promoting a candidate, nor do we ever intend to."

Rouff accused the Kentucky Fellowship of collusion with the Western Recorder, because the letter's list of candidates indicated recipients should read the newspaper "between now and the convention for further information regarding the elections."

Hadden responded by noting he expected the newspaper to provide basic, objective information regarding issues related to the annual meeting, and that the Fellowship has reserved an ad in the Nov. 9 Western Recorder, which possibly could include pertinent information.

The newspaper does not endorse candidates for office.

Although there has been no sign of a pre-convention letter from Kentucky conservatives this year, they did do a mailing prior to last year's convention. That letter, written by Terry Sammons of Louisville, endorsed candidates for both KBC and Pastors' Conference offices.

In a related matter, the Kentucky Fellowship's executive board met Oct. 30 and voted to draft a letter re-

sponding to Hancock's Oct. 12 Western Recorder article, which called upon the Fellowship to cancel its Laity Luncheon.

The group discussed discontinuing the luncheon, which began last year. But several lay members said they felt the luncheon is needed, since nothing is provided for laity during the time seminaries sponsor luncheons for their graduates, which primarily are ministers.

The idea for a luncheon for laypeople surfaced in 1991, reported Carolyn Hale, the Kentucky Fellowship's communications coordinator from Georgetown. She said the Fellowship first asked the KBC to sponsor the luncheon in 1991.

That year, the request came too late for the KBC to respond, "and we decided not to do it in '91 out of respect for the (convention) process," she said. However, a luncheon was scheduled in 1992, when the KBC committee on order of business did not plan a luncheon for laypeople, she said.

The group decided a letter of response should note the need for such a luncheon, the history of the Fellowship's luncheons and its willingness to turn the luncheon over to the KBC, if it will sponsor one.

Islam attracting black men

Continued from page 1

of American and Canadian Churches 1993.

Church life among African Americans is by no means eroding, according to scholars Lincoln and Mamiya: 78 percent of the black population claims church membership, and attendance among blacks is slightly higher than among whites.

But nearly 90 percent of converts to Islam in the United States are African American men, a statistic that doesn't surprise Amiri al-Hadid, a Nashville sociologist who is himself a Moslem convert.

"Islam teaches self-defense. It teaches knowledge and discipline, and the African American male needs discipline. But there isn't an ambience of guilt. In church, there's sadness, a sense of guilt, the need to repent, an emotional environment. But men are just not going to cry in public. Islam appeals to your reasoning. It encourages a rational relation with God, not an emotional one."

The appeal of the "Islamic option" among black men has been heightened by the embrace of Islam by heroes such as Elijah Muhammad, Malcolm X, Muhammad Ali and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, and by the activism of Moslems on the streets and in prisons, Lincoln and Mamiya said.

Some Christian ministers find the issue of male conversion to Islam too sensitive to talk about, but others confirm the trend.

"The reason we're losing a lot of our kids to Islam is they don't perceive Christianity as active enough," said Avery Blakeney, pastor of Messiah Baptist Church in Nashville.

Blakeney has lately recruited inner-city, African American teenage boys to plant trees—the kind of activ-

ism youngsters need to learn Christian values of self-esteem and altruism and to give them reason to embrace church rather than the mosque, he said.

Blakeney, 40, said churches must teach that a relationship with Christ transforms lives and that a turn-the-other-cheek ethic is the only way to break the world's cycle of violence.

In his own case, he said he is convinced of the rightness of Christianity because he was a thief and a drug addict for 20 years before faith in Christ transformed his life.

"Rehab didn't work. Only Jesus turned me around," he testified.

It is true that the top black denominations in the United States have not suffered the same deep membership losses over the past 30 years that some of the major white churches have, scholars Lincoln and Mamiya point out.

But with an estimated 6 million adherents, about 1 million or more reported to be blacks, Islam is now the second-largest religion in the United States—behind Christianity but slightly ahead of Judaism.

Islamic influence on American blacks has a long history.

As much as 20 percent of the slave population arrived here as Moslems from Africa, and black nationalist movements with Islamic ties made dramatic appeals to urban blacks throughout much of this century, Lincoln and Mamiya said.

The conversion rate among African American women is slower, some local Moslem men note. While Islam teaches high respect for women, they are not allowed to lead prayers at Friday prayers. Women and men are to sit separately when attending public prayers.

India denies missionary's license renewal

BANGALORE, India (BP)—Southern Baptist missionary Rebekah Naylor has lost her license to practice medicine in India, crippling her practice at Bangalore Baptist Hospital, where she has worked for 20 years. A medical licensing council in Delhi, India, notified Naylor by letter Oct. 25 that it would not renew her Indian medical license. The decision affects only her Indian medical license. It does not affect her residence visa, which allows her to legally work and live in India.

The committee gave no reason for its decision, which Naylor will seek to have reversed.

Although she cannot perform surgery and other medical procedures, Naylor, a surgeon from Fort Worth, Texas, will remain at the 143-bed Bangalore hospital. She still has a full load of administrative responsibilities as associate medical superintendent. She stopped practicing medicine Sept. 18 when her current license expired.

In recent years, India has denied visas to missionaries. In the early 1980s, 18 Southern Baptist missionaries lived in India. Today, Naylor is the only Southern Baptist missionary living in the country of 897 million people. Several Southern Baptists work with Indian Baptists as itinerant missionaries, moving in and out of the country on a short-term basis. No official process exists for Naylor to appeal the license decision. However, in the coming weeks she and other Baptists will contact government officials in Delhi and request that the council reconsider her case.

European Baptists see new growth amid base closings

Missionaries safe in Burundi

BUJUMBURA, Burundi (BP)—Five Southern Baptist missionary families—including one Kentucky family—reportedly remained safe in Burundi throughout an attempted coup that began Oct. 21. David and Cathy Brandon and their three children are among the Southern Baptist missionaries living in the small African nation.

Both are native Kentuckians. Another Southern Baptist missionary, Dennis McCall, was out of contact with his family and other missionaries for two days after the coup but was unharmed. McCall was working at a guest house in the Burundi capital of Bujumbura when the army overthrew the government of President Melchior Ndadaye Oct. 21 and sealed off part of the town.

Earlier in the afternoon the agricultural evangelist had told fellow missionary Jeff Polglase he was leaving for the two-hour drive to his home in Rutana. But McCall remembered some other tasks and delayed his departure. That decision meant he wasn't on the road when troops and artillery moved against the government. But it also cut him off from contact with his family and missionary colleagues. The Brandons, McCall and his family, and three other missionary families were reportedly safe several days after the coup.

WIESBADEN, Germany (BP)—Three more English-speaking Baptist churches in Europe have closed as U.S. military force cutbacks continue to drain congregations affiliated with the European Baptist Convention.

But a strong church-starting campaign reaching English-speaking internationals is reducing the impact of the withdrawal, EBC leaders say. So many Europeans either speak or want to learn English that English-speaking churches can play a key role in evangelizing Europe, they predict.

Thirteen English-speaking Baptist congregations have closed since the fall of the Berlin Wall. But 17 new churches have started during the same period as the European convention

shifts its ministry focus to include all English-speaking internationals, not just Americans living in Europe. Some of those new churches are in Eastern Europe.

About half the convention's approximately 60 congregations already call themselves "international" and focus their ministry on English speakers from anywhere in the world. A mid-1993 survey showed that people from 94 nations attend EBC churches on a routine Sunday.

Interest in the English language across Europe, especially Eastern Europe, provides a standing invitation in many places to start an English-language church, said Southern Baptist missionary Ray Reynolds. He and his

wife, Helen, serve as EBC church-planting consultants.

They have conducted surveys in major European cities and pinpointed dozens of places to plant churches.

"The future has never looked brighter," Reynolds said. "Everywhere we look we see open doors for planting new churches and we're excited. I think we'll see great things from the EBC across Europe in the next few years."

Reynolds cites English-language classes as a key to church outreach.

For example, in Bratislava, capital of the Slovakian Republic, a single English-language school has 2,000 students. It's located three blocks from Palisady Baptist Church, where

an English-language congregation meets. The school's director told Reynolds he will promote the church as a place to hear English.

The EBC has close ties to Southern Baptists, and most of its pastors come from Southern Baptist backgrounds. EBC staffers are Southern Baptist missionaries or volunteers.

During the last several decades, EBC churches have ministered mostly to Americans in Europe with the U.S. military. Up to 350,000 American troops were in Europe a decade ago, with families and support personnel pushing the total far higher. American military leaders now expect fewer than 100,000 soldiers to be on the continent by 1995.

Missionaries offer help with food as Haiti boils in turmoil

Continued from page 1
yet."

As the missionaries watch the situation, the Brenthams postponed a scheduled evangelistic revival until November.

Meanwhile, U.S. ships circle Haiti in a virtual economic blockade to force the regime to comply with a U.N. plan to return ousted Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide to the island nation.

And Haitians head for the countryside—not necessarily fearing invasion or more violence, but anticipating the impact of the renewed embargo, according to the Rutledges.

First, fuel will dry up, making it

much harder to travel out of the capital later on. Next, food will begin to disappear in urban areas.

"One problem with staying in town is that when food supplies start dwindling, there aren't any gardens," Mrs. Rutledge said. "All the gardens and farmland are out where we (live in the country). ... You can usually scrounge something even if you don't have money. Wild plants are growing, and people make do. It also tends to be calmer."

Once the Rutledges get back home to the countryside, hungry Haitians will need their agricultural ministry more than ever.

It's designed to help farmers im-

prove their yield using readily available materials and then teach the concepts to other farmers.

"Our goal is to help people learn to raise their traditional crops with slightly modified techniques that increase their production and improve the quality of the land," Mrs. Rutledge said. "It's not uncommon for farmers who have worked with us to double their crop yield off the same land and improve it steadily after that."

"We use traditional tools. We try to bring in no foreign imports. As a result, this embargo won't change how our farmers farm. We'll continue to work regardless of embargoes from now until eternity. ... The whole

idea is farmers teaching farmers. That's the most effective way to make progress."

The current tension may not last until eternity, but the Rutledges have read enough—and experienced enough—Haitian history to know it could go on indefinitely.

"We've been here as career missionaries since 1987, and we see it as the same old thing," she said.

"This has been Haiti's history for a long, long time. What will change Haiti is Christ. Our prayer for Haitian people is they would come to know him. That'll be the solution for the Haitian people more than anything else."

Jones epitomizes commitment

This past week at our annual President's Dinner, Mrs. Ollie Cole Jones of Barbourville became the fifth recipient of the V. V. Cooke Award. This award is given annually to a person who has been a very special friend to our children.

It is named for an individual who as a lay person and board member traveled the state encouraging the work of the Homes. His tireless efforts were instrumental in creating today's statewide work by bringing Glen Dale and Spring Meadows together under one Board of Directors.

The first fall after I came to Kentucky marked Mrs. Jones' first direct involvement with our work. Both she and her brother, the late Arthur Cole, made substantial gifts to our children that year. Shortly before her brother's death the next year, he had made provision for our children in his will. Over the past several years, Mrs. Cole has continued to be generous to our children and to take a special interest in our work. Though her health has not been the best, she has been able to attend the President's Dinner a number of times. I have had occasion to visit with her several times

and each time she has expressed a real concern and interest in our children.

Mrs. Jones is a deeply committed Christian who has served her Lord and his church for many years. She has served as pianist and taught Sunday school, served on numerous committees, and was a local, regional and state officer for WMU.

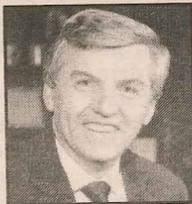
In giving this award to Mrs. Jones, we are expressing our appreciation to her for what she has done for our children. In another sense, we are expressing our appreciation to many more. There are so many people who each year make a tremendous contribution to our children. I wish we could

honor every one, but that is not practical. Mrs. Jones this year represents all of those special friends of our children who pray daily for them, help in many different ways, and give as God has blessed them so that we can provide the best ministry possible for the children and families who need us.

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

Paid Column

HOMES FOR CHILDREN



Curtis C. Mooney

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PEOPLE



16 Kentuckians honored

RICHMOND, Va.—Sixteen people with Kentucky ties were among 99 retiring missionaries honored Oct. 11 by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

The Kentuckians are, from top left: **William and LaVerne Arnold.** Both are former residents of Louisville, where he was born. She was born in Bowling Green. He earned degrees from Georgetown College, where she also attended, and from Southern Seminary. They have served since 1956 in Ghana, Nigeria and The Gambia.

John and Betty Carpenter. He is a former Kentucky pastor and graduate of Southern Seminary. They have served since 1961 in Liberia.

Kent and Sarah Faris. He was raised in Bellevue and earned degrees from the University of Kentucky and Southern Seminary, where she also attended. They have served since 1966 in Brazil.

Herbert and Caroline Jukes. She was raised in Farmers, Morehead and Pikeville and earned degrees from Pikeville College and Morehead State University. She also was a summer missionary in Whitesburg and later taught school in Pikeville. He is a graduate of Southern Seminary and

a former professor at Pikeville College. He also is former pastor of Fairview Baptist Church in Ashland and First Baptist Church in Hazard, as well as former associate director of church training for the Kentucky Baptist Convention. They have served since 1983 in the Bahamas.

Charles and Mary Love. He is a native of Marion. They have served since 1965 in Guyana.

John and Mary Evelyn Divers. He is a graduate of Southern Seminary and a former summer missionary in Kentucky. She also is a graduate of Southern Seminary. They have served since 1965 in Argentina.

Boyd and Joan Sutton. She is a Louisville native and graduate of Southern Seminary. He also is a graduate of Southern Seminary and served several Kentucky churches as a staff member and summer missionary. They have served since 1959 in Brazil.

Hugh and Kathryn Smith. He is a native of Bath County. They have served since 1963 in Malaysia, Zambia, Fiji, India, Pakistan, Singapore and Sri Lanka.

New FMB President Jerry Rankin spoke at the retirement service, held at Central Church in Richmond, Va.

Two more counseling centers open

LOUISVILLE—Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children has opened two new Cornerstone Counseling centers, in Hopkinsville and Madisonville.

The centers are joint ventures between the children's home and Little Bethel Baptist Association and Christian County Baptist Association.

The Hopkinsville office is located at 101 W. 18th St. The phone number is (502) 885-9496.

The Madisonville office is located at 445 Thompson Ave. The phone number is (502) 821-5873.

Initially, eight hours of counseling are being offered each week at each location.

Other Cornerstone Counseling centers already have opened in Bowling Green and Erlanger.

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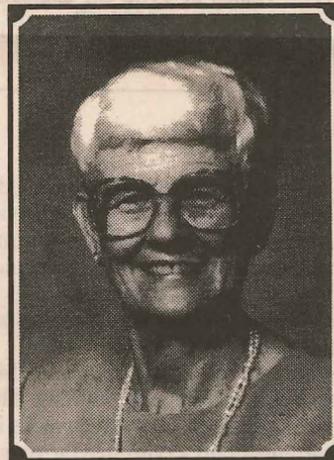
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2) _____

3) _____

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Where Your Heart Is

Carol Leigh Humphries gave 35 years of her life as a Southern Baptist missionary in Nigeria. Most people would consider that a gracious plenty.

But she didn't. Even while she ministered in Nigeria, she sent thousands of dollars back to the States each year for her Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

Then she came home for retirement and lived frugally so she could continue to give. She set up a trust fund through the Foreign Mission Board's Development Office and donated half of her estate to the Lottie Moon offering.

She died last year but her witness lives on in Nigeria and around the world. There's no doubt where her heart was. Where's yours? Are you giving to the things that really matter?

Leave a legacy of hope for the world. Give to Southern Baptist foreign missions through your Foreign Mission Board.



YOUR BRIDGE TO THE WORLD

KENTUCKY KERNELS

Kentucky ranked slightly above the national average in 1992 for growth in its Brotherhood program. The total number of participants in Kentucky Brotherhood increased 2.3 percent from 1991 to 1992. The average change nationwide was an increase of 2.1 percent. Kentucky Brotherhood involved about 26,000 people last year.

Source: SBC Handbook

Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by Ann Tatum

■ **ALEXANDRIA**—Fairlane Church will ordain **Richard Collins** to the ministry Nov. 14.

■ **CORNETTSVILLE**—**Calvin Trent** retired as pastor of Mount Olivet Church. He has been named pastor emeritus. **Terry Settles** is the new pastor.

■ **COVINGTON**—Ashland Avenue Church called **Jon Lucas** as minister of youth. He began Oct. 9.

■ **HENDERSON**—Zion Church ordained **Holeman Key, Jon Farley** and **R.L. Percy** as deacons. Also, **Sara Farley Moore**, faithful member since 1924, died Oct. 9. She worked with preschoolers 44 years.

■ **KÉVIL**—Spring Bayou ordained **Gary Ford** and **Bob Dickey** as deacons Oct. 10.

■ **LONDON**—**Clyde Shackelford** will retire as pastor of Long Branch Church effective Nov. 7.

Larry Woodward resigned as pastor of Old Salem Church Oct. 10.

Sinking Creek Church called **Jimmy Williams** as pastor.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Carlisle Avenue Church recently held a revival with 21 professions of faith, several additions by letter and many rededications. **Don Short** was the evangelist. **Lois Jane** the singer. **Ferrill Gardner** is pastor.

■ **MURRAY**—**T.A. Thacker**, pastor of Memorial Church from 1957-1968, was named pastor emeritus. Thacker has served Kentucky Bap-

tists more than 40 years. **James Simmons** is current pastor.

■ **PARIS**—First Church called **Shannon Thomas** as minister of youth and music.

■ **PARK CITY**—Park City Church presented **Evelyn Bailey** with a pin Oct. 3 for 53 years of attendance in Sunday school.

■ **SOMERSET**—Camp Ground Church called **W. Blake Williams**, a graduate of Cumberland College, as minister of youth.

MISSIONARY UPDATE

■ **Dwain and Kathy Brown**, missionaries to Caribbean Baptist Communications Mission, are on the field and receive mail at 5052 Southwest 121st Ave., Cooper City, Fla. 33330. He is a native of Crofton.

■ **Don and Sarah Duvall**, missionaries to Indonesia, are on the field at Kotak POS 1, Kediri 64102, Jatim, Indonesia. He is a native of Lexington. She lived in Louisville and Georgetown.

■ **Takahiro and Lana Oue**, missionaries to Japan, are on the field at 6-2-5 Hiyoshidai, Tomisato, Inbagan, Chiba-Ken 286-02, Japan. She is a native of Larue County.

■ **Wendell and Betty Smith**, missionaries to the Philippines, are in the States at 1102 Sir Lancelot, Louisville, Ky. 40222. They are natives of Hardin County.

Clifton celebrates centennial

LOUISVILLE—Clifton Baptist Church capped its centennial celebration Oct. 10, affirming 100 years of community service while looking to the future.

The celebration actually began in May 1992, when the church marked the 100th anniversary of its Sunday school, which was started by East Baptist Church as a cornerstone of ministry in the community.

In an ironic twist of history, the period of celebration included the merger of East Church—whose membership dwindled as its neighborhood was bought up by a major hospital and medical facilities—into Clifton Church early this year.

"It's not often that a mother church moves home with her daughter," noted Pastor Jim Holladay.

That milestone was one of many remembered by members and guests.

Clifton Church has served churches all across the convention by providing a place of practical training for young ministers, noted Walter Jackson, director of supervised ministry experience at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, just a few blocks away.

"Clifton Baptist Church represents what Southern Seminary is all about," Jackson said, noting more than 125 students had received ministry experience through the church.

"We are charged to train students for the ministry. You cannot do that only in a classroom and a library. You

keep pumping young people up and out to minister and witness in our world."

As that relationship has remained constant through the decades, so has the church's commitment to the Kentucky Baptist Convention and to mission work, said Bob Jones, director of the KBC direct missions division.

"A lot of things have changed since 1893, but your church has not changed its mission," Jones said.

And as that community changes, Clifton Church also must change, urged Bill Cubine, who grew up in the congregation and preached his first sermon in its pulpit in 1950.

Cubine, whose parents did not attend church, recalled how members brought him to church and influenced him.

"Some of the most important times in my life happened here," said Cubine, who became a pastor and now is campus pastor at Southern Seminary.

While members and former members should appreciate their history, the church must embrace the future, he said: "You do have what the world needs, but ... in the name of Jesus, we must go to them and say, 'We love you, and we want you here.'"

The centennial celebration also included a focus on 100 years of Baptist hymns, joint worship services, sermons delivered by former pastors, Sunday evening historical emphases, publication of a church history and the opening of a heritage room.

A harvest of souls, corn and hogs

Our Wednesday night prayer services are rather special in the Oneida Baptist Church. Several weeks ago, 19 of our girls and boys, having professed Christ, were baptized. Last week there were several professions of faith. Tonight, two of our girls and three boys were baptized.

Before the baptismal service tonight, a number of us, on the spur of the moment, shared testimonies. I spoke of my own profession of faith and baptism in that same room 43 years ago.

There is daily spiritual sowing at OBI in our daily chapel services, in Bible study times and daily devotions that involve both staff and students. Each morning before the start of the school day, many of our teaching staff meet in our Spanish classroom for prayer.

There also are the various activities of our Baptist Student Union and other organizations.

With the daily sowing there is spiritual harvest time weekly in the professions of faith, baptisms and the ongoing discipling efforts.

Before going to the service tonight, I was on our school farm observing the combining of our corn crop. When all the shelled corn is in storage, there will be at least 10 thousand bushels to help feed our hogs and beef cattle this winter.

In addition, hundreds of tons of corn silage were cut several weeks ago, corn, cobs, shucks and stalks all going into the large silos.

Construction of a new 160' x 20' barn, a breeding-gestation building for our hogs, is nearing completion. It is naturally ventilated with a thermostatically-controlled motor that operates plastic-nylon woven curtains on the north and south sides.

This building will house 100 sows and six

boars at a time. The sows will be grouped in pens of five on partially slatted concrete floors overlaying a three-foot deep concrete pit from which wastes will be flushed weekly into an adjoining outside lagoon. Water for this purpose is gravity-fed from a reservoir 300 yards up the mountain behind the new barn.

Construction will begin soon on a 140' x 32' metal farrowing and nursing building. There will be 10 sows farrowing every three weeks in a total of 20 environmentally-controlled farrowing stalls.

Hogs will remain in this barn 8-10 weeks, with nursing space for 240 pigs.

For strict sanitation, we will build an observation walkway behind glass through the building so guests can observe the baby pigs suckling without getting the odor on their clothing.

Also, a 50' x 20' concrete building will be built with a monoslope roof like the breeding barn. Up to 120 hogs will be fed there until ready for harvest after five months.

This provides our daily pork needs for our 700-member Oneida family.

About 75 feeder pigs also will be sold every three weeks, adding about \$40,000 yearly to our scholarship fund.

Our students will hand-feed the hogs in our newly built 160' concrete trough. The total operation is sustained with corn and barley raised on our farm with student help.

All the construction is being done by our own staff, students and various volunteer groups, including one group of Mennonites.

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

Paid Column

ONEIDA JOURNAL



Barkley Moore

Students testify of God's grace

Testimony chapel encourages us at Clear Creek:

"A few years ago a man told me 'God called me to preach.' God has since used that young preacher to reach my parents for involvement in the church. What a reward God gave me for being a listening ear." *Bill McCrary, fourth year, Tennessee.*

"Last month I was in line at Wal-Mart. A lady behind me wanted to talk. I was in a hurry, but the Lord said, 'Be friendly.' She was an English teacher at Bell County. She remembered my photo in the paper about my trip to Russia. Since then I have spoken to her students and also given my testimony about Christ. Twenty percent of her class is lost. We need to pray for our public school teachers and students." *Beth Bevins, English instructor.*

"I thank the Lord for teaching me how to grow. I just wanted to come here and study the Bible, but faculty and staff persisted in helping me grow. I'm also grateful that Terry Williams gave me a car to replace the one that had fallen apart." *Bob Whitter, first year, Ohio.*

"The Lord brought me from a rough background and saved my

soul. I have seen his hand at work in Chop Bottom Mission in Clay County. Thirty-five were baptized last year. Last Sunday three were saved and I baptized 13. The Lord was dealing with me about a different approach. I borrowed a costume from the school and dressed up for a monologue about Noah. As I walked through the community in the costume, it started to rain. We

had a full house the next day, and five people got saved. The Lord can use anything." *Ray Spicer, fourth year, Kentucky.*

"Eighteen years ago, my daughter was born. Next May she will graduate from high school, and I will graduate from Clear Creek. On Nov. 3, Kathy Jo and I celebrate 23 years of marriage. My wife and daughter have stuck with me."

Curtis Brock, fourth year, Kentucky.

"I knew the Lord called me here, but last year I became bitter about the place. It was because of sin in my life. I became very convicted and took care of the problems. I am so glad the Lord forgives. God has changed my attitude toward the school." *Mark Lynch, fourth year, Ohio.*

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

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

Paid Column

Rush Limbaugh says Jesus is answer to life's problems

EL CAJON, Calif. (EP)—Although he presents himself on the radio as a man with all the answers, conservative icon Rush Limbaugh says the real answers to life's most important questions are found in Jesus Christ.

In an interview with "The Door," his first with the Christian press, the undisputed king of talk-radio discussed his personal faith in God. The interview appears in the magazine's November-December issue.

"Jesus holds the answers to all the everyday problems that you face," Limbaugh is quoted as saying. "I am talking about an acceptance and belief in Jesus, heaven and God. I guess you can deal with your problems on your own without those beliefs, but it's much, much tougher. With those beliefs, you realize how insignificant the budget deficit debate is in comparison with the big picture."

And though he is painted as defender of "rich Republicans," Limbaugh said the quest for happiness is

too often centered on materialism and wealth.

"Anyone who has had those things will tell you they don't contribute to internal happiness or self-satisfaction at all," he says. "The comfort of a firm belief is probably the single greatest gift you could give somebody who's really seeking self-satisfaction and internal happiness."

In the interview, Limbaugh discusses his Methodist upbringing and the influence his "deeply religious" father had on him.

Limbaugh says some of his most vicious hate mail comes from "people who identify themselves as Christians."

Still, Limbaugh says he believes the Religious Right is "one of the most maligned groups in the country."

"The Religious Right are just decent Christians who believe this country was founded on the basis that the religious could be involved in government."

Girl's dollar gift gives smiles

NAIROBI, Kenya (BP)—A dollar won't buy much these days, but the \$1 gift of a 7-year-old girl brought joy to Baptist missionaries and food to a starving Somali child.

Caroline Nelson of Austin, Texas, recently mailed the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board a single dollar bill, tucked inside a note written in magic marker. She asked that her gift "help the poor people of the world."

It was applied to the FMB's MANNA project and assigned to the feeding program in Somalia.

When word of the contribution reached the small group of Southern Baptists working in Somalia, the dollar produced million-dollar smiles.

"We go months without hearing the words 'please' or 'thank you,'" one said. "And we're always aware we could be the next target of attacks on Americans. It gets hard some days to remember why we're here."

Contacted by telephone at her home in Austin, the second-grader had a simple explanation for why she sent the dollar: "Because I wanted to."

She told about learning of the many hungry people in the world during vacation Bible school at Hyde Park Baptist Church in Austin, where she attends with her parents. She also studies missions weekly in the church's Girls in Action program.

"She did this whole deal on her own," reported her father, Austin attorney Jim Nelson. "She brought me change one day and wanted a dollar bill. I asked what for and she said, 'I've gotta mail it to somebody.'"

Caroline then showed him her note, all ready to go.

Caroline's allowance is 75 cents a week, according to her Dad. He must not have heard about her last raise from Mom. "Now I get \$1.50," Caroline informed Baptist Press.



Baptist employee believes God told him to quit his job

By Terri Lackey
SBC Sunday School Board

NASHVILLE (BP)—Claude King's agonizing decision to quit his job and write about the sins of churches and God's pattern for revival came four years after God first spoke to him.

That was how long it took for King to realize God really was calling him to leave his job as editor of discipleship materials at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board and go on to other work.

"You don't just go and quit your job unless you know God is telling you to," King says.

Ironically, King was co-writing with Henry Blackaby of the Home Mission Board the resource "Experiencing God: Knowing and Doing the Will of God" when he believes God first spoke to him through a dream,

"telling me that one day I would have to leave the Sunday School Board."

"I sensed God had spoken to me, but I didn't know the dream's meaning. I recorded the dream with the expectation that if it was to have meaning God ... would reveal what it meant," King says.

One year later to the day at Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center, King was inspired to tell a group of about 50 of his dream, which included "a rapidly budding rod, three flashes of lightning and the words, 'The Sword of the Lord.'"

"When I told them of my dream, they begin to fall on their knees to pray. Many wept. They cried out to God for forgiveness. This affirmed my sense that the dream did have meaning."

Later that same day, King found the meaning to his dream in Ezekiel, chapters 7 and 21.

Those verses gave King "a strong sense that severe judgment from God was rapidly approaching our land. I also sensed that God was preparing me for a new calling to be a watchman to speak out against sin and to call people to repentance."

In July 1992, when King heard a message by Blackaby about God's remedial judgments on his people and the seven phases of God's pattern for revival and spiritual awakening, he began to get a sense of what God was calling him to do.

By October 1992, King understood he was to quit his job at the Sunday School Board and complete "Fresh Encounter," a seven-product series that challenges churches and individuals to get right with God.

The "Fresh Encounter" series comes in two parts, King says. The first is a six-week study detailing God's pattern for revival and spiritual

awakening. The second outlines the sins of churches and what they can do to return to God.

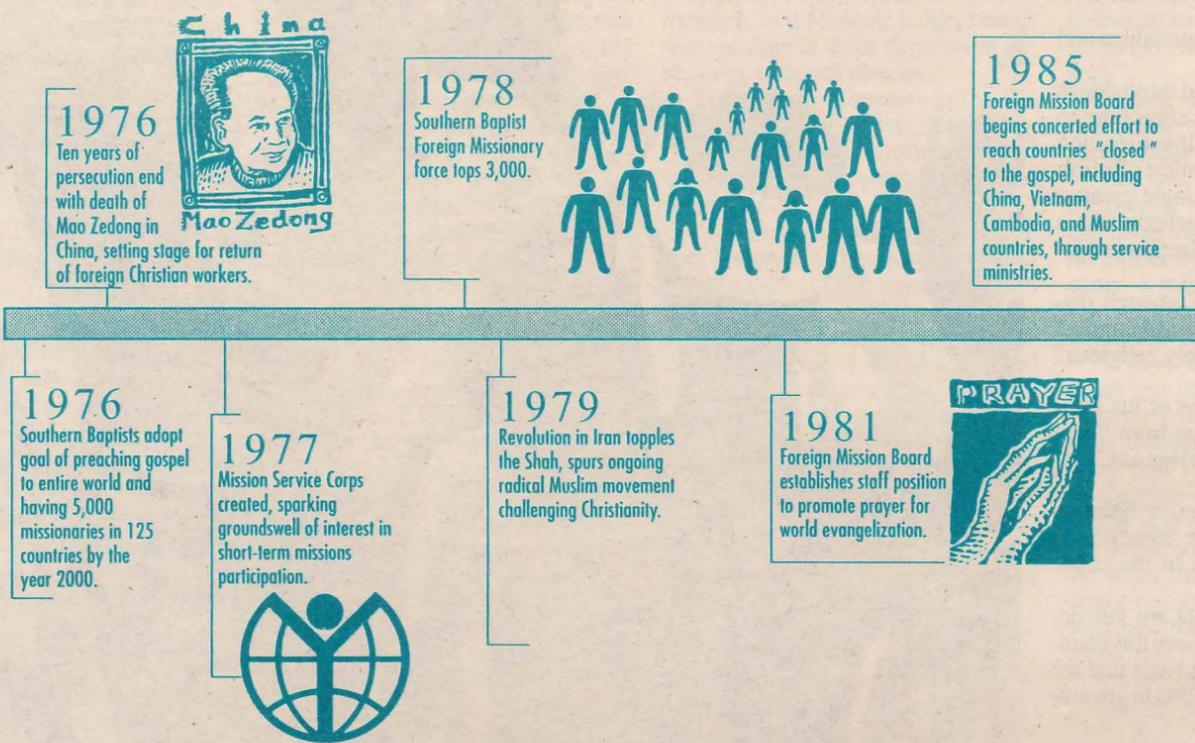
Some of the sins of churches, King says, include church splits, unethical financial decisions, treating staff members badly, lack of concern for members who have gone astray and not attending to the poor and needy.

King says he is secure in knowing he made the right decision when he left the Sunday School Board to edit the "Fresh Encounter" series.

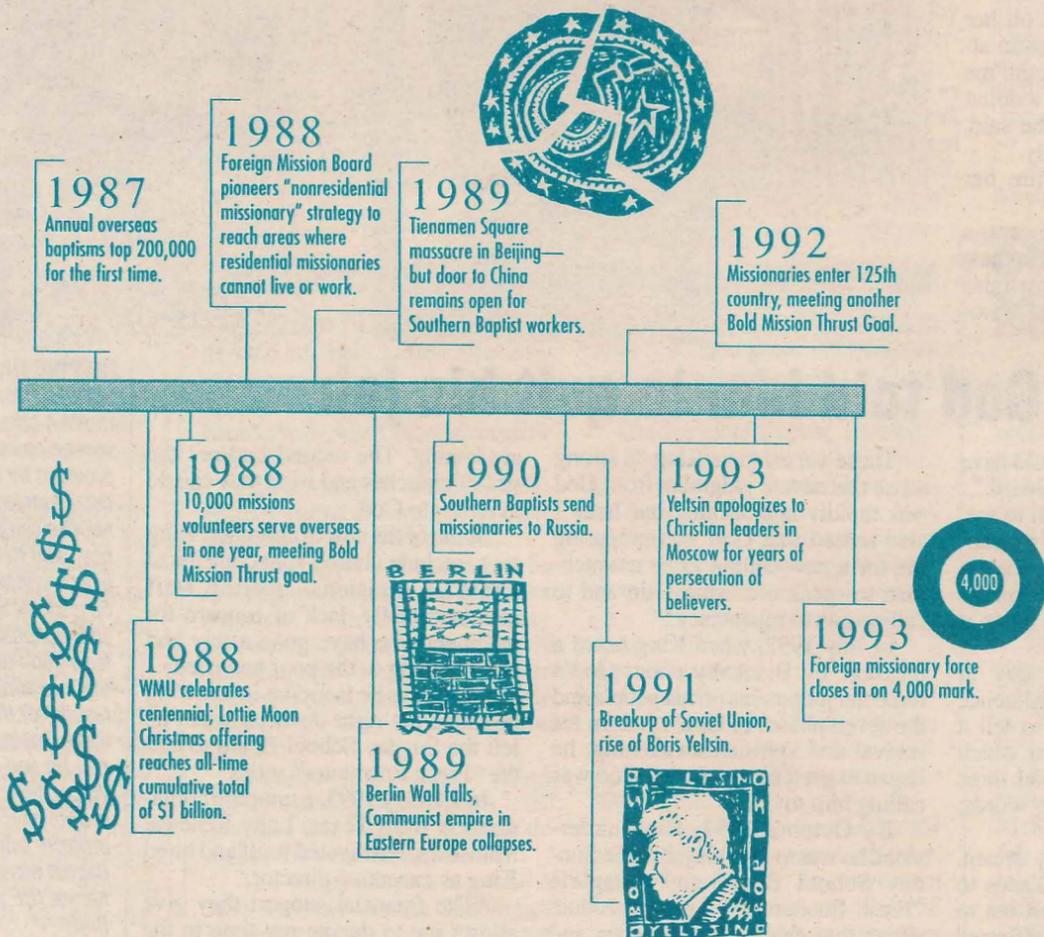
In January 1993, a nonprofit organization from Texas, Laity Renewal Ministries, reactivated itself and hired King as executive director.

"The financial support they give allows me to devote my time to the assignments God has given," King says. "I knew that if God called, he would provide. That's why it took me such a long time to make sure God was calling me."

HELPING HANDS A happy Somali child, aided by his mother, takes his maiden voyage on new crutches provided by Southern Baptist volunteers at a Somali refugee camp in Kenya. The boy, who had lain helplessly as a cripple, was one of 58 cripples in the camp aided by Baptist volunteers. "It feels good to do something that has almost immediate results for the good," said Steve Brawner of Wynne, Ark. He and Frank Weiss of Waco, Texas, initiated the project after learning of the problem from Southern Baptist missionaries in Kenya. (BP photo by Craig Bird)



MISSIONS IN A CHANGING WORLD



Southern Baptists who are interested in changing the world can do so by:

- Sacrificing regularly to give beyond their regular church offerings to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions. Consider opening a savings account into which regular deposits can be made throughout the year.

- Volunteering for short or long-term overseas assignments. For more information on serving for two weeks to four months, contact the Volunteers in Missions Department, Foreign Mission Board, P.O. Box 6767, Richmond, VA 23230 or call the Foreign Mission Board's information line, 1-800-866-FMB1. For information on serving for four months to two years, contact the International Service Department at the same address or call 1-800-866-FMB1.

- Getting involved with internationals. For information about internationals in your area, contact your associational office or the campus minister on college and university campuses near you.

- Praying consistently for foreign missions and foreign missionaries. Use prayer suggestions offered monthly in missions periodicals published by Woman's Missionary Union, Brotherhood Commission, or the Foreign Mission Board. For current prayer requests, call the foreign missions PrayerLine, 1-800-395-PRAY.

- Volunteering for career missionary service. For more information, contact the Initial Contacts Desk, Foreign Mission Board.

- Joining a missions education group in your church. If your church does not offer missions education for every church member, contact the state Woman's Missionary Union and Brotherhood offices for help in beginning missions organizations, P.O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433, or phone (502) 245-4101.